

Cabinet
21 June 2016

Irvine, 21 June 2016 - At a Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Willie Gibson, John Bruce, Marie Burns and Anthea Dickson .

Also Present

Alan Munro (Item 4 only).

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; J. Butcher, Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment); G. MacGregor, Head of People and Transformation, C. McCourt, Team Manager (Corporate) and M. McTeague, Category Manager (Corporate Procurement) (Finance and Corporate Support); C. Hatton, Executive Director, L. Cree, Senior Manager (Property Management and Investment) (Place); K. Yeomans, Executive Director, C. McAuley, Head of Service (Economic Growth), A. Sutton, Head of Service (Connected Communities) and L. Kirk, Access Officer (Economy and Communities); I. Colvin, Director of North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership, A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services, L. McEwan, Corporate Communications Manager, A. Todd, Senior Policy and Performance Officer, M. Sugden, Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications) and A. Little, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's).

Chair

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Alan Hill and Tony Gurney.

Chair's Remarks

In terms of Standing Order 9.3, the Chair agreed to vary the order of business to allow earlier consideration of Item 10 - Future Delivery of a Range of Connected Communities Services and Item 13 - Roofing Works at 157 New Street, Stevenston.

1. Declarations of Interest

In terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, Councillor Burns, as a member of KA Leisure Board, declared an interest in Agenda Item 4 - Future Delivery of a Range of Connected Communities Services.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2106 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Future Delivery of a Range of Connected Communities Services

Please note - this item has been call-in by Elected Members and will be heard by the Scrutiny & Petitions Committee. No action can be taken meantime.

submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on the alternative options for the delivery and management of a range of Connected Communities services, which were outlined in Appendix 1 to the report and included the recommendation of progression of Option 1 - creating a new arms-length organisation to deliver cultural services and lease the relevant properties and Option 2 - commissioning the delivery and management of the services from and leasing properties to KA Leisure to a detailed business analysis.

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

- the existing legal agreement and Service Level Agreement with KA Leisure;
- the potential delivery of Non Domestic Rates (NDR) savings of £450,000;
- detailed assessments that will be undertaken in respect of Human Resource and TUPE implications of any proposals and that a further report to Cabinet would report on any HR implications.

The Cabinet agreed (a) that the options relating to a non-profit distributing body, being a charity or company limited by guarantee should be progressed to a detailed business analysis; (b) to remit to officers to enter into discussions with the Board and management of KA Leisure as part of the process of developing the detailed business cases; and (c) that a further report on the analysis of the agreed options and recommendations for the future delivery of the services in scope be presented to a future Cabinet meeting.

4. Roofing Work at 157 New Street, Stevenston

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on essential roofing works, estimated to cost approximately £75,000, that are required to the building at 157 New Street, Stevenston, which is owned by Stevenston Common Good Fund.

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

- localised timber decay that requires to be addressed; and
- the replacement of roof coverings in some areas, as well as an overhaul of rainwater goods.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the procurement of essential roofing works at 157 New Street, Stevenston at an estimated cost of £75,000.

5. End of year 15/16 Council Plan Progress Report

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on (a) the progress of the Council Plan 2015/20; and (b) that 81% of the 58 measures were on target or slightly adrift of target, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. A summary sheet of the red and amber performance indicators (PIs) was provided to Cabinet and further information was provided in relation to:-

- Modern Apprentices supported through Council sponsored initiatives;
- Town Centre footfall has increased;
- employment rate for age 16 - 24 year olds;
- Capital Expenditure - General Fund;
- Capital Expenditure - HRA;
- percentage of capital projects completed on time;
- percentage of complaints handled on time; and
- Freedom of Information requests responded to in 20 working days.

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

- the setting of realistic targets and the ambition to achieve 100%;
- the use of narrative within the report to highlight progress when PIs are categorised as red or amber;
- the measurement of footfall in Irvine Town Centre and methods that could be used to record footfall in other locations within Irvine

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the progress made in implementing the Council Plan 2015/20; (b) note that detailed progress on the Council Plan indicators will be incorporated into the Public Performance Reporting report to Cabinet on the 27 September 2016; and (c) refer the report to the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee for its consideration.

