Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 4 September 2014 at 3pm

Present: Provost Moran, Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Dorrian, Grieve, Jones, MacLeod, McCabe, McCormick, Brooks (for Nelson) and Shepherd.

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Finance Manager, Ms M McCabe (Finance Services), Head of Legal & Property Services, Legal Services Manager (Procurement/Conveyancing), Head of Environmental & Commercial Services, Environmental Services Manager, Roads, Transport & Waste Collection, Environmental Services Manager, Roads, Mr G Kerr (Environmental & Commercial Services), Head of Regeneration & Planning, Property Assets Manager and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications).

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

506 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

506

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Nelson with Councillor Brooks substituting.

Councillors Ahlfeld and Clocherty declared an interest in the Additional Agenda Item (Employability Funding – Procurement of Services).

507 Environment & Regeneration Revenue Budget 2014/15 – Period 3 to 30 June 2014

507

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Head of Finance on (1) the 2013/14 Revenue Budget out-turn and (2) the 2014/15 position as at Period 3 (30 June 2014) which showed a projected underspend of £131,000.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the out-turn for 2013/14 and the current projected underspend of £131,000 as at 30 June 2014;
- (2) that the virement processed during the 2014/15 budget finalisation to realign budgets, as detailed in section 8 and Appendix 4 of the report, be noted; and
- (3) that the Committee note that in line with the Financial Regulations £74,000 windfall saving in 2014/15, due to the early release of the Head of Property Services, has been transferred to the Policy & Resources Committee.

508 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2014/15 to 2015/16 - Progress

508

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Head of Finance on the position of the projects within the Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the current position of the Capital Programme 2014/15 and the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report;
- (2) that the issue of tenders for the Pottery Street Vehicle Maintenance Building and associated works be noted and that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to accept the lowest acceptable tender provided the cost is within the budget allocation for the project;
- (3) that the level of slippage in 2013/14 and the action being taken to improve matters in future years be noted: and
- (4) that approval be given to the coastal/sea wall protection works at Coronation Park and that it be noted proposals will be submitted in respect of the remaining £60,000 within the allocation.

509 Start Up Finance Scotland

509

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the Start Up Finance Scotland loan programme and (2) seeking delegated authority to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between Inverclyde Council and West of Scotland Loan Fund Management Services to allow the Council to participate in the loan programme.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report; and
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to sign the Memorandum of Understanding to allow Inverciyde Council's participation in the Start Up Finance Scotland loan programme.

510 Provision of Street Name: Argylls' Parade, Port Glasgow

510

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to assign a name to the footpath linking Shore Street, Port Glasgow to the Tesco Store.

Decided: that the Committee agree to assign the name Argylls' Parade to the footpath linking Shore Street, Port Glasgow to the Tesco Store.

511 Provision of Street Name: Lower Kempock Street, Gourock

511

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to assign a name to the proposed new road between Kempock Street and the shore at Gourock.

Decided: that the Committee agree to assign the name Lower Kempock Street to the new road between Kempock Street and the shore at Gourock.

512 Roads Defects Performance to End of July 2014

512

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the implementation of the approved actions and the latest performance relating to roads defects.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress being made in delivering the Roads Defects Action Plan and note that the next update will be presented to the Committee in January 2015; and
- (2) that the Committee welcome the improvement in the Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey results for the last year.

513 Flooding Update

513

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on (1) the successful bid for flood alleviation funds from the Scottish Government and (2) the proposed way forward for flood protection schemes in Invercive.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the award of £1,743,466 from the Scottish Government for the Central Greenock area of the flood protection funding bid following extensive discussions with COSLA and the Scottish Government;
- (2) that it be noted a report will be submitted to the January 2015 meeting of the Committee providing more detail in respect of the projects listed in paragraph 4.5 of the report, highlighting any financial implications and identifying potential additional funding sources to enable all of the projects listed to be completed; and
- (3) that the Committee note the discussions with Scottish Water to consider an Integrated Catchment Study and that a report will be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee with appropriate recommendations.

514 Waste Strategy Update

514

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the progress made by the Council in achieving key objectives and targets, as set out in the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan and the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

Decided: that the Committee note the contents of the report and the good progress being made by Environmental & Commercial Services waste strategy and waste collection teams.

515 Social Transport – Workstream Review

515

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for proposed savings as part of the Savings Workstream relating to social transport services operated within Inverclyde Council.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report and agree to the proposals to achieve the £51,000 saving by 2015/16 detailed in paragraph 2.9 of the report; and
- (2) that it be noted Officers are examining further savings opportunities as Phase 2 of the review.

Proposed Statutory Quality Partnership Scheme – Update 2

516

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the latest position with regard to the promotion of a Statutory Quality Partnership Scheme with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Transport Scotland.

