

County Buildings
Wellington Square
AYR KA7 1DR
Tel. No. 01292 612169

23rd February 2017

Dear Councillor

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

You are requested to attend a meeting of the South Ayrshire Council to be held in **The County Hall, County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, on Thursday, 2nd March 2017 at 10.00 a.m.** for the purpose of considering the undernoted business.

Yours sincerely

VALERIE ANDREWS
Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation

B U S I N E S S

1. Provost.
2. Sederunt.
3. Declarations of Interest.

Note: *Members are reminded that Section 112 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 provides that a member of the Council cannot vote on a range of Council Tax issues, including setting or adjusting the rate of Council Tax, if he or she is three months or more in arrears with payment of Community Charge (Poll Tax) or two months or more in arrears with Council Tax.*

If Section 112 applies to any member he or she is also required to disclose that fact as soon as practicable after the commencement of the meeting.

(A letter dated 17th January 2017 was sent to all members by the Chief Executive on this matter).

4. Minutes of meetings of the Council and Panels.

(a) Minutes of previous meetings.

Submit for approval as correct records and authorise to be signed.

- (i) South Ayrshire Council of 15th December 2016 ([copy herewith](#)).

(b) Minutes of Panels.

The minutes (copies previously issued) of the undernoted meetings are for noting:-

- (i) Audit and Governance Panel of [24th November 2016](#).
- (ii) Leadership Panel of [29th November 2016](#) and [17th January 2017](#).
- (iii) Local Review Body of [22nd November 2016](#), [13th December 2016](#) and 24th January 2017.
- (iv) Partnerships Panel of [22nd November 2016](#).
- (v) Public Processes Panel of [7th December 2016](#).
- (vi) Regulatory Panel – Licensing of [1st December 2016](#) and [19th January 2017](#).
- (vii) Regulatory Panel – Planning of [17th November](#) and [14th December 2016](#).
- (viii) Service and Performance Panel of [8th November](#), [8th December 2016](#).
- (ix) Ayrshire Shared Services of [10th November](#) and [8th December 2016](#).

5. Revenue Estimates 2017/18 and Capital Estimates 2017/18 – Submit report by Head of Finance and ICT ([copy herewith](#)).
6. Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2017/18 – Submit report by Head of Finance and ICT ([copy herewith](#)).
7. Revised Schedule of Meetings – Submit report by Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation ([copy herewith](#)).
8. South Ayrshire Charitable Trust – Submit report by Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation ([copy herewith](#)).
9. Social Work Complaints Handling Procedure – Submit report by Head of Legal and Democratic Services ([copy herewith](#)).

10. Proposed Town Centre and Retail Local Development Plan Modifications and Adoption – Submit report by Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment ([copy herewith](#)).
11. Formal Agreements Relating to the Quayzone, Girvan – Submit joint report by Head of Communities and Head of Property and Risk ([copy herewith](#)).
12. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue and Capital Estimates 2016/17 – Submit joint report by Head of Housing and Facilities and Head of Finance and ICT ([copy herewith](#)).
13. Ayr Renaissance Business Plan – Submit report by Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment ([copy herewith](#)).
14. Notice of Motions

(a) from Councillor Ian Cochrane, seconded by Councillor Allan Dorans:-

“That Council note the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions has opted to use an 0345 premium rate telephone line for the new Universal Credit service. Department of Work and Pensions analysis revealed that 45% of all claimants are expected to use telephones to make claims or seek support.

That Council supports the recommendations made by the House of Commons Work and Pensions Select Committee which called on Government to use 0800 Freephone numbers for all benefit services and that vulnerable people and those on low incomes in South Ayrshire should not face expensive charges for seeking advice on or trying to process their benefit claims.

That Council requests the Chief Executive to write to The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to make them aware of the view of the Council on this matter and to ask that they reconsider this matter.”

(b) from Councillor Allan Dorans, seconded by Councillor Nan McFarlane:-

(1) In response to the significant dissatisfaction expressed by the general public and more specifically on behalf of the approximately 4,500 women in South Ayrshire who believe that this Council, who were elected to represent them, have unnecessarily rejected a valid opportunity to show their support for those adversely affected by the changes in the pension arrangements as outlined in part (2) below, it is proposed that Council agrees in accordance with Section 22.1 of Standing Orders Relating to Meetings, to the Suspension of Standing Orders, that the Motion at part (2) below which was considered and determined by this Council on 6th December 2016 be heard again and subject of further consideration and determination.

- (2) If part (1) of this Motion is approved in accordance with Standing Orders, then it is proposed that:

“South Ayrshire Council calls upon the United Kingdom Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women and for the purposes of this Motion, specifically on behalf of those living in the South Ayrshire, born on or after 6th April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.

Hundreds of thousands of women had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little/no/personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.

Many women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment.

Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time.

The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.

Council agrees to request the Chief Executive to write in terms as outlined above,, on behalf of the Council, to the Secretary of State for Works and Pensions to call upon the United Kingdom Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.”

15. Formal Questions.
16. **Complaint – Submit report by Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy to follow – members only).**
17. **General Services Housing Review – Submit report by Housing and Facilities (copy to follow – members only).**
18. **Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Report.**

For more information on any of these items on the agenda, please telephone Janice McClure, Committee Services at 01292 612169, at Wellington Square, Ayr or e-mail: janice.mcclure@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk