

AYRSHIRE SHARED SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 1001 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors John McGhee, Tom Cook and Jim Roberts (all East Ayrshire Council); and Councillors Ian Cochrane and Bob Pollock (both South Ayrshire Council).

ATTENDING: Paul Whip, Group Finance Manager (East Ayrshire Council); Stewart Turner, Head of Roads; and Kevin Braidwood, Operations Manager (both Ayrshire Roads Alliance); and Lynn Young, Democratic Services Officer (East Ayrshire Council).

APOLOGIES: Councillor Douglas Reid (East Ayrshire Council); and Councillors Alec Clark and Philip Saxton (both South Ayrshire Council).

CHAIR: Councillor Jim Roberts, East Ayrshire Council.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

1. In the absence of the Chair and in terms of Standing Order 6, Councillor Jim Roberts, East Ayrshire Council, was appointed as Chair of the meeting.

AYRSHIRE ROADS ALLIANCE

UPDATE ON PERFORMANCE SCORECARD

2. There was submitted a report dated 6 February 2018 (circulated) by the Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance which advised on the progress made to date against the Performance Scorecard.

Arising from discussion, and in response to particular matters raised, Members received further information as undernoted:-

- East Ayrshire Council Cabinet on 22 February 2018 would consider an increase in the repair budget for the Ayrshire Roads Alliance from £2m to £6m, with discussions ongoing with regards to the budget settlement for roads from South Ayrshire Council;
- a significant increase in reported defects, 2,500 over a three week period, with members of the public continuing to be encouraged to report defects and the use by the Ayrshire Roads Alliance of both internal and external potholing squads;
- materials used to repair road defects and planned patching of larger defects and areas of the network where there are numerous defects;
- a report on the overall condition of the road network in both East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council would be submitted to East Ayrshire Council Cabinet and South Ayrshire Council Leadership Panel in due course. It was noted that whilst there was a significant increase in the number of reported defects, and an increase in the number of potholes this year as a result of the prolonged winter weather, the Scottish Maintenance Condition Survey reported that the road

condition continued to improve slightly in both Council areas whilst the overall network remained fragile;

- the future use of "Track a Gritter" for the Ayrshire Roads Alliance vehicles;
- the reduction in the percentage of street lighting repairs completed within the target timescale over Periods 7 and 8 and whilst it was noted that resources were affected as a result of the erection and dismantling of Christmas Lights, the Ayrshire Roads Alliance would continue to take steps to improve street lighting performance and in relation to Christmas Lights, continue to work closely with Community Groups in this regard;
- good progress had been made to attempt to secure timber transport funding for both Local Authorities for financial year 2018/2019; and
- that the Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance would prepare an Elected Member Briefing Note for all Elected Members in East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council providing detailed information regarding gritting and repairs due to the deterioration of the roads as a result of the recent significant weather events.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the performance scorecard and performance metrics presented in the report;
- (ii) to continue to receive the performance scorecard updates; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor John McGhee, East Ayrshire Council and Councillor Ian Cochrane, South Ayrshire Council joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

RISK REPORT AND REGISTER

3. There was submitted a report dated 6 February 2018 (circulated) by the Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance which advised on the management of risk associated with the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the risk register presented with the report;
- (ii) to continue to receive updates on progress; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ROADWORKS PROGRAMME

4. There was submitted a report dated 25 January 2018 (circulated) by the Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance which advised of the progress made with the Road Improvement Programmes within East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire for financial year 2017/2018.

Arising from discussion, and in response to particular matters raised, Members received further information as undernoted:-

- the method by which carriageway resurfacing proposals were ranked;

- budget proposals for the 2018/2019 Footway Structural Maintenance Programme; and
- costs associated with the A70 - Phase 4, Coylton cycleway.

It was agreed:-

- to note the Ayrshire Roads Alliance works progress; and
- otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

REVENUE FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT

- There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer: Economy and Skills, East Ayrshire Council which updated on the revenue budget monitoring position for the year to 7 January 2018, for the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

Arising from discussion, Members noted further information as follows:-

- inclement weather and the use of external contractors had resulted in an overspend in both East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council local delivery budgets.
- current salt levels within the Ayrshire Roads Alliance were reviewed every week and also the reciprocal arrangements with trunk road providers where required; and
- the inconsistency and redesignation of the treatment of Clerk of Works within budget headings.

It was agreed:-

- to note the financial management position of the Ayrshire Roads Alliance;
- to request a further financial update at the next meeting of the Joint Committee; and
- otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL UPDATE - ROAD BONDS

- There was submitted a report dated 6 February 2018 (circulated) by the Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance which updated on the position regarding road bonds held within the Ayrshire Roads Alliance on behalf of East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council.

It was agreed:-

- to note the position regarding road bonds currently held by the Ayrshire Roads Alliance on behalf of East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council;
- to request that progress updates are provided to future meetings of the Joint Committee on an annual basis; and
- otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**7. Strathclyde Passenger Transport (SPT)**

On the matter having been raised by Councillor Ian Cochrane, South Ayrshire Council with regards to scrutiny of funding provided to SPT, namely £2.2m and £3.5m respectively from East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council, Members noted that details of the funding and projects were contained within the regular budget reports reported to East Ayrshire Council via Cabinet and Governance and Scrutiny Committee; and South Ayrshire Council via Leadership Panel and Audit and Governance Committee.

Members further noted that projects to be carried out by SPT would be identified within the Transport Outcome Report for each Authority and that any specific matters should be directed to the SPT Board.

The meeting terminated at 1152 hours.