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**ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 30 APRIL 2015**


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**310 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2014/15 to 2015/16 - Progress 310**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the position of the projects within the Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the current position of the Capital Programme 2014/16 and the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendices 1 and 2 to the report.

**311 Review of Inverclyde Economic Development & Regeneration Single Operating Plan 311**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) providing an overview of the first year of the Inverclyde Economic Development & Regeneration Single Operating Plan April 2014 to March 2017 and (2) seeking approval of the regeneration programmes in financial year 2015/16.

Councillors Clocherty, McCabe and Wilson declared a non-financial interest in this matter as Board Members of Riverside Inverclyde. 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.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee note the excellent progress being made in year one of the three year Inverclyde Economic Development & Regeneration Single Operating Plan;

(2) that approval be given to the revised spend profile for 2015/16 identified in appendix 1 to the report and that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to vary the programme as necessary to enable the regeneration outputs to be achieved and to provide regular updates to Members;

(3) that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to appoint New Skills Consulting Limited to undertake the review of the future delivery of regeneration services at a cost of up to £20,000; and

(4) that a report on the Council's tourism strategy be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee following the summer recess and that a report on Council events be submitted to the appropriate Committee in due course.

**312 City Deal Progress Report 312**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the implementation of the City Deal Programmes.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee note the progress to date on the implementation of the City Deal Programmes;

(2) that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to formally accept the City Deal award for employability when it is received;

(3) that authority be delegated to the Head of Legal & Property Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender for the delivery of the employability activity;

(4) that the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources engage with Transport Scotland in relation to bus stop provision on the A78 at Inverkip and the potential reduction of the 60mph speed limit currently in place; and

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(5) that a report on the economic benefits and road safety aspects associated with the proposed road improvements at Inverkip Power Station development be submitted to the Committee once details are available.

**313 Town and Village Centres Environmental Improvements 313**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to procure and appoint consultant support for the Town and Village Centres Environmental Improvements initiative.

**Decided:** that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to tender for and accept the most economically advantageous tender for consultant support for the Town and Village Centres Environmental Improvements up to a value of £15,000.

**314 Developing Scotland's Young Workforce (DSYW) 314**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the implementation of Developing Scotland's Young Workforce (DSYW), Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy.

**Decided:** that the Committee note that £86,000 has been received by the Council in 2014/15 and that it has been added to the Reserves and that its use will form part of the Earmarked Reserves considerations at the September meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee.

**315 Youth Employment Initiative – YEI Scotland 315**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the Youth Employment Scotland Initiative (YEI Scotland).

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the progress being made with YEI Scotland;
- (2) that the associated finance and outputs for YEI Scotland be noted;
- (3) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to receive the funding and proceed to secure service delivery through tendering for the activity on Public Contracts Scotland; and
- (4) that a report on employment initiatives be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

**316 Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group – Redistribution of Funds and Update on Progress as at March 2015 316**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) updating the Committee in respect of the work of the Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group (ODG) and (2) providing information on the total surplus funds available in the Repopulation budget and seeking delegated authority to revise the budget profile.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the progress being made in respect of promoting Inverclyde and developing strategies to repopulate the area;
- (2) that the budget reduction of £20,000 be noted; and

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(3) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to revise the budget profile and re-distribute the surplus funds.

**317 Local Development Plan (2014) – Proposed Planning Guidance on Developer Contributions 317**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the preparation of Planning Guidance on Developer Contributions and (2) seeking approval for the proposed guidance to be adopted as non-statutory guidance to the Local Development Plan (2014).

**Decided:** that approval be given to the adoption of the proposed Planning Guidance on Developer Contributions as non-statutory guidance to the Local Development Plan (2014).

**318 Inverclyde Local Development Plan: Supplementary Guidance on Renewable Energy 318**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the outcome of the targeted consultation on the amended Supplementary Guidance on Renewable Energy and (2) seeking approval for the amended guidance to be forwarded to the Scottish Government for permission to adopt it as Supplementary Guidance to the Local Development Plan 2014.

Councillor Wilson declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a Board Member of Clyde Murshiel Park Authority Joint Committee. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision making process.

**Decided:** that consideration of the matter be continued to allow the Head of Regeneration & Planning to undertake further consultations and that an All Members' Briefing be arranged prior to the submission of a further report to the Committee.

**319 Inverclyde Local Development Plan: Conservation Area Proposals 319**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the outcome of the consultation on the proposed conservation area boundary at The Cross, Kilmacolm and seeking approval for its designation together with two new conservation areas at West Bay and Shore Street/Kempock Street, Gourrock and the re-designation of the amended conservation area boundary in Inverkip and (2) seeking approval to carry out a consultation on Article 4 Directions and to investigate the preparation of Conservation Area Appraisals for all conservation areas in Inverclyde.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note that there were no objections to the recent consultation on the proposed conservation area boundary at The Cross, Kilmacolm;
- (2) that approval be given to the designation of conservation areas at The Cross, Kilmacolm, West Bay and Shore Street/Kempock Street, Gourrock and the amendment of the existing conservation area boundary in Inverkip;
- (3) that approval be given to public consultation on proposed Article 4 Directions for all conservation areas in Inverclyde; and
- (4) that approval be given to the investigation into the preparation of Conservation Area Appraisals for all eight conservation areas.

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**320 Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009: Public Bodies Duties Action Plan – Year Two Progress 320**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on progress on the second year of the approved action plan aimed at ensuring the Council meets its obligations under Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, “Duties of Public Bodies relating to Climate Change”.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the second year progress update of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009: Public Bodies Duties action plan; and
- (2) that the Committee receive a report in April/May 2016 on the third year update on progress of the action plan.

**321 Environmental & Commercial Services (Roads) SPT Grant Funded Projects (2015/16) 321**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising the Committee of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport approved grant funded projects for 2015/16.

