

COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 17 May 2011

Chair:

Councillor Hamish Stewart (Depute)

Councillors Present:

John Anderson, Walter Brogan, Graeme Campbell, Andy Carmichael, Russell Clearie, Peter Craig, Hugh Dunsmuir, Lynn Filshie, Joe Lowe, Clare McColl, Alex McInnes, Anne Maggs, David Watson

Councillors' Apologies:

Eileen Baxendale, Archie Buchanan, Jackie Burns, Gordon Clark, Gerry Convery (Chair), Allan Falconer, Beith Forrest, Edward McAvoy, Brian McCaig, David Shearer

Attending:

Community Resources

N Anderson, Executive Director; S Clelland, Head of Waste and Environmental Services; A McKinnon, Head of Support Services; S Kelly, Head of Facilities, Fleet and Ground Services; J Stirling, Environmental Services Manager

Corporate Resources

L Carstairs, Public Relations Officer; N Docherty, Administration Assistant; P MacRae, Administration Officer

Finance and Information Technology Resources

M Simpson, Accountant

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Community Resources Committee held on 1 March 2011 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Community Resources - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2010/2011

A joint report dated 31 March 2011 by the Chief Executive and Executive Director (Community Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure at 18 March 2011 against budgeted expenditure for 2010/2011 for the various services within Community Resources.

Details were provided on proposed budget virements to realign budgets.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the underspend on Community Resources' revenue budget of £0.037 million (0.1%), as detailed in Appendix A to the report, and the forecast to 31 March 2011 of an underspend of £0.035 million be noted; and

- (2) that the budget virements, as detailed in the appendices to the report, be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 1 March 2011 (Paragraph 4)]

4 Community Resources - Capital Budget Monitoring 2010/2011

A joint report dated 31 March 2011 by the Chief Executive and Executive Director (Community Resources) was submitted advising of progress on Community Resources' capital programme for 2010/2011 and summarising the position at 18 March 2011.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 1 March 2011 (Paragraph 5)]

5 Community Resources - Workforce Monitoring - January to March 2011

A joint report dated 3 February 2011 by the Executive Directors (Corporate Resources) and (Community Resources) was submitted on the following employee information for Community Resources for the period January to March 2011:-

- ◆ attendance statistics
- ◆ occupational health statistics
- ◆ accident/incident statistics
- ◆ disciplinary hearings, grievances and Dignity at Work cases
- ◆ analysis of leavers
- ◆ Joint Staffing Watch as at 11 December 2010

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

(Reference: Minutes of 1 March 2011 (Paragraph 6))

6 'Buy with Confidence' Approved Trader Scheme

A report dated 27 April 2011 by the Executive Director (Community Resources) was submitted on the proposed introduction of a 'Buy with Confidence' Approved Trader Scheme to vet traders and improve consumer protection and fair trading within South Lanarkshire.

'Buy with Confidence' was a national approved trader scheme which operated in conjunction with a number Trading Standards Services. Currently, 37 local authorities operated the scheme. It had been endorsed and approved by the Office of Fair Trading and was considered a "best practice" scheme.

Membership of the scheme required a one-off administration fee of £100 to be paid by each local authority. Thereafter, an annual fee would be paid based on the number of member businesses in the local authority area. Currently, the fee was £5 per business.

Businesses would require to pay South Lanarkshire Council's Trading Standards Services an annual fee to become members of 'Buy with Confidence'. The level of fee was likely to be in the region of £175 per annum per member.

As members, South Lanarkshire businesses would benefit from the following:-

- ◆ businesses would be advertised on the 'Buy with Confidence' website which consumers could search to find a Trading Standards approved trader

- ♦ inclusion on a list of approved traders that Trading Standards would make available to South Lanarkshire consumers
- ♦ the provision of scheme logos, marketing and publicity materials to promote the business as a Trading Standards approved business
- ♦ promotion of the scheme by the Council's Trading Standards Service

It was proposed that approved contractors currently on the list of approved traders for private sector adaptation work associated with the Scheme of Assistance operated by Housing and Technical Resources be transferred to the 'Buy with Confidence' scheme if they met the approved criteria. The potential also existed to extend the scheme to areas such as the Care and Repair Service and further discussion would be undertaken with the Care and Repair Service with a view to progressing this.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the 'Buy with Confidence' Approved Trader Scheme be introduced within South Lanarkshire; and
- (2) that the 8 contractors currently associated with the Scheme of Assistance be transferred to the "Buy with Confidence" scheme subject to them meeting the approved criteria.

7 Community Resources - Notification of Contracts Awarded

A report dated 21 April 2011 by the Executive Director (Community Resources) was submitted on contracts awarded by Community Resources during the period 30 October 2010 to 21 April 2011.

In terms of Standing Order No 20.7 of the Standing Orders on Contracts, Resources were required to notify the relevant Committee of contracts awarded. Details of the contracts awarded by Community Resources were provided in the appendix to the report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 7 December 2010 (Paragraph 10)]

8 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.