

Cabinet
30 April 2013

IRVINE, 30 April 2013 - At a special Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 a.m.

Present

Willie Gibson, Alan Hill, Marie Burns, Anthea Dickson and Alex McLean.

Also Present

Robert Steel.

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support); C. Kirk, Corporate Director, A Sutton, Head of Service (Community and Culture) and M. Docherty, Head of Education (3-18) (Education and Skills); C. Hatton, Corporate Director, R. McCutcheon, Head of Environment and Related Services and K. Yeomans, Head of Development Planning (Development and Environment); O. Clayton, Head of Community Care and Housing and L. Raeside, Head of Service Development (Social Services and Health); and K. Dyson, Communications Officer and M. Anderson, Committee Services Officer, (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Tony Gurney.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 16 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Service Plans 2013/14

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on Service Plans for the period 2013/14.

Services have produced their Service Plans for 2013/14 in accordance with the Service Planning and Budgeting Guidance. There are five Service Plans in total, as set out in the Appendices to the report.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:-

Democratic and Administration Services

- the innovative platform now in place to deliver the Council's Communications Strategy;
- plans for the delivery of a more proactive service to Elected Members in terms of training and development;
- the rationale for the target of 95% for the completion of annual staff PDR/PPD interviews; and
- the independence of the Licensing Board.

Education and Skills

- Broad General Education;
- projects in support of minority and ethnic communities, details of which would be provided for Members' information by the Head of Community and Culture;
- the background to the increase in the number of participants accessing Community and Culture youth programmes;
- the reduction in the number of participants accessing Community and Culture information sessions and cultural events;
- partnership working and the inclusion of some partner data, where appropriate;
- the anticipated impact of the new leisure centre in Irvine on participant numbers; and
- issues associated with the deployment of supply teachers.

Social Services and Health

- the development of a strategy to tackle inequalities in North Ayrshire, including, but not limited to, health inequalities;
- budget issues surrounding the delivery of respite care;
- the level of risk associated with the failure of an independent care provider;
- the variation in the target for the percentage of staff with appropriate qualifications working in Council residential care for older people;
- the risks for Housing Services arising from Welfare Reform;
- the validity of the performance indicator relating to Community Wardens; and
- the timescale for the development of the Stevenson Institute site, Largs.

Finance and Infrastructure

- the need to consider the Modern Apprenticeship programme in the wider context of supporting young people;
- the background to the increase in staff numbers following restructuring;
- the ratings associated with identified risks;
- the transfer of staff resources associated with the corporate Change agenda; and
- measures to ensure future compliance with the Property Factors (Scotland) Act 2011.

Development and Environment

- whether the correct structures were now in place to ensure the timeous delivery of projects.

The Corporate Director (Development and Environment) advised that, Key Performance Indicator C01 (number of days lost within Development and Environment due to sickness absence per FTE annum (days)) within Appendix 5 to the report should be amended to reflect actual figures for 10/11, 11/12 and 12/13 of 8.4, 9.9 and 4.8, respectively, and a target of 9.6 for 13/14.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the Service Plans for 2013/14 as set out at Appendices 1 - 5 of the report, subject to a correction to the figures associated with Key Performance Indicator C01 within Appendix 5; and (b) refer the report to the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee for its information.

The meeting ended at 11.35 a.m.