

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 4 June 2014 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors A Grant, M Williamson, M Barnacle, D Cuthbert (substituting for R Brock), B Ellis, J Giacomazzi (substituting for E Maclachlan), C Gillies, G Laing, M Lyle, W Robertson, M Roberts, B Vaughan (substituting for D Melloy) and A Younger.

In Attendance: J Valentine, Executive Director (Environment); B Reekie, B Renton, and W Young (all the Environment Service); L Carson, C Flynn, C Irons and S Richards (all Chief Executive's Service).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors R Brock, E Maclachlan and D Melloy.

Councillor A Grant, Convener, Presiding.

386. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

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

387. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

388. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of the Environment Committee of 26 March 2014 (Arts 188-194) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

389. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP – COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP

(i) Minute of Meeting of 9 December 2013

The minute of meeting of the Community Planning Partnership – Community Safety and Environment Group of 9 December 2013 was submitted and noted for information.

(ii) Verbal Update by Executive Lead Officer

The Executive Director (Environment) provided a verbal update on the Outcome Delivery Group and in particular noted that a Delivery Plan had now been prepared and this would be circulated to Environment Committee members when approved by the next meeting of the Group. The emphasis was on partnership delivery of the outcomes and partners would be updating the Delivery Plan at each Group meeting.

390. THE ENVIRONMENT SERVICE JOINT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2014/15 AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2013/14

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/230) presenting The Environment Service's Business Management and Improvement Plan 2014/15 and the Annual Performance Report 2013/14 for the Environment Service.

Resolved:

- (i) The Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan 2014/15 and Annual Performance Report 2013/14 for the Environment Service pertaining to the Environment Committee's specific area of interest, as appended to Report 14/230, be approved.
- (ii) It be noted that Report 14/230 had been considered by the Community Safety Committee on 21 May 2014, by the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee on 4 June 2014 and would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on 11 June 2014 for scrutiny and comment as appropriate.

391. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE – BUILDING CAPACITY (ADDITIONAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SQUAD)

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/231), updating the Committee on the progress in creating an additional squad in Grounds Maintenance; and (2) noting that in February 2014 the Council allocated £100,000 per annum for 2014/15 and 2015/16 to fund this squad and to support the Council's commitment to the development of Modern Apprentices (MAs).

Resolved

- (i) The progress made in developing the new Grounds Maintenance squad and providing opportunities for youth employment be noted.
- (ii) The Depute Director (Environment) be requested to produce a further update report to this Committee in 12 months time.

392. FREIGHT CONSOLIDATION CENTRE

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/249) on the position with regard to a proposed Freight Consolidation Centre to service Perth city centre.

Resolved

- (i) The proposal to establish a Freight Consolidation Centre to service Perth city centre, part funded by the European Union, would not be going ahead as a result of the lack of a viable business case from the freight haulage industry be noted.
- (ii) The £70,000 previously allocated to the Freight Consolidation Centre project for 2013/14 be re-allocated, with agreement from the Scottish Government's Air Quality Unit, to other agreed air quality initiatives in the Perth and Crieff Air Quality Management Areas as detailed in appendix 1 to report 14/249 be approved.

393. THE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT CHALLENGE FUND (CECF) UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/250) providing an update on the award of Community Environment Challenge Funding to Community Groups since key changes were made to the Fund in June 2013.

Resolved

- (i) The projects supported by the Community Environment Challenge Fund from June 2013 to 31 March 2014 as detailed in the appendix to Report 14/250 be noted.
- (ii) The outcome of the Community Environment Challenge Fund be reported to Committee in 12 months.

394. WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE REVIEW

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/251), (1) outlining the background to the Waste and Recycling Collection Service Review; (2) a proposal to trial the introduction of 140 litre wheeled bins for the collection of general waste based on the Review's findings; and (3) a proposal to cease the collection of second general waste bins from households in the trial area.

Resolved

- (i) The introduction of 140 litre wheeled bins for the collection of general waste in the trial area of Auchterarder, Western Edge, Perth and Oakbank, Perth be approved to commence in February 2015.
- (ii) The collection of second general waste bins from households, that were previously purchased for a one off fee, in the trial area of Auchterarder, Western Edge, Perth and Oakbank, Perth will cease, be approved.
- (iii) The monitoring of the trial for 6 months be approved.
- (iv) The trial findings be reported back to this Committee in early 2016.
- (v) Local members to be kept advised of any difficulties arising from the trial.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973

395. RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT OPTIONS (Art. 306/10)

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/252), (1) providing an update on the residual waste treatment options available to the Council; (2) outlining how these options have been assessed; and (3) determining the preferred options for Perth & Kinross Council in terms of achieving a solution to treating the Council's residual waste.

Resolved

- (i) The Landfill contract with SITA be extended for a period of two years based on suitability, and the Council's withdrawal from the contract with Scotland Excel for residual waste be approved.

- (ii) A long term residual waste treatment solution be procured, either in partnership with Fife Council or independently.
- (iii) The continued involvement in any potential Forth Valley, Fife, East and West Lothian regional joint procurement for residual waste be approved, and any development be reported back to this Committee.

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