

Minute of Meeting Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 02 March 2023	09:30	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Adam, Councillor Fiona Airlie-Nicolson, Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Graeme Clark, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Gillian Graham, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor John Gray, Councillor Anne Hannigan, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Robert Innes, Councillor Alec Leishman, Councillor Bruce MacFarlane, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor David McGonigle, Councillor Jamie McGuire, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain McMillan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Sam Mullin, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Ben Smith, Councillor Andy Steel

Chair

Provost Cameron, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

A Russell, Chief Executive; M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services; G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; A MacArthur, Director of Finance & Resources; L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications, A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development Services, B Walker, Programme Director (City Deal & Infrastructure) and L Adamson, Communications & Public Affairs Manager (all Chief Executive's); G Hutton, Head of Operations & Infrastructure (Environment & Infrastructure); M Conaghan, Head of Corporate Governance, C McCourt, Head of Finance & Business Services, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, N Young, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Litigation & Advice), L Belshaw and D Low, both Democratic Services Managers, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, R Devine and E Gray, both Senior Committee Services Officers and J Barron, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); C Lavery, Chief Officer (Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership); and V Hollows, Chief Executive and F Naylor, Finance, Governance and Business Improvement Director (both OneRen).

Webcasting of Council Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Provost Cameron intimated that this meeting would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Apologies

Councillors Devine and Hood.

Transparency Statements

Councillor Leishman indicated that he had a connection to item 8 by reason of being a volunteer for a Housing Association. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare.

Councillor Mags MacLaren indicated that she had a connection to item 6 by reason that she was the wife of the Chair of Shopmobility Paisley & District and to item 8 by reason of her membership of the Board of Linstone Housing Association. However, she indicated that she had applied the objective test and did not consider she had an interest to declare

Councillor Paterson indicated that he had a connection to item 14 by reason of him being the Council's representative on Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT). However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare.

Councillor Steel indicated that he had a connection to item 8 by reason of his membership of the Board of Linstone Housing Association and to item 14 by reason of him being the Council's substitute representative on Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT). However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Andy Doig declared an interest in item 10 for the reason that he was an employee of RCA Trust. Councillor Andy Doig indicated that as he had declared an interest, he would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

Councillor Audrey Doig declared an interest in item 10 for the reason that she was the wife of an employee of RCA Trust. Councillor Audrey Doig indicated that as she had declared an interest, she would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

Councillor McCulloch declared an interest in item 8 for the reason that he was an employee of a Housing Association. Councillor McCulloch indicated that as he had declared an interest, he would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

Councillor K MacLaren declared an interest in item 6 for the reason that he was Chair of Shopmobility Paisley & District. Councillor K MacLaren indicated that as he had declared an interest, he would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

Obituary

Provost Cameron acknowledged the death of Tommy Williams, former Renfrewshire Councillor, made reference to the various roles as Convener and Depute-Convener he had undertaken within the Council, and advised that she had issued a letter extending sympathy and condolences to his family on behalf of Renfrewshire Council. Individual members of the Council paid personal tributes endorsing the sentiments expressed.

Additional Items

Provost Cameron, in terms of Standing Order 14(b) ruled that the appeal by the Disasters Emergencies Committee (DEC) in relation to the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, which had not been included on the agenda calling the meeting, would be considered by the Council as a matter of urgency, given the situation in these countries.

Provost Cameron, seconded by Councillor McMillan moved that, as the Council was not authorised to provide direct relief to communities abroad, a donation of £10,000 be made to the DEC to fund its member charities' UK-based activities in recognition of the considerable strain the situation in Turkey and Syria had placed on the resources of these charities. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That, as the Council was not authorised to provide direct relief to communities abroad, a donation of £10,000 be made to the DEC to fund its member charities' UK-based activities in recognition of the considerable strain the situation in Turkey and Syria had placed on the resources of these charities

Provost Cameron also intimated that she had received notice of an emergency motion by Councillors McMillan and Mullin relating to changes to McGill's bus services which had not been included in the Notice calling the meeting. Provost Cameron ruled that in terms of Standing Order 14(b), the emergency motion be considered by the Council as a matter of urgency and be considered as item 14 of the agenda.

1 Minutes of Meetings of Council, Boards and Panels (attached separately)

There were submitted the Minutes of the following meetings of the Council, Boards and Panels on the dates specified:

Council, 15 December 2022

Communities and Housing Policy Board, 17 January 2023

Regulatory Functions Board, 18 January 2023

Education and Children's Services Policy Board 19 January 2023

Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, 23 January 2023

Economy and Regeneration Policy Board, 24 January 2023
 Planning and Climate Change Policy Board, 24 January 2023
 Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board, 25 January 2023
 Personnel Appeals and Applied Conditions of Service Appeals Panel, 26 January 2023
 Local Review Body, 31 January 2023
 Regulatory Functions Board, 2 February 2023
 Special Personnel Appeals and Applied Conditions of Service Appeals Panel, 8 February 2023
 Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, 9 February 2023
 Appointment Board, 15 February 2023
 Personnel Appeals and Applied Conditions of Service Appeals Panel, 20 February 2023
 Leadership Board, 22 February 2023

The Head of Legal & Democratic Services highlighted that an amended version of the Minute of the meeting of the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board, held on 25 January 2023, had been circulated prior to the meeting.

DECIDED: That the Minutes, as amended, be approved.

