

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 6 MARCH 2014

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 6 March 2014 at 3pm

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

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Mr M Thomson (for Head of Finance), Ms V Pollock (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Head of Environmental & Commercial Services, Environmental Services Manager, Roads, Transport & Waste Collection, Environmental Services Manager, Roads, Manager of Street Scene, Burial Grounds & Registrars, Head of Regeneration & Planning, Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management 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.

173 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 173

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-

Agenda Item 3 (Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16 - Progress) - Councillor MacLeod;

Agenda Item 12 (Inverclyde Economic Development & Regeneration Operating Plan 2014-2017) - Councillors Clocherty and McCabe; and

Agenda Item 16 (Property Assets Management Report) - Councillor MacLeod.

174 Environment & Regeneration Revenue Budget 2013/14 - Period 9 to 31 December 2013 174

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Head of Finance on the position of the Revenue Budget 2013/14 as at Period 9 (31 December 2013) which showed a projected underspend of £41,000.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £41,000 for 2013/14 as at 31 December 2013; and

(2) that the Committee approve, in principle, the carry forward of earmarked reserves as outlined in paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 of the report, subject to confirmation through the normal earmarked reserve approval process.

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175 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16 - Progress

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There was submitted updated report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Head of Finance (1) on the position of the projects within the Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme and (2) seeking suspensions and approvals, as required in terms of the Council's Standing Orders relating to Contracts, to install a culvert at Cardwell Road/Steel Street, Gourrock.

Councillor MacLeod declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a neighbour to Fyfe Shore Depot. 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:

(1) that the Committee note the current position of the Capital Programme 2013/16 and the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendices 1 and 2 to the report;

(2) that the Committee note the 2014/15 Property Capital Allocation as detailed in appendix 3; and

(3) that the Committee:

(i) approve the appointment of Scottish Water's contractor, pursuant to Standing Order 11.1 of the Council's Standing Orders relating to Contracts, to insert a culvert at Cardwell Road/Steel Street, Gourrock provided this represents Best Value to the Council and if this is not the case,

(ii) in the alternative, pursuant to Standing Order 2.3.1, approve the suspension of Standing Order 6 (Advertising) as jointly recommended by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to permit quotations to be obtained for the project, and

(iii) in either case, delegate authority to the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources in consultation with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to make the necessary contractual arrangements to minimise disruption in the Cardwell Road/Street Street area arising from the installation of a culvert to Steel Street.

176 Environment, Regeneration & Resources - Performance Report

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There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on progress made towards the achievement of key objectives as set out in the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan (CDIP).

Decided: that the Committee note:

(1) that the report reflects the progress made by Property Assets & Facilities Management, Environmental & Commercial Services and Regeneration & Planning Services in delivering their key improvement actions and performance targets as detailed in the Environment, Regeneration & Resources CDIP; and

(2) that further performance progress reports will be submitted to every second meeting of the Committee.

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177 Inverclyde Local Development Plan: Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement 2014 177

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking the Committee's endorsement of the annual update of the Inverclyde Local Development Plan: Development Plan Scheme (DPS) and Participation Statement (PS) for submission to the Scottish Government and subsequent publication.

Decided: that the Committee approve the publication of the updated 2014 Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement and its submission in a refreshed desktop published format to the Scottish Government before 31 March 2014.

178 Planning Performance Framework 2013: Scottish Government Feedback Report 178

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the Scottish Government's Feedback Report assessing the Council's Planning Performance Framework (PPF) published in September 2013.

Decided: that the Committee note the Minister for Local Government and Planning's response to the Council's PPF, the current position relative to the performance markers and the actions to be included in the 2014 PPF.

179 High Hedges (Scotland) Act 2013 179

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the implications of the High Hedges (Scotland) Act 2013 for Inverclyde Council, (2) requesting that authority be delegated to the Head of Regeneration & Planning to issue guidance, consider and determine applications and make and take enforcement action under the Act and (3) seeking approval for the setting of the fee for the submission of such applications.

The Head of Regeneration & Planning advised the Committee that the Act was likely to be enacted with effect from 1 April 2014. In view of this and given that the next meeting of the Inverclyde Council is 10 April 2014, being after the date of enactment, he requested that the Committee remit the recommendations to the Policy & Resources Committee for approval rather than the Inverclyde Council as set out in paragraph 3.3. of the report, which would result in the appropriate authority being in place to deal with matters arising under the Act as from 1 April 2014.

Decided:

- (1) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Regeneration & Planning to carry out the Council's powers, duties and obligations in terms of the Act, including:
 - the issuing of guidance;
 - the consideration, dismissal and determination of applications;
 - the issue, variation or withdrawal of notices; and
 - the undertaking of any enforcement action, including any appropriate recovery of costs;
- (2) that the Council set an application fee linked to that for a planning application for an enlargement, alteration or extension to a dwellinghouse, as set by the Scottish Government, the fee currently being £192; and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Policy & Resources Committee with the Committee's recommendation that it be approved.

