

Agenda Item No 5 (b) (iv)**LEADERSHIP PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,
on 29th April 2014 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Bill McIntosh (Chair), Bill Grant, John McDowall, Rita Miller, Robin Reid, Philip Saxton and Margaret Toner.

Attending: E. Howat, Chief Executive; V. Andrews, Executive Director - Resources, Governance and Organisation; L. Bloomer, Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment; K. Leinster, Head of Community Care and Housing; H. Carswell, Head of Children’s Services; D. Gillies, Head of Corporate Resources; C. Monaghan, Head of Policy, Community Planning and Public Affairs; M. Newall, Head of Neighbourhood Services; D. Burns, Housing Policy and Strategy Manager; C. Cox, Planning Manager; C. Boyd, Corporate Safety Manager; R. Halley, Tourism Manager; A. Valenti, Quality Improvement Officer; and D. Knight, Democratic Services Administrator.

Also attending: Pastor Ian Gall and Mrs. Mairi Raeburn (for items 3 to 5 only).

Apologies: Professor Andy Collier, Miss Phil Davey, Rev. David Gemmell and Miss Laura Hutton.

Chair’s Remarks.

The Chair advised that an additional verbal report would be submitted to the Panel in relation to the current position concerning the ongoing problems with the email system and proposed that this matter should be dealt with under the Resources and Performance Portfolio and that the order of business should be varied accordingly and be taken after item 3 (1) (c) on the agenda.

Decided: to agree to vary the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

1. Declarations of Interest.

In terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors’ Code of Conduct, Councillor Toner declared an interest in the item on the agenda entitled “Request to dispose of HRA Flats at Templehill, Troon” as her son leased a shop adjacent to the flats and indicated that she would withdraw from the meeting during consideration of this item at the appropriate point in the meeting.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of 18th March 2014 (issued) ([link attached](#)) were submitted and approved

- (1) subject to the second paragraph in item 3 on Page 2 entitled “South Ayrshire Self Directed Support Policy” being amended to read as follows:-

The Panel welcomed the Policy and noted that this Council was one of the first in Scotland to introduce ***Direct Payments***; and

- (2) having noted that the “C” paragraph on Page 2, paragraph 3 entitled “South Ayrshire Self Directed Support Policy” would be submitted to the next meeting of the Council on 15th May 2014.

Community Services - Lifelong Learning.

3. Outcome of the Consultation on the proposed new Nursery Class at Struthers Primary School.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2nd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing

- (1) advising of the outcome of the statutory consultation as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report; and
- (2) requesting approval to adopt the proposals for a nursery class at Struthers Primary School, Troon.

The Panel welcomed the additional nursery provision at Struthers Primary School and noted the overall increase to the nursery nurse staffing complement of one FTE in session 2014-15 rising to two FTE in subsequent years and an increase to the teacher staffing complement of one FTE.

However, concerns were raised by Elected Members regarding the increase in the estimated capital costs from £50,000 to £85,000 to refurbish the new nursery class and the Head of Children’s Services gave an undertaking to provide Elected Members with a detailed explanation of the variance, and the Panel

Decided:

- (a) to note the outcome of the statutory consultation process as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report; and
- (b) to agree to the proposals to establish a nursery class at Struthers Primary School, Troon from August 2014.

4. **Outcome of the Consultation on the proposed new Nursery in Prestwick.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2nd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing

- (1) advising of the outcome of the statutory consultation as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report; and
- (2) requesting approval to adopt the proposals for a nursery in Prestwick.

The Head of Children’s Services advised the Panel of the typing error in paragraph 10.3 and that it should read the ***Prestwick*** area.

The Panel was advised that the planned opening of the new nursery would be October / November 2014 and that 64 parents had indicated this Early Years Centre as one of their three preferred nursery choices in the Admissions process. In accordance with parental choice it had been possible to allocate 37 places and that parents of the 27 remaining applications would be contacted and offered alternative nursery places as part of the Admissions process.

The Panel welcomed the additional nursery provision in the Prestwick area and noted the overall increase to the nursery nurse staffing complement of two FTE in session 2014-15 rising to four FTE in subsequent years and an increase to the teacher staffing complement of one FTE and one FTE Manager / Head Teacher who would have additional responsibility for co-ordinating early years family support across the authority.