2 **Provost's Update**

The Provost provided an update report in relation to duties she had undertaken since the previous meeting of the Council, held on 15 December 2022.

DECIDED: That the information be noted.

Prior to consideration of the following items of business the Provost drew Members' attention to the provisions of Section 112 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which restricted the voting rights of Members on certain issues if they were in arrears with Council Tax payments.

Copies of the procedures to be followed in respect of consideration of the Revenue Estimates and Council Tax (item 3 of the agenda); and the Housing Revenue Account Budgets, Rent Levels and Capital Investment Plans (item 5 of the agenda) were appended to the relevant reports.

3 **Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2023/24**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2023/24, together with appendices detailing revenue estimates for 2023/24; estimates of expenditure and income for the year ended 31 March 2024; and the General Fund probable outturn for 2023/24.

The report provided an overview of the Council's anticipated financial position on the General Fund revenue budget and set out information required for the Council to set its budget and Council Tax for 2023/24. The report referred to the extremely high levels of inflation and cost growth the Council was experiencing as a consequence of the COVID19 pandemic. It was recognised that moving into 2023/24 and beyond, the financial environment that local government in Scotland faced would remain heavily constrained, with substantial risks in the short term in relation to both cost growth and

income loss. Longer lasting legacy impacts on service costs, service demands and income streams were anticipated, as well as a lasting impact on transformation plans.

The report requested that these circumstances be taken into account when setting the 2023/24 budget, and also to recognise that the Council's immediate and medium-term challenges had shifted significantly. As outlined within the report, the Council's medium-term outlook remained subject to considerable risk. Additionally, as reported throughout the year and subject to decisions taken by Council, there would be a need for the budget position in 2023/24 to rely heavily on the use of ringfenced reserves to address the forecasted budget deficit. This solution required to be viewed as temporary, and it was highlighted that the Council required to act in the near term to contain spend within available resource on a recurring basis.

The report highlighted key elements of the Council's revenue settlement, which included confirmation of revenue grant funding for the Council in 2023/24 of £389.764 million. After adjustment for new responsibilities, areas of growing responsibility and other conditional aspects of the settlement, this provided a like for like comparison to 2022/23 where the Council's underlying core grant had increased by £0.239 million (0.1%) which was broadly in line with the flat-cash position the Council had assumed. Additional funding to support the agreement of the local government pay offer for 2023/24 and in relation to the teachers' pay offer for 2022/23 and 2023/24 had been announced over the course of the Parliamentary approval process for the Scottish Government Budget, however the distribution of this funding had not yet been agreed. It was noted that this additional funding was not reflected in the position outlined within the report, however, neither was the corresponding expenditure. On that basis, the underlying financial position outlined within the report remained valid.

In addition, the report intimated that the Scottish Government had opted not to announce a Public Sector Pay Policy for 2023/24 given the ongoing negotiation of the 2022/23 pay award in a number of areas across the public sector. The report indicated that while there were now permanent cost and service impacts from the pandemic, pay and revenue grant would continue to be the two biggest determinants to the Council's financial outlook. Members were advised that the Scottish Government block grant was likely to incorporate only very moderate increases over the remainder of the spending review period to 2025/26 and that this provided no confidence that the local government settlement in future years would reflect a sufficient degree of increase to address core budget pressures. The report highlighted that transformation and efficiency saving activity alone would not address the scale of financial pressures the Council was facing over the medium term.

The report advised that a scenario-based approach, varying the major influencing elements of the projections under a range of scenarios for the three-year period beyond 2023/24, had been applied and derived a forecast budget deficit range of broadly £40 - £45 million over the period, before any decisions on the level of Council Tax or other mitigating action. This forecast outlook was based on relatively tight grant and pay assumptions, informed by the current financial settlement and the Government's Medium Term Financial Strategy, as well as likely affordability constraints in relation to future pay awards. Factoring in an assumption of 5% increase each year in Council Tax levels reduced this range to £25 - £30 million, essentially meaning the Council would need to target cost reductions and savings averaging at a minimum of £10 million each year to remain in financial balance. For 2023/24, budget assumptions had been updated as appropriate, including most notably the confirmed grant available to the Council and associated conditions, the impact of new statutory obligations, the likely impact of increasing demographic and

demand pressures and expected Council Tax yield levels for 2023/24. Taking account of the cumulative impact of each of these issues, there was a recurring budget deficit for 2023/24 of £7.573 million, after the application of up to £11 million of ringfenced balances and subject to any further decisions taken by Members.

Given the scale and unprecedented nature of the financial sustainability challenge that lay ahead for the Council, in setting the 2023/24 budget, it was recommended that any proposed commitments from Members that would result in additional recurring expenditure increasing the projected medium-term deficit in future years should be supported by offsetting sustainable savings or increased resources arising from an increase in Council Tax. In addition, Members were encouraged to take a holistic view of the Council's total resources, covering both capital and revenue and were reminded of unallocated capital resources available to the Council of £0.300 million, as detailed at Item 3 of the agenda for the meeting.

Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved:

1. "That this Administration's first budget will deliver on its commitments set out in the Council Plan to create a fairer Renfrewshire built on innovation, wellbeing and opportunity; where improving outcomes for children and families underpins all that we do.

