

Minute of Meeting Housing & Community Safety Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 23 August 2016	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

PRESENT

Councillors B Brown, Caldwell, E Devine, M Devine, Henry, Lawson, M MacLaren, McCartin, McEwan, Murrin, Noon, J Sharkey and Williams.

CHAIR

Councillor Williams, Convener, presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

S MacDougall, Director of Community Resources; M Crearie, Director of Development & Housing Services; O Reid, Head of Public Protection, C Dalrymple, Regulatory Enforcement Manager and D Kerr, Service Co-ordination Manager (all Community Resources); F Carlin, Head of Planning & Housing Services (Development & Housing Services); and D Farrell and V Howie, both Finance Business Partners and D Low, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Superintendent J Downie (Police Scotland) and D Proctor, Senior Local Officer (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Lawson declared a financial interest in item 14 of the agenda as he was the owner of a property which fell within the Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes 2016/17 and indicated his intention to leave the meeting during consideration of the item and not to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillors E Devine and M Devine declared a financial interest in item 15 of the agenda as a member of their immediate family had been allocated a house which was included within the Director of Development & Housing Services' intimation and indicated their intention to leave the meeting during consideration of the item and not to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

1 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a joint revenue budget monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources and Development & Housing Services for the period 1 April to 24 June 2016.

DECIDED:

(a) That the budget position be noted: and

(b) That it be noted that there had been no budget realignments processed since the budget was approved.

2 CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a capital budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources in respect of the Housing Division of Development & Housing Services for the period 1 April to 24 June 2016.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE - SCRUTINY REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) relative to service performance and activities in the Renfrewshire area for the period 1 April to 30 June 2016.

The report highlighted improvements across a range of performance indicators and identified areas where further interventions were required. Over the period there had been a reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fires; the total number of all non-fatal fire casualties had increased from 11 in the same period in 2015 to 14 in the current reporting period; the total number of incidents involving deliberate fire raising had increased; the total number of fires in non-domestic premises had also increased; the number of unwanted fire alarm signal incidents had decreased; and the total number of non-fatal road traffic collisions attended by the Service had increased from 8 to 18. The appendix to the report provided a detailed analysis of performance and activities.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4 SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2016/19

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources relative to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) consultation on its draft Strategic Plan 2016/19.

The draft plan set out SFRS commitments for the next three years and established how the Service would seek to improve community safety, its response and resilience and address inequality while enhancing the wellbeing of the people of Scotland. The report intimated that the final date for submissions to the consultation was 9 August 2016 and the Council response which had been submitted by the Director of Community Resources to meet that deadline was attached as the appendix to the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the consultation on the draft SFRS Strategic Plan 2016/19 be noted;

(b) That the Council's submitted consultation response as detailed in the appendix to the report be homologated.

5 POLICE SCOTLAND - SCRUTINY REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Chief Superintendent, K Division Police Scotland, relative to service performance in the Renfrewshire area during the period 1 April to 30 June 2016. The report provided an analysis of key performance indicators for both recorded and detected crime and covered all local police plan priority areas as detailed in the local police plan.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

6 ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLICING 2015/16 - SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources relative to the Scottish Police Authority Annual Review of Policing 2015/16, submitted to the Scottish Parliament in June 2016 and which reported progress against each of the four strategic police priorities.

The report intimated that the four strategic Police Scotland priorities aligned well with agreed local priorities and provided examples of local activities and practice against each priority.

DECIDED:

(a) That the publication of the Annual review of Policing 2015/16 by the Scottish Police Authority be noted; and

(b) That the focus of the work of Police Scotland on a range of issues that had direct relevance to Renfrewshire and aligned with the work of the Community Safety Partnership be noted.

7 DRAFT STRATEGIC POLICE PRIORITIES FOR SCOTLAND CONSULTATION PAPER - SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources relative to the consultation published by the Scottish Government on draft Strategic Police Priorities for Scotland.

The report intimated that the draft Strategic Police Priorities for Scotland were focused on six key themes: localism; prevention; response; collaborative working; accountability; and adaptability. The shared priorities would help the Council to progress further activities including the Community Safety Hub, Multi-agency Risk Assessment Coordination and daily tasking. The final date for submissions to the consultation was 16 August 2016 and the Council response which had been submitted by the Director of Community Resources to meet that deadline was attached as the appendix to the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the consultation on draft strategic police priorities carried out by the Scottish Government be noted;

(b) That the Council's submitted consultation response as detailed in the appendix to the report be homologated; and

(c) That it be noted that a copy of the consultation response would be submitted for information to the Safer and Stronger Thematic Board on 30 August 2016.

8 POLICE SCOTLAND - COUNTER CORRUPTION UNIT ASSURANCE REVIEW (HMICS)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources relative to the publication by HMICS of an Assurance Review of Police Scotland's Counter Corruption Unit.

The report intimated that the review had identified 39 actions to be taken forward by Police Scotland, primarily relating to the organisational structures, governance and operating procedures that either were or should be in place within Police Scotland. Three specific actions were highlighted in the report which would impact on the ongoing partnership working between the Council and Police Scotland.

