

# ENTERPRISE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 3 September 2013

**Chair:**

Councillor Chris Thompson

**Councillors Present:**

John Anderson, Ralph Barker, Walter Brogan, Robert Brown, John Cairney, Peter Craig, Christine Deanie, Isobel Dorman, George Greenshields, Graeme Horne, Gerard Killen, Eileen Logan, Joe Lowe, Lesley McDonald, Denis McKenna, Davie McLachlan, John McNamee, John Menzies, Alice Marie Mitchell, Graham Simpson (Depute), Richard Tullett, Jim Wardhaugh

**Councillors' Apologies:**

Lynn Adams, Angela Crawley, Edward McAvoy (ex officio)

**Attending:**

**Community and Enterprise Resources**

C McDowall, Executive Director; G Mackay, Head of Roads and Transportation Services; J McCaffer, Head of Regeneration; A McKinnon, Head of Support Services

**Finance and Corporate Resources**

G Booth, Accountant; N Docherty, Administration Assistant; P MacRae, Administration Officer

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## 1 Declaration of Interests

The following interests were declared:-

<b>Councillor(s)</b>	<b>Item(s)</b>	<b>Nature of Interest(s)</b>
C Thompson	Business Gateway Plus Lanarkshire – European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Application	♦ Director of Clyde Gateway Urban Regeneration Company ♦ Chair of Business Gateway Steering Group
D McKenna	Business Gateway Plus Lanarkshire – European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Application	Member of Clyde Gateway Urban Regeneration Company

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## 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Enterprise Services Committee held on 4 June 2013 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

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## 3 Enterprise Services - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2013/2014

A joint report dated 10 July 2013 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure at 28 June 2013 against budgeted expenditure for 2013/2014 for Enterprise Services.

Details were provided on proposed budget virements in respect of Enterprise Services to realign budgets.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the overspend on the Enterprise Services' revenue budget of £0.010 million and the forecast to 31 March 2014 of a breakeven position be noted; and
- (2) that the budget virements in respect of Enterprise Services, as detailed in Appendices B to E to the report, be approved.

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#### **4 Enterprise Services - Capital Budget Monitoring 2013/2014**

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A joint report dated 28 August 2013 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted advising of progress on the Enterprise Services' capital programme 2013/2014 and summarising the expenditure position at 28 June 2013.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

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#### **5 Enterprise Services - Workforce Monitoring - April to June 2013**

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A joint report dated 7 August 2013 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the following employee information for Enterprise Services for the period April to June 2013:-

- ♦ attendance statistics
- ♦ occupational health statistics
- ♦ accident/incident statistics
- ♦ disciplinary hearings, grievances and Dignity at Work cases
- ♦ analysis of leavers

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 4 June 2013 (Paragraph 3)]*

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#### **6 Business Gateway Plus Lanarkshire - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Application**

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A report dated 21 August 2013 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the:-

- ♦ successful application to the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for a Business Gateway Plus Scheme
- ♦ proposed implementation of an additional business support service in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council and Business Gateway

The Business Gateway Services contract was delivered by Lanarkshire Enterprise Services Limited on behalf of both North and South Lanarkshire Councils.

The Scottish Government had invited applications to the ERDF for projects to support business growth services available to micro businesses and small to medium enterprises.

The project would be delivered as a partnership project adding value to core Business Gateway, local business support services and the delivery of services to social economy organisations across Lanarkshire.

The Council's elements and key outputs were detailed in an appendix to the report and had been split into each element of activity as follows:-

- ♦ pre-start support to disadvantaged groups
- ♦ advisory support to new, early stage and established social enterprises
- ♦ incubation and business support for new and growing town centre businesses
- ♦ enhanced small and medium sized enterprise (SME) grant funding and additional specific Clyde Gateway grant fund

North Lanarkshire Council proposed to add the following additional services to the existing Business Gateway contract as an addendum:-

<b>Service to be Provided</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Additional Advisory and Support Services to Disadvantaged Groups	£172,500
Specialist Advisory and Support Services for new, early stage and established social enterprises	£225,925
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>£398,425</b>

It was proposed that a partnership agreement be entered into with North Lanarkshire Council to ensure that the responsibilities of partners were fully detailed.

All Council match funding would be met from existing resources.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the additional £654,034 of resources to be provided through ERDF, Clyde Gateway Urban Regeneration Company and VASLAN for Business Gateway Plus activities in South Lanarkshire be noted;
- (2) that the Council enter into a Partnership Agreement with North Lanarkshire Council in relation to the Business Gateway Plus activities; and
- (3) that the additional services to be added as an addendum to the existing Business Gateway contract with Lanarkshire Enterprise Services Limited at a cost of £398,425 be approved.

*Councillors C Thompson and D McKenna, having declared an interest in the above item, withdrew from the meeting during its consideration. Councillor Simpson took the Chair for this item only*

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## **7 Routes to Inclusion and More Choices, More Chances Activities Update**

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A report dated 20 August 2013 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the:-

- ♦ performance of the Council's Employability Programme, South Lanarkshire Works 4U
- ♦ results of the School Leaver Destination Report (SLDR)
- ♦ proposals to award a grant to SALUS (NHS Lanarkshire)

Significant investment had been made in promoting employability and access to sustainable employment opportunities, particularly for targeted priority groups. A focus had been given to young people aged under 24, with specific targeting of 16 to 19 year olds, who required support through More Choices, More Chances if they were to achieve positive employability or education destinations.

