

Cunninghame House,  
Irvine.

2 June 2016

### **Scrutiny and Petitions Committee**

You are requested to attend a special Meeting of the above mentioned Committee of North Ayrshire Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine on **TUESDAY 7 JUNE 2016** at **1.00 P.M.** to consider the undernoted business.

Yours faithfully

Elma Murray

Chief Executive

**1. Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested to give notice of any declarations of interest in respect of items of business on the Agenda.

**2. Call In: Gallowgate Square, Largs**

Submit report by the Chief Executive on a Call In Request received in respect of the decision taken by the Cabinet at its meeting on 24 May 2016 to proceed to take forward the Gallowgate Square development in line with the decision of Cabinet on 15 September 2015 (copy enclosed).

**4. Urgent Items**

Any other business that the Chair considers urgent.



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## Scrutiny and Petitions Committee

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Sederunt: John Hunter (Chair)  
Alex Gallagher (Vice Chair)  
Robert Barr  
Matthew Brown  
Grace McLean  
Catherine McMillan  
Alan Munro

Chair:

Attending:

Apologies:

Meeting Ended:



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## **NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **Agenda Item 2**

**7 June 2016**

#### **Scrutiny and Petitions Committee**

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**Title:** **Call In: Gallowgate Square, Largs**

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**Purpose:** To allow the Committee to consider a Call In Request in respect of the decision taken by the Cabinet at its meeting on 24 May 2016 to proceed to take forward the Gallowgate Square developed in line with the decision of Cabinet on 15 September 2015.

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**Recommendation:** Agree that the Committee considers the Call In request.

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#### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 At its meeting on 24 May 2016, the Cabinet received a report by the Chief Executive on the current position in relation to Gallowgate Square, Largs. The report set out (a) the background to a decision by Council to suspend the Gallowgate Square development pending the outcome of further consideration of the Masterplan priorities, as recommended by the North Coast Area Committee; and (b) a request from three Members of the disbanded North Coast Area Committee advising that they wished to proceed with the Gallowgate Square development and that a review of the Masterplan priorities was not required;
- 1.2 The Cabinet agreed, in terms of Standing Order 21, to suspend Standing Order 23, to allow consideration of the matter. The Cabinet then agreed that officers now proceed to take forward the Gallowgate Square development in line with the decision of Cabinet on 15 September 2015.
- 1.3 A request dated 31 May 2016 was subsequently received in terms of the Call In procedure set out in the Council's Scheme of Administration and Standing Orders, that the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee examine the decision taken by the Cabinet as set out in Section 2 below.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Call In request, which was signed by Councillors Clarkson, Cullinane and Reid, is in the following terms:-

"Reason for Call in -To question whether the Gallowgate Square project is the most urgent priority for spending on the Largs Master Plan and to question if the amount of money allocated to it is likely to be a profitable investment."

Desired Outcome - That the Scrutiny Committee recommends that activity and spending on the Gallowgate Square project is suspended until there is a full review by North Coast Councillors and Council Officers to confirm the Master Plan priorities."

- 2.2 A copy of the original report presented to the Cabinet on 24 May 2016 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.3 The Call In request is valid for consideration by the Committee. The request was received within the appropriate timescale, it was signed by three Elected Members and details were provided on both the reason for the Call In and the desired outcome.
- 2.4 The Elected Members who have submitted the Call In will be invited to address the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to explain the Call In request. The appropriate Cabinet Member accompanied by senior officers will then be invited to clarify the reasons for the decision. The Committee will have an opportunity to ask questions of both parties and of those officers in attendance.
- 2.5 The Committee will then debate the Call In request and decide whether or not it agrees with the decision of the Cabinet.
- 2.6 Where the Committee does not agree with the decision of the Cabinet, the matter will be referred to the next meeting of the Cabinet with recommendations from the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee for alternative action. The Scrutiny and Petitions Committee therefore has to:-
- i) decide if it agrees or not with the decisions of the Cabinet; and
  - ii) consider what alternative action the Committee would recommend to the Cabinet if it does not agree with the decision.
- 2.7 When the matter is considered by the Cabinet, the Chairperson or another member of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee will have the right to attend the Cabinet and speak in support of any recommendation.

- 2.8 In the event the Cabinet declines to accept the recommendation from the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee the matter will be referred to the next meeting of the Council for determination. The decision of the Council will be final.

### **3. Proposals**

- 3.1 That the Committee considers the Call In Request.

### **4. Implications**

<b>Financial:</b>	None directly arising from this report.
<b>Human Resources:</b>	None directly arising from this report.
<b>Legal:</b>	None directly arising from this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	None directly arising from this report.
<b>Environmental &amp; Sustainability:</b>	None directly arising from this report.
<b>Key Priorities:</b>	None directly arising from this report.
<b>Community Benefits:</b>	Not applicable.