The Head of Environmental & Commercial Services advised that information had been received earlier that day that the grant awarded by Sustrans for the construction of Regional Cycle Route R21 from Coronation Park to Newark Castle Park was £20,000. With the £20,000 contribution from Sustrans, the funding from SPT would now reduce to £69,000 instead of £89,000 as indicated in the report.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note and approve the SPT approved project list detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report for 2015/16; and
- (2) that the Committee note the investment by SPT of (1) £25,000 for the further improvements of the Quality Bus Corridor and (2) £69,000 for the extension of Regional Cycle Route R21 through Coronation Park.

**322 Environmental & Commercial Services (Roads) Sustrans Grant Funded Projects (2015/16) 322**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising the Committee of the Sustrans grant funded projects expected to be approved by Sustrans on 17 April 2015.

The Head of Environmental & Commercial Services advised that information had been received earlier that day that the grant awarded for the construction of Regional Cycle Route R21 from Coronation Park to Newark Castle Park was £20,000.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note and approve the Sustrans approved project list detailed at paragraph 5.1 of the report for 2015/16; and
- (2) that the Committee note the investment by Sustrans of (1) £20,000 for the construction of the R21 cycle track from Coronation Park to Newark Castle Park and (2) £20,000 for the feasibility study for the R21 cycle track from Newark Castle Park to Parklea.

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- 323 Mr George Kerr 323**
- The Convener referred to Mr George Kerr, Supervisory Engineer/Flood Officer, who would be leaving the Council's employment at the end of the week to take up a new post and to his invaluable contribution to the work of the Council. On behalf of the Committee, he extended best wishes to Mr Kerr for the future.
- 324 Flooding Update No. 5 324**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the progress of the Greenock Flood Prevention Scheme and advising of the priority to complete all phases of the Scheme by 31 March 2016 in accordance with the terms of the support funding from the Scottish Government.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress that has been made on the Central Greenock Flood Protection Scheme; and
  - (2) that authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender received for the Cartsburn Flood Protection Project.
- 325 Road Safety Inspection and Fault Categorisation Guidance Document 325**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the proposal to introduce a new Road Safety Inspection and Defect Categorisation process developed in collaboration with 11 other local authorities, a copy of which was appended to the report.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the collaborative work carried out to develop a new guidance document that promotes a more proactive approach to road maintenance and a consistent rationale from which Councils would be in a stronger position to defend public liability claims; and
  - (2) that adoption of the Road Safety Inspection and Fault Categorisation Guidance Document as policy and good practice be recommended to the Inverclyde Council, it being noted that reference within the Document to annual inspections is a minimum and that the Council will continue to carry out inspections on a six monthly basis in relation to category 4b carriageways.
- 326 Traffic Regulation Order Procedure (Revision 1) 326**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a revision to the procedure and decision making process involved in the promotion of permanent Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) which will result in a reduction in the time taken to promote a TRO.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the revision to the procedure and decision making process involved in the promotion of permanent TROs in terms of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999.

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**327 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2014 327**

There was submitted a report by the 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. 4 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.

**328 Commercial Voids 328**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the number of voids in Council shop premises along with further information in respect of voids in the whole town centre's retail stock and initiatives being used to address the issue.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the level of voids in Council owned shops and the interventions Economic Development staff employ to support businesses.

**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)      |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Recycling Contract – Current Markets</b>  | <b>6 and 8</b>    |
| <b>Environmental &amp; Commercial Services (Roads)<br/>RAMP/Capital Programme for Carriageway Protective Surface<br/>Treatments 2015/16 – Acceptance of Tender</b> | <b>6 and 8</b>    |
| <b>Non-Operational Property Portfolio Information<br/>Scheme of Delegation Register</b>  | <b>2, 6 and 9</b> |
| <b>Lease of Premises – Tower Drive, Gourock</b>  | <b>2, 6 and 9</b> |
| <b>Property Assets Management Report</b>   | <b>2, 6 and 9</b> |

**329 Recycling Contract – Current Markets 329**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the current state of the recycling market and the potential impact on the Council's recycling contracts.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the content of the report and that further progress reports will be submitted for Members' information in due course.

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**330 Environmental & Commercial Services (Roads) 330**  
**RAMP/Capital Programme for Carriageway Protective Surface Treatments 2015/16**  
**– Acceptance of Tender**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval as required in terms of the Council's Contract Standing Orders to accept a tender for the RAMP/Capital Programme for Carriageway Protective Surface Treatments for 2015/16.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee approve a revised overall budget for carriageway protective surface treatments of £641,000, the revised expenditure to be contained within the overall approved RAMP Budget for 2015/16; and
- (2) that the Head of Legal & Property Services accept the most economically advantageous tender, that by Kiely Brothers Limited in the sum of £570,096.25.

**331 Non-Operational Property Portfolio Information 331**  
**Scheme of Delegation Register**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the exercise by Officers of powers delegated to them in terms of the Scheme of Delegation and providing an update on the management of the Council's non-operational property portfolio for the period October 2014 to March 2015.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the terms of the report.

**332 Lease of Premises – Tower Drive, Gourock 332**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to grant a lease of premises at Tower Drive, Gourock and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.

**333 Property Assets Management Report 333**

There was submitted a report together with addendum report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on activities and proposals for the management of the Council's property assets.

Councillors Ahlfeld and McCabe declared a non-financial interest in this matter as Board Members of a Registered Social Landlord referred to in the report. 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.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended in respect of (1) premises within Gourock Park, (2) ground at Cumberland Walk, Greenock, (3) four former school sites, (4) the boat shed at Battery Park, Greenock and (5) a site at Mearns Street, Greenock, all as detailed in the appendix.