

Cabinet
7 June 2016

Irvine, 7 June 2016 - At a Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Willie Gibson, John Bruce, Marie Burns, Elizabeth Higon (Church Representative) (Agenda Items 1 - 5) and Emily Eadie and David Dunlop (Youth Representatives) (Agenda Items 1 - 5).

Also Present

Joe Cullinane, Alex Gallagher, Donald Reid (Agenda Items 6 - 13).

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; J. Butcher, Executive Director and C. Amos, Head of Service (Inclusion) and T. McIntosh, Senior Manager (Schools) (Education and Youth Employment); L. Friel, Executive Director, G. MacGregor, Head of People and Transformation and A. Lyndon, Team Manager (Corporate Procurement) (Finance and Corporate Support); C. Hatton, Executive Director, R. McCutcheon, Head of Service (Commercial Services) and D. Mackay, Senior Manager Waster Resources (Strategy and Contracts) (Place); A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services, J. Hutcheson, Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications) and A. Little, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's).

Chair

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

A. Dickson, A. Hill, the Very Reverend Matthew Canon McManus and Mark Fraser.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2106 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Suspension of Standing Orders

The Cabinet was invited to consider resolving, in terms of Standing Order 21, to suspend Standing Order 9.4, to allow consideration of an urgent item without the requisite period of intimation, in relation to a Call In considered by the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee at its meeting on 7 June 2016 at 1.00 p.m.

The Cabinet unanimously resolved, in terms of Standing Order 21, to suspend Standing Order 9.4, to allow consideration of the urgent item which would be considered at Item 6.

4. Education and Youth Employment Inclusion Strategy

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Education & Youth Employment) on the Education and Youth Employment Inclusion Strategy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, which enables full implementation of the duties in the Children and Young People Act (Scotland) 2014 and describes an inclusive approach in an educational context.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to the five priorities of the Education and Youth Employment Directorate Plan that will work towards reducing the gap in attainment and achievement.

The Cabinet agreed to support the strategy and its implementation and in so doing ensure positive outcomes for all children and young people.

5. Relationships and Sexual Health

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Education & Youth Employment) on the provision of Relationships and Sexual Health in North Ayrshire Education establishments which included details of (a) the early learning pathways and topics covered in schools; (b) the Health and Well Being Strategy Group; (c) LGBT Support; (d) health and well being support; (e) homophobic bullying; and (f) restorative practice.

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

- the use of the Glow platform and a new Health and Wellbeing tile aimed at signposting young people to places where they are easily access support from organisations both within and outwith North Ayrshire;
- the work of the Development Officer in setting up and monitoring the content of the new tile on Glow; and
- an opportunity that will be provided for Members to view the content of the Health and Wellbeing tile on Glow.

The Cabinet agreed to endorse the proposals to support children and young people's health and well being.

6. Call In: Gallowgate Square, Largs

The Head of Democratic Services outlined the background to the Call In Request in respect of Gallowgate Square, Largs, referring to the documents circulated at the meeting, which included:-

- the Minute of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee held on 7 June 2016;
- the report by the Chief Executive on a Call In Request received in respect of the decision taken by the Cabinet on 24 May 2016 to proceed to take forward the Gallowgate Square development in line with the decision of Cabinet on 15 September 2016;
- the report by the Chief Executive presented to Cabinet on 24 May 2016 on the current position in relation to Gallowgate Square, Largs; and
- the report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) presented to Cabinet on 15 September 2015 on the proposals within the Largs Masterplan and the final Largs Masterplan attached as an appendix to the report.

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 the background to a decision by the Council to suspend the Gallowgate Square development pending the outcome of further consideration of the Masterplan priorities, as recommended by the North Coast Committee. The report also detailed that three Members of the former North Coast Area Committee had advised that they wished to proceed with the Gallowgate Square development and that a review of the Masterplan priorities was not required.

The Cabinet, at its meeting on 24 May 2016, agreed, in terms of Standing Order 21, to suspend Standing Order 23, to allow reconsideration of the Council decision. 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 2016.

At a Special meeting on 7 June 2016, the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee considered a call in request in relation to this matter. The Committee agreed to scrutinise the decision taken by the Cabinet on 24 May 2016 and following a vote, the Committee agreed to recommend to Cabinet 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 Masterplan priorities.

The Cabinet agreed to accept the recommendation of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee 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 Masterplan priorities.

7. Ayrshire Local Flood Risk Management Plan

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the progress of the draft Ayrshire Local Flood Risk Management Plan under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 and details of the types of action required within North Ayrshire to manage flood risk for the period 2016 to 2021. The Plan was circulated electronically to Members and available for inspection on the Council's website.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the Local Flood Risk Management Plan (2016 - 2021), as circulated with the agenda, for submission to the Government by 22 June 2016; (b) note Government approval and allocation of funding equating to 80% of the costs of the final scheme will be required to complete works in respect of the Upper Garnock Valley; and (c) note that progression, beyond Outline Scheme Design, to undertake works in respect of Great Cumbrae will be subject to securing appropriate funding and Government approval.

8. Charter for Household Recycling in Scotland

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on (a) the work of the Zero Waste Task Force in developing a Charter for Household Recycling in Scotland (Appendix 1); and (b) the proposal that the Council sign up to the Charter and carry out scoping reviews to investigate the potential adoption of the waste collection systems detailed in the Code of Practice on the proviso of Scottish Government funding to effect any change.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) sign up to the voluntary Household Recycling Charter for Scotland; (b) that the options and results from the scoping report, currently being developed by officers with support from Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS), will be considered by the Physical Environment Advisory Panel as part of the development of the Council's Waste Management Strategy 2017 - 2022; and (c) note that the draft Waste Management Strategy 2017 - 2022 will be subject to a future report to Cabinet for consideration.

9. Maximising Attendance Performance – 2015/16 year end summary

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which set out (a) a range of sickness absence information, including the percentage of staff by directorate with no sickness absence; and (b) the average days lost per employee for 2015/16 of 8.98, which resulted in the Council not achieving its end of year target.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to the utilisation of occupational health services and healthy working lives initiatives to assist in reducing sickness absence within the Place directorate.

Noted.

10. Council Tax write off 2015/16 and Non-Domestic Rates Write off 2016/17

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Support) on the write off of £35,676.58 of Council Tax debts during 2015/16 and £232,015.62 of Non-Domestic Rates during 2016/17.

The Cabinet agreed to homologate the write-off of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates for 2013-14, as set out in the report.

11. Award of Contract - Carriageway Resurfacing 2016/17

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the result of the tender exercise for the contract for Carriageway Resurfacing 2016/17.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the award of the Contract to Hamilton Tarmac Ltd at a cost of £572,149.59.

12. Award of Contract - Replacement Financial Management Information System

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the tender exercise for the provision of a replacement Financial Management Information System (FMS).

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

- funding of a project team to implement the new financial management system; and
- consultation that has taken place with other local authorities who use the financial management system.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the award of the contract to Capita for an initial period of five years with an option to extend for up to five further years, at a cost of £711,578.

13. Award of Contract - Internal and External Alterations to Robert W Service Court Sheltered Housing Unit, Kilwinning

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the result of the tender exercise for the contract for Internal and External Alterations to Robert W Service Court Sheltered Housing Unit, Kilwinning.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the award of the Contract to James Frew Ltd at a cost of £2,646,423.35.

The meeting ended at 3.15 p.m.