

Cabinet
9 June 2015

Irvine, 9 June 2015 - At a Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Willie Gibson, Alan Hill, Marie Burns, John Bruce, Tony Gurney and Ruth Maguire; G. Smith, Teaching Representative (Items 3 - 6).

Also Present

Donald Reid.

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; J. Butcher, Executive Director and L. Cook, Education Development Co-ordinator (Education and Youth Employment); K. Yeomans, Executive Director, A. Sutton, Head of Service (Connected Communities), C. McAuley, Head of Service (Economic Growth), L. Forsyth, Cultural Development Manager, G. Hunter, Town Centre Manager and G. Robson, Senior Manager Employability and Skills (Economy and Communities); L. Aird, Head of Finance, G. Macgregor, Head of Customer, People and Corporate Support, P. Doak, Senior Manager (Internal Audit and Risk Management) and T. Reaney, Procurement Manager (Finance and Corporate Support); M. Adams, Programme Manager Early Intervention and Prevention (North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership); R. Moore, Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications) and A. Little, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's).

Chair

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Anthea Dickson, Mark Fraser and Elizabeth Highton.

1. Declarations of Interest

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

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2015 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. A Vision for Irvine

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on the long term strategic vision for the regeneration of Irvine. A presentation was provided by the Town Centre Manager and provided information on:-

- the extensive robust consultation that has been undertaken in respect of the 5 key areas - town centre, coast and beach park, harbourside, retail park and Enterprise area;
- 7 key challenges that emerged from the consultation workshops and 7 objectives identified;
- setting a project framework to assist in framing a structure for successful delivery;
- town centre design workshops that took place and the priorities that came out of the workshops; and
- shaping projects with the Working For Irvine Together.

The Cabinet commended the work that has been undertaken to date.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the Irvine Vision as an overarching aspiration for the future of the town; (b) the production of an Irvine Town Centre framework within the 2015 calendar year and the Harbourside Framework later in 2015/16; and (c) note the accelerated development of the High Street Public Realm and Quarry Road projects.

4. Nurture in North Ayrshire

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment) on the current progress and plans to develop and embed a "Nurture Strategy" within North Ayrshire Schools and Early Years Centres.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) the plans in place to develop the Nurture Strategy; (b) to receive a progress update in January 2016; and (c) note the progress.

5. North Ayrshire's Response to "Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach"

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Education & Youth Employment) on (a) the recommendations from the "Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach"; and (b) a range of developments in North Ayrshire to support and encourage a diversity of language learning.

The Cabinet agrees to (a) approve North Ayrshire's Response to "Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach" as detailed in Section 3 of the report; and (b) note further progress reports will be submitted in due course.

6. Implementation of "Education Working for All" - Developing Scotland's Young Workforce

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment) on (a) the recommendations of the "Developing Scotland's Young Workforce" (DYW) final report; Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy; (b) the Local Employability Partnership's action plan, linking to the recommendations of the DYW; (c) Scottish Government funding to support early implementation of DYW; and (d) draft spending proposals, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

Members asked questions and were provided with information in relation to links with Argyll College and a future report to Cabinet that will provide information on education in Arran.

The Cabinet noted the recommendations and the proposed approach to implementation.

7. Terms and Conditions of service for Chief Officials

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the national agreement to amend Chief Officer scheme of Salaries and Conditions of Service to harmonise the terms and conditions of service across all employees covered by the Scottish Joint Negotiating Committee (SJNC).

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the incorporation into the existing contracts of employment of the revised SJNC Scheme of Salaries and Conditions of Service for Chief Officials by virtue of a national collective agreement as detailed at Appendix 1 to the report, which came into effect on 1 April 2014; and (b) approve the harmonisation of annual leave entitlement for Chief Officials to that in the local terms and conditions for SJNC for Local Government Employees, as detailed at table 2.2 (b) of the report to be implemented with effect from the start of the next holiday year, i.e. 1 January 2016.

8. Improving Children's Outcomes

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Health and Social Care Partnership) on (a) work undertaken to develop an evidence-based approach to improving children's services; and (b) priorities identified by the community and school surveys.

The Cabinet agreed that the information obtained through Improving Children's Outcomes project be used to develop the next Children's Services Plan 2016/20.

9. Legacy 2014

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on (a) North Ayrshire's Legacy 2014 activity and funding; (b) future World War commemorative events; and (c) ongoing Legacy events and activities.

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

- the far reaching impact of the successful outcomes achieved through the development of strong partnerships between the Council and key partners;
- street furniture that has been made available to North Ayrshire following the Queens Baton Relay; and
- elm wood sourced from the grounds of Garrison House, Cumbrae that was used to make the handle of the baton.

The Cabinet commended officers and partners for the excellent work undertaken and acknowledged the level of commitment of all involved.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note expenditure and activity to date; (b) approve proposed expenditure in relation to World War commemorative events and ongoing Legacy events and activities up until 2018; and (c) receive a future report at the end of 2015-16 to update Cabinet on activities, expenditure and external funding achieved.

10. Out of Hours Noise Service

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on the evaluation of the Out of Hours Noise Service, including (a) the range of complaints received during 2014/15; (b) out of hours visits made to assess complaints; and (b) the cost of the service.

The Cabinet agreed to a continuation of a reactive and targeted out of hours noise service, as detailed in the report.

11. Strategic Risk Management Annual Report 2014/15

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on (a) the work carried out across the Council in relation to key strategic risks during 2014/15, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and (b) a recommendation from the Audit Committee to review the removal of Information Governance from the Strategic Risk Register.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the content of the annual risk management report, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report; and (b) that Information Governance should not be reinstated on the Strategic Risk Register for 2015/16.

12. Award of Contract – Housing Support (Various)

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the result of the tender exercises for various Housing Support Contracts for Homeless Services.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the award of the contracts (i) Housing Advice, Advocacy and Education to CHAP at a cost of £389,925, (ii) Housing Support and Children's Integration to Barnardos at a cost of £1,200,000, (iii) Support Provision (Temporary Accommodation) to the Glasgow Simon Community at a cost of £1,043,406, and (iv) Housing Support Services to Women Experiencing or at Risk of Violence and/or Domestic Abuse to North Ayrshire Women's Aid at a cost of £1,350,000.

13. Housing Revenue Account Business Plan Implementation Group: 22nd April 2015

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the minutes of the meeting of the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan Implementation Group held on 22nd April 2015.

Noted.

14. Exclusion of the Public and Press

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

14.1 Social Work Complaints Review Committee: Complaint by Mr McN

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the findings and recommendations arising from the Social Work Complaints Review Committee meeting held on 14 May 2015.

The Cabinet agreed to accept the Committee's recommendation not to uphold any part of the complaint.

The meeting ended at 3.45 p.m.