2. That as recommended by the Director, these budget proposals take a holistic view of resources available and include the use of the £0.300 million of available resources outlined in Agenda item 4 and direct them as follows: -

- Commit £0.450 million (being £0.300 million capital funding and £0.150 million revenue) to support the delivery of roads improvements and traffic reduction measures which follows the previously funded pilot scheme of Houston, Howwood, Kilbarchan and Bridge of Weir as Gateway Villages. This funding will be used in conjunction with capital contributions from our Cycling, Walking & Safer Routes funding over the next 3 years to deliver a total £1.5 million investment which will improve the safety and natural environment in these villages. This Administration further commits £0.150 million of revenue funding to allow similar analysis to be undertaken to inform future investment in Bishopton, Lochwinnoch and Elderslie.

- Council also recognises the continuing significant investment in our roads infrastructure as outlined in the Capital Plan at Item 4 on the agenda, with £3 million from capital grant funds to bring this years' roads investment to £6.7 million.

3. Many communities, households and families across Renfrewshire have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and subsequent cost of living crisis. Through our Fairer Renfrewshire programme, tackling inequality and poverty will continue to be key priorities for this Administration as we support communities to recover and thrive following the pandemic. Building on the funding commitments of the previous SNP Administration, and the successes of the programme over the course of 2022/23, this Administration will continue to prioritise resource for the programme; and consolidate ringfenced funding currently held in separate Tackling Poverty and Social Renewal reserve funds into a single resource estimated at £5 million to support a cohesive programme of Fairer Renfrewshire support activity. Initial priorities for allocation of this funding will include:

- £0.068 million over 2 years to support the recently agreed 10% increase in the delivery of proactive advice services provided by Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau, recognising the increased need for advice in the ongoing cost of living crisis.

- £0.300 million to support a £50 winter school clothing payment to each child eligible for school clothing grant, building on the support provided in 2022 which assisted over 5,000 children

- £0.100 million to provide programme of summer activities for children and

young people from low income families, encouraging them to access a wide range of activities and healthy food. It is anticipated that this fund will be supplemented by Scottish Government resource as was the case in 2021/22 and 2022/23.

4. In support of the Fairer Renfrewshire aims above, Council agrees to allocate top-up funding of £0.200 million to the Scottish Welfare Fund, to be drawn from the Welfare Reform ringfenced reserve.

5. Council recognises the success of the Council's employability programme over many years, supported through both European and Scottish Government funding and that unemployment has reached a historically low figure. Acknowledging that the resource set aside in previous budgets may be partially released to support other priorities without impacting on current plans for employability support, Council will therefore re-direct £1.5 million of ringfenced funding to better support wider economic, social and wellbeing activity, with allocations being prioritised as follows:

(i) Commit £0.210 million to allow an increase in foster and kinship carer allowances by 10% as an interim measure while a substantive review of the levels of allowances is undertaken over the course of 2023/24 with recurring financial implications being incorporated into future financial plans

(ii) In recognition of the critical role quality outdoor time has played in supporting our young people and wider communities during the challenging periods of lockdown, invest an additional £0.450 million in play areas, being £0.350 million for play parks renewals and £0.100 million for play park maintenance, adding significantly to the resource provided by the Scottish Government of £0.307 million for this purpose in 2023/24, and continuing our programme of parks improvement.

(iii) Delivering on our manifesto commitment to expand our very successful concessionary swim programme for parents accompanying a child under the age of 1 year old, commit £0.050 million as an initial allocation for 2023/24 to enable operation for an expanded programme which will allow free swimming to be offered to pre-school children. This allocation to be reviewed over the course of 2023/24 based on take up of this incentive.

(iv) Commit £0.200 million as an initial contribution to enable the resurfacing of the running track at OnX, while continuing to seek match funding from other stakeholders which will allow the track to continue to be used for the benefit of local athletes and schools

(v) Commit £0.200 million to replenish the successful Villages Investment Fund

(vi) Building on the huge success of our Team Up to Clean Up programme over the previous administrative term and outlining our commitment to cleaner streets, commit £0.090 million to the first year of a replacement public litter bin programme.

6. Recognising the huge popularity and success of the Culture, Heritage and Events Fund (CHEF) and in order to support our local culture and heritage organisations, agree to replenish the CHEF with £0.200 million from currently unallocated balances within the Culture Bid Legacy ringfenced reserve.

7. Agree to a new Sustainable Communities Fund which will consolidate the current Community Empowerment Fund and the Climate Change Fund into a single fund estimated to exceed £0.500 million moving in to 2023/24, which when added to the estimated balance of capital funding available for community empowerment objectives will result in total funding exceeding £1 million. Council also commits to a review of the current application criteria and guidance in order to better support future applications to this fund which will support Renfrewshire's Net Zero aspirations.

8. Council also recognises the need to maintain a prudent level of unallocated reserves given the very high level of risk over the medium term as outlined in the Director's report; and as previously agreed by Council, commits to maintain the Council's level of unallocated reserve at a minimum of £10.000 million moving into 2023/24. Council further agrees the proposals for consolidation of reserve balances and the indicative draw on ringfenced reserves as outlined at section 12 of the

Director's report. Council also agrees a further draw of £0.605 million from the ringfenced financial sustainability reserve in order to achieve the statutory breakeven budget position; and commits that action will be taken over the near term to bring the Council's expenditure in line with available resource on a recurring basis; thereby ensuring the Council's ongoing financial sustainability.

