

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Minute of meeting of Perth and Kinross Council held virtually on Wednesday 31 March 2021 at 9.30am.

Present: Provost D Melloy, Councillors C Ahern, A Bailey, K Baird, M Barnacle, L Barrett, P Barrett, B Brawn, R Brock, A Coates, H Coates, S Donaldson (from Item 3), E Drysdale, J Duff, A Forbes, T Gray, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, G Laing, M Lyle, I Massie, R McCall, S McCole, X McDade, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, C Purves, J Rebbeck, W Robertson, F Sarwar, C Shiers, L Simpson, C Stewart, R Watters, M Williamson and W Wilson; Mr J Bell (up to Item 3), Mr A Charlton (up to Item 3) and Mr M Gowrie (up to Item 3).

In Attendance: B Renton, Interim Chief Executive and Executive Director (Communities); C Mailer, Depute Director (Communities); S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); K Donaldson, Chief Operating Officer; G Paterson, Chief Officer/Director – Integrated Health and Social Care; G Boland and K Robertson (Education and Children's Services); D Littlejohn, J McCrone, M Butterworth, S Crawford, T Cornet, S Coyle, C France, L Haxton, S Merone and A Seggie, (Communities); L Simpson, S Hendry, S Mackenzie, S Walker, L Brady, A Brown, M Pasternak, L McGuigan and B Parker (all Corporate and Democratic Services); M Wilkie, KPMG.

Apology: Councillor C Reid.

The Provost led on Items 1-2, 4-7 and 10-13, and the Depute Provost led on Items 3 and 8-9.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Provost welcomed all those present to the meeting and an apology was noted as above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J Duff declared a non-financial interest in Item 9 on the agenda.

IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 34 IT WAS AGREED TO VARY THE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

3. RESERVED PLACES IN SCHOOLS 2021/2022 AND MAXIMISING CAPACITIES UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/39) (1) proposing the number of reserved places for session 2021/2022, within primary and secondary schools, in accordance with Section 28A of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, as amended, allowing places to be protected for local children to attend their catchment school; and (2) informing where primary class capacities have been maximised during school session 2020/2021.

Resolved:

- (i) The number of reserved places, within schools which have classes with a limited number of spaces at specific stages, for session 2021/2022, as shown in Appendix 1 to Report 21/38, be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to revise these numbers each year to reflect historical or anticipated patterns of migration, information about known movements of families into (or out of) an area, and any current residential development.
- (iii) It be delegated to the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to keep under review the reserved places for all schools in light of any building work in schools and in light of residential development.
- (iv) The primary schools where class capacities have been maximised during session 2020/2021 be noted.

MR J BELL, MR A CHARLTON AND MR M GOWRIE AND LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

4. MINUTE

The minute of the meeting of Perth and Kinross Council of 24 February 2021 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

5. AUDIT STRATEGY – YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021

There was submitted and noted a report by KPMG, external auditors, on the Audit Strategy for the year ending 31 March 2021 (21/35).

6. RESPONSE TO COVID-19

There was a verbal update by the Interim Chief Executive and other senior officers providing an operational update on the Council's continuing response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

There followed a number of questions and comments from members, along with responses from officers.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11.25AM.

7. REVIEW OF DECISION MAKING AND COMMUNICATION ARRANGEMENTS

There was submitted a report by the Chief Operating Officer (21/36) reviewing the temporary adjustments to decision-making arrangements and elected member engagement which were put in place to maintain democratic decision-making and oversight, and to free up officer capacity to focus on the COVID-19 response.

Resolved:

- (i) The revised Committee timetable, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 21/36 for 19 April to 30 June 2021 be approved, with the meeting of the Audit Committee of 8 June 2021 to be rescheduled to 21 June 2021 at 9.30am.
- (ii) The return of Member Officer Working Groups (MOWG's) to be from May 2021.
- (iii) It be noted that the last Chief Executive's Group Update to Leaders would take place on 12 April 2021, with a transition to previous arrangements thereafter.
- (iv) It be noted that hybrid meetings would be considered by the Governance MOWG ahead of a subsequent report to Council.
- (v) It be noted that the proposed Committee timetable for the period July to December 2021 would be considered by Council on 21 April 2021.
- (vi) It be noted that Service Annual Performance Reports and Business Management and Improvement Plans would be considered by the Scrutiny Committee and the relevant themed committees after the summer recess.

