

**THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL - 11 APRIL 2013**

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**The Inverclyde Council**

**Thursday 11 April 2013 at 4 pm**

**Present:** Provost Moran, Councillors Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, Dorrian, Grieve, Jones, Loughran, MacLeod, McCabe, McColgan, McCormick, McEleny, McIlwee, Nelson, Rebecchi, Shepherd and Wilson.

**Chair:** Provost Moran presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Business/Democratic Services Manager and Corporate Communications Manager.

**Apologies and Declarations of Interest**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Ahlfeld.

Councillors McCabe, McEleny, McIlwee and Wilson declared interests in agenda items 3 (Bedroom Tax - Motion by Councillor Loughran) and 4 (Welfare Reform - Motion by Councillor MacLeod).

**Minutes of Meetings of  
The Inverclyde Council, Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards**

<b>264</b>	<b>General Purposes Board - 13 February 2013</b>	<b>264</b>
	<b>Approved</b> on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	
<b>265</b>	<b>Grants Sub-Committee - 21 February 2013</b>	<b>265</b>
	<b>Approved</b> on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
<b>266</b>	<b>The Inverclyde Council - 21 February 2013</b>	<b>266</b>
	<b>Approved</b> on the motion of Provost Moran.	
<b>267</b>	<b>Audit Committee - 26 February 2013</b>	<b>267</b>
	<b>Approved</b> on the motion of Councillor Rebecchi.	
<b>268</b>	<b>Inverclyde CHCP Sub-Committee - 28 February 2013</b>	<b>268</b>
	<b>Approved</b> on the motion of Councillor McIlwee.	
<b>269</b>	<b>Planning Board - 6 March 2013</b>	<b>269</b>
	<b>Approved</b> on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	

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270	<b>Local Review Body - 6 March 2013</b>	270
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
271	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee - 7 March 2013</b>	271
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
272	<b>Local Police &amp; Fire Scrutiny Sub-Committee - 12 March 2013</b>	272
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Loughran.	
273	<b>Education &amp; Communities Committee - 12 March 2013</b>	273
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Loughran.	
274	<b>General Purposes Board - 13 March 2013</b>	274
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	
275	<b>Policy &amp; Resources Committee - 26 March 2013</b>	275
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	
276	<b>Planning Board - 3 April 2013</b>	276
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
277	<b>General Purposes Board - 10 April 2013</b>	277
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	
	<b>The Provost being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration &amp; Resources was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow Members to consider the report at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.</b>	
278	<b>SNP Group - Changes to Committee and Outside Body Memberships</b>	278
	There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources asking the Council to (1) note the appointment of Councillor McEleny as SNP Group Leader from 8 April 2013 and (2) consider a number of changes proposed by the SNP Group to Committee and Outside Body memberships.	
	<b>Decided:</b>	
	(1) that the Council note the appointment of Councillor McEleny as SNP Group Leader from 8 April 2013; and	

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(2) that approval be given to the following changes to Committee and Outside Body Memberships:-

Policy & Resources Committee - Councillor McEleny to be appointed in place of Councillor Brooks;

Policy & Resources Executive Sub-Committee - Councillor McEleny to be appointed in place of Councillor Brooks;

Education & Communities Committee - Councillor Brooks to be appointed in place of Councillor Grieve;

Environment & Regeneration Committee - Councillor Grieve to be appointed in place of Councillor McEleny;

Grants Sub-Committee - Councillor Campbell-Sturgess to be appointed in place of Councillor McEleny;

General Purposes Board - Councillor Brooks to be appointed in place of Councillor McEleny; and

CoSLA - Councillor McEleny to be appointed in place of Councillor Brooks.

**279 Bedroom Tax - Motion by Councillor Loughran**

**279**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a motion by Councillor Loughran, countersigned by Councillor McColgan, in relation to the "Bedroom Tax" which had been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 22 in the following terms:-

"This Council believes that the so-called "Bedroom Tax" is both unfair and unworkable and calls on the UK Government to abolish it as soon as possible.

The Council also calls upon the Scottish Government to introduce emergency legislation to protect the tenants of Councils and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) from eviction for "Bedroom Tax" arrears. In addition the Council calls upon the Scottish Government to provide financial assistance to Councils and RSLs to allow them to deliver a no evictions policy in relation to "Bedroom Tax" arrears".

Non-financial interests in this item were declared by the following Members:-

Councillor McCabe (a) as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes and (b) in his professional capacity;

Councillor McEleny as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes;

Councillor McIlwee as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes; and

Councillor Wilson as a Director of Larkfield Housing Association.

All 4 Members were of the view that the nature of their interests and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision-making process.

As an amendment, Councillor McEleny seconded by Councillor MacLeod moved that paragraph 2 of Councillor Loughran's motion be deleted and the following inserted:-

"The Council welcomes the actions presently being taken by the Scottish Government and praises the recent announcement by the Deputy First Minister of Scotland Nicola Sturgeon that an independent Scotland governed by the SNP will abolish the Bedroom Tax".

On a vote, 6 Members voted for the amendment and 12 for the motion which was declared carried.