DECIDED:

(a) That the HMICS Assurance Review of the Police Counter Corruption Unit published on 27 June 2016 be noted; and

(b) That the three recommendations that had a particular relevance to the ongoing work of the Community Safety Partnership as detailed in section 3 of the report be noted.

9 PUBLIC PROTECTION, OPERATIONAL UPDATE

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Community Resources relative to recent activities carried out in relation to public protection including information on environmental enforcement and improvement activities; protecting vulnerable residents; building safer communities; diversionary activities; and the development of the Community Safety Hub and Integrated Control Room.

DECIDED: That the progress update report be noted.

SEDERUNT

Councillor McCartin left the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

10 SCOTTISH SOCIAL HOUSING CHARTER - ANNUAL RETURN 2015/16

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services relative to the Scottish Social Housing Charter annual return for 2015/16, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The annual return provided a summary of Renfrewshire Council's performance against the Charter indicators, highlighting both improved performance and also areas which required further improvement and gave details of some core contextual data which the Council also submitted as part of the Charter return.

DECIDED: That the outturn report on the Scottish Social Housing Charter 2015/16, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be noted.

11 REVIEW OF THE SCOTTISH SOCIAL HOUSING CHARTER - A CONSULTATION

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services relative to a consultation paper issued by the Scottish Government inviting comments on the current Scottish Social Housing Charter. A proposed Council response to the consultation was appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the Director of Development & Housing Services be authorised to submit the response attached as the appendix to the report to the Scottish Government in relation to the Consultation on the Review of the Scottish Social Housing Charter.

12 DRAFT STRATEGIC HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN 2017/18 - 2021/22

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services relative to the Strategic Housing Investment Programme for 2017/18 - 2021/22.

The report stated that the Council required to submit to the Scottish Government every two years, a Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP). The draft SHIP, which was attached as Appendix 1 to the report, updated the previous SHIP taking account of recent progress on new build sites, new SHIP guidance issued by the Scottish Government during July 2016 and new increased funding allocations to support the Affordable Housing Supply Programme and the national target of 50,000 new affordable homes over the next five years.

The report also detailed the future Resource Planning Assumption (RPA) for the period 2016/17 as £11.521 million and provided advice on RPAs for the five-year period to 2021/22.

Appendix 2 to the report provided details of all projects in the SHIP programme and Appendix 3 provided details of affordable housing completions over the last five years.

DECIDED: That the Director of Development and Housing Services be authorised to consult on the draft SHIP 2017/18 to 2021/22, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, and report the outcome to the meeting of this Policy Board to be held in November 2016.

13 CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT FOR HOUSING ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services relative to the Customer Engagement for Housing Annual Report 2015/16. A copy of the Annual report was appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the Customer Engagement Annual Report 2015/16 be noted.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Lawson having declared an interest in relation to the following item of business left the meeting and did not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

14 HOUSING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAMMES: 2016/17 UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services relative to the outcome of the application to the Scottish Government for resources under the 2016/17 Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS) together with details of the development of the programme.

The report intimated that Renfrewshire's core allocation for 2016/17 of £1,185,582 was confirmed by the Scottish Government in March 2016. The Council was required to submit schemes for consideration for this core allocation and the Scottish Government confirmed the allocation of £1,185,582 for HEEPS:ABS projects in June 2016.

The appendix to the report detailed three potential phases of HEEPS:ABS work in 2016/17. The report proposed that the next phase of works, Phase 4, would be funded by HEEPS:ABS; Phase 5 would be partially funded by HEEPS:ABS with a contribution of £260,000 HRA capital funding to allow the completion of all Council-owned properties within the project area; and Phase 6 would require additional HEEPS:ABS funding to allow the completion of all privately-owned properties within this phase.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that funding of £1,185,582 had been awarded for qualifying projects within the Renfrewshire Council area for 2016/17 under the HEEPS:ABS programme and that the Director of Development & Housing Services be authorised to oversee delivery and operational management of the programme; and

(b) That the Director of Development & Housing Services be authorised to utilise £260,000 HRA capital funding to allow the completion of all Council-owned properties within the project area.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors E Devine and M Devine having declared an interest in relation to the following item of business left the meeting and did not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

15 ALLOCATION OF HOUSES: HOUSING RULE 10.7

There was submitted an intimation by the Director of Development & Housing Services in terms of Housing Rule 10.7, which required all housing allocations which involved either (i) Council members or their immediate families or (ii) members of staff of the Housing Division or their immediate families to be notified to the relevant Policy Board.

Address: 5D Gallowhill Court, Gallowhill

Size: One bedroom

Allocated to: Son of employee

Address: 127 1/3 George Street, Paisley

Size: Two bedroom

Allocated to: Sister of employee

Address: 13E Speirsfield Court, Paisley

Size: Two bedroom

Allocated to: Sister of employee

Address: 16 Cairngorm Crescent, Glenburn, Paisley

Size: Three bedroom

Allocated to: Daughter of elected members

SEDERUNT

Councillors E Devine and M Devine re-entered the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that if members of the press and public were present, there could be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973.

16 BUILDING SERVICES TRADING BUDGET MONITORING REPORT