

Cabinet
19 March 2024

IRVINE, 19 March 2024 - At a Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Marie Burns, Tony Gurney, Margaret Johnson, and Christina Larsen.

In Attendance

C. Hatton, Chief Executive, C. Cameron, Director (Health and Social Care Partnership); M. Boyd, Head of Service, (Finance), D. Forbes, Senior Manager, and A. Fitzharris, Team Manager (Risk) (Chief Executive's Service); A. Sutton, Executive Director, R. Leith, Head of Service (Communities), and C. Hope, Senior Manager (Communities) (Communities & Education); D. Hammond, Head of Service (Sustainability, Transport and Corporate Property), T. Reaney, Head of Service (Neighbourhood Services), and S. MacFadyen, Senior Manager (Neighbourhood Services) (Place); F. Walker, Head of Service (People & ICT); and A. Craig, Head of Service, J. Hutcheson, Senior Communications Officer (Communications) and S. Wilson, Committee Services Officer (Democratic Services).

Also In Attendance

Davina McTiernan and Chloé Robertson.

Apologies

Alan Hill and Shaun Macaulay.

Chair

Marie Burns in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 11 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 20 February 2024 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Strategic Risk Register 2024/25

Submitted a report by the Head of Service (Finance) to seek approval of the Strategic Risk Register for 2024/25 attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the Council's Strategic Risk Register for 2024/25 attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

4. Revenue Budget 2023/24 : Financial Performance to 31 January 2024

Submitted a report by the Head of Service (Finance) to advise of the financial performance for the Council at 31 January 2024.

A Member asked a question and was provided with further information in relation to managing the cost of teaching staff absence and external residential placements for children and young people.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the virements detailed at Appendix 7 to the report; and (b) note (i) the information and financial projections outlined in the report and (ii) the latest financial projection for the Health and Social Care Partnership highlighted at section 2.6 of the report.

5. Capital Programme and Treasury Management Performance to 31 January 2024

Submitted a report by the Head of Service (Finance) on progress in delivering the Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 and the associated Treasury Management Performance to 31 January 2024.

A Member asked a question and was provided with further information in relation to how financial risks and pressures were managed against affordability.

The Cabinet agreed to note (i) the revisions to budgets outlined in the report; (ii) the General Services and HRA revised budgets at 31 January 2024 and (iii) the forecast expenditure to 31 March 2024.

6. Irvine Locality Property Review

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) to advise of the Irvine Locality Property Review and the recommended next steps.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to:

- the anticipated return on capital receipts from the disposal of buildings considered in the report and whether some of these could be considered for use by the local community; and
- the communication plan on engagement with staff prior to changes being made.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the Irvine Locality Property Review recommendations for implementation as detailed in the report.

7. Lease Extension – Parterre Hall, 19 High Street, Irvine

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) seeking approval to provide an extended lease of Parterre Hall, 19 High Street, Irvine to the Irvine Judo Club. A map showing the location of Parterre Hall was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the lease extension of Parterre Hall, 19 High Street, Irvine to Irvine Judo Club, until 2045, on the existing lease terms.

8. Auchengate

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) to provide an update on a motion passed at the meeting of North Ayrshire Council held on 13 December 2023 in respect of Auchengate.

The Cabinet agreed to note (i) that there was no formal process in respect of classification of a village and furthermore, it was not clear what additional benefits would be available to Auchengate if indeed there were such a process; (ii) that the Roads team had held discussions with South Ayrshire Council and Police Scotland to consider a reduction in speed limit at Auchengate and that a reduction in speed limit was not supported by Police Scotland; (iii) that Police Scotland had agreed measures with North Ayrshire officers in order to address road safety concerns raised by residents of Dundonald Crescent; (iv) amendments to signage and road markings were minor in nature and would be funded through the Roads Revenue Budget; and (v) any future review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils which may be approved by the Council would cover all aspects of the scheme including, but not limited to, the number of Community Councils and boundaries.

9. Decriminalised Parking Enforcement

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) on the introduction of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) on 28 March 2024 and the proposal for enforcement of the new parking prohibitions contained within the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 commonly referred to as the Pavement Parking Ban.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to:

- the patrol pattern for parking wardens across localities; and
- work and assessment undertaken in South Ayrshire on the impact of the extension of free parking on footfall in the town centre and the lessons learned.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the proposal for implementation of enforcement of the prohibitions contained within the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 with regard to the ban on pavement parking, double parking and parking at dropped kerbs for pedestrian and cycle access; and (b) note (i) that Decriminalised Parking Enforcement would commence on 28 March 2024; (ii) that the regulations governing enforcement of the new parking prohibitions commonly known as the Pavement Parking Ban came into force 11 December 2023; and (iii) the approach taken to undertake the footway parking assessment.

10. Roads, Structures and Street Lighting Maintenance Programme 2024/25

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) seeking approval of the Roads, Structures and Street Lighting Maintenance Programme 2024/25 attached at Appendix 1 to the report. Further information on the Condition Assessment and Prioritisation Process was attached at Appendix 2 to the report.

A Member asked a question and was provided with further information in relation to the condition assessments undertaken and the prioritisation of funding.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve (i) the maintenance programme for 2024/25 attached at Appendix 1 to the report; and (ii) additional works to the value of £0.75m as agreed at the budget setting meeting of North Ayrshire Council held of 27 February 2024; and (b) note (i) the approach taken to determine the asset maintenance programme for roads, structures and street lighting; and (ii) that the programme would be issued to the Locality Planning Partnerships for information.

11. North Ayrshire Leisure Limited (NALL) Performance Impact Report Incorporating the 2024-25 Budget

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Communities and Education) seeking approval of the North Ayrshire Leisure Limited (NALL) Performance and Impact Report incorporating the 2024-25 Budget attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet received a presentation from KA Leisure detailing the performance and impact work undertaken to date to take the organisation forward and bring about recovery and improvements.

A Member asked a question and was provided with further information in relation to the contributing factors to the increased number of gym memberships.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note (i) the North Ayrshire Leisure Limited (NALL) Performance and Impact Report incorporating the 2024-25 Budget attached at Appendix 1 to the report; and (ii) the projected out turn budget position in 2024-25; and (b) authorise officers to continue to progress the recovery and development of the business.

12. Food Provision in Schools

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Communities and Education) proposing an interim expansion of the current food provision in school settings based on the funding available in 2024/25.

A Member asked a question and was provided with further information in relation to ambient foods available in primary schools.

The Cabinet agreed to approve (a) the use of existing funding on an interim basis to expand food provision to primary school children in 2024/25; and (b) the use of existing funding on an interim basis to offer breakfast provision at secondary schools in 2024/25.

13. Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

14. Exclusion of the Public - Para 9

The Cabinet resolved in terms of Section 50(A)4 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the Meeting the press and the public for the following item of business on the grounds indicated in terms of Paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

15. Lease Disposal - Mackerston Putting Green, Mackerston Place, Largs

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) seeking approval to enter into a lease for an area of ground at Mackerston Putting Green, Mackerston Place, Largs to an operator.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the recommendation as detailed in the report.

The meeting ended at 4.00p.m.