

Cabinet
14 February 2017

IRVINE, 14 February 2017 - At a Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m.

Present

John Bell, Alex Gallagher, Peter McNamara and Jim Montgomerie.

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; C. Hatton, Executive Director, R. McCutcheon, Head of Service, C. Forsyth, Team Manager (Place); K.Yeomans, Executive Director, J. Miller, Senior Manager Planning, G.Robson, Senior Employability & Skills Manager (Economy and Communities); L. Friel, Executive Director, M. Hogg, Head of Service (Finance), A. Lyndon, Team Manager (Corporate Procurement), F. Walker, Interim Head of Service (People and Transformation) G. Mirtle, Programme Manager (Finance and Corporate Support); I.Colvin (Health & Social Care Partnership); J. Hutcheson, Communications Officer, A. Little, Committee Services Officer and H. Clancy, Committee Services Support Officer (Chief Executive's).

Chair

Councillor Bell in the Chair

Apologies for Absence

Joe Cullinane and Louise McPhater

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. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2017 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. B714 Realignment Scheme

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the progress with the carriageway improvement proposals for the B714 at Girthill & Yonderhouses Farms.

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

- the estimated increased project costs due to the significant amount of soft ground that would require to be removed or treated, a large volume of fill material required to vary the height of the road design to provide a livestock underpass and works to raise a dip in the road to the north of the project; and
- the overall affordability of the scheme that would not make the inclusion of the above works viable at a later date.

The Cabinet agreed to note (a) the progress with the design of the proposed B714 carriageway improvements; (b) the updated estimated increased project costs which reflect the significant financial impact of unfavourable soft ground conditions; and (c) that due to the increased estimated costs, that the affordability of the proposed improvements will require to be considered and prioritised accordingly as part of the Council's overall priorities for investment through the Capital Programme.

4. Planning Performance Framework

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on the feedback from the Scottish Government on the Planning Performance Framework 5.

The Cabinet agreed to note the feedback contained within Appendix 1 to the report.

5. Hazeldene Horticulture Public Social Partnership

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on the progress in re-establishing the Hazeldene Public Social Partnership (PSP) and seek endorsement for the Council's approach in taking this forward.

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

- the extension of PSP for an additional year;
- the transfer of the Garden Tidy scheme to Hazeldene; and
- the funding commitment that has been agreed for the first year only.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) welcome the progress in re-establishing the Hazeldene Horticulture project; (b) approve Cunninghame Housing Association (through its subsidiary Cunninghame Furniture Recycling Company) as the new partner in the PSP; (c) approve an extension to the PSP up to March 2019; and (d) approve the funding streams identified and service delivery options; (e) agree in principle that the Council will underwrite a potential funding gap up to a maximum value of £30k in the business plan for 2017/2018.

6. Change and Transformation Programme

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the progress update on the Change and Transformation Programme.

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

- the training provided to graduates including Lean 6 Sigma and management training;
- a range of tools available to support staff in making change happen; and
- the introduction of cash kiosks at Saltcoats Town Hall and Bridgegate House and support for customers in the transition of how the Council collects cash.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the progress of programme delivery, as at the end of December 2016; and (b) instruct the Executive Leadership Team to identify a comprehensive pipeline of projects with deliverable cost savings to address the anticipated funding gap.

7. Exclusion of the Public

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 Paragraphs 8 and 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

7.1 Procurement Spend: Update

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the review of procurement spend.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the review of procurement spend as detailed in the report.

The meeting ended at 3.10 p.m.