

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Hay Room, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Wednesday 21 September 2016 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, A Grant, B Band, P Barrett, I Campbell, D Cuthbert, D Doogan, A Gaunt (substituting for W Wilson), J Kellas, A Livingstone, A MacLellan (substituting for A Munro), A Parrot (substituting for D Pover), M Roberts, B Vaughan and A Younger.

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive; J Fyffe, Senior Deputy Chief Executive, ECS (Equality, Community Planning and Public Service Reform); J Valentine, Deputy Chief Executive, Environment (Sustainability, Strategic and Entrepreneurial Development); J Walker, Deputy Chief Executive, Housing and Community Care (Corporate and Community Development Services) and Chief Operating Officer; C Irons, L Potter, K Ridley, L Simpson, J Symon, (up to Art. 649) G Taylor, (all Corporate and Democratic Services); S Devlin, Education and Children Services; B Renton, K McNamara, S Merone, A Seggie and D Young all Environment Service; B Atkinson, L Cameron, K Fraser, E McMullan, M Mitchell (up to Art. 648) and G Pinfield, all Housing and Community Care.

Also in Attendance: R Packham, Health and Social care Partnership and M Wilkie, KPMG.

Apologies for Absence: Provost L Grant and Councillors A Munro, D Pover and W Wilson.

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

638. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting and apologies and substitutions were noted as above.

The Convener welcomed Michael Wilkie of KPMG to the meeting following the appointment of KPMG as the Council's auditors for 2016/17.

639. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors Code of Conduct.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
21 SEPTEMBER 2016

640. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 15 June 2016 (Arts 452-463) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Appeals Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Appeals Sub-Committee of 9 June 2016 was submitted and noted. *(Appendix I)*

(iii) Executive Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 4 July 2016 was submitted and noted. *(Appendix II)*

(iv) Executive Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 23 August 2016 was submitted and noted. *(Appendix III)*

641. REVENUE BUDGET 2016/17 - MONITORING REPORT NUMBER 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (16/400) providing an update on (1) progress with the 2016/17 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the June 2016 ledger, updated for any subsequent known material movements; and (2) the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 16/400 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2016/17 Management Revenue Budget, as detailed in Appendix 1 to and Section 2 of Report 16/400, be approved.
- (iii) The marketing and promotion scheme for Perth and Kinross which will be funded from the Environment Service's 2016/17 Revenue Budget and the reallocation of the earmarked Reserve for the Community Empowerment Bill 2015, as detailed in paragraph 2.1.16 of Report 16/400, be approved.
- (iv) The funding and expenditure relating to severe weather events, set out in paragraph 2.2.11 of Report 16/400, be noted.
- (v) The funding for the Bleaton Hallet bridge replacement, as set out in paragraph 2.2.13 of Report 16/400, be approved.
- (vi) The proposals to utilise the unallocated funding from the severe weather events of £94,101 be considered at a future meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
- (vii) Service virements, as summarised in Appendices 2 and 5 to Report 16/400, be approved.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
21 SEPTEMBER 2016

642. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2016/23 & HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2016/21 - MONITORING REPORT NUMBER 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (16/401) providing (1) a summary position to date for the Composite Capital Programme for 2016/17 to 2022/23 and the Housing Investment Programme 2016/17 to 2020/21; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the programmes.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 16/401 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget adjustments to the seven year Composite Capital Budget 2016/17 to 2022/23, set out in Sections 2 and 3 and summarised at Appendices I and II to Report 16/401, be approved.
- (iii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the Housing Investment Programme Budget 2016/17 to 2020/21, set out in Section 4 and summarised at Appendix III to Report 16/401, be approved.
- (iv) The proposal that the Property Maintenance budget within the Renewal & Repair Fund was no longer restricted to the School Estate be approved.

643. GRANTING OF NON-DOMESTIC RATES RELIEF

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive, Housing and Community Care (Corporate and Community Development Services) and Chief Operating Officer (16/402) advising the Committee of the amount of discretionary Non-Domestic Rates relief granted in respect of new applications made during financial year 2015/16.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 16/402 be noted.

644. ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENT 2015/16

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (16/403) presenting Perth & Kinross Council's Annual Efficiency Statement for 2015/16. The statement was submitted to the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) on 18 August 2016 which complied with the submission deadline of 19 August 2016 for consolidation to the national return for the Scottish Government. The report (1) summarises the efficiency gains made by the Council during 2015/16; and (2) describes how, in the context of a challenging financial climate, the Council will make further efficiency gains in future financial years.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 16/403 be noted.
- (ii) That a report on shared services would be submitted to Council by the end of 2016, be noted.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
21 SEPTEMBER 2016

645. SAVINGS ARISING FROM EARLY RETIREMENT DECISIONS TAKEN IN 2015/16

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (16/404) providing information on the costs and savings arising from early retirement decisions taken in financial year 2015/16.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 16/404 be noted.

646. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME 2015-2020 PROGRESS UPDATE AND EXPANSION OF FAMILY BASED CARE REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING

There was a submitted report by the Depute Chief Executive, Environment (Sustainability, Strategic and Entrepreneurial Development) (16/405) providing an update on the Transformation Programme and identifies a proposal to draw down additional funding of up to £47,000 from the Earmarked Reserve for Transformation bringing the total funding request to £209,000, to ensure that the capacity and support needed to secure the effective delivery of the Expansion of Family Based Care Review was provided.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress with the Transformation Programme, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 16/405, be noted.
- (ii) The release of an additional £47,000 from the Earmarked Reserve for Transformation for the Family Based Care Review be agreed and removal of the savings target of £164,000 attributed to this review.

647. UPDATE ON PROCUREMENT STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive, Environment (Sustainability, Strategic and Entrepreneurial Development) (16/406) providing an update on the implementation of the Council Procurement Strategy.

Resolved:

- (i) The update to Perth and Kinross Council Procurement Strategy and Action Plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 16/406, be noted.
- (ii) The Tayside Procurement Consortium Strategy Update, as detailed in Appendix 2 to Report 16/406, be noted.

648. ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PERTH AND KINROSS DEVELOPING OUR YOUNG WORKFORCE ACTION PLAN

There was submitted a joint report by the Senior Depute Chief Executive, Education and Children's Services (Equality, Community Planning and Public Service Reform) and the Depute Chief Executive, Environment (Sustainability, Strategic and Entrepreneurial Development) (16/407) providing an update on progress on the Developing our Young Workforce Perth and Kinross Action Plan.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
21 SEPTEMBER 2016

Resolved:

- (i) The good progress made in implementing the Perth and Kinross Developing our Young Workforce Action Plan in partnership with a number of the Council's Community Planning partners be welcomed and noted.
- (ii) The areas identified for improvement be agreed and prioritised for action in 2016/17.

649. SMART PERTH AND KINROSS - OPEN DATA STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Director (Environment) (16/408) presenting an Open Data Strategy for the Council. The Strategy sets out the principles and process by which open data will be promoted by the Council and its partners in advance of the establishment of an Open Data Platform produced in co-operation with the other Scottish cities as part of Scotland's 8th City European Regional Development Fund Strategic Intervention.

Resolved:

The Open Data Strategy, along with the process and timetable outlined for implementation of the Strategy in the action plan, be approved.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973.

650. DISPOSAL OF 165 CRIEFF ROAD PERTH

There was submitted a report by the Director (Environment) (16/409) seeking approval to dispose of the residential property at 165 Crieff Road Perth.

Resolved:

The disposal of 165 Crieff Road, Perth, for the value of the subjects as assessed by the District Valuer, under deduction of compensation payable in respect of the relevant Compulsory Purchase Order, be approved.

651. INTRODUCTION OF THE LIVING WAGE IN THE SOCIAL CARE SECTOR

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive, Housing and Community Care (Corporate and Community Development Services) and Chief Operating Officer (16/410) (1) assessing the implications of introducing the living wage of £8.25 per hour for commissioned social care and housing support services from 1 October 2016 which was one of the conditions set by the Scottish Government in its local government budget settlement for 2016/17; (2) recommending the Council, as provider of services to the Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Partnership, notes that the additional expenditure pressure for financial year 2016/17 will be contained within the current Integrated Joint Board budget.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
21 SEPTEMBER 2016

Resolved:

- (i) The additional budget pressure for 2016/17 of £39,000 which was associated with increased hourly rates for care at home providers and contract uplifts for specialist care and support providers to enable them to pay staff the current Foundation Living Wage of £8.25 per hour, which would be contained within the service's current year budget, be noted.
- (ii) Hourly rates for care staff undertaking sleepovers at £7.20 per hour be approved, pending further negotiations between local authorities and the Scottish Government.
- (iii) It be noted that the full year additional expenditure pressure of £227,000, together with any increased costs due to the continuing rise in service demand, would be considered by the Health and Social Care Partnership as part of their 2017/18 budget setting.
- (iv) Authority be given to Council Officers to negotiate with the providers based on the proposals contained in Report 16/410 and thereafter, report the outcome to the Integrated Joint Board.

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