

Cabinet  
8 October 2013

**Irvine, 8 October 2013** - At a meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m. in Cunninghame House, Irvine.

**Present**

Willie Gibson, Alan Hill, John Bruce, Marie Burns and Tony Gurney.

**In Attendance**

L. Friel, Corporate Director, D. Tate Senior Manager (Housing Assets and Investment) and T. Reaney, Procurement Manager (Finance and Corporate Support); A. Sutton, Head of Community and Culture (Education and Skills); A. Fraser, Head of Democratic and Administration, K. Dyson, Communications Officer and M. Anderson, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

**Chair**

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

**Apologies for Absence**

Anthea Dickson and Alex McLean.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

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

**2. Minutes**

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 25 September 2013 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

**3. Suspension of Standing Orders**

The Cabinet resolved, in terms of Standing Order 19, to suspend Standing Order 21, to allow consideration of the recommendation within Agenda Item 6 (Energy Company Obligation (ECO) – Appointment of ECO Partner).

**4. Council Governance – Policy Boards Review and Neighbourhood Planning Forums**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive which (a) provided information on the outcome of the review of Policy Boards; (b) proposed the creation of Advisory Panels; and (c) reported on progress in taking forward Neighbourhood Planning.

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

- the participation of Community Planning Partners and community representatives in Neighbourhood Planning Forum meetings;
- the role of Neighbourhood Planning Forums and any anticipated overlap with the business of Area Committees;
- whether some reports for information only might require to be noted formally by the Cabinet; and
- the potential for duplication of effort in terms of matters which might be considered by an Advisory Panel and then the Cabinet.

The Cabinet agreed (a) to note the outcome of the Policy Boards review; (b) that the six Policy Boards be replaced by two Advisory Panels, namely the Physical Environment Advisory Panel and the Communities and Lifelong Learning Advisory Panel; (c) to the creation of six Neighbourhood Planning Forums; and (d) that the Chief Executive carry out a review of the new arrangements once they have been in place for approximately a year.

## **5. Sundry Debtor and Commercial Refuse Write Offs**

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which (a) advised of sundry debtor and commercial refuse write offs under delegated powers; and (b) requested authority to write off balances which exceed the delegated powers threshold.

The Cabinet agreed (a) to note the sums written off under delegated powers; and (b) authorise the write off of balances over £1,000, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

## **6. Energy Company Obligation (ECO) – Appointment of Eco Partner**

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which sought approval to vary the appointment of its ECO partner from British Gas Plc to Scottish Power Energy Retail Ltd.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the replacement of British Gas Plc as the preferred ECO partner for projected noted as 1, 2 and 3 within the Cabinet report of 25 June 2013, as contained in Appendix 1 to the report; and (b) delegate authority to the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) to appoint the appropriate ECO providers for any further ECO projects identified throughout the remainder of the 2013/14 financial year.

## **7. Property Factors (Scotland) Act 2011**

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which (a) reported on the outcome of the public consultation exercise on the introduction of North Ayrshire Council's Property Factoring Service; and (b) provided information on the contents of the finalised Statement of Service which sets out the operation of the Property Factoring service.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the background to the report.

Noted.

## **8. Community Empowerment and Community Associations in North Ayrshire**

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) which informed of progress made within the short life working group on community centres to support community associations in developing progressive approaches to managing community centres in North Ayrshire.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the operation of the community centre at Cranberry Moss in Pennyburn.

Noted.

## **9. Measured Term Contract: Annual Inspection and Reactive Maintenance of Domestic Gas Central Heating Installations and Ancillary Equipment**

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which (a) advised of the outcome of the tender exercise for the Measured Term Contract for the Annual Inspection and Reactive Maintenance of Domestic Gas Central Heating Installations and Ancillary Equipment; and (b) presented a recommendation in terms of the award of the contract.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the award of the contract for the Annual Inspection and Reactive Maintenance of Domestic Gas Central Heating Installations and Ancillary Equipment, to the end of 31 March 2017, with the option to extend for up to a further 2 years, to Saltire Facilities Management Limited.

#### **10. Measured Term Contract 2013-16 - Heating, Mechanical and Ventilation Systems: Responsive Repairs and Maintenance**

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which (a) advised of the outcome of the tender exercise for the Measured Term Contract for Responsive Repairs and the Maintenance of Heating, Mechanical and Ventilation Systems; and presented a recommendation in terms of the award of the contract.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the award of the contract for Responsive Repairs and the Maintenance of Heating, Mechanical and Ventilation Systems, for 3 years with the option to extend for a further two years, commencing on 1 December 2013, to Arthur McKay and Company Limited.

#### **11. Corporate Equality Group**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Minutes of the Meeting of the Corporate Equality Group held on 2 September 2013.

Noted.

The meeting ended at 3.05 p.m.