Emergency Governance Arrangements (Covid-19 Outbreak)

Tuesday 14 April 2020

Decision

Craig Hatton, Chief Executive.

In Consultation with

Joe Cullinane (Group Leader: Labour), Marie Burns (Group Leader: SNP), Tom Marshall (Group Leader: Conservative and Unionist) and Ronnie McNicol (Nominated Independent Member representative).

All Elected Members were consulted on the proposals.

Ardrossan Community Campus

Submitted report by the Interim Director (Communities) on (a) the outcome of the Statutory Public Consultation on the proposal to consider the future of early years, primary and secondary education and community provision in Ardrossan and to determine future provision of education in Ardrossan; (b) progress with the remediation strategy for the proposed site at North Shore Ardrossan; and (c) the proposed purchase of the area of land required to construct the proposed campus. The appendices to the report set out the consultation report (Appendix 1), information on the extent of LLP ownership (Appendix 2), a summary of the Public Consultation meetings that had taken place on 7 and 13 November 2019, (Appendix 3), Education Scotland's report addressing education aspects of the proposal by North Ayrshire Council to develop an education and community campus at Ardrossan North Shore (Appendix 4) and the outcome of consultation with pupils (Appendix 5).

All Elected Members were invited to comment on the proposals set out in the report.

Questions and clarifications were raised and information provided in respect of the following:

- The consultation process and approach to raise awareness
- Valuation of the site, taking into account remediation required and the provision of sea-defences
- The remediation works proposed and scrutiny of these by all Elected Members.
- Sourcing of any materials required to develop the site
- Development of transportation plans and scrutiny by all Elected Members.
- Location of the proposed campus
- The need to take this decision at this time
- The condition of the current Ardossan Academy

In terms of the agreed decision-making process, the Chief Executive consulted with political Group Leaders and the Independent Member representative on the proposals set out in the report. The Labour and SNP Group Leaders confirmed the support of their respective groups. The Conservative Group Leader indicated that his Group did not support the proposals. The nominated Independent Member representative intimated support for the proposals from one Independent Member (Councillor Donald L. Reid) and asked that the dissent of three Independent Members (Councillors Barr, McNicol and Murdoch) be recorded in respect of the building of a new 3-18 years education and community campus situated on the North Shore, Ardrossan site.

Having considered

- (i) the outcome of the Consultation Outcome Report (as set out in the report and Appendix 1);
- (ii) the Elected Member feedback summarised above; and
- (iii) the implications of the proposals as outlined in the report

and following consultation with political Group Leaders and the Independent Member representative, the Chief Executive, on behalf of the Council, agreed to:

- (a) establish a new 3-18 years education and community campus, situated on the North Shore site by closing and relocating Ardrossan Academy and Winton Primary School and Early Years Class, and incorporating a swimming pool, public library and HSCP Children and Families locality team;
- (b) notify this decision to the Scottish Ministers and publicise in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010;
- (c) note the work undertaken by officers in respect of the planned remediation of the proposed site at North Shore, Ardrossan;
- (d) purchase a 50% share in the Ardrossan North Shore Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) from Peel Land and Property (Ardrossan) Limited which will result in the Council having full ownership of the LLP and the site; and
- a continued commitment to bring forward detailed proposals of the remediation measures once the site masterplanning and development design works are completed.