

Cunninghame House, Irvine.

8 September 2016

# **North Ayrshire Council**

You are requested to attend a Meeting of the above mentioned Committee of North Ayrshire Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine on **WEDNESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2016** at **2.00 p.m.** to consider the undernoted business.

Yours faithfully

Elma Murray

Chief Executive

#### 1. Past Provost's Medal

Present the past Provost's Medal to Councillor Sturgeon in recognition of her service as Provost of the Council.

#### 2. Apologies

# 3. Declarations of Interest

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

# 4. Previous Minutes (Page 9)

The accuracy of the Minutes of (i) the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 15 June, (ii) the Special Council (Planning) (Pre-Determination Hearings) held on 8 August; (iii) the Special Council (Planning) (Determination) held on 8 August; and (iv) the Special Meeting of Council held on 30 August 2016 will be confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (copies enclosed).

# 5. Provost's Report

The Provost will report.

# 6. Leader's Report

The Leader of the Council will report.

# 7. North Ayrshire Council Minute Volume (issued under separate cover) Submit for noting, the minutes of meetings of committees of the Council held in the period 16 June to 31 August 2016.

# 8. Questions

In terms of Standing Order No. 12 submit:-

(a) A question by Councillor Gurney to the Cabinet Member for Place in the following terms:-

"Would the member care to reaffirm this Council's regard for the work done by our partner housing associations and assure the chamber that this productive partnership will be fully supported by the new administration?"

(b) A question by Councillor Gurney to the Cabinet Member for Place in the following terms:-

"Would the administration care to confirm that they will continue to hold regular Physical Environment Advisory Board meetings?"

(c) A question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Employment in the following terms:-

"Noting that the Gold Standard for a pupil is the achievement of 5 or more Higher passes would you please list for each Secondary School in North Ayrshire for each of the past 5 years the percentage of Fifth Year pupils achieving 5 or more Higher passes at grades A-C and comment on any trends?"

(d) A question by Councillor Hill to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

"Does the Leader of the Council believe that money used to support health and social care is "lost"?"

(e) A question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care in the following terms:-

"The United Kingdom Supreme Court found on 28 July 2016 that the sharing of Private information in Part 4 of the Children' and Young People (Scotland)Act 2104 (Named Persons) to be incompatible with the right to a private and family life, in terms of article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, and therefore " not within the competence of the Scottish Parliament"

At present what categories of data are held by North Ayrshire Council on children and young persons and with whom is this shared?"

(f) A question by Councillor Burns to the Cabinet Member for Economy in the following terms:-

"Can the portfolio holder reassure members that the work carried out by the previous administration in developing an Ayrshire Growth Deal bid will continue to be a priority and can he set out how this will be progressed?"

# 9. Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

Consider the undernoted nominations:-

Committee	Resignation/Vacancy	Nomination(s) Received for Vacancy
Audit and Scrutiny Committee	6 vacancies:- 3 Administration 2 Opposition 1 Other	David O'Neill Alan Munro John Easdale Alan Hill Catherine McMillan Tom Marshall
Licensing Committee	1 vacancy	Robert Steel
Staffing and Recruitment Committee	Alan Hill (main rep) Marie Burns (substitute)	Marie Burns (main rep)* Alan Hill (substitute)* Peter McNamara (substitute for Joe Cullinane)

Outside Body	Vacancy	Nomination(s) Received
Licensing Board	1 vacancy	Robert Steel
North Ayrshire CCTV Ltd.		Donald Reid (to replace Joe Cullinane)
North Ayrshire Violence		Louise McPhater (to replace
Against Women Forum		Joe Cullinane)

<sup>\*</sup>Please note that the above requires Council approval for a minor amendment to the Scheme of Administration, to allow the Opposition to appoint a Member other than its Depute Leader

# 10. Financial Outlook and Medium Term Financial Planning (Page 51)

Submit report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the current assessment of the medium term financial outlook and the potential funding gap for 2017/18 to 2019/20 (copy enclosed).

# 11. Committee Timetable - September to December 2016 (Page 61)

Submit report by the Chief Executive on a revised committee timetable for the remainder of 2016 following the creation of Audit and Scrutiny Committee (copy enclosed).

#### 12. Motions

In terms of Standing Order 22(a), notice is hereby given of the following Motions for consideration by the Council at its next ordinary meeting:-

(a) A motion by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hill in the following terms:

"The previous SNP Administration worked with the Chief Executive to have live broadcasting facilities installed in our new Council Chamber.

As SNP Councillors we have always held a strong belief that the people who voted for us should have the ability to see what we do in carrying out our duties in representing them and in this regard members of the public can already attend Council and Cabinet Meetings.

However, given that we now have the ability to stream live internet broadcasting from this Chamber, the SNP Group can see no reason why anyone would deny members of the Public, many of whom may have difficulties in attending daytime meetings in Irvine, the opportunity to view our meetings.

We are elected to serve the public and therefore should not fear public scrutiny. We also believe that the broadcasting of meetings should be adopted as a principled approach rather than offered on a piecemeal basis as proposed at the last meeting of the Full Council.

North Ayrshire Council supports the building of open and visible democracy in Local Government and in doing so supports the expansion of public interest which in turn will serve dispel the fear of public scrutiny.

North Ayrshire Council therefore resolves to commence the live internet broadcasting of all Public Political Meetings from this Chamber and instructs Offices to deliver this as soon as possible."

(b) A motion by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hill in the following terms:-

"Hazeldene Horticulture has been an enormous success story within North Ayrshire providing training and supported employment opportunities to local people for a number of years. The previous SNP Administration saved it from closure and established a new working relationship with Cunninghame Housing Association with the creation of a new Public Social Partnership to take the business forward

Council instructs officers to bring a report to the next meeting of North Ayrshire Council confirming the arrangements that are in place with our partners to sustain this business together with confirmation that the necessary funding has been provided to Cunninghame Housing Association to enable them to continue with this successful and much needed initiative."

# 13. Urgent Items

Any other items which the Provost considers to be urgent.

# **North Ayrshire Council**

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Sederunt:			
	lan Clarkson	(Provost)	Attending:
	Robert Barr	(Depute Provost)	
	John Bell		
	Matthew Brown		
	John Bruce		
	Marie Burns		
	lan Clarkson		
	Joe Cullinane		
	Anthea Dickson		
	John Easdale		
	John Ferguson		
	Alex Gallagher		
	Willie Gibson		
	Tony Gurney		
	Jean Highgate		
	Alan Hill		Apologies:
	John Hunter		
	Elizabeth McLardy		
	Grace McLean		
	Catherine McMillan		
	Peter McNamara		
	Ronnie McNicol		
	Louise McPhater		
	Tom Marshall		
	Jim Montgomerie		Meeting Ended:
	Alan Munro		
	David O'Neill		
	Irene Oldfather		
	Donald Reid		
	Robert Steel		
	Joan Sturgeon		
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# North Ayrshire Council 15 June 2016

**IRVINE**, **15 June 2016** - At a Meeting of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

#### Present

Joan Sturgeon, Robert Barr, John Bell, Matthew Brown, John Bruce, Marie Burns, Ian Clarkson, Joe Cullinane, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, John Ferguson, Alex Gallagher, Willie Gibson, Tony Gurney, Jean Highgate, Alan Hill, John Hunter, Elizabeth McLardy, Catherine McMillan, Ronnie McNicol, Tom Marshall, Jim Montgomerie, Alan Munro, David O'Neill, Donald Reid and Robert Steel.

#### In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Executive Director and M. Hogg, Head of Finance (Finance and Corporate Support); C. Hatton, Executive Director (Place); I. Colvin, Director (Health and Social Care Partnership); A. Sutton, Head of Service (Connected Communities) (Economy and Communities); A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Support; S. Quinn, Head of Schools (Education and Youth Employment); C. Andrew, Senior Manager (Legal Services); M. Gilmour, Senior Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications) and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader (Chief Executive's Service).

#### Chair

Provost Sturgeon in the Chair.

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Grace McLean, Peter McNamara and Irene Oldfather.

### 1. Apologies for Absence

The Provost invited intimation of apologies for absence, which were recorded.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

In terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, Councillor Dickson declared an indirect non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 8(m)(n)(o) as a Director of North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service.

There were no declarations of the Party Whip.

#### 3. Previous Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of both the ordinary and special meetings of the Council held on 30 March 2016, was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

# 4. Provost's Report

The Provost reported on the following matters:-

- sympathy for those affected by the shootings in Orlando on 12 June 2016;
- the lighting of a beacon at Ardrossan Castle on 21 April 2016 to mark the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen;
- attendance at the dedication service and office opening of Fullarton Connexions, which will serve as a hub for various community events and activities;
- a visit to Mr and Mrs Pennington from Ardrossan, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in April 2016;
- the launch in April 2016 of Woodlands Primary School Parent Council's "Walk to School" 5 minute Walkzone;
- the official launch of the Habitant and Habitat photo exhibition by Townend Camera Club;
- the laying of a wreath at the beginning of May 2016 to commemorate the birth of John Galt in Irvine in 1779:
- a special citizenship ceremony held at Bridgegate, Irvine on 12 May 2016;
- Superhero Day which saw Council staff raising over £1,800 for Cash for Kids in May 2016 and brought the good causes total to over £115,000;
- attendance at the opening of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, which took place in Edinburgh on 21 May 2016;
- a visit by the Chinese Consul to North Ayrshire at the beginning of June 2016;
   and
- a citizenship ceremony held on 14 June 2016 in the newly refurbished Town Hall in Saltcoats.

The Provost concluded by extending an invitation to Members to join her for some refreshments to mark the final meeting of the Council before the summer recess.

### 5. Leader's Report

The Leader of the Council reported on the following matters:-

- a presentation given by Lowland Market Research on 31 March 2016 in respect of the findings of the North Ayrshire People's Panel Survey;
- a letter sent to the Scottish Government's newly appointed Ministers following the 5 May 2016 Scottish Parliamentary elections, to update them on current work taking place through North Ayrshire and to extend an invitation to meet to further enhance working relationships;
- a planned meeting with the Minister for Transport and the Islands to discuss transport issues and the Ardrossan Task Force (the 10 August 2016 meeting of which will be chaired by the Cabinet Secretary);
- the Cabinet Secretary for Justice's visit to North Ayrshire's innovative Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse Response Team;
- a meeting with the Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities to brief her on North Ayrshire's Locality Partnerships, Housing programme and Community Planning Partnership's approved inequalities strategy, "Fair for All";

- a letter sent to the Cabinet Secretaries for Finance and the Constitution on the subject of Ayrshire Shared Services, covering joint areas of work, such as waste services, roads and the Integrated Health and Social Care Partnership;
- an invitation extended to the new Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work to discuss the Ayrshire Growth Deal and economic investment and regeneration in North Ayrshire;
- the success of Ruth Maguire in being elected as the Member of the Scottish Parliament for Cunninghame South and an appreciation of her work as a local Elected Member and Youth Champion;
- the work of election staff in ensuring the smooth organisation and success of the election process and role of those who helped out at polling stations and the count:
- a planned meeting on 22 June 2016 with the Secretary of State for Scotland to discuss the Ayrshire Growth Deal, amongst other matters;
- the success of Locality Planning arrangements, which have been well received and will benefit local communities;
- plans for a civic reception to recognise the success of Beith Juniors Football Club in winning the Scottish Junior Cup;
- the launch on 7 June 2016 of North Ayrshire's Children's Services Plan at the Harbour Arts Centre; and
- the success of Arran High School in winning third prize in the Sir Tom Hunter Challenge and a pupil from Whiting Bay Primary School in achieving a Mission Discovery International Space School Educational Trust runner up prize.

The Leader concluded by wishing Members an enjoyable summer recess before the Council returns in the Autumn to continue on its "good to great" journey.

