

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams and in the Banqueting Hall, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 23 September 2020

Chair:

Councillor John Ross (ex officio)

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Maureen Chalmers (Depute), Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Martin Grant Hose (*substitute for Councillor Colin McGavigan*), Councillor Richard Lockhart (*substitute for Councillor Kenny McCreary*), Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Hugh Macdonald (*substitute for Councillor David Shearer*), Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Catherine McClymont (*substitute for Councillor Eileen Logan*), Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor Graham Scott (*substitute for Councillor Gerry Convery*), Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Colin McGavigan, Councillor David Shearer

Attending:

Chief Executive's Service

C Sneddon, Chief Executive

Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director

Education Resources

T McDaid, Executive Director

Finance and Corporate Resources

P Manning, Executive Director; T Little, Head of Communications and Strategy; P MacRae, Administration Adviser; G McCann, Head of Administration and Legal Services; K McVeigh, Head of Personnel Services

Housing and Technical Resources

D Lowe, Executive Director

Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care

V de Souza, Director; M Kane, Service Development Manager

Chair's Remarks – Statement from the Chief Executive

The Chair invited the Chief Executive to make a short statement.

The Chief Executive confirmed that an elected member of the Council had tested positive for COVID-19. Tracing had taken place and those who had been in contact with that member had been asked to self-isolate for a period of 2 weeks. The Chief Executive reminded members of the importance of maintaining the physical safety arrangements that the Council had put in place.

The Chair extended his best wishes for a speedy recovery to the member affected.

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 12 August 2020 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Revenue Budget Monitoring for Period 5 – 1 April to 14 August 2020

A report dated 25 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted:-

- ♦ providing an update on 2020/2021 Revenue Budget for the General Fund, taking account of the financial implications of the coronavirus pandemic
- ♦ comparing actual expenditure against budgeted expenditure for the period ending 14 August 2020
- ♦ detailing the expenditure and income position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to 14 August 2020

The figures showed an overspend of £0.005 million on the General Fund Revenue Account, after COVID-19 spend and funding, and a breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account. The forecast to 31 March 2021 on the Housing Revenue Account was a breakeven position.

Details of the COVID-19 pressures across Resources were included in Appendix 1 to the report. Details were also provided on the Council's predicted COVID-19 net spend of £4.639 million for 2020/2021, taking account of additional grant funding and other savings.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the net overspend of £0.005 million on the General Fund Revenue Account at 14 August 2020, after COVID-19 spend and funding, be noted;
- (2) that the breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account at 14 August 2020 and the forecast to 31 March 2021 of a breakeven position be noted;
- (3) that the total net expenditure and lost income of £9.954 million in relation to COVID-19, offset by Government Grant included in the Council's position as at 14 August 2020, be noted;
- (4) that the pressures experienced in Children and Families Services and Adults and Older People Services be noted; and
- (5) that the Council's predicted COVID-19 spend of £4.639 million for 2020/2021 be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 12 August 2020 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Capital Programme 2020/2021 Update and Monitoring for Period 5 – 1 April to 14 August 2020

A report dated 27 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the physical and financial progress at 14 August 2020 on the various capital programmes.

The starting budget for the 2020/2021 General Fund Capital Programme, including carry forward, totalled £106.733 million and the Housing Capital Programme starting budget was £97.303 million.

At 14 August 2020, £11.399 million had been spent on the General Fund Capital Programme and £8.991 million had been spent on the Housing Capital Programme.

The delivery of both the General Services and Housing Capital Programmes had been affected by lockdown due to COVID-19. The ongoing implications of this, including the closure of construction sites in advance of the financial year end, had an impact on the level of capital spend achieved in 2019/2020 and continued to impact on the 2020/2021 Capital Programmes.

As a result, for both the General Services and Housing Capital Programmes, revised budgets were proposed. Details of General Services Programmes of £81.003 million and the Housing Capital Programme of £48.172 million were provided in the report. In addition, amendments to the Capital Programme for Period 5 had been proposed by Resources. Those totalled an increase of £2.113 million and were detailed in Appendix 2 to the report. Consequently, a revised budget for the General Fund Programme of £83.116 million was presented in Appendix 3 to the report.

There followed a full discussion on the report, particularly in relation to the rescheduling of funding for design stage work for Larkhall Leisure Centre from the 2020/2021 Capital Programme and its inclusion in the 2021/2022 Capital Programme. Officers responded to members' questions on this and other aspects of the report.

Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Chalmers, moved the recommendations contained in the report. Councillor Nelson, seconded by Councillor Allison, moved as an amendment that funding in relation to Larkhall Leisure Centre design stage work be retained in the 2020/2021 Capital Programme.

On a vote being taken by roll call, members voted as follows:-

Motion

John Anderson, John Bradley, Robert Brown, Stephanie Callaghan, Maureen Chalmers, Margaret Cooper, Peter Craig, Maureen Devlin, Isobel Dorman, Joe Fagan, Allan Falconer, Katy Loudon, Monique McAdams, Hugh Macdonald, Catherine McClymont, Jim McGuigan, Gladys Miller, John Ross, Graham Scott, Margaret B Walker, Jim Wardhaugh, Josh Wilson

Amendment

Alex Allison, Martin Grant Hose, Richard Lockhart, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson

Abstained

Joe Lowe

5 members voted for the amendment and 22 members voted for the motion, which was declared carried.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the revised 2020/2021 Capital Programmes for General Services of £81.003 million and for Housing of £48.172 million be approved;
- (2) that the adjustments to the General Fund Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;
- (3) that the Period 5 position, at 14 August 2020, of the General Fund Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendices 3 and 4 to the report, and that of the Housing Capital Programme, as detailed at Appendix 5 to the report, be noted; and
- (4) that the revised programmes be monitored by the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum.

