

## ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 12 JANUARY 2017

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### Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 12 January 2017 at 3pm

**Present:** Councillors Brennan (for Provost Moran), Ahlfeld, McEleny (for Campbell-Sturgess), Clocherty, Dorrian, MacLeod, McCabe, McCormick, Nelson and Shepherd.

**Chair:** Councillor McCormick presided.

**In attendance:** Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Mr F Jarvie (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms R McGhee (Legal & Property Services), Finance Manager (Environment & Technical), Ms M McCabe (Finance Services), Head of Environmental & Commercial Services, Service Manager (Roads), Environmental & Commercial Services Manager, Mr K Lang (Environmental & Commercial Services), Head of Regeneration & Planning, Acting Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Property Assets Manager and Technical Services Manager.

**In attendance also:** Ms F Maguire, Acting Chief Executive, Riverside Inverclyde.

Prior to the commencement of business, Councillor McCormick welcomed Mr Scott Allan, recently appointed Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, to the meeting.

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

#### **19 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

19

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Provost Moran, Councillor Campbell-Sturgess and Councillor Jones with Councillor Brennan substituting for Provost Moran and Councillor McEleny substituting for Councillor Campbell-Sturgess.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-

Agenda Item 5 (Riverside Inverclyde Project Update) – Councillors Clocherty and McCabe;

Agenda Item 6 (Governance of External Organisations – Employability Pipeline) – Councillors Ahlfeld and Clocherty; and

Agenda Item 21 (Property Assets Management Report) – Councillors Ahlfeld and McCabe.

#### **20 Environment & Regeneration Revenue Budget 2016/17 – Period 7 to 31 October 2016**

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the position of the Revenue Budget 2016/17 as at Period 7 (31 October 2016) which showed a projected overspend of £101,000.

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### **Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the current projected overspend of £101,000 for 2016/17 as at 31 October 2016;
- (2) that approval be given to the virement detailed in section 7 and appendix 5 of the report;
- (3) that the Committee note that there is a separate report on the agenda regarding the pressure in the Waste Budget; and
- (4) that the Committee note the low levels of expenditure on Earmarked Reserves but that delayed projects are now underway and it is anticipated an improved position will be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.

### **21 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2017/18 - Progress 21**

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 2016/18 and the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendices 1 and 2 of the report.

### **22 Environment, Regeneration & Resources Performance Report 22**

There was submitted a report by the 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) 2016/19.

**Decided:** that the Committee note that the report reflects the progress made by the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Directorate in delivering its key improvement actions and performance targets as detailed in the Environment, Regeneration & Resources CDIP and that further performance reports will be submitted to every second meeting of the Committee.

### **23 Riverside Inverclyde Project Update 23**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on Riverside Inverclyde's progress relating to the regeneration projects within Port Glasgow, Greenock and Gourock.

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:** that the Committee note the progress to date and that further progress reports will be submitted for Members' information and consideration in due course.

### **24 Governance of External Organisations – Employability Pipeline 24**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing the annual update in respect of the governance of external organisations.

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Councillors Ahlfeld and Clocherty declared a non-financial interest in this matter as Board 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.

**Decided:** that the Committee note that appropriate governance arrangements exist for Inverclyde Community Development Trust, Stepwell and Inverclyde Advice & Employment Rights Centre.

### 25 Kilmacolm Traders – Parking Disc Zone

25

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on Officers' meetings with the Kilmacolm Traders and Kilmacolm Community Council following the request from the Kilmacolm Traders to abolish the parking disc zone in the village and the concerns raised by Kilmacolm Community Council on this matter.

Councillor Wilson was present as a Member with a specific ward-based interest in the item and, with the consent of the Convener, participated in the debate.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report and the options which were considered;
- (2) that it be noted that amendments will be made to the information map which provides an overview on the waiting restrictions within Kilmacolm to improve the detail contained within it;
- (3) that the Committee note that Officers will consider the options available to improve the signage at the boundaries to the disc zone and will implement these where possible;
- (4) that it be noted that Officers do not support any changes to the current limited waiting restrictions within Kilmacolm; and
- (5) that a report on the implications of enforcing the existing two hour time limit without the need to display a parking disc, on a permanent basis, be submitted to the Committee for consideration.

### 26 Gourock Heritage Project - Update

26

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the progress of the Gourock Heritage project.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the progress in respect of the Gourock Heritage project.

### 27 Scottish Government Consultation on Building Warrant Fees

27

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the consultation response submitted to the Scottish Government on increasing building warrant and associated fees, to make the building standards system achieve full cost recovery, by the 9 January 2017 deadline.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the consultation response submitted to the Scottish Government in respect of building warrant fees; and
- (2) that once any financial implications are clear, a further report be submitted to the Committee.