The Panel noted that the recruitment of staff would be undertaken in terms of the Council’s Recruitment and Selection Policy.

A Member of the Panel suggested to the Panel that the new nursery in Prestwick should be named the “Space Place Early Years Centre”, and the Panel

Decided:

- (a) to note the outcome of the statutory consultation process as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (b) to approve the proposals to establish an Early Years Nursery Centre in Prestwick with a planned opening date of October 2014; and
- (c) to agree that the new Nursery in Prestwick be named the Space Place Early Years Centre.

5. **Parenting Strategy 2014-2017.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 21st March 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing seeking approval for the South Ayrshire Parenting Strategy (2014-2017) as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

The Head of Children’s Services advised that only the wording within the leaflet “Helping make South Ayrshire the best place in the world to grow up” was submitted for approval and that the graphics and contact information within this document still required finalisation.

The Panel welcomed the South Ayrshire Parenting Strategy 2014-2017 and noted that Sir Harry Burns, Chief Medical Officer for Scotland had since resigned from this post in January 2014 to concentrate on tackling health inequalities.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to approve the South Ayrshire Council Parenting Strategy 2014-2017 and South Ayrshire Council Parenting Strategy Leaflet for South Ayrshire 2014-2017;
- (2) to request the Head of Children’s Services to implement the strategy; and
- (3) to approve the Parenting Strategy leaflet for Parents for implementation over the period from May 2014 to 2017.

Corporate and Community Planning – Resources and Performance.

6. **Information Communication Technology – Email system.**

Serious concerns were expressed by Members of the Panel in relation to the disruption to e-mails since last Wednesday and the failure to provide any backup systems.

The Executive Director - Resources, Governance and Organisation assured the Panel that ICT staff were working continuously with specialist engineers to resolve the problem and advised that she had asked for a full report outlining what had happened, the steps being taken to resolve the situation and to ensure that this did not re-occur in future and the Panel

Decided: to agree that the Executive Director - Resources, Governance and Organisation be requested to provide a report to the next meeting of this Panel explaining how the recent technical issues had arisen last week and the problems currently being experienced with the email system and in particular highlighting why it had happened, what steps had been taken to resolve the problems and what procedures would be put in place to avoid this happening again.

Community Services - Social Services.

7. Completion of the Scrutiny Review of Day Services for Older People.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 26th March 2014 (Page 1, paragraph 4), there was submitted a report (issued) of 7th April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing seeking agreement to the findings of the Review of Day Services for Older People.

The Panel welcomed the findings of the Review of Day Services for Older People and the improved outcomes for service users.

The Panel

Decided: having recorded their appreciation of the work that had been undertaken in relation to the Review of Day Care Services for Older People by the members of the Sub-Group and the Head of Community Care and Housing and the Policy and Strategy Manager and their staff, to agree

- (1) the findings of the Review of Day Services for Older People as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) to focus Day Services from the two Council facilities at Ayr (Overmills) and Girvan (Nursery Court);
- (3) that service users accessing Castle View Day Service in Maybole be prioritised for relocation to Nursery Court, Girvan or the Rainbow Day Service in Maybole with immediate effect;
- (4) that the Council seek to introduce new services from its Day Centres including health and third sector partners by March 2015; and
- (5) that the findings and recommendations be reported to the next meeting of the Shadow Integration Board for noting.

8. Development of an Ayrshire Strategy for Autism.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26th March 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing seeking agreement for this Council to act as lead for a pan Ayrshire Autism Partnership and co-ordinating the development of an Ayrshire Strategy for Autism.

The Panel welcomed the development of an Ayrshire Strategy for Autism and looked forward to working with representatives from East and North Ayrshire Councils and NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to agree a lead role for South Ayrshire in co-ordinating an Ayrshire Autism Partnership and developing a pan Ayrshire Strategy for Autism by 31st March 2015;
- (2) to note the activity that had taken place to advance an Ayrshire-wide approach to supporting people with autism; and
- (3) to refer the report to the Shadow Integration Board for noting.

Community Services - Housing and Customer First.