9. To protect services to the most vulnerable in Renfrewshire, and in line with the conditions set out in the 2023/24 financial settlement, agree to the recommendation outlined in the Director's report to make available £(0.388) million of recurring resources to manage the net impact of new service and cost pressures within Adult Social Care Services, and agrees a further estimated £3.3 million will follow in relation to the payment of the Living Wage once the distribution of the £100 million of resource for this purpose is formally confirmed. In addition, Council agrees to provide £1.054 million to Renfrewshire HSCP in support of the ongoing costs of the 2022/23 pay award.

10. To agree the base budget assessment for all services for 2023/24 as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources and agree a 2023/24 base budget of £483.228 million.

11. To agree to make provision in 2023/24 for pay inflation as detailed in section 5.6 of the Director's report and make no provision for general non-pay inflation, as recommended by the Director.

12. To agree to a general 5% inflationary increase in charges for services as recommended in the Director's report, subject to the note at paragraph 18 below. In addition, a garden waste permit scheme will be introduced during 2023/24 at a rate of £40 per property, with the operational policy supporting the introduction of this scheme being the subject of a future report to the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board.

13. To agree the resource allocations for 2023/24 for all services, as amended by these proposals.

14. To agree the detailed Revenue Estimates for all services be amended to reflect these proposals and the necessary allocation of central support costs, central repairs costs, capital charges, specific grants and loan charges provision with Directors authorised to take any action necessary to implement these decisions.

15. Subject to agreement of the above, to agree that the council tax for 2023/24 be set at £1,436.17 for Band D subjects, representing a 6.0% increase in the 2022/23 level, and for all bandings to be set at:

Band	2022/23	2023/24
A	903.26	957.45
B	1,053.79	1,117.02
C	1,204.34	1,276.60
D	1,354.88	1,436.17
E	1,780.17	1,886.97
F	2,201.69	2,333.78
G	2,653.31	2,812.50
H	3,319.46	3,518.62

Note that the increase of 6% supports a financially responsible objective of minimising the use of ringfenced reserve balances, thereby underpinning the Council's financial sustainability over the medium term and demonstrating the sound financial management this Administration is committed to.

16. Subject to agreement of the points above, agree that the Council's budget is supported by appropriate decisions and makes appropriate provision to meet the specified commitments in the package of conditions linked to the Council's grant

settlement.

17. To agree to increase other charges for services by 5% (as detailed in paragraph 9 above) or where appropriate by the rate set in national legislation or guidance, or where charges are based on full cost recovery by the appropriate increase to maintain this position, subject to Directors being authorised

(a) to round the charge up or down to a figure deemed by them appropriate, and

(b) not to impose any increase, if having reviewed the implications of the increase, he or she determines it would be inappropriate to do so, having regard to any material factor applicable to the goods or services to which the charge relates.

To note the requirement of financial code 13 that Directors review the amounts their departments charge for goods or services and if they think any charge needs to be increased, they will recommend this to the appropriate Board. The Council therefore agrees that when a Director carries out such a review and believes a charge for goods or services should be levied which reflects an increase greater than the increase of 5% or the rate set in national legislation or guidance, he or she will be entitled to recommend the same to the appropriate Board for approval”.

Declarations of Interest

Having read the terms of the motion, Councillor Ann-Dowling declared an interest for the reason that she was Chair of the Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau. Councillor Ann-Dowling indicated that as she had declared an interest, she would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

Having read the terms of the motion, Councillor Montgomery declared an interest in item 2 for the reason that he was an employee of the Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau. Councillor Montgomery indicated that as he had declared an interest, he would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

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Having declared an interest Councillors Ann-Dowling and Montgomery left the meeting.

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor Clark, moved as an amendment that:

“Renfrewshire Labour is concerned with addressing the impact, mitigation, and prevention of socio-economic inequality for the benefit of the citizens of Renfrewshire. We are committed to making life better by supporting economic growth and public transport initiatives, tackling climate change and the causes of poverty, poor housing and road standards, mental health care, welfare, and education. Renfrewshire Labour also recognises the importance of community spirit and the local infrastructure that supports wellbeing and social cohesion. This budget has been set within unprecedented financial constraints. Renfrewshire Labour recognises that over six billion pounds has been cut from Scottish local government budgets since 2013/14. Local government budgets have been cut by 12% while the Scottish Government budget has increased by 8%. At the same time, the Scottish Government has increasingly centralised control of services and has ringfenced most of this council's grant settlement, undermining local, democratic accountability. Renfrewshire Labour will prioritise available resources on local priorities. Renfrewshire Labour's budget is an aspirational, ambitious programme for change and renewal for the people of

Renfrewshire.

1. That as recommended by the Director, these budget proposals take a holistic view of resources available and include the use of the £0.300 million of available capital resources held in the Strategic Asset Management Fund outlined in Agenda item 4.

2. Council agrees the following capital commitments:

(a) £0.170 million to purchase an additional 'Roadmender' purpose built mobile asphalt batch plant to facilitate Pothole Repair and Utility Reinstatements in all Weather Conditions, to be funded from unallocated revenue balances, to assist in speedier, longer lasting pothole repairs.

(b) £0.300 million of unallocated capital resources held in the Strategic Asset Management Fund to upgrade works on existing council-controlled community centres, with specific upgrade proposals to be the subject of a future report to the Leadership Board. Well-used, well maintained community centres serve as warm, social meeting places and are often the heart of local community activities.

