

Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee
8 December 2016

May 2012 - April 2017

IRVINE, 8 December 2016 - At a Meeting of the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Councillors Donald Reid (North Ayrshire Council); Maureen McKay and Bobby McDill (East Ayrshire Council); and Alec Clark, Peter Convery and John McDowall (South Ayrshire Council).

In Attendance

L. Bloomer, Executive Director (Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment), C. Boyd, Risk, Safety and Resilience Manager and J. McGeorge, Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Co-ordinator (Ayrshire Civic Contingencies Team) (South Ayrshire Council); P. Whip, Group Finance Manager (East Ayrshire Council); S. Turner, Head of Roads, S. McCafferty, Network Manager and K. Braidwood, Operations Manager (Ayrshire Roads Alliance); and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader and A. Pearson, Committee Services Support Officer (North Ayrshire Council).

Chair

Councillor Donald Reid (Agenda Items 1-4) and Councillor McDowall (remainder of the Agenda).

Apologies for Absence

Councillors Joe Cullinane, Willie Gibson and Alan Hill (North Ayrshire Council); Douglas Reid and Tom Cook (East Ayrshire Council); and Nan McFarlane (South Ayrshire Council).

1. Apologies

The Chair invited intimation of apologies for absence, which were recorded.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The accuracy of the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 November 2016, was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 ASSJC 2017 Meetings Calendar

Submitted report by the Head of Democratic Services (North Ayrshire Council) on a proposed calendar of meetings of the Joint Committee for 2017. The draft meetings calendar, which was attached at Appendix 1 to the report, proposed that the Committee meet on 17 February, 23 June, 8 September, 10 November and 8 December 2017.

The Committee agreed to approve the 2017 calendar of meetings set out at Appendix 1, subject to any amendments which may be required following the 2017 local government elections.

AYRSHIRE CIVIL CONTINGENCIES TEAM (ACCT)

4. Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team

Submitted report by Head of Property and Risk (South Ayrshire Council) on the Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team Service Plan 2017/18. The proposed plan was set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Service Agreement in respect of the delivery of Civil Contingencies services across Ayrshire was signed on 16 March 2016 and requires Joint Committee approval of ACCT service planning arrangements prior to budget setting.

The Risk, Safety and Resilience Manager, in presenting the report, also advised of the team's success in being nominated for South Ayrshire Council's Outstanding People awards.

The Committee agreed:-

- (a) to approve the Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team Service Plan 2017/18 as set out at Appendix 1 to the report;
- (b) to note that there may be additional requests for support added to the Service Plan as the wider services from across the 3 Ayrshire Councils plan their own service delivery for 2017/18; and
- (c) to extend its congratulations to the ACCT on the team's success in being nominated for South Ayrshire Council's Outstanding People awards.

5. Rotation of Chair

Councillor Donald Reid withdrew from the Chair at this point, to allow Councillor McDowall to chair the meeting for the remaining items of ARA business.

AYRSHIRE ROADS ALLIANCE (ARA)

6. Property and Accommodation Review

Submitted report by the Head of Roads (Ayrshire Roads Alliance) on the outcome of the review of property and accommodation.

At its meeting on 17 June 2016, the Committee approved arrangements for a review of the Ayrshire Roads Alliance's property and accommodation and requested a report on the outcome.

The report provided information on the analysis of the three review options considered; gave details of work to progress Option 3 (the rationalisation of the existing property and accommodation facilities); and set out an analysis of the proposed cost savings arising from the review. Annual savings from 2017/18 of £57,766, were anticipated, with total net revenue savings by 2023/24 of £404,362 against a savings target of £1.44m, as identified within the Benefits Realisation Strategy and Plan which was approved by the Committee on 1 May 2015.

The Head of Roads (ARA) provided a verbal update on support expressed by the service's Joint Consultative Committee for the staff relocations proposed as part of the review.

Members asked questions, and received information and clarification, on the following:-

- the definition of the phrase 'at this time' at paragraph 17 of the report;
- the ranking of depot locations as set out in Table 1 of the report;
- the staff sections which would continue to be delivered from Burns House, Ayr;
- the current state of repair of the Meadowhead Depot, Coylton;
- the mechanism for disposing of any premises no longer required by the ARA;
- the ARA's confidence that proposed savings would be achieved;
- the Benefits Realisation Strategy and Plan referred to at paragraph 27 of the report;
- the shortfall of £1m against the overall savings target from the review of accommodation of £1.44m; and
- recruitment proposals following the departure of two members of staff from Burns House, Ayr.

The Committee agreed:-

- (a) to approve the proposed approach to the Ayrshire Roads Alliance property and accommodation review, as outlined within the report;

- (b) to approve the firm proposal and recommendation to proceed on the basis of Option 3 (the rationalisation of the existing property and accommodation facilities), as set out within the report;
- (c) to approve the proposals on alternative office accommodation currently based at Burns House, Ayr, as set out at paragraph 22 of the report; and
- (d) to note anticipated shortfall of £1m against the overall savings target from the review of accommodation of £1.44m, which would be covered in the next report to the Committee.

