

North Ayrshire Council

A Meeting of the **North Ayrshire Council** of North Ayrshire Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Ground Floor, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE** on **Wednesday, 07 November 2018** at **14:00** to consider the undernoted business.

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**
Members are requested to give notice of any declarations of interest in respect of items of business on the Agenda.
- 3 Previous Minutes**
The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2018 will be confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (copy enclosed).
- 4 Provost's Report**
Submit report by the Provost for the period from 11 September - 29 October 2018 (copy enclosed).
- 5 Leader's Report**
Submit report by the Leader's for the period from 11 September to 29 October 2018 (copy enclosed).
- 6 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 August - 24 October 2018.

- 7 North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of meetings held on 20 September 2018**
Submit report by the Chief Executive on the Minutes of the meeting of the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Board held on 20 September 2018 (copy enclosed).
- 8 Short Life Working Group on Questions and Motions**
Submit report by the Chief Executive on the findings of a short-life working group of Elected Members on Questions and Motions to Council, and to invite the Council to consider its recommendations (copy enclosed).
- 9 Chief Executive Roles**
Submit report by the Council's Monitoring Officer advising of the various roles to be undertaken by the newly appointed Chief Executive, Craig Hatton, in terms of the Scheme of Delegation to Officers, and seeking approval for the Chief Executive to appointed as a Director of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust (copy enclosed).
- 10 Corporate Equality Group**
Submit report by Chief Executive seeking Elected Member representation on the Council's Corporate Equality Group (copy enclosed).
- 11 Review of Local Governance**
Submit report by the Chief Executive on the process for the Council's response to the Review of Local Governance (copy enclosed).
- 12 Financial Outlook 2019/20 to 2021/22**
Submit report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the likely financial position of the Council's General Fund in the medium term to inform the development of budget proposals (copy enclosed).
- 13 Ayrshire Growth Deal**
Submit report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on progress with the Ayrshire Growth Deal and seeking Council agreement to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to agree the final Heads of Terms with the UK and Scottish Governments (copy enclosed).
- 14 Governance Options – Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership/Ayrshire Growth Deal**
Submit report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on governance proposed for the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership/Ayrshire Growth Deal (copy enclosed).

15 North Ayrshire Charitable Trusts

Submit report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) seeking (a) the Council's approval for expenditure from Irvine Town Trust by Irvine Locality Partnership which would result in the winding up of this trust; (b) the Council's approval for expenditure from the McGavin Park Trust by Kilwinning Locality Partnership which would result in the winding up of this trust; and (c) to update the Council on the current balances of the dormant and low value charitable trusts (copy enclosed).

16 Questions

In terms of Standing Order No. 12 submit:-

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

"At the full Council meeting on the 17th of December last year, I had initially proposed a motion, seconded by Councillor John Glover, asking if North Ayrshire Council would inspect all war memorials in the run up to this year's centenary commemoration, and where needed, do any maintenance and cleaning work in order to bring the memorials and cenotaphs up to a suitable standard for the many events that will take place around the localities. The motion was amicably withdrawn, after the Council Leader gave his assurance that this was already well in hand via the CMRF. Can he give Members an update as to the exact state of play with the condition of the war memorials across North Ayrshire?"

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

"Who is the contractor responsible for recycling North Ayrshire's waste, and where is the waste processed?
What proportion of waste handled by this contractor is sent overseas, and what assurances does the contractor give to the Council that all waste, whether processed in the UK or overseas, is actually getting recycled?"

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

"Can the portfolio holder confirm that a Tree Condition Survey will be carried out in respect of trees in Largs which are currently threatened with removal?"

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

"In light of the recent announcement by the Minister for Health and Sport to write off the debts of the NHS bodies in Scotland, can the Leader of the council, who sits on the Board of NHS Ayrshire and Arran advise us of the implications for the North Ayrshire Integration Board?"

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

"To ask the Portfolio Holder for Place if he can provide me with an update on the re-housing of the tenants of the High Flats in Fullarton?"

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

"In September this year, the Audit and Scrutiny Committee asked for and received a briefing on the risks associated with BREXIT. Given the increasing likelihood of a no deal BREXIT, can the Leader confirm if the council is having to review contingency plans to deal with this potential outcome?"

(7) a question by Councillor Gallacher to the Cabinet member for Place in the following terms:-

"To ask the relevant member, how much money in total has been spent on the high flats in Irvine by NAC, on work of any kind, (maintenance or upgrading etc), in the last ten years"

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

"Following the recent issues surrounding the removal of trees in three streets in Largs and the comparison by some to the removal of Douglas Park Shelter, will there be any changes in the way NAC consult with residents and members of the public in similar situations that may arise in the future.

There have been two site visits to assess the trees with two different Arborists. Has a written report or survey now been done."

(9) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Cabinet Member for the Economy in the following terms:-

"NAC collected the BID levy on behalf of Largs Matters Ltd from local businesses in Largs under Rates Legislation.

Now that the five year BID has come to an end, will NAC be involved in returning the balance of funds to the businesses or as the statute states, given to an organisation with a similar aim?"

17 Motions

In terms of Standing Order 13, submit:-

(1) a motion by Councillor Donald Reid, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, in the following terms:-

"CHARTER AGAINST MODERN SLAVERY

North Ayrshire Council pledges to:-

1. Ensure that our corporate procurement team receive appropriate training in modern slavery.
2. Require its contractors to comply fully with the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015 wherever they apply, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
3. Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.
4. Highlight to suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.
5. Publicise our whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
6. Require tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
7. Review contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
8. Highlight for our suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.
9. Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
10. Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually."

(2) a motion by Councillor Billings, seconded by Councillor Marshall, in the following terms:-

"I move that new owners of empty dwellings who can demonstrate that they are actively undertaking major repair work to render the dwelling habitable, be allowed the maximum discount under the Council Tax (Variation for Unoccupied Dwellings) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 for a period of up to 12 months.

Effect of this change will be:

- When the property has no history of empty discount being claimed, new owner gets discounts as set out in current policy (no change);
- When the previous owner has claimed empty property exemption for a maximum of one year, the new owner can claim 50% discount for 1 year;
- When the previous owner has claimed empty property exemption for less than a year, new owner can claim the remainder of the 12 months of the original claim, then 50% discount until 12 months from date of change of ownership."

18 Motion

In terms of standing Order 22, submit:-

(1) a motion by Councillor McNicol, seconded by Councillor Barr, in the following terms:-

"That the Council amend Section 13 of the Scheme of Administration to read:-

**"Staffing and Recruitment Committee
Constitution**

Six members of the Council, namely the Leader of the Council, a member of the Administration, the Leader and a member of the Opposition, a member of the Conservative and Unionist Group and a member of the Independents, shall constitute the membership of the Committee. The Cabinet Member holding the relevant service portfolio relating to that particular Chief Officer appointment shall also be a member of the Committee for business relating to that appointment only. Each member will have a named substitute who may attend meetings in their place when necessary."

19 Urgent Items

Any other items which the Provost considers to be urgent.

Webcasting

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site. At the start of the meeting, the Provost will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 1998. Data collected during the webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available via the Council's internet site.

Generally, the press and public seating areas will not be filmed. However, by entering the Council Chambers and using the press or public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and consenting to the use and storage of those images and sound recordings and any information pertaining to you contained in them for webcasting or training purposes and for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available to the public.

If you have any queries regarding this and, in particular, if you believe that use and/or storage of any particular information would cause, or be likely to cause, substantial damage or distress to any individual, please contact committeeservices@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

North Ayrshire Council Sederunt

Ian Clarkson (Provost)
Robert Barr (Depute Provost)
John Bell
Timothy Billings
Joy Brahim
Marie Burns
Joe Cullinane
Scott Davidson
Anthea Dickson
John Easdale
Todd Ferguson
Robert Foster
Scott Gallacher
Alex Gallagher
Margaret George
John Glover
Tony Gurney
Alan Hill
Christina Larsen
Shaun Macaulay
Jean McClung
Ellen McMaster
Ronnie McNicol
Louise McPhater
Davina McTiernan
Tom Marshall
Jimmy Miller
Jim Montgomerie
Ian Murdoch
Donald Reid
Donald L Reid
Angela Stephen
John Sweeney

Chair:

Apologies:

Attending:

IRVINE, 19 September 2018 - At a Meeting of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Ian Clarkson, Robert Barr, John Bell, Joy Brahim, Marie Burns, Joe Cullinane, Scott Davidson, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, Robert Foster, Scott Gallacher, Alex Gallagher, Margaret George, John Glover, Tony Gurney, Alan Hill, Christina Larsen, Tom Marshall, Jean McClung, Ronnie McNicol, Louise McPhater, Davina McTiernan, Jimmy Miller, Jim Montgomerie, Ian Murdoch, Donald Reid, Donald L. Reid, Angela Stephen and John Sweeney.

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support); C. Hatton, Executive Director (Place); K. Yeomans, Executive Director (Economy and Communities); S. Brown, Director (Health and Social Care Partnership); A. McClelland, Head of Service (Learning, Teaching & Curriculum) (Education and Youth Employment); and A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services, A. Craig, Senior Manager (Legal Services), M. Gilmour, Senior Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications); E. Gray and D. McCaw, Committee Services Officers and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Provost Clarkson in the Chair.

Apologies

Timothy Billings, Todd Ferguson, Shaun Macaulay and Ellen McMaster.

1. Provost's Remarks

The Provost welcomed those present to the meeting and dealt with preliminary matters, which included an announcement that the Council meeting would be webcast.

2. Apologies

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

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. Previous Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 27 June 2018, was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, subject to the undernoted.

5. Provost's Report

Submitted report by the Provost for the period from 20 June - 10 September 2018.

The Provost highlighted the following elements of his written report:-

- attendance at a number of successful festivals and events across North Ayrshire, including Picnic in the Park, the West Kilbride Scarecrow Festival, the Marymass Festival, Largs Viking Festival, the Robert Burns World Federation Conference and the Armed Forces Day Parade;
- events outwith North Ayrshire, including the US Ambassador's Reception in celebration of the 242nd Anniversary of the US Independence and the "Belt and Road" Chinese culture and art festival; and
- town twinning visits to North Ayrshire.

The Provost concluded his remarks by referring to the forthcoming retirement of Elma Murray as Chief Executive of North Ayrshire Council. The Provost paid tribute to Ms Murray's 35 years in local government and her successful tenure in North Ayrshire, culminating in the Council being named 2017 APSE Council of the Year and the Chief Executive being recognised with an OBE in the Queen's 2018 New Year's Honours List. On behalf of the Council, the Provost extended his very best wishes to the Chief Executive for the future.

Thereafter, the Provost invited the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the Conservative and Unionist Group and the Independent Members to address the meeting.

Councillor Burns spoke warmly of her positive working relationship with the Chief Executive over the past six years. She praised Ms Murray's dedication particularly to young people within North Ayrshire and her position as a positive role model for women. Councillor Burns thanked the Chief Executive for the support given to the SNP Group both in Administration and Opposition and, on behalf of the Group, offered her best wishes for the future.

Councillor Marshall referred to the three Chief Executives with whom he had worked as an Elected Member and to the particular challenges faced by the current Chief Executive as a result of no one political group having an overall majority on the Council. Councillor Marshall expressed his appreciation of the co-operation and assistance the Chief Executive had afforded his Group, and extended his best wishes.

Councillor Donald L. Reid spoke on behalf of the Independent Members, commending the Chief Executive for the inspiration, hard work and communication skills she had contributed to the Council. Referring in particular to last year's APSE award, Councillor Reid extended his thanks to the Chief Executive for her service.

Finally, the Provost noted that the Leader's own remarks would form part of his report to the Council.

6. Leader's Report

Submitted report by the Leader for the period from 20 June - 10 September 2018.

The Leader highlighted the following elements of his written report:-

- the Period Poverty Launch on 17 August 2018 and North Ayrshire's position as the first local authority in the UK to offer free sanitary provision in its public buildings; and
- a number of largely positive engagements with representatives of the Scottish Government, including the attendance of the latter at the successful Youth Cabinet meeting held on Arran.

The Leader then took the opportunity to thank the Chief Executive and her leadership team for their transformation work, leading to last year's APSE award. Referring to recent performance reporting to Cabinet, Councillor Cullinane commented that, far from standing still, Ms Murray and her team, continued to show leadership to deliver ongoing change. On behalf of the Labour Group, the Leader thanked the Chief Executive and her team and offered his very best wishes for the future.

The Chief Executive responded to the valedictory remarks which had been made by describing the sense of privilege she felt at serving with the Elected Members of North Ayrshire Council and by affirming her efforts at all times to be fair to all Members. The Chief Executive warmly thanked Members for their good wishes and referred to the support of her leadership team and the inspiration afforded her by the Council's staff and by young people in North Ayrshire.

Councillors Gurney and Hill joined the meeting at this point.

7. 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 24 May – 4 September 2018.

8. Appointments to Outside Bodes

The Chief Executive advised of the resignation of Councillor Ferguson as Vice Chair of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Joint Management Committee, and the nomination of Councillor Donald L. Reid, who was already a member of the committee, as Councillor Ferguson's replacement.

The Council agreed to (a) note that Councillor Ferguson had resigned as Vice Chair of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Joint Management Committee, but would remain as a Council representative on the committee; and (b) nominate Councillor Donald L. Reid as Vice Chair of the Committee.

9. Elected Member Attendance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the circumstances surrounding the non-attendance, through ill health, of an Elected Member and the relevant provisions within Standing Orders Relating to Meetings and Proceedings of the Council and its Committees.

The Council agreed (a) to note (i) the exceptional circumstances surrounding Councillor Shaun Macaulay's non-attendance at any meeting of the Council, Committee, Joint Committee, Joint Board or other body as representative of the Council since the Council meeting on 9 May 2018 and (ii) the likelihood that Councillor Macaulay's absence may extend beyond the six-month period; and (b) that (i) in terms of Standing Orders and section 35 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Councillor Macaulay's failure to attend was due to a reason approved by the Council and (ii) if required, a further update would be submitted to the May 2019 meeting of the Council.

10. Representation of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the proposed appointment of Babs Mowat to replace Canon McManus as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet. Correspondence pertaining to the appointment process was set out as appendices to the report.

The Council agreed to appoint Babs Mowat as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet when it considers Education business.

11. Arrangements for an Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on progress in respect of arrangements to create an Ayrshire Regional Partnership for Inclusive Growth as agreed at the Council meeting on 27 June 2018.

The Chief Executive highlighted that the Regional Pathfinder had been set to deliver £80,000 of savings within the current financial year and a further £748,000 of savings in the next financial year, and that alternative savings proposals would now have to be considered.

The Council agreed to note (i) the updated proposals to take this important work forward, (ii) that further updates would be presented to Cabinet and (iii) that a further report would be submitted to put in place new Governance Arrangements to oversee the Ayrshire Growth Deal and Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership.

12. School Road, Kilbirnie – Compulsory Purchase

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a proposed compulsory purchase of land required to provide access/egress to/from the former site of the Garnock Academy, School Road, Kilbirnie.

The Council agreed to make the following resolution:-

"That The North Ayrshire Council resolves in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 189 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and in accordance with the provisions of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947 to make a Compulsory Purchase Order to be called " The North Ayrshire Council (School Road, Kilbirnie) Compulsory Purchase Order 2018" to purchase compulsorily ALL and WHOLE the area of ground extending to 504.3 square metres or thereby at School Road, Kilbirnie being ground which is required to provide a suitable access/egress to the site of the former Garnock Academy, authorise and instruct the Senior Manager, Legal Services to sign the Order and Plan on behalf of the Council; affix thereto the Common Seal of the Council, submit the Order and Plan to the Scottish Ministers for confirmation; give the appropriate notice to the owners and occupiers of the subjects; insert the appropriate notice in the local press and certify to the Scottish Ministers that the subjects (a) do not belong to the local authority; (b) have not been acquired by statutory undertakers for the purposes of the undertaking; (c) do not form part of a common or open space (d) are not held inalienably by the National Trust for Scotland; and (e) are not listed as being of special historical or architectural interest under Section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997, and take all steps necessary to complete the compulsory purchase procedures".

13. Short Life Working Group on Questions and Motions

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the findings of a short-life working group of Elected Members on Questions and Motions to Council, and to invite the Council to consider its recommendations.

Members considered the various recommendations set out within Section 3 of the report and the failure of the Working Group to achieve consensus with regard to the issue of those to whom questions may be directed at Council.

Councillor McNicol, seconded by Councillor Barr, moved that consideration of the recommendations of the report be continued to the next meeting, pending a Member seminar.

As an amendment, Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Bell, moved that the Council (i) approve the recommendations relating to questions, as set out in Section 3 of the report, (ii) continue consideration of the recommendations pertaining to voting to the next meeting, pending a Member seminar and (iii) retain the status quo with regard to the issue of those to whom questions may be directed at Council.

On a division and roll call vote, there voted for the amendment, Councillors Bell, Clarkson, Cullinane, Easdale, Foster, Gallagher, McPhater, Miller, Montgomerie, Donald Reid and Sweeney (11), and for the motion, Councillors Barr, Brahim, Burns, Davidson, Dickson, Gallacher, George, Glover, Gurney, Hill, Larsen, Marshall, McClung, McNicol, McTiernan, Murdoch, Donald L Reid and Stephen (18), and the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to continue consideration of the recommendations of the report to the next meeting, pending a Member seminar.

14. Questions

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

“Following a recent public meeting at NAC about Brexit issues and how EEC nationals will be impacted in the Brexit process, I would ask the Leader:

- (1) Has any formal assessment been carried out of the number of EEC nationals residing in North Ayrshire? and
- (2) Has any formal assessment been carried out of the number of EEC nationals who work for North Ayrshire Council and will the Council consider paying the £65 registration which will shortly be required of all EEC nationals who wish to remain in UK?”

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

- (1) “National Records of Scotland published data for the year ending December 2017 which showed that 2,000 EU citizens, born outside the UK, live in North Ayrshire. Taken across Ayrshire, that figure rises to 7,000 EU citizens. A proportion of these (estimated 7% based on 2011 census will be Irish Citizens) under a Common Travel Agreement are protected after the UK leaves the EU.

The rights of EU citizens resident in UK, and of UK nationals resident in the EU, is of critical importance to individuals and families and also have wider ramifications for Ayrshire’s public services, for population growth, and for our regional economy.

All of Ayrshire's Council Leaders have made clear their deep appreciation of the value of EU citizens to Ayrshire and to Scotland.

Ayrshire Councils are working together on a joint programme to circulate information and take forward lobby activity in support of our EU citizens and our UK nationals resident in the EU. Local and regional networks are being used to draw attention to material such as UK Government's 'Employer Toolkit' which gives advice on the proposed Settlement Scheme for EU citizens. It is clear from local meetings that similar national guides are needed for landlords and banks. Whilst the Scheme is not yet enshrined in law, the Prime Minister Theresa May has stated that UK Government will legislate for it, even if there is a 'No Deal Brexit'.

The Council is making use of UK and Scottish Parliamentary Inquiries to press home the need for legislative, policy and funding frameworks which support areas like Ayrshire and all our citizens. The Council will continue to work closely with CoSLA, Government, citizens, local and strategic partners on this agenda."

- (2) Nationality details are captured during the recruitment process as part of the Asylum and Immigration check.

At present the Council has 34 employees who will be required to apply for Settled Status. Of these 10 will have a minimum of 5 years continuous employment with the Council by 31 December 2020 and as such the Council will be able to provide evidence of employment history to support applications for settled status.

The Scottish Government has made a commitment in the Programme for Government 2018-19 to pay the fees of EU citizens working in devolved public sector. CoSLA is seeking clarity on the commitment, following this the Council will establish its position."

- (b) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Place in the following terms:-

"Can the Cabinet Member for Place give an update on the waste disposal arrangements currently in place in North Ayrshire Council including:-

- (1) the issue of contaminated waste from domestic sources and how the council will tackle this important issue; and
- (2) the amount of NAC waste going for recycling to Wales which is then rejected due to the waste being contaminated and give a cost to NAC of such waste rejection."

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

- “(1) The Council have very effective waste management arrangements in place realising a recycling rate in excess of 55% which is amongst the best in Scotland. However contamination, whereby the wrong material is placed in the wrong bin, continues to be an issue.

A Contamination Action Plan has been developed to support residents to recycle more of the waste they generate in an appropriate manner. The Action Plan includes a communications campaign to engage with service users (this includes a recent social media campaign Aug-Sept 2018), how we intervene at collection route level for residents, where Waste Aware Officers carry out door knocking and provide guidance and how commercial waste producers are advised on how to put the Right Stuff in the Right Bin. The Action Plan also includes the important role that our front line collection crews perform through our notification and bin tagging protocols - where we inform our residents that they have not placed the Right Stuff in the Right Bin, how we use feedback from our collection crews and analyse it and link it to information and feedback from our contractor. The service works collaboratively with the contractor on a regular basis to try and identify and reduce sources of contamination through targeted education and promotion.

- (2) The comingled dry recyclable waste that is collected in the blue bin is processed at UPM Kymmene's Materials Recovery Facility in Shotton in Wales. There is no additional charge for the contaminated material that is received and subsequently extracted in the facility. However, the contract rates are reviewed on a monthly basis based on the actual contamination levels determined through sampling and compositional analysis conducted on the materials received during that month. The base contract price is set to reflect a contamination level greater than 15%, our level in July was 15.11%. If the contamination level falls below 15% the contract price reduces on an incremental basis. For example if the level fell to between 12.5% and 15% the cost extrapolated across a full year would reduce by approximately £100,000.

It should be noted that rejected materials are disposed of at an Energy from Waste plant.”

- (c) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Place in the following terms:-

“Can the Cabinet Member for Place give an indication of the preparedness of North Ayrshire Council to effectively tackle the winter months in terms of road gritting.”

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

“A review of the Council’s Winter and Weather Emergencies Service was undertaken over the summer months. A 2018/19 Winter Preparation Action Plan was developed to ensure adequate preparations and effective arrangements are in place for winter 2018/19. All actions are either complete or on target for the coming winter.

The Roads Winter Service and Weather Emergencies Plan has been reviewed and updated to highlight a number of key areas where change and/or improvement is ongoing or planned, ie. route prioritisation, salt supply resilience, fleet and equipment requirements, grit bins/community resilience, communications and operational controls.

The Winter Weather & Emergencies Plan 2018/19 will be submitted to the Policy Board on 4 October 2018 and thereafter to Cabinet on 13 November 2018 for approval.

A pre-winter planning meeting will be held on 18th September 2018 with managers across Council Services to ensure that all necessary steps have been taken to prepare for winter. The ‘dry run’ will be carried out on the mainland on 21st September to ensure that all our operational teams and vehicles are ready for winter, the ‘dry run’ on Arran has yet to be determined but will be held prior to the 25th October 2018. The Ayrshire Local Resilience Partnership has arranged a tabletop exercise for 26th September 2018 to test the multi-agency partners’ arrangements for responding to severe weather events. Senior officers from across the Council will participate in this exercise.”

(d) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Education in the following terms:-

“The Cabinet Member for Education will be aware that private travel arrangements for pupils from Garnock Campus travelling from Beith cost £50 per four week period. This is very expensive especially if two or more pupils travel from the same family. Beith, being the highest up town in North Ayrshire tends to suffer disproportionately inclement weather, especially driving snow in winter. North Ayrshire Council is a caring council with a responsibility for putting the needs of children first. In consequence of this and the fact that it takes 30 minutes minimum to walk from Manrahead to Garnock Campus I would ask (1) if an assessment has been made of:

- (i) the number of pupils likely to be walking each day from Beith to Garnock Campus;
- (ii) drying facilities to ensure that such pupils who regularly walk, are able to dry, change and store clothing at the campus; and
- (iii) absenteeism of pupils who regularly require to walk from Beith to Garnock Campus; and

(2) In view of the recent decision to allow Cumbrae pupils bus passage to Largs Campus, will the Cabinet Member, who is aware of regular very poor weather conditions in Beith in winter - usually much worse than elsewhere in North Ayrshire - consider on a week to week basis, if poor weather is anticipated, for NAC to arrange a monitoring system which would include a free bus facility for the regular walkers on this route as required."

Prefacing his formal response with a statement which reiterated concerns he had raised previously about travel issues associated with the selection of the Longbar site for the location of Garnock Community Campus, Councillor Bell thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"(1)

- (i) There are approximately 330 pupils attending the Garnock Community Campus (Secondary) that live in the Beith area. Of these, the Head Teacher anticipates that 50 - 60 children walk to school on a daily basis
- (ii) Drying facilities as such, are not provided for pupils, however if a pupil notifies staff that they have wet clothes, the pupil is provided with a spare uniform and their own clothes are dried.
- (iii) Whilst it is estimated that approximately 50 - 60 pupils regularly walk to school, a detailed analysis of these pupils has not been undertaken.

An analysis of the current Beith pupils (303) shows that they have an attendance record over 80%. Of these, 253 pupils have an attendance record over 92%.

- (2) SPT provide school bus services on a contracted basis. These services are provided based on the numbers of pupils that are eligible for free school transport as detailed in the Council's Transport Policy.

The NAC Policy states that school transport will only be provided to those secondary aged pupils that would require to walk 3 or more miles."

- (e) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

"In view of the ongoing restructuring of senior management at North Ayrshire Council, can the Leader advise of the likely annual savings or additional costs of salaries once this process is fully in place."

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

"The anticipated recurring annual savings of the new structure are around £250,000. The net cost incurred in 2018/19 was £69,000."

- (f) question by Councillor Hill to the Chair of the Planning Committee in the following terms:-

"In 2014 Dawn Homes were granted permission for the building of homes in Fairlie. Condition 13 of that consent obliged the Developer to construct a path linking the site to Castlepark Gardens. The Developer failed to deliver this essential part of the development.

At its meeting on 20th September 2017 the Planning Committee approved application reference N/17/00584/PPM which included a condition 6 which required the construction of this path, to be completed "no later than 12 months from the date of the planning consent". This twelve month period expires on 20th September 2018.

Can the Chair of Planning confirm that the path will be completed by the agreed date and if not, what enforcement action is proposed given the failure of the applicant to deliver this over what has now been a four year period."

Councillor Marshall responded in the following terms:-

"The applicant, Dawn Homes, has confirmed that the path will be completed within the required timescale. Any failure to do so on the part of the applicant will be reported to the Planning Committee meeting on 26th September 2018 as a possible Breach of Condition. If the Planning Committee approved the notice then it would be a referral to the Procurator Fiscal. However, we are working with the applicant to resolve this before reaching this stage."

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

"I have been contacted recently by a number of female constituents regarding what they consider to be inadequate or poor street lighting in Pennyburn, Kilwinning.

The area of particular concern is around the bus stop adjacent to Cambusdoon Place on Pennyburn Road, which is located in the area nearest the treeline, and closest to the railway tunnel.

Following these representations, I have assessed this bus stop, and all others on both sides of Pennyburn Road, during the hours of darkness, and can certainly appreciate their concerns.

Therefore, will the Cabinet Member review street lighting on all bus stops on both sides of Pennyburn Road to ensure we address my constituents' concerns as best we can, and further, is he prepared to meet me on-site during the hours of darkness, possibly with members of the roads & lighting department, to assess the lighting issue ourselves?"