# 6. North Ayrshire Council Minute Volume

Submitted for noting and approval of any recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of meetings of committees of the Council held in the period

The Council agreed to note the Minutes and approve any recommendations therein; in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

# 7. North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of Meetings Held on 24 March 2016 and 2 June 2016

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Minutes of the meetings of the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board held on 24 March 2016 and 2 June 2016.

Noted.

#### 8 Questions

In terms of Standing Order No. 12 there were submitted:-

(a) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Support in the following terms:-

"How many employees of NAC whose remuneration, excluding pension contributions, were in excess of £50,000 during 2015/16, in bands of £10,000 ?"

Councillor Hill responded by referring to the following written response which had been circulated:-

"In 2015/16 the total number of employees whose remuneration exceeded £50,000 split between Teachers & APT&C is as follows:

		No. Employees	
Salary Banding	Teachers	APT&C	Total
£50,000 - £59,999	58	50	108
£60,000 - £69,999	7	3	10
£70,000 - £79,999	3	5	8
£80,000 - £89,999	2	4	6
£90,000 - £99,999	0	0	0
£100,000 - £109,999	0	4	4
£110,000 - £119,999	0	0	0
£120,000 - £129,999	0	0	0
£130,000 - £139,999	0	1	1
Total	70	67	137

As a supplementary question, Councillor Marshall asked for an explanation for the apparent 16.5% increase in the overall sum paid to the employees mentioned above over the last two years.

Councillor Hill responded by advising that the increase related mainly to the 2015/16 pay award.

(b) a question by Councillor Bell to the Cabinet Member for Education Attainment and Achievement in the following terms:-

"Recent reports suggest teaching unions are considering strike action in protest at the increased workload on teachers. Given the high level of bureaucracy involved in the new exam system, and the slow progress in raising attainment, does the member regret the cuts in additional support staff, classroom assistants and support staff in recent budgets?"

Councillor Bruce thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"This administration continues to support its most vulnerable pupils and recognises the contribution that class based learning Support Assistants make to our inclusive education system. Far from reducing the spend in this area the budget for Session 2015/2016 showed a £520,000 overspend. Providing support for our most vulnerable pupils will remain a needs based priority. Young people who have an assessed need will continue to have appropriate support provided.

£500,000 was removed from the Education and Youth Employment budget during the Session 2015/2016 following a review of school and HQ administration support, as well as, home/school workers. Effective new working arrangements have been implemented that more effectively support the service delivery requirements. The harmonisation of part time posts into full time posts has offered schools greater continuity and the opportunity to further develop expertise across this staff group. These staff continue to do a fantastic job and continue to negate any additional workload imposed on the system by the SQA. Attainment and Achievement in this authority continues to improve and we have staff and young people of whom we should be very proud."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Bell asked for clarification as to whether or not the Cabinet Member regretted the cuts.

Councillor Bruce responded by citing a number of other regrets he had.

(c) a question by Councillor Bell to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Housing in the following terms:-

"Can the member advise on what progress has been made in ensuring adequate bus services are in place between Kilbirnie and Beith and the Garnock campus given that we are now within six months of its planned opening."

Councillor Gurney thanked the Member for his question and responded by referring to the following written response which had been circulated:-

"There are a number of bus companies who operate services along the B777. The table below sets down the arrival/ departure times around the start and finish of the school day.

Service no.	Route	Frequenc y	School time frequency (WB = West Bound, EB = East Bound)
X36	Glasgow – Ardrossan	60 min.	WB - 08:31 / 14:39 / 15:39 EB - 07:46 / 09:04 / 15:09 / 16:09
125	Irvine– Kilbirnie - Beith	7 per day	Does not operate during school hours. Early morning and after 6pm only.
904	Paisley - Largs	60 min.	WB - 08:18 / 15:08 / 16:08 EB - 08:02 / 09:12 / 15:02 / 16:07
32	Beith - Kilbirnie	60 min.	WB - 09:10 / 15:10 / 16:10 EB - 08:46 / 14:46 / 16:46
X34	Glasgow – Bourtreehill / Irvine	60 min	WB - 08:10 / 15:10 / 16:10 EB - 08:37 / 15:37

Officers continue to engage with bus operators within the area to pursue revisions to the stopping pattern and frequency of services to more closely align with the proposed school campus timetable. Parents have been consulted regarding the new timetable and this is expected to be finalised imminently.

One company (Stagecoach) has, to date, responded positively indicating they will engage further once the school campus timetable is confirmed. Discussions continue with other operators pending the confirmation of the timetable.

Stagecoach have also confirmed that they are keen to visit the schools to promote the various travel passes / multi-rider tickets available; this will take place closer to the opening of the facility.

Officers are also engaging with Scotrail and have met with them on-site to review the potential for users to access the campus by rail. They are positive about the scheme and are keen to promote rail travel to the new campus to the wider community."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Bell asked the Cabinet Member, in light of the limited public transport available, to acknowledge the need for the X32 service to be augmented.

Councillor Gurney responded by advising that there were several matters to take into account in considering travel to and from the new Campus, such as the relevance of train service provision for pupils from Dalry and the wider Garnock Valley; measures to make travel as safe and accessible as possible, including cycle paths, cycle locks, multi-user access routes and changes to speed limits; and a request that students look at their behaviour in terms of walking and cycling to school. Councillor Gurney concluded by stating that the Council took its responsibilities seriously and would do its best for all pupils at the new Garnock Campus.

(d) a question by Councillor Reid to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

"Following the Scottish Parliament Elections last month has the Leader of the Council or any of his fellow Cabinet members met with the new Scottish Government Ministers to lobby or discuss improvements to the A737, B714 or A738?"

Councillor Gibson thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"I can advise Council that no meetings have taken place since the recent Scottish Government election in respect of this matter. However I can confirm that I have written to the newly appointed Minister of Transport, Humza Yousaf, requesting a meeting to discuss transportation issues within North Ayrshire and in particular the on-going work in respect of the Northern Road Corridor to Glasgow which also forms part of the developing Ayrshire Growth Deal.

As reported at the last meeting of Council excellent progress is being made to advance the construction of the Dalry Bypass. A procurement exercise is underway for the design, construction, completion and maintenance of the bypass. It is anticipated following contract award works will commence in 2017 and be completed by Autumn 2018.

The Council's own scheme to undertake re-alignment of the B714 continues to make good progress. Planning consent has been secured and ground investigation works will commence in the next few weeks. Compensation arrangements are being progressed with affected landowners. A procurement exercise to appoint works contractors is underway with a view to commencement later this year."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Reid asked, in relation to the Ayrshire Growth Deal, for progress in terms of funding to improve the B714.

Councillor Gibson responded by advising that, while the corridor to Glasgow is one of the projects to be considered as part of the Ayrshire Growth Deal, the projects for inclusion have still to be agreed.

(e) a question by Councillor Barr to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Support in the following terms:-

"A number of employees have left the employment of North Ayrshire Council in the past 12 months. How many of these now ex employees were asked to sign Confidential Gagging Orders?"

Councillor Hill responded in the following terms:-

"No ex-employees were asked to sign "Confidential Gagging Orders". NAC has a formal Whistleblowing Policy in place which enables all employees to make a protected disclosure or report on any wrongdoing and where possible protects the identity of the informant.

In appropriate circumstances and in accordance with employment law the Council makes use of compromise or settlement agreements which incorporate mutually binding confidentiality clauses. Compromise agreements are a normal part of employment law. Within these agreements there is, as standard, a confidentiality clause which is there to protect both the employee and the employer. Such clauses are permitted and enforceable under the Employment Rights Act 1996 and are used within employment across the public and private sectors."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Barr asked for confirmation that there had been no cost to the Council as a result of such agreements.

Councillor Hill responded by advising that, as the Council paid for an employee's independent employment advice which was required as part of any agreement, there would be some costs. Councillor Hill undertook to provide the figure at a later date.

(f) a question by Councillor Gallagher to the Cabinet Member for Education Attainment and Achievement in the following terms:-

"The Scottish Government has plans to create regional education boards for the delivery of national educational priorities, thus bypassing local Education Departments and local democratic control.

Has the portfolio holder considered how such proposals could or would impact on the Council's budget for Education and on the delivery of Educational and related services?"

Councillor Bruce thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"The Government has appointed a new Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills. Mr Swinney, who is also Deputy First Minister, is currently leading a series of engagement events as he consults key stakeholders about the challenges facing education in Scotland. The Cabinet Secretary is committed as is the First Minister, to closing the attainment gap and improving outcomes for all Scotland's children. I am however, unaware of any announcement about the creation of regional education boards."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gallagher asked whether, given the likely impact on the Council's budget and services and the potential for control being taken away from local democracy, the Cabinet Member had raised the matter with Education Secretary and, if not, whether he would consider doing so now.

Councillor Bruce responded by advising that there was an ongoing review of school governance to ensure a bigger role for the local community and that it would not, therefore, be productive at this time to give a speculative answer.

(g) a question by Councillor Gallagher to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration in the following terms:-

"In May SEPA issued an authorisation allowing the transport, storage and onward delivery of some categories of radioactive waste between Torness and Hunterston B power stations.

Given that the North Ayrshire Council objected to the original proposal, what is the Council's reaction to the SEPA decision and has the Council conducted any investigation to determine whether the SEPA authorisation makes the roads in North Ayrshire safer or less safe for the population of the council area?"

Councillor Burns thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"At their meeting in September 2014, the Cabinet approved a report objecting to a proposed variation to the EDF's Authorisation, which would permit waste nuclear material being brought to the Hunterston B site. We have now been notified by SEPA that, notwithstanding our grounds of objection, they have granted the variation.

SEPA advise that this decision has been reached having taken into account the responses made to the public consultation, further statutory consultation, information supplied by EDF, international recommendations on radiological protection and Government policy. SEPA concluded that the limitations and conditions of the varied Authorisation will, if adhered to, continue to effectively protect human health, the safety of the food chain and the environment generally.

The approved variation effectively now permits (i) the interchange of Low Level Waste (LLW) between Hunterston B and Torness for the purposes of 'bulking-up and onward disposal' and (ii) more flexibility in disposing of LLW and ILW to 'waste permitted persons'. A condition of the Authorisation requires that waste imported for the purposes of bulking-up must be disposed of within 6 months from the date of arrival.

Whilst the variation to the Authorisation has no immediate planning implications, in view of the above, the Planning Services Manager has written to EDF to remind them of (i) the planning condition which restricts to the use of the Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) store to Hunterston A waste only, and (ii) the Local Development Plan policy IND 2, which restricts development for the storage of ILW to storage of material accumulated through Hunterston A and B only. Although that would not preclude the use of any existing storage facility at Hunterston B.

In relation to the question of road safety SEPA advise that the transportation of radioactive waste falls outside their remit, with the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) being the regulator in relation to both road and rail transport of radioactive waste. Furthermore the ONR in their consultation response to SEPA confirmed that they would require to be satisfied with safety, security, and transport implications of any transfer of radioactive material and that this would be regulated in accordance with the international agreements and European Directives. The Council has no statutory remit in respect of the transportation of nuclear waste.

The variation to the Authorisation, whilst allowing waste to be interchanged between Hunterston and Torness and onwards to its final deposit in England, does not allow the type of waste material being transported to vary from what is already authorised to travel by road.

In summary, the Council has not conducted any specific investigation into the safety implications of the SEPA Authorisation on North Ayrshire's road network as the Council has no duty nor remit to regulate the movement of radioactive waste."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gallagher asked whether, in light of the Council's duty of care towards the population of North Ayrshire and given that increased movement of waste inevitably increases associated risk, the Cabinet Member had considered approaching the Scottish Government about this issue.

Councillor Burns responded by advising that, if the Administration and the Scottish Government had their way, there would be no need to deal with nuclear waste at all. The Cabinet Member indicated that it would not be her intention to contact the Scottish Government as the waste in question was low level and had already been approved by the Office for Nuclear Regulation.

(h) a question by Councillor Gallagher to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration in the following terms:-

"What is the Council's position on the recent changes to the regulations governing the transportation of petrol and diesel on Scottish ferries, including the Largs-Cumbrae and Ardrossan-Arran ferry services?"