9. Temporary Accommodation Plan 2014-2016.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 31st March 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing seeking agreement to the South Ayrshire Temporary Accommodation Plan 2014-2016.

The Panel noted the reduction in demand for bed and breakfast accommodation from 65 in 2008/09 to 48 in 2012/13, the forthcoming impact of Welfare Reform on the affordability of Council owned supported accommodation units and the continuing need to support those with addiction and health issues.

The Housing Policy and Strategy Manager gave an undertaking to provide information to a Member of the Panel regarding supported accommodation and the implications for Women's Aid.

The Panel

Decided: to agree to the implementation of the South Ayrshire Temporary Accommodation Plan 2014-16 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Councillor Toner, having previously declared an interest in the following item of business, left the meeting during consideration of this matter.

C-I

10. Request to dispose of HRA Flats at Templehill, Troon.

There was submitted a joint report (issued) of 4th April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing and Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment seeking approval to dispose of Council owned flats at 30-54 Templehill, Troon as they became vacant.

Clarification was sought and provided that £300,000 from the HRA unallocated reserves would be used to commence the acquisition of property until the flats were sold with the proceeds being returned to the HRA, that the properties would be sold on a phased basis as they became vacant, that tenants would be entitled to a Home Loss Payment and reasonable removal expenses, and that discussions would continue at all stages of the process with tenants, and the Panel

Decided: to agree

- (1) to the disposal of 18 flats at 30-54 Templehill, Troon as they became vacant, subject to Ministerial consent;
- (2) that the existing Council house tenants within the flatted accommodation at 30-54 Templehill, Troon be offered priority for alternative accommodation in line with the housing allocation policy;
- (3) to provide £300,000 from the HRA unallocated reserves to support acquisition of alternative accommodation in Troon, with this sum being repaid on sale of the flats; and
- (4) that any funds generated from the sale of these properties be reinvested in new Council house provision within the Troon area.

Councillor Toner rejoined the meeting at this point.

C-I

11. **Demolition of McConnell Square Sheltered Housing Complex.**

There was submitted a joint report (issued) of 31st March 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing and the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking agreement to proceed with the demolition of McConnell Square sheltered housing complex in Girvan.

Clarification was sought and provided that this complex was no longer fit for purpose, that the demolition contractor would be required to have a health and safety plan in place, that the site would be landbanked and options for future use would be considered in due course and that the demand for social housing in Girvan was lower than in other areas within South Ayrshire, and the Panel

Decided: to agree

- (1) to the demolition of McConnell Square sheltered housing complex in Girvan by March 2015; and
- (2) to the site being land banked, potentially for housing, pending a longer term consultation with the Girvan community over its use.

Social Services and Housing and Customer First.

12. Elba Gardens, Ayr Supported Homeless Accommodation.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 31st March 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing seeking agreement to invest in Elba Gardens homeless accommodation to ensure it achieved the Scottish Housing Quality Standard by 31st March 2014 and to its continued use as supported interim accommodation for homeless households.

The Panel welcomed the investment in Elba Gardens homeless accommodation and noted that the estimated improvement work would be approximately £10,000 per unit.

Decided: to agree

- (1) to invest in Elba Gardens homeless accommodation to bring it up to Scottish Housing Quality Standard by 31st March 2015; and
- (2) to the continued use of Elba Gardens as supported interim accommodation for homeless households.

Development and Environment -Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.

C

13. Ayrshire and Arran Tourism.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 22nd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Ayrshire and Arran Tourism Manager outlining the progress in relation to the activity of the pan Ayrshire Tourism Team.

Clarification was sought and provided that Project 10 – Quality and Skills had indicated a “zero” achievement as it had only become operational within the last few days, however, there had been great interest from the hospitality industry enquiring about the training programme and that Project 7 – Visitor Information Provision had also indicated a “zero” achievement and the Panel noted that this initiative was being actively promoted although it was at an early stage.