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

“Road lighting levels are set down in the British design standard and the Council follows this criteria when determining the appropriate standard of lighting for different types of road and use.

Individual perception of the effectiveness of lighting can be variable and for this reason there is a prescribed method for assessing and confirming the appropriateness of light levels on public roads.

The Council's road lighting team will undertake specific night-time assessments that capture the positions of the bus stops on Pennyburn Road to confirm that the correct light output is being achieved.

I am more than happy to meet with Cllr Davidson on site whilst the assessments are being undertaken.”

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

"Could the Cabinet Member for Place please give an update on the situation regarding the work required to be carried out to erect a permanent fence around Caledonia Primary School?"

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for her question and responded in the following terms:-

“Following notification that the appointed contractor had gone into liquidation, a new tender was issued by PMI for all works required to complete the perimeter fence of the school. This tender closes on 19 September, after which the returns will be evaluated in liaison with Corporate Procurement as a matter of priority.

Temporary Heras fencing has been put in place between the playground and work area to ensure the safety of pupils while the work is being carried out. Weekly inspections of the Heras fencing are being undertaken by PMI officers.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor McClung asked for information on the whereabouts of the sandstone from the original stone wall.

Councillor Montgomerie responded by undertaking to look into this matter and provide the information requested.

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

"Following the recent event hosted by North Ayrshire for EU Citizens living or working in Scotland, does the Leader of the Council support Scottish Labour's Parliamentary Business Leader Rhoda Grant MSP in her recent comments, whereby she stated we shouldn't even be speaking about EU citizens living in Scotland having the right to vote in this Country as it does little or nothing for the people of Scotland, is merely a "side issue" and that guaranteeing their right to vote is an SNP "tactic"?

Councillor Cullinane thanked the Member for her question and responded in the following terms:-

"No, I don't."

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

"The Labour Party administration of North Ayrshire Council imposed four PPP schools on North Ayrshire; Greenwood Academy, St Matthew's Academy, Arran High School and Stanley Primary, all against the express wishes of the people of Arran, Ardrossan, Saltcoats and Irvine.

These schools now cost the residents of North Ayrshire over £1 million every month. Legally this money must be paid to the owners of the PPP contracts before this council can buy a single school book, or fill a single pot hole, or empty a single bin.

These contracts have, in fact, been extremely bad news for everyone. Except for one group, the owners of the contracts. They have made a fortune from the people of North Ayrshire.

One of the ways they do that is by short-changing their workers. The lowest paid in our society, essential workers such as cleaners and janitors, are not being paid the living wage by the huge conglomerates that own these contracts, leading to huge hardship for them and their families.

This contrasts sharply with the new schools built by the SNP administration. At the Garnock and Largs campuses not a single member of staff is paid below the living wage.

Make no mistake. The Living Wage is the least these people deserve. Without them our services, our schools, the education of our children would simply stop. They deserve our support.

This is the Labour Party's mess. It was created by a previous Labour Party administration. It has been continually supported by this current Labour Party administration. Despite disingenuous public statements it is certainly not being tackled by the Labour Party.

What, specifically, will the Labour administration of this Council do to fix this mess, implement the living wage for the workers at these Labour PPP schools and ensure justice for the labour force?"

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

"Provost, from what I can find, the last time Councillor Gurney publicly mentioned Mitie staff not being paid the Living Wage was in early 2012 when he was in Opposition. In fact, it would appear that was actually the last time Councillor Gurney made any comment on the Living Wage at all in public.

For four and a half years after that, Councillor Gurney was a member of the SNP Cabinet and failed to mention the issue once. For Councillor Gurney, this is nothing to do with the payment of the Living Wage to school cleaners and janitors employed by Mitie in North Ayrshire schools, but merely an opportunity to play party politics on the back of low paid workers.

So, let's compare that with what I have done on the Living Wage and specifically about the Mitie issue:-

- At my second ever full Council meeting in September 2012, I moved a motion in support of a Labour MSP's bill to make the Living Wage mandatory in all public contracts in Scotland.
- On 18 December 2013, I brought a further motion to the full Council which resulted in the establishment of the Living Wage Working Group.
- At that same meeting, a second motion on making the Living Wage mandatory in all public contracts was voted down by Councillor Gurney and the SNP Group.
- At the working group, I moved that inviting the PPP company and Mitie to attend to discuss their non-payment of the Living Wage in our schools be included in the group's action plan. Both subsequently refused to attend.
- As Council Leader, I secured the Living Wage accreditation for North Ayrshire Council.
- I used our accreditation as a trigger to write to hundreds of businesses in North Ayrshire urging them to pay the real Living Wage too – some of them, such as the Auchrannie on Arran in the Member's Ward, have chosen to do so.
- At the same time, I wrote to Mitie requesting a meeting to discuss the payment of the Living Wage to school cleaners and janitors – just like with the invitation to attend the working group, Mitie didn't respond.

- In November 2016, this Labour administration paid the new Living Wage rate to Council staff from the date of announcement. That was six months early, giving the lowest paid Council staff a pay boost. That was the first time North Ayrshire Council had paid the new rate early.
- In November 2017, we repeated that by paying the new rate early again.
- And we will repeat that again this year and every year that we have a Labour administration running this Council.
- In June 2018, the GMB wrote to the Chief Executive and myself to advise that the union had recently signed a recognition and bargaining agreement with Mitie. The wage claim submitted by the GMB includes the payment of the Living Wage. On receipt of the letter, I instructed the Chief Executive to enter into discussions with all relevant parties.
- Just this Monday, I met with a representative from the GMB to discuss their campaign. That was a very positive meeting with the union emphasising the leadership that this administration has shown on this issue now and in the past.
- As a result of my instruction, officers will be meeting with all relevant parties to discuss the Living Wage next month.

Provost, that's what I have done on the Living Wage and the Mitie issue, but let me just finish with this.

This is a letter from the SNP Leader of East Ayrshire Council in response to the GMB campaign. It says and I quote:

"In relation to your last paragraph, and as you will be aware, terms and conditions are protected under TUPE regulations at the point of transfer, and there is no obligation from that point for the successor employer to maintain pay rates.

Mitie is a separate and distinct company and is independent from East Ayrshire Council. Accordingly, the issue of Mitie paying the Scottish Living Wage is a commercial matter for them to consider, and we cannot impose new obligations within our existing contractual arrangements in respect of Mitie, or any other current Council contractor."

So you see, Provost, while the SNP in East Ayrshire are happy to sit on their hands and see what happens, here in North Ayrshire, our Labour administration will be proactive, support the right for pay justice for school cleaners and janitors and that's the difference that having a Labour administration here makes."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gurney asked again what specific actions the Leader was taking to ensure these people were paid a Living Wage.

Councillor Cullinane responded by referring again to the action he had taken to have discussions with all relevant parties, including the GMB, whose campaign it was. The Leader then referred to a letter dated 10 August 2016 to the then SNP Leader of the Council from the GMB, in which concern was expressed about a potential attack on its Members' terms and conditions of employment. Councillor Cullinane suggested that the SNP administrations plans were only taken off the table with the Labour Group coming into administration.

Councillor Gurney raised a point of order about the legitimacy of the Leader's response to his supplementary question. The Provost stopped Cllr Cullinane's response and moved on to the next item of business.

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

"Almost a year ago at the meeting of North Ayrshire Council on 4th October 2017 I asked the Portfolio Holder for Place if he could provide me with an insight into the plans and timescales of the North Ayrshire Labour Manifesto commitment to providing disabled access to Irvine, Ardeer and Stevenston beaches and also a description of what the disabled access will consist of?

My supplementary question to the Cabinet Member was, simply, if he would keep me updated with any notable developments or progress on providing disabled access to our main amenity beaches, which he confirmed he would.

I have had no further update since, therefore, can Councillor Montgomerie now provide me with a full update on all progress made since that meeting, and further, confirm which beaches are regarded as main amenity beaches?"

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

"I can now confirm funding has now been secured from Heritage Lottery Fund through the Garnock Connections Landscape Partnership for the All Abilities Wheelers project. This will enable the purchase of wheeler push vehicles, as part of a pilot scheme, which will enable wheelchair users and mobility impaired users access to Irvine and Stevenston beaches and areas of Eglinton Park which were previously inaccessible using normal wheelchairs.

Consultation will shortly commence with a wide group of stakeholders, including the North Ayrshire Access Panel to develop the scheme to become operational. A visit to a similar project on the East Coast will also be arranged with local stakeholders to inform implementation.

In addition a feasibility study to examine the potential options to improve disabled and all abilities access to Irvine and Stevenston Beach, as part of a pilot scheme is nearing completion. This has been informed by a desk top study, site visits and topographical surveys. This includes considering the potential environmental impact, cost and long term maintenance requirement for each of the options.

Consultation on the options with local Elected Members and other stakeholders including the North Ayrshire Access Panel is planned in the near future. This will then be used to inform further design development and funding applications should suitable solution(s) be identified.

The following are considered to be amenity beaches:-

Irvine Beach; South Beach Ardrossan/Saltcoats; Stevenston Beach (Nature reserve site of special interest); Portencross/Seamill; Sandy Bay, Largs and Newton Beach, Cumbrae.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Davidson asked if the Cabinet Member could confirm whether the £250K funding from Garnock Connections could/would be used to provide disabled access to beaches. Councillor Davidson went on to introduce a number of further supplementary questions about Garnock Connections’ support for the project, the geographical coverage of Garnock Connections’ funding and the nature of the campaigning work by the Cabinet Member for Communities, referred to in a recent newspaper article.

The Provost asked for clarification on which supplementary question the Member wished to ask. No clarification was provided.

Councillor Montgomerie responded to the generality of Councillor Davidson’s supplementary questions by referring the Member to the response provided to his original question.

(I) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Education in the following terms:-

“What percentage of pupils in North Ayrshire in the top SIMD Quintile achieved at least one Higher pass in each of the last 5 Academic years and what are the equivalent figures for the bottom Quintile?”

On a point of order, Councillor Marshall sought, and received, clarification, that there was no requirement within Standing Orders for either the question or the written response to be read out. Thereafter, he requested that his question and the answer be taken as read.

Councillor Bell’s written response was as follows:-

In the past five years:

The **percentage** of school leavers in North Ayrshire from the most deprived areas (SIMD Quintile 1) gaining one or more Higher awards (or equivalent) has increased to over 34% of all school leavers from the same area. This is largely in line with national trends.

The **percentage** of school leavers from North Ayrshire living in the least deprived areas (SIMD Quintile 5) gaining one or more Higher award (or equivalent) has been steady around 50%. This is exceeding national performance.

The **number** of North Ayrshire school leavers gaining one or more awards at Highers (or equivalent) from most deprived areas (SIMD Quintile 1), in 2017, has been the highest in the last 5 years.

The **number** of North Ayrshire school leavers gaining one or more awards at Highers (or equivalent) from the least deprived areas (SIMD Quintile 5), in 2017, has also been the highest in the last 5 years.

It should, however, be noted that, in North Ayrshire, the number and proportion of school leavers from the least deprived areas (SIMD Quintile 5) are much smaller than the number and proportion of school leavers from the most SIMD deprived areas (Quintile 1). Nationally, these two segments of the school leavers populations are of similar size.

% of leavers attaining at least one SCQF award at level 6	Year	Quintile 1	Quintile 5
North Ayrshire	2012/13	29.3%	47.6%
National	2012/13	30.0%	44.8%
North Ayrshire	2013/14	27.5%	53.8%
National	2013/14	32.9%	46.1%
North Ayrshire	2014/15	37.1%	47.7%
National	2014/15	35.7%	46.0%
North Ayrshire	2015/16	34.9%	53.3%
National	2015/16	37.2%	46.3%
North Ayrshire	2016/17	34.5%	50.3%
National	2016/17	37.6%	45.5%

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

"What is the current total projected cost for the Irvine High Flats demolition project, including relocation of residents etc.?"

Councillor Gallacher requested that his question and the answer be taken as read.

Councillor Montgomerie's written response was as follows:-

"The total budget costs for re-housing existing residents, demolishing the five Fullarton tower blocks, and constructing 275 replacement housing units were set out in a report to Cabinet on 19 June 2018.

The total investment is projected to be £47.602m. This includes:

- Construction costs for the replacement units (£39.545m)
- Demolition costs (£5.000m)
- Home loss payments to tenants (£0.300m)
- Disturbance payments to tenants (£0.360m)
- Lifecycle replacements costs for the new build units (25 year period) (£2.397m)

The draft Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2019-24, which will be submitted to Cabinet for approval on 2 October 2018, incorporates plans for the replacement of the five Irvine tower blocks with 275 low rise units and associated Scottish Government grant subsidy of £16.225m. The demolition of the blocks will also lead to capital savings arising from the avoidance of future planned investment work to the tower blocks, as well as annual revenue savings. These savings total £16.941m.

This reduces the projected total net cost of the project to £14.436m."

On a point of order, Councillor Burns asked for clarification as to whether the question and response required to be read out in full, given her recollection that contrary advice had been given in the past. The Head of Democratic Services confirmed that, provided the question was raised, there was no requirement for it to be read out. It was further confirmed that the questions and responses were now available to members of the public on the Council's website during the meeting.

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

"Will the Portfolio Holder for Place inform Members of all meetings held and correspondence received between himself and NAC officers pertaining to the demolition of the sandstone wall at Caledonia Primary School, Saltcoats prior to the decision being agreed to demolish the said wall?"

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

"Issues such as alterations to boundary structures to schools or other Council premises are considered operational. I can, therefore, advise that no meetings were held or correspondence received prior to the demolition of the wall."

As a supplementary question, Councillor McNicol why, in his capacity as the Portfolio holder, Councillor Montgomerie did not know about the controversial plan to replace the wall with a fence, when this appeared to be known by the owner of a neighbouring property in May. Councillor McNicol also asked whether a structural engineer's report had been carried out and why, if the wall was unsafe, children were allowed to continue to play there.

Councillor Montgomerie responded by referring to his original response and to the operational nature of the works.

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

"In an article published in the Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald issue dated 22nd August the Leader of the Council is quoted as stating the following:-

"I will continue to support GMB's campaign (The company Mitie to pay the Living Wage for Janitors and Cleaners in the 4 North Ayrshire Council's PPP Schools) and hope they will support my efforts to get the Scottish Government to help the Council buy out the PPP contracts, something that they have refused to do when I have asked."

Will the Leader of the Council update Members on what efforts he has taken to get the Scottish Government to help the Council buy out the PPP contracts. Who has he met with from the Government and who has he sought Finance from?"

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

"I've written several times to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Derek Mackay MSP, regarding the buy-out of the PPP contracts. Many of those have been as part of our communications around budget settlements and my suggestions on how the Scottish Government could support the Council in fighting against austerity. Earlier this year, following the Council's decision to explore options to buy out the PPP contracts, I wrote to Mr Mackay specifically about the matter. In this letter, I emphasised the need for a joint approach to buy out the contracts, not least because the Scottish Government would have to give a financial commitment to continue providing additional revenue grant to the Council to support the costs. Currently, the Scottish Government fund around 50% of the unitary charge, with £5.857m in revenue grant specifically related to the PPP unitary charges. The Government would also have to approve any buy-out.

As I've said on previous occasions, I've always opposed private finance initiatives as a means of funding infrastructure projects, whether they be the Tories' PFI deals, Labour's PPP contracts or, indeed, the SNP's NPD scheme.

I firmly believe by working together on this project, the Council and Scottish Government could deliver a refinanced model that would not only deliver better value for tax payers' money on these contracts but also deliver valuable learning for securing better deals on all PFI, PPP and NPD contracts across the country.

Unfortunately, the Cabinet Secretary to date has not been receptive to talks and has suggested that central government should support me by withdrawing if the contract is terminated early, citing that the financial support would need to shift from a revenue to capital position.

In his response of 24 May 2018, the Cabinet Secretary suggested the Council instead pursue savings from existing PPP contracts and that is something that the Member knows the administration have been exploring since we took over.

I still believe, with continued financial support from the Scottish Government, a better deal for tax payers could be negotiated. And there are one or two examples of PPP/PFI contracts being brought back in-house in England, mainly in the Health Service.

I, therefore, remain very willing to hold discussions with the Scottish Government should they be willing to reconsider their current position."

As a supplementary question, Councillor McNicol referred to a statement made in the Scottish Parliament on 1 March 2005 by Alan Wilson, the then Labour Elected Member for Cunninghame North, that PPP in North Ayrshire was probably one of the best things that ever happened to the area. Councillor McNicol asked whether the Leader agreed with the statement and where he intended to secure the 275,587,000 million pounds to buy out the PPP contracts.

Councillor Cullinane responded by indicating that most of the supplementary question was covered in his original response. The Leader reiterated that he had always opposed PFI schemes so did not support Alan Wilson's statement. He again made reference to the Council decision to explore options to buy out the PPP contracts and said that a coalition of people considered the contracts could be renegotiated and could be of better value to the taxpayer.

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

"This year the ferry service to Arran has been hit by significant numbers of delays and cancellations due to technical issues. These are symptoms of an ageing fleet and the lack of a coherent vision for what a modern ferry service should look like. One has to acknowledge that money from the Scottish Government is being thrown at the ferry services, but it is clear that without a clear strategy costs are getting out of control, we are not getting value for the money spent, and the people and businesses who rely on the services are suffering.

Will the Leader undertake to take forward to the Scottish Minister for Transport the following message:

There needs to be a complete overhaul of how the management structure of the ferry services works. There needs to be a coordinated strategy for Scottish ferry services that includes 1 - a timetable for building replacement vessels to standardised designs that are able to work across the network, and 2: plans to refurbish and renew ports to be able to accommodate ferries from across the network.”

Councillor Marshall asked the above question in the absence of Councillor Billings.

Councillor Cullinane thanked Councillor Marshall for Councillor Billing’s question and responded in the following terms:-

“Ferries provide a crucial link between our mainland and island communities. North Ayrshire Council has played a pivotal role in securing investment into Brodick and Ardrossan Harbours and continues to work in partnership with the national agencies, Transport Scotland and the private sector to ensure our harbour infrastructure is fit for purpose, has long term resilience and is a focal point for our economic regeneration plans.

The Rural Economy and Connectivity Commission (RECC) is currently considering the future funding for Clyde and Hebrides ferry services as part of its scrutiny of the Scottish Government’s budget. The consultation process which ended on 7 September aimed to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to express their opinions on the level of investment that should be made to support these ferry services in future years.

The Cabinet approved a response to the consultation on 4 September which has been submitted to the RECC. However, there is an opportunity as part of a consultation to request that the RECC consider a review the management structure of the ferry services, review of the Ferries Plan (2013-2020), and review of the Vessel Replacement and Deployment Plan (2018).”

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

“I would like to ask the Leader of the Council for an update on the replacement of Ardrossan Academy.”

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

“A positive meeting was held between the Council and the Scottish Government’s Cabinet Secretary for Education, John Swinney, last month to discuss investment in the replacement for Ardrossan Academy.

At its budget meeting in February, Council unanimously approved a funding allocation of £31.5million for the project with a start date of 2024/25 to be completed by 2027-28.

It has always been made clear that the project would be accelerated in the capital plan if the Scottish Government announced funding through the next phase of the Schools for the Future programme. Following our discussions with the Scottish Government we anticipate the next phase of the funding to be available around 2021.

The Scottish Government have acknowledged the huge investment this Council has made in our school estate in recent years with the new Garnock Campus and Largs Campus' and the millions of pounds of investment in Kilwinning, Auchenhavie and Irvine Royal Academies. A further £80million of investment is included in the current 10 year capital plan including the Ardrossan Academy replacement, a new ASN school, a replacement for Moorpark Primary School and a new Primary school in Irvine at Montgomerie Park. This investment by the Council has left our school estate, with the exception of Ardrossan Academy, in a better condition than most other local authorities.

Officers continue to work on the development of an Ardrossan Campus and further discussions between Council and Scottish Government officials are planned in hope of securing funds to deliver this exciting project at the earliest opportunity."

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

"Why are there no Independent or Conservative Members on the Recruitment Committee?"

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

"Since the resignation of Conservative and Independent Members following the Staffing and Recruitment Committee of 21 July 2014, Council has on three occasions considered the composition of that Committee. On 5 November 2014, 17 May 2017 and at the last Council meeting on 27 June 2018 Council unanimously agreed the current composition of the Staffing and Recruitment Committee. Accordingly there are no Independent or Conservative Members on the Staffing and Recruitment Committee because Conservative and Independent Members unanimously agreed to this- on three successive occasions, including the last Council meeting."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Murdoch asked why the fact that Conservative and Unionist and Independent Members had previously resigned from the Staffing and Recruitment Committee had never been highlighted to new Members following the 2017 elections, and why the post of Chief Executive had not been advertised nationally.

Councillor Cullinane responded by reiterating that the Scheme of Administration had been to the current Council twice and makes clear the composition of the committee, albeit new Members may not have been aware of the background. The Leader then asserted that the Staffing and Recruitment Committee acknowledged that the Council had a number of first class officers already employed by this Council, something which was recognised across the country. Councillor Cullinane considered it a positive move, therefore, that the committee was prepared to give the space for the talent within the leadership team to apply for the position of Chief Executive.

(s) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Cabinet Member for the Economy in the following terms:-

"An Environmental Impact Assessment was not considered necessary for the creation of the Caisson Gate and other work to the Hunterston Basin as each individual oil rig would require both a decommissioning statement and an EIA.

Does this mean that work to the basin for which planning permission has now been granted, cannot commence until the first oil rig has been through this process and an EIA produced for the entire process?"

Councillor Gallagher thanked the Member for his question and paraphrased the following written response:-

"No. The approved works and use at Hunterston, includes the decommissioning of oil rigs, platforms, and similar structures that have served the oil and gas industry and offshore renewable industry.

It was judged that an Environmental Impact Assessment was not required for these works.

Marine Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and SEPA were all consulted as part of the planning process and raised no objections to the application other than technical matters that can be addressed by conditions that will continue to protect the local environment.

There is no requirement in terms of the Planning Acts for each rig which is to be decommissioned at the site to be subject to a decommissioning statement or an EIA, although they may be subject to the EIA procedure through the Petroleum Act.

The responsibility for compliance with the terms of the Petroleum Act rests with the Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning.

We are aware of the concerns raised by some members of the local community about the prospect of an oil rig decommissioning site at this location and its potential impact on the environment, wildlife and tourism.

There is no infringement of the SSSI.

We also recognise that the Hunterston peninsula and deep water port has the capability of bringing national and international levels of investment to Ayrshire and Scotland and as such has the potential to transform the economic prospects of this area."

On a point of order, Councillor Murdoch queried why Councillor Gallagher had not read out his written answer in full and it was confirmed that there was no requirement for him to do so.

As a supplementary question, Councillor Murdoch asked whether the Cabinet Member had no concerns over the lack of an EIA and if he was confident that the due process had been followed in the correct manner.

Councillor Gallagher responded by expressing surprise at the question, given a briefing on these planning matters that very morning had been given to Ward Members which confirmed that the Council's planning processes and procedures were extremely robust and followed to the letter. The Cabinet Member referred to the documentation which had been presented to all four Ward Members in support of this. Councillor Gallagher also confirmed that the Council would continue to cooperate with all relevant agencies to ensure the best outcome.

In terms of Standing Order 5.7, the Provost agreed that the meeting be adjourned at 4.10 p.m. for a short comfort break, reconvening at 4.25 p.m. with the same Members and officers present and in attendance, with the exception of Councillor George.

14.1 Motions

In terms of Standing Order 13, submitted:-

- (a) a motion by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Sweeney, in the following terms:-

"That the Council supports Poppyscotland's 'Count Them In' campaign which aims to see the inclusion of an Armed Forces question in the next Census in 2021. Notes that there is currently very limited information about where our veterans now live and what support they may need. Believes that gathering this information through the Census will allow for an improved understanding of this unique community and ensure that the Council, alongside others, can ensure we are fully meeting the needs of our serving personnel, veterans and their families. Instructs the Chief Executive to write to Poppyscotland, the local constituency and regional MSPs within the local authority area to inform them of Council's support".

There being no amendment, the Motion was declared carried.

- (b) a motion by Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Dickson, in the following terms:-

"That Council instructs Officers to establish a short term Member/Officer working group to investigate the support provided to community groups, clubs and societies organising events across North Ayrshire and the challenges that they face.

The working group to report back to a future Council meeting outlining positive proposals surrounding the support, funding, licensing, permissions and other issues affecting local people and groups organising events and festivals across our communities."

As an amendment, Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Foster, moved that the Council instruct officers to make arrangements for a Member seminar to investigate the support and information provided to organisers of events and the challenges that they face.

Following questions, debate and summing up, on a division, there voted for the amendment 10 and for the motion 16, and the motion was declared carried.

- (c) a motion by Councillor Gurney, seconded by Councillor McClung, in the following terms:-

"Given the Scottish Government's continued investment in educational infrastructure, Council instructs the Administration to prioritise a new Ardrossan academy during its consideration of the capital budget and to explore all funding opportunities available to realise this long overdue project."

As an amendment, Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Foster, moved as follows:-

"Council welcomes the administration's proactive action to hold early discussions between North Ayrshire Council and the Scottish Government over funding for the replacement of Ardrossan Academy. Council notes that those discussions have been positive and further meetings are planned between Council and Government officials. Council expects the Scottish Government to announce the next phase of the Schools for the Future Programme later this year with funding available from 2021 onwards. Council therefore reiterates its ambition to secure funds from the Schools for the Future Programme as early as possible in order to replace Ardrossan Academy at the earliest opportunity."

On a point of order, the Leader sought, and received, confirmation as to the competency of the motion, given that it did not provide a fully costed proposal. The Head of Democratic Services confirmed that the motion was competent given that it did not seek a Council decision which required funding.

In terms of Standing Order 14.5, the mover and seconder of the motion then agreed to withdraw their motion in favour of the amendment, subject to the latter being altered to delete the words “administration’s proactive” in the first line and substitute of the word “replace” in the penultimate line with the phrase “prioritise the replacement of”.

The mover and seconder of the amendment agreed to alter their amendment as requested. The amendment then became the substantive motion.

There being no further amendment, the substantive motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed as follows:-

“Council welcomes the action to hold early discussions between North Ayrshire Council and the Scottish Government over funding for the replacement of Ardrossan Academy. Council notes that those discussions have been positive and further meetings are planned between Council and Government officials. Council expects the Scottish Government to announce the next phase of the Schools for the Future Programme later this year with funding available from 2021 onwards. Council therefore reiterates its ambition to secure funds from the Schools for the Future Programme as early as possible in order to prioritise the replacement of Ardrossan Academy at the earliest opportunity.”

(d) a motion by Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor McNicol, in the following terms:-

“Council expresses regret at the failure of the Administration to allow the Conservative and Unionist Group and Independent Members representation on the Staffing and Recruitment Committee that will appoint the new Chief Executive.”

As an amendment, Councillor Cullinane, seconded by Councillor Foster, moved as follows:-

“Council welcomes the Conservative Group and Independents interest in re-joining the Staffing and Recruitment Committee as there has been no Conservative or Independent representation on the Committee since members resigned following the Committee meeting of 21 July 2014.