**Decided:** that the Council support the motion as submitted by Councillor Loughran.

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- 280 Welfare Reform - Motion by Councillor MacLeod 280**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a motion by Councillor MacLeod, countersigned by Councillor McEleny, in relation to Welfare Reform which had been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 22 in the following terms:-
- "Council notes that the Westminster Government is imposing on the people of Inverclyde the largest reforms of the welfare state in many years. This will take millions of pounds out of Inverclyde and impacts on the most vulnerable in our society. Furthermore it is noted that one of the most damaging reforms will be the "bedroom tax" on those deemed to be living in under occupied homes. This tax will have widespread ramifications for many people in Inverclyde and will likely cause considerable financial hardship.
- It is the belief of Council that no resident of Inverclyde should be evicted as a result of these damaging reforms in particular the bedroom tax. Therefore Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to all Housing associations in Inverclyde to make this position clear in the hope that they will adopt a no evictions policy".
- Non-financial interests in this item were declared by the following Members:-  
 Councillor McCabe (a) as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes and (b) in his professional capacity;  
 Councillor McEleny as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes;  
 Councillor McIlwee as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes; and  
 Councillor Wilson as a Director of Larkfield Housing Association.
- All 4 Members were of the view that the nature of their interests and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision-making process.
- As an amendment, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Clocherty moved that the Council note Councillor MacLeod's motion.
- On a vote, 7 Members voted for the motion and 12 for the amendment which was declared carried.
- Decided:** that the Council note the motion submitted by Councillor MacLeod.
- 281 Inverclyde Megawatt Festival Limited - Council Representation (Review Position) 281**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on Council representation on Inverclyde Megawatt Festival Limited.
- Decided:** that the Council continue to provide no representation to Inverclyde Megawatt Festival Limited.
- 282 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2012 282**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2012.

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**Resolved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Clocherty that THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL, incorporated under the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, RESOLVE TO MAKE as they HEREBY MAKE a Resolution under Section 32(1) and Part III of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to permit the provision of parking places for disabled persons who hold a badge under the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (Scotland) Regulations 2000 as amended, all as detailed in a copy of the Order forming a supplement to the principal minute hereof and that the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

**283 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Arthur Street, Greenock (Waiting Restrictions) Order 2013 283**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Arthur Street, Greenock (Waiting Restrictions) Order 2013.

**Resolved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Clocherty that THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL, incorporated under the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, RESOLVE TO MAKE as they HEREBY MAKE a Resolution under Sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3) and Parts III and IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to introduce waiting restrictions at Arthur Street, Greenock, all as detailed in a copy of the Order forming a supplement to the principal minute hereof and that the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

**284 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Cartsburn Street, Greenock (Waiting Restrictions) Order 2013 284**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Cartsburn Street, Greenock (Waiting Restrictions) Order 2013.

**Resolved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Clocherty that THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL, incorporated under the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, RESOLVE TO MAKE as they HEREBY MAKE a Resolution under Sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3) and Parts III and IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to introduce waiting restrictions at Cartsburn Street, Greenock, all as detailed in a copy of the Order forming a supplement to the principal minute hereof and that the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

**285 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Gateside Road, Kilmacolm (Weight Restriction Revocation) Order 2013 285**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Gateside Road, Kilmacolm (Weight Restriction Revocation) Order 2013.

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**Resolved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Clocherty that THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL, incorporated under the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, RESOLVE TO MAKE as they HEREBY MAKE a Resolution under Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to permit revocation of the existing 13 tonne weight restriction on Gateside Road, Kilmacolm, all as detailed in a copy of the Order forming a supplement to the principal minute hereof and that the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

**286 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Netherwood Road, Kilmacolm (Weight Restriction Revocation) Order 2013 286**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Netherwood Road, Kilmacolm (Weight Restriction Revocation) Order 2013.

**Resolved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Clocherty that THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL, incorporated under the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, RESOLVE TO MAKE as they HEREBY MAKE a Resolution under Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to permit revocation of the existing 10 tonne weight restriction on Netherwood Road, Kilmacolm, all as detailed in a copy of the Order forming a supplement to the principal minute hereof and that the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

**287 Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy - 2013/14 - 2015/16 - Remit from Policy & Resources Committee 287**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requesting the Council to consider a remit from the Policy & Resources Committee of 26 March 2013 relative to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2013/14 - 2015/16.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy, Treasury Policy Limits, Prudential Indicators, Treasury Management Indicators and List of Permitted Investments (including those for the Common Good Fund) outlined in the report to the Policy & Resources Committee.

**It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that it contained exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as detailed in the relevant minute.**

**Appendices to Minutes**

**288 Environment & Regeneration Committee - 7 March 2013 288**

**Approved** on the motion of Councillor McCormick.

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| <b>289</b> | <b>Education &amp; Communities Committee - 12 March 2013</b> | <b>289</b> |
|            | Approved on the motion of Councillor Loughran.               |            |
| <b>290</b> | <b>Policy &amp; Resources Committee - 26 March 2013</b>      | <b>290</b> |
|            | Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.                 |            |