

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 4 November 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 Gerry Convery, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Poppy Corbett (*substitute for Councillor Colin McGavigan*), Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor David Shearer, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillor's Apology

Councillor Colin McGavigan

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 McLeod, Administration Assistant

Housing and Technical Resources

D Lowe, Executive Director

Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care

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

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 23 September 2020 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Capital Programme 2020/2021 Monitoring for Period 6 – 1 April to 11 September 2020

A report dated 14 October 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the physical and financial progress at 11 September 2020 on the various capital programmes.

At its meeting on 23 September 2020, the Committee had approved a General Fund Capital Programme totalling £83,116 million and a Housing Capital Programme of £48.172 million. A revised programme for the General Fund Capital Programme, totalling £85.090 million, was now anticipated. This included adjustments representing an increase of £1.974 million which were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. No new adjustments were proposed for the Housing Capital Programme

At 11 September 2020, £16.827 million had been spent on the General Fund Capital Programme and £11.959 million had been spent on the Housing Capital Programme.

The programme spend and funding for the General Fund for the period to 11 September 2020 was detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 to the report. Details of the position for the Housing Capital Programme at 11 September 2020 were provided in Appendix 4 to the report.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the period 6 position of the General Fund Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendices 1 to 3 to the report and the Housing Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendix 4 to the report, be noted;
- (2) that the adjustments to the General Fund Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved; and
- (3) that the revised programmes be monitored by the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum.

[Reference: Minutes of 23 September 2020 (Paragraph 4)]

4 Revenue Budget Monitoring for Period 6 – 1 April to 11 September 2020

A report dated 21 September 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted:-

- ♦ providing an update on the 2020/2021 Revenue Budget for the General Fund, taking account of the financial implications of the coronavirus pandemic
- ♦ detailing the expenditure and income for the Revenue Budget to 11 September 2020
- ♦ detailing the expenditure and income position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to 11 September 2020

The figures showed an overspend of £0.182 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 £4.657 million for 2020/2021, taking account of additional grant funding and other savings.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the net overspend of £0.182 million on the General Fund Revenue Account at 11 September 2020, after COVID-19 spend and funding, be noted;
- (2) that the breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account at 11 September 2020 and the forecast to 31 March 2021 of a breakeven position be noted;

- (3) that the total net expenditure and lost income of £11.272 million in relation to COVID-19, offset by Government Grant included in the Council's position as at 11 September 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 £4.657 million for 2020/2021 be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 23 September 2020 (Paragraph 3)]

5 Additional Funding from the Scottish Government and Other External Sources

A report dated 24 September 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on additional revenue funding, totalling £4.125 million, and capital funding, totalling £1.902 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	1.206
Resource(s) TBC	2.919
Total	4.125

Capital Funding

Resource	2020/2021 (£m)
Community and Enterprise	1.902
Total	1.902

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

6 2021/2022 Capital Programme Update

A report dated 15 October 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the General Services Capital Programme 2021/2022, reflecting the anticipated level of spend for the year, as well as taking into account the ongoing implications of the COVID- 19 pandemic.

Funding of £85.244 million was available for the 2021/2022 General Services Capital Programme. A Capital Programme for 2021/2022 totalling £75.244 million, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, had been drafted, reflecting a realistic and achievable level of spend.

The available funding and the spend requirement, when compared, showed that £10 million of funding would not be required in 2021/2022 and was currently surplus. Given the significant pressure on the Council's Revenue Budget, it was proposed to use this surplus funding to purchase, rather than lease, £10 million of assets. This would allow for Revenue Budget savings of £1.802 million.

For the financial year 2022/2023, consideration would require to be given to projects which had slipped from the 2021/2022 Capital Programme. The programme for 2022/2023 would be the subject of a future exercise.

There followed a full discussion during which officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Chalmers, moved approval of the recommendations contained in the report. Councillor Allison, seconded by Councillor Nelson, moved as an amendment that recommendations 1 and 3 detailed in the report be approved but that recommendation 2 be not accepted pending a full financial analysis of the Spend to Save proposal including information on taxation, interest and capital repayments.

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

Motion

John Anderson, John Bradley, Robert Brown, Stephanie Callaghan, Maureen Chalmers, Gerry Convery, Margaret Cooper, Peter Craig, Maureen Devlin, Isobel Dorman, Joe Fagan, Allan Falconer, Eileen Logan, Katy Loudon, Monique McAdams, Jim McGuigan, Gladys Miller, John Ross, David Shearer, Margaret B Walker, Jim Wardhaugh, Josh Wilson

Amendment

Alex Allison, Poppy Corbett, Kenny McCreary, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson

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

The Committee decided:

- (1) that a Capital Programme totalling £75.244 million, proposed for 2021/2022, as detailed in the report, be approved;
- (2) that additional Spend to Save projects totalling £10 million, as detailed in the report, be approved; and
- (3) that it be noted that the 2022/2023 Programme would be the subject of a future exercise.

[Reference: Minutes of 23 September 2020 (Paragraph 4)]

7 Land and Property Transfers and Disposals

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) was submitted on recommendations to declare certain areas of land surplus to operational requirements.

The recommendations had been made in terms of agreed procedures for dealing with surplus land and property.

The Committee decided: that the areas of land, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be declared surplus to Council requirements.

8 Recommendations Referred from Resource Committees

A report dated 21 October 2020 by the Chief Executive was submitted on recommendations referred to this Committee by the:-

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee of 15 September 2020
- ◆ Housing and Technical Resources Committee of 16 September 2020

The recommendation of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee was as follows:-

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

The recommendation of the Housing and Technical Resources Committee was as follows:-

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

The Committee decided: that the recommendations referred by the Community and Enterprise and Housing and Technical Resources Committees in relation to their Resource Plans for 2020/2021 be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of Community and Enterprise Resources Committee of 15 September 2020 (Paragraph 8) and Minutes of Housing and Technical Resources Committee of 16 September 2020 (Paragraph 12)]

9 South Lanarkshire Local Housing Strategy Annual Review 2019/2020

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) was submitted on the progress achieved during 2019/2020 in delivering the agreed outcomes set out in the Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2017 to 2022.

A summary of significant changes, which had taken place both nationally and locally since the last review of the LHS, was provided in the report.

The LHS was structured around 5 chapters and 9 priority outcomes and was monitored through 97 indicators, comprising 65 actions and 32 measures, which showed that:-

- ◆ 87 indicators were categorised as green and were on course to achieve with no issues anticipated
- ◆ 3 indicators were categorised as amber with some minor slippage against targets
- ◆ 1 indicator was categorised as red with below anticipated performance
- ◆ 6 indicators would be reported at a later date

Actions to address the red and amber indicators were detailed in the report and would be reported to the Housing and Technical Resources Committee as part of the agreed annual reporting arrangements.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report and undertook to provide information on the 6 indicators which were to be reported at a later date.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

10 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.