Council acknowledges that the composition of the Committee has been considered on three occasions since then, including at the last meeting of the Council in June 2018, and the current composition has been unanimously agreed on each occasion. Council therefore resolves to note that the process to amend the Scheme of Administration to change the Committee's membership requires the amendment to standing orders to be tabled for consideration at the next meeting of the full council.”

At this point, the Council resolved, in terms of in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the Meeting, the press and the public on the grounds that discussion could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

The Provost instructed that the webcast cease for the period in which the press and public were so excluded.

Members asked questions and debated the motion and amendment.

Thereafter, the press and public were readmitted to the meeting and the webcast recommenced.

On a division and following a roll call vote, there voted for the amendment Councillors Bell, Brahim, Burns, Clarkson, Cullinane, Davidson, Dickson, Easdale, Foster, Gallagher, Gurney, Hill, Larsen, McClung, McPhater, McTiernan, Miller, Montgomerie, Donald Reid, Donald L. Reid and Sweeney (21) and for the motion Councillors Barr, Gallacher, Glover, Marshall, McNicol, Murdoch and Stephen (7), and the amendment was declared carried.

- (e) a motion by Councillor Brahim, seconded by Councillor Larsen, in the following terms:-

“Council values the EU citizens who made Scotland their home and recognises the positive contribution EU citizens make to the economy, communities and public services in North Ayrshire, Scotland and the UK. Council regrets that, more than two years after the Brexit vote, approximately 235,000 EU citizens – including 36,500 children – still face insecurity about their right to continue to live and work here once the UK leaves the EU on 29 March 2019.

Council condemns the UK Government’s decision to subject EU citizens who have already lived in and contributed to North Ayrshire, Scotland and the UK often for many years, to a mandatory application process test and to force them to pay a charge to retain the right to live and work here through so-called “settled status”.

Council therefore supports the Scottish Government’s continued efforts to press the UK Government to change their policy on this matter and to meet any settled status fees for EU citizens working in our devolved public services.”

On a point of order, Councillors Brahim and Larsen sought, and received, advice as to whether it would be appropriate for either Member to declare an interest in this matter in light of their status as EU citizens working in the public sector. It was noted that no declaration of interest was required in this instance.

There being no amendment, the Motion was declared carried.

- (f) a motion by Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Larsen, in the following terms:-

“North Ayrshire Council congratulates Renfrewshire Council on its commitment to ensuring that all secondary school pupils receive CPR training during their time in education.

The Council instructs our Education Department to bring forward plans to ensure that both CPR and defibrillator training are offered to every pupil across our secondary schools."

The Leader of the Council, in making reference to an amendment he had intended to submit, instead took the opportunity to confirm to Members that he had already instructed officers to undertake the work referred to within the motion and that this work was already underway.

There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

14.2 Motions

In terms of Standing Order 22, submitted:-

- (a) a motion by Councillor McNicol, seconded by Councillor Barr, in the following terms:-

"That the Council amend Section 13 of the Scheme of Administration to read:-

"Staffing and Recruitment Committee

Constitution

Six members of the Council, namely the Leader of the Council, a member of the Administration, the Leader and a member of the Opposition, a member of the Conservative and Unionist Group and a member of the Independents. shall constitute the membership of the Committee. The Cabinet Member holding the relevant service portfolio relating to that particular Chief Officer appointment shall also be a member of the Committee for business relating to that appointment only. Each member will have a named substitute who may attend meetings in their place when necessary."

Council is requested to suspend Standing Orders in order to consider this motion at the meeting of 19 September 2018."

The Council was invited to consider resolving, in terms of Standing Order 21, to suspend Standing Order 23, to allow consideration of the motion.

On a division, there voted to suspend Standing Order 23, 6. Accordingly, having failed to find the support of the required two thirds of Members present and voting, the Council agreed not to suspend Standing Order 23, to allow consideration of the motion. The motion was, therefore, not considered.

It was noted that the matter would, instead, be referred to the next meeting of the Council, in terms of Standing Order 22 and motion 14.1(d).

The Meeting ended at 5.50 p.m.



PROVOST'S REPORT

7 November for the period covering: 11
September - 29 October 2018

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Provost of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Ian Clarkson.

PROVOST'S REPORT

7 November for the period covering: 11 September - 29 October 2018

Since the last meeting of the Council I have attended various events throughout North Ayrshire.

Launch of the Police Scotland Youth Volunteer Programme, Irvine Royal Academy, 13 September

On 13 September, I attended the launch of the Police Scotland Youth Volunteer Programme. The programme aims to increase Police engagement with young people, breaking down barriers and promoting positive role models through regular training and participation in community safety initiatives and public events. The programme gives opportunities for our young people to discover their talents, develop skills for life and to make a positive contribution to their local community.

Presentation of the First Regimental Guidon, Redford Infantry Barracks, Edinburgh, 15 September

As a guest of the Scottish and North Irish Yeomanry, Councillor Miller and I attended the presentation of their first regimental Guidon on 15 September at Redford Infantry Barracks, Edinburgh. As Veteran's Champion I am always keen to attend events of this nature and show our support to those who have served or are currently serving in our Armed Forces.

School Visits, Irvine, 21 September

On the morning of 21 September, I visited Hayocks Primary School Breakfast Club where I met pupils and staff and got an insight into how the club operates and the benefits it brings to many. I then went along to Corsehill Primary School to formally congratulate pupils and staff on winning the "Best Garden" in the One Planet Picnic Awards and to learn a bit more about the project. Finally I visited Kilwinning Academy to formally congratulate the School on being awarded the LGBT Youth Bronze Charter mark and learn more about the excellent work carried out to achieve this.

Scottish Provosts' Association AGM, Dundee, 26 September

On 26 September, I attended the AGM of the Scottish Provosts' Association in Dundee. The main aims of the Association are:

- (a) To promote the image and dignity of Scottish Local Authorities
- (b) To advance the wellbeing of Scottish local democracy and the people of Scotland
- (c) To provide a forum for Civic Heads to pool their experiences
- (d) To facilitate training for and assist Civic Heads in their apolitical role and in particular to promote understanding of the differences in the respective roles of Civic Head and the Council Leader and other Council political appointees
- (e) To collaborate with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, the Scottish Government and other public and private bodies to promote and enhance the status of Local Government

The Association provides excellent networking opportunities and support to Provost's in Scotland.

National Day of the People's Republic of China Reception, Chinese Consulate, Edinburgh, 26 September

On the evening of 26 September, I attended a reception in the Chinese Consulate in Edinburgh marking National Day of the People's Republic of China. Events like these give the opportunity to promote North Ayrshire to a wider audience.

Macmillan Coffee Morning, Cunninghame House, 28 September

Once again our generous staff supported the "World's Biggest Coffee Morning" raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. I hosted a coffee morning in Cunninghame House on 28 September raising nearly £300. Staff throughout North Ayrshire got involved by organising their own coffee mornings in support of this worthwhile cause. My thanks go to everyone for their support.

Ayrshire Hospice Autumn Ball, Seamill Hydro, Seamill, West Kilbride, 28 September

I was joined by Councillors Tom Marshall, Donald Reid and Donald L Reid at this year's Ayrshire Hospice Autumn Ball which took place in the Seamill Hydro on 28 September. Over £50,000 was raised on the night for the Hospice which provides wide ranging care services for those with life limiting illness.

Ayrshire Athletes' Celebration Event, Ayr Academy, Ayr, 29 September

On the afternoon of 29 September, I attended the Ayrshire Athletes' Celebration Event hosted by Ayrshire Sportsability. The event celebrated the achievements of disabled athletes from Ayrshire reaching podium level. The event gave an insight into what talented sportsmen and women we have here in Ayrshire and how they are supported to be all they can be.

Ayrshire Muslim Association - Grand Official Open Day, London Road, Kilmarnock, 29 September

I attended the Ayrshire Muslim Association's Grand Official Open Day in London Road, Kilmarnock on 29 September. I was given a tour of the facility and learned more about the Association and how it serves the community.

Gathering of Armed Forces and Veterans Champions, Edinburgh City Chambers, 1 October

On 1 October, I attended the gathering of Armed Forces and Veterans Champions in Edinburgh City Chambers. A keynote speech was given by Mr. Graeme Dey MSP, Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans. The main aim of the gathering was to provide a forum in which Armed Forces and Veterans Champions can consider how their organisations' obligations to the Armed Forces Covenant may be better delivered across Scotland.

Challenge Poverty Week, Various, 1-8 October

Challenge Poverty Week took place from 1-8 October. I was happy to be able to support the Leader of the Council on the many visits and events which took place throughout North Ayrshire during that time.

WestFM Cream of Ayrshire Awards, Park Hotel, Kilmarnock, 4 October

Councillors Murdoch and Larsen joined me at this year's West FM Cream of Ayrshire Awards which was held in the Park Hotel, Kilmarnock. This event recognises the groups and organisations in Ayrshire who go that extra mile and make a difference in our local communities.

Kirkin' of the Deacon Convener of Irvine Incorporated Trades, Old Parish Church, Irvine, 7 October

On 7 October, I attended the Kirkin' of the Deacon Convener of Irvine Incorporated Trade in the Old Parish Church in Irvine. Many local organisations took part in this event which is part of Irvine's culture and history.

Citizenship Ceremony, Saltcoats Town Hall, 10 October

On 10 October, I was joined by the Depute Lieutenant to welcome new UK citizens to North Ayrshire. From application stage to finally receiving UK Citizenship can be a long process and it was a pleasure to get the opportunity to congratulate them on completing this journey.

Go Purple for the Ayrshire Hospice, Cunninghame House, Irvine, 12 October

North Ayrshire went Purple on 12 October to raise funds for the Ayrshire Hospice. Approximately £900 was raised in Cunninghame House alone by our generous staff. Many of our schools also took part on what has become an annual fundraising event.

Irvine Bird Club Presentation, Volunteer Rooms, Irvine, 13 October

On 13 October I was invited to present Mrs Bert Reid with a Roll of Honour certificate from the National Council of Aviculture at the annual caged bird show in the Volunteer Rooms, Irvine. I am always inspired by the amount of work that goes on in our local communities by volunteers and only too happy to lend my support when I can.

Festival of Juvenile Solo Piping Competition, Auchendarvie Academy, 20 October

I was delighted to attend the Festival of Juvenile Solo Piping Competition in Auchendarvie Academy on 20 October. Over 200 young people entered and took part in five different chanter events and 16 piping events. Over 40 volunteers assisted with the event which is now firmly established in Scotland's piping calendar.

Irvine Incorporated Trades Annual Dinner "Big Pie", Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine, 27 October

Irvine Incorporated Trades 372nd Annual Dinner took place on 27 October in the Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine. This particular event is steeped in tradition and celebrates Irvine's cultural heritage.

Cyclocross, Irvine Beach Park, 28 October

On 28 October I was invited to present prizes at the Cyclocross Competition at Irvine Beach Park. The Scottish Cyclocross Association was formed by racers in 2007 in order to promote, strengthen and maintain the spirit of cyclocross racing in Scotland. It is excellent to see events of this calibre taking place in North Ayrshire.

Reception Consul General of Turkey, Edinburgh City Chambers, 29 October

I was one of many guests at a reception hosted by the Consul General of Turkey in Edinburgh. The event marked the 95th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic and took place in Edinburgh City Chambers.

100th Birthdays and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries

The Depute Provost, the Lieutenancy of Ayrshire and I have visited the following people to congratulate them on their 100th Birthday or their Diamond Wedding Anniversary:

25 September – Mrs and Mrs Black from Kilbirnie, Diamond Wedding Anniversary

1 October – Mrs Strain from Irvine, 100th Birthday

11 October – Mrs Duncan from Irvine, 100th Birthday



Ian Clarkson

Councillor Ian Clarkson
Provost North Ayrshire Council



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

LEADER'S REPORT

For the period covering: 11 September – 29
October 2018

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Leader of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Joe Cullinane.

LEADER'S REPORT

For the period covering: 11 September – 29 October 2018

VISIT TO GARNOCK VALLEY MEN'S SHED, 11 September

On 11 September, I was delighted to visit the Garnock Valley Men's Shed together with my colleague, Councillor Louise McPhater, Cabinet Member for Communities. This follows on from the decision taken by Cabinet to set up a new Community Investment Fund (CIF), which will enable Communities throughout North Ayrshire to fund any priorities as identified through Locality Planning Partnerships.

The Men's Shed in the Garnock Valley will be one of the first groups to receive £28,000 funding which will help the Group finance general running costs and build on some of their fantastic work which looks to promote general wellbeing in men and tackle social isolation.

I am hugely proud of the fact that North Ayrshire Council is the first Local Authority in Scotland to have set up a Community Investment Fund which will further empower our local community groups and see Groups such as the Men's Shed continue with their great work and make a real difference to the lives of some of their local residents.



(Left to right) David Gardner and Henry Johnson (Men's Shed), Stewart Beck (Community Development Worker), Councillor Louise McPhater (Cabinet Member for Communities), Council Leader, Joe Cullinane and Ian Shaw (Men's Shed).

GROUND BREAKING AT DICKSON DRIVE, 13 September

On 13 September I attended the ground breaking ceremony of our new housing development at Dickson Drive in Irvine. This development is part of our ambitious affordable house building programme which will see the provision of 24 new homes including general needs housing, amenity bungalows and wheelchair liveable properties.

LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE, 15 September

I briefly attended the Locality Partnership Conference which was held on the 15 September in Saltcoats Town Hall. As Chair of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and as a member of the Kilwinning Locality Partnership, I have come to appreciate the diverse range of work that we are involved in when it comes to the work of our Locality Partnerships.

At the Community Planning Board, partners such as Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services and Ayrshire College work at a strategic level to look at developing ideas for our communities. But it is through our Locality Partnerships that these ideas come to fruition and where the relationships are further strengthened enabling all of us to deliver the work that is most relevant to our local communities.

Since our Locality Partnerships were established, I have seen them develop and greatly transform. Not only have new relationships within the Locality Partnership membership been forged but also new and wider reaching relationships with our community have been made.

This has enabled us to agree local priorities and how best to tackle them going forward. This would not be possible if it wasn't for the commitment of the Locality Partnership members and for the support provided by our officers who support their work.

JOINT YOUTH CABINET, Kilwinning Academy, 18 September

On 18 September, together with my colleagues in Cabinet, we held another successful Joint Youth Cabinet meeting at Kilwinning Academy. Informative and useful discussions were held with pupils on a range of subjects including, safety in our local community, tackling bullying, the value of kindness and how poverty affects our young people. One of the key issues to arise from the poverty discussion was the fact that young people are expected to pay adult transport fares yet only get paid a minimum wage when taking up casual employment. This is an issue that was raised many times by pupils during Challenge Poverty Week, and it is clear that there is some disparity between rates of pay and costs of living.



My thanks to the officers in our Youth Services and Education teams for their continued support in facilitating these meetings which continue to be as valuable to pupils as they are to Cabinet Members.

COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING, 20 September

On 20 September, our Community Planning Partners (CPP) met for their Board meeting which was held at Largs Academy. John Burns, Chief Executive of NHS Ayrshire and Arran gave a presentation on the NHS Ayrshire and Arran Transformation Plan, outlining some of the changes that have already taken place which include an integrated approach to delivering specialist services at a regional and national level. He also spoke at some length about how a new approach was needed for the future to inform and engage with the public so that they have a better understanding of the challenges being faced.

CPP Board members also heard presentations from the Community Justice Ayrshire (CJA) team who spoke about the new three year Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan and from the Head of Connected Communities, Audrey Sutton, who gave an update on the North Ayrshire Community Learning and Development Strategic Plan Refresh 2018-21.

The next CPP Board meeting will be held on 29 November 2018 at Fullarton Community Hub.

COSLA LEADERS, 28 September

COSLA Leaders met in Edinburgh on the 28 September for their monthly meeting. The packed agenda included the Spending Review, Pay Negotiations, Partnership Working and Children and Young People's Mental Health.

There was some discussion about the recent announcement in June by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport of a joint Task Force with COSLA to look at Children and Young People's Mental Health. The Task Force will provide recommendations for improvements in provision for children and young people's mental health in Scotland and, in partnership, develop a programme of sustainable reform of services.

BETTER OFF NORTH AYRSHIRE, 1 October

On the 1 October, and almost a year to the date since it was launched, our Better Off North Ayrshire Service announced that it had had saved users of the Service a staggering £1,057,855.

North Ayrshire Council was selected as one of five areas in Scotland to receive funding from the Big Lottery and the European Social Fund to deliver the programme which helps North Ayrshire residents aged 16-plus, who are lone parents, or living in low income or non-working households to improve their financial circumstances through a package of financial services.

Working with partners such as Community Housing Advocacy Project (CHAP), ANCHO Housing Association, Cunninghame Housing Association, Cunninghame Furniture Recycling Company and 1st Alliance Credit Union, Better Off North Ayrshire has helped over 1000 local people save, on average, £1,000 per year.

This has been a fine example of partnership working at its best and a fantastic announcement to make on the first day of Challenge Poverty Week. I would encourage anyone facing financial hardship to get in touch with our Better Off North Ayrshire team to find out about the great support and advice on offer.

CHALLENGE POVERTY WEEK, 1-8 October

For the third year in a row, North Ayrshire Council supported the Poverty Alliance's Challenge Poverty campaign which aims to highlight the reality of poverty, demonstrate what is being done across Scotland to address poverty and increase public support for more action to solve poverty. The campaign ran from 1-8 October and the key messages this year were:

- Poverty exists in Scotland and affects us all
- Poverty can be solved by boosting incomes and reducing costs
- Solving poverty is about ensuring we can all participate in society

This year to coincide with Year of Young People, the programme for the week centred around visiting Primary Schools and Secondary Schools in each of the six different localities to raise awareness about poverty in all its forms and to encourage young people to think of ideas to help combat poverty.

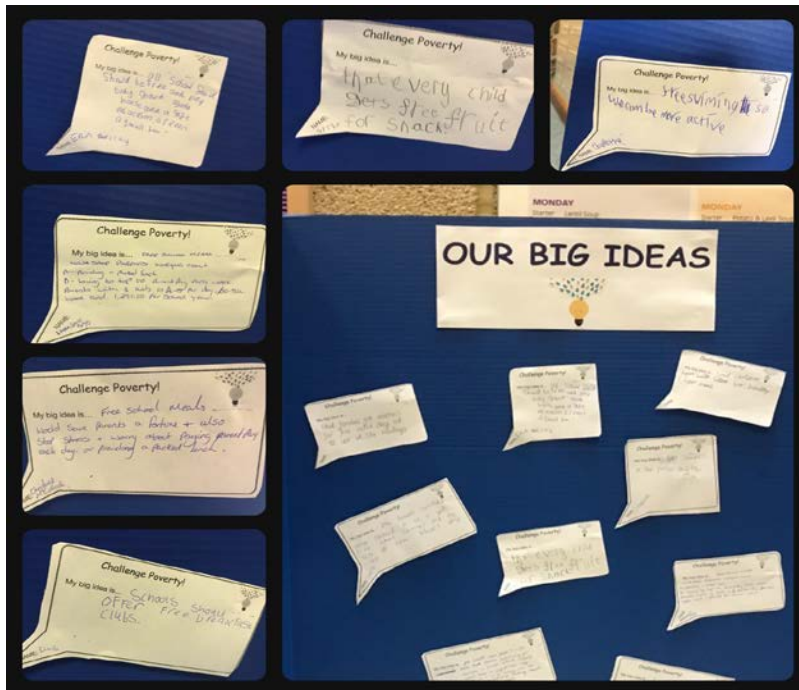
In tandem with the above visits, I was keen to get ideas from all North Ayrshire residents on what else we could be looking at to help overcome poverty. This was launched on social media

(Twitter) as #MyBIGIdeaNA and ideas were then discussed at evening locality meetings, facilitated by our locality representatives, to generate a general discussion.

The visits, some of which were also with Provost Clarkson, were as follows:

Monday 1 October (Kilwinning)

AM – **Blacklands Primary school**. Visit to Breakfast club (see uniform station, meet families). Better Off North Ayrshire photocall. Visits to primary classes P3 through to P7 to see some of the work they had been doing in class and to chat to them about some of their “BIG ideas” to tackle poverty and to make their community a better place to live. Value of Kindness. This was then followed by a school Assembly where pupils shared some of their work with their peers and treated visitors to some special singing.



Kindness Tree in Blacklands Primary School and some of the BIG Ideas from pupils.

PM – **Kilwinning Academy**. Interesting and engaging discussions with S1 and S2 pupils coming up with some great ideas to tackle poverty followed by a productive discussion with senior Modern Studies pupils on Basic Income.



Council Leader, Joe Cullinane with Kilwinning Academy pupils, teaching staff and Head Teacher, Mr Tim Swan.

PM – Visit to **Ayrshire College** to meet with HND Social Sciences students to discuss the Basic Income pilot and to get their views.

Evening – Meeting in **Kilwinning Academy** with community groups, young people, Elected Members and third sector to discuss ideas to tackle poverty (digital, fuel, food poverty).

Tuesday 2 October (The Three Towns)

AM – **Ardeer Primary school**. Visit to Breakfast Club. Visits to primary classes P1 through to P7 to see some of the work they had been doing in class including poverty relating to food, clothing, heat, housing, activities and interests, educational, employment and family life. Meeting with Pupil Council and JASS pupils to discuss “Big Ideas” and share good practice.

PM – **Auchenharvie Academy**. Meeting with senior Modern Studies pupils and general discussion on poverty and their perceptions, covering foodbanks and how they operate, the need for life skills. Overview and subsequent discussion on Basic Income.

Evening – Meeting in **Ardrossan Civic Centre** with community groups, young people, Elected Members and third sector to discuss ideas to tackle poverty, with quite a bit of discussion on the Basic Income and initiatives to target food poverty.

Wednesday 3 October (Arran)

AM – **Brodict Primary school**. General Assembly which looked at poverty across the world and then at a national and local level. Visits to primary classes P1 through to P7 to see some of the work they had been doing in class. Meeting with Pupil Council/Rights Respecting School Group with discussion on some of the issues affecting those living on the island.

PM – **Arran Academy**. Meeting with senior Modern Studies pupils and general discussion on poverty. Poverty and potential links to crime. Overview and subsequent discussion on Basic Income.

Evening – Meeting in **Ormidale Pavilion** with community groups, Elected Members and third sector to discuss ideas to tackle poverty. (Foodbank on Arran, removal of Citizens Advice from island, high travel costs for islanders, basic income).

Thursday 4 October (Garnock Valley)

AM – **St Bridget's Primary school**. General Assembly with pupils and parents. General overview of some of the fantastic work the pupils had done on challenging poverty. Visit and chats with parents at school who are undertaking cooking and sewing/knitting classes in the school with volunteers from Beith Community Trust. Discussions with Pupil Council about local area and tackling poverty in general. Meeting with staff.



Council Leader, Joe Cullinane and Head Teacher, Dennis Hopkins at morning Assembly at St Bridget's



Mums at St Bridget's PS making blankets for the homeless and trauma teddies

PM – **Garnock Campus.** Meeting with senior Modern Studies pupils and general discussion on poverty and their perceptions including poverty relating to food, fuel and employment. Need for more advice on careers/life skills/budgeting skills in school. Overview and subsequent discussion on Basic Income.

Evening – Meeting in **Bridgend Community Centre** with community groups, young people, Elected Members and third sector to discuss ideas to tackle poverty. (Zero hour contracts, Garnock transport issues/costs, discounted travel for young people, more education on life skills to be given in schools).



Challenge Poverty Meeting at Bridgend Community Centre in Kilbirnie. Lots of lively discussion

Friday 5 October (North Coast)

AM – **West Kilbride Primary school.** Challenging Poverty Assembly for P4-P7 pupils – looking at poverty through the years in UK. Visit to primary classes to look at work undertaken in class. Discussion with Pupil Council.

PM – **Largs Academy**. Meeting with junior and senior pupils for general discussion on challenging poverty including poverty relating to cost of transport, cost of school day (dress down days), limited information on clubs happening in school, how to look at more ways of getting older and younger generations to come together regularly to tackle social isolation.

Monday 8 October (Irvine)

AM – **Loudoun Montgomery Primary school**. Visit to Breakfast Club. Tour of school and Early Years facility.

AM – **Annick Primary School** – General Assembly to see fabulous work pupils had done on challenging poverty and some of the great work already being done by the school. Importance of being thankful for the good things we have in life and to be kind to each other. Visit to individual classes to chat to pupils. Tour round school's uniform station, food donations.





Annick Primary School Uniform Stations – fabulous!



Council Leader, Joe Cullinane and Provost Clarkson in discussion with Annick Primary pupils talking about how they challenge poverty

PM – **Irvine Royal Academy** - Meeting with senior Modern Studies pupils and general discussion on poverty. Discussion of some ideas on how to tackle poverty (raise minimum wage, Education Maintenance Allowance, need for more budgeting advice in schools). Overview and subsequent discussion on Basic Income.

Evening – Meeting in **Fullarton Community Hub** with community groups, Elected Members and third sector to discuss ideas to tackle poverty. (Overview of work by Fair for All Commissioner, fuel poverty, food, need to value lower paid members of the community/volunteers, kindness, cost of school day, value of work done by our communities).

COSLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS, 11-12 October

On 11 and 12 October, I attended the COSLA Annual Conference and Excellence Awards in St Andrews along with Councillors Bell, Burns and Marshall. Our new Chief Executive, Craig Hatton, also attended. The Conference was the platform for many distinguished speakers from Local and Scottish Government to talk about current affairs at the heart of local authority decision making.

CONVENTION OF HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS, 22 October

On 16 October, I attended the Convention of Highlands and Islands at Moray College in Elgin. Discussion points on the Agenda included the development of a post-Brexit Regional Policy for Highlands and Islands and looking at ways of maximizing the benefits from digital infrastructure and investment. The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy, Fergus Ewing, also led on a discussion about the potential future of strategic economic opportunities within the wider Highlands and Islands.

North Ayrshire Council have requested the inclusion of the project "Transitioning to a Tourism and Creative Arts destination with global reach – Marine Tourism."

PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME, 24 October

I was asked along to Kilwinning Academy on the 24 October to present certificates to parents who had completed the Parents in Partnership Programme. The programme, which is run by our Family Learning Team, looks to involve parents in pupil learning by following the school curriculum over a period of time. This enables parents to gain a better understanding of secondary education and helps further strengthen family engagement.

Congratulations to all the parents who were involved and to the Family Learning Team for their excellent work in this area.

ISLANDS TRANSPORT FORUM, 25 October

On 25 October, I took part in the Islands Transport Forum meeting. Agenda items included a review of the National Transport Strategy and updates on the ferry service investment plan and the air discount scheme which is due for renewal in 2019.

There was also discussion on the decentralisation of key transport posts and management to islands.

CARE EXPERIENCED AWARDS, 25 October

Together with the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Robert Foster, and our new Chief Executive, Craig Hatton, I was invited along to celebrate the successes of Care Leavers at Ayrshire College on 24 October. The event was a collaboration between NAHSCP Throughcare Team and Ayrshire College and takes place during National Care Leaver's Week.

I was privileged to meet with some of the young people who received certificates acknowledging their achievements in training, education and employment and I am hugely proud of the steps they are taking and wish them every success for the future.