Councillor Burns thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"Although the Council have significant responsibilities for many aspects of public safety within North Ayrshire the transportation of fuel is out with our regulatory remit. The Council is aware that the Maritime and Coastguard Agency issued Marine Guidance Note 545 on the 4th April 2016. This gives guidance on the transportation of dangerous goods when carried in a private vehicle not in commercial use or by a foot passenger on a Ro-Ro Ship. The guidance now allows the transportation of up to 5 litres of fuel in an approved container without having to declare it as dangerous goods 24 hours in advance. This amendment to existing legislation will give passengers more options on what goods they carry by ferry. In addition to fuel the guidance also covers items such as paint; fireworks; helium; campers butane and propane ammunition; divers oxygen cylinders etc."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gallagher asked whether the Cabinet Member found it satisfactory that we did not know what was being transported and when and, if not, what action she intended to take.

Councillor Burns responded by advising that the matter was outwith the Council's regulatory remit and suggested that the Elected Member write to CalMac himself.

(i) a question by Councillor Clarkson to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Support in the following terms:-

"At the Cabinet Meeting of 24th May, it was reported that the NAHSCP had an overspend of £854,000. This was in addition to the £1,255,000 previously agreed on the 29th March.

Can you confirm from which Budget this total of £2,109,000 has been taken?"

Councillor Hill responded in the following terms:-

"I can confirm that the £2.109m will be met from within the Council's bottom line in 2015/16, effectively from underspends across a number of other budgets."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Clarkson referred to the underspends which were to have been used to carry out works at Irvine Royal Academy, Kilwinning Academy and Auchenharvie Academy, asking whether these would would still be carried out and if there was an overspend in the future by the Council, whether there would be a reciprocal agreement with the Health and Social Care Partnership.

Councillor Hill responded by referring to the Council's good track record of sound financial management and indicating that the Health and Social Care Partnership had been asked to report on measures to get its budget back on track. He advised that there would, unfortunately, be less funding available to spend on improvements to the schools mentioned, but that he would seek further expenditure on the schools projects and funding became available.

(j) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Support in the following terms:-

"As a Local Member I welcome the decision to build the new Largs Campus School. However the financial details surrounding this project are not clear to Members.

Largs Academy is to be built using a Design, Build ,Finance and Maintain (DBFM) model and will be delivered through a Company named DBFM Holdco in which the private sector development partner (hub South West) has a 60% equity share and NAC has 10% share. It is similar to the previous PPP contracts that were used to build schools except that it uses a Non Profit Distribution Model (NPDM) whereby the private sector profits are capped and any surplus returned to the Pubic Sector.

- a) What is the issued share capital of DBFM Holdco and the value of the NAC share?
- b) What was the cost of land acquisition and is the title freehold?
- c) How much is the monthly unitary charge over the 27 year term and what is its apportionment between build cost and maintenance?
- d) What is the estimated replacement value of the building and fitments when completed?
- e) At what level are the private sector profits capped and in the event of a surplus does NAC received a 10% share?

- f) If as is common in Public sector projects there is a cost overrun, who meets this?
- g) On what items of expenditure will the direct (in addition to the DBFM Contract) spend of £7.666M NAC be utilised?
- h) At what stages of the contract will NAC Building Control be involved?"

Councillor Hill responded in the following terms:-

- "(a) The issued share capital is £1 and NAC have a share of 10%.
- (b) The land acquisition costs were £0.692m. The land is in the full ownership of the Council in perpetuity with no restrictions.
- (c) The monthly unitary charge is £325,129 in the first full year. The monthly unitary charge is split into £274,475 for build costs and £50,654 for Hard FM Costs, Lifecycle and Maintenance Costs.
- (d) The estimated replacement value of the building and fitments, based on the DBFM contract and including site preparation costs, is £44.263m.
- (e) As a result of the ESA 10 rules that have been imposed on the project there is now no private sector profit cap. This is to ensure the asset continues to be classified as a private sector asset. For this project there is a fixed rate of 11% that has been agreed with the contractor. Any profits made above this rate will result in 10% being returned to NAC, in line with its shareholding.
- (f) The Council has very strong governance procedures in place for all of its capital projects, including the Largs Campus development. Protocols are in place for change requests throughout the design and construction stages to ensure that any changes to the project are managed within the agreed project cost and delivery timescales. As the Council's requirements have now been encompassed in the DBFM contract, the Council will only be liable for costs attributable to any further changes it requests.
- (g) The direct expenditure of £7.666 million will be spent on:
  - Infrastructure: creation of the new service access road and footpath to the sportscotland pitches; creation of the 20 mph zone; installation of the toucan crossing; upgrading of the existing footpath link from Moorburn Road to the Campus to a lit cycle way
  - The lease with Sportscotland for the use of the sporting facilities
  - Land acquisition and relocation of the golf course facility
  - Utilities diversions
  - Demolition of Brisbane and St Mary's Primary Schools
  - IT consumables for the new Campus
  - Relocation costs
  - NAC project staff costs
  - Project risk allowance

(h) The Council's Building Standards team has been involved throughout the project. The contractor is required to submit detailed plans to Building Standards for approval at various stages during the design and construction process. Building Standards will visit the site on a regular basis to ensure that the works are progressing according to the submitted and approved plans. At the end of the construction process, prior to hand-over, Building Standards officers will make a final inspection and issue the completion certificate to enable the campus to be occupied.

Under the DBFM contract, the Independent Tester also needs to certify compliance with the Contractor's Proposals and Authority's Construction Requirements. In addition, North Ayrshire Council has appointed an independent clerk of works to monitor and report on the various elements of the construction throughout the construction period. This person does not have a contractual role, but will be on site to represent the Council's interests and will be able to highlight any areas of concern to the Authority's Representative and the Independent Tester. Both HubSW and Morrison Construction are fully supportive of the appointment of the clerk of works.

As a supplementary question, Councillor Marshall asked for clarification on the reporting mechanism in respect of the independent clerk of works.

Councillor Gurney responded to the supplementary question by advising that the independent clerk of works would report directly to the project sponsor, whose name he would confirm at a later date.

(k) a question by Councillor Montgomerie to the Cabinet Member for Education Attainment and Achievement in the following terms:-

"What safeguards, checks and protocols have been put in place with the new 3rd sectors service providers being placed within North Ayrshires education system through the GIRFEC model, in regards to disclosure Scotland checks, data protection, parental opt out and the service intended is service provided?"

Councillor Bruce thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"Councillor Montgomerie will be aware that during a debate in Parliament last week the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills agreed to issue "refreshed" guidance to Local Authorities to support the implementation of the duties relating to the GIRFEC policy contained within the Children and Young People Act. The Authority continues to develop its policies and procedures in relation to the introduction of GIRFEC in August 2016. Staff training and development is ongoing and the administration is confident that it has in place, sound policies and procedures to ensure the Council's data protection and disclosure checks are in place for any person having direct access to children and young people. Parents can choose to "opt out" of a Named Person service that will be made available. The member will, of course, be aware that refreshed information will be provided for parents as part of the Cabinet Secretary's commitment to Parliament."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Montgomerie referred to a situation where a parent opted out, but the third sector provider then spoke to the child and to the parent, asking whether this constituted a breach in data protection given that the parent's contact details must have come from the school.

Councillor Bruce responded by advising that he was not in a position to answer, but that there may be data protection issues associated with this example.

The Chief Executive advised that there was an ongoing investigation which addressed some of the issues raised by the Member.

(I) a question by Councillor McNicol to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

"On the 26th May, 2016 the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland submitted to Scotlish Ministers recommendations for Councillor numbers and Wards in each of Scotland's 32 Council areas.

Final recommendations for North Ayrshire Council Area presents an Electoral arrangement of 33 Councillors representing seven 3 member wards and three 4 member wards.

In correspondence dated 25th. May, 2015 to the Secretary of the LGBC for Scotland the Chief Executive requested a meeting with the Commission in person to discuss North Ayrshire Council's submission. It was requested that the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition accompany the Chief Executive.

Will the Leader of the Council confirm that a meeting took place, and if so who attended, what was the outcome of discussions, and why were other Group Leaders excluded?"

Councillor McNicol made reference to earlier advice that responses to Council questions would now be made available to Members an hour prior to the start of the Council meeting and asked why this had not been done. The Chief Executive advised that not all responses to questions had been available at that time.

Thereafter, Councillor Gibson thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"As mentioned previously in my Report to Council on the 4 November 2015, I can indeed confirm that a meeting took place on the 13 November 2015 with the Chair of the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC), Ronnie Hinds. North Ayrshire was represented at the meeting by our Chief Executive, Elma Murray, Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Peter McNamara, the Head of Democratic Services, Andrew Fraser, Research Analyst, Steve Morley and myself.

At that meeting, clear and logical evidence was presented to the Boundary Commission to alter the Wards in North Ayrshire to reflect our Localities and support improved democratic representation of North Ayrshire residents. The outcome was that this information was then to be duly considered by the LGBC and to await Ministers assessments of the next stages.

The meeting was to promote the Council's position agreed at its meeting on 25 May 2015. As the Independent Group Leaders did not agree with this Council decision, it would have been inappropriate for them to attend and argue a different case. If such Members had wanted to promote their own position to the Boundary Commission it was open to them to ask the Commission for a separate meeting."

As a supplementary question, Councillor McNicol asked if the Leader of the Council had now agreed the Boundary Commission's recommendations to Ministers.

Councillor Gibson responded in the negative.

(m) a question by Councillor Cullinane to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care in the following terms:-

"The contract document between North Ayrshire Council and North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service states that:

'The council will monitor the service provision externally and prepare a report once a year for the provider and the council prior to the contract renegotiation.'

Can the portfolio holder advise me whether such a report was prepared for 2014/15 and 2015/16?"

Councillor Dickson thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"Yes, we have both reports and they are available on request."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Cullinane asked for confirmation that the core function of NACAS was as per the contract, namely the provision of advice, including support for appeals and representation of clients at tribunals.

Councillor Dickson responded by providing confirmation that this was the case for the duration of the contract.

(n) a question by Councillor Cullinane to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care in the following terms:-

"The contract document between North Ayrshire Council and North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service states that:

'A monitoring report will be prepared by the council and the provider and be submitted to the councils scrutiny committee on an annual basis.'

Can the portfolio holder advise me at what meetings of the scrutiny committee during this council term have such reports been tabled?"

Councillor Dickson thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"After checking with Committee Services, it seems there has been an omission as no reports were tabled at the Scrutiny Committee. This has been rectified this year with the 15/16 report. The Director of the Health and Social Care Partnership apologises for this mistake."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Cullinane asked what additional services would be provided for the additional funding given to the organisation.

Councillor Dickson responded by advising that the services provided were as set out in the contract, as agreed jointly with the organisation.

(o) a question by Councillor Cullinane to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care in the following terms:-

The contract document between North Ayrshire Council and North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service states that:

'The council will schedule meetings on a quarterly basis, or as otherwise agreed, with the provider to review the service which may result in changes to the service delivered.'

Can the portfolio holder advise me when these meetings took place over 2015/16 and and they provider members with the minutes of these meetings?"

Councillor Dickson thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"Meetings were scheduled to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

- The 24<sup>th</sup> August meeting was rescheduled to 28<sup>th</sup> September due to diary commitments of Head of Service
- The 28<sup>th</sup> September meeting was then subsequently cancelled due to sickness absence in NACAS
- The 23<sup>rd</sup> November meeting was cancelled by HSCP and rescheduled to 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- The 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016 meeting was cancelled by HSCP and took place on 15 th February (as this date was already in diaries)

These meetings were established by the former Head of Service and were carried over by the HSCP. Meetings were not minuted which, in hindsight, was an omission. This has now been rectified and the Minutes of meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016 are available on request."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Cullinane asked for confirmation that NACAS had been asked to develop a sustainability plan but had failed to deliver on this.

