

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 19 September 2012 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, A Grant, B Band (up to and including Art. 435), P Barrett, D Cuthbert, D Doogan, Provost E Grant (up to and including Art. 437), J Kellas, A Livingstone, A MacLellan, D Pover, M Roberts, C Shiers, A Stewart, W Wilson and A Younger.

In Attendance: Councillor B Vaughan; D Burke, Depute Chief Executive and Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); J Fyffe, Depute Chief Executive and Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), J Walker (Depute Director (Housing and Community Care); J Valentine, Executive Director (Environment); B Renton, Depute Director (Environment); F Mackay (Education and Children's Services), C Flynn, I Innes, H Mackenzie, Y Oliver, J Symon and G Taylor (all Chief Executive's Service); and A Harrow (Tayside Procurement Consortium).

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

423. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

424. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The Minute of Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 20 June 2012 (Arts. 299-307) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Executive Sub-Committee

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 11 July 2012 and 16 August 2012 were submitted and noted. (**Appendices I and II**)

(iii) Appeals Sub-Committee

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Appeals Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 21 June 2012 and 27 July 2012 were submitted and noted. (**Appendices III and IV**)

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(iv) Special Property Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 14 August 2012 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix V**)

(v) Provost's Sub-Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Provost's Sub-Committee and the Special Meeting of the Provost's Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 28 March 2012 and 4 September 2012 were submitted and noted. (**Appendices VI and VII**)

425. REVENUE BUDGET 2012/13 – MONITORING REPORT NO 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (12/390) providing an update on (1) progress with the 2012/13 General Fund Revenue Budget based on the June 2012 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 12/390 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2012/13 Management Revenue Budget, detailed in Appendix 1 and Sections 2 and 3 to Report 12/390, be approved.
- (iii) The individual Service virements, summarised in Appendices 2 and 3 to Report 12/390, be approved.

426. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET AND HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2012/17 – MONITORING REPORT NO 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (12/391) (1) providing a summary position to date of the Composite Capital Programme and Housing Investment Programme for 2012/13 to 2016/17; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the Programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 12/391 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the five year Composite Capital Budget 2012/13 to 2016/17, as set out in Sections 3, 4 and 5 of Report 12/391 and summarised in Appendices I and II thereto, be approved.
- (iii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the five year Housing Investment Programme Budget 2012/13 to 2016/17, as set out in Section 6 of Report 12/391 and summarised in Appendix III thereto, be approved.

427. ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENT 2011/12

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (12/392) on the Annual Efficiency Statement for 2011/12. The report summarised the efficiency gains made

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by the Council during 2011/12, whilst highlighting those areas where the Council was seeking to make efficiency gains in the current financial year. The Statement had previously been submitted to the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) for consolidation in the national return to the Scottish Government.

Resolved:

The cash releasing efficiency savings totalling £12,903m in 2011/12 as set out in Sections 4 and 5 of Report 12/392 be noted.

428. SAVINGS ARISING FOR EARLY RETIREMENT DECISIONS TAKEN IN 2011/12

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (12/393) providing information on the costs and consequential savings of early retiral decisions taken in the financial year 2011/12. It also provided outcomes from an equalities assessment.

Resolved:

The overall net savings achieved of £1.285m in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme retirals and £0.515m in respect of the Teachers' Pension Scheme retirals, as indicated in Appendix 1 to Report 12/393, be noted.

***429. CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2012/13 AND ANNUAL RISK REPORT 2011/12**

There was submitted a report by John Fyffe, Depute Chief Executive (12/394) presenting the Council's Corporate Risk Management Strategy 2012/13, Corporate Risk Profile 2012/13 and Annual Risk Report 2011/12. It was noted that the report would be considered by the Scrutiny Committee later in the day.

Motion (Councillors I Miller and B Band)

The Committee agrees:

- (i) The Corporate Risk Management Strategy 2012/13 and Annual Risk Report 2011/12 be approved.**
- (ii) The Corporate Risks to be managed by the Council in 2012/13 be approved.**

Amendment (Councillors P Barrett and W Wilson)

The Committee agrees:

- (i) The Corporate Risk Management Strategy 2012/13 and Annual Risk Report 2011/12, be approved, subject to the corporate risk on managing partnership activity and integrated working to reduce the negative impact of alcohol consumption on individuals and communities as set out in Appendix 2 to Report 12/394 (the Deleted**

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and Changed Risks), not being deleted until an Implementation Plan has been submitted to a future meeting of the appropriate Committee.

- (ii) The Corporate Risks to be managed by the Council in 2012/13 be approved.

Amendment – 3 votes

Motion – 12 votes

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

430. AUDIT SCOTLAND ‘OVERVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN SCOTLAND – CHALLENGES AND CHANGE IN 2012’ REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Corporate Business Change and Information Technology (12/395) providing a summary of the ‘Overview of Local Government in Scotland – Challenges and Change in 2012’ report published by Audit Scotland in March 2012.

Resolved:

- (i) The findings of the Audit Scotland report ‘Overview of Local Government in Scotland – Challenges and Change in 2012’ be noted.
- (ii) The key priorities for Councils and key questions for Councillors, identified in Report 12/395, be noted.

431. AUDIT SCOTLAND ‘USING COST INFORMATION TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE: ARE YOU GETTING IT RIGHT?’ REPORT

There was submitted a joint report by the Head of Finance and Head of Corporate Business Change and Information Technology (12/396) providing a summary of the ‘Using Cost Information to Improve Performance: Are You Getting It Right?’ report, published by Audit Scotland in May 2012.

Resolved:

- (i) The findings of the Audit Scotland report ‘Using Cost Information to Improve Performance: Are You Getting It Right’ be noted.
- (ii) The key points for Councils and key questions for Councillors, identified in Report 12/396, be noted.

