SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 12 May 2021 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors S McCole, A Parrott, C Ahern, (substituting for Councillor H Coates), L Barrett, D Illingworth, A Jarvis, I Massie, X McDade, W Robertson, F Smith and C Stewart.

In Attendance: K Donaldson, Chief Operating Officer; C Mailer (Housing and Environment); L Simpson, K Johnston, K Molley, A Brown, M Pasternak and B Parker (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies: Councillor H Coates, C Reid and F Sarwar.

Councillor S McCole, Convener, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct:

- (i) Councillors C Ahern, A Jarvis and A Parrott declared a non-financial interest in relation to Culture Perth and Kinross in Item 4(i).
- (ii) Councillor A Jarvis declared a non-financial interest in relation to Horsecross Arts Ltd in Item 4(i) and 4(ii).

3. MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF 9 DECEMBER 2020

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny Committee of 9 December 2020 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. UPDATE BY ARMS LENGTH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

(i) Joint Update by Culture Perth and Kinross, Horsecross Arts Ltd and Live Active Leisure Ltd

There was a joint update and slide-based presentation delivered by Culture Perth and Kinross, Horsecross Arts Ltd and Live Active Leisure Ltd. Helen Smout, Chief Executive Officer, Culture Perth and Kinross; Nick Williams, Chief Executive Officer, Horsecross Arts Ltd; and Paul Cromwell, Chief Executive Officer, Live Active Leisure Ltd, were all in attendance. Throughout the presentation, representatives updated members on the risks, challenges, and future opportunities in relation to their organisations in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members sought assurance on matters such as planning for venue capacities and easing of restrictions, digital engagement, monitoring performance and delivery of services across the organisations.

Members thanked staff from all three ALEO's for their support in the running of the vaccination centres throughout Perth and Kinross.

The Convener thanked Helen Smout, Culture Perth and Kinross and Paul Cromwell, Live Active Leisure Ltd for their attendance.

(ii) Update by Horsecross Arts Ltd

There was a financial update and slide-based presentation delivered by Nick Williams, who was also joined by Willie Anderson, Head of Finance and Administration, Horsecross Arts Ltd.

Members sought assurance on matters such as Horsecross Arts Ltd reserve strategy, annual budgets, catering venues, future planning around liability of cash sales and engagement with other ALEO's.

Due to connectivity issues, Colin Hood, Board Chairman of Horsecross Arts Ltd was unable to join the meeting successfully. Members were encouraged to contact him separately if they had any further questions.

Members were in agreement to ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Scottish Government on behalf of Perth and Kinross Council, regarding the creation of a route map to help all performance art venues in Perth and Kinross and across Scotland return to normality and achieve sustainability.

The Convener thanked Nick Williams and Wille Anderson, Horsecross Arts Ltd for their attendance.