The Tourism Manager responded to a number of questions from Members of the Panel in relation to engaging with students and young people regarding the development of social media opportunities for visitor information, marketing of Glasgow Prestwick Airport and opportunities to open more routes, links on Ayrshire and Arran’s Website to other sites such as Visit Scotland, whether there was scope to further develop and enhance existing walking and cycling routes and the current position with regard to the appointment of North Ayrshire Council’s members on the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to note the progress being made by the Ayrshire and Arran tourism team and the planned review; and
- (2) to agree
 - (a) that the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee should commence its role in relation to tourism, subject to approval by the Council; and
 - (b) to delegate the finalisation and execution of the Service Agreement relating to the shared tourism service to the Executive Directors of Resources, Governance and Organisation and Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment.

14. Review of Supplementary Planning Guidance: Design Guidelines for Advertisement and Commercial Signage – Policy on Electronic Signage.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 21st March 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment seeking approval to draft amendments to South Ayrshire Council's Supplementary Design Guidance on Advertisement and Commercial Signage under the policy that dealt with electronic signage.

The Panel welcomed further consultation on this policy to ensure that electronic advertisements were appropriately sited and controlled.

The Panel

Decided: to approve

- (1) the proposed amendments to the Council's 'Design Guidance for Advertisement and Commercial signage' in terms of Policy 16 – Electronic Advertisement, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (2) the amendments as a basis for public consultation in line with the Council's 'Protocol for Public Consultation on Planning Policy'.

Development and Environment - Sustainability and Environment.

15. Insurance Premiums for 2014-2015.

There was submitted a joint report (issued) of 22nd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment and Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation informing of

- (1) additional costs relating to insurance premiums for the Council for 2014-2015; and
- (2) the decision to authorise East Ayrshire Council to extend their insurance cover in respect of South Ayrshire roads activities which were now undertaken by Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

Concerns were raised by the Members of the Panel regarding the additional costs of between £0.240m to £0.250m arising from setting up the Ayrshire Roads Alliance and why this had not been identified sooner and the Director of Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment provided an explanation as to the processes involved. Members enquired whether the tender process had been EU Procurement Directive compliant and expressed their disappointment that only two insurance companies were in this market.

The Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation advised that EU Procurement Directive had been complied with during the tendering process and she gave an undertaking to provide further background information regarding the insurance market for local authorities and the shortage of competition.

The Panel

Decided:

- (a) to note
 - (i) that insurance costs confirmed for 2014-2015 exceeded the budget approved in December 2013; and
 - (ii) that the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment authorised East Ayrshire Council to extend insurance cover relating to activities related to South Ayrshire roads under section G3 of the Scheme of Delegation funded from the Council's Insurance Fund; and
- (b) to approve
 - (i) the use of £0.425m from the Council's Insurance Fund to meet the shortfall in funding insurance costs; and
 - (ii) the reinstatement of the Insurance Fund to return it to its previously agreed level of £0.425m by earmarking £0.425m of the 2013/14 anticipated year-end uncommitted surplus.

Corporate and Community Planning - Corporate, Strategic and Community Planning.

16. Service and Improvement Plans 2014/17.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Chief Executive seeking approval for eleven Service and Improvement Plans (SIPs) which had been prepared following the approval of the Council Plan for 2014-17.

The Panel thanked Officers for their hard work in producing the SIPS at such short notice and recommended that

- it be more appropriate at this stage to approve these Plans as draft Plans and to remit them to the Standing Scrutiny Panels for consideration and revision as required;
- that Members of the Panel should forward any comments on the SIPs to the Chief Executive so that these comments could be submitted for discussion by the relevant Standing Scrutiny Panel; and
- the Chief Executive arrange a meeting to be held with the Corporate Management Team and Portfolio-holders to discuss the SIPs.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to approve the draft Service and Improvement Plans for 2014-17 subject to remitting to the Standing Scrutiny Panels for detailed consideration;
- (2) to note that, as agreed by the Council on 6th March 2014, the SIPs would now be remitted to the Standing Scrutiny Panels in May and June for consideration and revision as required and that Members of the Panel should forward any comments on the SIPs to the Chief Executive so that these comments could be submitted for discussion by the relevant Standing Scrutiny Panel; and
- (3) to request that the Chief Executive
 - (a) arrange for a meeting to be held with the Corporate Management Team and Portfolio-holders to discuss the SIPs; and
 - (a) report the outcome of the considerations at the Standing Scrutiny Panels to the Council on 3rd July 2014 for final agreement.