COSLA LEADERS, 26 October

I attended COSLA Leaders on 26 October, where there was discussion on a range of subjects including an update on the 2018 Spending Review, an impact assessment of the Local Government workforce post-Brexit and discussion on the Public Pledge for the First Minister's National Advisory Council on Women and Girls (NACWG). The key role of the NACWG is to raise awareness of and tackle gender inequality by pushing for progress that will make a difference to women and girls. Identifying gaps in work to tackle gender inequality while considering ways to increase the pace and scale of change.

COSLA will sign the pledge on behalf of Local Government which will commit individual local authorities to consider participating in the "Spotlight Wee Circles" process. This will see a new spotlight topic being launched each month, with supporting information and interested local authorities will be asked to host discussions and feedback information to NACWG.

BASIC INCOME MEETING, 26 October

Following on from COSLA Leaders, there was a meeting in Verity House to discuss the Basic Income Pilot. North Ayrshire Council will be the lead for engagement with the Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) on behalf of the Steering Group. DWP have already agreed to explore the best way to provide answers to the Steering Group regarding questions about flexibilities of the existing benefit system.

In addition, the Steering Group have posed questions regarding HMRC involvement. A follow up call is currently being organised to take place in November with DWP and Scottish Government officials, to agree a way forward.

Members of the Steering Group attended the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN) Congress at the University of Tampere in Finland and were able to meet with key contacts to share information and learning from Basic Income pilots currently underway in Finland and Ontario.

A short International Learning Report is currently being drafted to share learning from BIEN. The report will be published and made available publicly by Carnegie UK Trust in November

WHO CARES? SCOTLAND CONFERENCE, Greenwood Conference Centre, 27 October

On 27 October, North Ayrshire hosted the "Who Cares? Scotland" Conference at Greenwood Conference Centre, a landmark event which was attended by our First Minister. The Conference, which came at the conclusion of Care Leavers Week, was attended by an audience who all share the same vision of making life better for the children and young people in our care.

I am proud as Leader of North Ayrshire Council to say that we have been leading the way when it comes to the role of corporate parenting. I have been proud to lead a Council that was the first in Scotland to abolish council tax for care experienced young people and proud too of the fact that we are the first Council in the whole of the UK to become a child centred council putting the views and experiences of the children here at the very heart of everything that we do.

Our work continues and I am proud to lead a Council of committed staff here in North Ayrshire whose work continues to lead by example.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe Cullinane". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Councillor Joe Cullinane
Leader North Ayrshire Council

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title:	North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of meetings held on 20 September 2018
Purpose:	To submit the Minutes of the meeting of the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Board held on 20 September 2018
Recommendation:	That the Council notes the Minutes contained in Appendix 1.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 It was previously agreed that the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board be submitted to North Ayrshire Council for information. The key matters arising from the minutes have been highlighted for the attention of Council and are detailed in Section 2.1.

2. Background

- 2.1 Minutes of the meeting of the CPP Board held on 20 September 2018 are appended. Particular matters for the Council's attention include the following:-

Agenda Item 3

The Board received a presentation on the NHS Ayrshire and Arran Delivery, Recovery and Transformation Plan. This highlighted the positive recent developments implemented locally as well as the ongoing need to improve services to meet changing demands. It was noted that a new approach to informing and engaging is needed, so that people understand the challenges and opportunities, and can feed in their views.

Agenda Item 4

The Board received a report on the work of the Safer North Ayrshire Partnership. Positive trends in relation to performance indicators were highlighted. Attendees discussed examples of strong partnership working such as the Safer Shores initiative and joint cycle patrols between Trading Standards and Police Scotland.

Agenda Item 5

A report was provided on developments in relation to Community Justice. This highlighted the new three year Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan, its commitments and structures to implement this work. It was noted that supporting funding is in place to 2020 and that Adverse Childhood Experiences has been a particular focus.

Agenda Item 8

Using a workshop format Board members considered community wealth building and public health priorities in turn. They discussed the role of CPP partners in supporting inclusive growth and how procurement can support this. The relationship between current partnership work and the new public health priorities was highlighted and partners considered what else can be done.

3. Proposals

3.1 That the Council notes the Minutes contained in Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial:	There are no financial implications arising from this report.
Human Resources:	There are no human resource implications arising from this report.
Legal:	There are no legal implications arising from this report.
Equality: Children and Young People:	There are no implications relating to equality or children and young people arising from this report.
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no environmental implications arising from this report.
Key Priorities:	The CPP activities detailed within this report support the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.
Community Benefits:	There are no community benefit implications arising from this report.

5. Consultation

5.1 No consultation was required.



Craig Hatton
Chief Executive

For further information please contact **Morna Rae**, Community Planning Team Leader on **01294 324177**.

Background Papers

N/A

Community Planning Partnership Board

Thursday 20 September 2018, 11am

Largs Academy



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Present

North Ayrshire Council

Joe Cullinane, Elected Member **(Chair)**

Marie Burns, Elected Member

John Bell, Elected Member

Alex Gallagher, Elected Member

Elma Murray, Chief Executive

Scott Davidson, Elected Member

Ellen McMaster, Elected Member

Anthony Gurney, Elected Member

NHS Ayrshire and Arran

John Burns, Chief Executive

Lynne McNiven, Consultant in Public Health

North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Stephen Brown, Director

Scottish Enterprise

Mark Newlands, Location Director

Scottish Fire and Rescue

Kenny Hankinson, Group Commander

Police Scotland

Brian Scott, Area Commander

Third Sector Interface

Vicki Yuill, Chief Executive

Ayrshire College

Michael Breen, Vice Principal

Scottish Government

Steven Cullum

Skills Development Scotland

Katie Hutton, Depute Director

In Attendance

Audrey Sutton (NAC), Morna Rae (NAC), Alice Dillon (CJA), Janeine Barrett (NAC), Andrew Noble (NAC), Elaine Young (NHS)

Apologies

Stephen Gallagher, Lynn Hammell, Heather Dunk, Martyn Cheyne, Ashley Pringle, Jim Scott, Allan Comrie, Bob Martin

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Minute of the Previous Meeting and Action Note

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and the action note was discussed. Morna Rae, NAC, advised that thanks had been passed to Jackie Galbraith. Elma Murray, NAC, confirmed that she had spoken to the Scottish Government about the Location Director role and that the discussions at the last Board meeting about its implications were accurate.

3. NHS Transformation

John Burns, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, provided a presentation on the NHS Ayrshire and Arran Delivery, Recovery and Transformation Plan.

He outlined the challenges of changing a model that people are used to and attached to. Changes to date include an integrated approach to delivering specialist services at a regional and national level, and paramedic care. Locally we are at the forefront of having a multidisciplinary team approach to primary care. The Health Board has recently committed £2.5m to the Intermediate Care and Rehabilitation Model, providing more care in the community.

Further changes are needed to deal with demographic change and the impact of deprivation. The Health Board needs to respond to differences across the Ayrshires. The sustainability of services needs to be considered to tackle challenges such as workforce issues.

Information was shared on Our Health 2020, a health and wellbeing framework for Ayrshire and Arran. To support this strategic change transitional funding will be required. An overview of the transformation programmes underway was given.

A new approach to informing and engaging is needed, so that people understand the challenges and opportunities, and can feed in their views.

Attendees raised the following points:

- Scope for efficiencies in outpatient services
- Getting community buy-in to the regional expertise model
- Potential knock-on positive impacts on workforce absence levels
- Supporting the transitional phase through reducing the need for acute beds via the Intermediate Care and Rehabilitation Model, and looking to the west of Scotland and health budget nationally
- Reducing waste in relation to medicine and equipment

Audrey Sutton, NAC, asked how partners can support with public messaging around NHS transformation. John advised that they will look to connect in with partner communication methods.

The Chair thanked John for his presentation.

4. Safer North Ayrshire Partnership

Brian Shaw, Police Scotland, gave a report on work by the Safer North Ayrshire Partnership. He thanked Janeine Barrett, NAC for her work in driving forward SNAP

and drafting the report. He commended the strong local partnership working, with partners tackling issues together on a daily basis.

Updates were given on a Safer North Ayrshire performance indicators, and key activity to address the outcomes.

Janeine spoke about the successful approach to dealing with very large groups of young people visiting Irvine beach during the good weather. The key to the success of this was the good working relationships which allowed quick responses to issues and frequent communication. Cllr Burns commented on the positive feedback received on the partnership approach, and the welcome they received balanced with keeping people safe.

Brian highlighted the following areas of work:

- Joint cycle patrols between Trading Standards and Police Scotland, which is an innovative approach allowing them to identify rogue traders targeting vulnerable people
- Campus police officers are in eight secondary schools, including Largs
- The recent Peoples Panel report showed positive trends in relation to community safety
- Police Scotland Youth Volunteers – recent Ayrshire launch

The Board noted the report and commended the work of partners involved in SNAP.

5. Community Justice Ayrshire

Alice Dillon, CJA provided a report on developments in relation to Community Justice. She highlighted the new three year Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan, its commitments and structures to implement this work.

Transitions funding is being used to support the Turning Point Scotland Prisoner Support Pathways Service. While this will end on 31 March 2019 work is underway to ensure that the current good practice is maintained through creative use of existing resources. The funding also supports the Service User Involvement Initiative, with service user groups established across the three Ayrshires.

The Scottish Government recently advised that funding will be continued to 2020 and this will be retitled “partnership development fund”. This will help cover ongoing staff costs in addition to developmental work.

Following the pan-Ayrshire conference on Adverse Childhood Experiences in February 2018 a strategic planning group was established and it has supported the screenings of the Resilience documentary along with panel discussions. This has included screenings in each of North Ayrshire’s six localities and two at HMP Kilmarnock (the first screening for prison staff in Scotland).

Elma advised that a specific screening for North Ayrshire Elected Members was being arranged. Vicki Yuill will progress an input for Third Sector service providers.

The Chair thanked Alice for her report and the Board agreed to receive future updates.

6. Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

The presentation on the LOIP annual performance report was not available due to the presenter being delayed by public transport issues. Morna advised that the draft

LOIP performance report for 2017-18 had been created in consultation with the Strategic Management Team. This would be circulated by email to Board members for their comments and approval. The Board agreed to this approach.

7. Community Learning and Development Strategic Plan

Audrey gave a report on the North Ayrshire Community Learning and Development Strategic Plan Refresh 2018-21. She stressed the role of Community Planning partners in this work. The fit with Fair for All and the Locality Partnerships was highlighted. She invited partners to review the plan and provide comments to her over the next month. Subject to feedback on specific issues the plan was approved.

8. Workshops

Attendees split into groups and participated in two workshops in turn:

Community Wealth Building – Andrew Noble led discussions on:

- What is Community Wealth Building?
- Links to Inclusive Growth
- Footprint- focus on economic levers that the public sector does have- employment, procurement and assets
- Actions to progress
- Role for the CPP

Public Health Priorities – Elaine Young and Lynne McNiven gave an input on the new public health priorities for Scotland:

- A Scotland where we live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities
- A Scotland where we flourish in our early years
- A Scotland where we have good mental wellbeing
- A Scotland where we reduce the use of and harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
- A Scotland where we have a sustainable, inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all
- A Scotland where we eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

Attendees discussed current work to support these and what else partners can do.

9. AOCB

The Chair highlighted that the minutes of the Locality Partnerships and Fair for All Advisory Panel were available within the meeting papers.

There was no other business. Attendees were invited to stay for lunch and participated in a tour of the Largs campus.

The next meeting will take place on 29 November 2018 at 11am at Fullarton Community Hub in Irvine.

Actions Summary

No	Agenda Item	Action Required	By	Date
1	NHS Transformation	Partners to consider how their communication methods may support public messaging on NHS transformation. Feedback to CP Team for collation.	All partners	22.10.18
2	Community Justice	Progress an input on ACEs for Third Sector service providers.	Vicki Yuill	22.10.18
3	Community Justice	Schedule future updates	Morna Rae/Alice Dillon	22.10.18
4	LOIP	Draft performance report to be circulated and partners to comment as required	Morna Rae/All partners	27.09.18
5	CLD Plan	Partners to comment as required	All partners	22.10.18

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

Council

Title: **Short Life Working Group on Questions and Motions**

Purpose: To report the findings of a short-life working group of Elected Members on Questions and Motions to Council, and to invite the Council to consider its recommendations.

Recommendation: It is recommended that Council approves the changes to Standing Orders as set out in the Appendix, and considers whether there should be any change to Standing Order 12.3 to remove the Leader of the Opposition from the categories of Members to whom questions may be addressed.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Concern was expressed by Elected Members at the last Council meeting on 27 June 2018 about the inclusion of 'congratulatory' motions on Council Agendas, as well as questions characterised as 'vainglorious'.
- 1.2 A politically representative short-life working group of Elected Members met twice in August 2018 to consider the above and prepare recommendations for the Council's consideration. The detailed recommendations are set out at Appendix 1 and include a number of proposed changes to the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings and Proceedings of the Council and Committees.

2. Background

- 2.1 The undernoted Minute extract from the Council meeting of 27 June 2018 reflects the outcome of discussion by Members on the types of questions and motions submitted to recent meetings:-

"Referring to the inclusion of congratulatory motions as part of Council Agendas, the Leader of the Council expressed the view that a more appropriate mechanism be found to bring such matters to public attention. The Chief Executive undertook to put in place suitable arrangements for presenting alternatives for the Council's consideration.

Councillor Gurney requested that such consideration be extended to examining the appropriateness of including vainglorious questions on Agendas. The Chief Executive undertook so to do." ['Vainglorious' questions being questions by a Member of one political group to another Member of the same group].

- 2.2 Following the Council meeting, the Chief Executive proposed that the matter be progressed via the formation of a short life Member working group, supported by the Head of Democratic Services, the Senior Manager (Legal Services) and the Committee Services Team Leader. Membership of the group reflected the political make-up of the Council, with three Labour Group representatives (Councillors Robert Foster, John Sweeney and Donald Reid), three SNP Group representatives (Councillors Marie Burns, Anthea Dickson and Tony Gurney), two Conservative and Unionist Group representatives (Councillors Timothy Billings and Tom Marshall) and one Independent Member (Councillor Ian Murdoch). An initial meeting of the working group took place on 13 August 2018, with a follow-up meeting held on 27 August 2018 to conclude its findings and recommendations to Council.
- 2.3 Notes of the meetings held on 13 and 27 August 2018 are available as background papers.
- 2.4 At its meeting on 19 September 2018, the Council agreed to continue consideration of the recommendations of the working group, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, to the next meeting, pending a Member seminar. The seminar took place on 23 October 2018 and was attended by 14 Elected Members.
- 2.5 The key issue raised at the seminar related to the procedure for congratulatory motions. It was important that Standing Orders reflected a simplified procedure whereby:-
- The Provost asks if the agenda item was agreed. In the absence of dissent, Council simply moves onto the next agenda item;
 - Only if a Member expressed disagreement with a particular group or individual would there be a vote. There should be no debate prior to that.

The proposed amendment to clause 13 of Standing Orders contained in the Appendix has been amended to reflect this.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is recommended that Council approves the changes to Standing Orders as set out in the Appendix, and considers whether there should be any change to Standing Order 12.3 to remove the Leader of the Opposition from the categories of Members to whom questions may be addressed.

4. Implications

Financial:	None arising from this report.
Human Resources:	None arising from this report.
Legal:	From a governance perspective it is important that Standing Orders are regularly reviewed and facilitate the efficient and fair progress of meetings. Questions and Motions form an important part of this governance structure as they are the means by which Members can get an item onto the Council agenda.

Equality:	None arising from this report.
Children and Young People:	None arising from this report.
Environmental & Sustainability:	None arising from this report.
Key Priorities:	Not applicable.
Community Benefits:	Not applicable

5. Consultation

5.1 No additional consultation required.



Craig Hatton
Chief Executive

For further information please contact Melanie Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader on telephone number 01294 3214131.

Background Papers

Note of Meeting of Working Group – 13 and 27 August 2018

Recommendations of the Short Life Working Group on Questions and Motions

The Council is invited to consider the following recommendations of the working group and, in terms of Standing Order 22.1(b), approve the proposed changes to the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings and Proceedings of the Council and Committees:-

Congratulatory Questions and Motions

1. Amend Standing Order 9.1 to insert a new provision xi at 9.1 (Order of Business):-

“Requests to recognise the work of individuals or groups within North Ayrshire”

2. Amend Standing Order 12 to include as a new 12.6 the following wording:-

“It shall not be competent to ask a question which seeks to congratulate, commend or recognise any individual or group in relation to their achievements or activities in North Ayrshire”, with the remaining sub-paragraphs renumbered accordingly

3. Amend Standing Order 13 to include as a new 13.3 the following wording:-

“Any motion or request signed by at least two Members which seeks to congratulate, commend or recognise any individual or group in relation to their achievement or activities within North Ayrshire shall be included in the agenda item detailed in Standing Order 9.1 (xi). That item will simply detail the name of the person or group to be recognised and the reason for the recognition. In the absence of any dissent, the agenda item will be treated as approved. If there is any dissent as regards any particular individual or group, the matter shall proceed to a vote, without any questions or debate”.

The remaining sub-paragraphs will be renumbered accordingly.

Potential Measures to Streamline Consideration of Questions

4. Note that as long as the Member asking the question confirms at Council that it is still being asked, there is no obligation either to read out the question or response at Council, or to ask a supplementary question. The question and response could simply be ‘taken as read’.

Procedure Before Debate

5. Note the existing provisions of Standing Order 12.6 and recommend its enforcement to ensure that questions do not constitute debate:-

“Except when in debate any Member may ask a question at any meeting of the Council concerning any item of business arising upon the agenda. Such questions must be relevant to the item of business under consideration and must be directed to any senior officer seeking clarification of the terms of a report or to the mover or seconder of any motion or amendment seeking clarity of their motion or amendment.”

Supplementary Questions

6. Note the existing provisions of Standing Order 12.2 and recommend its enforcement to ensure supplementary questions are permitted only where they take the form of a question and relate to the response to original question:-

“...The Provost may at his or her discretion allow a supplementary question arising out of the answer given to the original question.”

Voting

7. Note that, prior to the debate stage, it is open to the mover and seconder of a motion to adopt all or parts of amendments with a view to achieving consensus. Once in debate, such changes require the consent of the Council. Amendments must be relevant to the motion and are not an opportunity to transform a motion into something entirely different from its original form.

8. The Direct Negative - Amend Standing Order 17 to include as a new 17.2 the following wording, with the remaining paragraphs of 17 renumbered accordingly:-

“When a motion and two or more amendments to it are before the meeting and any one of the proposals, in the opinion of the Provost, implies negation, the vote shall be taken on the proposal involving negation as soon as the debate is completed and before the vote, if any, on the remaining proposals is taken. The proposal involving negation shall be put to the meeting in the form of "proceed" or "not proceed". If "not proceed" is carried by a majority of votes, the remaining proposals shall drop, but if "proceed" is carried a vote shall be taken between the remaining proposals as hereinafter provided.”

9. The Working Group considered the alternative voting procedure adopted at the recent Local Development Plan Committee. In that case, each individual amendment to the LDP was taken in turn. In other words, a motion to change Policy RES3 was debated, voted on and determined. Thereafter, a motion to change Policy RES4 was determined and so on. This differs from the current process where ‘the winner takes all’. It was appreciated that, for most agenda items, this could add more complexity and time, but there may be circumstances where this would apply, budgets being an example. It would be helpful to amend Standing Orders to allow such a procedure to be used where appropriate.

10. Amend Standing Orders to provide a new Standing Order prior to the heading “Casting Vote”, to read:-

“Where there is more than one amendment, and two thirds of the members of Council present and voting so decide, Council may adopt the following alternative procedure to that detailed in 17.3 hereof:- if there are more amendments than one, the amendments will each be the subject of a separate debate, vote and determination, starting with the first amendment. If the first amendment is agreed, the substantive motion will be altered to give effect to the wording of that amendment, before debate, vote and determination of the second amendment and so on. Once the debate on the first amendment commences, no new motion or amendment shall be lodged, except in the circumstances set out in 15.3. Except as required to give effect to this paragraph, all remaining provisions of Standing Orders shall remain in full force and effect.”

11. Note that Group Leaders may take the opportunity at the Council Pre-Meetings to discuss and seek agreement on particular instances where it might be appropriate to exercise the alternative voting arrangements set out in the proposed new Standing Order referred to at 9. above.
12. Agree that a Member seminar be arranged to ensure that all Members are familiar with the voting procedures (now implemented).

Recipients of Questions

13. Note that the working group could not achieve consensus on whether questions directed at the Leader of the Opposition should be permitted. (Some Members considered that the focus of questions at Council should be on challenging the Administration and that questions directed at the Opposition, particularly those relating to matters of national policy in which the Council had no locus, did not serve the interests of the Council. Other Members were of the view that the current provision allowed an appropriate opportunity, particularly for 'backbench' Elected Members, to exercise their rights to question and challenge in the public setting of a Council meeting). If the provision allowing questions to the Leader of the Opposition was deleted, it should be noted that questions to the current Leader of the Opposition would still be competent in relation to her role as Chair of Audit and Scrutiny Committee.
14. In view of the failure of the working group to achieve consensus on this matter, invite the Council itself to consider whether there should be any change to Standing Order 12.3 to remove the Leader of the Opposition from the categories of Members to whom questions may be addressed. The current provision allows questions to the Leader of the Council, any Cabinet Member, the Chair of any Committee, the Leader of the Opposition or Council representatives on Outside Bodies, such questions relating to the functions of such office holder or member.
15. In relation to the issue of 'vainglorious questions' by a Member to another Member in their Group, it was agreed to recommend that no change should be made to Standing Orders, on the grounds that Members are individuals and might wish to raise constituency or local issues through such questions.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title: Chief Executive Roles

Purpose: To advise Council of the various roles to be undertaken by the newly appointed Chief Executive, Craig Hatton, in terms of the Scheme of Delegation to Officers; and to seek approval for the Chief Executive to appointed as a Director of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust.

Recommendation: That Council notes the various roles to be undertaken by the Chief Executive in terms of the Scheme of Delegation to Officers; and agrees to appoint the Chief Executive as a Director of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines various roles to be undertaken by the Chief Executive in terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation to Officers. The report also seeks approval to appoint the Chief Executive as a Director of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's former Chief Executive, Elma Murray OBE held a range of roles including Head of Paid Service in terms of Section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Upon Ms Murray's retirement these roles require to be filled by the newly appointed Chief Executive, Craig Hatton.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Scheme of Delegation to Officers which was approved by Council at its meeting in June 2018, sets out a number of specific provisions for the Chief Executive. Council is asked to note that the newly appointed Chief Executive, Craig Hatton, will assume the following roles:

a) Head of Paid Service

The Chief Executive will act as the Head of Paid Service in terms of Section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The duties of the Head of Paid Service are detailed in Section 12A of the Act.

b) Proper Officer

The Chief Executive will act as the Proper Officer for the following purposes of the Act:

- Section 33A – Declaration of Acceptance of Office as a Councillor;
- Section 34 – Receipt of Resignation of Councillors;
- Section 50B, C, D & F – Access to information;
- Section 194(1) Execution of Deeds;

c) In terms of Section 50(D) of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the Chief Executive will also be responsible for the “Listing of background papers for a report to Members”;

d) In terms of Section 193 the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Chief Executive is also a ‘Proper Officer’ responsible for the authentication of documents.

e) Returning and Counting Officer

In terms of Section 41 of the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Chief Executive will undertake the statutory responsibility of Returning Officers as well as Counting Officer in respect of Council and Parliamentary elections, referenda and ballots for Business Improvement Districts.

f) Authorising Officer

The Chief Executive will also act as Authorising Officer under the Regulations of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000 for all types of authorisation.

3.2 The former Chief Executive was also a Director of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust and resigned from this role with effect from 29 October 2018. It is proposed that Council agrees to appoint the new Chief Executive, Craig Hatton, as a Director of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust.

4. Implications

Financial:	There are no financial implications arising from this report.
Human Resources:	There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

Legal:	The appointment of Mr Hatton satisfies the Council's obligations in terms of the various Acts outlined in this report.
Equality: Children and Young People:	There are no equality implications arising from this report.
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no environmental or sustainability implications arising from this report.
Key Priorities:	There are no implications for key priorities arising from this report.
Community Benefits:	There are no Community Benefits arising from this report.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation has taken place with the Andrew Fraser, Head of Democratic Services in his capacity as Monitoring Officer and Laura Friel, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) in her capacity as Chief Financial Officer (Section 95 Officer).



Andrew Fraser
Head of Democratic Services
& Monitoring Officer

For further information please contact Barry Tudhope, Strategic Support & Elections Manager on 01294 324113.

Background Papers

- Scheme of Delegation to Officers (approved June 2018)
- Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973
- Representation of the People Act 1983
- Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
- Local Government and Housing Act 1989
- Regulations of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title: **Corporate Equality Group**

Purpose: To seek Elected Member representation on the Council's Corporate Equality Group

Recommendation: That Council agree to (a) nominate three Elected Members to serve on the Corporate Equality group and (b) appoint a Chair of the Group from amongst those Members.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 To support the implementation of the Equality Act 2010 and the subsequent Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012, the Corporate Equality Group was set up to ensure the Council was meeting its statutory responsibilities
- 1.2 The main remit of the Corporate Equality Group is to 'direct, support and review the Council's arrangements for promoting equality, tackling discrimination and fostering good relations'. The key roles of the Group are as detailed in its Terms of Reference in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 The Corporate Equality Group has representation from each directorate and is seeking Elected Member representation to chair and oversee the work of the group, as well as contribute to the ongoing development of the Council's approach towards equalities.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the introduction of the Equality Act 2010, the Corporate Equality Group was set up to oversee the implementation of the relevant actions required to ensure the Council was meeting its obligations under the Act.
- 2.2 The group meets on a quarterly basis and is currently chaired by the Equality and Health Policy Officer.
- 2.3 The main themes considered by the group include mainstreaming equality across the council, equality outcomes and actions, equality work carried out by Council services, Equality Impact Assessment process and training and awareness programmes.

- 2.4 The Corporate Equality Group are seeking Elected Member representation on the group. Responsibilities would include an Elected Member chair(s) for the group and providing feedback to the work of the group and providing support where necessary to support the group to carry out its functions.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is recommended that Council seek nominations for three Elected Members to serve on the Corporate Equality Group, and appoint a Chair of the Group from amongst those Members.

4. Implications

Financial:	There are no financial implications.
Human Resources:	There are no direct Human Resource Implications
Legal:	There could be potential legal implications if the Council fails to implement its duties under the Equality Act.
Equality: Children and Young People:	There will be benefits for employees and service users through the effective implementation of the Council's duties under the Equality Act.
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no Environmental and Sustainability issues.
Key Priorities:	An effective approach to equalities will help tackle inequality and support all of the Council's priorities, including Supporting all our people to stay safe, healthy and active.
Community Benefits:	There are no Community Benefit Implications

5. Consultation

- 5.1 There were no consultations arising from this report.