Councillor Dickson responded by advising that there was no requirement for the development of a sustainability plan. She indicated that the funding had been provided to cope with additional pressures on the service associated with Welfare Reform. Councillor Dickson referred to the fact that, in 2013, NACAS was unable to continue to operate five offices and took measures, such as updating its website and extending outreach services, to ensure the continued provision of a pan-Ayrshire service.

# 9. Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The Council considered nominations received in respect of outside body vacancies.

The Council agreed to appoint (i) Councillor McLean as the Leader's named substitute on the Appeals Committee and Staffing and Recruitment Committee, (ii) Councillor McMillan to the Integration Joint Board and the Violence Against Women Forum and (iii) Councillor Hill to the COSLA Resources and Capacity Executive Group.

#### 10. Unaudited Annual Accounts 2015/16

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which provided an overview of an overview of the Council's unaudited Annual Accounts for the year to 31 March 2016 and its financial performance for the year, and outlined how the 2015/16 out-turn impacts on the Council's overall financial position.

The Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) drew Members' attention to two corrections to the full Unaudited Accounts, namely at page 3, where the reference to an accounting deficity of £6.5m for 2015/16 should refer to a surplus, and at page 6 (a) "Group Accounts", where the narrative should be amended to record the increase in reserves and net assets of £84.219m.

Members asked questions and received clarification in respect of the information presented in the report, including the decision to make a payment to the Health and Social Care Partnership reducing the underspend and impacting on the funds for the Learning Environment.

The Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) undertook to provide information to Members on the nature of the £0.232m of works to PPP schools referred to at Section 2.27 of the report.

That the Council agreed to (a) approve, subject to audit, the Council's Annual Accounts for 2015/16; (b) note that Audit Scotland plan to complete their audit of the Accounts by mid September 2016 and will present their annual audit report to the Council's Audit Committee on 23 September 2016; (c) note that Cabinet approval has already been granted to carry forward £4.164m to fund service expenditure in 2016/17; (d) approve the carry forward of a further £0.986m from the surplus to fund service expenditure in 2016/17, as detailed in Appendix 8 to the report; (e) note the unaudited General Fund position of break even after allowing for the approved and planned carry forwards, including the earmarking of £1.973m to commence the delivery of Enhancing the Learning Environment in Secondary Schools; (f) note the balance of uncommitted funds of £9.515m on the General Fund (equivalent to 2.8% of annual budgeted expenditure) being held in reserve; (g) note the unaudited Housing Revenue Account (HRA) surplus for the year of £1.858m; and (h) note the earmarking and carry forward of the HRA balance as outlined at Section 2.20 of the report.

# 11. North Ayrshire Charitable Trusts: Unaudited Trustees' Annual Reports 2015/16

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the unaudited Trustees' Annual Reports for the year to 31 March 2016.

Members asked questions and received clarification in respect of the information presented in the report.

The Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) undertook to (i) provide information to Members on the background to the British American Tobacco PLC stock held by the Margaret Archibald Bequest and (ii) offer a meeting with local Members to discuss options for the disbursement of funding from the Dalry Town Charitable Trust, or any other trust.

The Council, as trustees of the North Ayrshire Council charitable trusts, agreed to approve the Trustees' Annual Reports for 2015/16 set out in the appendices to the report, subject to audit.

### 12. Treasury Management Annual Report 2015/16

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the Treasury Management Annual Report and Prudential Indicators for 2015/16.

The Council agreed to note (i) the contents of the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2015/16, set out at Appendix 1 to the report and (ii) the Prudential and Treasury Indicators contained therein.

#### 13. Motions

(a) a Motion by Councillor Highgate seconded by Councillor Bell in the following terms:-

"That North Ayrshire Council congratulate Beith Juniors on winning the Scottish Junior Cup. That the Council notes the great positive impact the event had on the whole community. In addition the Council commends the good behaviour of supporters before, during and after the game and also the approach of the local Police in maintaining order without hampering the celebrations."

There being no amendment, the Motion was declared carried.

(b) a Motion by Councillor Cullinane seconded by Councillor Gallagher in the following terms:-

"Council opposes all fracking and any UGE (Unconventional Gas Extraction) in North Ayrshire"

The Head of Democratic Services advised that, whilst the Council was at liberty to consider and approve the motion, any planning or other regulatory applications would still require to be considered in their individual merits which, for planning, would take into account the Local Development Plan and any material planning considerations.

As an amendment, Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor Hunter, moved that the Council takes no further action pending the outcome of a report by the Scottish Government's Chief Scientific Advisor later in the year.

Members then asked questions of the movers of the motion and the amendment and, thereafter, debated the matter.

The movers of the motion and the amendment were afforded an opportunity to sum up.

On a division, there voted for the amendment 7 and for the motion 18, and the motion was declared carried.

(c) a Motion by Councillor Hunter seconded by Councillor McNicol in the following terms:-

"Further to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland's latest review of numbers of Councillors and ward boundaries for each Local Authority area in Scotland, submissions are invited from all interested parties regarding their proposals. (see LGBCS website for details) Such submissions will be considered by Scottish Government Ministers in due course and any comments on the reports and their recommendations should be submitted by 7 July 2016 to: Tony Romain, Scottish Government, Local Government Policy and Relationship Unit, Directorate for Local Government and Communities, Area 3J, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ.

To that end we move that this Council rejects the recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland to Scottish Ministers regarding the proposed increase in the number of Councillors to be elected to North Ayrshire Council, (from 30 to 33), at next year's local elections, and in addition that the North Ayrshire Council ward boundaries remain unaltered; i.e. that the status quo be maintained."

As an amendment, Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hill, moved as follows:-

"Council agreed on 25 May 2015, and our Community Planning Partners subsequently agreed, that North Ayrshire wards must align to the six Localities of North Ayrshire. Otherwise it will be very difficult for individual Councillors to effectively represent their Localities.

To ensure parity of elector numbers between wards this requires 35 Councillors, one less than the Council's entitlement of 36 under the Commission's methodology. We are disappointed that in only two out of six localities (Irvine and Kilwinning) do the Boundary Commission's recommendations for ward boundaries align with our Localities.

Accordingly, Council agrees to reject the Commission's recommendations for 33 Councillors, agrees to maintain the position agreed on 25 May 2015 and agrees to make further representations to the Scottish Government and Ministers seeking 35 Councillors in wards aligned to Localities."

Members then asked questions of the movers of the motion and the amendment and, thereafter, debated the matter.

The movers of the motion and the amendment were afforded an opportunity to sum up.

On a point of order, Councillor Hunter requested, and received, confirmation that the Party Whip had not been applied in respect of this motion.

The Chief Executive undertook to provide clarification to Councillor Hunter on an apparent Boundary Commission website reference to a Scottish Ministers' direction not carry out a review in any local government area between April 2012 and March 2017.

On a division and roll call vote, there voted for the amendment, Councillors Bruce, Burns, Cullinane, Dickson, Ferguson, Gallagher, Gibson, Gurney, Hill, McMillan, Munro, O'Neill, Reid and Sturgeon, and for the motion, Councillors Barr, Bell, Brown, Clarkson, Easdale, Highgate, Hunter, Marshall, McLardy, McNicol, Montgomerie and Steel, and the amendment was declared carried.

The Meeting ended at 4.10 p.m.

# North Ayrshire Council (Pre-Determination Hearings) 8 August 2016

**IRVI NE, 8 August 2016** - At a Special Meeting of North Ayrshire Council (Pre-Determination Hearings) at 11.00 a.m.

#### Present

Joan Sturgeon, Robert Barr, Matthew Brown, John Bruce, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, John Ferguson, Alex Gallagher, Elizabeth McLardy, Catherine McMillan, Ronnie McNicol, David O'Neill, Donald Reid and Robert Steel.

#### In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive, A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services and A. Craig, Team Manager (Litigation); C. McAuley, Head of Service (Economic Growth) and J. Miller, Senior Manager Planning (Economy and Communities); and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader.

#### Chair

Provost Sturgeon in the Chair.

# **Apologies for Absence**

John Bell, Marie Burns, Joe Cullinane, Willie Gibson, Jean Highgate, Alan Hill, John Hunter and Grace McLean.

#### 1. Declarations of Interest

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

### 2. Pre-Determination Hearings

The Head of Democratic Services summarised the purpose of the Pre-Determination Hearing process and the procedure which would be followed.

#### 3. North Coast and Cumbraes

#### 16/00397/PPPM: Lawhill Farm

James Reilly, DA Hall, addressed the Council in support of the application for planning permission in principle for a residential development at Lawhill Farm, West Kilbride. Mr Reilly was accompanied by the applicant, Mr Robert McMillan, and Mr William Ritchie, the applicant's advisor.

Mr Reilly provided background information on the history of the site, using presentation slides to illustrate the current location of the affordable housing allocation in terms of Policy RES4 and the applicant's proposal to re-locate that provision within a larger site which would have indicative provision for some 320 units, including approximately 70 affordable housing units. Mr Reilly argued that,

whilst there was a clear demand for affordable housing provision in the area, the current allocation at this location was only financially viable as part of a wider development proposal. Mr Reilly then addressed concerns expressed with regard to the potential impact of the development on the visual amenity of the area, asserting that any development would not extend beyond the 110 metre contour line, as recommended. Finally, Mr Reilly made reference to proposed access arrangements for the site, including the provision of a new roundabout, which would allay local road safety concerns.

Mrs Catherine Halliday, a local resident, then addressed the Council on behalf of an objector, Denise Kelly. Mrs Halliday expressed concern about the loss of privacy which would arise as a result of the proposed development, as well as likely disturbance during and post-construction, road safety issues associated with access to the site, and the risk of flooding to existing residential properties in the area. Mrs Halliday asserted that the development represented an infringement of the greenbelt and would have a detrimental impact on wildlife. She questioned the capacity of the area's wider road network to accommodate the proposed development and expressed the view that it would put a strain on local services, such as schools. Mrs Halliday acknowledged the need for more social housing in the area, but did not consider that the location of the proposed development would be suitable for much-needed sheltered accommodation. Mrs Halliday concluded by making reference to a letter submitted by Patricia Gibson MP in support of objections.

Members then asked questions and received responses (shown in italics) from the parties in attendance, in relation to the following:-

- the rationale for an affordable housing element of 70 units
   70 affordable housing units was the indicative figure provided by the Reporter and the applicant estimates an overall provision of 320 units would be required to ensure the viability of development
- clarification of the various figures referred to by the applicant and objector the various figures mentioned referred to the overall housing provision identified in the Local Development Plan, the number of units associated with other sites in Seamill and West Kilbride, the indicative number of affordable housing units on the application site, and the required contribution of 25% affordable housing provision in terms of the Council's supplementary guidance
- whether local labour would be used in the construction of the development the applicant's representative confirmed this was likely to be the case
- whether the figure of 70 affordable housing units was definite or merely indicative the figure is indicative, with the exact number to be determined by the developer

#### 4. Isle of Arran

# 16/00467/PPM: Site to West of Clachaig Farm

Mr Euan Mitchell, Managing Director of Isle of Arran Distillers Limited and Mr Mark Johnston, Peter Brett Associates, addressed the Council in support of the application for planning permission for a new distillery, visitor centre and bonded warehousing, associated landscaping, infrastructure, access and car parking.

Mr Mitchell provided background on the applicant's existing distillery at Lochranza and the company's plans for extending production to the development of a single malt at Lagg. Mr Mitchell referred to the lead-in times associated with whisky production and difficulties which had been experienced in terms of identifying adequate warehousing capacity on the island, both of which had influenced the planned phasing and composition of the proposed development.

Mr Mark Johnston made reference to measures to address the design, transportation and waste disposal issues which had been raised during Pre-Application Consultation and went on to respond to the concerns about effluent and visual impact referred to by objectors. Mr Johnston referred to efforts to minimise the visual impact of the proposed development, the design of which had been the subject of an architectural design competition. He also provided further information on current arrangements for disposing of liquid and solid effluent at Lochranza, indicating that the anticipated volume for the new site would be only about one third of that of the existing distillery. Mr Johnston then addressed the positive economic impact of the proposal in terms of employment and tourism and concluded by referring to the applicant's willingness to commit to a restoration bond to return the site to its original condition in the event that, having constructed the proposed warehousing, it failed to construct the distillery and visitor centre.