Decided: that the Committee note the current position and timescale with regard to the promotion of a Statutory Quality Partnership Scheme within Inverclyde.

517 Provision of New Bus Shelters under the SPT Bus Shelter Upgrading Programme 2014/15

517

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) seeking approval for the installation of six new bus shelters funded as part of the SPT bus shelter upgrading programme for 2014/15 and (2) advising that the associated additional revenue maintenance costs will be funded by the Council.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the provision of new bus shelters at the six proposed locations set out in the report and note that the associated annual maintenance costs will be contained within the Bus Shelter Maintenance Budget; and
- (2) that the Committee note the position regarding new bus shelter installations from 2015/16.

518 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Project

518

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing details of the offer and acceptance of grant funding from Transport Scotland for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, including the estimated costs of installing the units and the annual revenue implications.

Decided: that the Committee note the offer and acceptance of the grant funding from Transport Scotland and the proposals for the siting of the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.

Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – Union Street, Greenock (7.5 Tonne Weight Restriction) Order 2014

519

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order – Union Street, Greenock (7.5 Tonne Weight Restriction) Order 2014.

Decided: that the Inverclyde Council be recommended to make the Traffic Regulation Order - Union Street, Greenock (7.5 Tonne Weight Restriction) Order 2014 and that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services to arrange for implementation of the Order.

Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014

520

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014.

Decided: that the Inverclyde Council be recommended to make the Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014 and that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services to arrange for implementation of the Order.

Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On Street) Order No. 2 2014

521

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order to accompany the provision of parking bays for the disabled.

Decided: that the Inverclyde Council be recommended to make the Traffic Regulation Order - Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On Street) Order No. 2 2014 and that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services to arrange for implementation of the Order.

522 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverciyde Council (Various Roads) (Inner Greenock) (Controlled Parking Zone) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014

522

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Inner Greenock) (Controlled Parking Zone) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014.

Decided: that the Inverclyde Council be recommended to make the Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Inner Greenock) (Controlled Parking Zone) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014 and that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services to arrange for implementation of the Order.

523 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Outer Greenock) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014

523

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Outer Greenock) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014.

Decided: that the Inverclyde Council be recommended to make the Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Outer Greenock) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 1) Order 2014 and that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services to arrange for implementation of the Order.

Review of Outstanding Remits

524

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update with regard to the Committee's outstanding remits prior to 31 March 2014.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the position with regard to the Committee's outstanding remits as set out in section 5 of the report; and
- (2) that a report on the future of community facilities in Upper Port Glasgow be submitted to the Education & Communities Committee prior to any decision on their future being taken.

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 during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

| Item | Paragraph(s) |
|--|--------------|
| Property Assets Management Report | 2, 6 and 9 |
| Disposal of Premises – Port Glasgow Road, Greenock | 2, 6 and 9 |
| Employability Funding – Procurement of Services | 6 and 9 |

525 Property Assets Management Report

525

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on activities and proposals for the management of the Council's Property Assets. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended in respect of (1) Inverclyde Indoor Bowling Club; (2) King George V (Parklea) Bowling Club; (3) premises at Leven Road, Greenock and Burns Square, Greenock; (4) land at Parkhill Avenue, Port Glasgow; and (5) premises at Nicolson Street, Greenock, all as detailed in the appendix.

The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the action recommended, if approved, to be progressed at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.

526 Disposal of Premises – Port Glasgow Road, Greenock

526

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the outcome of the marketing exercise in respect of the former Petrol Filling Station at Port Glasgow Road, Greenock, and (2) seeking approval to take action. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended and to take action in respect of another site, all as detailed in the appendix.

The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the action recommended, if approved, to be progressed at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.

527 Employability Funding – Procurement of Services

527

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the procurement exercise carried out for employability services to be delivered from 1 October 2014, which will replace the existing contract delivered from the Regeneration Fund.

Councillors Ahlfeld and Clocherty declared a non-financial interest in this matter as Members of Inverclyde Community Development Trust. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process.

The Head of Regeneration & Planning advised the Committee of funding arrangements being £1,011,000 from the core budget, £144,265 from ERDF with the balance from earmarked reserves in 2014/15 and £2,023,000 from the core budget in 2015/16.

Decided: that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to:-

- (a) conclude negotiations where appropriate and award contracts to the organisations listed at Appendix 1 to the report;
- (b) continue performance and financial monitoring of all activity to ensure the most effective delivery of services for local clients;
- (c) if successful, accept the award of European funds for the programme and vary the contract accordingly;
- (d) provide regular updates to the Environment & Regeneration Committee; and
- (e) authorise extension of the temporary employment contract until March 2016.