

**LEADERSHIP PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr  
on 26th April 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; T. Baulk, Head of Finance and ICT; D. Gillies, Head of Property and Risk; M. Baker, Head of Policy and Performance; J. Cronin, Head of Enterprise, Development and Leisure; C. Monaghan, Head of Communities; D. Burns, Head of Housing and Facilities; D. Strang, Senior Education Manager; C. Cox, Planning Manager; and A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer.

Also Attending: Miss Phil Davey, Pastor Ian Gall, Rev. David Gemmell and Mr Tom Robinson (for items 4 to 7 only); F. McAvoy, Head Teacher of Newton Primary School (for item 5 only); J. Ward, Principal Educational Psychologist (for item 6 only); and S. Turner and K. Braidwood, Ayrshire Roads Alliance (for item 9 only).

**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 15th March 2016 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

**3. Decision Log.**

**Decided:**

To note the contents of the Decision Log ([issued](#)).

**Lifelong Learning.**

**4. Statutory Consultation on the Proposed Relocation of Ayr Grammar Primary School and Establishment of Early Learning and Childcare Provision.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 4th March 2016 by the Director of Educational Services seeking approval of the proposal document relating to:-

- (1) the proposed relocation of Ayr Grammar Primary School, and
- (2) the establishment of Early Learning and Childcare Provision, and
- (3) issue the proposal document for statutory consultation, in accordance with the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010.

The Panel, having welcomed the report

**Decided:**

- (a) to approve the proposal document, attached as Appendix 1 to the report;
- (b) to request the Director of Educational Services to issue the proposal document for consultation, and
- (c) to request that the Director of Educational Services bring a report on the outcome of the consultation process to the meeting of this Panel, scheduled to take place on 1st November 2016, for consideration and a decision.

**5. Inspection of Newton Primary and Nursery Class: Education Scotland Report.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 10th March 2016 by the Director of Educational Services informing of the Education Scotland Report on Newton Primary School and Nursery Class.

Having welcomed the report and having noted that other schools within South Ayrshire would be given the opportunity to learn from the achievements of Newton Primary School, the Panel asked that their thanks be conveyed to all those involved and

**Decided:** to agree that the main points for action, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, be addressed by the Head Teacher of the School and quality improvement officers.

**6. Validated Self-Evaluation of South Ayrshire’s Educational Psychology.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 17th March 2016 by the Director of Educational Services advising of the Validated Self-evaluation of Educational Psychology Service.

Having welcomed the report, the Panel

**Decided:** to agree that the main points for action, as contained in the report, be addressed by the Principal Educational Psychologist and the Quality Improvement Manager.

**Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.**

**7. (1) Supplementary Planning Guidance (Maintaining an Effective Housing Land Supply); (2) Supplementary Planning Guidance (Dark Sky Park Lighting); and (3) Finalised Riverside Development Framework.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 31st March 2016 by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment seeking approval

- (1) to adopt two separate finalised supplementary guidance documents, titled: “Maintaining an Effective Housing Land Supply” and “Dark Sky Park Lighting”; and
- (2) to adopt the finalised Riverside Development Framework as free-standing (non-statutory) planning guidance, which will be a material consideration in determining applications relating to the Riverside Block.

Having welcomed the report, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (a) to approve the “Maintaining an Effective Housing Land Supply” Supplementary Guidance ([Appendix 1 of the report](#)) for submission to the Scottish Ministers with the intention to adopt as supplementary guidance to the LDP and amend the “Rural Housing Supplementary Guidance” so that it cross referred to the Supplementary Guidance set out in Appendix I;
- (b) to approve the “Dark Sky Park Lighting” Supplementary Guidance ([Appendix 2 of the report](#)) for submission to the Scottish Ministers with the intention to adopt as supplementary guidance to the LDP; and
- (c) to adopt the Finalised “Riverside Development Framework” ([Appendix 3 of the report](#)) as non-statutory planning guidance, which would be a material consideration in determining relevant planning applications.