3. Renfrewshire Labour prioritises the needs of children and young people by seeking to break down the barriers to opportunity and by recognising the importance of providing material support for both post-covid recovery and the cost-of-living crisis. Council agrees the following recurring revenue commitments, to be funded in 2023/24 from the ringfenced financial sustainability reserve and Fairer Renfrewshire reserve, and thereafter to be incorporated into the Council's base budget plans:

(a) £0.300 million in additional ASN support within mainstream primary and secondary school settings through the provision of increased support staff and enhanced staff training. We acknowledge the additional educational challenges faced by children with additional support needs.

(b) £1.700 million in delivering universal free school breakfast clubs for all Renfrewshire primary and secondary school pupils, to ensure no child starts the school day hungry and in recognition of the failure of Scottish Government to deliver on its manifesto commitment of universal free school dinners for all primary school children.

(c) £0.100 million for the appointment of additional wardens to enhance community safety and combat destructive and disruptive social behaviour.

4. Council agrees the following non-recurring investments, to be funded from the financial sustainability reserve:

(a) Climate change is impacting our lives in Renfrewshire and on a global scale. Renfrewshire Labour recognises the urgency of the climate crisis. We are committed to Renfrewshire Council's stated aim to reach Net Zero and support a Carbon Neutral 2025 plan. To set an accurate base line underpinning council's Net Zero strategy council will invest £0.012 million in a basic emission calculation report (scope 1, 2 and 3)

(b) Council commits to re-skilling/up-skilling women to maximise career potential and broaden employment choices away from entrapment in low-paid jobs. To maximise women's awareness about the existing training support available council commits to invest £0.075 million for additional, targeted promotion and marketing utilising Renfrewshire Council corporate promotional channels.

(c) Renfrewshire Labour is seeking to build sustained growth across the Renfrewshire economy. Economic growth generates employment opportunities and tax revenue. Businesses are struggling to cope with the energy crisis and are being faced with greater levels of expenditure due to inflationary pressures. This is impacting existing businesses and deterring entrepreneurs from establishing new business ventures in Renfrewshire. Council will establish a Town Centre Task Force with an £0.500 million incentive programme to support retail / business start-up in town centres with high vacancy rates.

(d) Renfrewshire Labour is aware of the deep sense of isolation many people feel across Renfrewshire and the increasing number of people struggling with mental

health issues. Council will establish a loneliness and social isolation initiatives fund £0.075 million to support the social infrastructure that enables community cohesion and development.

(e) Violence and sexual harassment against women and girls are at epidemic levels across Scotland. Council will invest in awareness-raising programmes to decrease violence against women and girls and additional investment in support services £0.075 million.

(f) Renfrewshire Labour is committed to equality of opportunity and the well-being of our ex-services personnel and recognises their unique contribution in defence of our country's interests. Council will invest in Glasgow's Helping Heroes to expand services in Renfrewshire to offer additional, targeted support to ex-services personnel in Renfrewshire £0.075 million.

(g) Council approves additional top-up funding for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) of £0.150 million

5. Council further agrees the following:

(a) to invest £0.500 million in a tree planting programme to replace lost biodiversity from tree disease and housing development, subject to securing external funding via The Forestry Commission Tree Scapes Fund, Clyde Climate Forrest, Tree for Cities and all other available external funding streams. The Council instructs officers to investigate funding options and bring back a report to the Leadership Board by September 2023

(b) Council will maintain the current base budget provision of school-based art, music lessons and sports to ensure mental health and well-being benefits are maintained for pupils.

(c) Council instructs officers to investigate funding options to enable a new Johnstone High School to be progressed and bring back a report to the Education and Children's Services Policy Board by September 2023.

(d) Council instructs officers to investigate funding options to enable the extension of Gryffe High School to be progressed, and bring back a report to the Education and Children's Services Policy Board by September 2023

(e) Renfrewshire Labour campaigns for better buses in the awareness that there has been a steep decline in much needed bus services, potentially damaging our local economy and retail businesses and disadvantaging citizens who rely on public transport. Council instructs officers to investigate funding options from external funders such as SPT to enable the development of a Better Buses initiative, where it will cost members of the public not entitled to free bus travel £1 to travel to the centres of Renfrewshire Towns and Villages on one designated Saturday a month, and to bring back a report to the Leadership Board by September 2023.

(f) Council agrees to establish a Community Event Liaison Partnership led by council officers to formally coordinate the delivery and planning of festive events between council staff, local communities, OneRen and other relevant external parties. Progress tracking of Partnership activities to be the subject of future reports to the Leadership Board.

(g) Council commits to take back halls and community centres from OneRen to full Council control, of particular benefit of Villages who rely on local facilities. Council instructs officers to investigate the process and bring back a report including financial implications to the Leadership Board by September 2023.

6. As recommended in the Director's report; commits to maintain the Council's level of unallocated reserve at a minimum of £10.000 million moving into 2023/24. Council further agrees the proposals for consolidation of reserve balances and the indicative draw on ringfenced reserves as outlined at section 12 of the Director's report. Council agrees the investments above be funded in 2023/24 from a £0.600 million draw from the Fairer Renfrewshire reserve, £0.170 million from unallocated balances, £4.919 million from the financial sustainability reserve, and £0.300 million from the Strategic

Asset Management Fund.