**28 Cemetery Development**

28

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services (1) on progress regarding the proposed extension of Greenock Cemetery, (2) requesting approval of funding to proceed with the design and construction of the extension, subject to ongoing site investigations being satisfactory, and (3) requesting the approval of funding to explore the feasibility of extending Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm Cemeteries.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note that a site investigation is now underway to confirm whether it is feasible to expand Greenock Cemetery onto vacant adjacent land in upper Bow Farm;
- (2) that approval be given to funding of £50,000 in order that other possible sites for cemetery development are explored, including possible extensions of Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm Cemeteries, and other potential sites at locations yet to be confirmed;
- (3) that it be noted further reports will be submitted on the outcome of the feasibility studies when the information is available and that revenue implications will be confirmed at that stage; and
- (4) that the Committee approve in principle funding of £1.5M for expansion of appropriate cemetery sites following the results of the feasibility studies, this funding to be remitted to the budget process for formal approval and to be included in the 2017/20 Capital Budget.

**29 Cremator Replacement**

29

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services seeking approval to plan for and commence the replacement of cremators within Greenock Crematorium.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee approve funding of £15,000 for a feasibility study into the options for the replacement of two cremators at Greenock Crematorium, the scope of the study to include an assessment of one-off and recurring costs associated with the project, and any potential alternative options for future delivery of cremation provision; and
- (2) that it be noted that on completion of the feasibility study a detailed report outlining the costs, revenue implications and funding routes will be prepared for consideration.

**30 Parks, Cemeteries and Open Spaces Asset Management Plan**

30

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services updating the Committee on the progress in producing a Parks, Cemeteries and Open Spaces Asset Management Plan (OSAMP), which will identify where capital investment is required.

**Decided:**

- (1) that a further report on OSAMP be brought forward in early course recommending the priorities for allocating capital funds and identifying the likely extent of capital investments required over a period of 10 years; and
- (2) that £300,000 be allocated over 2017/20 initially pending a more detailed report, this funding to be remitted to the budget process for formal approval and inclusion in the 2017/20 Capital Budget.

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- 31      Audit Scotland – Maintaining Scotland’s Roads – A Follow Up Report      31**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the content and recommendations of Audit Scotland’s August 2016 report “Maintaining Scotland’s Roads – A Follow-up Report” and (2) advising the Committee of Inverclyde Council’s progress with regard to meeting the report’s findings and recommendations.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the content of the report and the progress being made in implementing the recommendations of Audit Scotland’s report.
- 32      Road Asset Management Strategy 2018-2023      32**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the development of the Road Asset Management Strategy 2018-2023.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress and improvement in the roads assets as a result of the investment over the past 3-4 years;
  - (2) that the Committee note the options for future investment in roads assets contained within attachment 1 to the report, Road Asset Management Strategy 2018-2023;
  - (3) that the Committee note the recommendations in section 6 of the Strategy and that option 3 set out in paragraph 6.2 of the report - £15M total roads capital investment over five years – be adopted as it offers the optimum solution in terms of continuing to improve the condition of the network; and
  - (4) that the Committee remit consideration of the resultant financial implications to the 2017/18 budget process.
- 33      RAMP Update Report and Future Plans      33**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on improvements to the carriageway and footway networks achieved with the RAMP investment strategy 2013-18.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress and improvement in the roads assets as a result of the investment over the past 3-4 years; and
  - (2) that the Committee note the options for proposed investment in roads assets.
- 34      Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, Disabled Persons’ Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2016      34**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources together with amended schedule 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 – The Inverclyde Council, Disabled Persons’ Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2016 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.

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**35 Scottish Materials Brokerage Service Update**

35

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the current position with regard to the Scottish materials brokerage service.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the content of the report and the timelines associated with the materials brokerage service.

**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)
Waste Disposal Budget Pressure	6 & 8
Lease of Premises – Cathcart Street, Greenock	2, 6 & 9
Proposed Disposal of Sites to Registered Social Landlord	2, 6 & 9
Property Assets Management Report	2, 6 & 9

**36 Waste Disposal Budget Pressure**

36

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the budget pressure with regard to the waste disposal budget and (2) seeking approval to the virement of budget from underspends within Environmental & Commercial Services.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee note the virement of £130,000 from within Environmental & Commercial Services budgets to partially offset the pressure within waste disposal approved by the Committee during consideration of the report on the Environment & Regeneration Revenue Budget earlier in the meeting; and

(2) that the Committee note the content of the report and remit the remaining £76,000 pressure to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration.

**37 Lease of Premises – Cathcart Street, Greenock**

37

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to renew the lease of premises at Cathcart Street, Greenock.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.

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**38 Proposed Disposal of Sites to Registered Social Landlord 38**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to dispose of three sites to a Registered Social Landlord. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.

**39 Property Assets Management Report 39**

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

The Property Assets Manager advised the Committee that the first entry in the table at paragraph 5.1 of the report had been included erroneously and should, therefore, be disregarded.

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 at William Street, Greenock, (2) premises at Shore Street, Gourrock and (3) a site at Cumberland Walk, Greenock, all as detailed in the appendix.