[Reference: Minutes of 12 August 2020 (Paragraph 4)]

5 Additional Funding from the Scottish Government and Other External Sources

A report dated 26 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on additional revenue funding, totalling £5.808 million, and capital funding, totalling £0.254 million, which had been made available to the Council by the Scottish Government and other external sources.

The funding had been allocated as follows:-

Revenue Funding

Resource	2020/2021 (£m)
Education	5.808
Total	5.808

Capital Funding

Resource	2020/2021 (£m)
Community and Enterprise	0.254
Total	0.254

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

6 Recommendations Referred from Finance and Corporate Resources Committee – Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy 2019/2020

A report dated 24 August 2020 by the Chief Executive was submitted on recommendations referred to this Committee by the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee of 19 August 2020.

The recommendations of the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee were as follows:-

- ♦ that the Treasury Management Activity Report for 2019/2020 and the 2019/2020 Treasury Management and Prudential Code Indicators be noted

- ♦ that the Council's Annual Investment Report for 2019/2020 be endorsed and referred to the Council for formal approval

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the recommendation of the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee of 19 August 2020 in relation to the Treasury Management Activity Report for 2019/2020 and the 2019/2020 Treasury Management and Prudential Code Indicators be noted; and
- (2) that the recommendation of the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee of 19 August 2020 in relation to the Annual Investment Report for 2019/2020 be endorsed and referred to the Council for formal approval.

[Reference: Minutes of the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee of 19 August 2020 (Paragraph 13)]

7 South Lanarkshire Integration Scheme Update

A report dated 17 August 2020 by the Director, Health and Social Care was submitted on an update to the South Lanarkshire Integration Scheme.

Councils and NHS Boards were required to review their Integration Scheme every 5 years as a requirement of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.

Integration Schemes set out the rules of engagement and workings of Health and Social Care arrangements and the functions which the Council and NHS Board chose to delegate to the Integration Joint Board from a strategic oversight perspective. The previous Integration Scheme had been given assent by the Scottish Parliament in September 2015 and, as such, now required to be reviewed.

The draft Integration Scheme was attached as Appendix 1 to the report and was the outcome of a desktop-based exercise involving a small group of staff from the Council's Legal Services and members of the Health and Social Care Management Team. The exercise aimed to update the terminology within the 2015 Scheme to reflect the present environment without changing any of the delegated functions or role and span of the Integration Joint Board.

Unlike the initial submission, there was no requirement for the review to be resubmitted to the Scottish Government for approval. However, any future, more comprehensive review would require to be submitted for approval by the Cabinet Secretary.

It was proposed to undertake a further review of the Integration Scheme to look in detail at recommendations cited in the Scottish Government's Ministerial Strategic Group report on Health and Social Care Integration, with particular regard to strategic planning, finance, governance, information sharing, collaborative leadership and meaningful/sustained engagement.

Officers responded to members' concerns around accountability in terms of the current arrangements in the longer term. Those concerns would be examined in more detail as part of the upcoming review.

The Committee decided: that the updated South Lanarkshire Integration Scheme, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

8 Recommendations Referred from Resource Committees

A report dated 8 September 2020 by the Chief Executive was submitted on recommendations referred to this Committee by the:-

- ◆ Education Resources Committee of 18 August 2020
- ◆ Social Work Resources Committee of 19 August 2020
- ◆ Finance and Corporate Resources Committee of 19 August 2020

The recommendation of the Education Resources Committee was as follows:-

- ◆ that the Education Resource Plan for 2020/2021 be approved and uploaded to the Council's website

The recommendation of the Social Work Resources Committee was as follows:-

- ◆ that the Social Work Resource Plan for 2020/2021 be approved and uploaded to the Council's website

The recommendation of the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee was as follows:-

- ◆ that the Finance and Corporate Resource Plan for 2020/2021 be approved and uploaded to the Council's website

The Committee decided: that the recommendations referred by the Education Resources, Social Work Resources and Finance and Corporate Resources Committees in relation to their Resource Plans for 2020/2021 be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of Education Resources Committee of 18 August 2020 (Paragraph 11), Minutes of Social Work Resources Committee of 19 August 2020 (Paragraph 8) and Minutes of Finance and Corporate Resources Committee of 19 August 2020 (Paragraph 11)]

9 Council Complaints Report – SPSO Annual Overview 2019/2020

A report dated 28 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted:-

- ◆ detailing the performance of the Council in handling complaints received during the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 against the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO) national indicators
- ◆ on improvement activity to be undertaken as a result of the analysis of complaints
- ◆ providing details of customer feedback on complaints handling

Performance against the 8 SPSO indicators was detailed in the report.

In compliance with the requirements of Indicator 8, customer satisfaction feedback had been gathered from customers who had been through the complaints process. The feedback for 2019/2020 was summarised in Appendix 2 to the report.

Officers responded to members' questions in relation to the report and on concerns raised regarding the complaints handling process. In response to a member's request, the Director, Health and Social Care, undertook to circulate contact details for NHS Lanarkshire for instances where constituent complaints directed to councillors would be best directed to NHS.

The Committee decided: that the complaints performance and areas highlighted for improvement be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 28 August 2019 (Paragraph 14)]

10 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.