Dr John Campbell and Mrs Sally Campbell then addressed the Council in terms of their objections to the application. Dr Campbell expressed concern at the environmental impact of the development and questioned the adequacy of the proposed arrangements for the disposal of solid and liquid waste associated with whisky production. Dr Campbell asserted that greater efforts could be made to process waste, rather than allow it to be spread, untreated, on fields. He also made reference to the detrimental impact of road haulage movements to the amenity and image of the island.

Mrs Campbell expressed concern about the potential adverse impact of the development on the amenity, tourism and quality of life of the island, referencing the likely effect on local beaches, the nearby dark skies area and local archaeology. Mrs Campbell referred to the likelihood of increased run-off of effluent into the sea as a result of climate change and to the time taken for such effluent to disperse. Mrs Campbell also made reference to the inadequacy of the local road network and the impact of additional traffic movements associated with the development.

Members then asked questions and received responses (shown in italics) from the parties in attendance, in relation to the following:-

- whether the waste referred to was toxic in nature and, if so, why the current disposal method had been in operation for some 20 years the waste in question consists of very concentrated organic substances which are not toxic to humans, but may contain a small amount of copper. Current waste disposal methods have been licensed and regulated by SEPA for the last 20 years
- the likely effect of tides and current on liquid waste disposed of via a pipeline to the sea clarification was provided that no waste from the application site would be disposed of via a pipeline.
- the applicant's view of the adequacy of the roads network serving the site this was examined as part of the application process and is considered to be sufficent at the moment
- effluent treatment practices at other island distilleries
   the preferred disposal method is sea outfall, although the Scottish Whisky
   Association is examining alternatives as technology progresses. The scale of the
   proposed development at Lagg creates feasibility issues in terms of exploring
   alternative disposal methods
- the case for constructing the warehousing facilities prior to the distillery itself the lead-in time for distilling equipment is 18-20 months, meaning that construction of the distillery could not commence immediately, while there is a pressing need for warehousing. A restoration bond would safeguard the site in the event of the distillery construction failing to proceed
- the arrangements in place for ensuring that any septic tank spillage, etc. would not have a detrimental impact on local water courses there is a spillage management plan for the distillery itself and a management plan will be in place for the storage of effluent from the distilling process. In terms of the visitor centre, there will be an on-site sewerage treatment system, rather than a septic tank.
- whether there is a material safety data sheet in place in respect of the production of liquid effluent there is a material safety data sheet in place for the existing distillery and this complies with all SEPA requirements
- the number of jobs likely to arising from the warehousing activity in the 2 year phase 1-2 jobs

The Meeting ended at 12.20 p.m.

# North Ayrshire Council (Determination Meeting) 8 August 2016

**IRVINE, 8 August 2016** - At a Special Meeting of North Ayrshire Council (Determination Meeting) at 2.00 p.m.

#### Present

Joan Sturgeon, Robert Barr, Matthew Brown, John Bruce, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, John Ferguson, Alex Gallagher, Tom Marshall, Elizabeth McLardy, Catherine McMillan, Ronnie McNicol, David O'Neill, Donald Reid and Robert Steel.

#### In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive, A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services and A. Craig, Team Manager (Litigation); C. McAuley, Head of Service (Economic Growth) and J. Miller, Senior Manager Planning (Economy and Communities); and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader.

#### Chair

Provost Sturgeon in the Chair.

# **Apologies for Absence**

John Bell, Marie Burns, Joe Cullinane, Willie Gibson, Jean Highgate, Alan Hill, John Hunter and Grace McLean.

# 1. Declarations of Interest

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

### 2. North Ayrshire and Cumbraes

#### 16/00397/PPPM: Lawhill Farm

Mr Robert McMillan, Lawhill Farm, Lawbrae, West Kilbride has applied for planning permission in principle for a residential development on a site to the South East of 41 Tarbert Avenue, West Kilbride. Eight objections have been received. Representations received from Patricia Gibson MP and Kenneth Gibson MSP have also been received and were circulated at the meeting.

The Senior Manager Planning presented the officer report on the application, responding to the points raised in the Pre-Determination hearing before the Council earlier that day and in the objections, representations and consultation responses received, and highlighting the policy and other material considerations leading to the recommendation that the application be refused. The officer also read from extracts of the Reporter's decision and an email from the Executive Director of Cunninghame Housing Association, documents referred to by parties in the Pre-Determination Hearing.

Members then asked questions of the Senior Manager Planning and received responses (shown in italics) on the following:-

- the adequacy of affordable housing allocation within West Kilbride in the event of the application being refused In addition to the provision at the current application site, there are two other viable sites within Seamill/West Kilbride. West Kilbride forms part of the wider North Coast area, which has provision for affordable housing
- whether the loss of the 70 affordable housing units on the application site could be accommodated
   The affordable housing provision on the application site is still deemed to be viable
- whether the removal of the RES4 affordable housing allocation on this site would require a separate application The applicant is proposing the relocation of the affordable housing provision to another part of the application site, rather than its removal. The current location of this provision is set out in the Local Development Plan, which has only been recently adopted.
- clarification of the total affordable housing provision associated with the current application site
   Some 70 units would be provided within the RES4 allocation, plus a 25% affordable housing contribution from the remaining units, bringing the total provision to some 130 units

Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Dickson, moved that the application be refused for the reasons detailed in the report. As an amendment, Councillor Barr, seconded by Councillor Steel, moved that the application be granted, subject to conditions.

On a division and roll call vote, and with Councillor Marshall abstaining, there voted for the amendment Councillors Barr, Easdale, McNicol and Steel, and for the motion Councillors Brown, Bruce, Dickson, Ferguson, Gallagher, McLardy, McMillan, O'Neill, Reid and Sturgeon, and the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to refuse the application, for the following reasons:-

1. That the proposed development is contrary to Policy ENV2 of the North Ayrshire Local Development Plan in that the proposal would represent unjustified development in the countryside, would not constitute small scale growth of existing rural housing groups and would set an undesirable precedent for other unjustified development within the countryside.

- 2. That the proposed development is contrary to Policy RES1 and RES2 of the Adopted North Ayrshire Local Development Plan, as there is an adequate supply of allocated housing land both within North Ayrshire and in the North Coast & Cumbraes' Sub-Housing Market Area. The approval of this development would prejudice the current housing land supply and the proper planning of the area.
- 3. That the proposed development by reason of its scale and location would be contrary to criterion c) of the General Policy of the Local Development Plan, as it would result in the loss of countryside and would be detrimental to the visual amenity of the area resulting in a significant adverse impact on the landscape setting of West Kilbride.

#### 3. Isle of Arran

## 16/00467/PPPM: Site to West of Clachaig Farm

Isle of Arran Distilleries Limited, Offices 4 and 5, Touch Business Park, Touch Estate, Stirling, has applied for planning permission in principle for the development of a new distillery, visitor centre and bonded warehousing, associated landscaping, infrastructure, access and car parking. Four objections have been received.

The Senior Manager Planning presented the officer report on the application, responding to the points raised in the Pre-Determination hearing before the Council earlier that day, and in the objections representations and consultation responses received, and highlighting the policy and other material considerations leading to the recommendation that the application be approved subject to conditions. He advised of a proposed amendment to Condition 2 to reflect the applicant's undertaking in respect of restoration arrangements.

Members then asked questions of the Senior Manager Planning and received responses (shown in italics) on the following:-

- the implications of the proposed restoration bond Condition 2 (as amended) sets out the default position effectively provided by the restoration bond, the details of which would be the subject of further discussion between the applicant and the Council's Legal Services
- whether the proposed conditions would be overly prohibitive in terms of limiting the types of products which might be sold on site Sales of ancillary products would be permitted within reason
- the likelihood of the warehousing blending into the surroundings over time the buildings have been designed to use the topography of the site in order to limit visual impact and extensive planting is also proposed

- whether any condition requiring the distillery to be built prior to the warehousing would impact on the feasibility of the proposals such a requirement could delay the project by up to two years and, in the meantime, warehousing provision is urgently required
- whether any action would be taken in the event of a delay in commencing construction of the distillery and visitor centre
   Planning Officers would be in contact with the applicant in the event of slippage in terms of the phased construction

Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Dickson, moved that the application be approved, subject to the conditions (as amended) within the officer's report. As an amendment, Councillor Bruce, seconded by Councillor Marshall, moved that the application be approved, subject to (i) the conditions (as amended) within the officer's report and (ii) an amendment to Condition 1 to remove phase 2(a) and the transfer of those elements of the project to phase (1).

On a division, there voted for the amendment 2 and for the motion 12, and the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to grant the application, subject to the following conditions:-

1. That, the development, hereby approved, shall be completed in line with the approved phasing plan, unless otherwise agreed in writing by North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, the Phasing Plan states that the site shall be developed in 3 phases as follows:

Phase 1: warehouses 1-3 construction (October 2016 to April 2017);

Phase 2a: distillery building works (February 2017 to April 2018);

Phase 2b: distillery fit out (January 2018 to July 2018);

Phase 3: warehouses 4-6.

- 2. That, in the event of any failure to carry out Phases 2a and 2b in accordance with the Phasing Plan as indicated within Condition 1, or through any amendment of the Phasing Plan, as may be agreed in writing by North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority, any development undertaken in terms of Phase 1 shall be removed and the land restored to its former condition, in accordance with the existing context plan (Ref. 1562-PLA-014). That, prior to the commencement of the development, hereby approved, a restoration bond to secure the removal of any buildings erected under Phase 1, should Phases 2a and 2b not be implemented, shall be agreed with North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority.
- 3. That, prior to the commencement of each phase of the development, the applicant shall submit for the written approval of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority details or samples of the proposed external finishes.

- 4. That, prior to the commencement of the development, details of all external lighting, shall be submitted for the written approval of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority.
- 5. That prior to the commencement of the development, hereby approved, details of a scheme to treat the surface water arising from the site in accordance with the principles and practices contained in 'The SuDS Manual' (CIRIA report C753, published November 2015), shall be submitted to and approved in writing by North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority. Thereafter any scheme that may be approved shall be implemented prior to the completion of the development and maintained thereafter to the satisfaction of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority.
- 6. That, prior to the commencement of the development, details of the proposed cycle parking spaces (including number, location and design), shall be submitted for the written approval of North Ayrshire Council, as Planning Authority. The approved details shall be installed prior to the coming into use of the distillery and visitor centre, hereby approved, and thereafter retained.
- 7. That, a road condition survey of the C147 in the vicinity of the proposed access, in conjunction with the Arran Local Office shall be carried out prior to the work commencing on site and after the work is completed. The development shall be completed in strict accordance with the approved Transportation Statement, to the satisfaction of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority.
- 8. That, prior to the coming into use of the distillery, visitor centre or warehouses, hereby approved: (i) the access shall be hard surfaced for a minimum of 15 metres to prevent loose material being deposited onto the public road; and (ii) the access shall be designed in such a way that no surface water shall issue onto the public road, all to the satisfaction of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority.
- 9. That, no development shall take place within the development site as outlined in red on the approved plan until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that has been submitted by the applicant, agreed by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, and approved by North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority. Thereafter the developer shall ensure that the programme of archaeological works is fully implemented and that all recording and recovery of archaeological resources within the development site is undertaken to the satisfaction of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority, in agreement with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.

10. That, unless otherwise agreed in writing by North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority, the applicant shall construct and operate the development in accordance with the provisions of the application, the supporting reports (design and access statement, architectural design statement, drainage impact assessment and flood risk assessment, ecological appraisal, economic and tourism impact appraisal, heritage assessment, planning statement, transport statement, landscape appraisal and landscape proposals) and submitted plans and shall fully implement the mitigation measures contained within the submission to the satisfaction of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority. For clarification, the Good Practice Measures detailed in the Ecological Appraisal (sections 6.28 to 6.33) shall be implemented to the satisfaction of North Ayrshire Council as Planning Authority.