Click here to enter text.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive

For further information please contact **Andrew Hale, Equality and Health Policy Officer** on **01294 324148.**

Background Papers

None

Remit for Corporate Equality Group

The remit of the Corporate Equality Group is to: -

1. Direct, support and review the Council's arrangements for promoting equality, tackling discrimination and fostering good relations;
2. Continue to respond to the requirements of the Equality Act (and the public sector equality duty), including the development of evidence-based equality outcomes and actions;
3. Receive reports from each Directorate on their equality activities;
4. Oversee the implementation and monitoring of the Equality Action Plan, including the shared actions with the Ayrshire Equality Partnership
5. Produce and publish an Equality Mainstreaming Report and Equality Outcomes report on an annual basis and submit to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.
6. Review the collection and analysis of equality monitoring information and other data gathered on achieving the Council's equality outcomes;
7. Publish Mainstreaming and Equality Outcome information on the Council's main website
8. Agree and monitor the Council's programme of equality impact assessments;
9. Receive reports on community engagement and consultation with equality groups;
10. Advise on equality training and awareness-raising programmes;
11. Receive updates on equality based work from internal and external sources to the Council.
12. Produce an annual cultural and diversity calendar.
13. Benchmark our activities against other Local Authorities and Public Sector Organisations.
14. Arrange guest speakers to update and inform the group on key equality issues throughout the year.
15. Senior Officers to take responsibility to drive forward the Equality agenda within their Directorate/Service.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title: Review of Local Governance

Purpose: To agree the process for the Council's response to the Review of Local Governance.

Recommendation: That Council (1) agree that the points detailed in sections 2.12 to 2.22 of this report should form part of the Council's response to the Review and; (2) grant authority to the Chief Executive to finalise the Council's response, in accordance with the principles set out in this report and in consultation with the Leader and Leader of the Opposition.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report relates to the Review of Local Governance, jointly launched in December 2017 by the Scottish Government and COSLA. The Review considers how powers, responsibilities and resources are shared across national and local spheres of government, and with communities.
- 1.2 The Council's response is due on 14 December, which is in advance of the next meeting of Council. The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) are to consider the Review at a workshop on 22 November, and COSLA will also be considering their response during the next month.
- 1.3 This report considers the Review, and the principles and issues which underlie it. It goes on to propose key themes which should be covered in any Council response and specific changes which are required. It is recommended that Council consider and agree these matters with a view to informing the Council's eventual response. Given the timescales it is recommended that authority be given to the Chief Executive to finalise the Council's response in consultation with the Leader and Leader of the Opposition. This will enable the response to incorporate any relevant points arising from the CPP workshop.

2. Background

- 2.1 In December 2017 the Scottish Government and COSLA jointly launched a Review of Local Governance. The Review will consider how powers, responsibilities and resources are shared across national and local spheres of government, and with communities. It is important to recognise that the Review is not simply about local government, as 'Local Governance' is much wider.

2.2 The Review is being conducted in two overlapping strands. Strand 1 focusses on a programme of community engagement which invites people to join a conversation about community decision making, called Democracy Matters. The conversation will take place over a period of six months, ending around November 2018. Strand 2 involves consultation with public sector bodies, such as local councils, to consider if increasing the powers they hold could improve outcomes for people. The deadline for Strand 2 written proposals and evidence is 14 December 2018. In the event of legislative change being required, a Local Democracy Bill is provisionally scheduled for introduction later this parliament.

2.3 A letter dated 22 June 2018 from Angela Constance MSP, John Swinney MSP and Councillor Alison Evison of COSLA to public sector leaders regarding Strand 2 of the Local Governance Review is attached as Appendix 1. As detailed in this letter, the main themes of the Review include:-

- Local and national government's shared commitment to subsidiarity and local democracy;
- To strengthen local and community decision-making and democratic governance in ways that improve outcomes in local communities, grow Scotland's economy for everyone's benefit, support communities to focus on their priorities, and help new ideas to flourish.
- An acceptance of increased variation in decision-making arrangements across the country: what is right for one place will not necessarily be right for another;
- Working creatively across traditional boundaries to deliver responsive services- how this can be strengthened and scaled up, whether there are new powers or other changes that are needed to make more progress and the benefits these would produce, and about opportunities to hardwire better local governance arrangements into the places we serve. How this landscape could be made to work better overall.
- Shared aspirations in light of the new National Performance Framework to tackle inequalities and drive inclusive growth.

2.4 To get a sense of the scale of this Review and the opportunities it affords, it is important to consider its background and the need for reform. In particular, while the Review recognises its alignment with the 2011 Christie Commission, it is important to note that the Review provides the first comprehensive opportunity to address the following issues identified by Christie:-

"The public service system is often fragmented, complex and opaque, hampering the joint working between organisations which we consider to be essential. As a whole, the system can be 'top down' and unresponsive to the needs of individuals and communities. It lacks accountability and is often characterised by a short-termism that makes it difficult to prioritise preventative approaches.

Addressing these systemic defects will require a fundamental overhaul of the relationships within and between those institutions and agencies - public, third sector and private - responsible for designing and delivering public services.

Evidence drawn from written submissions to the Commission, public discussion events and stakeholder meetings, demonstrates that some new approaches - characterised by collaboration between organisations and partnerships with people and communities - are making a real difference and can provide positive models for the future.

However, these are isolated examples. A priority for government should be to ensure such approaches become the norm, benefiting individuals and entire communities.”

2.5 Against this background the Christie Commission identified several key principles which still remain core to public sector reform.

- Reforms must aim to empower individuals and communities receiving public services by involving them in the design and delivery of the services they use.
- Public service providers must be required to work much more closely in partnership, to integrate service provision and thus improve the outcomes they achieve.
- Priority given to expenditure on public services which prevents negative outcomes from arising.
- The whole system of public services - public, third and private sectors - must become more efficient by reducing duplication and sharing services wherever possible.

2.6 Also of relevance to the Review is the Report of The Commission on Strengthening Local Democracy. It was noted that:

- 50 years of centralisation has not tackled the biggest problems that Scotland faces;
- For a country with Scotland's relative wealth and strength, the level of inequality today is simply intolerable, and has huge social and financial costs;
- There is a link between the absence of strong local democracy and the prevalence of inequalities; and
- It is communities that empower governments at all levels, not governments that empower people.

In response to these challenges, the Commission identified seven principles for stronger democracy in Scotland. These are:

1. The principle of sovereignty: democratic power lies with people and communities who give some of that power to governments and local governments, not the other way round.
2. The principle of subsidiarity: decisions should be taken as close to communities as possible, and local governance has to be right shape and form for the people and the places it serves.
3. The principle of transparency: democratic decisions should be clear and understandable to communities, with clear lines of accountability back to communities.
4. The principle of participation: all communities must be able to participate in the decision making that affects their lives and their communities.
5. The principle of spheres not tiers of governance: different parts of the democratic system should have distinct jobs to do that are set out in ‘competencies’, rather than depend on powers being handed down from ‘higher’ levels of governance.
6. The principle of interdependency: every part of the democratic system has to support the others, and none can be, or should seek to be, self-contained and self-sufficient.

7. The principle of wellbeing: the purpose of all democracy is to improve opportunities and outcomes for the individuals and communities that empower it.

The Review of Local Governance provides an opportunity to take forward these principles.

- 2.7 Within North Ayrshire, the development of Community and Locality Planning has been a key means of addressing the issues identified by both Commissions. In particular, Locality Planning aims to:

- support empowered communities;
- be evidence-led;
- ensure that clear priorities, co-produced with the community, are developed; targeted at the specific needs of communities (as opposed to a 'one size fits all approach');
- ensuring the work of Community Planning Partners and communities is aligned towards implementing agreed priorities.

The North Ayrshire approach towards Locality Planning, while by no means complete, has been widely praised as sector leading. As will become evident later in this report, it provides the starting point to address a number of issues raised in the Review.

- 2.8 To support Strand 1 of the review about community engagement, the Localities Conference in Saltcoats Town Hall on 15 September 2018 focussed on the review, with input from the Scottish Government. In addition, the Council has encouraged a number of local community organisations to apply for Democracy Matters funding from Scottish Government to run their own local events. This includes community councils, and the Connected Communities team are supporting these events. One of the main Scottish Government Regional consultation events will be held in North Ayrshire on 26th November. North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership will also have a half day workshop on 22 November to consider the responses of partners, and a CPP response to stage 2.

- 2.9 COSLA have been working to identify a common view from the local government community around key themes, including national aspects of reform such as fiscal empowerment and powers. To inform this exercise Professor James Mitchell of Edinburgh University was tasked with an initial scoping exercise to map out local authority positions on reform. Initial themes identified by Professor Mitchell are:

- 2.9.1. "Asymmetric" and "Permissive" approaches to governance

Many responses highlight the diversity of their communities and the importance of ensuring that public services can meet that diversity. Common to these is support for exploring potentially different models of governance for different communities. Proposed options for reform vary accordingly, with reference to city powers, islands governance, and single public authority models. The emphasis has been on enabling/permissive legislation in pursuit of this and which could create the conditions and capabilities to provide locally sensitive services. A number of potential tensions have also been highlighted, including managing the relationship between greater variation in local delivery and perceptions of 'postcode lotteries'. Along with 2.8.3, this raises issues about the relationship between central and local government - is local government the delivery-

arm of central government, or should power be delegated to the lowest level and the role of central government restricted to setting minimum standards?

2.9.2. Collaboration and Integration across public services and councils

Issues include collaboration across neighbouring authorities (or those with similar needs/interests e.g. island authorities), with other public bodies including Community Planning Partnerships, and with social enterprises, the third sector and community models. The extent of potential collaboration varies from versions of an integrated single public authority/public sector delivery vehicle, to collaboration on specific policy fields, and greater budget sharing with other services including Health. The latter point is particularly relevant to the challenge of reducing health costs through increased social care.

2.9.3 Subsidiarity, Empowerment and Participation

Expressed in various forms, the theme of devolution of power, and rebalancing the relationship between national and local government and communities comes across strongly. Opportunities for greater local democratic control of other public services beyond local government are also an issue, as are the roles, functions and capabilities of Area Committees/Locality Partnerships within local government and Community Planning Partners. Related themes include those of participatory budgeting, community engagement, the need to push down power and resources beyond local government to communities, the role of community councils, as well as the future relationship between representative, participatory and deliberative democracy.

2.9.4 Scale

It is also suggested that work should be undertaken to address how to develop public services at the right scale, for example in relation to regional collaborations, existing council or CPP levels, and community level. In broad terms, there is interest in capturing economies of scale or scope at regional level, but in ways that enable local government and communities to deploy this according to local circumstances and priorities.

2.9.5. Fiscal Empowerment

This relates to a desire by local government to have more financial autonomy over the resources available to provide services, the consideration of specific measures such as a transient visitor tax, and reviewing the ways in which financial measures are used for central policy initiatives or specific input measures. Opportunities such as budget sharing within CPPs and across specific public services are also highlighted.

2.10 It is significant that the Review is taking place against a background of increasing demand for services, a history of central constraints on local financial flexibility (e.g. ring-fencing, the Council tax freeze etc.), and recurring reductions in grant. The clear message from Audit Scotland and others is that after 10 years of austerity it is no longer a realistic option for local government to target 'efficiency' savings or salami-slice. Transformation, particularly transformation which reduces demand, is required.

2.11 It is also important to recognise the Review seeks to address how resources are shared across national and local spheres of government. What matters is not just the total sum available for public expenditure but how it is allocated. The contrasting position of local authorities in England and Scotland and between public authorities in Scotland is

illuminating. Research by Cambridge University published in October 2018 showed that local authorities in England had suffered an average spending cut of almost 24% since 2010, compared to 12% in Wales and 11.5% in Scotland. The authorities facing the deepest cuts were those with the weakest local economies, who were most reliant on Government grant, with lower property values and fewer other funding sources. In other words, more deprived communities had borne the burden of austerity. While Scottish cuts to local authority budgets have so far avoided a similar pattern, the impact of austerity across the public sector has not been uniform. Local authorities have borne the brunt of cuts and 90% of public sector job losses have been in local authorities. The Review provides an opportunity to re-open the debate on Government funding priorities, the appropriateness of imposing central control through ring-fencing, enhanced revenue raising powers, commercialisation/municipal trading etc.

The Council Response

- 2.12 The Council's response is due to be submitted by 14 December 2018, immediately in advance of the Council meeting on 19 December. Accordingly this report seeks the views of Council on key principles to inform the response. It also proposes a number of key 'asks' of Government. Thereafter, following the CPP workshop on 22 November 2018, it is proposed that the response is finalised by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Leader of the Opposition.
- 2.13 Turning to the Council's proposed response, ultimately local governance needs to support the shared aspirations of the Scottish Government, COSLA, and North Ayrshire Council to tackle inequalities and drive inclusive growth, especially in the light of the Fairer Scotland Duty, Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, which came into force in Scotland from April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on particular public bodies in Scotland to actively consider ('pay due regard' to) how they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions.
- 2.14 Underlying the proposed response are a number of high level themes, namely:-
1. Collaborative Leadership: the need to establish a generation of leaders who are focused on outcomes and reducing inequalities, and who can operate across organisations to reduce silo working and maximise creativity and resources. There is a need to develop trust through a culture of relational and collaborative leadership across Community Planning Partnerships and communities. Joint leadership and skills development among Community Planning Partners is advised.
 2. Culture Change: investing in people in the public sector, to ensure that early intervention and prevention approaches are at the heart of all we do and that staff are empowered and enabled to take risks in providing the best possible services.
 3. People Focus: linked to culture change, we need to review how we design policies and services and how we deliver them. While we need to address the needs of all groups, young people must be at the heart of this and inform our choices.

4. Subsidiarity: consideration should be given to what should be delivered at national, regional and local levels and power should be assumed at the level closest to the communities and people they affect. Scottish Government departments, national and regional agencies and public sector bodies should consider how this principle affects them and their relationships with other public bodies and the communities they serve. The role of central government should be about setting minimum standards, not prescribing how services are delivered.
5. Locality Planning: building and rebuilding a sense of community, where participation by experience rather than only participation by expertise inform our priorities and how we address them. To enable asset-based approaches, and community empowerment, where social capital is nurtured and shared, we need consideration of and investment through community development and associated professionals. This investment in community leadership is central to the rebalancing of “service provision”, the long term financial sustainability of the public sector, and community cohesion and volunteering.
6. Place-making - integration of community and spatial planning: we need to ensure that the “place” dimension becomes a further pillar of our work, where relevant partners inform the development of places, and this also needs to be supported at national, government and government agency level, to facilitate regional and local placemaking.
7. Inclusive Growth: although this is a pillar of the Scottish Government’s Economic Strategy, practical application of the principles is not widely embedded across the public sector and is key to removing regional inequalities. All public bodies should be operating within this principle. The option to provide a Basic Income, fully funded by Government, should be an option available as part of this.
8. Participatory Democracy: this needs to be widened out from just participatory budgeting to participatory approaches to deliver open government. We have to find ways to engage and involve citizens in service design and delivery in meaningful ways, respecting professional expertise but also allowing community based solutions to have parity of esteem with public sector where relevant.
9. Municipal Trading: a recognition that while it is neither desirable nor financially possible for local authorities to do everything, and this can create a ‘dependence culture’, equally there will be gaps in provision which neither the private market nor third sector can fill without support. Local authorities can fill such gaps, either to meet community needs, deliver Best Value or to generate income to fund other services. An obvious example is that in areas such as North Ayrshire, the rental values for industrial premises are not high enough to pay borrowing costs, meaning that none are built by the private sector without public sector involvement. It is important that local authorities are given power to support communities by being able to intervene where there are gaps in the market.
10. Fiscal Empowerment: almost 85% of the council's income is decided and allocated by the Scottish Government through the Scottish Parliament. How the council

spends, and what it spends on, is also subject to substantial external direction and scrutiny. Some of the income allocated by the Scottish Government is “ring-fenced” for particular purposes prescribed by Scottish Government (e.g. pupil equity funding; attainment challenge funding). Broader conditionalities are also periodically attached to national grant allocations, e.g. an obligation to maintain teacher/pupil ratios at an agreed level. Put simply, how can we encourage meaningful community involvement if neither communities nor local authorities can influence spend? Another message from England, is that local authorities will increasingly have to generate income to support public services. Currently there is no clear power to do so in Scotland and greater powers are required.

2.15 These themes, as well as the COSLA themes identified in 2.7 highlight interlinked themes of working together with partners and empowered communities to achieve outcomes focussed on the needs of individual communities. These reflect the principles of asymmetric governance, subsidiarity, empowerment, participatory democracy and collaborative leadership detailed in these paragraphs. Key to these themes is the question of how to achieve the ultimate aim of the Council, its public sector partners, community and business working together to develop and implement local priorities.

2.16 The European Commission said:

“Five principles underpin good governance...: openness, participation, accountability, effectiveness and coherence.”

Enablers such as participatory democracy and Open Government: public participation in government, must be an essential part of any future local governance. Its importance is in supporting the following:

- Complex problems can be addressed by drawing on untapped knowledge, experience and perspectives;
- Co-production delivers better policies and community ‘buy-in’, ensuring effective implementation;
- Improved public sector design and delivery;
- Improved legitimacy and trust in public institutions;
- Development of citizen’s skills, confidence and ambition; and
- Enabling active citizens and communities.

2.17 North Ayrshire Council’s model of Locality Planning has been widely praised as sector-leading because of its success in taking forward such themes. It provides a model for future local governance, not only in North Ayrshire but in Scotland as a whole. For these reasons the Council’s proposed response will both recommend its adoption and focus on barriers to the community working in a place-based way. At its heart our approach to Locality Planning has involved the following steps:

- For practical reasons, localities have to be geographically based and of a size to allow meaningful work;
- An acceptance that it is essential to identify the key priorities for all localities, not just those relating to inequality, islands, IJB Strategic Planning etc.

- Involvement of all CPP partners, Community Councils and representative community bodies on Locality Partnerships
- An evidence-led and objective approach to identifying priorities, using the Place Standard;
- Extensive engagement and consultation using the principles advocated by the Consultation Institute;
- Delegation of increasing levels of resource through Participatory Budgeting, a participatory approach to service delivery and resource allocation;
- Delivery of CPP services on a Locality basis where possible; and
- Maintaining focus on agreed priorities and the actions to deliver these within the Fairer Scotland Duty.

2.18 Another request of Government should be the incorporation of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, if the current proposal for a Private Member's Bill is unsuccessful. The Council's position on this was more fully detailed in the Council's consultation response on the Bill, as reported to Cabinet on 3 September 2018. As detailed in that response, while incorporation of the Charter introduces legal checks and balances in support of local democratic control, the significant practical advantage lies in the positive impact that doing so would have on everyday culture and practice. This is because, by clarifying the competencies of local and national government, both spheres would need to commit to a greater level of consensus and partnership working on shared issues.

2.19 Introduction of a Power of General Competence to replace the Power of Wellbeing is also a necessity for a number of reasons. The current Power of Wellbeing is so hedged with restrictions that it verges on being unusable. For example, it provides no power to generate monies to fund other services. In a context of increasing financial restraint, where local authorities have to work across boundaries and be innovative, whether in the context of Growth Deals, dealing with inequality, providing statutory services, supporting local communities or market failure, it is essential that local authorities have adequate powers. The Power of General Competence already exists in England and would support all the high level themes detailed in 2.12.

2.20 As regards specific 'asks' of Government, in terms of legislative change or otherwise, the key ones are:

2.21 Governance

- Incorporation of the European Charter of Local Self- Government into law in Scotland;
- A Power of General Competence to replace the Power to Advance Wellbeing contained in Part 3 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003. This could be subject to the principle of Best Value, which has worked well;
- Local authority jurisdiction to be extended to 12 miles offshore. This deals with the restrictions contained in the case of Argyll and Bute District Council v- Secretary of State for Scotland [(1976) SC 248]
- Electoral law (schedule 6 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973) to be amended to prioritise local geographical considerations and community cohesion over electoral parity. It should also be competent to allow island areas which form part of a mixed

island/mainland authority to have a quota of electorate per Member which is based on the rurality/deprivation of that island rather than having a single quota based for the entire local authority area. This is particularly important for an authority such as North Ayrshire whose islands and mainland areas have quite different levels of rurality and deprivation, and where the quota will inevitably be driven by the much higher mainland population. In addition to this, two or five Member Local Government wards should be allowable where geographical or community factors warrant this.

- Deletion of the provision in section 57(3) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 which restricts the number of non-councillor Members on a Committee (but not a sub-committee) to one third. This is an impediment to partnership working.
- Amendment of section 56 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 which currently only allows delegation of functions to committees, joint committees or officers. The aim should be to give power to allow Councils to delegate functions to other CPP partners or communities where desirable;
- Similar powers to be provided to other Community Planning Partners to facilitate joint working. This should include powers to join up services of different public bodies, whether in islands or elsewhere;
- Repeal of sections 15 to 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 which relates to the duty to allocate seats on committees to political groups. These sections were never brought into force in Scotland and are unworkable in a modern cabinet system.
- Amendment of the requirement in section 62A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to obtain the consent of Scottish Ministers to the incorporation of Joint Committees into Joint Boards. While a useful tool, this has been rarely used due to the bureaucracy and timescales in obtaining Ministerial consent. As a matter of principle this should be a decision for Councils, not Ministers. If Councils can form companies, why not Joint Boards?
- Repeal of the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970. The 1970 Act is increasingly an obstacle to income generation and is at odds with a philosophy which supports community, subsidiarity and local outcomes rather than central control.
- A legal duty on all public sector bodies to promote inclusive growth;
- A legal duty on all public sector bodies to promote the principle of subsidiarity, that wherever possible power should be delegated to the lowest level closest to the community;
- A joined up approach to Locality Planning, that priorities are required for all localities, not just some - albeit there needs to be a focus on inequalities:
- A requirement for Community Councils to engage in Locality Planning;
- A means needs to be found of ensuring that agency cooperation and sharing of services does not proceed at the pace of the slowest;
- Review of legislation and guidance which impedes Integration Joint Boards from comprising more than one local authority area (e.g. IJBs based on a Health Board area);
- Support for open data, the sharing of data and better analysis of data to target allocation of resources and delivery of services to those most in need, and to identify duplication;
- To what extent does the role of political debate in ensuring scrutiny and transparency need to be balanced by a greater focus on the value of consensus in addressing shared priorities? Is the time now ripe for a high-level review of such issues?

- An integrated, cross- agency approach is needed to deal with issues of health inequality, educational attainment and other areas of inequality

2.22 Financial Empowerment

- Widening the tax base with particular emphasis on an ability to raise a Transient Visitor Tax and other local taxes;
- Local tax raising powers to be included as part of a Power of General Competence;
- Commitment from the Government that (a) local government fees should be set locally to reflect the costs of delivering the service, rather than set by Government, and (b) legislation which currently provides for the setting of local authority fees by Government will be amended to repatriate the setting of such fees back to local authorities;
- Removal of the Council Tax cap;
- A concordat with Government which commits to:
 - A review of the key statutory roles and responsibilities of local government, the resources required to deliver these and current resourcing levels;
 - The principle of subsidiarity, that powers should be delegated to the lowest possible level. This includes powers disaggregated from the UK Government post-Brexit;
 - A three year budget settlement where possible;
 - A recognition that as local authorities are democratically accountable to their electorate for delivery of services, the role of Government is to set minimum outcome standards, not to determine how services should be run or interfere in operational management;
 - A commitment not to impose Government's national will and to restrict local discretion through the use of ring-fencing, council tax freezes, financial penalties etc. All Government monies should form part of the general settlement; and
 - A commitment that any new legislative duties imposed on local authorities must be properly funded.
- Powers to pay a basic income, centrally funded, as a means of reducing regional inequalities;
- A consultative and comprehensive review of local authority funding designed to ensure that at least 50% of local authority expenditure is within the control of local authorities. It is recognised that in order to ensure that funds are targeted towards areas of need rather than each authority retaining all the income it generates, it will be necessary to have a certain amount of central pooling and redistribution;
- A legal duty on all public sector bodies to support and resource community participation;
- A legal duty on all public sector bodies to support and resource open government. Communities can only make informed decisions if they have the information to do so; and;
- A commitment by Government to examining how to better support social care and reduce the burden on acute NHS services, through moving resource into social care.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is recommended that Council (1) agree that the points detailed in sections 2.12 to 2.22 of this report should form part of the Council's response to the Review and; (2) grant authority to the Chief Executive to finalise the Council's response, in accordance with the principles set out in this report and in consultation with the Leader and Leader of the Opposition.

4. Implications

Financial:	The issue of local government finance is a key one which is considered throughout this report. However there are no direct financial implications of the report itself
Human Resources:	Similarly there are no direct Human Resource implications
Legal:	It is expected that the Review will lead to legislation in the next term of Parliament. Many of the 'asks' in this report are designed to remove legal obstacles to effective local governance and it is hoped that future legislation can adopt these. However there are no direct legal implications of the report itself
Equality: Children and Young People:	There are no direct equalities or children/young person implications of the report itself
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no Environmental and Sustainability issues.
Key Priorities:	The Review of Local Governance provides a significant opportunity to remove legislative and other obstacles in the way of our key priorities. Accordingly it has the potential to support all of our Key Priorities
Community Benefits:	There are no Community Benefit Implications

5. Consultation

- 5.1 The Council is committed to supporting Strand 1 of the review in relation to community engagement. The Localities Conference in Saltcoats Town Hall on 15 September 2018 focussed on the review, with input from the Scottish Government. A Scottish Government Regional Democracy Matters event will be held in North Ayrshire on 26th November 2018, and North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership will also have a half day workshop on 22 November.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CH', written over a horizontal line.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive

For further information please contact **Andrew Fraser, Head of Democratic Services** on **01294 324125**.

Background Papers

None



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



Public Sector Leaders
By email

22 June 2018

Dear Public Sector Leader

LOCAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW – ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Programme for Government 2017-18 set out the intention to “decentralise power to a more local level in Scotland and launch a comprehensive review of local governance ahead of a Local Democracy Bill later in this Parliament”. In December 2017, the Scottish Government and COSLA jointly launched the Local Governance Review.

We believe that it is important to review how powers, responsibilities and resources are shared across national and local spheres of government and with communities in the context of significant change to the governance of Scotland over the last two decades, and in recognition that outcomes for citizens and communities are best when decisions are taken at the right level of place.

This review reflects local and national government’s shared commitment to subsidiarity and local democracy, and builds on joint agreement between COSLA and the Scottish Government to focus on and strengthen local and community decision-making and democratic governance in ways that improve outcomes in local communities, grow Scotland’s economy for everyone’s benefit, support communities to focus on their priorities, and help new ideas to flourish.

The Review of Local Governance will explore what might be achieved, and highlight opportunities for positive change. In doing so it brings a wide range of Scotland’s public services into scope, takes cognisance of reforms where work is already progressing, and will include powers and functions held at national level. It is therefore very important that we hear from you.

Many of you will know that the review is being undertaken in two key strands. First, a highly inclusive conversation with communities is getting underway, and will listen to views about how decision making can work best for towns, villages and neighbourhoods around the country. This reflects our shared commitment to community empowerment, and builds on the work already done to give people a direct say over the decisions that matter most to them. If you would like to support this process, for example by hosting events, please get in touch. As part of that

conversation, we expect people will be interested in how decisions about a range of public services can be made in the communities that they serve.

Second – the main purpose of this letter – we wish to involve you, as Scotland’s public sector leaders, in a dialogue about how changes to how Scotland is governed can make the lives of Scotland’s people better. Accordingly, we are now inviting you to bring forward proposals to feed into the review.

