

Cabinet
8 March 2022

At a Special Meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 3:30 p.m. involving participation by remote electronic means.

Present

Joe Cullinane, John Bell, Robert Foster and Jim Montgomerie.

In Attendance

R. McCutcheon, Executive Director, Y. Baulk, Head of Service (Physical Environment) and C. Dempster, Senior Manager (Commercial Services – Roads) (Place); A. Sutton, Executive Director and R. Arthur, Head of Service (Connected Communities) (Communities and Education); C. Cameron, Director (Health and Social Care Partnership); M. Boyd, Head of Service (Finance) and F. Walker, Head of Service (People & ICT) (Chief Executive's Service); J. Hutcheson, Senior Communications Officer, C. Stewart and H. Clancy, Committee Services Officers (Democratic Services).

Apologies

Louise McPhater and Alex Gallagher.

Chair

Joe Cullinane in the Chair.

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 Minutes of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 22 February 2022 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Proposals for Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Communities and Education) on applications by Locality Partnerships to allocate CIF funding to proposed projects. Applications were submitted from the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership (Appendix 1 to the report) and the North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership (Appendix 2 to the report).

The Cabinet agreed to (a) review the applications from the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership and the North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership in line with CIF criteria; (b) approve the CIF application in relation to Beith Community Development Trust in the amount of £15,582 as detailed at Appendix 1 to the report; and (c) approve the CIF application in relation to West Kilbride Community Initiative Limited in the amount of £76,605 over 3 years as detailed at Appendix 2 to the report.

4. Acquisition of Land for Council House Building

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) seeking approval for the four former school sites at James Reid (inclusive of the Focus Centre), Saltcoats; James McFarlane, Ardrossan; Garnock Academy, Kilbirnie; Stanecastle, Irvine; and sites C and D at Montgomerie Park, Irvine to be transferred from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account. Location plans showing the housing development programme, which included the redevelopment of the sites currently owned by the Council's General Fund, were attached at Appendices 1 -5 to the report.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to the former Garnock Academy site, and what that comprised of in terms of land at that location.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the transfer of the four former school sites at James Reid (inclusive of the Focus Centre), Saltcoats; James McFarlane, Ardrossan; Garnock Academy, Kilbirnie; Stanecastle, Irvine; and sites C and D at Montgomerie Park, Irvine from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account for the sum of £6,365,000, subject to the future deduction of abnormal development costs.

5. Roads, Structures & Street Lighting Maintenance Programme 2022/23

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) on the proposed Roads, Structures and Street Lighting Maintenance Programme for 2022/23. The proposed Roads, Structures and Street Lighting Maintenance Programme 2022/23 was attached at Appendix 1a and 1b to the report. Details of how condition assessments are carried out and how roads, structures and lighting locations are prioritised, for inclusion in the maintenance programme, were set out at Appendix 2 to the report. The assessment matrixes used for scoring and ranking footways and structures, for inclusion in the relevant footway resurfacing and structures programmes, were set out at Appendices 3 and 4, respectively, to the report.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the approach taken to determining the asset maintenance programme for roads, structures and street lighting; (b) approve the maintenance programme for 2022/23, as shown at Appendix 1a and 1b to the report; and (c) note that the programme would be issued to the Locality Planning Partnerships for information.

6. Urgent Item

6.1 Humanitarian Protection for People from Ukraine

Submitted a report by the Executive Director (Place) advising of the range of supports the Council could offer to those people seeking sanctuary from the conflict in Ukraine, in partnership with COSLA and third sector organisations who were planning to provide direct aid to those affected.

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

- the many offers of help and assistance that had been received from a number of local organisations as well as from the community; and
- how these offers of help could be progressed and coordinated to ensure maximum support to the people of Ukraine, whilst working with third sector organisations in providing as much advice and guidance as possible to support the aid effort.

The Cabinet agreed (a) to make a pledge to offer accommodation to provide sanctuary to people displaced by the conflict in Ukraine; (b) to authorise officers to work closely with COSLA to develop plans for providing assistance; and (c) that practical support would be given to third sector organisations who were making plans to offer direct assistance to those displaced by the conflict.

The meeting ended at 4.00 p.m.