7. In line with the conditions set out in the 2023/24 financial settlement, agree to the recommendation outlined in the Director's report to make available £0.388 million of recurring resources to manage the net impact of new service and cost pressures within Adult Social Care Services, and agrees a further estimated £3.3 million will follow in relation to the payment of the Living Wage once the distribution of the £100 million of resource for this purpose is formally confirmed. In addition, Council agrees to provide £1.054 million to Renfrewshire HSCP on a recurring basis, being a proportionate share of the funding provided in relation to the settlement of the 2022/23 local government pay award.

8. To agree the base budget assessment for all services for 2023/24 as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources and agree a 2023/24 base budget of £483.228 million.

9. To agree to make provision for pay inflation as detailed in section 5.6 of the Director's report and make no general provision for general non-pay inflation as recommended by the Director.

10. To agree to a general 5% inflationary increase in charges for services as recommended by the Director and subject to the note at paragraph 15 below.

11. To agree the resource allocations for 2023/24 for all services, as amended by these proposals.

12. To agree the detailed Revenue Estimates for all services be amended to reflect these proposals and the necessary allocation of central support costs, central repairs costs, capital charges, specific grants and loan charges provision with Directors authorised to take any action necessary to implement these decisions.

13. Subject to agreement of the above, to agree that the council tax for 2023/24 be increased by 5% and therefore set Band D subjects at £1,422.62 and for all bandings to be set at:

Band	2022/23	2023/24
A	903.26	948.41
B	1,053.79	1,106.48
C	1,204.34	1,264.55
D	1,354.88	1,422.62
E	1,780.17	1,869.16
F	2,201.69	2,311.76
G	2,653.31	2,785.96
H	3,319.46	3,485.42

14. Subject to agreement of the points above, agree that the Council's budget is underpinned by appropriate decisions and makes appropriate provision to meet the specified commitments in the package of conditions linked to the Council's grant settlement.

15. To agree to increase other charges for services by 5% (as detailed in paragraph 10 above) or where appropriate by the rate set in national legislation or guidance, or where charges are based on full cost recovery by the appropriate increase to maintain this position, subject to Directors being authorised

(a) to round the charge up or down to a figure deemed by them appropriate, and

(b) not to impose any increase, if having reviewed the implications of the increase, he or she determines it would be inappropriate to do so, having regard to any material factor applicable to the goods or services to which the charge relates.

To note the requirement of financial code 13 that Directors review the amounts their departments charge for goods or services and if they think any charge needs to be increased, they will recommend this to the appropriate Board. The Council therefore agrees that when a director carries out such a review and believes a charge for goods

or services should be levied which reflects an increase greater than the increase of 5% or the rate set in national legislation or guidance, he or she will be entitled to recommend the same to the appropriate Board for approval”.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10.20 am to allow members to consider the motion and amendment. The meeting reconvened at 10.45 am.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Clark, Davidson, Gilmour, Grady, G Graham, N Graham, Gray, Leishman, J MacLaren, McCulloch, McDonald, McGonigle, McGuire, McMillan, Mullin and Smith.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Hannigan, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughtan, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw and Steel.

16 members having voted for the amendment and 23 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED:

(a) That this Administration’s first budget would deliver on its commitments set out in the Council Plan to create a fairer Renfrewshire built on innovation, wellbeing and opportunity; where improving outcomes for children and families underpins all that we do;

(b) That as recommended by the Director, these budget proposals took a holistic view of resources available and included the use of the £0.300 million of available resources outlined in Agenda item 4 and directed them as follows: -

- Committed £0.450 million (being £0.300 million capital funding and £0.150 million revenue) to support the delivery of roads improvements and traffic reduction measures which followed the previously funded pilot scheme of Houston, Howwood, Kilbarchan and Bridge of Weir as Gateway Villages. This funding would be used in conjunction with capital contributions from our Cycling, Walking & Safer Routes funding over the next three years to deliver a total £1.5 investment which would improve the safety and natural environment in these villages. This Administration further commits £0.150 million of revenue funding to allow similar analysis to be undertaken to inform future investment in Bishopton, Lochwinnoch and Elderslie;
- Council also recognised the continuing significant investment in our roads infrastructure as outlined in the Capital Plan at Item 4 on the agenda, with £3 million from capital grant funds to bring this years’ roads investment to £6.7 million;

(c) That many communities, households and families across Renfrewshire had been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and subsequent cost of living crisis. Through our Fairer Renfrewshire programme, tackling inequality and poverty would continue to be key priorities for this Administration as we support communities to recover and thrive following the pandemic. Building on the funding commitments of the previous SNP Administration, and the successes of the programme over the course of 2022/23, this Administration would continue to prioritise resource for the programme; and consolidate ringfenced funding currently held in separate Tackling Poverty and Social Renewal reserve funds into a single resource estimated at £5 million to support a cohesive programme of Fairer Renfrewshire support activity. Initial

priorities for allocation of this funding would include:

- £0.068 million over two years to support the recently agreed 10% increase in the delivery of proactive advice services provided by Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau, recognising the increased need for advice in the ongoing cost of living crisis;
- £0.300 million to support a £50 winter school clothing payment to each child eligible for school clothing grant, building on the support provided in 2022 which assisted over 5,000 children;
- £0.100 million to provide a programme of summer activities for children and young people from low-income families, encouraging them to access a wide range of activities and healthy food. It was anticipated that this fund would be supplemented by Scottish Government resource as was the case in 2021/22 and 2022/23;

