

North Ayrshire Council

A Meeting of North Ayrshire Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Ground Floor, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE on Wednesday, 18 December 2019 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 meeting held on 13 November 2019 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 4 November - 8 December 2019 (copy enclosed).

5 Leader's Report

Submit report by the Leader of the Council for the period from 4 November - 8 December 2019 (copy enclosed).

North Ayrshire Council Minute Volume (issued under separate cover)
Submit, for noting, the Minutes of meeting of committees of the Council held in the period 9 September - 4 December 2019.

7 Committee Appointment

Consider the undernoted committee nomination:-

Committee	Position	Nomination
Police and Fire and	Vice Chair	Jimmy Miller
Rescue Committee		

8 Financial Outlook 2021/22 to 2022/23

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 in order to inform the development of budget proposals (copy enclosed).

9 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Investment Programme, Revenue Budget and Rent Levels for 2020/21

Submit report by the Executive Director (Place) on the proposed HRA capital investment programme and revenue budget for 2020/21 and the consequential rent levels (copy enclosed).

10 Ardrossan Harbour Redevelopment

Submit update report by the Director (Growth and Investment) on the proposed redevelopment of Ardrossan Harbour (copy enclosed).

11 Questions

In terms of Standing Order 12, submit:-

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

"Noting that future economic growth and employment generation in North Ayrshire depends on a well educated workforce, what impact does the steady decline in PISA scores in Mathematics in Scotland, over at least the last 10 years, have on future prospects for young people in North Ayrshire."

(2) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Chair of the Planning Committee in the following terms:

"At the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th September 2019 I asked the following question:-

When considering the original (EIA) screening and planning applications in 2017/2018 and the second (EIA) screening in 2019, what tide lines did NAC use as part of their determination? Was it means high water springs or means low water springs?

In his answer the Chair of Planning confirmed that the Legal Cadastre was the High Water Mark and I quote, "Planning Permission and consequential EIA Screenings would be required for works above the High Water Mark and below that mark would be the responsibility of Marine Scotland."

Can the Chair of Planning please confirm that the answer he gave was the correct answer?"

(3) a question by Councillor Brahim to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"To ask the Leader of the Council what his Administration's position is on Rates Reliefs for businesses."

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

"According to an article in the Irvine Times edition dated 28th. November 2019, it stated that the Irvine Special Events Forum were 'promising a Sea of Lights through the High Street' after having been awarded £30,000 for the Big Event.

Will the Portfolio Holder for Place inform Members from which fund the £30,000 was granted and what the monies were spent on? Will he also inform Members what the Council's budget is for Decorative Lightings, for year 2019/2020, and what is the likely out turn?"

12 Motions

In terms of Standing Order 13, submit:-

(1) a motion by Councillor Dickson, seconded by Councillor McMaster, in the following terms:

"On 23rd February 2017, East Ayrshire Council presented a position paper on prostitution to their council that they wished to declare their view that prostitution as a form of commercial exploitation is a form of Violence Against Women and Girls and advocates a 'challenge demand' approach. The report was backed with research evidence on prostitution, the different approaches taken around the world and an analysis of what works, endorsed by the Scottish Government and National Violence Against Women and Girls Network.

They not only endorsed that position but instructed clear communication to their workforce that support for prostitution, in any form, is unacceptable.

Since then NAVAWP & SAVAWP have also signed up to this statement and all 3 Violence Against Women Partnerships in Ayrshire have adopted the approach of supporting women to leave prostitution, and advocating for the decriminalisation of those selling sex, and to move to 'challenge demand' ie move to criminalise the buyers of sex (on/off street: online).

This is approach is fully supported by the Community Justice Ayrshire Board.

At the Safer North Ayrshire Partnership, the NAVAWP requested a similar endorsement from North Ayrshire Council. It is believed to do so would strengthen the knowledge base and incorporate the approach more widely via our staff, policies and governance.

I believe that it has been an oversight to not have endorsed this statement sooner.

The position statement clearly outlines that the root cause of prostitution is gender inequality. Narrowing inequalities is a key plank in the Councils Strategic Plan.

The approach and supporting work is consistent with other work undertaken by the NAVAWPs.

And this is a priority area to reduce harm, improve safety, reduce trauma, and is positively promoted by Cllr Jim Montgomerie as our White Ribbon Ambassador.

I therefore call for the Council to:

- 1. Endorse the position statement on prostitution;
- 2. Request that Directors and Heads of Service ensure that all council policies are consistent with this position statement;

- Request that Directors and Heads of Service of service promote the
 position statement to all staff, making clear that support for
 prostitution in any form is unacceptable, and that staff should work
 with women using a harm reduction approach and help them to exit
 prostitution safely when they feel ready to do so;
- 4. Cascade this message to partner organisations, particularly those where contractual relationships are in place.

That this position statement, developed on a multi agency basis, also be reported to the NACPP."

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

"That Council is to be congratulated on formal adoption of LDP2, in particular page 23 which continues our support for large and small scale power generation at Hunterson.

That Council supports a small modular nuclear reactor, which will replace the current Hunterston B station when it enters decommissioning thereby protecting the nuclear industry and professional workforce in Scotland.

That Council writes to Paul Wheelhouse, MSP, and Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands to ask what work has been undertaken to ensure that advanced nuclear technologies are being considered for Hunterston, in line with the recommendations of the Scottish Government Energy Policy document produced in 2018."

13 Urgent Items

Any other items which the Provost considers to be urgent.

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Ian Clarkson (Provost) Chair: Robert Barr (Depute Provost) John Bell **Timothy Billings** Joy Brahim Marie Burns Apologies: Joe Cullinane Scott Davidson Anthea Dickson John Easdale Todd Ferguson Attending: 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