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180 Play Area Investment Update**180**

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on (1) the progress of the Council's play area investment programme in respect of works in progress and (2) the outcome of recent consultations regarding the next tranche of works.

(Councillor Nelson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided:

(1) that the Committee approve the installation of new play areas at Barr's Brae, Port Glasgow and Braeside, Greenock utilising funding previously approved for these projects; and

(2) that the proposal to install a new play area at Taymouth Drive, Gourock be withdrawn and that the funding already approved for play area investment be utilised instead to expand the existing play area in Wellpark, Greenock.

181 Roads Asset Management Plan 2014/16**181**

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval in relation to a proposed programme of projects to be undertaken in 2014/16 using Roads Asset Management Plan (RAMP)/Capital Funding and grant offers of funding by the Scottish Government for Cycling, Walking and Safer Street projects (CWSS).

Decided:

(1) that the list of proposed projects for the 2014/15 RAMP/Capital and CWSS grant aided roads related projects be approved;

(2) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services to achieve full spend of the RAMP/Capital Budget through the substitution of projects from a reserve list when necessary;

(3) that in accordance with Contract Standing Order 3.4.1, approval be granted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services to enter into a collaborative procurement exercise with Renfrewshire Council for the provision of a street lighting survey and development of a business case for investment in relation to street lighting; and

(4) that the Committee note an update report in respect of the potential street lighting collaboration will be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

182 Traffic Regulation Order Procedure**182**

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the procedure and decision making process involved in the promotion of permanent Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO).

Decided: that the Committee note the procedure and decision making process involved in the promotion of permanent Traffic Regulation Orders in terms of the Local Authorities' Traffic Order (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 and approve the addition of the proposed briefing to all Councillors in the case of TROs which are likely to generate significant public interest.

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183 Litter and Fly Tipping Fixed Penalties**183**

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising that the Scottish Government has written to all Scottish Local Authorities to advise of new levels of litter and fly tipping fixed penalties.

Decided:

- (1) that the increased level of fines for littering and fly tipping be noted;
- (2) that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services to support the national publicity campaign at a local level; and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Education & Communities Committee for its interest, together with additional information relating to the number of fixed penalty notices issued in Inverclyde and the methods used to catch those who litter and/or fly tip.

184 Inverclyde Economic Development & Regeneration Operating Plan 2014-2017**184**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of the Final Draft Inverclyde Economic Development and Regeneration Single Operating Plan, a single plan between Riverside Inverclyde and Inverclyde Council's Regeneration Services, a copy of which was attached to the report. Councillors Clocherty and McCabe 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 approve the Inverclyde Economic Development and Regeneration Single Operating Plan outlined in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) that the Committee endorse the priority projects and investments as outlined in Section 6 and Appendix B of the Plan document.

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)
Advertising Bus Shelters - JC Decaux Contract Expiry	6 and 9
Lightways (Contractors) Ltd	6, 8 and 9
Path Agreement for N753 Cycle Path	6 and 9
Property Assets Management Report	2, 6 and 9

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- 185 Advertising Bus Shelters - JC Decaux Contract Expiry 185**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on (1) the expiry of the current 15 year bus shelter advertising contract between the Council and JC Decaux and (2) proposals by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) to replace the existing contract.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee agree to the Council entering into the proposed SPT tender exercise for the 17 advertising bus shelters within Inverclyde; and
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to enter into a new advertising bus shelter contract in conjunction with SPT on behalf of the Council.
- 186 Lightways (Contractors) Ltd 186**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the financial settlement reached with Lightways (Contractors) Ltd in relation to the completion of the lighting maintenance contract on 31 December 2013.
- Decided:** that the Committee note (1) the financial settlement agreed with Lightways (Contractors) Ltd in relation to the completion of the lighting maintenance contract and (2) that the costs will be contained within the 2013/14 Directorate Revenue Budget.
- 187 Path Agreement for N753 Cycle Path 187**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to enter into a Path Agreement with the landowner to enable the N753 cycle track to be completed between Lunderston Bay and Inverkip Marina and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 188 Property Assets Management Report 188**
- 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. Councillor MacLeod declared a non-financial interest in this matter as Chair of Woodhall Community Association. 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. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended in respect of (1) premises at Bank Street, Greenock, (2) land at Whinhill Crescent, Greenock, (3) former tied houses, (4) Craighend Resource Centre and (5) ground at Parkhill Avenue, Port Glasgow, all as detailed in the appendix.