Just like the first strand, the second strand of the Local Governance Review offers a broad scope, and we anticipate that all public services will wish to offer proposals for improved governance arrangements at their level of place. This is based on an acceptance of increased variation in decision-making arrangements across the country: what is right for one place will not necessarily be right for another. For example, these could be at the level of a city or local authority, community planning partnership or regional economic grouping, or focus on how existing national arrangements can support a more local way of working.

We know that there are already many examples of working creatively across traditional boundaries to deliver responsive services for people. We want to hear how these approaches can be strengthened and scaled up, whether there are new powers or other changes that are needed to make more progress and the benefits these would produce, and about opportunities to hardwire better local governance arrangements into the places you serve. We are also keen to hear about how this landscape could be made to work better overall.

What is important is that proposals reflect our shared aspirations in light of the new National Performance Framework to tackle inequalities and drive inclusive growth, are consistent with Christie Commission principles, and strengthen local decision making.

We also want to have an interactive process with you to consider and develop ideas. Whilst we are setting a deadline for written proposals and evidence of 14 December 2018, we want to hear from you as early in the process as possible in order to understand your proposals, help them take shape and identify where other evidence or assurances might be required to deliver change, and consider how they might link with other ideas.

To get that process underway, we are seeking an initial indication of the kind of issues you would like to discuss by the beginning of September, and we will follow up this letter at that point. There is no fixed format for this, however we do want to receive your initial input no later than early Autumn in order to leave enough time to work with you on proposals. We also want to avoid setting an arbitrary date that would put you under undue pressure to take things forward. But we can’t stress enough that we would welcome you getting in touch as early as possible in the process of you forming your ideas. We would of course be happy to meet with you and your networks as part of this process too.

Where there is interest in developing an idea, it will also be important to involve all partners with a potential contribution to make. For example, this approach is already opening up new possibilities for the Islands, following the commitment in Programme for Government 2017-18 to support those Island authorities who want to establish a single authority model of delivering local services.

These two strands of the Local Governance Review will run in parallel for a period of around 6 months, and inform a programme of changes to governance arrangements in different places where these can increase the pace and scale of public service reform, focus on shared outcomes, and strengthen local decision making. In the event of legislative change being required a Local Democracy Bill is provisionally scheduled for introduction later this parliament. However, should you have ideas that will make a real difference, but will take longer to develop and deliver, we do of course still want to hear from you.

Joint oversight for the Local Governance Review overall is provided by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Public Service Reform Delivery and COSLA's Political Leadership Team. These arrangements provide the primary forum for determining how proposals will be progressed, with Ministers reflecting this in the scope and content of legislation.

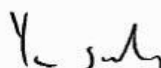
The Local Governance Review is part of a long term commitment by national and local government to place based reform and a more local approach to decision making in Scotland. The newly refreshed National Performance Framework provides a shared set of outcomes that this way of working can help to deliver. It is therefore vital that we hear from all parts of Scotland's public services in line with the timescale above. We look forward to your participation, and to discussing your proposals in the coming months.

To begin this process, you can make contact with the team at: democracymatters@gov.scot or 0131 244 0709.

ANGELA CONSTANCE, MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Communities,
Social Security and Equalities



JOHN SWINNEY, MSP
Deputy First Minister and
Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills



CLLR. ALISON EVISON
COSLA President



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title: Financial Outlook 2019/20 to 2021/22

Purpose: To outline the likely financial position of the Council's General Fund in the medium term to inform the development of budget proposals.

Recommendation: That Council considers the Financial Outlook 2019/20 to 2021/22, noting the potential scale of the financial challenge which the Council faces over the next 3 years and brings forward proposals to set a balanced budget for 2019/20 and beyond.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. Councils continue to operate in an increasingly complex, challenging and uncertain environment with public sector funding not keeping pace with the increasing cost and demand for services. In this climate it is essential that Councils take a long term view. The Council's General Fund Long Term Financial Outlook was approved by Council in October 2017. This is the cornerstone of the Council's strategic financial framework and establishes a sound basis for the development of the medium term financial plan and annual budget, enabling the Council to address the challenges it faces and align resources to key priorities.
- 1.2. A review of the long term financial outlook identifies an estimated gross funding shortfall of £42.5m over the next three years with £22.8m of this occurring in 2019/20. This is based on best estimates. Sensitivity analysis highlights the implications of changes to the underlying assumptions.
- 1.3. The Council has used £9.7m of reserves to support the recurring spend of the Council in the last two years. As in previous years all reserves will be reviewed as part of the budget considerations.
- 1.4. A full refresh of the 10 year Capital Investment Programme was undertaken for 2018/19 to 2027/28. The current loan charges budget and loans fund reserve underpin this programme. A high level review of the programme will be carried out to reassess phasing of projects and underlying assumptions. Any new projects, not supported by external funding, will increase the projected funding gap.

- 1.5. A clear strategy is required to ensure the Council remains financially sustainable over the medium and longer term. This will require the Council to fundamentally review the services which are delivered, how they will be delivered and who will deliver them, this approach was set out in the Long Term Financial Outlook report. The strategy requires to be developed at scale and pace informing the next phase of transformation and aligning with the refreshed Council Plan.

2. Background

Introduction

- 2.1. The Council's Long Term Financial Outlook was approved by Council in October 2017. This is the cornerstone of the Council's strategic financial framework and establishes a sound basis for the development of the medium term financial plan and annual budget. The financial framework was developed to steer the Council through the challenging economic climate and continuing real terms reduction in resources and support longer term financial sustainability of priority services.
- 2.2. The significant risks that the Council faces are set out in the Council's Strategic Risk Register. These are noted below:
 - The financial environment including funding levels and cost pressures;
 - Inequalities; including poverty, poor health and the impact of welfare reforms; and
 - The financial sustainability of the Health and Social Care Partnership as it seeks to manage demand within its financial envelope and deliver savings, the failure of which poses risk to the Council as one of the funding partners.
- 2.3. In developing its next medium term financial plan Council should consider the issues emerging from the Accounts Commission's Financial Overview of Local Government presented to Council in December 2017 and the 2017/18 External Audit report approved at Audit and Scrutiny Committee in September 2018. Some of the key messages from these are restated below;
 - Recognition of the increasing financial stress within local government;
 - Reducing levels of reserves;
 - The need to risk assess delivery of savings;
 - The need for a collaborative approach between elected members and with partners, stakeholders and communities;
 - Delivery of significant transformation to ensure financially sustainable service delivery models.

2.4. Significant financial stress appears to be more evident in English local authorities. The Best Value Inspection of Northamptonshire County Council reinforces some of the messages noted above;

- requirement for sound judgement and clear decision making and accountability by members and officers;
- the need for effective collaborative and partnership working;
- the requirement for robust and effective budget setting and scrutiny with clear corrective action where things don't go to plan;
- avoiding over reliance on the use of non-recurring funding sources to support recurring commitments;
- ensuring plans are in place to deliver savings;
- Having robust business cases to support significant change.

Medium Term Financial Outlook

2.5. The Medium Term Financial Outlook updates the assumptions set out in the Long Term Financial Outlook for the period 2019/20 to 2021/22 considering:

- The Economic Outlook;
- The Scottish Landscape including factors affecting Scottish Government funding and funding for Local Government;
- The financial outlook for North Ayrshire including the anticipated demographic profile and the impact these will have on the Council's cost base; key costs pressures; and funding anticipated from Government Grant, Council Tax and Reserves;
- The Health and Social Care Partnership;
- The Council's approach to ensure future sustainability and alignment of resources with key priorities;
- The Capital Investment Programme.

2.6. More detail on each of these is provided within this report.

Economic Outlook

2.7. Funding for public services is inextricably linked to the performance of global and national economies. A review of financial commentators has informed the undernoted assessment.

2.8. Performance of the global economy is key to UK and Scottish trade. Whilst the pace of growth in the world economy has slowed slightly, particularly in emerging economies, the outlook remains robust due to the continued strength of advanced economies. Brexit and the lack of clarity on the UK's future relationship with its largest external market continues to cast a shadow over the economic outlook.

2.9. The UK GDP continues to grow. The key challenges for the Chancellor are debt which is still sitting above 80% of GDP, despite borrowing continuing to fall, the

rising pressures on health and social care and consumer and household confidence, a key driver of the economy, remaining low.

- 2.10. The table below summaries the anticipated levels of growth of the UK and Scottish economies with the Scottish Fiscal Commission (SFC) predicting growth of less than 1% per annum over the next five years;

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Scotland (SFC)	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%
UK (OBR)	1.7%	1.5%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%

SPICE June 2018 "The Scottish Government's Five Year Financial Strategy"

- 2.11. The Chancellor announced his Budget on 29 October 2018. This outlined the Treasury allocations for Scotland. The final distribution of resources for Scottish public services will be set out in the Scottish Government's Draft Budget.

The Scottish Landscape

Scottish Government Medium Term Financial Strategy

- 2.12. The Scottish Government published its Medium term Financial Strategy (MTFS) in May 2018. The Strategy describes the Fiscal Framework and the various strategies available to meet the financial challenges, the policy environment and spending pressures that the public sector faces over the next 5 years. It does not set out new policy commitments nor any detail of proposed allocation of funding. The MTFS aligns with the Programme for Government announced in September 2018.
- 2.13. Key priorities within the MTFS are for increased wellbeing and sustainable and inclusive growth, built on the principle of equality for all, with access to essential public services free at the point of delivery supporting the Scottish Government's "social contract". This includes;
- Reform and investment in Health with the publication in October 2018 of the "Medium Term Health and Social Care Financial Framework", considering the health and social care landscape, looking at current expenditure, future needs, current policy initiatives and transformation of health and social care to ensure financial sustainability (£2bn);
 - Police (£100m);
 - Early Learning Child Care (£470m);
 - Attainment Gap including PEF (£750m);
 - Continuing to prioritise free tuition;
 - New Scottish social security system administering new devolved benefits (£3.5bn).

- 2.14. The key SG policy commitments will result in their share of the SG budget growing from 56% to 64% by 2022/23 with health spending making up between 68% and 82% of this across the 5 year period, with all other funding requiring to be met from the remainder of the budget, including local government. This gives a clear signal of a challenging financial settlement for local government, recognised in the June 2018 SPICe report.
- 2.15. The MTFS suggests that financial constraints are aligned to the UK Government's austerity approach with significant reference to the potential impact of Brexit in terms of the EU Single Market and Customs Union, immigration, a key driver for population growth and GDP, and access to EU funding.
- 2.16. The Scottish Fiscal Commission's economic and fiscal forecasts are summarised within the Strategy with fan charts outlining various scenarios.
- 2.17. In addition to the priorities noted above further challenges and uncertainty, creating pressure on public sector budgets, include;
- Ageing population including the working population;
 - Increasing prevalence of chronic health conditions;
 - Impact of technological change on jobs of the future including economic performance, employment and tax revenue.
- 2.18. The Strategy highlighted the requirement for efficiency savings and noted that "even if the most optimistic scenario played out, if there was no reprioritisation or reform and no additional revenue generated, then efficiency savings of 5% per annum could be required". The SG's view is that efficiencies of between 3% and 6% per annum are deliverable, for NAC this equates to between £9m and £18m.

Settlement Conditions

- 2.19. The 2018/19 Settlement was described as sanction free but included a number of assumptions by the Scottish Government. These are noted below;
- 3% ceiling on council tax increase;
 - Maintaining at a national level a pupil : teacher ratio at 13.7;
 - Continuing to prioritise financial support for social care.
- 2.20. The impact of the above alongside the historic protection of a range of services create a "gearing" effect on savings delivery, impacting more severely on unprotected service areas.

CoSLA engagement with the Scottish Government

- 2.21. The broad strategy for engagement with the Scottish Government includes;
- Recognition of the economic impact of local government services;
 - Full discretion on local taxation;

- Protection of the core local government settlement with removal of ring fencing and sustainable funding streams;
- Effective partnership working between Scottish and Local Government.

Publication of the Scottish Government's Budget

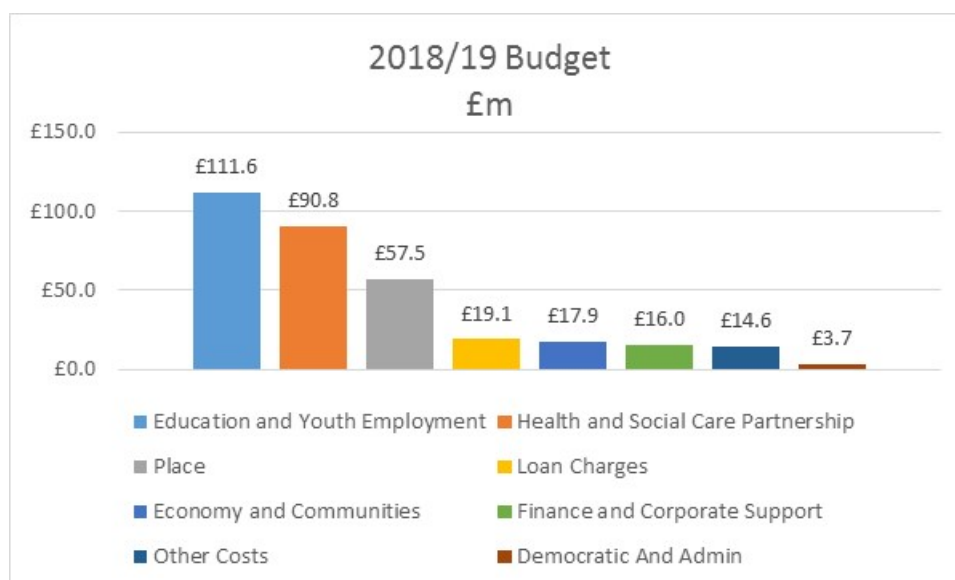
2.22. The Scottish Government continues to operate in a complex fiscal environment. The Fiscal Framework is such that the performance of the Scottish economy relative to the rest of the UK (rUK) is the determinant of whether the Scottish Budget is better or worse off under the new arrangements.

2.23. The Scottish Government has confirmed that the Draft Budget will be published on 12 December 2018 with the Financial Settlement following on 17 December. This will provide clarity on funding of policy choices and the extent to which they impact on resources for local government, with the Budget Bill being passed towards the end of February.

Financial Outlook for North Ayrshire Council

Allocation of Resources

2.24. The Chart below summarises the allocation of resources for 2018/19 with 51% of relevant gross expenditure relating to employee costs;



Medium term Outlook

- 2.25. A review of the assumptions set out in the longer term financial outlook has been carried out to reassess the significant pressures and income levels anticipated over the next 3 years based on the best available information. The model recognises the following significant pressures with an anticipated cost of almost £34m over the next 3 years:
- Workforce costs including future pay settlements, living wage, teachers' pension, pension auto enrolment;
 - Inflationary uplift for major commodities and contractual commitments only, with no provision for general inflation;
 - Significant socio economic and demographic pressures including:
 - A growing older population;
 - Increased demand for adult services;
 - Increased demand for support of vulnerable children and young people;
 - Implementation of the Council's digital and technology strategies;
 - Reduction in loan charges support aligned to grant reduction.
- 2.26. Single year settlements have been a feature of Scottish Government budget setting since 2015/16 creating a high level of uncertainty about funding levels. This, alongside, the complex interaction of block allocations from the UK Treasury, Scottish Government fiscal policy, priorities and commitments and the complexities of the distribution formulae make it difficult to forecast future grant funding levels.
- 2.27. Changes to core grant funding for North Ayrshire over the last 3 years have been -3.63% / -2.1% / +0.05%, with an average of just below 2%. Based on this a reduction of 2% has been built in for 2019/20, consistent with the planning assumption of a number of other Scottish local authorities and assuming that the additional £4.278m announced at the first stage debate of the Finance Bill for the 2018/19 budget is recurring.
- 2.28. A specific reduction has been included in 2020/21 and 2021/22 to reflect reducing loans fund support with the balance of funding being held at flat cash on the basis that no specific information is available to support a projection. This will be reviewed on publication of the 2019/20 Finance Circular.
- 2.29. The model assumes a 3% annual increase to Council Tax, generating £5m over the next 3 years.
- 2.30. Since 2017/18 the Council has used £9.7m of reserves and in year underspends to support recurring expenditure. As in previous years all reserves will be reviewed as part of the budget considerations.

2.31. A summary of the anticipated position of the Council over the next three years is provided in the table below. Further work is being undertaken to refine the underlying assumptions. Final savings proposals and the affordability of demographic pressures will be determined following the Local Government Financial Settlement.

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total
Scottish Government Grant	-£5,244	-£2,545	-£2,856	-£10,645
Council Tax	£2,012	£1,693	£1,746	£5,451
Reserves	-£3,500	£0	£0	-£3,500
				£0
Pressures (excl HSCP)	-£10,674	-£4,356	-£4,003	-£19,033
HSCP Pressures	-£5,423	-£4,944	-£4,410	-£14,777
				£0
Gross Funding Pressure	-£22,829	-£10,152	-£9,523	-£42,504
				£0
Previously approved saving	£4,874	£1,048	£333	£6,255
				£0
Net Funding Gap	-£17,955	-£9,104	-£9,190	-£36,249

Sensitivity Analysis

2.32. Given the uncertainty that underpins the assumptions, sensitivity analysis has been carried out on the key components. A 1% movement on these is noted below;

- Scottish Government Grant £2.7m
- Council Tax Funding £0.5m
- Payroll incl. HSCP £2.1m

2.33. The table below exemplifies the potential impact on the funding gap based on a number of scenarios around the level of grant funding. The shaded box highlights the assumptions within the current summary. Core grant funding over the last 3 years has varied between a reduction of 3.63% in 2016/17 and a marginal increase of 0.05% in 2018/19.

SG Grant Assumption	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total
Flat Cash	-£12,711	-£9,104	-£9,190	-£31,005
1% Reduction	-£15,333	-£11,772	-£11,832	-£38,937
2% Reduction	-£17,955	-£14,439	-£14,474	-£46,869
3% Reduction	-£20,675	-£17,107	-£17,116	-£54,899
4% Reduction	-£28,443	-£19,774	-£19,759	-£67,976

- 2.34. The medium term financial outlook assumes any new legislative requirements will be funded fully by the Scottish Government and makes no provision for new investment. Future investment in new initiatives will increase the projected financial gap identified within the model.

Reserves Strategy

- 2.35. The Council's reserves are classified as either earmarked or unearmarked. The Council's unearmarked reserves, i.e. those set aside to allow the Council to manage any unanticipated events, are in line with current policy of a minimum of 2% as set by Council on 1 March 2017. This level is the minimum of best practice (between 2% and 4%) as noted by the Council's external auditors in their 2017/18 report. Earmarked reserves have been established to meet a range of known commitments, it is anticipated that these will reduce significantly over the next few years.
- 2.36. The level of Council reserves requires to be maintained at the right level to ensure the Council's future financial stability. These are kept under review and considered bi-annually on the setting of the Council's budget and on closure of the Council's Account.
- 2.37. To support the scale and pace of the next phase of transformation the level of resources available in the Change and Service Redesign Fund will require to be considered when the Council sets its budget.

Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)

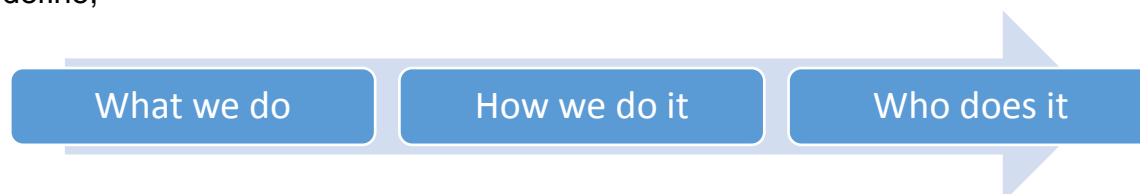
- 2.38. The Integration Scheme sets out the Integrated Joint Board's (IJB) responsibility for financial planning and management of the HSCP's resources. The IJB has an implicit statutory obligation to set a balanced budget.
- 2.39. Information on anticipated pressures and proposed savings options are shared with North Ayrshire Council to inform the allocation of resources delegated to the IJB.
- 2.40. Despite significant investment by the Council in HSCP services over a number of years, including Challenge Fund resources to support transformation, consistent year end overspends, including non-delivery of savings have been returned. This has resulted in a cumulative deficit and debt to the Council of £5.8m as at 31 March 2018. The Council as one of the funding partners is exposed to risk unless the HSCP delivers services in a financially sustainably way.
- 2.41. The proposed timetable for the Integrated Joint Board setting its Budget is set out below;
- Budget Outlook (November)
 - Savings Proposals (November / December)
 - Updated Budget Outlook (January 2019 following the settlement)
 - Medium Term Financial Plan (March 2019)

The Council's Approach

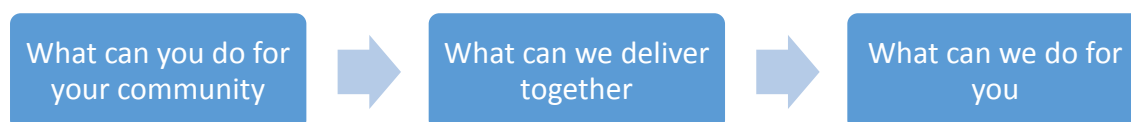
2.42. The reduction in resources noted above is happening at the same time as significant cost and demographic pressures. The scale of the financial challenge together with the change and savings which have been delivered between 2010/11 and 2018/19, £92m, equivalent to 28% of the current budget, creates a greater future challenge.

2.43. The above together with the anticipation of continued pressure on public sector funds and in particular core local government funding and longer lead in times to deliver the significant change and transformation requires the Council to take a longer term approach to financial planning. The requirement for such an approach is recognised by a number of bodies including CIPFA and Audit Scotland.

2.44. The Council's approach as set out in the Long Term Financial Outlook will inform the refresh of the Council Plan. This will transform what the Council does. It will redefine;



2.45. Sitting alongside this is the redefinition of the role of the Council and Communities;



2.46. The focus for the Council should be on priority outcomes within total available resources taking a collaborative approach to developing significant transformation at scale and pace whilst maximising income.

2.47. All of the above will have a significant impact on our workforce. Good progress is being made in developing our workforce plans, supporting the scale of change and transformation the Council requires to deliver.

Capital Investment Programme

2.48. A full refresh of the 10 year Capital Investment Programme was undertaken for 2018/19 to 2027/28. The current loan charges budget and loans fund reserve underpin this programme.

2.49. For 2019/20 a high level review of the programme will consider the phasing of projects and availability of funding, including return of the rephased 2016/17 capital grant, to ensure the programme continues to be deliverable within the current financial model or by redirecting funding from other projects.

- 2.50. Any new projects, not supported by external funding, will require to be supported by a robust business case and if additional resources are required may increase the projected funding gap. Consideration will also require to be given to the impact on the loans fund, operational and maintenance costs alongside life cycle investment.

Next Steps

- 2.51. Services have made their initial budget submissions covering 2019/20 to 2021/22, these are being scrutinised as part of the officer peer review process.
- 2.52. Discussions require to take place with the Health Board and the Integrated Joint Board to support a partnership approach to development of the Health and Social Care Partnership's budget.
- 2.53. Based on current plans community engagement and Members briefings will take place over autumn with Budget Day taking place in February 2019.

3. Proposals

- 3.1. That Council considers the Medium Term Financial Outlook 2019/20 to 2021/22, noting the scale of the potential financial challenge which the Council faces over the next 3 years and brings forward proposals to set a balanced budget for 2019/20 and beyond.

4. Implications

Financial:	The anticipated funding gap over the period 2019/20 to 2021/22, based on current assumptions, is £42.5m. Council will require to set a balanced budget for 2019/20 and future years.
Human Resources:	It is anticipated that delivery of savings will impact on the Council's future workforce. The Council has established corporate and Service workforce plans which include; active management of the size of its permanent work force; vacancy management; review of 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:	<p>It is a statutory requirement for the Council to set a balanced budget and appropriate level of Council Tax to support this.</p> <p>Development of a balance budget is contingent on identification and subsequent delivery of significant transformation and robust savings alongside management of risk and pressures, particularly those of a demand led nature. Directors will require to provide assurance that plans are in place to secure delivery of proposed savings and deliver services within the final financial envelope.</p>
Equality: Children and Young People:	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 delivering its key priorities.
Community Benefits:	No direct consequences.

5. Consultation

- 5.1. Development of the Council's medium term financial plan is carried out collaboratively across the Executive Leadership Team and with key Partners.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1. The Council is starting from a strong position in terms of financial planning with a clear understanding of its key strategic risks. Longer and medium term financial planning is critical to ensure sustainability of key Council priorities. The Medium Term Financial Outlook outlines the anticipated funding gap of £42.5m over the period 2019/20 to 2021/22, with £22.8m of this occurring in 2019/20. A change and transformation programme at scale and pace is required to address the challenge that the Council faces and to minimise the impact on the communities of North Ayrshire.



Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Support)

For further information please contact Laura Friel on 01294 324554.

Background Papers

None

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title: Ayrshire Growth Deal

Purpose: To provide Council with an update on the progress with the Ayrshire Growth Deal and seek Council agreement to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to agree the final Heads of Terms with the UK and Scottish Governments.

Recommendation: It is recommended that Council:

- a) Supports the continued negotiations to secure a Growth Deal for Ayrshire;
- b) Approves the submission of Appendix 1 to the UK and Scottish Governments to reiterate the ambitions of the Ayrshire Growth Deal;
- c) Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to conclude the Heads of Terms with both the UK and Scottish Governments in partnership with counterparts from East and South Ayrshire Councils;
- d) Approves the commitment of £100,000 from earmarked funds to the costs of the Growth Deal Programme Management Office and the delivery of an Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy; and
- e) Otherwise notes the contents of the report.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In September 2016, the Cabinet agreed to the submission of the Strategic Case for an Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD) to the UK and Scottish Governments. The Ayrshire economy has underperformed in recent years highlighting increasing levels of inequality in regional economic performance in Scotland. As such, Ayrshire requires significant investment in order to realise inclusive growth in the region and enhance our contribution to the Scottish and UK economy.
- 1.2 Consequently, the three Ayrshire Councils have worked in partnership, and with partners across the public and private sector, over the last two years to develop an Ayrshire Growth Deal bid comprising a number of regional priorities and associated interventions and projects which could, if combined, facilitate inclusive economic growth across Ayrshire.
- 1.3 Whilst an AGD has yet to be formally agreed, the Prime Minister signalled an intention to work with the Ayrshire Councils on a deal on 29 March 2018. The Scottish Government had previously announced a similar ambition. It is important an agreement on a Deal is reached as soon as possible and this

paper proposes arrangements to ensure that all three Councils are in a position to move forward as soon as agreement can be reached with both Governments in the form of a Heads of Terms document. A separate paper is presented to Council on the governance structure required to secure a Deal.

