

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
18 SEPTEMBER 2019

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 18 September 2019 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors G Laing, A Parrott, C Ahern, M Barnacle, A Coates (substituting for Councillor B Brawn), H Coates, D Doogan, D Illingworth, S McCole, T McEwan, C Purves, C Reid and C Stewart.

In Attendance: B Renton, Executive Director (Housing and Environment); G Paterson, Chief Officer / Director (Integrated Health and Social Care); K McNamara, Depute Director (Housing and Environment); J Pepper, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services); C Hendry (Housing and Environment); S Johnston F McKay and J Chiles (both Education and Children's Services); L Simpson, J Clark, F Robertson, S Walker, L Gowans, M Grant, K Johnston and D Williams (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies: Councillor B Brawn.

Councillor G Laing, Convener, Presiding.

. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors H Coates and C Purves both declared a non-financial interest in Item 4.

. MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF 12 JUNE 2019

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny Committee of 12 June 2019 (Arts. 308-320) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

HAVING PREVIOUSLY DECLARED AN INTEREST IN ITEM 4, COUNCILLOR H COATES LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

. UPDATE BY ARMS-LENGTH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

(i) Horsecross Arts Ltd.

S Walker, Corporate and Democratic Services, delivered a slide-based presentation updating members on the financial performance of Horsecross Arts Ltd. F Robertson, Corporate and Democratic Services,

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delivered a further slide-based presentation updating members on the governance arrangements of Horsecross Arts Ltd.

M Linklater, Chair, and J Elles, Board Member, Horsecross Arts Ltd., provided a verbal update on governance arrangements; financial management systems; programming and balance of the offer in programming at both Perth Theatre and Perth Concert Hall; and answered the recruitment process for the new Chief Executive of Horsecross Arts Ltd.

Members sought assurance on matters such as: financial arrangements and reporting; governance structures, particularly relating to arrangements for financial management; recruitment process for Board personnel; and programming and attendance targets at both Perth Theatre and Perth Concert Hall.

The Convener thanked the representatives of Horsecross Arts Ltd. for their attendance and they left the meeting at this point.

F ROBERTSON, S WALKER, M GRANT AND K JOHNSTON ALL LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT
2018/19**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (19/266) providing an overview of how the Council has performed in 2018/19 against the strategic objectives for Perth and Kinross as set out within the Council's Corporate Plan 2018-2022.

In response to a comment from Councillor Illingworth regarding the content and design of the report, with specific regards to context surrounding some text and diagrams, B Renton, advised members that she was keen to receive feedback on the design and accessibility of the report.

In response to a query from Councillor McCole regarding the key objectives in the report regarding inclusivity, B Renton advised that work was already ongoing around these key objectives. Councillor McCole highlighted that she would like to see the theme of inclusivity running through the report, and praised the interactive nature of the report format.

In response to a query from Councillor Laing regarding the number of re-admissions to hospital, G Paterson advised members that whilst he was satisfied that nobody was lacking service in Perth and Kinross, a reflection on the adequacy of arrangements would take place.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 19/266, be noted.

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J CHILES, J PEPPER, F MCKAY AND G PATERSON ALL LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

. **BUSINESS GATEWAY**

B Renton, Executive Director (Housing and Environment), delivered a verbal update on Business Gateway, updating members on the present situation regarding Business Gateway in Perth and Kinross. Following the Verbal Update, B Renton answered questions from members on the present situation with Business Gateway in Perth and Kinross.

At the request of members, Councillor Laing agreed to write to the Leader of Dundee City Council regarding the situation with Business Gateway.

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