8. ECONOMIC WELLBEING PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Development (21/37) seeking approval of the Economic Wellbeing Plan, co-produced by a number of enterprise support network organisations to assist economic recovery as a result of the impact of Covid-19. The plan summarised the progress in supporting businesses and individuals as well as the economic impact on the local economy to date.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made to date in supporting local businesses and individuals through the pandemic be noted.
- (ii) The integrated programme of activities recommended by the partners as set out within the Economic Wellbeing Plan, along with the monitoring arrangements, outlined in section 3.2 of Report 21/37, be agreed.
- (iii) It be noted that £1.525 million of non-recurring expenditure to support economic recovery had been approved as part of the Council's 2021/22 revenue budget.
- (iv) It be noted that the plan's full implementation would require additional revenue and capital expenditure to be made by the Council, partners and other external agencies.

9. PERTH AND KINROSS CPP ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2019/20

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Communities) (21/38) providing an overview of how the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership had performed against shared strategic objectives for Perth and Kinross.

Resolved:

- (i) The Annual Performance Report for 2019/20 be noted.
- (ii) The work to develop a new Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) for Perth and Kinross be noted.

10. REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21 UPDATE NO.4

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (21/40) providing an update on progress with the 2020/21 Revenue Budget, with a focus on the estimated financial impact of Covid-19 in the current year.

Resolved:

- (i) The current projected net outturn position for 2020/21 of an under spend of £393,000 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to management budgets, set out in section 3 of Report 21/39, be approved.

11. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2020/29 & HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2020/25 - MONITORING REPORT NUMBER 4

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (21/41) (1) providing a summary position for the 9-year Composite Capital Programme for 2020/21 to 2028/29 and the 5-year Housing Investment Programme 2020/21 to 2024/25; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the programmes.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 21/4 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget adjustments to the nine-year Composite Capital Budget 2020/21 to 2028/29, set out in Sections 2 and 3 and summarised at Appendices I and II of Report 21/41, be approved.
- (iii) The proposed budget adjustments to the Housing Investment Programme Budget 2020/21 to 2024/25, set out in Section 4 and summarised at Appendix III of Report 21/41, be approved.

12. TREASURY & INVESTMENT STRATEGY and PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2021/22 – 2028/29

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (21/42) detailing the Council's proposed Treasury Strategy for 2021/22 to 2028/29 and the Investment & Property Strategy for 2021/22.

Resolved:

- (i) The 8-year Treasury Strategy for 2021/22 to 2028/29, as detailed in Report 21/42, submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices (TMP), be approved.
- (ii) The Permitted Investments and Investment Strategy for 2021/22, outlined at Section 6 and detailed at Appendix III of Report 21/42, be approved.
- (iii) The Property Investment Strategy for 2021/22, outlined at Section 7 and detailed at Appendix IV of Report 21/42, be approved.
- (iv) The current Prudential Indicators for 2021/22 to 2028/29 to remain in place, pending the update of the Capital Budget later in 2021, as outlined at Section 10 of Report 21/42.

13. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES/OUTSIDE BODIES

- (i) It be agreed that Councillor A Bailey replace Councillor X McDade on the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
- (ii) It be agreed that Councillor A Bailey replace Councillor X McDade on the Property Sub-Committee.
- (iii) It be agreed that Councillor A Bailey replace Councillor M Barnacle on the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.
- (iv) It be agreed that Councillor X McDade replace Councillor M Barnacle on the Scrutiny Committee.
- (v) It be noted that Councillor X McDade stepped down as a Trustee of the Moulin Kirk Trust on 31 January 2021, and it be agreed that Councillor M Williamson be appointed as a replacement.