

Cabinet  
10 May 2016

**Irvine, 10 May 2016** - At a Special Meeting of Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m.

**Present**

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

**Also Present**

E. Murray, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support); C. Hatton, Executive Director, Y. Baulk, Head of Physical Environment and Y. Holland, Project Manager (Place); K. Yeomans, Executive Director, C. McAuley, Head of Service (Economic Growth), M. Strachan, Senior Business Manager and A. Laurenson, Team Manager (Regeneration) (Economy and Communities); I. Colvin, Director (North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership); A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services, J. Hutcheson, Communications Officer and A. Little, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's).

**Chair**

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

**Apologies for Absence**

Ruth Maguire.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

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

**2. Largs Campus DBFM Contract**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) which provided details of (a) the development of the proposals for an educational campus adjacent to the Inverclyde National Sports Centre in Largs; (b) the statutory consultation and planning process that has been undertaken; (c) the partial funding via the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) Schools for the Future Programme; (d) the delivery of the project via Hub South West (HubSW); and (e) the operation and maintenance of the campus that will be progressed via a separate company (DBFM Co) with the Council as a 10% equity stakeholder.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to a further contribution from the Scottish Government of £½ m towards the project.

That Cabinet, subject to an acceptable offer being received from Hub South West Scotland Limited ("HubSW"/"hubco") which meets the Council's and the SFT's requirements of cost, programme and quality, agreed to (a) enter into the DBFM contract required to progress the Development; (b) the documents required to progress that contract (the "Project Documents" as defined in Appendix 1 to the report) and to perform the contractual obligations in terms of the finalised Project Documents; (c) delegate authority to the Head of Physical Environment to complete the financial close process, negotiate and finalise the terms of the Project Documents and commit the Council to the execution of the Project Documents for the Development; (d) delegate authority to the Head of Democratic Services or any other Proper Officer duly appointed by the Council, to execute the Project Documents; and (e) note that the DBFM agreement and the Funder's Direct Agreement are certified contracts within the meaning of Section 2 of the Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997 (the "1997 Act") and shall meet the certification requirements within section 3 of the 1997 Act and authorise a Proper Officer to execute and issue the certificate in terms of the 1997 Act.

### **3. North Ayrshire Social Enterprise Strategy 2016 – 19**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) which set out (a) the newly developed 3 year Social Enterprise Strategy for North Ayrshire (Appendix 1); and (b) proposals for the expenditure over the next 3 years, totalling £242k, from the Social Business Development Fund

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

- the ambitious but realistic 3 year targets that were projected utilising the baseline established by the Scottish Enterprise in Scotland Census for 2015 for North Ayrshire and agreed by the group involved in setting the strategy; and
- the 3 year costs for two full time Social Enterprise Support Model staff.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the Social Enterprise Strategy 2016-19; (b) approve the proposed expenditure of £242,000 as set out in the Partnership Resource Plan; and (c) conditional on NAVT approving a grant for social enterprises, that the £258k balance of the budget would be used to support early stage growth business support activity.

### **4. Scottish Open Golf 2017**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on (a) the support that has been provided to Loch Lomond Golf Club in their bid to host the Scottish Open at Dundonald Links 2017; and (b) further improvements required to the course, its entrance and access to the clubhouse that necessitated urgent approval by the Chief Executive for additional investment of £75,000.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to Voisins, France who are twinned with Irvine and have experience of hosting golfing events.

The Cabinet agreed to homologate the decision of the Chief Executive in respect of the provision of an additional investment of £75,000 to support the upgrading of Dundonald Links golf course and associated facilities to a standard suitable to host the Scottish Open.

## **5. Business Support**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on (a) the impact and outcomes being achieved through the Council's business support activities; (b) details of a review undertaken on the support offer for businesses since the launch of the Team North Ayrshire (TNA) and further developments required (Appendix 1); and (c) the proposed realignment of grant provision to give focus on International, Innovation, Early Stage Growth activities (Appendix 2).

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the update provided on business support services; (b) approve the development of new services to support innovation, internationalisation and early stage growth activities, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report.

## **6. Quarry Road - Outcome of RCGF Bid and Proposed Development**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on (a) the award of funding from the Scottish Government towards the Quarry Road development; (b) the proposed approach to phasing of the development and the area of land within the Common Good proposed for transfer (Appendix 1); and (c) a Supporting Statement and Outline Masterplan (Appendix 2)

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

- the funding commitments and allocations for the development;
- the 3 phases of the development that are not interdependent and were illustrated in Appendix 1 to the report;
- the differing circumstances when assets from a Common Good Fund can be transferred for a nominal sum to the Council and when the value of the asset, as determined by the District Valuer, is paid to the Common Good Fund; and
- discussions that will take place on the best location for a 3G pitch in North Ayrshire.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the outcome of the funding award from the Scottish Government; (b) the submission of a planning application for the development; (c) the publication of tender packages for works to deliver a first phase (offices, parking and access); (d) that further development proposals for phase 2, including a report to a future meeting of Cabinet on proposals and funding bids for phase 2 of the development; and (e) the transfer of land within the proposed development site from the Irvine Common Good account to the Council's General Fund Balance Sheet.

## **7. Exclusion of the Public**

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

### **7.1 Purchase of Red Cross House, Irvine**

Submitted report by the Director (North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership) on the proposal to (a) purchase Red Cross House, Irvine in a partnership arrangement with NHS; and (b) develop the site as a community based rehabilitation resource for people with a range of needs.

It was noted that a business case in respect of the future operation and funding of the site would be brought to Cabinet.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) the purchase of Red Cross House, Irvine and; (b) grant authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board to agree the terms of a Partnership Agreement with the NHS and the Council in respect of the funding of the purchase and the funding of the services operated therein.

The meeting ended at 3.50 p.m.