

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Council Chamber, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 13 September 2017 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Campbell, H Anderson (substituting for S McCole), A Bailey, B Band, S Donaldson, D Doogan, G Laing, M Lyle, R McCall, X McDade (substituting for C Shiers), Provost D Melloy, Councillors A Parrott, C Purves, L Simpson, C Stewart and W Wilson (substituting for P Barrett).

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive, J Fyffe, Senior Deputy Chief Executive, J Valentine, Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Operating Officer, K Donaldson, C Irons, C Jolly, S MacKenzie, K McNamara, S Richards, L Simpson, G Taylor and S Walker (all Corporate and Democratic Services); S Devlin, Education and Children's Services; B Renton, T Flanagan and J McCrone (all Environment Service); L Cameron, Housing and Community Safety and J Smith, Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Board.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors P Barrett, S McCole and C Shiers.

Councillor I Campbell, Convener, Presiding.

482. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

483. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor W Wilson declared a non-financial interest in Art. 490 and Councillor A Parrott declared an interest in Art 493 in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

484. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 21 June 2017 (Arts. 354-364) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Appeals Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee Appeals Sub-Committee of 23 March 2017 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix I*)

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(iii) Appeals Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee Appeals Sub-Committee of 16 June 2017 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix II*)

485. REVENUE BUDGET 2017/18 – MONITORING REPORT NUMBER 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (17/279), providing an update (1) on progress with the 2017/18 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the June 2017 ledger, updated for any subsequent known material movements; and (2) on the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 17/279 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2017/18 Management Revenue Budget, as detailed in Appendix 1 to and Section 2 of Report 17/279, be approved.
- (iii) Service virements, as summarised in Appendices 2 and 4 to Report 17/279, be approved.

COUNCILLOR ANDERSON ENTERED THE MEETING DURING THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

486. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2017/18-2022/23 AND HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2017/18-2021/22 – MONITORING REPORT NUMBER 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (17/280) (1) providing a summary position to date for the Composite Capital Programme for 2017/18 to 2022/23 and the Housing Investment Programme 2017/18 to 2021/22 and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the Programmes.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 17/280 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget and adjustments to the six year Composite Capital Programme Budget 2017/18 to 2022/23 as set out in Sections 2 and 3 to Report 17/280 and summarised at Appendices I and II, be approved.
- (iii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the Housing Investment Programme Budget 2017/18 to 2021/22 as set out in Section 4 and summarised at Appendix III to Report 17/280, be approved.
- (iv) The proposed budget and notes to the revised outturn for the Renewal and Repair Fund as detailed in Section 5 of and summarised at Appendix IV to Report 17/280, be approved.

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487. ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESS OCCUPATION OF KEY VACANT PROPERTY IN PERTH AND KINROSS THROUGH NON-DOMESTIC RATES RELIEF

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive & Chief Operating Officer (17/281) seeking approval for targeted non-domestic rates relief assistance to further support business expansion, or new business investment, in certain vacant property in Perth and Kinross, on the basis of business need and economic benefits.

Resolved:

- (i) Non-domestic rates relief support be provided for up to one year during financial year 2017/18 for growth of existing business and attracting new business in key vacant properties in a poor condition, according to the priorities and criteria for assistance outlined in Report 17/281.
- (ii) Authority be delegated to the Depute Chief Executive & Chief Operating Officer to assess and agree requests for assistance for rates relief on the basis of the priorities and criteria for assistance contained in Report 17/281.
- (iii) The support be reviewed after one year within the context of national relief frameworks and local needs.
- (iv) The proposed funding of £100,000 to be met from the 2017/18 Environment Service Revenue Budget and earmarked within the Council's Reserves to be drawn down as required.
- (v) A report be submitted to this Committee on progress made within the year.

488. ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENT 2016/17

There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Finance (17/282) summarising the efficiency gains made by Perth and Kinross Council during 2016/17 and describing how, in the context of a challenging financial climate, the Council may make further efficiency gains in future financial years.

489. SAVINGS ARISING FROM EARLY RETIREMENT DECISIONS TAKEN IN 2016/17

There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Finance (17/283) providing information on the costs and savings arising from early retiral decisions taken in financial year 2016/17.

COUNCILLOR WILSON LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

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490. FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

COUNCILLOR McDADE DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN ARTICLE 490

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer (17/284) (1) providing information on the Council's spending for the financial year 2016/17 under the principles of the Code of Guidance on Funding External Bodies and Following the Public Pound and (2) advising on the enhanced governance arrangements which align the Council's Local Code of Guidance on Following the Public Pound with the Procurement Strategy.

Resolved:

- (i) The arrangement under Following the Public Pound recorded for the financial year 2016/17 as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 17/284, be noted.
- (ii) The revised Contract Rules, the revised Following the Public Pound Code and proposed Practitioner's Toolkit presented in Appendices 2 and 3 to report 17/284, be approved.

COUNCILLOR WILSON RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

491. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME 2015-2020 PROGRESS UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer (17/285) providing an update on the progress to date and the achievements of the Council's Building Ambition Transformation Programme, which was approved by the Council on 1 July 2015.

Resolved:

The progress in relation to the Transformation Programme as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 17/285 be noted.

492. PERTH AND KINROSS EQUALITY OUTCOMES AND MAINSTREAMING REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Senior Depute Chief Executive (17/286) to update members and seek formal approval for the published draft Equality Outcomes, draft Mainstreaming Report and updated Corporate Equalities Policy.

Resolved:

- (i) Progress towards the four Equality Outcomes, which existed up to 31 March 2017, be noted.
- (ii) The proposed amendments to each of the four Equality Outcomes as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 17/286, be approved.
- (iii) The Equality Mainstreaming Report, attached as Appendix 2 to Report 17/286, be approved.
- (iv) The updated Corporate Equalities Policy, attached as Appendix 3 to Report 17/286, be approved.

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493. ARMED FORCES COVENANT

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Human Resources Manager (17/287) seeking approval for the Council to sign the Armed Forces Covenant.

Resolved:

- (i) The signing of the Armed Forces Covenant for Perth and Kinross Council be authorised, in recognition of the efforts to support defence personnel; provide a supportive environment for reservists and continue being a strong advocate of the Armed Forces.
- (ii) An annual report be submitted to this Committee on progress of the support provided to the Armed Forces.

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

494. SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY MATTERS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director (Environment) (17/288) to advise on property transactions undertaken by the Estates and Commercial Investment Team and approved under delegated powers in the period July 2016 to August 2017.

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