

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 6 November 2019

Chair:

Councillor John Ross (ex officio)

Councillors Present:

Councillor John Anderson, Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Jackie Burns, Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Maureen Chalmers (Depute), Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor George Greenshields (*substitute for Councillor Joe Lowe*), Councillor Lynsey Hamilton, Councillor Martin Grant Hose (*substitute for Councillor Ann Le Blond*), Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Catherine McClymont (*substitute for Councillor Monique McAdams*), Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Colin McGavigan, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Lynne Nailon (*substitute for Councillor Alex Allison*), Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor Collette Stevenson (*substitute for Councillor David Shearer*)

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor David Shearer, Councillor Josh Wilson

Attending:

Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director

Education Resources

S Nicolson, Head of Education (Senior Phase) (Hamilton Area)

Finance and Corporate Resources

P Manning, Executive Director; G Bow, Administration Manager; J Burke, Administration Assistant; M M Cairns, Legal Manager; L Harvey, Finance Manager (Resources)

Housing and Technical Resources

D Lowe, Executive Director; A Finnan, Head of Housing Services

Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care

V de Souza, Director, Health and Social Care; L Purdie, Head of Children and Justice Services

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 28 August 2019 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Committee decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Capital Budget Monitoring for Period 6 – 1 April to 13 September 2019

A report dated 2 October 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the physical and financial progress at 13 September 2019 on the various capital programmes.

The General Fund Capital Programme totalled £80.569 million and the Housing Capital Programme £61.835 million. The General Fund Programme had been revised to reflect projects carried forward and adjustments to the programme, which were detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

At 13 September 2019, £21.878 million had been spent on the General Fund Capital Programme and £18.936 million on the Housing Capital Programme.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the position of the various capital programmes for 2019/2020, as detailed in the report, be noted; and
- (2) that the proposed adjustments to the General Fund Programme, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 25 September 2019 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Revenue Budget Monitoring for Period 6 – 1 April to 13 September 2019

A report dated 23 September 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure against budgeted expenditure for the period ending 13 September 2019.

The figures included an underspend of £7.027 million on the General Fund Revenue Account and a breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account.

The main factors contributing to the underspend on the General Fund Revenue Account were detailed in the report.

Additional information was provided on:-

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources' net overspend
- ◆ Social Work Resources' net overspend
- ◆ loan charges
- ◆ auto enrolment into the pension scheme
- ◆ corporate items and the use of corporate items in the 2020/2021 budget strategy
- ◆ Education Resources and the Pupil Equity Fund
- ◆ Council Tax income
- ◆ 2019/2020 forecast outturn summary
- ◆ additional General Revenue Grant
- ◆ other funding

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the underspend of £7.027 million on the General Fund Revenue Account at 13 September 2019 be noted; and
- (2) that the breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account at 13 September 2019 and forecast to 31 March 2020 of a breakeven position be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 25 September 2019 (Paragraph 4)]

5 Additional Funding from the Scottish Government and Other External Sources

A report dated 3 October 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on additional revenue funding totalling £3.592 million made available from the Scottish Government over 4 years in respect of access to counselling in schools.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 25 September 2019 (Paragraph 5)]

6 Council Charges

A report dated 24 October 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on charging proposals for the coming year, including consideration of new charges.

In November 2018, the Committee had approved a Charging Policy and the key elements contained in the policy were detailed in the report:-

An update was provided in relation to:-

- ◆ information on Council charges, including the impact of an inflationary increase
- ◆ costing information
- ◆ information relating to benchmarking
- ◆ further proposals for charges

There were 3 service areas relating to new areas where Resources were proposing charges for services and details of those proposals were provided in appendices to the report. The areas being proposed were:-

- ◆ allotments
- ◆ park and ride
- ◆ parking permits

Increasing current charges by an inflationary increase of 2.8% would generate £0.300 million and the proposals for new charges would generate £0.075 million every 2 years (park and ride), £0.050 million every 2 years (parking permits) and £0.003 million (allotments).

Following discussion, it was proposed that consideration of the recommendations contained within the report be undertaken as part of the overall savings process for 2020/2021.

The Committee decided: that consideration of the recommendations contained within the report be undertaken as part of the 2020/2021 savings process.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 November 2018 (paragraph 12)]

7 South Lanarkshire Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2019 to 2023

A report dated 14 October 2019 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) was submitted on the South Lanarkshire Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2019 to 2023.

The Strategy document, which was attached as Appendix 1 to the report, had been developed to form a component part of the wider priorities of the Community Safety Partnership. The Strategy document comprised:-

- ◆ background and context
- ◆ the Council's approach
- ◆ strategic priorities and outcomes
- ◆ implementation and monitoring arrangements
- ◆ equalities and diversity

In addition, the document had 3 appendices covering:-

- ◆ a profile of anti-social behaviour in South Lanarkshire
- ◆ the outcome of an action planning framework
- ◆ links to other strategies and plans

Further details were also provided in the report in relation to 5 Strategic Priorities and 6 Strategic Outcomes which had been included in the Strategy following a priority assessment exercise.

Following discussion, it was agreed that appropriate references be made within the Strategy to drugs related anti-social behaviour and to the issue of graffiti.

The Committee decided: that the South Lanarkshire Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2019 to 2023, attached as an appendix to the report, be approved subject to the inclusion of appropriate references to drugs related anti-social behaviour and the issue of graffiti.

8 Sustainable Development Update – Statutory Climate Change Duties Report 2018/2019

A report dated 10 October 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Council's Statutory Climate Change Duties Report for 2018/2019.

The Council's Climate Change Duties Report 2018/2019, which was the second report submitted under the statutory reporting requirements, was set out in 2 sections, including the "required" section and the "recommended" section. Details of what was included in both of the sections, together with key achievements and highlights in 2018/2019, were summarised in the report and detailed in the appendices to the report.

The Committee decided: that the Council's Climate Change Duties Report 2018/2019, as detailed in the appendices to the report, be approved and submitted to the Scottish Government by the due date of 30 November 2019.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 November 2018 (Paragraph 17)]

9 Representation on Outside Bodies – Clyde Cycle Park

A report dated 26 September 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the appointment of the Council's representative to the Clyde Cycle Park.

The Committee decided: that Councillor Craig be appointed as the Council's representative on the Clyde Cycle Park.

Councillor McClymont left the meeting during this item of business

10 Gender Based Violence Partnership

A report dated 11 October 2019 by the Director, Health and Social Care was submitted on the national and local position in relation to gender based violence and the implications for South Lanarkshire.

Gender based violence was an overarching term that encompassed a spectrum of abuse, experienced mostly by women and girls and perpetrated mainly by men. The abuse included:-

- ◆ physical, sexual and psychological abuse, including domestic abuse and rape
- ◆ sexual harassment and stalking
- ◆ commercial sexual exploitation, including sex work, pornography and human trafficking
- ◆ harmful practices, including so called “honour” based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation

Tackling this abuse was a key priority in Scotland and, in South Lanarkshire, this was being taken forward by the South Lanarkshire Gender Based Violence Partnership. The Partnership was responsible for action on a number of strategies, plans and programmes aimed at meeting those priorities, including:-

- ◆ the Equally Safe Strategy
- ◆ South Lanarkshire's Gender Based Violence Strategy and Action Plan
- ◆ Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences
- ◆ Mentors in Violence Prevention
- ◆ the “Consent” campaign
- ◆ learning and development
- ◆ Safe and Together training event
- ◆ Equally Safe at Work

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

11 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.