432. BENCHMARKING WITHIN PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

There was submitted a joint report by the Head of Finance and Head of Corporate Business Change and Information Technology (12/397) providing an update on the SOLACE benchmarking project, including a report on the data generated by it so far, and the locally identified benchmarking projects within Services.

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Resolved:

- (i) The progress made in developing benchmarking within Perth and Kinross Council be noted.
- (ii) The Perth and Kinross Annual Report on the SOLACE Benchmarking Local Financial Return (LFR) Indicators for 2010/11, as detailed in Appendix 2 to Report 12/397, be agreed.

Councillor A MacLellan led discussion on Art. 433.

433. STATUTORY EQUALITY EMPLOYMENT MONITORING STATISTICS (Art. 651/11)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Human Resources (12/398) providing (1) corporate level employment equalities data for the 12 month period to 31 March 2012; and (2) progress on actions since the last report dated 30 November 2011.

Resolved:

- (i) The publication on www.pkc.gov.uk of the employment equality related data, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 12/398, be noted and approved.
- (ii) The progress made since the last report (Art. 651/11 refers) and in particular action taken on the issue of occupational segregation be noted.
- (iii) The Head of Human Resources review the current monitoring and reporting arrangements in relation to equalities, as recommended by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC), and bring forward an implementation plan with the next scheduled report to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to ensure compliance with equality legislation.
- (iv) The Head of Human Resources review current arrangements for ensuring all recruitment and selection panel members understand the statutory obligations of the Equality Act (2010) and the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012, when involved in recruitment activity.

434. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND RENEWAL BILL CONSULTATION

There was submitted a report by John Fyffe, Depute Chief Executive (12/399) outlining the current Scottish Government consultation on the forthcoming Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill and presenting a draft response from the Council for approval.

Resolved:

The draft response to the Scottish Government Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill Consultation, attached as Appendix 1 to Report 12/399, be noted.

435. 'FREE AFTER 3' PARKING CAMPAIGN 2012

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There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (12/400) (1) providing feedback on the 'Free After 3' initiative which was put in place for December 2011; and (2) outlining recommendations for running a similar campaign for the 2012 Christmas period in Perth and other towns on two days a week.

Motion (Councillors I Miller and J Kellas)

The Committee agrees:

- (i) The findings from last year's 'Free After 3' campaign be noted.
- (ii) The recommendations for a 'Free After 3' campaign for 2012, as contained in Paragraph 2.6 of Report 12/400, be approved.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to bring back a further report on the impact of the campaign.

First Amendment (Councillors P Barrett and W Wilson)

The Council agrees:

- (i) The findings from last year's 'Free After 3' campaign be noted.
- (ii) The recommendations for a 'Free After 3' campaign, as contained in paragraph 2.6 of Report 12/400, be approved, subject to the initiative being extended to 31 January 2013.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to bring back a further report on the impact of the campaign.

Second Amendment (Councillors M Roberts and C Shiers)

The Council agrees:

- (i) The findings from last year's 'Free After 3' campaign be noted.**
- (ii) The recommendations for a 'Free After 3' campaign as contained in paragraph 2.6 of Report 12/400 be approved, subject to the initiative being extended to (a) free car parking commencing at 2pm and (b) the timescale being extended to 26 January 2013.**
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to bring back a further report on the impact of the campaign.**

Second Amendment – 5 votes

First Amendment – 3 votes

The Second Amendment became the substantive Amendment.

Amendment – 8 votes

Motion – 7 votes

Resolved:

In accordance with the Amendment.

COUNCILLOR B BAND LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

***436. REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS – INSPECTION REPORTS BY NATIONAL RECORDS OF SCOTLAND AND FUTURE PROVISION IN COUPAR ANGUS**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Democratic Services (12/401) commenting on the Annual Inspection Reports from the National Records of Scotland and setting out proposals on the future provision of registration services in Coupar Angus. It was noted that the report would be considered by the Scrutiny Committee later in the day.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 12/401, with regard to the annual inspection reports by the National Records of Scotland on the provision of registration services in the Perth and Kinross local government area, be noted.
- (ii) That with effect from 1 January 2013 registration services in the Coupar Angus area be delivered from the Blairgowrie registration office; and that the Service Level Agreement with the current agency provider be terminated with effect from 31 December 2012, be agreed.

437. PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME - SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT POLICY (Art. 362/11)

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (12/402) seeking approval of a new Sustainable Procurement Policy to underpin the use of social, economic and environmental criteria in the development of contracts.

Resolved:

- (i) The content of Report 12/402, which was submitted in accordance with the approved objectives as contained within the Procurement Strategy 2011-2015 (Report 11/316 refers), be noted.
- (ii) The progress made in the reform programme, as reflected by the Annual Procurement Capability Assessment (2011), be noted.
- (iii) The standards expected of public bodies when applying sustainability to procurement as expressed in the Procurement Capability Assessment questionnaire 2012 be noted.
- (iv) The proposed Sustainable Procurement Policy, as detailed in Appendix A to Report 12/402, be approved.

PROVOST E GRANT LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

438. CONTRACTS AWARDED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE – 1 JANUARY 2012 TO 30 JUNE 2012 (Art. 515/11)

There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Finance (12/403), providing information to the Committee, in accordance with the Council's Contract Rules, on contracts awarded by the Chief Executive's Service from 1 January 2012 to 30 June 2012 under delegated authority.

439. TENDERS ACCEPTED AND WORKS AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

There was submitted and noted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (12/405) detailing the tenders accepted and works awarded by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care), under delegated powers, during the period 1 January to 30 June 2012. These contracts related to services of a Council wide nature but which were hosted within Housing and Community Care.

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