

## **STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Minute of Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, A Grant, B Band, P Barrett, I Campbell, D Cuthbert, D Doogan, J Kellas, A MacLellan, D Pover, M Roberts, A Stewart, B Vaughan, W Wilson and A Younger.

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive; J Fyffe, Depute Chief Executive and Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); J Valentine, Executive Director (Environment); B Renton, Environment Service; J Gilruth, N Copland, K Fraser, M Mitchell and A Taylor (All Housing and Community Care); M Cochlan, R Fry, C Irons, I Innes, J Symon and G Taylor (all Chief Executive's Service).

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

### **240. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**

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

### **241. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct Councillor M Roberts declared a non-financial interest in Art. 244 – Composite Capital Budget 2013/20 & Housing Investment programme 2013/18 – Monitoring Report Number 4 – as a member of the Board of Horsecross Arts Ltd.

### **242. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 12 February 2014 (Arts. 65-72) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

#### **(ii) Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources of 27 January 2014 was submitted and noted.  
***(Appendix I)***

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**(iii) Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 26 March 2014 as submitted and noted. **(Appendix II)**

**(iv) Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee of 2 December 2013 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix III)**

**(v) Employees Joint Consultative Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Employees Joint Consultative Committee of 23 September 2013 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix IV)**

**243. REVENUE BUDGET 2013/14 – MONITORING REPORT NUMBER 4**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (14/169) providing an update (1) on progress with the 2013/14 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the January 2014 ledger, updated for any subsequent known material movements and further information in relation to financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16; and (2) on the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 14/169 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2013/14 Management Revenue Budget, detailed in Appendix 1 to and Sections 2, 3 and 4 of Report 14/169, be approved.
- (iii) The Service virements, summarised in Appendices 2 and 3 to Report 14/169, be approved.
- (iv) The adjustments to the 2014/15 Financial Revenue Budget as detailed in Section 5 of Report 14/169, be approved.
- (v) The proposal to update the 2015/16 Provisional Revenue Budget in February 2015 as set out in Section 6 of Report 14/169 be approved.

**244. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2013/20 AND HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2013/18 – MONITORING REPORT NUMBER 4**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (14/170) (1) providing a summary position to date for the Composite Capital Programme for 2013/14 to 2019/20 and the Housing Investment Programme 2013/14 to 2017/18; (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the Programmes; and (3) including a proposed Renewal and Repairs Fund Budget for 2014/15.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 14/170 be noted.
- (ii) The commitment by the Council to underwrite up to £1,500,000 for the Arts Strategy – Redevelopment of Perth Theatre project in line with the proposals contained within Section 3.2.7 of Report 14/170, be approved.

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- (iii) The proposed budget adjustments to the seven year Composite Capital Budget 2013/14 to 2019/20, set out in Sections 2 and 3 of and summarised in Appendices I and II to Report 14/170, be approved.
- (iv) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the five year Housing Investment Programme Budget 2013/14 to 2017/18, set out in Section 4 of and summarised in Appendix III to Report 14/170, be approved.
- (v) The monitoring adjustments to the 2013/14 Renewal and Repair Fund Budget and the 2014/15 proposed Renewal and Repair Fund Budget as set out in Section 5 of and summarised at Appendices IV and V of Report 14/170, be approved.

**245. AUDIT SCOTLAND CHARGING FOR SERVICES REPORT**

There was submitted a joint report by the Depute Director (Environment) and Head of Finance (14/171), providing (1) a summary of 'Charging for Services: Are You Getting it Right?' a publication by Audit Scotland issued in October 2013; and (2) a number of self-evaluation questions for councillors and officers extracted from the publication.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The findings of the 'Charging for Services: Are You Getting it Right?' as detailed in Appendix 3 of Report 14/171 be noted.
- (ii) The questions for officers and councillors as detailed at Appendices 1 and 2 to Report 14/171 be noted.
- (iii) The Council's Corporate Charging Policy be updated to ensure that it remains fit for purpose in light of the key messages set out within Report 14/171 and submitted to a future meeting of this Committee.
- (iv) It be noted that the Scrutiny Committee has agreed that Charging for Services will be the topic of the Fifth Scrutiny Review.

**246. GRANTING OF NON-DOMESTIC RATES RELIEF**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (14/172) advising of the amount of discretionary Non-Domestic Rates relief granted in respect of new applications made during financial year 2012/13 and also requesting permission to continue with the existing practice relating to the granting of Non-Domestic Rates relief.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 14/172 and the amount of discretionary Non-Domestic Rates relief granted in respect of new applications made during financial year 2012/13 as detailed in Appendix A, be noted.
- (ii) It be agreed to continue to award discretionary Non-Domestic Rates relief in accordance with existing practices as outlined in Section 1 of Report 14/172.

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**247. PROCUREMENT CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT: UPDATE REPORT 2013**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (14/167) summarising progress made against the Procurement Strategy 2011-15 and detailing the scores attained by the Council in the Procurement Capability Assessment conducted in November 2013.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 14/167 be noted.
- (ii) It be noted that Report 14/167 would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on 23 April 2014 for scrutiny and comment as appropriate.

**248. CONTRACTS AWARDED BY THE TAYSIDE PROCUREMENT CONSORTIUM AND COUNCIL SERVICES**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (14/173) providing information on contracts awarded by the Tayside Procurement Consortium and Council Services under delegated authority between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to Report 14/173.

**Resolved**

- (i) The contents of Report 14/173 be noted.
- (ii) That future reports include details of the successful contractors.

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