

## **LEADERSHIP PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr  
on 21 January 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; T. Eltringham, Director of Health and Social Care; C. Caves, Head of Regulatory Services; T. Baulk, Head of Finance and ICT; M. Inglis, Head of Children’s Health, Care and Justice Services; M. Newall, Executive Manager, Place Directorate; T. Burns, Service Lead – Asset Management and Community Asset Transfer; C. Monaghan, Service Lead – Community Services and Facilities; S. Baird, Team Leader (Community Asset Transfer); 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 26 November 2019 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

### **3. Decision Log.**

**Decided:** to agree that since further updates were required to the Log, it be continued to the next meeting of this Panel.

## **Children and Young People.**

### **4. Report on Progress to Encourage Use of Re-usable Nappies.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 15 January 2020 by the Head of Children’s Health, Care and Justice Services advising on work undertaken to date to increase the use of re-usable nappies and reduce landfill waste through the reduction of use of disposable alternatives.

Having noted the importance of action on this matter, the Panel

**Decided:** to agree

- (1) to review the approach undertaken since the initial proposal made to the Leadership Panel of 29 October 2019 to increase the use of re-usable products as an alternative to the use of disposable nappies;
- (2) to extend the remit of the existing collaborative working group, involving the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP), National Health Service (NHS), the Council's Waste Management service and the voluntary sector to develop 'tests of change' using improvement approaches to deliver on the agenda; and
- (3) to request that a further update be provided in six months via the Members' Bulletin.

### **Economy and Culture.**

#### **5. Scottish Crown Estate Net Revenue Allocation – Eligibility Criteria, Principles and Priorities.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 15 January 2020 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People seeking approval of the Eligibility Criteria, Principles and Priorities for accessing funds from the Scottish Crown Estate Net Revenue Allocation as awarded to the Council by Scottish Ministers.

Having noted the benefits that would be derived from this new funding and how the promotion of this Fund would be undertaken, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to approve the Eligibility Criteria, Principles and Priorities, as detailed in Section 4 of the report; and
- (2) to agree that Members receive an update by way of a Briefing on funds distributed, in six months' time, and officers arrange a discussion with members of Leadership Panel on any proposed changes in the Eligibility Criteria, Principles and Priorities in light of experience.

#### **6. The Scottish International Airshow.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 20 January 2020 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People providing an update on the current position relating to compliance with the Minute of Agreement which set out the operational arrangements agreed by the Council and the Scottish International Airshow (TSIA) for the staging of both the 2018 and 2020 Airshows.

Having considered the breaches of the terms of the Minute of Agreement advised by the Council to TSIA and the failure by TSIA to remedy these breaches in the required timescales despite a request by the Council in accordance with the Minute of Agreement to do so and having noted further updates by the Head of Regulatory Services and the Service Lead – Community Services and Facilities, the Panel

**Decided:** to note the failure by TSIA to remedy these breaches but that a request by TSIA on 8 January 2020 to refer the dispute to arbitration in accordance with the Minute of Agreement required the matter to be considered by officers and understand what TSIA are disputing and for the Head of Regulatory Services to provide a recommendation on the next appropriate steps to allow an early decision to be taken.

### **Corporate.**

#### **7. Approvals under Delegated Authority during Period of Recess.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 15 January 2020 by the Head of Regulatory Services advising of matters determined under delegated authority during recess.

The Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to acknowledge the matters determined under delegated authority during recess; and
- (2) to note that a Briefing Note would be sent to Members containing the implications of the changes to the Debt Arrangement Scheme (DAS).

### **Resources and Performance.**

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#### **8. Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2019/20.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 7 January 2020 by the Head of Finance and ICT providing Members with a mid-year treasury management update for the financial year 2019/20.

