

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of special meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 13 January 2021

Chair:

Councillor John Ross

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, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Ian Harrow (*substitute for Councillor Richard Nelson*), Councillor Mark Horsham (*substitute for Councillor David Shearer*), 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 Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Richard Nelson, 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 McLeod, Administration Assistant; 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; L Purdie, Head of Children and Justice Services

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Revenue Budget Strategy 2021/2022 and Savings Options

A report dated 16 December 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the 2021/2022 Revenue Budget Strategy and presenting options for meeting the savings requirement in preparation of the 2021/2022 budget.

At its meeting on 24 June 2020, the Committee approved the Revenue Budget Strategy for 2021/2022. The strategy had taken account of a number of assumptions including Grant Reductions, Pay and Pensions Increases, Price Increases, Funding for Priorities and Revenue Consequences for Capital. This resulted in an initial budget gap of £52.741 million.

The Strategy also identified corporate funding solutions of £12.948 million and, with the use of Reserves of £16.600 million and the benefit of £3.000 million from the Loan Fund Review, left a savings requirement of £20.193 million as at June 2020. Details were given on updates to the Budget Strategy assumptions which reduced the level of savings required to £17.530 million.

A potential increase of 4.84% in council tax for 2021/2022 could generate income of £6.810 million, which, together with the implementation of Cross Resource Management and Operational Decisions for 2021/2022, detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, would result in a revised savings requirement of £4.958 million.

Appendix 2 to the report detailed savings options totalling £15.559 million. It was proposed that, as a number of those savings options were in areas where the Council worked together with communities, a joint approach be developed with the community and voluntary sectors to consider impact, explore opportunities and discuss options and solutions.

Following a full discussion, and members having clarified that no decisions in relation to savings options were sought at this stage, it was proposed that consideration of the report be deferred to a future meeting of the full Council.

The Committee decided: that consideration of the report be deferred to a future meeting of the full Council.

[Reference: Minutes of 24 June 2020 (Paragraph 12)]

3 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.