

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 22 MARCH 2016

Policy & Resources Committee

Tuesday 22 March 2016 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Brooks (for MacLeod), McCabe, McCormick, McEleny, McIlwee, Nelson, Loughran, Rebecchi and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Ms A Hunter (for Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership), Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Property Services, Property Services Manager, Ms R McGhee (Legal & Property Services), Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources & Communications, Head of Regeneration & Planning, Ms K Barclay, (Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy) and Corporate Communications Manager.

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

- | | | |
|------------|---|------------|
| 200 | Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest | 200 |
| | An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Brooks substituting. | |
| | No declarations of interest were intimated. | |
| 201 | Policy & Resources Capital Programme 2015/18 - Progress Report | 201 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) providing an update on the status of the projects within the Policy & Resources Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position. | |
| | Decided: that the Committee note the current position of the 2015/18 Capital Programme and the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1. | |
| 202 | Capital Programme 2015/18 | 202 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the latest position of the 2015/18 Capital Programme. | |
| | Decided: that the Committee note the current position of the 2015/18 Capital Programme. | |
| 203 | Policy & Resources Committee 2015/16 Revenue Budget – Period 10 to 31 January 2016 | 203 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & | |

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 22 MARCH 2016

Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer on the 2015/16 projected outturn for the Policy & Resources Committee as at Period 10 to 31 January 2016.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the projected underspend of £2,828,000 for the Policy & Resources Committee as at Period 10 to 31 January 2016; and
- (2) that the Committee note the projected fund balance of £34,750 for the Common Good Fund and that this will be addressed as part of the 2016/18 budget.

204 General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/16 as at 31 January 2016 204

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the position of the General Fund Revenue Budget as at 31 January 2016 and (2) providing an update on the position of the General Fund Reserves and Earmarked Reserves.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the latest position of the 2015/16 Revenue Budget and General Fund Reserves; and
- (2) that the Committee note the decision of the Inverclyde Council on 10 March 2016 that any remaining Free Reserves remain unallocated and that consideration of potential uses be delayed until after the finalisation of the 2015/16 accounts in September 2016.

205 SOLACE Improving Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2014/15 205

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Corporate Policy (1) providing details of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) 2014/15 data and (2) highlighting Inverclyde Council's performance across a range of indicators.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note that the LGBF 2014/15 data was published on 29 January 2016;
- (2) that it be agreed that the information in the appendix to the report be used to form the basis of the Council's public performance reporting on the LGBF 2014/15; and
- (3) that a briefing session on the LGBF 2014/15 be arranged for Elected Members.

206 Welfare Reforms Update 206

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the actions being taken by the Council in response to ongoing Welfare Reform changes. There was circulated to the Committee copy letter dated 10 March 2016 from Ms Margaret Burgess MSP, Minister for Housing & Welfare, in relation to Scottish Welfare Fund funding distribution for 2016/17.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report and that a detailed report on the impact of the introduction of Personal Independence Payments will be submitted to the next meeting of the Health & Social Care Committee; and
- (2) that the Committee approve the proposed Discretionary Housing Payments Policy changes for 2016/17 outlined in the report.

-
- 207 Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy – 2016/17 – 2019/20 207**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2016/20, Treasury Policy Limits, the Council's Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators for the next four years and the List of Permitted Investments.
- Decided:** that the following, as outlined in the report, be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval:-
- (a) Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy;
 - (b) Authorised Limit for 2016/17;
 - (c) Treasury Management Policy Statement set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report;
 - (d) Treasury Policy Limits;
 - (e) Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Indicators; and
 - (f) List of Permitted Investments (including those for the Common Good Fund).
- 208 Results from the Citizens' Panel Autumn 2015 Survey 208**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy on the headline results from the Citizens' Panel Autumn 2015 Survey.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the main findings from the Autumn 2015 Citizens' Panel Survey;
 - (2) that account be taken of the results when reviewing service delivery as appropriate; and
 - (3) that a briefing on dementia be arranged for Elected Members.
- 209 Financial Inclusion Partnership Strategy: 2016 Refresh 209**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership (1) on the refreshed Inverclyde Financial Inclusion Strategy 2012-17 and (2) seeking approval for its continued implementation.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the refreshed Financial Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan attached to the report.
- 210 Leasing Arrangements – Commercial and Industrial Property Portfolio 210**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking endorsement of the current criteria applied when considering a new lease or a lease renewal.
- Decided:** that the Committee endorse the existing arrangement for new leases or lease renewals within the commercial and industrial property portfolio.
- 211 Recruitment and Selection Policy – Request by Councillor Jones 211**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services advising of a request from Councillor Jones that a report be prepared by the Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources & Communications in relation to gender balance in all appointment panels.
- Councillor Jones was present and spoke on the matter.

Decided: that the issue of gender balance in all appointment panels be considered as part of the current review of the Council's recruitment and selection policy and procedures and that a report thereon be submitted to the August meeting of the Committee.

212 Post-Project Evaluation Procedure

212

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services updating the Committee on the progress and proposals in respect of the implementation of a post-project evaluation procedure for major capital investment projects and high value goods and services contracts.

Decided: that the Committee note and approve the implementation of a post-project evaluation procedure.

213 Gourock Highland Games

213

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources & Communications seeking agreement to moving the Gourock Highland Games from Gourock Park to Battery Park.

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

Decided:

(1) that Gourock Highland Games be held in Battery Park on Sunday 8 May 2016 and that a post event report be compiled to review and recommend future developments of the event;

(2) that the Gourock Highland Games be a free event for 2016; and

(3) that a sub-group comprising the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Policy & Resources Committee and Councillor McEleny, as a Member of the Minority Groups, together with the Chief Financial Officer be established to consider any formal requests received by the Council for funding contributions towards community led events associated with the Gourock Highland Games 2016 and to decide on the allocation of funding up to a maximum total of £10,000.

214 Kilmacolm Self-Build – Project Update: Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee

214

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 3 March 2016 requesting the Committee to agree to the Council's underwriting of the Kilmacolm self-build project at Leperstone Avenue, Kilmacolm and to note the potential future funding requirement in the event of any shortfall.

Decided: that the Committee agree to the Council's underwriting of the project and note the potential future funding requirement in the event of any shortfall.

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 item on the ground that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

215 Voluntary Severance Policy Update**215**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources & Communications updating the Committee on the position of releases made under the Council's Voluntary Severance Scheme over the period 2014/16.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note that 19 employees have been released under the Council's Voluntary Severance Scheme as set out in appendix 1 to the report and formally homologate the list; and
- (2) that the Committee note that future reports will be submitted to update Members on the release of employees by the Chief Executive under delegated authority on an annual basis.