The Meeting ended at 3.15 p.m.

# North Ayrshire Council 30 August 2016

**IRVINE, 30 August 2016** - At a Special Meeting of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

#### Present

Robert Barr, John Bell, Matthew Brown, John Bruce, Marie Burns, Ian Clarkson, Joe Cullinane, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, John Ferguson, Alex Gallagher, Willie Gibson, Tony Gurney, Alan Hill, John Hunter, Elizabeth McLardy, Grace McLean, Catherine McMillan, Peter McNamara, Ronnie McNicol, Louise McPhater, Tom Marshall, Jim Montgomerie, Alan Munro, Irene Oldfather, David O'Neill, Donald Reid, Robert Steel and Joan Sturgeon.

#### In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Executive Director and M. Hogg, Head of Finance (Finance and Corporate Support); J. Butcher, Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment); C. Hatton, Executive Director (Place); K. Yeomans, Executive Director (Economy and Communities); S. Brown, Head of Service (Children, Families and Criminal Justice) (Health and Social Care Partnership); A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Support, C. Andrew, Senior Manager (Legal Services), M. Gilmour, Senior Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications) and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader (Chief Executive's Service).

#### Also In Attendance

C. Larsen, Chair (Haysholm School Parent Council) and S. Cousar, Chair (Stanecastle School Parent Council) (Agenda Item 9).

#### Chair

Depute Provost Barr in the Chair (Agenda Items 1-5) and Provost Clarkson in the Chair (Agenda Items 5-10).

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Very Reverend Matthew Canon McManus and Elizabeth Higton (Religious Representatives) (Cabinet (Education))(Agenda Item 9).

## 1. Depute Provost's Remarks

The Depute Provost welcomed those present to the meeting and dealt with preliminary matters.

Thereafter, the Depute Provost invited the Council, in terms of Standing Order 2.2, to consider a written request from the Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald and the Irvine Herald to film and photograph proceedings.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor McNamara, moved that 'establishing' still photographs be permitted, but that no filming or further photographs of the proceedings be allowed.

As an amendment, Councillor Steel, seconded by Councillor Bruce, moved that the request to film and photograph proceedings be granted.

On a division, there voted for the amendment 3 and for the motion 23, and the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to permit 'establishing' still photographs, but not to allow filming or further photographs of the proceedings.

The meeting stood adjourned to allow the photographs in question to be taken, reconvening with the same Members and officers present and in attendance.

## 2. Apologies

The Depute Provost invited intimation of apologies for absence. There were no Elected Member apologies. Apologies were, however, recorded in respect of lay Members of Cabinet (Education) with regard to Agenda Item 9.

#### 3. Declarations of Interest

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

There were no declarations of the Party Whip.

#### 4. Order of Business

The Depute Provost agreed, in terms of Standing Order 9.3, to vary the order of business to allow earlier consideration of the report of the Returning Officer in respect of the Ward 1 (Irvine West By-Election) and to consider resignations and proposed appointments.

The Depute Provost also intimated his intention to consider an Urgent Motion in terms of Standing Order 9.4, such consideration to take place immediately following Agenda Item 8(a) (Motions).

#### 5. Report of the Returning Officer

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the outcome of the by-election for Ward 1 (Irvine West) held on 11 August 2016.

The Council agreed to note (i) the outcome of the Ward 1 (Irvine West) By-Election and the election of Louise McPhater and (ii) that the new Member had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office on 12 August 2016.

## 6. Resignations and Proposed Appointments

The Depute Provost invited the Council to note the resignation of Councillor Joan Sturgeon as Provost and to consider a nomination received in respect of this post.

Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Bell, moved that Councillor Ian Clarkson be appointed as Provost. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, Councillor Clarkson was appointed to the office of Provost of North Ayrshire Council.

Following a short recess during which he was presented with the Chain of Office, the Provost assumed the Chair. He thanked Members for his appointment, asserted his intention to do his utmost in the service of the Council, and expressed his appreciation of the work carried out by former Provost Sturgeon, particularly with regard to her charity work.

The Provost then invited the Council to note the resignations of Councillors Gibson and Hill as Leader and Depute Leader of the Council respectively, and to consider a nomination received in respect of each of these positions.

Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Montgomerie, moved that Councillor Cullinane be appointed as Leader of the Council. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

Thereafter, Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Montgomerie, moved that Councillor Bell be appointed as Depute Leader of the Council. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to appoint Councillors Cullinane and Bell as Leader and Depute Leader of the Council, respectively.

## 7. Committee and Outside Body Appointments

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on proposed changes to committee and outside body appointments.

On 17 August 2016, a written requisition was received from Councillors Brown, Burns, Dickson, Ferguson, Hill, McLean, McMillan and Sturgeon, requesting a Special Meeting of the Council to consider the resignation of the SNP Administration and to make arrangements for a new Council to be formed.

On 23 August 2016, the former Leader and Depute Leader of Council submitted a signed document listing the SNP Group Member resignations from the positions referred to at Section 2.2 of the report. Subsequently, on 24 August 2016, Councillor Bruce advised that he did not agree to resign as Cabinet Member, Portfolio-holder for Education, Attainment and Achievement, or member of COSLA's Education, Children and Young People Executive Group, nor did he authorise the SNP Group to tender his resignation from those positions.

As a preliminary matter, the Chief Executive sought clarification as to whether the SNP Leader or Depute Leader had authority to submit Councillor Bruce's resignation from the above-mentioned positions on his behalf. Councillor Gibson advised that he did not have such authority.

Thereafter, the Chief Executive invited Members to consider each of the proposals set out at Section 3 of the report and contained in Appendix 1 to the report, with the exception of the aforementioned positions held by Councillor Bruce, which would be the subject of separate consideration in terms of the Urgent Motion.

The Council then unanimously agreed:-

- (a) to approve the following Cabinet Member and Portfolio appointments, namely (i) Councillor Cullinane as Finance and Corporate Support Portfolio and Cabinet Member, (ii) Councillor Bell as Cabinet Member, (iii) Councillor McPhater as Communities Portfolio and Cabinet Member, (iv) Councillor McNamara as Health and Social Care Portfolio and Cabinet Member, (v) Councillor Montgomerie as Place Portfolio and Cabinet Member and (vi) Councillor Gallagher as Economy Portfolio and Cabinet Member;
- (b) to note the resignation of Councillor Dickson as Chair of the Integration Joint Board and Councillor Gibson as Chair of the Staffing and Recruitment Committee, with both continuing to serve as ordinary Member of their respective committees;
- (c) to note the resignation of Councillor Gibson as a member and Chair of the Community Planning Partnership Board and, given this position is held by the Leader of the Council, approve the appointment of Councillor Cullinane as his replacement;
- (d) to note the following replacements made by the Labour Group in terms of the Council's Scheme of Administration, namely (i) Councillor Cullinane to replace Councillor Gallagher on the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee, (ii) Councillor Munro to replace Councillor Clarkson on the Licensing Committee and Board, (iii) Councillor Easdale to replace Councillor Bell on the Police and Fire and Rescue Committee and (iv) Councillor Cullinane to replace Councillor McNamara on the Staffing and Recruitment Committee; and

(e) to note that proposed changes to the Scheme of Administration in respect of the size of the Cabinet, arrangements for chairing the Appeals Committee, and Audit and Scrutiny functions would be the subject of consideration in terms of a separate Motion to the Council.

Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Bell, moved that the Council approve the proposed replacements and, where appropriate, Chair appointments, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, with the exception of the appointment to the COSLA Education, Children and Young People Executive Group, given that this would be the subject of separate consideration in terms of the Urgent Motion.

As an amendment, Councillor Hunter, seconded by Councillor Bruce, moved that the Council approve the proposed replacements and, where appropriate, Chair appointments as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, with the exception of the appointment to the COSLA Education, Children and Young People Executive Group, given that this would be the subject of separate consideration in terms of the Urgent Motion, subject to the appointment of Councillor McNicol, rather than Councillor Munro, as Chair of the Licensing Committee.

Councillor Cullinane agreed to withdraw his motion in favour of the amendment, which then became the substantive motion. There being no amendments, the substantive motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to approve the following replacements and Chair appointments, namely (i) Councillor Gibson as Leader of the largest Minority Group; (ii) Councillor McNamara as Chair of the Integration Joint Board; (iii) Councillor McNicol as Chair of the Licensing Committee; (iv) Councillor Cullinane as Chair of the Staffing and Recruitment Committee; (v) Councillor Cullinane as Chair of the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee; (vi) Councillor Cullinane on the COSLA Convention, replacing Councillor McNamara; (vii) Councillor McNamara on the COSLA Community Justice Sub-Group, with Councillor Dickson as his substitute; (viii) Councillor McPhater on the COSLA Community Wellbeing Executive Group; (ix) Councillor Gallagher on the COSLA Development, Economy and Sustainability Executive Group; (x) Councillor McNamara on the COSLA Health and Wellbeing Executive Group; (xi) Councillor Cullinane on the COSLA Resources and Capacity Executive Group; (xii) Councillor Montgomerie on the COSLA Sports, Art and Culture Working Group; (xiii) Councillor Cullinane on the COSLA Strategic HR Management Executive Group; (xiv) Councillor Cullinane as Chair of the Community Planning Partnership Board; (xv) Councillor Cullinane on the Economic Development and Regeneration Board, replacing Councillor McNamara; (xvi) Councillor Gallagher as Chair of the Local Employability Partnership.

#### 8. Councillors' Remuneration: Senior Councillors

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which advised the Council of the Councillors' remuneration levels per the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007.

The Council agreed (a) to note the recommended remuneration and expenses outlined in the Regulations; and (b) approve the posts of significant responsibility which hold a Senior Councillor salary, as set out within Section 2 of the report.

#### 9. Motions

 (a) a Motion by Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Bell, in the following terms:-

"Following the resignation of the administration we propose the following changes:-

#### That Council agrees to:

1. Combine the Audit and Scrutiny and Petitions Committees. Accordingly Council agrees to make the following changes to the Scheme of Administration: - to remove Sections 5 Audit Committee and 14 Scrutiny and Petitions Committee and in place thereof add a new Section 5, being an Audit and Scrutiny Committee as follows:

#### Constitution

Seven Members of the Council excluding any Members of the Cabinet and comprising three Members nominated by the Administration, two Members nominated by the main Opposition Group, and two others.

#### Chair

The Chair of the Committee will not be a Member of the Administration and will be appointed by the Council.

#### Quorum

Three Members of the Committee will constitute a quorum.

#### **Delegated Powers**

The Audit and Scrutiny Committee does not have delegated powers. All recommendations of the Committee will be considered by Cabinet.

#### **Functions Referred**

The functions of the former Audit and Scrutiny and Petitions Committees will be referred to the Committee.

