

Cabinet
27 April 2021

At a Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m. involving participation by remote electronic means.

Present

Joe Cullinane, John Bell, Robert Foster, Alex Gallagher, Louise McPhater and Jim Montgomerie and Babs Mowat (Church Representative) and Jackie MacKenzie (Teaching Representative) (Agenda Items 1-3).

In Attendance

C. Hatton (Chief Executive), M. Boyd, Head of Service (Finance) and F. Walker, Head of Service (People and ICT)(Chief Executive's Service); R. McCutcheon, Executive Director, C. McAuley, Head of Service (Economic Development and Regeneration), Y. Baulk, Head of Service and R McGilvery, Senior Manager (Physical Environment) and M. Strachan, Senior Manager (Economic Development and Regeneration) (Place); A. Sutton, Executive Director, R. Arthur, Head of Service (Connected Communities), A. McClelland, Head of Service (Education) and L. Taylor, Senior Manager (Resources and Infrastructure) (Communities and Education); A. Sutherland, Head of Service (Children, Families and Justice) (HSCP); and M Sugden, Communications Officer, A. Little and H. Clancy, Committee Services Officers (Democratic Services).

Chair

Joe Cullinane in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

In terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, Councillor McPhater, declared an indirect pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6, Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure in relation to the application for funding from Irvine Youth Forum and took no part in the discussion or decision making.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 23 February 2021 was confirmed and the Minutes authorised to be signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Proposal to establish a new primary school at Montgomerie Park, Irvine

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Communities and Education) on proposals for a new primary school with early learning and childcare provision at Montgomerie Park, Irvine. The Consultation Report on the responses to the online statutory public consultation that had been undertaken was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The Senior Manager (Resources and Infrastructure) made reference to an error within the consultation report (Appendix 1), directing Members to the correction at Section 1.3 and 2.11 of the covering report.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to the estimated timeframe of up to seven years to achieve full occupancy of the new school as a result of those children within the catchment already being settled in other local schools and not wishing to move to Montgomerie Park.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the content of the Consultation Report attached at Appendix 1; (b) establish a new non-denominational primary school at Montgomerie Park, Irvine from August 2023; and (c) amend the catchment area for Annick Primary School to establish the catchment area for the new primary school from January 2023.

4. Discretionary Fund

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the first phase of Discretionary Funding and proposals to redesign the fund in response to additional resource agreed with Scottish Government. Appendix 1 outlined the Amended Discretionary Fund Criteria and the Transition Fund Eligibility was set out at Appendix 2 to the report.

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

- the commencement of the Transition Fund, following the Cabinet Call-In period; and
- information already gathered on local businesses who may be eligible for support from the Transition Fund and who would require to evidence the impact of Covid restrictions on their operations.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note (i) the proposed changes to the North Ayrshire Discretionary Fund; and (ii) the proposals for a new North Ayrshire Business Transition Fund; and (b) approve (i) the updated Discretionary Fund criteria set out in Appendix 1; and (ii) the new Transition Funds criteria set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

5. A Local Letting Initiative for Council Housing on the Isle of Arran

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on proposals to introduce a Local Letting Initiative ahead of the allocation of new-build Council housing on Arran. Appendix 1 provided a number of examples of Local and Rural Letting Initiatives throughout Scotland and details of the virtual consultation meetings and email survey with stakeholders were provided at Appendix 2 to the report.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the Local Letting Initiative for Council housing on the Isle of Arran, as set out in the report.

6. Proposals for Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Communities and Education) on applications by Locality Partnerships to allocate CIF funding to proposed projects. Applications from Irvine Youth Forum and Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club were provided at Appendices 1 and 2, respectively.

The Cabinet agreed to approve (a) the CIF application in relation to Irvine Youth Forum in the amount of £100,000; and (b) the request to increase the previously agreed CIF application in relation to a multi-purpose youth and community hub – Kilwinning Rangers Juniors and Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club and award a further £15,000 to this project.

7. North Ayrshire Integration Joint Board Strategic Bridging Plan 2021- 22

Submitted report by the Director (HSCP) on the North Ayrshire IJB Strategic Bridging Plan 2021-22, approved by the Integration Joint Board on 18 March 2021. The Plan was published on 1 April 2021 and was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

Noted.

8. Community Payback Order Annual Report

Submitted report by the Director (HSCP) on the work undertaken in the last year through Community Payback Orders (CPO) with a particular focus on Unpaid Work Requirements. The CPO Annual Report was attached as an appendix to the report and outlined the wide range of projects and services undertaken during 2019/20.

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

- CPOs as a viable alternative to custody that required individuals to address and change their offending behaviour;
- details of behavioural changes that would be included in future reports.

Noted.

The meeting ended at 3.20 p.m.