

**PARTNERSHIPS PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,  
on 10th February 2015 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present: Councillors John Hampton (Chair), John Allan, Ian Cavana, Ann Galbraith, Sandra Goldie and William J. Grant.
- Apologies: Councillors Mary Kilpatrick and Helen Moonie.
- Attending: L. Bloomer, Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment; C. Monaghan, Head of Communities; V. Stewart, Community Planning Co-ordinator; and J. McClure, Committee Services Officer.
- Also Attending: James Knox, Chair, Ayr Renaissance LLP Board and David Bell, Managing Director, Ayr Renaissance.

**1. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

The Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment declared an interest in item 8 of this minute as she was a Member of the Ayr Renaissance LLP and advised that she would vacate the top table during consideration of this matter.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting.**

The minutes of 25th November 2014 (issued) ([link attached](#)) were submitted and approved.

**3. Work Programme and Action Plan.**

There was submitted an Action Log and Work Programme for this Panel (issued) ([link attached](#)).

The Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment advised

(1) with regard to the Action Log

- (a) that, as the item on Outside Organisations was being considered at this meeting, it would be marked as completed and subsequently removed from the Action Log;
- (b) that, as the item on Police Scrutiny Arrangements had been considered at the meeting of this Panel of 25th November 2014 it would now be removed from the Action Log;

- (c) that the other two matters on Unauthorised Planning Developments and Performance of Police Scotland would be continued to a future meeting of this Panel; and
- (2) with regard to the Work Programme
- (a) that the Panel had agreed to examine the Police Forward Plan 2015/16 at this meeting, however, she was proposing that consideration of this Plan and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Plan be continued to the meeting of the Panel scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 9th June 2015, at which time the Panel could consider whether the plans were fit for purpose;
  - (b) that the report on Community Planning Projects would now be considered at the meeting of this Panel scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 15th September 2015; and
  - (c) that she was proposing that the Tourism Team report due to be considered at the meeting on 9th June 2015 and the Ayrshire Roads Alliance report scheduled to be considered at the meeting on 15th September 2015 be swapped as the Tourism Team report would not be finalised by June.

Following a question from a Panel Member on whether there was a Trade Union representative on the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee, the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment advised that it had been decided not to include Trade Unions on that Committee, however, discussions would take place with Trade Unions prior to reports then being considered by Panels of this Council.

**Decided:** to note the Action Log and Work Programme and the amended dates for reports to be considered by this Panel.

#### 4. **Potential Scrutiny – Outside Organisations.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 29th January 2015 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Communities advising of the outside organisations whose work could be scrutinised by this Panel and the proposed arrangements for bringing forward reports for scrutiny on the performance of these organisations.

The Head of Communities

- (1) advised that the work of this Panel was to monitor, review and challenge the performance of services in South Ayrshire and that this report had been compiled as the Panel had requested a report on those organisations receiving ongoing funding; and
- (2) recommended that those organisations who received funding over £50,000 should be scrutinised annually and those organisations who received between £5,000 and £50,000 should be scrutinised every three years.

**Decided:**

- (a) to note the arrangements for bringing forward reports for scrutiny;
- (b) to note that a number of Panel members had an interest in a number of the organisations whose work the Panel would scrutinise; and
- (c) to approve the proposals as outlined in section 4 of the report.

**5. Draft South Ayrshire Single Outcome Agreement Annual Report to March 2014.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 25th January 2015 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Communities

- (1) advising of the progress made in delivering the outcomes of the South Ayrshire Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) to March 2014; and
- (2) recommending that Panel members scrutinise the information contained in the draft SOA Annual Report and confirm any issues which they wished raised with the Community Planning Board when the Board considered the report at its meeting of 24th February 2015.

Questions were then raised by Panel Members in relation to:

- (a) the gathering of data and the Head of Communities advised that it was problematic obtaining up-to-date data on a number of measures even though these were indicators from the Scottish Government list;
- (b) whether the target set for reducing emergency admissions at hospitals was achievable and the Head of Communities advised that all targets required to be a reasonable expectation and colleagues at Ayrshire and Arran Health Board were making this a priority to reduce emergency admissions; and
- (c) how valuable it was acting on data that was out-of-date and the Head of Communities advised that the data was only one part of the picture, that trends were highlighted which could then be targeted and worked upon.

**Decided:** to note the draft South Ayrshire Single Outcome Agreement Annual Report to March 2014.

**6. Correspondence Relating to Police and Fire Services.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 20th January 2015 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Communities advising of the following three pieces of correspondence received from the Police and Fire Services:-

- (1) a letter to the Chief Executive of this Authority from the Assistant Chief Officer for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service concerning the restructuring of the Strategic Leadership Team;
- (2) a letter to the Chief Executive of this Authority from the Divisional Commander, Police Scotland regarding the National Firearms Licensing Review and advising of changes in how the Firearms Enquiry Officer function would be undertaken; and

- (3) a document to Police Convenors from Eleanor Gaw of the Scottish Police Authority providing strategic level information on policing in Scotland for Quarter 2 (April to September 2014) and supplying data for individual authorities.

Questions were then raised and comments made by Panel Members in relation to:

- (a) the rank of Deputy Assistant Chief Officer, if this was a new post created in the restructuring and whether creating new high ranked posts reflected Best Value and the Head of Communities advised that she would clarify the role of the Deputy Assistant Chief Officer;
- (b) how important it was to communicate information from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue and the Head of Communities advised that she had an excellent relationship with Police and Fire colleagues and, as this Panel was a scrutiny body, all correspondence received from Police or Fire would be issued to this Panel for information and scrutinising;
- (c) the National Firearms Licensing Review and the concerns of Members regarding unlicensed firearms being used and the Head of Communities advised that she would report the Panel's concerns to the Council's Police Liaison Officer;
- (d) how the data on public confidence in Police Scotland was measured and the Head of Communities advised that she would seek to obtain the data source for this; and
- (e) the continuing problem of bogus callers preying on the elderly and online scams and the Head of Communities advised that partnership work had taken place on both of these problems and that Police Scotland continued to target the perpetrators.

**Decided:** to note the information provided by Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and that the Head of Communities would convey the Panel's comments to both Services.

## **7. 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 following item of business on the agenda, 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.

**The Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment, having previously declared an interest in the following item, left the top table at this point.**

**8. Progress Against Plan – Ayr Renaissance LLP.**

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 10th February 2015 by the Head of Communities inviting Panel members to consider the progress against the Ayr Renaissance LLP Business Plan approved at Council on 3rd July 2014.

The Chair of Ayr Renaissance LLP and the Managing Director, Ayr Renaissance updated the Panel on the recent work of Ayr Renaissance, advised of the LLP's aspirations for Ayr and the engagements taking place to achieve this and welcomed any ideas from Panel Members on regenerating Ayr.

Comments were made and questions raised by Panel Members and the Chair of Ayr Renaissance LLP; the Managing Director, Ayr Renaissance; and the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment responded to the various questions asked.

Having expressed their pleasure at hearing the plans and aspirations of the Ayr Renaissance LLP, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to thank the Chair of Ayr Renaissance LLP and the Managing Director, Ayr Renaissance for their interesting and informative presentation;
- (2) to request that a further report be submitted to this Panel at its meeting of 15th September 2015; and
- (3) to request that the comments made by Panel Members at this meeting be conveyed to the other members of the Ayr Renaissance LLP.

The meeting ended at 11.55 a.m.