

LEADERSHIP PANEL.

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr
on 23rd August 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Bill McIntosh (Chair), Bill Grant, John McDowall, Rita Miller, Robin Reid, Philip Saxton and Margaret Toner.

Attending: E. Howat, Chief Executive; V. Andrews, Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation; L. Bloomer, Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment; D. Hutchison, Director of Educational Services; R. Riddiough, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; T. Baulk, Head of Finance and ICT; D. Gillies, Head of Property and Risk; J. Cronin, Head of Enterprise, Development and Leisure; D. Burns, Head of Housing and Facilities; C. Cox, Planning Manager; and A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer.

1. Declaration 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 14th June 2016 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

3. Decision Log.

Decided: to note the contents of the Decision Log ([issued](#)) and agreed that for future meetings only the items 'Due' or 'Overdue' as at the Panel date would be circulated although the whole Log would remain available electronically with the reports on the Council's Intranet.

Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.

4. Review of Procedures for the Handling and Determination of Planning Applications.

There was submitted a joint report ([issued](#)) of 15th August 2016 by the Head of Enterprise, Development and Leisure and Head of Legal and Democratic Services seeking approval of updated procedures for the handling and determination of planning applications.

The Panel, having noted that there would be a link in the updated procedures to the Members protocol for dealing with planning applications,

Decided: to approve the 'Procedures for the Handling and Determination of Planning Applications', as detailed in [Appendix 1](#) of the report, effective from 30th August 2016.

Resources and Performance.

5. Budget Management – Revenue Budgetary Control 2016/17 – Position Statement at 30th June 2016.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 16th August 2016 by the Head of Finance and ICT providing a financial overview of the General Services revenue account, Housing Revenue Account and Common Good Account for 2016/17, as at 30th June 2016.

The Panel, having noted concerns regarding the temporary budget transfer from the projected underspend within Roads,

Decided:

- (1) to note the revised Directorate budgets following the budget movements, as outlined in the report;
- (2) to approve the budget transfers as outlined in the Directorate financial performance reports, as detailed in [Appendix 1](#) of the report and summarised in the report; and
- (3) to approve the requested earmarking for carry forward of resources to 2017/18 as outlined in the report.

6. 2015/16 Out-turn Review.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 15th August 2016 by the Head of Finance and ICT advising of the outcome of a review of the 2015/16 underspends contained in the service out-turn reports.

The Panel, having heard further clarification with regard to an underspend of £199,000 being transferred on a temporary basis to meet the Education/Social Care Named Person commitment,

Decided:

- (1) to note the £0.790m. of recurring savings identified from the out-turn review;
- (2) to approve the budget transfer totalling £0.591m. on a temporary basis in 2016/17 to the repair and renewals fund as outlined in paragraph 4.4 of the report in addition to the budget transfer previously approved as outlined in paragraph 4.3 of the report; and
- (3) to agree to remove the £0.790m. budgets on a permanent basis in the 2017/18 budget setting process.

7. General Services Capital Programme 2016/17: Monitoring Report as at 30th June 2016.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 15th August 2016 by the Head Property and Risk updating on the actual capital expenditure and income, together with progress made on the General Services Capital Programme projects as at 30th June 2016.

The Panel, having welcomed the report and having heard updates with regard to the Unallocated Equalities Act Budget and the replacement school for Queen Margaret Academy, Ayr

Decided:

- (1) to note the progress made on the delivery of the General Services Capital Programme to 30th June 2016, resulting in spend of £7,532,359 (representing 15.34% of the current approved budget for 2016/17); and
- (2) to approve the adjustments as highlighted in [Appendix 1](#) of the report.

8. Housing Capital Programme 2016/17: Monitoring Report as at 30th June 2016.

There was submitted a joint report ([issued](#)) of 15th August 2016 by the Head Property and Risk and Head of Housing and Facilities updating on the actual capital expenditure and income, together with progress made on the Housing Capital Programme projects as at 30th June 2016

The Panel, having requested officers to consider how both new and existing community facilities could be better utilised for general community benefit, and having noted the current position with regard to Citadel Place, Ayr,

Decided:

- (1) to note the progress made on the delivery of the Housing Capital Programme to 30th June 2016, resulting in spend of £2,307,647 (representing 9.94% of the current approved budget for 2016/17); and
- (2) to approve the adjustments contained in [Appendix 1](#) of the report.

9. 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 3 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

10. Approvals under Delegated Authority during Period of Recess.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 15th August 2016 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation advising of matters determined under delegated authority during recess.

The Panel, having welcomed the report,

Decided: to note the matters determined under delegated authority during recess.

11. Proposed Lease Renewal, 13 Whitfield Drive, Ayr.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 15th August 2016 by the Head of Property and Risk seeking consent to terminate the current lease for the unit at the above address by mutual consent and grant the existing tenants a new lease of twenty years to include an additional area of land as detailed in the report.

The Panel, having welcomed the report,

Decided:

- (1) to agree to terminate the existing lease of 13 Whitfield Drive, Ayr that still had five years unexpired;
- (2) to agree to the lease to Carrs Agricultural Limited of the area of ground and buildings, subject to five yearly review; and
- (3) to grant delegated authority to the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation to conclude the lease on these and such other reasonable terms and conditions as appropriate.

Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.

12. Company Support Proposal.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 8th August 2016 by the Head of Enterprise, Development and Leisure seeking approval to provide grant assistance to Company X as a component part of a wider support package in conjunction with Scottish Enterprise (SE) and East Ayrshire Council.

The Panel, having welcomed the report,

Decided: to approve the provision of grant support to Company X on the terms outlined in the report.

Health and Social Care.

13. Outcome of Complaints Review Committee.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 15th August 2016 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services advising of the outcome of the Complaints Review Committee (CRC) which took place on 11th July 2016.

Having heard Members express concerns regarding the delay in responding to complaints and CRC members not receiving paperwork timeously, the Panel noted that there were lessons to be learned from the outcome of this Review and

Decided: to note the conclusions reached by the Complaints Review Committee which took place on 11th July 2016.

14. Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Reports.

Decided:

- (1) to authorise the disclosure of part of the undernoted report falling under Standing Order 31.2 and that this report be redacted following consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and relevant officers and following expiry of the period for call-in or following conclusion of the call-in process, as applicable:-
 - Approvals under Delegated Authority during Period of Recess;
- (2) to authorise the disclosure of the following report falling under Standing Order 31.2 when the related transactions had been concluded:-
 - Proposed Lease Renewal, 13 Whitfield Drive, Ayr; and
- (3) not to authorise the disclosure of the whole or part of any documents of the following reports falling under Standing Order 31.2:-
 - Company Support Proposal; and
 - Outcome of Complaints Review Committee.

The meeting ended at 10.45 a.m.