- 2. To remove the existing Members of the former Audit and Scrutiny and Petitions Committees;
- 3. To appoint Councillor Hunter as Chair of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee, and to invite the Labour and SNP Groups and the Independent/Conservative Members to appoint their Members to the Committee;
- 4. To agree that a timetable for meetings of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee be submitted to the September meeting of Council;
- 5. To amend the Scheme of Administration to reduce the composition of Cabinet from seven to six Members;
- 6. To amend the Scheme of Administration to amend the Chair of the Appeals Committee to the following "The Chair of the Committee will be appointed by Council", and to amend the Constitution of the Appeals Committee to "The Appeals Committee will comprise a pool of 10 Members, including the Chair and all standing Members of the Staffing and Recruitment Committee, or if unavailable their named substitutes from that Committee. Out of this pool, three Members, one of whom shall be the Chair, and one a Member (or their substitute) from the Staffing and Recruitment Committee, will determine each individual appeal. Committee Services will select the Members on an equitable basis, having regard to availability."
- 7. To appoint Councillor Munro as Chair of the Appeals Committee.
- 8. To remove the following first named Councillor from Chair appointments and to replace them by the second named Councillor, the removed Chair to remain an ordinary Member of the Committee or Board:-

Local Development Plan Committee – Councillor Burns by Councillor Gallagher Police and Fire and Rescue Committee - Councillor Burns by Councillor Easdale

Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board - Councillor Brown by Councillor Reid

9. To remove the following first named Councillor from the following appointments and to replace them by the second named Councillor:-

Economic Development and Regeneration Board - Councillor Burns by Councillor Gallagher

Integration Joint Board - Councillor McMillan by Councillor Easdale

Flood Risk Local Plan District Steering Group - Councillor Gurney by Councillor Montgomerie

North Ayrshire Ventures Trust - Councillor Burns by Councillor McPhater Strathclyde Partnership for Transport - Councillor Bruce by Councillor Reid"

Prior to speaking to his motion, Councillor Cullinane took the opportunity, following his appointment as Leader of the Council, to pay tribute to Councillors Sturgeon, Gibson and McNamara in their roles as Provost, Leader of the Council and Leader of the Labour Group.

Thereafter, Councillor Cullinane advised of the following amendments to his motion, namely (i) to delete point 5 above, given that it would be the subject of separate consideration in terms of the undernoted Urgent Motion and (ii) to clarify that the proposed replacement of Councillor Brown with Councillor Reid as Chair of the Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board constituted a recommendation to the Board.

As an amendment, Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Gibson, moved that the Council approve the motion, as amended, subject to the deletion of the proposal that Councillor Reid replace Councillor Brown as Chair of the Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board.

Members then asked questions of officers and of the movers of the motion.

Thereafter, on a division, there voted for the amendment 13 and for the motion, as amended, 13. There being a parity of votes, the matter was determined by the drawing of lots, whereby the motion, subject to deletion of point 5 and the replacement on the Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board being a recommendation to that Board, was declared carried.

- (b) an Urgent Motion by Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Bell, in the following terms:-
- "1. That Council agreed to make the following changes to appointments:-

Cabinet - remove Councillor Bruce
Portfolio holder for Education and Youth Employment - remove Councillor
Bruce and replace with Councillor Bell
COSLA Education, Children and Young People Executive Group - replace

COSLA Education, Children and Young People Executive Group - replace Councillor Bruce with Councillor Bell

2. That Council agreed to amend the Scheme of Administration to reduce the composition of Cabinet from seven to six Members."

In introducing his motion, Councillor Cullinane spoke of the high regard in which he held Councillor Bruce and indicated that the intention of the motion was simply to make changes necessary to the effective formation of a new Administration.

There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

The Council then adjourned, reconvening at 4.00 p.m. with the same Members and Officers present and in attendance, with the exception of Councillors Brown, Ferguson, Gurney, Hill, McLardy, McLean and Marshall.

# 10. Statutory Public Consultation on Proposed Development of new Additional Support Needs (ASN) Provision for North Ayrshire

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment) on a Statutory Public Consultation on a proposal to develop a new ASN school for North Ayrshire. A Proposal Document was set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment) advised on the Statutory Public Consultation in respect of the proposals, making reference to expressions of support for the proposed arrangements submitted by the Religious Representatives on the Council's Cabinet (Education) who had been unable to attend the Special Meeting of the Council.

The Provost then invited C. Larsen, Chair of Haysholm Parent Council, accompanied by S. Cousar, Chair of Stanecastle School Parent Council to address the meeting. Ms Larsen, speaking on behalf of the Parent Councils of Haysholm, James McFarlane, James Reid and Stanecastle Schools and the parents of pupils of those schools, expressed support for the proposals for a new ASN school for North Ayrshire and her appreciation of the informal consultation which had already taken place.

Members then asked questions of officers in respect of any plans for pupils with additional support needs who attended Dreghorn Primary School, and the formal public meeting arrangements set out at Section 12.7 of the Proposal Document.

Thereafter, Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Gibson, moved that the Council approve the recommendations set out in the report. There being to amendment, the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to (a) note the positive outcome of pre-consultation stakeholder engagement; (b) approve the commencement of a Statutory Public Consultation on 12 September 2016 on the proposal to create a new 2-18 school, located at the site adjacent to Auchenharvie Academy resulting in the closure and amalgamation of Haysholm, James McFarlane, James Reid and Stanecastle Schools; (c) approve the creation of a new early years provision at Annick Primary School to replace the current provision at Stanecastle School; (d) issue the Proposal Document attached at Appendix 1 to the report and invite all interested parties to make written representation on the proposal to the Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment) no later than 4 November 2016; (e) receive a report on the responses to the consultative process at a future meeting of the Cabinet (Education) or Council, as appropriate.

The Meeting ended at 4.20 p.m.

#### NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## Agenda Item 10

14 September 2016

## North Ayrshire Council

Title:	Financial Outlook and Medium Term Financial Planning		
Purpose:	To update Council on the current assessment of the medium term financial outlook and the potential funding gap for 2017/18 to 2019/20		
Recommendation:	Agree to (a) note the current factors affecting future funding levels, (b) note the likely timing of the Financial Settlement, (c) note the potential funding gap for the Council over the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 (d) note the approach to updating the current capital investment programme (e) note that this information will form the basis of discussion with all political groups and (f) note the approach to		

## 1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report outlines the issues and plans to support the Council develop its next medium term financial plan including;

further reports to Cabinet / Council.

community engagement; and (g) note timescales for

- what's happening in the economy and what this might mean for public sector funding;
- current understanding of some of the issues which will inform the availability and allocation of funding from the Scottish Government;
- the likely timing of the Financial Settlement;
- the changes to Council Tax effective from 1 April 2017;
- a summary of the service and financial risk faced by the Council;
- a summary of the financial implications of the budget decisions taken in February 2016;
- an initial assessment of the 2017/18 to 2019/20 financial plan for North Ayrshire;
- an update on the Reserves Strategy;
- an update on the development of the long term financial strategy and Transformation 2;

- issues affecting budget discussions with the Integrated Joint Board;
- community engagement about the Councils resources;
- approach to updating the general fund capital investment programme;
- an outline of the next stages.

## 2. Background

#### 2.1 Introduction

This report outlines the issues and plans to support the Council develop its next medium term financial plan.

#### 2.2 Economic and Financial Outlook

Development of the Council's medium and long term Financial Plans is carried out in a complex environment. Some of the key issues and risks are summarised below;

- A continuing challenging financial landscape, with the UK Government's July Budget anticipating a delay in reaching previously agreed financial targets,
- Impact of slow down on growth and rising inflation levels,
- Continuing volatility across the global economies with financial commentators noting that "global financial stability is not yet assured" and the impact this could have on the UK's and Scotland's economic performance,
- Uncertainty about the economic impact of Brexit,
- The impact of welfare reforms.

## 2.3 UK Position

There are a number of factors in the current and anticipated in the future UK Budget that will influence the availability of resources for public sector expenditure. Key issues are noted below;

- The impact of protection of NHS, schools, police and pension budgets on unprotected budgets, including local government and benefits;
- The November 2015 UK Spending Review boosted public spending over previous forecasts with the outlook in the March 2016 Budget worsening in later years, both of these projections were influenced by OBR economic forecasts with concern that growth may be revised down further;

- Immediately post the March 2016 budget the cuts to disability benefits of £1.3bn were reversed, requiring an alternative option to be found:
- In addition £3.5bn of further savings require to be found by 2019/20.

Further detail on the UK position will emerge in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement, anticipated in late November.

#### 2.4 Scottish Government Position

Early indications are that 2017/18 is likely to result in a challenging financial settlement for local government. Factors influencing this include:

- No significant shift in total Scottish Government income;
- Focus on the competitiveness of the business rate environment;
- Above inflation protection for health, although it is not clear whether this will encompass HSCP;
- Inflationary protection for police;
- Expansion of early learning and child care;
- Continued protection for teacher / pupil ratios.

The gearing effect of ring fencing of resources, teacher / pupil ratios and in 2016/17 to an extent within the HSCP, means any reduction in resources requires a greater proportion of savings from other service areas.

## 2.5 Spending Review Timescale

When setting the budget for 2017/18 the Scottish Government will for the first time require to consider taxation and welfare alongside its spending plans. This together with the resultant reduction in the Block Settlement from the UK Government makes this year's budget setting more complex than in previous years. Allied to this the Scottish Government has announced that it will only set its budget for 2017/18, rather than the original three year budget that had been anticipated. The timing of the Scottish Government Budget is linked with the date of the UK Chancellor's Autumn Statement, anticipated in late November. Discussion are ongoing regarding the publication date of the Scottish Government Budget, however it is anticipated that it will be published later than usual impacting on the timing of budget setting within local authorities.

2.6 Council Tax and General Grant Funding

The proposed changes to Council Tax are summarised below;

- 2.6.1 Change to the ratios between band D council tax and bands E H. Across Scotland this is anticipated to raise an additional £109m of funds, £100m of this will be applied to enhance educational attainment with £9m part funding the additional CTR reliefs that will be introduced, further information on reliefs is provided at 2.6.5.
- 2.6.2 Nationally discussion are taking place on the relationship between the level of council tax raised locally and the distribution of the additional resources. North Ayrshire anticipates raising net additional income of £1.9m. Discussions are also taking place on the governance for spending the additional resources, including direct allocation to head teachers. It is not anticipated that these funds will be available to meet existing pressures within the Education and Youth Employment Service.
- 2.6.3 The freeze on Council Tax has been lifted from 2017/18 with a ceiling set at 3% uplift.
- 2.6.4 Based on the 2016/17 Council Tax Levels the above changes would result in the following Council tax levels;

Council Tax	2016/17	2016/17		2016/17
Band	Council Tax	Council Tax	%age change	Council Tax
	@current	@ revised		with revised
	ratios	ratios		ratio + 3%
А	£768	£768	0%	£791
В	£896	£896	0%	£923
С	£1,024	£1,024	0%	£1,055
D	£1,152	£1,152	0%	£1,187
Е	£1,408	£1,514	7%	£1,559
F	£1,664	£1,872	13%	£1,928
G	£1,920	£2,256	18%	£2,324
Н	£2,304	£2,822	23%	£2,907

- 2.6.5 A number of additional reliefs are being considered including targeted relief to low income households in Band E H properties and an extension of relief for low income households with children. It is anticipated this will reduce Council Tax income by £17m, £9m of funding has been identified for this as noted above, with the balance forming part of the Spending Review discussion.
- 2.6.6 Legislation is expected to be introduced to allow councils to end the council tax discount that presently applies to second homes from April 2017, this could generate an additional £0.250m for North Ayrshire.

- 2.6.7 A further proposed change relates to exchanging a fixed proportion of general revenue grant for income tax receipts. The proposal is intended to give local authorities the direct benefit of growth in the local economy, the flip side of this is the transfer risk to local government based on fluctuating income tax yields. More detail is required to assess the implications of this.
- 2.7 Budget 2016/17 to 2018/19
- 2.7.1 At its meeting on 17 February 2016 the Council;
  - set a balanced budget for 2016/17;
  - noted the anticipated funding gap of £3.836m for 2017/18, after approving savings of £6.873m and applying earmarked reserves of £2.811m;
  - noted the funding gap of £17m anticipated in 2018/19
- 2.7.2 Services are required to deliver approved savings within the agreed timescales and ensure service delivery is contained within the approved budget.
- 2.7.3 The report to Council noted the uncertainty of the level of grant funding beyond 2016/17, with an estimated reduction of 2.5% being applied.
- 2.8 Initial Overview 2017/18 to 2019/20
- 2.8.1 To ensure the Council and the IJB continue to plan for the medium term it is proposed that the Council reviews its financial position for the 3 period from 2017/18 to 2019/20 when it meets in February 2017. The estimated funding gap, highlighted in the table at 2.8.5, is based on the current 3 year financial plan, updated to include 2019/20. Information for 2019/20 reflects the assumptions in the current long term financial strategy.
- 2.8.2 As a collaborative Scottish Directors of Finance have undertaken work to establish an agreed range of indicators to support the assessment of the scale of the future financial challenge including a range of scenarios. Whilst it is possible to do scenario planning around a number of variables, the most difficult element to assess is the degree to which resources shift as a result of Government commitments.