7. Roadworks Programme 2016/17

Submitted report by the Head of Roads (ARA) on progress made with the road improvement programmes within East and South Ayrshire for financial year 2016/17. The 2016/17 Ayrshire Roads Alliance Programmes for South Ayrshire and East Ayrshire were set out at Appendices 1 and 2, respectively.

East Ayrshire Council's Cabinet approved the 2016/17 road works programme on 10 February 2016. The South Ayrshire programme was approved by its Leadership Panel on 26 April 2016. The report provided progress updates in respect of each programme.

Members asked questions, and received information and clarification, on the following:-

- the revised timescale associated with the deck replacement works at Todd Street Bridge, Girvan;
- Scottish Borders Council's role as a contractor in works referred to in Appendix 2 to the report;
- the high standard of works carried out on Gowanbank slip;
- progress with, and funding of, the Kilmarnock bus park and ride project, and the importance of engagement with local community councils;
- the launch of 8 new Stagecoach 'super' buses; and
- feasibility work in connection with the Active Travel Hub, Ayr.

The Operations Manager (ARA) undertook to provide further information to Councillor Clark on the contractor appointed to carry out the Todd Street Bridge, Girvan deck replacement works.

Noted.

8. Draft Service Plan 2017/18

Submitted report by the Head of Roads (Ayrshire Roads Alliance) on the Ayrshire Roads Alliance draft Service Plan for 2017/18. The draft Plan and proposed Performance Indicators for 2017/18, were set out at Appendices 1 and 2, respectively.

The draft Service Plan provided detail on the current operating position of the Ayrshire Roads Alliance and the anticipated position of the Service by March 2018. The report indicated that the goals identified in the Plan would be achieved and monitored through an Improvement Action Plan, Performance Management Framework, Risk Register and Report, and Benefits Realisation Strategy and Plan.

The Head of Roads (ARA) provided a verbal update on the signing of an agreement between Glasgow Prestwick Airport and Houston Spaceport, indicating that developments in this area would be taken into account in service planning.

Members asked questions, and received information and clarification, on the following:-

- the removal of some performance indicators and introduction of new indicators;
- the benefits of LED street lighting;
- damage caused to the road network in instances where high volumes of traffic are diverted from trunk roads;
- the receipt funding from the Timber Transport Fund for the A714;
- the rationale for not including at this stage in the Ayrshire Growth Deal bid provision for associated roads projects;
- progress in respect of flood prevention measures for Kilmarnock;
- the mechanism for monitoring the performance of external contractors;
- the impact of delays between projects being approved and their implementation;
- the background to a delay in executing flood prevention works in Girvan;
- the role of 'lane rental' agreements in seeking to minimise delays in the completion of road works by external contractors;
- the progress made in respect of the Clerkland Bridge works; and
- the current position regarding the expenditure of the £10m additional funding allocation by South Ayrshire Council.

The Committee agreed:-

- (a) to approve the draft Ayrshire Roads Alliance Service Plan for 2017/18, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, subject to a correction in terms of the total non-revenue figure provided within Table 3 of the Plan;
- (b) to approve the proposed Performance Indicators for 2017/18, contained in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (c) that officers circulate the confirmed finance budgets for 2017/18 to Members of the Committee following release of the final settlement figures;
- (d) that progress updates be provided to future meetings of the Committee;
- (e) that performance information in future include details of the performance of external contractors; and
- (f) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

9. Update on Performance Scorecard

Submitted report by the Head of Roads (ARA) on progress made to date against the Performance Scorecard. The Scorecard was set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Performance Scorecard included commentary against 'red' and 'amber' performance measures, and paragraph 7 of the covering report highlighted a number of green performance measures.

Members asked questions, and received information and clarification, on the following:-

- the level of improvement, between 2012-14 and 2014-16, of the percentage of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance; and
- insurance claims by road users.

The Network Manager (ARA) undertook to provide Members with information on payments made in respect of public liability claims by road users.

The Committee agreed:-

- (a) to note the Performance Scorecard and performance metrics presented in the report; and
- (b) to continue to receive Performance Scorecard updates.

10. Revenue Financial Monitoring Report

Submitted report by the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer (East Ayrshire Council) on the revenue budgeting monitoring for the year to 16 October 2016. Appendix 1 to the report set out the split between Strategic and Local Service Delivery. The Financial Monitoring report was set out at Appendix 2.

Members asked questions, and received information and clarification, on the challenges associated with delivering the service within budget and actions by Officers to keep this under review.

The Committee agreed:-

- (a) to note the financial management position of the Ayrshire Roads Alliance; and
- (b) to receive a further financial update at the next meeting of the Committee.

The Meeting ended at 3.20 p.m.