

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held virtually on Wednesday 2 June 2021 at 9.30am.

Present: Provost D Melloy, Councillors M Lyle, J Duff, C Ahern, A Bailey, P Barrett, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, A Forbes, G Laing, R McCall, T McEwan, A Parrott, C Shiers, C Stewart and W Wilson.

In Attendance: B Renton, Interim Chief Executive and Executive Director (Communities), F Crofts, M Dow, L Haxton, C Mailer, K Steven and D Stokoe (all Communities); S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) and J Cockburn, Education and Children's Services; K Donaldson, Chief Operating Officer, L Brady, C Irons, C Judge, S Mackenzie and L Simpson and also A Brown, M Pasternak, L McGuigan, A McMeekin and C Wright (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Councillor M Lyle, Convener, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. No apologies were noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A Bailey declared a non-financial interest in Item 5 (Community Investment Fund) in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 25 November 2020 was submitted and noted

(ii) Chief Executive Appointment Sub-Committee

The minutes of meeting of the Chief Executive Appointment Sub-Committee of 23 February 2021, 12 March 2021, 23 March 2021, and 30 March 2021 were submitted and noted.

(iii) Property Sub Committee

The minutes of meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of 21 October 2019, 18 February 2020, 24 August 2020, and 26 October 2020 were submitted and noted

(iv) Appeals Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Appeals Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 12 January 2021 was submitted and noted.

(v) Employees Joint Consultative Committee

The minutes of meeting of the Employees Joint Consultative Committee of 27 February 2020, 24 September 2020 and 26 November 2020 were submitted and noted.

(vi) Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee

The minute of meeting of the Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee of 9 March 2020 and 7 December 2020 were submitted and noted.

(vii) Perth and Kinross Integration Joint Board

The minutes of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Integration Joint Board of 23 September 2020, 9 December 2020 and 17 February 2021 were submitted and noted.

(viii) Tay Cities Region Joint Committee

The minutes of meeting of the Tay Cities Region Joint Committee of 21 February 2020, 16 June 2020, 17 July 2020, 7 September 2020, 11 December 2020, 22 January 2021, 19 February 2021 and 19 March 2021 were submitted and noted.

4. AUTHORITY TO WRITE OFF DEBTS AND OBSOLETE STOCK

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (21/82) seeking approval to (1) write off identified debts in respect of Sales Ledger; Council Tax (including Water & Wastewater charges); Non-Domestic Rates; Irrecoverable Rents; Housing Benefit Overpayments and Car Park Trading Account Income and (2) write off obsolete stock and other miscellaneous balances.

Resolved:

- (i) All amounts detailed in section 2 and the attached appendices to Report 21/82 be written off or on for accounting purposes, be approved.
- (ii) That every effort would be made to collect outstanding debt where recovery was cost effective, be noted.

5. MISSING SHARES SCHEME

There was submitted a report by Depute Director (Communities) (21/70), seeking approval to assist communal building repair works through a 'Missing Shares' scheme.

The report was also considered by the Housing and Communities Committee on 31 May 2021.

Resolved:

- (i) £200,000 be allocated for 2021 to 2023 to trial the missing shares scheme, underwritten by the Council's Affordable Housing earmarked reserve fund, on the terms detailed at Section 2.5 and 2.6 of Report 21/70, be approved
- (ii) Funds from the Council's Affordable Housing earmarked reserve be used to pay for a Missing Shares Technician for 2 years at an approximate cost of £40,000 per year, be approved.

6. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2021/22

There was submitted a report by the Head of Culture & Community Services (21/83) summarising the impact to date of the Community Investment Fund; the arrangements for managing rollover funding from 2020/21 and recommending revised funding criteria and governance arrangements for 2021/22.

Resolved:

- (i) The background and assessment of impact of the Community Investment Fund (CIF) to date, be noted.
- (ii) The proposal to use the Perth and Kinross Offer themes and Local Outcomes Improvement Plan priorities as the assessment criteria against which CIF applications would be judged, be approved.
- (iii) That ALEOs and national charities be not eligible to directly apply to CIF, but would be welcome partners in a community-led initiative, be approved.
- (iv) The proposal to merge the three Perth City wards into one larger CIF pot for the city, be approved.
- (v) The proposal to change the split in CIF funding as detailed in Report 21/83, be approved
- (vi) The proposals to change the governance structure for CIF as outlined in Report 21/83, be approved

7. CORPORATE WORKFORCE PLAN 2021 - 2023

There was submitted a report by the Chief Operating Officer (21/84) (1) seeking approval of the Council's Corporate Workforce Plan for the period 2021–2023; (2) outlining how the Plan would support and develop the workforce to realise the Council's aspirations within the challenging post-pandemic economic climate and (3) outlining a new project which would take a strategic and integrated approach to people, technology and property to improve the work of the Council to support delivery of the Perth and Kinross Offer.

Resolved:

- (i) The Corporate Workforce Plan 2021 – 2023, be approved
- (ii) The commencement of the Working Smarter for Perth and Kinross Project, as detailed in Report 21/84, be approved.