- 2.8.3 The outputs from the Directors of Finance initiative is reflected in the high level summary included within this report and will be updated as the Council develops its financial plan. Current assumptions are as follows:
  - Maintain teacher / pupil ratio at the 2015/16 level;
  - A number of different scenarios are considered re Scottish Government funding – reductions of 2.5%, 4% and 5% with 2.5% equating to around £6.5m per annum, (in 2016/17 grant reduction for North Ayrshire was 3.63%);
  - Additional Council Tax funding as a result of the banding changes is not available to fund existing education pressures;
  - Council Tax increases by 3% increase in each of the 3 years, raising an additional £1.4m per annum;
- 2.8.4 Based on current high level estimates the main identified pressures over the 3 years total around £17m and relate to;
  - Council workforce costs including payroll and living wage and pension changes;
  - Additional loan charges to support the current 10 year capital investment programme;
  - Demographic pressures around health and social care;
  - Non payroll inflation, principally utilities;
  - Additional revenue costs for the Garnock and Largs campuses;
  - Apprenticeship Levy;
  - PPP indexation.

In addition £8.500m has been included over the 3 year period in the current draft financial plan to fund emerging pressures. Any reduction in pressures will have a favourable impact on the estimated funding gaps noted in the table below.

2.8.5 Based on the above assumptions, which are being updated currently, the range of the potential funding gap across the 3 years is noted below:

Year / SG grant reduction	2017 / 18	2018 / 19	2019/20	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
2.5%	2.896	16.750	14.163	33.809
4%	6.864	20.619	17.935	45.419
5%	9.510	23.199	20.450	53.158

- 2.8.6 Work is underway to refine the underlying financial assumptions and develop options to bridge the funding gap. In developing options it will be important to establish a programme that minimises the impact on early intervention and prevention, community capacity building and empowerment and the services that support reducing inequalities.
- 2.8.7 A revised Strategic Financial Framework which aligns resources to outcomes is key to avoiding further top slicing, a position that is not desirable given the savings that have been delivered to date and the desire to target resources to deliver the Outcomes, summarised in the Council Plan.

#### 2.9 Reserves Strategy

When the Council closed its unaudited Accounts at 31 March 2016 it had unearmarked reserves of £9.515m (2.8%). This is in line with CIPFA guidance which suggests that unearmarked reserves should be in the range of 2% to 4%, for North Ayrshire this equates to between £6.7m and £13.5m. The current level of unearmarked reserves is considered prudent given the scale of financial challenge that the Council anticipates.

2.10 Medium and Long Term Response

Long Term Financial Strategy (LTFS)

2.10.1 The LTFS summarises the most significant pressures the Council anticipates alongside strategies to mitigate these. The Council approved its current LTFS in May 2013. The initial intention had been to update the Strategy in early 2016, this was deferred as a result of the single year Financial Settlement for 2016/17. Despite 2017/18 being a further single year Settlement work has commenced on a refresh of the Strategy.

Transformation 2

2.10.2 Cabinet approved Transformation 2 in November 2015 and when the Council set its budget in February 2016 Directors identified a number of Service Reform Options that would help bridge the Council's future funding gap. The value of savings emerging from a number of these work streams will be included within the budget proposals. It is clear given the anticipated scale of the financial challenge, that this may require more radical approaches to service delivery including increased partnership working with the other Ayrshire Councils. The agreed approach to securing final approval of further budget options is via Cabinet reports at the earliest opportunity.

## 2.11 Integrated Joint Board

- 2.11.1 The formal establishment of the IJB on 1 April 2015 had an impact on the Council's budget setting. A summary of some of the issues is noted below:
  - lack of alignment between the budget timescales of the Council and Health Board;
  - the impact of the new governance arrangements on the decision making process;
  - in 2016/17 the channelling of funding for the HSCP via the Health Settlement.
- 2.11.2 Further work is being undertaken nationally and locally to develop arrangements for the alignment of health and local authority budget setting.
- 2.12 Capital Investment Programme
- 2.12.1 A full refresh and extension of the 10 year Capital Investment Plan out to 2025/26 was undertaken last year, this resulted in a long investment plan totalling £276m. This plan was based on availability of known capital grants, capital receipts and a level of prudential borrowing which was affordable within the approved revenue budget. This investment is significant for the North Ayrshire economy.
- 2.12.2 At the time the budget was set it was acknowledged that the HSCP had not yet developed its asset plans and that this would be considered as part of a future update of the current 10 year capital plan.
- 2.12.3 As noted above the Scottish Government is committed to the expansion of Early Learning and Child Care from 600 to 1,140 hours. Service expansion will encourage women back into work, create local employment opportunities and expand the availability of local service provision. This level of expansion will require investment in the Council's estate. Officers are developing proposals and working with the Scottish Government and SFT to establish the level of investment and funding required to deliver this commitment.
- 2.12.4 All updates to the Capital Investment Programme will require robust business cases to provide clarity of need, current resources, future funding requirements and funding sources.
- 2.13 Community Engagement
- 2.13.1 Effective community and partner engagement and consultation are key elements of the budget setting process. The recently established Locality Partnerships are a fundamental component of this process.

2.13.2 The immediate proposal is to undertake community engagement to establish wider community involvement and provide an overview and clear understanding of the way in which council services are provided. In the medium term full budget consultation will be undertaken with a wide variety of residents and partners using a variety of formats to inform the budget setting process.

#### 2.14 Next Steps and Key Dates

- 2.14.1 Services submitted their initial budget submissions covering 2017/18 to 2019/20, these are being scrutinised currently as part of the officer peer review process.
- 2.14.2 Based on current plans community engagement and Members briefings will take place over autumn with Budget Day taking place in February 2017.

## 3. Proposals

3.1 Agree to (a) note the current factors affecting future funding levels, (b) note the likely timing of the Financial Settlement, (c) note the potential funding gap for the Council over the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 (d) note the approach to updating the current capital investment programme (e) note that this information will form the basis of discussion with all political groups and (f) note the approach to community engagement; and (g) note timescales for further reports to Cabinet / Council.

## 4. Implications

Financial:	The anticipated funding gap over the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 is summarised in the report. Work is in progress to confirm the financial pressures facing the Council together with potential solutions. Council will require to set a balanced budget for 2017/18 and future years.				
Human Resources:	It is anticipated that delivery of savings will impact on the Council's future workforce. The Council will continue to actively manage the size of its permanent work force, vacancies, and temporary contracts together with selective use of voluntary severance and early retirement. Communication and regular consultation will continue to take place with the work force and Trade Unions.				
Legal:	The Council requires to set a balanced budget each financial year.				
Equality:	An equality impact assessment will be carried out for all options that will assist the Council to make decisions to bridge its funding gap.				
Environmental & Sustainability:	No direct consequences.				
Key Priorities:	In addressing the financial challenge which the Council faces it will seek to minimise the impact this has on meeting its key priorities.				
Community Benefits:	No direct consequences.				

## 5. Consultation

5.1 Development of the Council's financial plans is carried out collaboratively across the Executive Leadership Team and with the oversight of the Administration through the Cabinet.

LAURA FRIEL

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**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support)** 

## Reference:

For further information please contact Laura Friel, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on 01294-324554

## **Background Papers**

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#### NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## Agenda Item 11

14 September 2016

## **North Ayrshire Council**

Title:	Committee Timetable - September to December 2016
Purpose:	To invite the Council to consider a revised committee timetable for the remainder of 2016 following the creation of Audit and Scrutiny Committee.
Recommendation: That the Council agrees to approve the revised timetable set out at Appendix 1.	

## 1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report requests an amendment to the remainder of the approved 2016 timetable to reflect the creation of a single committee for Audit and Scrutiny.

## 2. Background

2.1 The current committee timetable was approved by the Council at its meeting in September 2015. At a Special Meeting of the Council on 30 August 2016, the Council agreed that the Audit Committee and Scrutiny and Petitions Committee be merged to form a new Audit and Scrutiny Committee. The committee timetable for the remainder of 2016 now requires to be revised to reflect this change.

## 3. Proposals

- 3.1 At a Special Meeting on 30 August 2016, the Council agreed to combine the Audit Committee and Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to form an Audit and Scrutiny Committee and that a timetable for meetings of the new committee should be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council for consideration.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 to this report illustrates a proposal that scheduled meetings of the former Scrutiny and Petitions Committee are deleted from the committee timetable and that ordinary meetings of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee take place on dates previously set aside for the former Audit Committee. This allows the Council to meet its audit obligations in a timeous manner. Any Call In requests received in respect of Cabinet decisions would be dealt with in terms of Standing Order 24.3, with a Special Meeting of the Committee called if necessary.

## 4. Implications

Financial:	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report, although reducing the number of committee meetings may give rise to savings.
Human Resources:	There are no implications arising directly from this report.
Legal:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Equality:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Key Priorities:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Community Benefits:	Not applicable

#### 5. Consultation

5.1 Consultation took place with the Council's Finance and Corporate Support service in setting dates for the former Audit Committee, to ensure that meetings allowed the Council to comply with its audit commitments in a timeous manner.

ELMA MURRAY Chief Executive

Elva Muray

#### Reference:

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

## **Background Papers**

None

## **Committee Timetable to December 2016**

#### Meeting Cycle 5

Wk Begin	Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
19 Sep	1	Public Holiday	2.30 p.m. Cabinet Pre Agenda	2.00 p.m. Planning Committee 2.15 p.m. Local Review Body		10.00 a.m. Audit & Scrutiny Committee
26 Sep	2		2.30 p.m. Cabinet	10.00 a.m. Licensing Committee		
3 Oct		October Recess	October Recess	October Recess	October Recess	October Recess
10 Oct		October Recess	October Recess	October Recess	October Recess	October Recess
17 Oct	3		2.30 p.m. Cabinet Pre Agenda	2.00 p.m. Scrutiny & Petitions Ctte	10.00 a.m. Integration Joint Board	
24 Oct	4		2.30 p.m. Cabinet (Education)	2.00 p.m. Planning Committee 2.15 p.m. Local Review Body		
31 Oct	5	(10.00 a.m. Licensing Board)	2.30 p.m. Cabinet Pre Agenda	10.00 a.m. Licensing Committee		
7 Nov	6	11.00 a.m. Council Pre Meeting	2.30 p.m. Cabinet	2.00 p.m. Ordinary Council		

#### Meeting Cycle 6

Wk Begin	Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
14 Nov	1	10.00 a.m. Audit & Scrutiny Committee	2.30 p.m. Cabinet Pre Agenda	2.00 p.m. Planning Committee 2.15 p.m. Local Review Body	10.00 a.m Integration Joint Board	
21 Nov	2	2.00 p.m. Police and Fire & Rescue Committee	2.30 p.m. Cabinet	10.00 a.m. Licensing Committee	10.00 a.m. IJB Performance & Audit Committee	
28 Nov	3		2.30 p.m. Cabinet Pre Agenda	2.00 p.m. Scrutiny & Petitions Ctte		
5 Dec	4		2.00 p.m. Cabinet (Education)	2.00 p.m. Planning Committee 2.15 p.m. Local Review Body		
12 Dec	5	(10.00 a.m. Licensing Board)	2.30 p.m. Cabinet Pre Agenda	10.00 a.m. Licensing Committee	10.00 a.m. Integration Joint Board	
19 Dec	6	11.00 a.m. Council Pre Meeting	2.00 p.m. Cabinet	2.00 p.m. Ordinary Council		
26 Dec		Public Holiday	Public Holiday	Winter Recess	Winter Recess	Public Holiday

Classification: Public September 2016