### **5. Consultation**

- 5.1 No further consultation has been undertaken in compiling this report



ELMA MURRAY  
Chief Executive

#### **Reference :**

For further information please contact Melanie Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader on telephone number 01294 324131.

#### **Background Papers**

None.



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**NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**
**Agenda Item 3****24 May 2016****Cabinet**


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**Title: Gallowgate Square, Largs**


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**Purpose:** To update the Cabinet on the current position in relation to Gallowgate Square, Largs.
 

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**Recommendation:** Agree that Cabinet (i) suspend Standing Orders under Standing Order 23.1; and (ii) officers now proceed to take forward the Gallowgate Square development in line with the original decision of the Cabinet.
 

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**1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 On the 24 March 2016 the North Coast Area Committee recommended to Council that work to progress the Gallowgate Square element of the Masterplan be suspended pending the outcome of further consideration of the Masterplan priorities. The minute of the Area Committee was submitted to Council on 30 March 2016.
- 1.2 Three Elected Members of the North Coast Area Committee have confirmed that they do not wish to review the Masterplan priorities and, instead, to proceed directly with the Gallowgate Square works.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 On 26 June 2014, the North Coast Area Committee received and accepted the recommendations to develop a Largs Masterplan. A priority one project to emerge from this work was to upgrade and re-design Gallowgate Square in Largs.
- 2.2 Provision for this project of £440,000 was made from the Town Centre Regeneration Capital budget, as part of the Council's Capital Programme on 15 September 2015, when the Largs Masterplan was endorsed.

- 2.3 Any reconsideration of Masterplan priorities is a matter for Cabinet to determine. Pending Cabinet's decision, the Gallowgate Square development has been suspended, in line with the Area committee's recommendations. However, following discussion at the North Coast Area Committee the Chief Executive agreed to host a meeting to obtain local Member's views on the Gallowgate Square priority and, specifically, whether the use of £440,000 capital funding was the best use of capital funds in Largs at this time. This meeting was scheduled to take place on the 27 April 2016.
- 2.4 The Chief Executive received an email on the 24 April 2016 from three North Coast Area Committee Members advising that they had discussed the matter further, were content that they wanted to proceed with the Gallowgate Square development and accordingly a review of the priorities and a meeting was not required. This effectively means that the majority of the original Area Committee no longer wish to review the Largs Masterplan priorities. In these circumstances the suspension on the works to progress Gallowgate Square can be removed.
- 2.5 As Area Committees have now been disbanded a further meeting of the Area Committee will not take place to regularise this decision in the near future. Accordingly, this report seeks Cabinet approval for officers to proceed with the Gallowgate Square development with immediate effect, and not to review the Masterplan priorities.
- 2.6 As the Area Committee's previous recommendation to suspend the works pending a review was agreed by Council, then any decision to proceed without a review will require suspension of Standing Orders under Standing Order 23.1.

### **3. Proposals**

- 3.1 Cabinet is recommended to (i) suspend Standing Order 23.1 and (ii) confirm that officers now proceed to take forward the Gallowgate Square development in line with the original decision of the Cabinet.

#### 4. Implications

<b>Financial:</b>	The Cabinet approved the allocation of £440,000 for Gallowgate Square on 15 September 2015 from the Town Centre Regeneration budget
<b>Human Resources:</b>	The Regeneration team will progress the work in line with their Regeneration work plan.
<b>Legal:</b>	A contract to progress the design work for Gallowgate Square was put on hold when the North Coast Area Committee recommended a review of the Largs Masterplan and this will now be actively progressed.
<b>Equality:</b>	There are no equality implications arising from this report.
<b>Environmental &amp; Sustainability:</b>	All design work, will be advanced in line with best practice environmental sustainability guidelines.
<b>Key Priorities:</b>	The implementation of the Masterplan will contribute to the key priority contained within the Council Plan of regenerating our towns and increasing employment.
<b>Community Benefits:</b>	There are no community benefit implications arising from this report. Any projects which are implemented would require to consider the Council's policy on community benefit from procurement.

## **5. Consultation**

- 5.1 All four Area Committee members have been advised of the email of the 24 April 2016 and that this report would be submitted to the next available Cabinet meeting.

## **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 Three North Coast Members have decided that they want to proceed with the Gallowgate Square development.



ELMA MURRAY  
Chief Executive

Reference : EM/as

For further information please contact Elma Murray, Chief Executive on ext. 4124

## **Background Papers**

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