17. Improvement Themes – Quarterly update April 2014.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation outlining the latest quarterly update on the Council's Improvement Themes to allow Elected Members to review progress.

Clarification was sought and provided that substantial costs could be incurred in improving all public areas in Council buildings to ensure that they were suitable for and accessible to disabled people and that work was currently underway to produce a strategic investment programme.

The Panel welcomed the proposed South Ayrshire Council Financial Inclusion Strategy, the Business Improvement Team, and the use of COAST as a training tool.

A concern was raised regarding the targeted level of spend influenced by procurement professional and the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation undertook to review this as part of the further review of procurement delivery.

The Panel

Decided: to note the progress achieved to date against the six themes as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

18. Local Government Benchmarking Framework – 2012/13 Reporting.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Policy, Community Planning and Public Affairs outlining the latest publication of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) data for 2012-13 and requesting that the Panel consider how targeted use of this information could be used to drive improvement in pursuit of Best Value.

Clarification was sought and provided in relation to how the quartile information was defined and grouping of local authorities for comparison purposes.

A Member of the Panel referred to the recent training course that had been presented by the Improvement Service (IS) and enquired if the IS could be asked to give a further presentation to Elected Members, and the Panel

Decided:

- (1) to note the data as presented in Appendix 1 of the report in relation to the eleven service areas of the Council and that future consideration would be pursued as part of the forthcoming scrutiny of the Service and Improvement Plans by the Standing Scrutiny Panels; and
- (2) to request the Chief Executive to contact the Improvement Service to ascertain if they could give a further presentation on Benchmarking to Elected Members.

19. University of West of Scotland – Provost’s Award.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to an annual award to the Most Distinguished Graduate from the UWS, Ayr Campus, to be known as ‘The South Ayrshire Provost’s Award’ and to the terms of the associated gift agreement between this Council and the University of the West of Scotland.

The Panel

Decided: to agree to an annual award to the Most Distinguished Graduate from the UWS, Ayr Campus, to be known as ‘the South Ayrshire Provost’s Award’ and to the terms of the associated gift agreement between this Council and the University of the West of Scotland as detailed in the Appendix of the report.

20. Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland – Fifth Reviews of Electoral Arrangements.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation advising of the response sent on behalf of the Council, during the recess period, to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland’s consultation on proposals for Councillor numbers.

Concerns were raised about the reduction of Councillors in this area from 30 to 27 and that the revised method of determining Councillor numbers had included consideration of data from the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation as well as population distribution and how this would work in practice, and the Panel

Decided: to note and confirm the terms of the draft response issued by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

Corporate and Community Planning – Resources and Performance.

21. Review of Procurement Thresholds.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval for a revised best value approach in relation to purchases between £10,000 and £29,999.

The Panel welcomed the revised best value approach in relation to purchases and the inclusion of three organisations located within Ayrshire in the procedures.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to approve the revised approach proposed for all purchases between £10,000 and £29,999; and
- (2) to agree the revised proposals to be implemented for any purchases commencing on or after 1st June 2014.

22. 2013/14 Accounting Policies.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Chief Accounting Officer seeking approval for revised accounting policies applicable to 2013/14.

The Panel

Decided: to approve the accounting policies as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report to be used in preparing the 2013/14 financial statements.

23. Strategic Risk Management.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd April 2014 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Corporate Resources updating the Panel on the reviewed Strategic Risk Register – March 2014 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report in line with the agreed reporting framework.

Concerns were raised regarding the recent ICT failures and of the need to include this in the Risk Register so that it could be reviewed on an ongoing basis, and the Panel

Decided: to agree

- (1) the 18 key risks and to endorse the work currently being undertaken or proposed by risk owners to mitigate these risks; and
- (2) that a review of the Strategic Risk Register be undertaken to reflect the new Council Plan and Service Improvement Plans (SIPs) by the next round of reporting, including issues relating to ICT systems.

24. 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 during consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraphs 9 and 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

25. Lease of Troon Youth Centre, St. Meddans Road, Troon.

There was submitted a joint report (issued to members only) of 23rd April 2014 by the Head of Corporate Resources and Head of Community, Enterprise and Development seeking approval to lease the building which formerly housed the Troon Youth Centre at St. Meddans Road, Troon.