## 8. **Partnership with Ayr United Football Academy.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 4th April 2016 by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment seeking authority to extend the agreement which provided Ayr United Football Academy (AUFA) with preferred status in accessing lets at Belmont Academy all weather pitch for a further period of three years.

Following concerns being expressed that other sporting clubs had difficulties in booking the premises and having noted that the relevant booking system was currently being reviewed, the Panel

**Decided:** to agree to preferred status for Ayr United Football Academy in accessing lets at Belmont Academy for a further period of three years.

## **Sustainability and Environment.**

### 9. **Roads Improvement Plan 2016-2017.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 16th April 2016 by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment seeking approval for the 2016/17 Roads Improvement Plan, which covered carriageway, footway and street lighting improvements.

Having welcomed the report and commended the Service for recent road improvements, the Panel

**Decided:** to approve the Roads Improvement Plan for 2016/17.

## **Housing and Customer Services.**

### 10. **Service Review Scopes.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 31st March 2016 by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment seeking approval to agree the scopes, including objectives, timescales and resource requirements, of the service reviews for General Services Housing and the Enterprise Service.

With regard to the General Services Housing service review, it was noted what the review aimed to achieve and tenants participation therein as well as the level of consultation that would be undertaken with private sector tenants and in relation to private sector housing grants. It was also noted that it was important to work closely with officers from the Health and Social Care Partnership insofar as the review impacted on the ability to support people to remain in their own homes. With regard to the Enterprise service review it was noted that this would be a review of the entire service and would take account of the 'open for business' policy.

The Panel

**Decided:** to approve the service review scopes for General Services Housing (Appendix 1 of the report) and the Enterprise Service (Appendix 2 of the report).

## **Resources and Performance.**

### **11. Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Progress Report 2015-2016.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 18th April 2016 (issued) by the Head of Policy and Performance seeking Members agreement to the South Ayrshire Council Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Progress Reports 2015-2016.

Having welcomed the report and noted particularly the improving picture in relation to gender pay gap, the Panel

**Decided:** to agree the Equality Outcome and Mainstreaming Progress Reports for the Council as a Service Provider, Employer, Education Authority and Licensing Board, as detailed in Appendices [1](#) and [2](#) of the report.

### **12. Approvals Under Delegated Authority during Period of Recess.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 18th April 2016 (issued) by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation advising of matters determined under delegated authority during recess.

The Panel

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

### **13. Budget Management – Revenue Budgetary Control 2015/16 – Position Statement at 29th February 2016.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 19th April 2016 by the Head of Finance and ICT providing a financial overview of the General Services revenue account, Housing Revenue Account and Common Good Accounts for 2015/16 as at 29th February 2016 (Period 11).

After it was agreed that the Head of Finance and ICT would provide Members with information on the position of redundancy costs required for the Corporate Procurement staff whose temporary contracts would come to an end in 2016/17, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the revised Directorate budgets following the budget movements, as outlined in the report;
- (2) to agree, as outlined in the report, to meet the Council element of the 2015/16 Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Board year-end overspend, once it had been confirmed at the financial year-end (currently estimated to be £0.721m.), on a one off non-recurring basis, the cost to be met from the in year underspends identified elsewhere within the Council;

- (3) to approve the virement, as outlined in the Directorate financial performance reports as detailed at Appendix 1 of the report and summarised in the report;
- (4) to approve the requested earmarking, as detailed in the report and thereafter, the earmarked budgets be transferred to general reserves for utilisation in future years; and
- (5) to approve the allocation of £0.013m. from the Efficiency and Improvement fund, as outlined in the report, to extended current temporary staffing arrangements within Corporate Procurement until the end of 2016/17 in order to ensure that the corporate procurement efficiencies approved as part of the 2016/17 budget were achieved in full.