The Panel

**Decided:** to approve the contents of the report.

**9. Ayr Housing Aid Centre – Change of Status.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 15 January 2020 by the Head of Finance and ICT seeking approval of a new Pension Liability Guarantee for The Ayr Housing Aid Centre (the Centre) with Strathclyde pension Fund (SPF) to replace the current guarantee that would lapse when the Centre transitioned from its current legal status to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

Having noted that this was a legacy matter which the present Administration had inherited, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the transition of the Council's contract with the Centre from its current Unincorporated Charitable Organisation status to the new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation status;
- (2) to agree that the Council acted as guarantor for admitted body status for existing employees of the Centre who were currently SPF members;
- (3) to note that this guarantee, as agreed with the Centre and SPF, would be restricted to existing members and the scheme would be closed for new members;
- (4) to note that, as agreed with the Centre, the future pension and payroll administration would be undertaken by the Centre from April 2020; and
- (5) that the Head of Regulatory Services provide Members with a Briefing Note on the terms of the existing contractual arrangements.

**10. Proposed Advancing Community Assets Fund.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 15 January 2020 by the Director – Place proposing a revision of the Community Halls Fund to a new Advancing Community Assets Fund.

Following discussion and having heard various concerns from Members regarding the legislation relating to Community Asset Transfers and the current process for dealing with requests in this regard, the Panel

**Decided:** to agree

- (1) the proposed change of name and the revised scope of the existing Community Halls Fund and that it become the Advancing Community Assets (ACA) Fund, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report;
- (2) that in the "Advancing Community Assets Fund (ACAF) – Guidance for Applicants", page 11 should be amended to read "The Council expects that requests for capital costs would not exceed £100,000, however the Leadership Panel will consider grant requests in excess of £100,000 on a case by case basis";

- (3) that page 8 of the “Guidance for Applicants” also be amended to take account of the above;
- (4) that the Head of Regulatory Services provide Members with a Briefing on the requirements of the legislation in relation to concerns raised regarding eligible Council assets that may be requested for transfer; and
- (5) that officers examine how best to publish the Asset Register held by the Council to clearly detail ownership and comply with the legislation.

**11. 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.

**12. Ayr Esplanade - Phase 1.**

There was submitted a report (Members only) of 17 January 2020 by the Director – Place updating the Panel on the potential for developing the three sites adjacent to Ayr Esplanade, which were held in the Ayr Common Good account, to enable a long term sustainable approach and make the esplanade a more attractive destination for residents and visitors all year round.

Following issues raised by Members, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to request the Director - Place to develop the following proposals:-
  - (a) St Germain-En-Laye and Bandstand - Options proposal for hosting events and activities for residents and visitors within the St Germain-En-Laye gardens and bandstand;
  - (b) Former Putting Green - A marketing brochure for the area of ground, for lease to external third parties for development; and
  - (c) Former Crazy Golf site - Costings for the re-design of the former crazy golf site to create areas of open space for residents and visitors;
- (2) to request that officers submit a further report to this Panel in March 2020 providing an update on progress; and
- (3) to agree that the Chief Executive would ensure that the matter was raised at a future Portfolio Holders meeting.

**Economy and Culture.**

**13. Tourism, Events and Culture Structure.**

There was submitted a report (Members only) of 17 January 2020 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People

- (1) advising on the ongoing review of tourism, events and culture; and
- (2) seeking approval for changes to the staffing structure.

Following discussion including how the success of events were measured and the proposed changes to the staffing structure, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (a) to note the work being done to develop a Tourism and Culture Strategy for South Ayrshire and that this would be reported to this Panel by April 2020;
- (b) to agree the changes to the staffing structure for tourism, events and culture; and
- (c) to note the events currently funded through tourism and events and the intention for this to be reviewed through the budget setting exercise.

**14. Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Reports.**

**Decided:**

- (1) to authorise the disclosure under Standing Order 32.4 of the following report:-
  - Tourism, Events and Culture Structure; and
- (2) not to authorise the disclosure under Standing Order 32.4 of the whole or part of the following report:-
  - Ayr Esplanade - Phase 1.

The meeting ended at 11.35 a.m.