2. Background

- 2.1 The three Ayrshire Councils have been working on developing proposals for an AGD for over two years and have secured commitment from the UK and Scottish Governments to enter into negotiations regarding a Deal. Members will be aware that the bid is focused on delivering the following vision for Ayrshire to be 'a vibrant, outward looking, confident region, attractive to investment and visitors, making a major contribution to Scotland's growth and local well-being, and leading the implementation of digital technologies and the next generation of manufacturing'.
- 2.2 Outline Business Cases have been developed in accordance with the Treasury Green Book Guidance and submitted to both the UK and Scottish Government officials for scrutiny and assessment. The projects submitted would have a transformational impact on the Ayrshire economy as a whole, and locally would increase the prosperity and well-being of our North Ayrshire communities.
- 2.3 Extensive dialogue with government officials regarding individual business cases and what the Deal will deliver as a whole, lobbying by parliamentarians and Ayrshire's Councillors and support from the Ayrshire business community has resulted in commitment from both Governments to the principles of an AGD, the first Deal of its kind outside of Scotland's cities. Negotiations are at an advanced stage and we are aiming to have Heads of Terms with both Governments signed off in December 2018.

Next Steps

- 2.4 Full details of the current Growth Deal bid including the 21 projects which make up the £324m bid for support are attached at Appendix 1 of this report. This information is familiar to both governments and it is proposed to share Appendix 1 with them to reiterate Ayrshire's aspirations. Heads of Terms will be based upon the information in Appendix 1 albeit the final list of projects and the financial contribution from each government remain subject to negotiation which is likely to continue until the last possible moment.
- 2.5 In summary, proposals reflect the strengths and opportunities that exist in Ayrshire both in terms of its asset base and its key sectors and all proposals are underpinned by a commitment to delivering inclusive growth – economic growth which benefits all our communities and residents.
- 2.6 Negotiations are now focused on which projects the UK Government are interested in funding, either fully or in part and once this has been agreed this will establish the value of the Deal, on the basis that the Scottish Government has already indicated that they will match the UK Government commitment pound for pound
- 2.7 The driver which will determine the UK Government's support will be the extent to which a project contributes to the Government's Industrial Strategy and its

focus on sectors and innovation and Appendix 1 indicates which projects are aligned to the ambitions of that strategy.

- 2.8 Similarly, for Scottish Government support to particular projects, proposals need to demonstrate that they will deliver growth aligned to the aspirations of Scotland's Economic Strategy and the Inclusive Growth agenda and again this is indicated in Appendix 1.
- 2.9 There is also a requirement that each of the 3 Councils commit at least 20% to the overall package of support. This will be calculated as a percentage of the resource committed to each Local Authority area – reflecting the fact that a local authority cannot spend resource in another local authority area. This resource will be aligned to project activity and expenditure will be aligned to the phasing and spend profile of that project.
- 2.10 The timeline for the sign off of Heads of Terms with both Governments is difficult to determine not least because Ayrshire is one of a number of areas where Deals are under development and is effectively vying with other areas to ensure priority. To facilitate this it is also important to recognise that Heads of Terms for other Deals have been subject to change up to the point of their signing and an agreed process by which Councils can accept changes at very short notice will be key to achieving Ayrshire's ambitions for Heads of Terms sign off prior to the end of 2018.
- 2.11 To support this, approval is sought to delegate the authority to the Chief Executive, with counterparts from North and South Ayrshire Councils, to accept the Growth Deal Heads of Terms and to work with Government officials to negotiate any last minute change.

Financial Implications

- 2.12 The Council will be required to contribute at least 20% of the North Ayrshire share of the overall AGD package and this will be subject to further consideration and a separate paper once the value of the Governments' contribution is clear. An initial provision to the AGD has been made in the Capital Programme Refresh.
- 2.13 Additionally, there is a requirement to contribute to the overhead costs associated with the AGD Programme Management Office (PMO) currently hosted by East Ayrshire Council and comprising 2.9 FTE staff; 1 team member seconded from East Ayrshire Council and 2 from South Ayrshire Council and admin support. This budget will also support the work associated with the development of the Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy being led by the Policy Manager – Economic Growth, North Ayrshire Council. Approval is sought to commit £100,000 from existing earmarked resources to support this activity. Equal contributions will be required from the other two Councils.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is recommended that Council:
 - a) Support the continued negotiations to secure a Growth Deal for Ayrshire;
 - b) Approve the submission of Appendix 1 to the UK and Scottish Governments to reiterate the ambitions of the Ayrshire Growth Deal;

- c) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to conclude the Heads of Terms with both the UK and Scottish Governments in partnership with counterparts from East and South Ayrshire Councils;
- d) Approve the commitment of £100,000 from earmarked funds to the costs of the Growth Deal Programme Management Office and the delivery of an Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy; and
- e) Otherwise note the contents of the report.

4. Implications

Financial:	The Council will be required to commit at least 20% of the North Ayrshire share of the overall AGD package and this will be subject to further consideration and a separate paper once the value of the Governments' contribution is clear. The Council is also required to contribute to the overhead costs associated with the AGD PMO and approval is sought to commit £100,000 from existing earmarked resources.
Human Resources:	There are no human resource implications arising from this report
Legal:	There are no legal implications arising from this report.
Equality: Children and Young People:	There are no equality implications arising from this report. A priority of the AGD is to achieve inclusive growth for Ayrshire, meaning all communities will benefit.
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no environmental or sustainability implications arising from this report. Individual Deal projects will be required to undertake Environmental Impact Assessments once agreed.
Key Priorities:	The report supports corporate and economic strategies of the Council, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing our Economy, increasing employment and regenerating our towns; • Working together to develop stronger communities; and • Ensuring people have the right skills for learning, life and work.
Community Benefits:	There is an obligation to provide Community Benefit on all contracts in excess of £100,000. Appropriate clauses will be inserted in any contracts awarded as a result of this work.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 The preparation of the Growth Deal bid has involved consultation across the public, private and social economy of sectors, including communities through Community Planning Partnerships. Business engagement events have raised awareness and gathered feedback on key themes and ambitions from

businesses operating in the region. Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executives of the three Ayrshire Councils.



Karen Yeomans
Executive Director for Economy and Communities

For further information please contact **Karen Yeomans** on **01294 324030**.

Background Papers

N/A

The Ayrshire Growth Deal Proposal – October 2018

Introduction

East, North and South Ayrshire Councils all recognise the importance of a regional approach to growing the economy and have been working together and with partners and stakeholders to develop an Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD) bid, anchored in a commitment to creating a growing, innovative, more productive and inclusive economy, developing Ayrshire's core strengths and ensuring that communities benefit from economic growth.

Collectively, the partnership has identified the regional priorities which will create the best environment for people and business. This has been a robust process reflecting good practice methodologies, including analysis to understand the best interventions and projects which will facilitate a step-change for the Ayrshire and Scottish economies, while creating greater opportunity for all communities.

The vision is for Ayrshire to be ***'a vibrant, outward looking, confident region, attractive to investors and visitors, making a major contribution to Scotland's growth and local well-being, and leading the implementation of digital technologies and the next generation of manufacturing.'***

Ayrshire has particular strengths in aerospace, engineering, life sciences, manufacturing and tourism that offer growth and productivity gains that are significant at the Scottish and at the UK level.

Targeted investment, coordinated throughout Ayrshire, will act as a powerful catalyst stimulating growth and resulting in increased prosperity for local people, for Scotland and for the UK as a whole.

Project proposals and associated Outline Business Cases have been prepared, reviewed, assessed and refined following feedback received from policy leads within each government and these now form the overall programme business case.

Within the AGD, there are 21 proposals for projects across Ayrshire with a total value of £324m. We would ask that Scottish Government and UK Government consider these proposals as a whole, in order that the full impacts are realised.

High level impacts

The AGD aims to deliver:

- c£300m total public sector investment;
- Unlocking c.£2bn private sector investment;
- Estimated job impact of 13,000;
- c.100,000 sq. m. of business and innovation space;
- 1,500 people supported into sustainable employment each year.

Table 1 below provides a list of these projects set out by programme.

Table 1:

Programme	Project	Value £m
Space & Aerospace Innovation and Manufacturing Campus – South Ayrshire	Spaceport Infrastructure & Visitor Centre	90
	Aerospace & Space Innovation Centre (ASIC)	
	Development Commercial Space – Prestwick	
	Prestwick Airport Roads	
	Policy Ask: Free Port status at Prestwick, Port of Ayr and Falkland Yard	
Tourism & Creative Arts Growth Programme – North Ayrshire	Marine Tourism	35
	International Contemporary Arts (ICA) at the Big Idea, Sky Park and associated infrastructure	
Low carbon energy, circular economy & environmental sustainability Growth Programme – North Ayrshire	International Marine Science and Environment Centre (IMSE)	34
	Centre for Low Carbon Energy and Circular Economy (CECE) and Rail and Digital Infrastructure	
Advanced Technology & Digitally Automated Growth Programme – North Ayrshire	i3 Digital Automation Innovation and Testing Centre and Flexible Business Space	25
Economic Growth Programme – East Ayrshire	National Energy Research & Demonstration Centre	90
	The HALO Kilmarlock Ltd (Phase 1 & 2)	
	Ayrshire Manufacturing Investment Corridor (AMIC)	
	Ayrshire Engineering Park (Moorfield Phase 3)	
Communities' Skills & Business Programme	Working for a Health Economy	24
	Fair Work Ayrshire	
	Co-Hubs	
	Regional Skills Investment Plan	
	Policy Ask: EntZones at Prestwick & i3 – extend time period & coverage (Prestwick)	
	Policy Ask: EntZones at Prestwick & i3 – Capital Allowance Benefit extend time period & coverage (Prestwick)	
	Policy Ask: EntZone solution AMIC and Moorfield	
	Policy Ask: Free Port status at Hunterston	
	Innovation & Internationalisation Framework	
Infrastructure Programme	Digital Proposal	26
	Regional Transport Appraisal	
TOTAL ASK		324

Key:
Reserved (or partially reserved and may be co-funded)
Devolved

While our proposals reflect the strengths and opportunities which exist in Ayrshire, economic baseline analysis shows that the regional economy has been underperforming for many years.

Our proposals aim to reshape our economic development interventions and overcome the barriers to growth by:

- Attracting and developing more innovative and internationally focussed companies that are more likely to have higher levels of productivity through developing key infrastructure and targeted business support programmes;
- Positioning Ayrshire as the 'go-to' region for smart manufacturing and digital skills;

- Improving key elements of strategic transport and digital infrastructure to help businesses get goods to market and people to work (physically and virtually);
- Working with our communities to raise aspiration and ambition, provide employment and skills support, and improve access to jobs through innovative community empowerment and employability programmes.

To achieve this Ayrshire will play a greater role in the regional, Scottish and UK economies. Ayrshire will be recognised for leading the successful implementation of key technologies in manufacturing sectors that are important to Scotland, for its world class digital and physical infrastructure and the quality of life it can provide. Our ambition is to see this happen through targeted investment, greater collaboration with the public sector stakeholders and partnership with the private sector.

Programme Themes

Figure 1 below illustrates how the AGD programme links to Governments' objectives of increased growth and prosperity. The programme is based on the achievement of economic growth and inclusive growth with a clear focus on addressing the issues of innovation and productivity, and inequality across the regional economy.

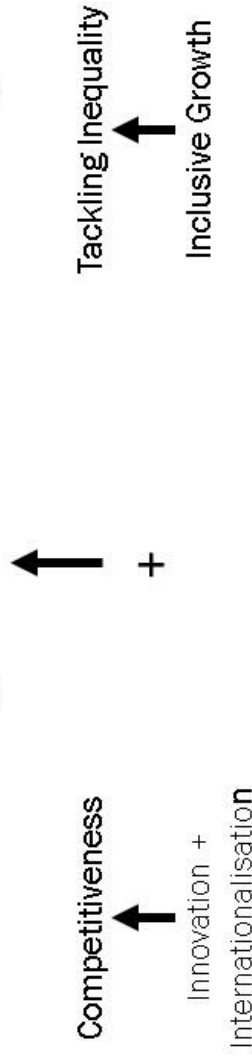
Linking to the Regional Vision (see above) assessed projects are grouped into four themes which have been developed from the Prospectus' 'Frameworks for Growth' and 'Connecting Communities to Growth' with infrastructure proposals developed from 'Connections for Growth'. These themes focus on the high growth, high value sectors that Ayrshire has real opportunities in, linking to Ayrshire's general manufacturing strength, distinctive coastal opportunities and to communities.

The AGD aim is to marry business growth opportunities to employment progression, developing the future workforce and community development, ensuring all communities benefit from economic growth.

The AGD themes reflect the strengths and opportunities of the Ayrshire economy.

AGD Strategic Framework

UK's Industrial Strategy and Scotland's Economic Strategy



Objectives:

Regional Delivery

AGD Programmes

AGD Projects

Business Support Services	Export + Inward Investment Services	Skills Investment Plan	Employability Services
---------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------	------------------------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerospace & Space – South Ayrshire Economic Growth – East Ayrshire Low carbon energy, circular economy & environmental sustainability – North Ayrshire Advanced Technology & Digitally Automated Growth – North Ayrshire Tourism & Creative Arts – North Ayrshire Communities' Skills & Business Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spaceport Infrastructure & Visitor Centre ASIC Development Commercial Space – Prestwick Prestwick Roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMIC Moorfield HALO National Energy Research & Demonstrator Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hunterston Strategic Industrial Hub Ardrossan i3 Business Space Irvine Harbourside and Ardeer Marine Tourism Co-Hubs Fair Work Ayrshire Working for a Healthy Economy Innovation & Internationalisation Framework Digital Regional Transport Appraisal
---	--	---	---

Scottish Government's Economic Strategy and Inclusive Growth Agenda

Scotland's Economic Strategy has the purpose of creating a more successful country with opportunities for all to flourish, through increasing economic growth whilst ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

While interdependency mapping allows an understanding of the relationships between proposals, Inclusive Growth is a key cross-cutting priority of the AGD; and as such needs to be reflected in all of the proposals. Successful economies are inclusive economies and tackling inequality will help ensure that the region is competitive in the global market and resilient to emerging trends and technologies.

Critical to Ayrshire's future prosperity is a virtuous circle of growth: growth in business, leading to growth in employment and growth in individual and household prosperity. For this reason, Inclusive Growth was included within assessment criteria for identifying the package of AGD proposals. In addition, each proposal has reflected on how their activity can be enhanced to ensure it is inclusive and what support may be required to maximise that impact. The AGD projects aim to have an impact across the inclusive growth drivers which were identified as part of the Ayrshire Inclusive Growth diagnostic work.

UK Government's Industrial Strategy

The UK Government's Industrial Strategy aims to create an economy that boosts productivity and earning power throughout the UK. The strategy is built on five foundations and four grand challenges.

The approach outlined refers to developing a stronger economy, building on our existing strengths to enable all regions to prosper. It aims to develop a highly skilled, competitive economy that benefits all people.

This approach together with Scotland's Economic Strategy reflects the desire to put Inclusive Growth at the heart of the AGD.

The table below highlights the relationship between each AGD project the UK Industrial Strategy and the Scottish Government's Economic Strategy and we ask both governments to support the AGD in this context.

[illegible]

Governance

Following approval in June 2018 by each of Ayrshire's local authorities to pursue a regional partnership for economic growth, the 3 Councils have now agreed to start to shape that partnership by developing a single economic development strategy for Ayrshire which will inform regional priorities to support inclusive growth of the economy.

The development and delivery of the Ayrshire Economic Growth Strategy will be guided by already approved governance structures including a new formally constituted decision making forum which will also oversee the Ayrshire Growth Deal. The new body will include the three Councils, Scottish Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland and private sector representation.

The Partnership will develop a clear vision for the area, providing strong regional leadership working with local elected leaders and other stakeholders. The partnership will provide a strong and unified voice for Ayrshire ensuring that it is heard in national debates, making the case for investment and influencing national, regional and local priorities and decision making. It will also ensure a single point of influence for business.

The governance arrangement set out above will also be the driver for maximising the Inclusive Growth benefits to be obtained from our Growth Deal. The development of the regional strategy will play a significant role in ensuring a wider role for Ayrshire partners, public and private, in agreeing the priorities for the regional economy.

Conclusion

The AGD partners across the public, private and third sectors, have collaborated to develop a robust set of proposals which will unlock Ayrshire's true potential and which will contribute to growth at a Scottish and UK levels too.

We have sought to demonstrate the processes and procedures around the construction of this Growth Deal and the level of support and dialogue with colleagues from both the UK and Scottish Governments.

We are able to demonstrate close links across individual projects to maximise the impact of investment whilst also taking cognisance of the strategic context in which we seek to deliver.

We are confident that we have captured the strengths and opportunities within Ayrshire and that our proposals will transform the region.

We would ask that both Governments continue to work with the team in Ayrshire to support these efforts and to help us transform Ayrshire into a 21st century powerhouse for growth.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title: Governance Options – Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership/Ayrshire Growth Deal

Purpose: To present governance proposals for approval.

Recommendation: It is recommended that Council:

- a) Agrees to the creation of an Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee with a remit and membership set out in Appendix 1; and
- b) Agrees to the creation by the Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee of a sub-committee, the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership, with a remit and membership as set out in Appendix 2.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 On 19 September 2018, Council noted updates on the progress of establishing an Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership and agreed to a further report on governance options. This report presents proposals for the governance of the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership and the Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD).

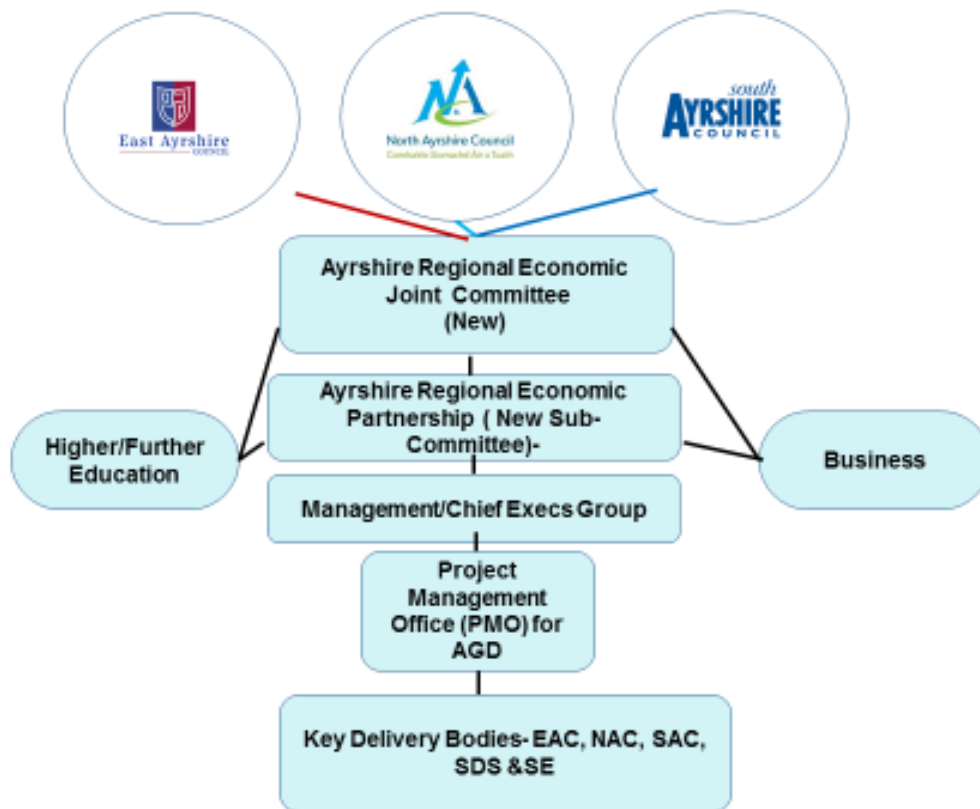
2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on 27 June 2018, Council agreed to :-
- (a) to establish a Regional Ayrshire Partnership for Inclusive Economic Growth as set out in Section 4 and Appendix 5 of the Detailed Business Case;
 - (b) to establish an Ayrshire Delivery Vehicle between East, North and South Ayrshire Councils and other stakeholders from 1 April 2019 and this includes integrated delivery of the Ayrshire Growth Deal, Economic Growth Services and Tourism
 - (c) to continue negotiations with the Scottish Government, its agencies, and regional partners to secure commitments to the new partnership model;
 - (d) to remit to the Chief Executive to finalise the new management structure in conjunction with the other two Chief Executives, taking account of the remit and scope of the services and the overall financial envelope, to be populated as quickly as possible and well in advance of April 2019 with final proposals being presented to Cabinet;
 - (e) to establish a range of workstreams including service design, Human Resources, finance, legal, governance;

- (f) that the host authority be North Ayrshire Council, tasked with the oversight of day to day operational issues in relation to the Partnership;
- (g) to transfer employees from East and South Ayrshire Councils (where agreed by their respective authorities) to the host authority on 1 April 2019 under TUPE regulations; and
- (h) to establish an Ayrshire Economic Development Sub-Committee of the Ayrshire Shared Services Committee for the purpose of developing an Ayrshire Regional Inclusive Economic Growth Strategy and associated implementation plan, with appropriate support and input from an Ayrshire Economic Delivery Vehicle team.

- 2.2 As noted during Council's consideration of the report on 27 June 2018, and in the subsequent update report to Council on 19 September 2018, the corresponding report being submitted to South Ayrshire Council did not commit to the same degree of integrated service delivery. On 28 June 2018, South Ayrshire Council, agreed to the establishment of an Ayrshire Regional Partnership (ARP) for Economic Development, but not to the creation of an Ayrshire Delivery Vehicle with a host authority and TUPE transfer of all staff. This report presents revised proposals for the governance of the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership and the Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD), without the previous proposal for an integrated Ayrshire Delivery Vehicle. At its meeting on 25 November 2018, East Ayrshire Council agreed these proposals and it is understood that South Ayrshire Council will consider these at its meeting on 6 November. As the new proposals inevitably differ from those agreed by Council at its meeting on 27 June 2018 it will be necessary to suspend standing orders in order to consider this report.
- 2.3 Agreement of robust pan-Ayrshire governance is required in order to achieve sign-off of the Ayrshire Growth Deal. As noted in the report to Council on 19 September 2018, the critical first step is to develop a single economic development strategy for Ayrshire which will inform regional priorities to support inclusive growth of our economy and will act as the overarching strategic framework for the economic growth of the region. In order to develop this, the three Councils are working collaboratively with others to develop a clear vision for the area, alongside an Action Plan and Measurement Framework co-produced with national agencies, businesses, communities and wider regional partners. North Ayrshire Council are leading the strategy development work and have set aside dedicated resource to facilitate this over the next 6 months.
- 2.4 The Partnership will provide a strong and unified voice for Ayrshire ensuring that it is heard in national debates, making the case for investment and influencing national, regional and local priorities and decision making. The new joint strategy will inform these conversations and provide a robust framework to guide and inform strategic development. It will also ensure a single point of influence for business.
- 2.5 In developing governance proposals the following principles have been adopted:
 - Form needs to follow function. In other words, the governance structure needs to promote the main drivers for the Regional Economic Partnership, namely:-
 - To promote and deliver regional economic and inclusive growth on an Ayrshire-wide basis, in line with the Scottish Government's aim of having a Regional Economic Partnership for every region of Scotland;
 - To provide the robust shared governance which will enable the Scottish and UK Governments and other funding sources to dispense monies on an Ayrshire basis;
 - To encourage the meaningful involvement of public sector partners as well as the private sector;

- The structure should be as simple as possible, but be capable of adaptation as required; and
 - To recognise that if the majority of the funding is being delivered through Councils, that democratic accountability will be required for key investment decisions.
- 2.6 Other potential structures were examined, such as a Joint Board, company, Limited Liability Partnership etc. These other models have their own legal status, but also remove democratic control from Councils. For that reason, City/Growth Deals have to date used the Joint Committee model.
- 2.7 In proposing a structure, a key issue is the balance to be struck between private and partner involvement and democratic accountability. It is clear that any Regional Economic Partnership and Growth Deal must involve meaningful engagement of both private sector and partners. This ensures that decisions by councillors are well informed by the needs and requirements of partners and business and helps drive a strategic approach. On the other hand, if the majority of the funding is being delivered through Councils, they need to retain ultimate control over key strategy and investment decisions.
- 2.8 What is proposed is a structure which has a new Joint Committee with ultimate control over key strategic and investment decisions. This would largely comprise of Councillors from the three authorities with some representation (less than one third, to comply with statutory restrictions) from partners and business. Below this is a Sub-Committee which would progress the day to day business of both the Regional Economic Partnership and Growth Deal. This Sub-committee would comprise Councillors from the Joint Committee, as well as more extensive representation from public partners and business.
- 2.9 The advantages of this structure are:-
- Involvement of the business sector and partner agencies in developing strategy and supporting AGD. In turn this ensures the Joint Committee is fully sighted on pan-Ayrshire economic issues;
 - More external representatives can be on the sub-committee (while a Joint Committee can legally have up to one-third non-Councillor membership, there is no such limit on external membership of a Sub Committee);
 - The Sub-committee can involve participation by expertise;
 - Unlike a Business Forum or other Working Group, decision making powers can be given to a Sub-Committee, enabling meaningful involvement of public sector partners and the private sector; and
 - If there was only a Joint Committee, external members may have to be excluded from voting on certain items, giving rise to perceptions of second class participation.
- 2.10 The proposed governance structure is as follows:-



- 2.11 The membership, remits and powers of both the Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee and the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership are set out in Appendices 1 and 2. Standing Orders for their meetings are set out in Appendix 3. Key components of this are:-
- 2.12 An Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee responsible for strategy and policy. This would comprise 13 members, being three from each Council, one from Scottish Enterprise (SE), one from Skills Development Scotland (SDS) one from the business sector and one from the education sector. The local authority Chair would rotate on an annual basis. Its core functions are:
- Ayrshire Economic Strategy – final agreement of the strategy;
 - Approval of major funding decisions including approval of the Business Cases for the AGD; and
 - Coordination and alignment of Council and partner resources/strategy to ensure they support the most efficient delivery of the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and AGD.
- 2.13 An Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership Sub-Committee (“the Partnership”). This would comprise 3 nominees from each Council, (who could include Members and an officer), three representatives of the business sector, three representatives of the Higher or further Education sector and one representative from each of Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), Skills Development Scotland, and Visit Scotland. There could also be provision to co-opt an additional 3 members either from other organisations or on the basis of experience or skills. In legal terms this has to be a sub-

committee as it comprises more than one-third membership who are not councillors. The Sub-committee would have delegated powers, but major strategic and funding decisions would require to be remitted for approval to the Joint Committee. In broad terms, the functions of this Sub-Committee are:-

- Development of the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and overseeing delivery of its Action Plan; and
- Support for AGD, its projects and the Project Management Office (PMO).

2.14 There would require to be a Programme Management Office (PMO) for the AGD. In turn, this would be supported by a Management/Chief Executives Group comprised of senior officers from the three Councils, SE, HIE and SDS. The PMO would report through that Group to the Joint Committee or Partnership as appropriate.

2.15 The structure below this level has not yet been developed. For example, and depending on the linkage between agreed Growth Deal projects, there could be Themed Boards sitting underneath the PMO. In turn, individual City Deal projects might fall under each theme. This allows more specialist involvement on such boards and helps ensure a coordinated approach is taken to projects within the same theme. Depending on the linkage between different AGD projects, or the need for a focussed multi-agency Board to support work on a particular strand, this could be a useful model for the Joint Committee to develop.