**14. General Services Capital Programme 2015/16: Monitoring Report as at 29 February 2016.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 18th April 2016 by the Head of Property and Risk providing an update on the actual capital expenditure and income, together with progress made on the General Services Capital Programme projects as at 29th February 2016 (Period 11).

The Panel, having welcomed the level of programme delivery expected by the year end,

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the progress made on the delivery of the General Services Capital Programme to 29th February 2016; and
- (2) to agree to the adjustments as set out in [Appendix 1, Table 2](#) of the report.

**15. Housing Capital Programme 2015/16: Monitoring Report as at 29 February 2016.**

There was submitted a joint report ([issued](#)) of 18th April 2016 by the Head of Property and Risk and Head of Housing and Facilities providing an update on the actual capital expenditure and income, together with progress made on the Housing Capital Programme projects as at 29th February 2016 (Period 11).

Having heard the Head of Housing and Facilities respond to questions regarding slippage and particular projects under the Programme, the Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the progress made on the delivery of the Housing Capital Programme to 29th February 2016; and
- (2) to agree to the adjustments as set out in [Appendix 1, Table 2](#) of the report.

**16. Contract Extension for Community Transport Related to Day Care Transport.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 8th April 2016 by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment requesting approval in accordance with clause 23.1 of the Councils Standing Orders Relating to Contracts to extend a contract without prior advertisement.

The Panel, having agreed that a Briefing Note be provided for members by the Head of Communities,

**Decided:** to agree that without prior advertisement and competition, the contract with Access to Employment for the provision of community transport to the Overmills Day Care Centre be extended for one year with the option to extend for a further period of up to twelve months.

**17. 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 paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**18. Schools for the Future: Queen Margaret Academy.**

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 18th April 2016 by the Head of Property and Risk

- (1) advising that the Council has been successful in securing an ‘in principle’ funding contribution through the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT), from Phase 4 of the Scottish Government’s Schools for the Future Programme for the construction of a replacement school for Queen Margaret Academy (QMA); and
- (2) seeking approval to progress the delivery of the project and for the Governance arrangements.

The Panel

**Decided:**

- (a) to accept the offer of ‘in principle’ funding from the Scottish Government in respect of QMA and agree to delegate authority to the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation to accept the formal offer of funding when received;
- (b) to approve the submission of a New Project Request (NPR) form to South West Hub (SWHub) to deliver the project;
- (c) to agree to the governance arrangements for the project, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;

- \*(d) to agree that the elected member representation on the steering group for this project be the same as currently exists for the Marr College and Ayr Academy projects, with this being confirmed by Council at its meeting on 12th May 2016; and
- (e) to agree that the Head of Property and Risk submit a further report to the Leadership Panel in advance of financial close for approval.

*\*This will now be considered at the Council meeting scheduled to take place on 30th June 2016*

**19. Disposal of Former Social Work Office at 12 Main Street, Prestwick.**

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 18th April 2016 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to conclude the sale of the former Social Work office at 12 Main Street, Prestwick.

The Panel

**Decided:**

- (1) to approve the sale of former Social Work offices at 12 Main Street, Prestwick and together with the adjacent Police Station with the common external areas, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report for the total sum of £300,000 to Blackbox Offices Limited which on the basis of the agreed sharing ratio of 60% to Council, would result in a capital receipt to the Council of £180,000 (One Hundred and Eighty Thousand Pounds) Sterling; and
- (2) to delegate authority to the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation to conclude the legal transaction on the above basis and such other reasonable terms and conditions as may be agreed when concluding the transaction.

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

**Decided:**

- (1) not to authorise the disclosure of the whole or part of any documents of the following report falling under Standing Order 31.2 of the Standing Orders relating to Meetings:-
  - Schools for the Future: Queen Margaret Academy; and
- (2) to authorise the disclosure of the following report falling under Standing Order 31.2 of the Standing Orders relating to Meetings when the sale had been concluded:-
  - Disposal of Former Social Work Office at 12 Main Street, Prestwick.

The meeting ended at 11.00 a.m.