6. Directorate Plan 2015/18 Performance Reports as at 31 March 2016

Submitted report by the Chief Executive which gave details of (a) the performance of all Directorates as at 31 March 2016 against the priorities outlined in the Directorate Plans, as set out in appendices 1 - 6 of the report; and (b) a Members' Seminar on 27 June 2016 that will provide a update on the performance of all Directorates.

The Executive Directors reported on the performance of their directorates during 2015/16, highlighting progress, priorities and challenges.

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

- a contingency plan that has been put in place in respect of Corriedoon Care Home;
- meetings that have been arranged with services users and the public to provide information in relation to the purchase of Red Cross House, Irvine for development as a Learning Disability Day Centre and Residential Supported Accommodation for the rehabilitation of learning disability and mental health clients; and
- an examination of the implications of the withdrawal of some hospital transportation services by the Red Cross.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the performance of all Directorates as at 31 March 2016 against the priorities in the 2015/18 Directorate Plans; and (b) refer the Directorate Plan Performance Reports for the consideration of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee on the 24 August 2016.

7. Performance Management Update

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on (a) the progress of Performance Management arrangements within the Council; (b) detailed progress on the Performance Management Forum (PMF) work plan 2015/16 (Appendix 1); and (c) an updated workplan for 2016/17, reflecting the outputs from the workshop with the Improvement Service and the change of focus for the PMF (Appendix 2).

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to the membership of the small panel, chaired by the Chief Executive, where Executive Directors present their six monthly performance reports.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve (i) the changes to the Performance Management Forum; (ii) the progress on the Performance Management Forum (PMF) work plan 2015/16 and Recognised for Excellence; and (iii) the work plan for 2016/17; and (b) refer the report to the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee for its consideration on the 24 August 2016.

8. Communications Strategy

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on (a) the review of the Council's Communications Strategy; and (b) the development of a new Strategy and supporting Operational Plan which detailed the strategic communications objectives; and (c) how the Council will deliver communication in future across each of the main areas of the Council's communications functions.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to the Digital Engagement Strategy that provides guidance to services on the use of social media.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the new Communications Strategy, including the Vision, Commitments and Standards to be adopted by the Council.

9. Planning Performance Framework

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) which provided information on (a) the Planning Performance Framework (PPF) launched in April 2012 by Heads of Planning Scotland, in conjunction with the Scottish Government; (b) feedback from the Scottish Government on the Council's PPF4 and the Action Programme that informed the development of PPF5; and (c) the proposed submission to the Scottish Government of North Ayrshire's PPF5, as detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the content of the Planning Performance Framework 5 for submission to the Scottish Government and publication on the Council's website.

10. Inclusive Growth Pilot

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on North Ayrshire Council's participation in an Inclusive Growth pilot with Scottish Government which will undertake a diagnostic assessment of the factors that are holding back long term sustainable inclusive growth in the local economy.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to the gathering of information at a local level as part of the diagnostic stage of the process.

The Cabinet agreed (a) to support the Council's participation in an Inclusive Growth pilot with the Scottish Government; and (b) that the results of the pilot are reported to Cabinet as part of the Council's measures to reduce inequality in North Ayrshire.

11. Grant Offers for Outdoor Access Projects in the Financial Year 2015/16

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on (a) a range of projects to improve the outdoor path network; and (b) details of the fully and partially funded capital projects, successful revenue projects and unsuccessful projects, totalling £1,524,617, as outlined at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the grant funding submissions made; (b) approve the acceptance and expenditure of the grant offers; (c) note the process made in relation to the submission of an application to the European Regional Development Fund Green Infrastructure Programme; and (d) receive a further report regarding potential projects for 2017/18 for approval.

12. Housing Repairs Policy

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on (a) revisions to the current Housing Repairs Policy to reflect regulatory and legislative changes, detailed in at 2.6 of the report; and (b) the revised Housing Repairs Policy attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the revised Housing Repairs Policy, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

13. Change and Transformation Portfolio

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on (a) the activity in delivering the Transformation Change Programme; and (b) details of the high level themes each Directorate is responsible for delivering and the size and scale of the transformation work (Appendix 1).

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the progress of the Change and Transformation activity; and (b) receive a further update in six months.

14. Award of Contract - Supply of a Managed Fleet Stores Service

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the result of the tender exercise for the contract for Supply of a Managed Fleet Stores Service.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the award of the contract to Flying Penguin Enterprise Limited at a cost of £3,325,000.

The meeting ended at 4.10 p.m.