2.16 In turn, individual AGD projects may require a different governance structure, perhaps involving a Joint Venture Company or Limited Liability Partnership involving a private sector partner. Lead authorities may also be required for individual pan-Ayrshire AGD projects. The proposed governance structure allows for any such body to be set up, as required.

2.17 Other matters which may require early decision by either Council or the Joint Committee include confirmation of the financial, staffing and support arrangements for the PMO.

3. Proposals

3.1 It is recommended that Council:

- a) Agree to the creation of an Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee with a remit and membership set out in Appendix 1; and
- b) Agree to the creation by the Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee of a sub-committee, the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership, with a remit and membership as set out in Appendix 2.

4. Implications

Financial:	The proposed governance structure enables Councils to retain ultimate control of major strategic financial decisions through a Joint Committee.
Human Resources:	A separate report deals with the resourcing of the PMO.
Legal:	The proposed governance structures accord with legal requirements and have been developed by the Legal Heads of Service of the three Councils.
Equality: Children and Young People:	A key aim of both the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and the AGD is to take a coordinated pan-Ayrshire approach to promote inclusive growth. This should have benefits in terms of equality groups.
Environmental & Sustainability:	Similarly, a coordinated pan-Ayrshire approach to inclusive growth should help protect the environment by ensuring that environmental issues are considered in a strategic context. This will also help promote sustainability
Key Priorities:	The report supports corporate and economic strategies of the Council, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Growing our Economy, increasing employment and regenerating our towns;• Working together to develop stronger communities; and• Ensuring people have the right skills for learning, life and work.
Community Benefits:	There are no Community Benefit implications arising from this report.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Following discussions between the Chief Executives of the three Ayrshire Councils, the proposals have been developed by the Legal Heads of Service of the three Ayrshire Councils, having regard to governance proposals of other City/Growth Deals, and in consultation with the three Council Chief Executives. They were approved by East Ayrshire Council at its meeting on 25 October 2018.



Karen Yeomans
Executive Director for Economy and Communities

For further information please contact **Karen Yeomans** on **01294 324030** or **Andrew Fraser**, **Head of Democratic Services** on **01294 324125**.

Background Papers

Appendix 1: Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee: Membership, Remit and Powers

Appendix 2: Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership, Membership, Remit and Powers

Appendix 3: Standing Orders of Meetings for the Joint Committee and Partnership

Appendix 1: AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC JOINT COMMITTEE

Constitution

A maximum of thirteen Members, comprising up to three members each nominated by East, North and South Ayrshire Councils, one from Scottish Enterprise, one from Skills Development Scotland, one from the business sector and one from the education sector. Named substitutes are permitted to attend in place of any nominated Member

Chair

The Chair of the Committee will rotate annually from a Member appointed by East Ayrshire Council to North Ayrshire Council, and to South Ayrshire Council and so on, with each Chair taking up his or her position on 1 September.

Quorum

A quorum of the Joint Committee shall be four members, with at least one member from each Council present.

Standing Orders and Meetings

The Standing Orders for the Joint Committee shall be as detailed in Appendix C. The Committee shall determine its timetable of meetings but shall meet at least two times per annum.

Delegated Powers

The Joint Committee has delegated powers to implement its functions, except as otherwise provided herein. The Joint Committee shall have power to create an Ayrshire Economic Partnership Sub-committee whose membership, powers and remit shall be as detailed in Appendix B.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council will stand referred to the Joint Committee: -

Acting in the interests of Ayrshire as a whole:-

1. To approve the Ayrshire Economic Strategy
2. To make recommendations to the UK and Scottish Governments, the Ayrshire Councils, public sector partners and business to promote collaborative working and to ensure their priorities, policies and service delivery are aligned with the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and the Ayrshire Growth Deal
3. To approve the business cases of individual Ayrshire Growth Deal Projects

4. To receive reports on the effectiveness of the implementation of the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and the Ayrshire Growth Deal and to identify potential improvements and make recommendations to the Constituent Authorities
5. To make recommendations to the Constituent Authorities in respect of the Ayrshire Growth Deal funding arrangements.
6. To make recommendations to the Constituent Authorities on the setting of budgets for the Ayrshire Growth Deal
7. To approve operational expenditure within agreed with Ayrshire Growth Deal Joint Committee budgets allocated by the Constituent Authorities in order to further the aims of the Ayrshire Growth Deal.

Appendix 2: AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Constitution

The Ayrshire Economic Partnership ('the Partnership') is a sub-committee in terms of section 56(1) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. It shall comprise a maximum of 22 members, being:-

- Three representatives nominated by each of East, North and South Ayrshire Councils;
- three representatives of the business sector selected by the Partnership;
- three representatives of the Higher or further Education sector, selected by the Partnership ;
- One representative nominated by each of Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland, and Visit Scotland.

The Partnership may also co-opt up to three additional members on the basis of experience or skills, whether from existing members, from other organisations or individuals. Named substitutes are permitted to attend in place of any nominated Member.

Chair

The Chair shall be appointed by the Joint Committee

Quorum

A quorum of the Partnership shall be six, with at least one nominee from each of the Ayrshire Councils present.

Standing Orders and Meetings

The Standing Orders of the Partnership shall be as detailed in Appendix C. The Partnership shall determine its timetable of meetings but shall meet at least six times per annum.

Delegated Powers

The Partnership has delegated powers to implement its functions, except as otherwise provided herein.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee will stand referred to the Partnership: -

Acting in the interests of Ayrshire as a whole, to:-

8. To oversee the development of the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and to make recommendations to the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee regarding its approval.
9. To provide strategic oversight for the delivery of the strategic priorities and actions contained within the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and any Action Plan forming part of such Strategy;

10. To drive forward the growth of the Ayrshire economy,;
11. To prioritise inclusive growth and provide an annual report in line with the Scottish Government's Inclusive Growth Monitoring Framework;
12. To drive increased collaboration and partnership between the Ayrshire Councils, the Scottish & UK Governments and their agencies and the private sector, focussed towards delivery of the Ayrshire economic priorities;
13. To make recommendations to the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee, the Ayrshire Councils, public sector partners and business to promote collaborative working and to ensure their priorities, policies and service delivery are aligned with the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and the Ayrshire Growth Deal
14. Undertake periodic reviews of the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and any Action Plan forming part of the Strategy to ensure that it is consistent with the emerging ambitions of Ayrshire and collaboration with partners
15. To oversee the development of the business cases of individual Ayrshire Growth Deal Projects and to make recommendations to the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee regarding their approval.
16. To oversee the implementation of the Ayrshire Economic Strategy and the Ayrshire Growth Deal, to monitor the performance of the Programme Management Office (PMO), to identify potential improvements and make recommendations to the PMO or the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee.
17. To make recommendations to the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee in respect of the Ayrshire Growth Deal funding arrangements.
18. To ensure that an effective monitoring and evaluation framework is in place at both a project and programme level, and that each Member Authority is delivering upon its requirements needed to successfully pass the Growth Deal Gateway Review Process.
19. To provide strategic direction and manage the input of any Thematic or other Working Groups.

**Appendix C: THE AYRSHIRE REGIONAL ECONOMIC JOINT COMMITTEE &
THE AYRSHIRE REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE**

STANDING ORDERS FOR THE CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

PRELIMINARY

COMMENCEMENT

These standing orders will apply and have effect from the date approved by the Joint Committee.

DEFINITIONS

In these Standing Orders the following words and expressions have the following meaning as shown below:-

“The Joint Committee” shall mean the Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee, formed under Sections 56 and 57 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and Section 15 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 for the purposes of regulating the shared discharge of the functions of the Constituent Authorities,

“Constituent Authority” means any of the East, North or South Ayrshire Councils.

“The Partnership” shall mean the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership, a Sub-committee formed under Sections 56 and 57 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and Section 15 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 for the purposes of regulating the shared discharge of the functions of the Constituent Authorities

MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

Dates of Meetings

1. The Joint Committee shall meet at least twice in each financial year or more often as is required to conduct its business, dates of meetings to be agreed by the Joint Committee. The Partnership shall meet at least six times in each financial year or more often as is required to conduct its business, dates of meetings to be agreed by the Partnership.
2. A special meeting of the Joint Committee or the Partnership may be called at any time:
 - (a) by the incumbent Chair; or
 - (b) if at least one quarter of the total number of members request a meeting in writing specifying the business to be transacted. The requisition shall be submitted to the Chief Executive of the incumbent Chair’s Council (or if the Partnership is not chaired by a Council nominee, by the Chief Executive of the Joint Committee’s incumbent Council), and shall be included in the notice and summons of the meeting. The Chief Executive will determine the time and venue of the meeting, which shall be held within 14 days of the receipt by the Chief Executive of the requisition.

Place, Time and Notice of Meetings

- 3.1** Except in the case of urgency (when the incumbent Chair may direct accordingly) three clear days at least before a meeting of the Joint Committee or the Partnership;
- i. Notice of the time and place of the intended meeting shall be published by the Chief Executive of the incumbent Chair's Council (or if the Partnership is not chaired by a Council nominee, by the Chief Executive of the Joint Committee's incumbent Council) or an appropriate officer of that council, responsible for the administrative support of the Joint Committee or Partnership, at that Council's principal office and, where practical, at the place where the meeting will be held if the meeting is to be held outwith that Council's principal office; and
 - ii. A summons to attend the meeting, specifying the business to be transacted shall be left at or sent by post to the usual place of residence of every Member of the Joint Committee or Partnership as appropriate, or to such other address as the Member may notify in writing to the Chief Executive of the incumbent Chair's Council.

LACK OF NOTICE

- 4.** Want of service of a summons on any Member of the Joint Committee or Partnership shall not affect the validity of any meeting.

QUORUM

- 5.** The quorum for the Joint Committee shall be four, with at least one nominee from each of the Ayrshire Councils present.

The quorum for the Partnership shall be six, with at least one nominee from each of the Ayrshire Councils present.

No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Joint Committee or Partnership unless a quorum is present.

If, 10 minutes after the time appointed for a meeting a quorum of Members is not then present, the meeting shall stand adjourned and it shall be minuted that "owing to the want of a quorum, no business was transacted".

CHAIR

6. The Chair of the Joint Committee will rotate annually from a Member appointed by East Ayrshire Council to North Ayrshire Council, and to South Ayrshire Council and so on, with each Chair taking up his or her position on 1 September. The Chair of the Partnership shall be appointed by the Joint Committee

The Chair shall preside. In the event of the incumbent Chair either being absent or withdrawing from a meeting, another member from the Authority of the present Chair, chosen by the members of that Authority present, shall assume the Chair for that meeting or part thereof.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF CHAIR

7. Deference shall at all times be paid to the authority of the Chair. When the Chair indicates a wish to speak, any Member who may be addressing the meeting shall give way. The Chair shall:-
 - (i) preserve order and ensure that every member of the Joint Committee or Partnership shall have a fair hearing;
 - (ii) decide all matters of order, competency and relevancy and the ruling of the Chair shall be final and shall not be open to discussion;
 - (iii) decide between two or more members of the meeting indicating that they wish to speak by calling on the member who has first caught the attention of the Chair;
 - (iv) ensure that due and sufficient opportunity is given to members who wish to speak to express their views on the subject under discussion;
 - (v) be entitled, in the event of disorder arising, to adjourn the meeting to a time he or she may then, or afterwards, fix and his or her leaving the Chair shall indicate the meeting is adjourned; and
 - (vi) the Chair shall, at his or her discretion, determine all questions of procedure for which no express provision is made under these Standing Orders with regard to the regulation of the proceedings and business of the Joint Committee meetings.

BUSINESS AT MEETINGS

8. At a meeting of the Joint Committee or Partnership, no business other than that specified in the summons shall be considered.

URGENT BUSINESS

9. Business which has not been specified in the summons may be considered where the Chair determines that the matter is one of urgency. It shall be at the sole discretion of the Chair to decide whether any business not specified on the agenda for the meeting, by reason of special circumstances, be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency, and such special circumstances must be specified in the Minute of the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

10. The business at any meeting shall (unless as otherwise directed by the Chair who may, at his or her discretion, alter the order of business at any stage) proceed in the following order:-
 - (i) the Sederunt shall be taken; the names of the members present at the meeting shall be recorded with the Chair at the head followed by the remaining Members;
 - (ii) Minutes of the previous Joint Committee or Partnership as appropriate shall be submitted, held as read and be formally moved and be held to be approved, unless objection is taken to any portion thereof when so submitted. Any Member may request information on an item within a Minute that is before the meeting; and
 - (iii) Any other competent business detailed in the Agenda or urgent business raised at the discretion of the Chair.

ORDER OF DEBATE

Motions/Amendments

- 11.1 A member of the Joint Committee or Partnership when speaking shall address the Chair and direct all remarks to the matter before the meeting by proposing, seconding or speaking to the motion or any amendment relative thereto, or to a point of order, or to propose or second a motion to adjourn the proceedings.
- 11.2 Every motion or amendment shall be moved and seconded. The terms of all motions or amendments shall always precede any remarks to be made by their proposers. No member shall speak supporting the motion or any amendment until the same shall be seconded.
- 11.3 The terms of a motion or amendment not seconded or which may be withdrawn or altered after being seconded shall not be recorded in the Minutes of proceedings.
- 11.4 Any member who has moved a motion or amendment and has failed to find a seconder may request that his or her dissent in regard to the decision in question be recorded and that dissent will be recorded in the Minutes.

Procedure on Point of Order

11.5 A member may speak upon a matter of order and on doing so shall make a short statement detailing precisely the terms of the point of order. If the Chair decides that the question raised by the speaker is not a 'point of order', the member who raised the point of order shall thereupon accept the decision as final. No other member shall be entitled to speak to that point of order. A member who is addressing the meeting when a question of order is raised shall give way until the question of order has been decided by the Chair.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

12.1 A motion for the adjournment of the meeting for a specified period of time may be put at the conclusion of any speech and shall have precedence over all other motions. It must be moved and seconded without a speech and shall at once be put by the Chair in the form of "For Adjournment" or "Against Adjournment".

12.2 A second motion for the adjournment of the meeting shall not be made within a period of 30 minutes unless it is moved by the Chair, when it shall be dealt with as in the immediately preceding standing order.

VOTING

Method of Voting on Motion and Amendment

13. The method of voting on motions and amendments shall be as follows :-

- (i) When a motion and one amendment only are before the meeting, a vote shall be taken between the motion and the amendment;
- (ii) When a motion and two or more amendments are before the meeting, the vote shall be taken upon all the proposals, each member having one vote. If a proposal receives the support of a majority of the members taking part in the vote, it shall be declared to be the decision of the meeting, but, in the event of none of the proposals receiving the support of such a majority, the proposal which has received the least support shall be dropped and the vote shall be taken anew upon the remaining proposals and so on until one proposals has received the support of such a majority whereupon it shall be declared to be the decision of the meeting; and
- (iii) In the event of the votes for two or more proposals being equal the Chair shall decide which of them shall be dropped.

DECISIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

14. Subject to Standing Orders 19, 20 and 24, all decision before the Joint Committee or Partnership shall be decided by a majority of the Members of the meeting present and voting thereon.

CASTING VOTE

15. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair shall have a second or casting vote except where the matter which is the subject of the vote relates to the appointment of a member of the Joint Committee to any particular office, in which case the decision shall be by lot.

ATTENDANCE BY ELECTED MEMBERS NOT A MEMBER OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

16. Members of the Constituent Authorities who are not members of the Joint Committee may be invited by the Chair of the Joint Committee to attend the meeting of the Joint Committee while there is under discussion any item in which those members have a local or other special interest. Such members shall be entitled to participate in the discussion on that item but shall not be entitled to vote. This provision does not apply to the Partnership.

ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

17. Members of the public may, subject to any limitation on numbers that may be required due to Health and Safety considerations or availability of space or seating in the meeting room, attend any part of the meeting of the Joint Committee or the Partnership except during an item of business where the meeting has resolved, in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (as amended), that the matter should be discussed in private session.

DEPUTATIONS

18. Any written request received by the Chief Executive of the incumbent Chair's Council, that a deputation be received by the Joint Committee on a particular matter shall be referred in the first instance to the incumbent Chair. Should the Chair consider that the matter raised by the deputation is one which is competent and relevant to the Joint Committee to determine, the written request shall be placed on the agenda of the first appropriate meeting of the Joint Committee. Thereafter, the Joint Committee may make arrangements for hearing the deputation at a subsequent meeting of the Joint Committee. In the event of the Joint Committee agreeing that arrangements should be made to hear a deputation the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) The deputation shall not exceed 3 in number.
- (b) Representatives of the deputation may speak for a total of no more than 10 minutes, unless the Chair otherwise permits; and
- (c) It shall be competent for members to put to the deputation only questions relevant to the subject of the deputation and no members shall express any opinion upon or discuss the subject until the deputation has withdrawn.

This provision does not apply to the Partnership.

VARIATION AND REVOCATION OF STANDING ORDERS

19. Any motion to vary or revoke these Standing Orders shall, when proposed and seconded, stand adjourned without discussion to the next meeting of the Joint Committee. No Standing Orders shall be varied or revoked unless two-thirds of the members of the Joint Committee present and voting shall so decide.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

20. Any of the Standing Orders, upon a motion made at any time during a meeting, may be suspended so far as regards any business at such meeting provided that two-thirds of the Members of the Joint Committee or Partnership as appropriate present and voting shall so decide.

AUTHORISED OFFICER

21.1 The respective Chief Executive of the incumbent Chair's Council (or if the Partnership is not chaired by a Council nominee, by the Chief Executive of the Joint Committee's incumbent Council), in consultation with the incumbent Chair, shall be authorised to cancel a meeting of the Joint Committee or Partnership where no business remains to be transacted.

21.2 The Chief Executive of the incumbent Chair's Council, (or if the Partnership is not chaired by a Council nominee, by the Chief Executive of the Joint Committee's incumbent Council), in consultation with the incumbent Chair shall be authorised to re-schedule any existing calendar meetings previously approved by the Joint Committee or Partnership.

CIRCULATION OF REPORTS, PAPERS ETC

22. The Chief Executive or appropriate Officer providing the administrative support for the Joint Committee or Partnership shall be entitled to mark as 'not for publication' any report or any item of business specified in a summons to attend a meeting or any papers circulated with any such summons if he or she considers that it relates to an item during discussion of which the meeting is likely not to be open to the public in accordance with the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (as amended) and no other member of the Joint Committee or Partnership as appropriate shall thereafter disclose the item or paper without the consent of the Joint Committee or Partnership .

THE COUNCILLORS' CODE OF CONDUCT

23. All Members will at all times comply with the decisions with the Councillors' Code of Conduct. Members of the Joint Committee or Partnership who are not Councillors shall be obliged before taking up office to agree to be bound by the Code of Conduct for Members of Devolved Public Bodies published by the Standards Commission for Scotland.

RECONSIDERATION OF A DECISION

24. No decision of the Joint Committee, may be reconsidered and, except where required by statute, no item of business the same or substantially the same as one previously determined by the Joint Committee, may be discussed by the Joint Committee within six months of the making of the previous decision or determination of the item, except when two-thirds of the Members for the time being present and voting agree otherwise. A motion by a Member in terms of this Standing order proposing that a matter be reconsidered or discussed shall, if seconded, be put by the Chair to the meeting in the form "For the Motion" and "Against the Motion". The same provision shall apply to the Partnership.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

25. Any Member who, in terms of the Codes of Conduct established under the Ethical Standards in Public Life Etc (Scotland) Act 2000, has any financial or non-financial interest in any matter under discussion at any meeting shall, having considered the nature of the interest, determine, in accordance with the Code of Conduct whether they require to declare the interest and having considered the objective test, whether they require to withdraw. Disclosures of interest and retrials shall be recorded within the minutes.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

7 November 2018

North Ayrshire Council

Title: **North Ayrshire Charitable Trusts**

Purpose:

- a) To seek the Council's approval for expenditure from Irvine Town Trust by Irvine Locality Partnership which would result in the winding up of this trust;
- b) To seek the Council's approval for expenditure from the McGavin Park Trust by Kilwinning Locality Partnership which would result in the winding up of this trust; and
- c) To update the Council on the current balances of the dormant and low value charitable trusts.

Recommendation: That the Council:

- a) Approves the requested expenditure from Irvine Town Trust by Irvine Locality Partnership to allow it to be wound up in line with OSCR recommendations;
- b) Approves the requested expenditure from McGavin Park Trust by Kilwinning Locality Partnership to allow it to be wound up in line with OSCR recommendations; and
- c) Notes the current balances of the dormant and low value charitable trusts.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council administers a number of trusts, largely composed of bequests made many years ago. There are a number of trusts established for each town for which the Council holds funds and these are the subject of the current report.
- 1.2 The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) is keen that charities fulfil their charitable purposes and External Audit has previously expressed concern about continued lack of activity in these dormant and low value trusts. If no other action is taken, the annual external audit fee and administrative charges will eventually exhaust these trusts.
- 1.3 This report seeks approval from the Council to grant allocations which would result in the winding up of the Irvine Town Trust and the McGavin Park Trust.

- 1.4 The report also provides an update on the current allocations and balances relating to the remaining trusts.

2. Background

- 2.1 Each year, the Council is required to approve the level of expenditure from the trusts with the authority to approve individual disbursements delegated to the Locality Partnerships, provided that the spend is contained within the in-year budget.
- 2.2 The Trusts make annual disbursements to groups and individuals based on approved criteria. While the Trusts are often restricted to a defined location, all Members are responsible for ensuring that they are properly administered within the terms of the relevant trust deed criteria.
- 2.3 The purpose of the town trusts is to provide assistance to persons in need within the defined area of each fund, as specified by the original bequest.
- 2.4 Historically the Registered Charitable Trusts (RCT) were not charged an administration fees for the work carried out on their behalf by the Council. Since 2014/15 Trust Accounts have been audited by the Council's External Auditors incurring a separate audit fee, which to date has been absorbed by the Council. In accordance with recognised accounting practice the administration cost and external audit fees have been allocated to all Funds since 2018-19.
- 2.5 The level of grant available for disbursement is the net annual income after meeting all expenditure commitments. In previous years it has generally been recommended that only the net income is available for trustees to disburse, ensuring that capital balances are left intact. For a number of reasons this may no longer be the best option for certain trusts.
- 2.6 The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) is keen that charities fulfil their charitable purposes and External Audit has previously expressed concern about continued lack of activity in these dormant and low value trusts. If no other action is taken, the annual external audit fee and administrative charges will eventually exhaust these trusts.
- 2.7 As such it may be better to exhaust the trust through a particular project with any disbursement complying with the trust purposes. Any disbursement that will result in the winding up of a registered trust must be approved by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) before the relevant Locality Partnership agrees the grant.

- 2.8 Officers have delegated powers to make grants from Trusts on the recommendation of Locality Partnerships. However if such grants will exhaust dormant or low value charitable trusts, Council approval will be required as this will result in the winding up of trusts, subject to OSCR approval.
- 2.9 There are a number of current requests, recommended by the Irvine Locality Partnership, for spend for which Council approval is sought because these allocations will result in the winding up of the Irvine Town Trust, as recommended by OSCR:
- Irvine Town Trust: £5,000 as Robertson Trust match funding for Coastwatch to employ a volunteer coordinator.
 - Castlepark and Eglinton Community Association: £13,000 for the continuation of a community worker post.
 - Irvine Special Events Forum: £5,000 for the Irvine town centre Christmas event. The Irvine Special Events Forum grant will be paid immediately if approved, while the remaining grants are subject to confirmation from OSCR as they will result in the winding up of the Irvine Trust.
- 2.10 There is a current request, recommended by the Kilwinning Locality Partnership, for spend for which Council approval is sought because this allocation will result in the winding up of the McGavin Trust, as recommended by OSCR:
- McGavin Park Trust Fund: £2,330 as match funding for the CIF application approved by Cabinet in September 2018.
- 2.11 Elected members and Council officers are currently working in localities to identify further community projects which could benefit from the funds, based on the Council's previous instruction which agreed to capital spend from the dormant and low value trusts (17th June, 2015).
- 2.12 Those trusts identified as dormant at 31 March 2018 are listed on the following table. Expenditure opportunities have already been identified in relation to the Douglas Sellers and Beith & Gateside Trusts during 2018/19:

Trusts	Balance at 31/3/18	Spend to 2/10/18	Current Balance	Proposed Expenditure	Remaining Balance
Anderson Park	£808.14	-	£808.14	-	£808.14
Douglas Sellers	£1,818.95	£402.80	£1,416.15	-	£1,416.15
Beith & Gateside	£9,848.59	£3,000.6	£6,842.59	-	£6,842.59
Irvine	£23,068.25	-	£23,068.25	£23,000.00	£68.25
McGavin Park	£2,331.68	-	£2,331.68	£2,330.00	£1.68
North Ayrshire Museum	£24,993.33	-	£24,993.33	-	£24,993.33
War Memorial Fund	£486.13	-	£486.13	-	£486.13

2.13 In addition, for information, there are a number of trusts which may require to be wound up in due course, depending on future spend:

Trusts	Balance at 31/3/18	Spend to 2/10/18	Current Balance	Proposed Expenditure	Remaining Balance
Dalry	£5,764.37	£1,835.00	£3,929.37	-	£3,929.37
Kilbirnie	£5,016.07	-	£5,016.07	-	£5,016.07
Kilwinning	£131,687.20	£2,094.80	£129,592.40	£45,000.00	£84,592.40
Largs	£8,173.84	-	£8,173.84	-	£8,173.84

Current allocations include the following:

- Kilwinning Town Trust: £30,000 for Kilwinning Bowling Club, to pursue capital improvements to the club to extend activities;
- Kilwinning Town Trust: £15,000 as match funding for the CIF application approved by Cabinet in September 2018.

3. Proposals

3.1 It is proposed that the Council:

- a) Approves the requested expenditure from Irvine Town Trust by Irvine Locality Partnership to allow it to be wound up in line with OSCR recommendations;
- b) Approves the requested expenditure from McGavin Park charitable trust by Kilwinning Locality Partnership to allow it to be wound up in line with OSCR recommendations; and
- c) Notes the current balances of the dormant and low value charitable trusts.

4. Implications

Financial:	Approval of the budgets outlined in paragraphs 2.9 and 2.10 will allow each Locality Partnership to disburse individual grants up to the value of the approved levels.
Human Resources:	There are no HR implications relating directly to this report.
Legal:	All expenditure from trusts must be for the trust purposes and winding up of trusts will require the approval of OSCR.
Equality:	There are no equality implications relating directly to this report.
Children and Young People:	
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no environmental implications relating directly to this report.
Key Priorities:	<p>The proposals contained within the report support the North Ayrshire Council Plan 2015-2020 priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority 1 Growing our economy, increasing employment and regenerating towns• Priority 2 Working together to build stronger communities• Priority 3: Ensuring people have the right skills for learning, life and work.• Priority 4: Supporting people to stay safe, healthy and active.
Community Benefits:	Grants will be disbursed to people or groups within the community who meet the necessary criteria.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Locality Partnership members are involved and consulted on an ongoing basis in relation to disbursement of funds.



Karen Yeomans
Executive Director (Economy & Communities)

For further information please contact **Audrey Sutton, Head of Service (Connected Communities)** on **01294 324414**.

Background Papers

None.