The Panel noted that savings would be made in relation to property and staffing costs and the current janitorial and caretaking staff would be redeployed to alternative posts and that the existing ground lease for the adjacent scouts building currently had 13 years left to run would be extended to 25 years to bring both lease periods into line.

The Panel

Decided: to agree to lease the property at St. Meddans Road, Troon to the 28th Ayrshire (Troon) Scout Group, being the lead organisation on behalf of the wider community, for a period of 25 years at a rent of £1 per annum and on terms and conditions as might be agreed by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation when concluding the lease.

26. Craigie Estate – Proposed Acquisition and Transfer of Land at Craigie Estate, Ayr for the new Ayr Academy.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 23rd April 2014 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to authorise the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation to negotiate the acquisition of land within the Craigie Estate for the new Ayr Academy Learning Campus up to a maximum value as specified within the report.

The Panel welcomed the proposals for the new Ayr Academy and looked forward to working closely with representatives from UWS.

The Panel, following clarification of several issues,

Decided:

- (1) to authorise the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation to negotiate the terms for the acquisition of land within the Craigie Estate for the new Ayr Academy Learning Campus on the basis as set out at paragraph 3.6 of the report; and
- (2) to request the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation to report back to this Panel on the outcome of the negotiations prior to the summer recess.

27. Tender for a Framework for Care and Support at Home Services.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 23rd April 2014 by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing

- (1) informing of the tender process outcome for the Framework for Care and Support at Home Services; and
- (2) seeking agreement to the creation of a Framework for Care and Support at Home Services.

The Panel

Decided: to agree

- (a) to the implementation of a framework for the provision of private care at home in South Ayrshire; and
- (b) that the top five ranked organisations in each lot be considered for home care in those geographic locations, even where these were not the lowest tender price received in accordance with the requirements of section 19.2.2 of the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts.

Development and Environment - Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.

28. Activity Centre Opening Hours.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 22nd April 2014 by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment seeking approval

- (1) to implement the revised Activity Centre opening hours to achieve the approved 2014/15 revenue budget saving of £60,000; and
- (2) to the closure of Tarbolton Activity Centre at the end of the current football season.

Clarification was sought and provided regarding the impact that opening hours could have on the downturn in playing football in Activity Centres, the introduction of the charge of £15 per hour to cover the staff costs and overheads and the Head of Community Care and Housing gave an undertaking to provide Elected Members with information on the arrangements for the Out of School Care Clubs, and the Panel

Decided: to approve

- (a) the revised Activity Centre opening hours and the increased charges proposed for those accessing Activity Centres outwith normal opening hours; and
- (b) the full closure of Tarbolton Activity Centre at the end of the current football season.

Development and Environment - Sustainability and Environment.

29. Procurement of a Vehicle Tracking System for South Ayrshire Council.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 16th April 2014 by the Head of Neighbourhood Services seeking approval to accept a tender for the provision of a Vehicle Tracking System that was not the lowest priced tender.

The Head of Neighbourhood Services gave a detailed explanation of the costs of fitting and defitting tracking devices in vehicles and what benefits the tracking system could provide to the management of the fleet.

The Panel

Decided: to grant authority to the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment in terms of Standing Order 19.2.2 of Standing Orders Relating to Contracts to accept the tender by Trackyou Ltd. for the provision of a Vehicle Tracking System.

30. Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Reports.

Having heard the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation, the Panel

Decided:

- (1) to authorise the disclosure of the following reports falling under Standing Order 31.2 following expiry of the period for call-in or following conclusion of the call-in process, as applicable:-
 - Lease of Troon Youth Centre, St. Meddans Road, Troon; and
 - Activity Centre Opening Hours; and
- (2) not to authorise the disclosure of the whole or part of any documents of the following reports falling under Standing Order 31.2:-
 - Craigie Estate – Proposed Acquisition and Transfer of Land at Craigie Estate, Ayr for the New Ayr Academy;
 - Tender for a Framework for Care and Support at Home Services; and
 - Procurement of a Vehicle Tracking System for South Ayrshire Council.

The meeting ended at 12.50 p.m.