

**DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STANDING SCRUTINY PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,  
on 12th June 2012 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present: Councillors Kirsty Darwent (Chair), Andy Campbell, Peter Convery, Ann Galbraith, Mary Kilpatrick, Brian McGinley and Alec Oattes.
- Apology: Councillor Ian Cochrane.
- Also Present: Councillors Bill Grant (Portfolio-holder); and Nan McFarlane; Allan Dorans and Ian Douglas (for Call-in item).
- Attending: L. Bloomer, Executive Director – Development and Environment; V. Andrews, Head of Legal and Administration; M. Hastings, Enterprise Manager; and A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer.

**1. Exclusion of press and public.**

The Panel resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**2. Item for Call-in – Developing International Tourism.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Leadership Panel of 6th June 2012 (Page 312, paragraph 14) when that Panel, having considered a confidential report of 23rd May 2012 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment, had decided to approve a one-off financial contribution of up to £20,000 as set out in the report in anticipation of the beneficial impacts this would have on local tourism and the wider economy.

The Panel was advised that the report had been the subject of a call-in for a number of reasons (issued to Members only).

The Chair advised that the answers to the questions as detailed in the call-in requisition had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Chair invited Councillor McFarlane to explain her reasons for the call-in and, thereafter, the Panel heard the Portfolio-Holder and the Enterprise Manager respond accordingly.

Questions were raised by Members of the Panel to which the Enterprise Manager responded.

**Decided:** following review, that the decision of the Leadership Panel in respect of this matter be confirmed and implemented.

**3. Re-admittance of public.**

At this point the public were readmitted to the meeting.

**4. Minutes of previous meeting.**

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 24th January 2012 (issued) were submitted and noted.

**5. Extracts from the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation.**

There were submitted extracts (issued) from the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation outlining the role of the Scrutiny Panel including the "Call-in" Process and the Annual Programme of Scrutiny Reviews together with the remit of this Panel.

**Decided:** to note the terms of the extracts.

**6. Consideration of Programme of Scrutiny Reviews.**

The Executive Director – Development and Environment advised

- (1) that following the Council's summer recess, relevant performance information would be presented to this Panel and at a following meeting, the Panel should consider the areas they wished to review, subject to agreement by South Ayrshire Council;
- (2) that following agreement on the Reviews this Panel wished to undertake, scoping papers would be presented by the relevant Officers to this Panel and that these would be followed by papers outlining emerging findings for Panel discussion; and
- (3) that final reports outlining the findings of the Review would then be remitted by this Panel to the Leadership Panel for consideration.

**Decided:** to agree

- (a) that the Panel undertake the proposals as detailed at (1) to (3) above;
- (b) that the Executive Director – Development and Environment provide an update to a meeting of the Panel, following recess, on the Review of Development Management, which had been previously undertaken by this Panel;
- (c) that a list of previous reviews undertaken by this Panel be provided to its Members, prior to consideration of further Reviews; and
- (d) that a review relating to regulatory services should be considered alongside other possible review options.

7. **Member's Remarks.**

Councillor Oattes advised the Panel of his concerns relating to a recent report from the Scottish Agricultural College listing a number of Scottish towns that would be more vulnerable to the effects of the recession than others, which included various in South Ayrshire.

**Decided:** to agree that the Executive Director – Development and Environment provide a briefing paper for all Members' regarding this report and that the full report from the Scottish Agricultural College be made available on the Council's WIRE.

The meeting ended at 11.05 a.m.