

LEADERSHIP PANEL.

Minutes of meeting being held remotely on 21 September 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

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

Also

Present: I. Gall, B. McNay and T. Robinson (for items 5 to 7 only).

Attending: E. Howat, Chief Executive; D. Hutchison, Depute Chief Executive and Director – People; D. Gillies, Director – Place; C. Caves, Head of Legal, HR and Regulatory Services; T. Baulk, Head of Finance and ICT; J. Bradley, Assistant Director – People; L. Reid, Assistant Director – Place; M. Inglis, Head of Children’s Health, Care and Justice Services; T. Burns, Service Lead – Asset Management and Community Asset Transfer; N. Gemmell, Service Lead – Revenues and Benefits; J. Tait, Service Lead – CLD, Employability and Skills; H. Brown, Service Manager (Maintenance Care); A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer; and C. McCallum, Clerical Assistant.

Apologies: D. Gemmell and E. Terras (for items 5 to 7 only).

1. Opening Remarks.

The Chair took the sederunt, confirmed to Members the procedures to conduct this meeting and advised that the meeting was being broadcast live.

2. 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.

3. Minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of 24 August 2021 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

4. Decision Log.

Decided:

- (1) to note that the list of [overdue actions](#) showed entries which were now complete and should be updated accordingly for the next meeting of this Panel;
- (2) to approve the actions listed with [revised due dates](#); and
- (3) to note the [recently completed actions](#).

Children and Young People.

5. Collaborative Improvement Visit by Association of Directors of Education Scotland (ADES) and Education Scotland, June 2021.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 13 September 2021 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People seeking approval to publish the Collaborative Improvement visit report relating to the visit by the Association of Directors of Education Scotland and Education Scotland in June 2021.

The Panel

Decided:-

- (1) to note the contents of the Collaborative Improvement visit report, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (2) to agree that the report be published on the Council's website.

6. Educational Services Standards and Quality Report 2020/21 and Recovery and Improvement Plan 2021/22.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 13 September 2021 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director – People seeking approval of the Educational Services Standards and Quality Report, which covered academic session 2020/21 and the Recovery and Improvement Plan for 2021/22.

Having conveyed their thanks to the teachers, parents and pupils for their involvement, the Panel

Decided:-

- (1) to approve the Standards and Quality Report 2020/21, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) to approve the Educational Services Recovery and Improvement Plan 2021/22, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (3) to note the progress by Educational Services and the collective efforts of all staff across the service over the past year; and
- (4) to agree the publication of the report and plan in line with the Education (Scotland) Act 2016.

7. Community Learning and Development Plan 2021-24.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 13 September 2021 by the Assistant Director – People seek approval to publish the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan 2021-24.

Having welcomed a collaborative approach in this respect and the need to work with community planning partners, the Panel

Decided:-

- (1) to note the highlights from the 2018-2021 CLD Plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (2) to approve the Community Learning and Development Plan 2021-24, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report and agree that the report be published on the Council's website.

Adults Health and Social Care.

8. South Lodge Care Home Care Inspectorate Report.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 13 September 2021 by the Head of Community Health and Care Services advising of the results of the Care Inspectorate Follow up Inspection of South Lodge Care Home which took place on 24 July 2021.

Having considered the contents of the Inspection report issued by the Care Inspectorate in respect to South Lodge Care Home, the Panel

Decided:- to acknowledge the progress made throughout the pandemic with regards to Infection control measures and endorse the proposed actions, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

9. Proposal to Develop a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) across Ayrshire.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 13 September 2021 by the Head of Children's Health, Care and Justice Services providing information on the development of a MARAC within Ayrshire.

The Panel

Decided:-

- (1) to note the recommendation of the Ayrshire Chief Officers Group (COG) to establish a MARAC in South Ayrshire; and
- (2) to agree that funding be included in the 2022/23 budget to enable a MARAC to be established.

Resources and Performance.

10. Feasibility Review - Benefits Services (BS) linking with the Information and Advice Hub (IAAH).

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 13 September 2021 by the Head of Finance and ICT

- (1) providing an update on the progress of Phase 2 of the Benefits Service Review which included considering the feasibility of Benefits Services formally linking with the Information and Advice Hub; and
- (2) seeking approval of the preferred option (Option 3) as detailed in the Options Appraisal document.

The Panel

Decided:-

- (a) to approve the preferred Option 3: that the Information and Advice Service remained separate, other than Crisis Grant administration which should now be wholly undertaken by the Benefits Service with a revised operating model in place; and
- (b) to note that Phase 2 of the Benefits Service Review would be now be completed with findings and recommendations being reported to this Panel by February 2022.

Resources and Performance/Economy and Culture.

11. Proposed Management Arrangements for Community and Village Halls.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 13 September 2021 by the Assistant Director – People providing an update and seeking approval for officers to continue progressing discussions with community associations and community groups around the management arrangements for community centres and village halls.

Following a discussion on timescales, the Panel

Decided:-

- (1) to approve the recommended approaches, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (2) to request that a report be brought back to this Panel by February 2022 with final recommendations and associated savings.

12. 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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Economy and Culture/Resources and Performance/Environment.

13. Sale of the Former Grammar Primary School, Midton Road, Ayr.

There was submitted a report (Members only) of 13 September 2021 by the Assistant Director – Place seeking approval to sell the former Grammar Primary School in Midton Road, Ayr.

The Planel

Decided:-

- (1) to grant authority for the sale of the former Grammar Primary School in Midton Road, Ayr, in accordance with the details contained within the Addendum to this report;
- (2) to agree that the sale was conditional on the successful party/parties obtaining planning permission, listed building consent and all other statutory consents within 12 months of concluding missives with a completion certificate in place within 24 months from the date of concluding missives;
- (3) to request the Head of Legal, HR and Regulatory Services to conclude this transaction; and
- (4) to note that the property would be re-marketed by the Council in the event that the timescales outlined in recommendation 2.1.2 of the report were not met.

14. Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Report.

Decided: to authorise the disclosure under Standing Order 32.4 of the following report once agreement had been reached on the terms of the sale:-

- Sale of the Former Grammar Primary School, Midton Road, Ayr.

The meeting ended at 11.20 a.m.