

LEADERSHIP PANEL.

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr
on 17 March 2020 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Douglas Campbell (Chair), Ian Cochrane, Julie Dettbarn, William Grant, Peter Henderson, Brian McGinley and Philip Saxton.

Attending: E. Howat, Chief Executive; D. Hutchison, Depute Chief Executive and Director – People; D. Gillies, Director – Place; C. Caves, Head of Regulatory Services; T. Baulk, Head of Finance and ICT; M. Newall, Executive Manager (People); K. Carr, Executive Manager (Place); T. Burns, Service Lead – Asset Management and Community Asset Transfer; K. Dalrymple, Service Lead – Neighbourhood Services; C. Monaghan, Service Lead – Community Services and Facilities; D. Yuille, Service Lead – Special Property Projects; and A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer.

1. Declarations of Interest.

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

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of 18 February 2020 (issued) were submitted and approved.

3. Decision Log.**Decided:**

- (1) to approve
 - (a) the list of overdue actions; and
 - (b) the actions listed with revised due dates; and
- (2) to note the recently completed actions.

Children and Young People.**4. Children's Services Plan 2020-2023.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 March 2020 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People inviting the Panel to approve the draft South Ayrshire Children's Services Plan 2020-23.

Following a question regarding the Strategic Needs Analysis within the Plan and having heard the Service Lead – Community Services and Facilities in response, the Panel

Decided: to approve the draft South Ayrshire Children's Services Plan 2020-23.

Economy and Culture.

5. Review of Community Halls.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 March 2020 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People advising of the outcome of the recent Community Halls review and to agree the next steps.

After having heard various issues arising from the Review and the need for the Panel to be kept informed of progress, the Panel

Decided:

- (1) to note the outcome of the recent review of Halls;
- (2) to approve the implementation of the recommendations, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (3) to agree that progress be reported back to this Panel, prior to summer recess.

6. Ayrshire Growth Deal Programme Management Office.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 March 2020 by the Director – Place seeking approval for the Programme Management Office (PMO) for the Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD).

Following discussion regarding the recruitment process, the Panel

Decided: to agree

- (1) to the proposed staffing structure and resource requirements for the Programme Management Office (PMO), as outlined in the report with required funding from Ayrshire Growth Deal Capital allocations; and
- (2) that the PMO be permanently hosted by East Ayrshire Council (EAC) with the required posts and resource recruited by EAC.

Environment.

7. Fleet and Transport Update.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 March 2020 by the Director – Place requesting approval for amendments to the Fleet, Travel and Transport Policy and to provide Members with an update on work undertaken to date in relation to the Council's fleet management arrangements.

Following a number of issues raised by Members of the Panel including how the South Ayrshire Transport Forum would feed into the changes and how moving to the use of more leased vehicles would affect the Council's Budget, the Panel

Decided:

- (1) to note the implications of the Programme for Government 2019/20, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) to approve the amendments, as detailed in paragraphs 4.1.1 to 4.1.5 of the report, to the Fleet, Travel and Transport policy and the Drivers, Supervisors and Managers Handbook and the roll out of a training programme for staff;
- (3) to approve the Council's commitment to phasing out grey vehicle usage over the long-term and to consider the introduction of pre-authorisation of business mileage by managers, following consultation with staff and Trade Unions;
- (4) to approve the development of a Fleet Strategy; and
- (5) to approve the establishment of a working group to consider options for the creation of an integrated transport hub.

Corporate.**8. The South Ayrshire Way Strategic Change Programme – Preparing for the Future.**

There was submitted a joint report (issued) of 9 March 2020 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People and the Director – Place seeking approval for proposals for a strategic change programme and to change the remit and delegated responsibilities of the Executive Managers to deliver this programme in support of the Council's strategic objectives, as set out in the Council Plan 2018 to 2022 and the Financial Plan 2020 – 2030.

The Panel

Decided: to continue this matter to a future meeting.

Resources and Performance.**9. Town Centre Fund.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 March 2020 by the Director – Place

- (1) providing an update on the projects that had already been committed to receive an allocation of funds from the Scottish Government Town Centre Fund; and
- (2) seeking approval to allocate the remaining funds to other projects.

Following discussion regarding the former Vogue Cinema Building, Girvan, the Panel

Decided:

- (a) to note the update on projects that had already been approved to receive funds from the Town Centre Fund;
- (b) to approve the allocation of the remaining funds to a number of other projects, as detailed in paragraph 6.1. of the report, with the funding for Girvan Cinema being ring-fenced; and
- (c) to report back on the demolition costs of the Girvan Cinema to the next meeting of this Panel, scheduled to take place on 28 April 2020, to allow a decision to be made on delegating authority to the Director - Place to conclude the purchase of the building and ground lease as detailed in paragraph 4.4.1 of the report.

10. 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 1 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

11. Ayr Esplanade – Phase 1.

There was submitted a report (Members only) of 5 March 2020 by the Director – Place seeking approval to extend the existing SWHub appointment at Riverside site to provide a design concept and undertake a public consultation for each of the three sites as detailed in the Appendices to the report.

Following discussion, the Panel

Decided:

- (1) to grant authority to the Director - Place to extend the existing SWHub appointment to:-
 - (a) undertake a feasibility appraisal with costs on using the St Germain-En-Laye gardens and bandstand, as shown in Appendix 1 of the report to host events and activities for residents and visitors;
 - (b) prepare a marketing brochure for the area of ground as shown in Appendix 2 of the report for lease to external third parties for commercial development;
 - (c) provide a design layout with costs of the former crazy golf site, as shown in Appendix 3 of the report to create areas of open space for residents and visitors; and
 - (d) undertake a public consultation exercise on all of the options to gauge the level of public support; and
- (2) to request that the Director – Place report back to this Panel in June 2020 on the outcome of the public consultation.

Environment.**12. Neighbourhood Services Structure Changes.**

There was submitted a report (Members only) of 6 March 2020 by the Director – Place seeking approval for the new Neighbourhood Services Structure in line with the Council's approved budget for 2020/21.

Having considered the proposals outlined within the report and having noted that Members would be provided with a Briefing Note on the Council's Corporate Severance Policy, the Panel

Decided:

- (1) to approve the Neighbourhood Services employee structure, as set out in Appendices 2 and 3 of the report; and
- (2) to report back to this Panel on progress in twelve months time.

13. Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Reports.

Decided: to authorise the disclosure under Standing Order 32.4 of the following reports:-

- Ayr Esplanade - Phase 1; and
- Neighbourhood Services Structure Changes.

The meeting ended at 11.30 a.m.