

Cabinet  
3 October 2023

**IRVINE**, 3 October 2023 - At a Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m.

**Present**

Marie Burns, Shaun Macaulay, Alan Hill, Margaret Johnson and Christina Larsen; and Andrew Bruce and Elizabeth Turbet (Church Representatives) and Jacqui MacKenzie (Teaching Representative).

**In Attendance**

A. Sutton, Executive Director and A. McClelland, Head of Service (Education) (Communities & Education); R. McCutcheon, Executive Director, L. Kirk, Interim Head of Service (Economic Development & Regeneration) and L. Cree, Senior Manager (Property Management & Investment) (Place); C. Cameron, Director and S. Hunter, Chief Social Work Officer (Health and Social Care Partnership); F Walker, Head of Service (People & ICT); A. Craig, Head of Service (Democratic), J. Hutcheson, Senior Communications Officer (Communications), H. Clancy and D. McCaw, Committee Services Officers (Chief Executive's Service).

**Chair**

Marie Burns in the Chair.

**Apologies**

Tony Gurney and Rev. Mark Goodman (Church Representative).

**1. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 11 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

**2. Ayrshire College and Irvine Royal Academy Skills Centre of Excellence**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Communities and Education) providing an update on the revised position in relation to the Ayrshire College Skills Centre of Excellence at Irvine Royal Academy resulting in a revised approach to delivery of Developing the Young Workforce, with a focus on the Future Skills Hub at Kilwinning Campus.

The Cabinet acknowledged the improvement journey undertaken at Irvine Royal Academy by staff and young people within the community and recognised the excellent School-College Partnership developments and Future Skills Hub facility at Kilwinning Campus.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) welcome the School-College Partnership developments and the Future Skills Hub approach; and (b) otherwise note the revised position in relation to the Ayrshire College Skills Centre of Excellence at Irvine Royal Academy.

### **3. Education Service Standards and Quality Report 2022-23**

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Communities and Education) on key progress towards the Education Service Improvement Priorities and the National Improvement Framework Priorities for session 2022-23. The Education Service Standards and Quality Report 2022-23 were detailed at Appendix 1 to the report, including principal improvement activities undertaken throughout the academic session 2022-23 and key performance information on learner outcomes.

The Cabinet welcomed the report and acknowledged the educational challenges faced across North Ayrshire following the Covid-19 pandemic and also in terms of deprivation.

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

- established links in terms of career pathways for pupils;
- the offer from Ayrshire College to provide a 'vocational burst' programme to extend the range of skills and vocational activities available to young people deciding what to progress into the senior phase and beyond;
- ongoing work within schools in terms of attendance levels;
- the inclusion of stretch aims for improvement over the next three years; and
- positive inspections across schools in North Ayrshire over the last year.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve publication of the document set out at Appendix 1 to the report; and (b) otherwise note the content of the report.

### **4. Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report**

Submitted report by the Director (Health and Social Care Partnership) on the Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report, as required by the Scottish Government, and covering the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The report provided information on the successes and challenges in relation to the past year and noted the positive contributions to individuals, families and communities across North Ayrshire while highlighting the key risks for 2024.

The Cabinet welcomed the report and acknowledged the challenges faced, particularly in relation to care and mental health, across North Ayrshire.

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

- strengthening established care links with communities through the HSCP Locality Forums and Community Planning Locality Partnerships; and
- current and future care capacity across North Ayrshire.

The Cabinet agreed to note the contents of the Chief Social Worker Annual Report 2022-23.

## **5. Lease Disposal – Additional Area at Nethermiln Playing fields, West Kilbride**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the lease of the football pitch at Kirkton Glen and Nethermiln Playing Fields, West Kilbride to West Kilbride Community Sports Club for a period of 25 years, with an option to extend for a further 25 years. The lease disposal area was detailed at Appendix 1 to the report. The Appendix also set out previous areas leased and provided detail on additional areas which could be added to the lease, allowing for the full redevelopment of the sports facilities within Kirkton Glen.

The Cabinet agreed (a) to approve the lease disposal of the football pitch at Kirkton Glen and Nethermiln Playing Fields to West Kilbride Sports Club for a period of 25 years, with an option to extend for a further 25 years at a nominal rent of £1 per annum, exclusive of VAT.

## **6. North Ayrshire Asset Management Strategy and Plans**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the refreshed North Ayrshire Corporate Asset Strategy and associated Asset Management Plans. Appendix 1 to the report detailed the full Strategy and Plans which reflected updated priorities and challenges.

The Cabinet acknowledged the work carried out by services in production of the comprehensive Strategy and Action Plans.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the North Ayrshire Corporate Asset Strategy and Plans as detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

## **7. Vacant and Derelict Land Strategy 2023-2028**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) seeking approval of the Vacant and Derelict Land Strategy 2023-2028, detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet acknowledged the work carried out by the service in production of the comprehensive Strategy and Action Plans.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the Vacant and Derelict Land Strategy 2023-2028 detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

## **8. Local Transport and Active Travel Strategy 2023-2028**

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) seeking approval for the Local Transport and Active Travel Strategy 2023-2028, detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Cabinet acknowledged the work undertaken by the service in obtaining external funding packages to encourage modifications to travel options within communities.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the proposed Local Transport and Active Travel Strategy 2023-2028, detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

The meeting ended at 3.25 p.m.