The More Choices, Mores Chances Partnership aimed to ensure that support was provided to school leavers to move into a positive destination and the main points from the follow-up figures for 2011/2012 published in June were as follows:-

- ◆ 18 fewer leavers overall were in a positive destination
- ◆ employment as a destination had increased by 4%
- ◆ activity agreements, further education, training and higher education had all reduced
- ◆ unemployed seeking work was down 0.3%
- ◆ unemployed not seeking work had increased by 0.5%

It was proposed that grant funding of £160,000 be awarded to SALUS (NHS Lanarkshire) to deliver health related services that supported progression towards the labour market.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the performance of the Routes to Inclusion Programme, South Lanarkshire Works 4U in 2012/2013 and the first quarter of 2013/2014, as detailed in the report, be noted;
- (2) that the results from the School Leaver Destination Report (SLDR) follow-up for 2011/2012 be noted; and
- (3) that the award of grant funding of £160,000 to NHS SALUS to deliver relevant services in 2013/2014 be approved.

*[Reference: Minutes of 19 March 2013 (Paragraph 8)]*

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## **8 Renewable Energy Fund - New Contributions**

A report dated 8 August 2013 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ the development of the Bankend Rig Windfarm
- ◆ proposals for the associated community benefit payments from the Bankend Rig Windfarm to be managed through the Renewable Energy Fund (REF)

As part of the development, the Council would receive a one-off community benefit payment of £35,750 for distribution to projects associated with the windfarms. It was proposed that the arrangements in place for the distribution of funds through existing Renewable Energy Funds be used as the basis for the administration of the Bankend Rig Windfarm.

The eligible areas were shown in the appendix to the report and the criteria to regulate the distribution of Bankend Rig Renewable Energy Fund grants was detailed.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the Council's Renewable Energy Fund incorporate provision for the receipt and disposal of community benefit payments in respect of the Bankend Rig Windfarm development; and
- (2) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised to conclude the necessary administrative arrangements in relation to the community benefit payments using the existing Renewable Energy Fund mechanism.

*[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee of 1 December 2010 (Paragraph 9)]*

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## **9 Clyde Windfarm Community Fund - Grant Applications**

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A report dated 8 August 2013 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on 2 applications to the Clyde Windfarm Community and Development Fund.

The Clyde Windfarm Community and Development Fund had been established in 2010 to provide funding to suitable projects providing community benefits in eligible areas. It was proposed that, subject to the applicants providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the projects had been secured, a grant of up to a maximum of:-

- ♦ £56,715 towards eligible costs associated with the construction of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) be awarded to Leadhills Family Action Group
- ♦ £30,000 towards eligible costs associated with the delivery of the Early Years' Play Equipment Improvements project be awarded to Friends of Burnbraes Park

### **The Committee decided:**

- (1) that Leadhills Family Action Group be awarded a grant of up to a maximum of £56,715 towards eligible costs associated with the construction of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), subject to the group providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the project had been secured; and
- (2) that Friends of Burnbraes Park be awarded a grant of up to a maximum of £30,000 towards eligible costs associated with the delivery of the Early Years' Play Equipment Improvements, subject to the group providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the project had been secured.

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## **10 Whitelee Renewable Energy Fund - Grant to East Renfrewshire Council**

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A report dated 8 August 2013 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on an application to the Whitelee Renewable Energy Fund which had been established in 2007 to provide funding to suitable projects providing community benefits in eligible areas.

It was proposed that a grant of £29,671, excluding management fee, towards the costs associated with the management and maintenance of the access works at Whitelee Windfarm be awarded to East Renfrewshire Council.

### **The Committee decided:**

that East Renfrewshire Council be awarded a grant of up to £29,671, excluding management fee, towards the costs associated with the management and maintenance of the access works at Whitelee Windfarm, subject to match funding and written confirmation that all other additional funding for the project had been secured.

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## **11 Stallashaw Moss Renewable Energy Fund - Additional Award to Braehead Hall**

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A report dated 20 August 2013 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on an application to the Stallashaw Moss Renewable Energy Fund which had been established in 2007 to provide funding to suitable projects providing community benefits in eligible areas.

In view of the requirement to progress this matter as soon as possible and in terms of Standing Order No 36(c), the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, had approved an additional award of grant of up to a maximum of £15,000 to South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited towards the total revised project costs associated with the improvement works at Braehead Hall.

**The Committee decided:** that the action taken in terms of Standing Order 36(c), by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, to approve an additional award of grant of up to a maximum of £15,000 to South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited towards the total revised project costs associated with the improvement works at Braehead Hall, subject to match funding for the project being received, be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 30 October 2012 (Paragraph 6)]*

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## **12 Urgent Business**

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There were no items of urgent business.