

HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 11 November 2020 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors B Brawn, C Ahern, H Anderson (substituting for Councillor Drysdale), A Bailey, P Barrett, T Gray, D Illingworth, A Jarvis, S McCole, T McEwen, B Pover, C Shiers and R Watters.

In Attendance: B Renton, Executive Director (Housing and Environment); C Mailer, S Coyle, J McColl, N Robson, E Ritchie, G Conway, M Weir, M Dow and N Lennon (all Housing and Environment); C Flynn, A Taylor, D Stokoe (up to and including Item 7) and L Haxton (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Also in Attendance: Superintendent E Logue and Chief Inspector G Binnie (Police Scotland) (up to Item 5); Area Manager G Pryde and Group Commander E Baird (up to Item 5) (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Apologies: Councillor E Drysdale and Chief Superintendent A Todd.

Councillor Brawn, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led the discussion on Items 1-3 and 5-8, and the Vice-Convener on Item 4.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. An apology for absence and substitute was noted as above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in terms of the Councillors Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE OF 2 SEPTEMBER 2020 FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE

The minute of the meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee of 2 September 2020 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

4. POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT

- (i) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – Quarter 2 Performance Report – 1 July – 30 September 2020**

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There was submitted a report by Area Manager G Pryde, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (20/211) on the performance of the SFRS against the priorities, performance indicators and targets detailed within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth and Kinross 2017-20, for the second quarter, 1 July to 30 September 2020.

Area Manager Pryde and Group Commander Baird answered members' questions thereon. The question and answer session can be viewed via the following [link](#).

Resolved:

The update on operational and community safety engagement activities of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Perth and Kinross area during the period 1 July to 30 September 2020, be noted.

(ii) Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area – Interim Activity Report

There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent A Todd, Police Scotland 'D' Division (Tayside) (20/212) on the performance of Police Scotland against the local policing priorities for the Perth and Kinross area as set out in the Local Policing Plan for the second quarter, 1 July to 30 September 2020.

Superintendent Logue and Chief Inspector Binnie answered members' questions thereon. The question and answer session can be viewed via the following [link](#).

Resolved:

The update on performance of Police Scotland against the local policing priorities for the Perth and Kinross area during the period 1 July to 30 September 2020, be noted.

SUPERINTENDENT E LOGUE, CHIEF INSPECTOR G BINNIE, AREA MANAGER G PRYDE AND GROUP COMMANDER E BAIRD ALL LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

THERE FOLLOWED A 15 MINUTE RECESS, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED AT 10.55AM. THE VICE-CONVENER THEN LEAD COMMITTEE IN OBSERVING A TWO-MINUTE SILENCE TO COMMEMORATE REMEMBRANCE DAY.

5. UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN UNDER COVID-19 ARRANGEMENTS

B Renton, Executive Director (Housing & Environment) gave a verbal update on the various activities undertaken throughout the Covid-19 pandemic by the Communities Teams. She provided details on how the Communities and Welfare Team remobilised in response to the 2 Sisters Food Processing Plant outbreak in August, she also advised how Council staff including the Community Safety Team

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worked closely with all Partners to address the challenges presented by the increased volume of visitors to the Perth and Kinross area.

C Mailer, Head of Housing also gave a verbal update on the various activities undertaken throughout the Covid-19 pandemic since the last meeting by the Housing Teams. She provided details on how the Housing Service continued to maintain their service delivery to tenants and households to ensure they were kept fully informed, supported and safe. She also provided details on the Housing Service Remobilisation Plan and the work of the Housing Options and Homeless Team, the Private Sector Team, Sheltered Housing Team, Trades Team and details on the Capital and New Build Programme.

B Renton and C Mailer answered members' questions.

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

There was submitted and noted a report by the Depute Chief Operating Officer (20/213) providing an update on progress with Community Planning priorities since the last update on 2 September 2020.

7. ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT 2019/20 – SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (20/214) (1) providing a brief overview of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Regulatory Framework; and (2) appending an Annual Assurance Statement for approval.

Resolved:

- (i) The requirement to submit an Annual Assurance Statement as detailed in Report 20/214, be noted.
- (ii) The Annual Assurance Statement as detailed in Appendix 2 of Report 20/214, be approved.

D STOKOE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

8. ANNUAL UPDATE ON PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2016-2021

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (20/215) (1) detailing progress in implementing the Local Housing Strategy for Perth and Kinross; (2) seeking approval of the revised Action Plan for 2020/21; and (3) setting out plans for developing the new Local Housing Strategy beyond 2021.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made during 2019/20 towards achieving the outcomes set out within the Local Housing Strategy as detailed in Appendix 1 of Report 20/215 be noted.

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- (ii) The revised action plan for the implementation of the Local Housing Strategy as detailed in Appendix 1 of Report 20/215 be approved subject to the 'Target (2020/21) of Action 2.22 being amended to read 'Not Exceed Current Level'.
- (iii) It be approved to delay by one year the plan to develop a new Local Housing Strategy in order that the impact of Covid-19 on the local economy and communities can be assessed and to provide time to produce a new strategy which responds to these challenges.

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