(d) That in support of the Fairer Renfrewshire aims above, Council agreed to allocate top-up funding of £0.200 million to the Scottish Welfare Fund, to be drawn from the Welfare Reform ringfenced reserve;

(e) Council recognised the success of the Council's employability programme over many years, supported through both European and Scottish Government funding and that unemployment had reached a historically low figure. Acknowledging that the resource set aside in previous budgets may be partially released to support other priorities without impacting on current plans for employability support, Council would therefore re-direct £1.5 million of ringfenced funding to better support wider economic, social and wellbeing activity, with allocations being prioritised as follows:

(i) Committed £0.210 million to allow an increase in foster and kinship carer allowances by 10% as an interim measure while a substantive review of the levels of allowances was undertaken over the course of 2023/24 with recurring financial implications being incorporated into future financial plans;

(ii) In recognition of the critical role quality outdoor time had played in supporting our young people and wider communities during the challenging periods of lockdown, invested an additional £0.450 million in play areas, being £0.350 million for play parks renewals and £0.100 million for play park maintenance, adding significantly to the resource provided by the Scottish Government of £0.307 million for this purpose in 2023/24, and continuing our programme of parks improvement;

(iii) Delivering on our manifesto commitment to expand our very successful concessionary swim programme for parents accompanying a child under the age of one year old, committed £0.050 million as an initial allocation for 2023/24 to enable operation for an expanded programme which would allow free swimming to be offered to pre-school children, with this allocation being reviewed over the course of 2023/24 based on take up of this incentive;

(iv) Committed £0.200 million as an initial contribution to enable the resurfacing of the running track at OnX, while continuing to seek match funding from other stakeholders which would allow the track to continue to be used for the benefit of local athletes and schools;

(v) Committed £0.200 million to replenish the successful Villages Investment Fund;

(vi) Building on the huge success of our Team Up to Clean Up programme over the previous administrative term and outlining our commitment to cleaner streets, committed £0.090 million to the first year of a replacement public litter bin programme;

(f) That recognising the huge popularity and success of the Culture, Heritage and Events Fund (CHEF) and in order to support our local culture and heritage organisations, agreed to replenish the CHEF with £0.200 million from currently unallocated balances within the Culture Bid Legacy ringfenced reserve;

(g) Agreed to a new Sustainable Communities Fund which would consolidate the

current Community Empowerment Fund and the Climate Change Fund into a single fund estimated to exceed £0.500 million moving in to 2023/24, which when added to the estimated balance of capital funding available for community empowerment objectives would result in total funding exceeding £1 million. Council also committed to a review of the current application criteria and guidance in order to better support future applications to this fund which would support Renfrewshire's Net Zero aspirations;

(h) That Council also recognised the need to maintain a prudent level of unallocated reserves given the very high level of risk over the medium term as outlined in the Director's report; and as previously agreed by Council, committed to maintain the Council's level of unallocated reserve at a minimum of £10.000 million moving into 2023/24. Council further agreed the proposals for consolidation of reserve balances and the indicative draw on ringfenced reserves as outlined at section 12 of the Director's report. Council also agreed a further draw of £0.605 million from the ringfenced financial sustainability reserve in order to achieve the statutory breakeven budget position; and commits that action would be taken over the near-term to bring the Council's expenditure in line with available resource on a recurring basis; thereby ensuring the Council's ongoing financial sustainability;

(i) That to protect services to the most vulnerable in Renfrewshire, and in line with the conditions set out in the 2023/24 financial settlement, agreed to the recommendation outlined in the Director's report to make available £(0.388) million of recurring resources to manage the net impact of new service and cost pressures within Adult Social Care Services, and agreed a further estimated £3.3 million would follow in relation to the payment of the Living Wage once the distribution of the £100 million of resource for this purpose was formally confirmed. In addition, Council agreed to provide £1.054 million to Renfrewshire HSCP in support of the ongoing costs of the 2022/23 pay award;

(j) Agreed the base budget assessment for all services for 2023/24 as recommended by the Director of Finance & Resources and agreed a 2023/24 base budget of £483.228 million;

(k) Agreed to make provision in 2023/24 for pay inflation as detailed in section 5.6 of the Director's report and make no provision for general non-pay inflation, as recommended by the Director;

(l) Agreed to a general 5% inflationary increase in charges for services as recommended in the Director's report, subject to the note at paragraph 18 below. In addition, a garden waste permit scheme would be introduced during 2023/24 at a rate of £40 per property, with the operational policy supporting the introduction of this scheme being the subject of a future report to be considered by the Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board;

(m) Agreed the resource allocations for 2023/24 for all services, as amended by these proposals;

(n) Agreed the detailed Revenue Estimates for all services be amended to reflect these proposals and the necessary allocation of central support costs, central repairs costs, capital charges, specific grants and loan charges provision with Directors authorised to take any action necessary to implement these decisions;

(o) Subject to agreement of the above, agreed that the council tax for 2023/24 be set

at £1,436.17 for Band D subjects, representing a 6.0% increase in the 2022/23 level, and for all bandings to be set at:

Band	2022/23	2023/24
A	903.26	957.45
B	1,053.79	1,117.02
C	1,204.34	1,276.60
D	1,354.88	1,436.17
E	1,780.17	1,886.97
F	2,201.69	2,333.78
G	2,653.31	2,812.50
H	3,319.46	3,518.62

Noted that the increase of 6% supported a financially responsible objective of minimising the use of ringfenced reserve balances, thereby underpinning the Council's financial sustainability over the medium term and demonstrating the sound financial management this Administration was committed to;

(p) Subject to agreement of the points above, agreed that the Council's budget was supported by appropriate decisions and made appropriate provision to meet the specified commitments in the package of conditions linked to the Council's grant settlement; and

(q) Agreed to increase other charges for services by 5% (as detailed in paragraph (i) above) or where appropriate by the rate set in national legislation or guidance, or where charges were based on full cost recovery by the appropriate increase to maintain this position, subject to Directors being authorised

(i) to round the charge up or down to a figure deemed by them appropriate; and

(ii) not to impose any increase, if having reviewed the implications of the increase, he or she determined it would be inappropriate to do so, having regard to any material factor applicable to the goods or services to which the charge related.

Council noted the requirement of financial code 13 that Directors review the amounts their departments charged for goods or services and if they thought any charge needed to be increased, they recommend this to the appropriate Board. The Council therefore agreed that when a Director carried out such a review and believed a charge for goods or services should be levied which reflected an increase greater than the increase of 5% or the rate set in national legislation or guidance, he or she would be entitled to recommend the same to the appropriate Board for approval.

Sederunt

Councillors Ann-Dowling and Montgomery re-joined the meeting.

4 Non Housing Capital Investment Programme, Prudential Framework and Treasury Management Strategy, and Capital Strategy 2023/24 – 2027/28

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the

2023/24-2027/28 planned capital investment for non-housing services which covered a range of corporate projects across all service areas within the Council with the exception of council housing. The report advised that the resources available to support investment included prudential borrowing and capital grant as well as contributions from revenue, partners, and external funding bodies.

The report intimated that on 15 December 2022 the Scottish Government had published the draft Scottish Government budget for 2023/24 and the provisional local government finance settlement. The proposed 2023/24 capital grant for Renfrewshire Council was £19.169 million. It was noted that this was broadly in line with the level of general capital grant allocated to the Council in 2022/23 with the addition of £80 million relating to the expansion of free school meals and £120 million, non-recurring, to fund the 2022/23 local government pay award. It was highlighted that in the context of the current funding environment, there was little scope for any investment in assets other than rolling lifecycle maintenance, unless the Council was able to access and secure other sources of funding. There were likely to be limited opportunities for capital receipts as a source of income to the capital plan, potentially placing a greater reliance on increased borrowing as the main source of capital funding. It was highlighted that increased borrowing, would result in revenue pressures at a time when the revenue fund was also severely constrained. It was also noted that the capital plan outlined in the report and detailed in the Appendices to the report extended beyond 2023/24 but that no capital grant from 2023/24 had been incorporated. Approved programmes already in place which were funded by other arrangements, for example prudential borrowing or specific funding related to the City Deal had however been included. It was further noted that this approach did not preclude the Council taking further investment decisions as part of the budget process where separate funding arrangements were established.

The report stated that that the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes played a key role in capital finance in local authorities and required the Council to set prudential and treasury management indicators for the following three years to ensure that the Council's capital investment plans were affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Treasury Management Code further required that the Council approved, annually in advance, a strategy for its treasury management activities, whilst the Prudential Code also required full Council approval of the Capital Strategy which set out the long-term context within which capital investment decisions were made to improve capital, revenue and balance sheet planning. Details of the proposed prudential indicators and treasury management strategy and proposed capital strategy were attached as Appendices 3 and 4 of the report respectively.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the Capital Investment Programme, covering the period up to 2027/28, as summarised in Table 2 of the report and detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report, be approved;
- (b) That the level of core capital grant available be noted and that it also be noted that no assumptions were included within the planned programme beyond this financial year in respect of future grant levels;
- (c) That authority be delegated to the relevant Heads of Service, in consultation with the Director of Finance & Resources, to adjust, where appropriate, resources across individual components of the lifecycle maintenance, roads and structures and schools investment programmes respectively;

(d) That the Prudential Indicators, set out in Appendix 3 of the report, be approved subject to any required adjustments arising from decisions taken by the Council in relation to the capital and revenue budget reports submitted to this meeting of the Council;

(e) That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2023/24, including the treasury management indicators, set out in Appendix 3 of the report be approved; and

(f) That the Capital Strategy set out in Appendix 4 of the report be approved.

5 **Housing Revenue Account Budget & Rent Levels 2023/24 and Housing Capital Investment Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28**

There was submitted a joint report by the Directors of Communities & Housing and Finance & Resources relative to the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget 2023/24 and the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28. Information was also provided which enabled consideration of rent levels for 2023/24. The proposed budget adjustments for 2023/24 were shown across the high level HRA categories in summary form on Appendix 1 and were analysed in more detail in Appendix 2.

The report highlighted the impact of the economic pressures on the HRA and set out the range of operational pressures that had emerged and the adjustments to budgets and resources required to deal with these pressures. It was also highlighted that in setting the 2023/24 HRA budget, members required to consider the medium and longer-term financial context for the HRA considering the ongoing risks and challenges facing the HRA as outlined within the report.

An update was provided on the consultation undertaken with tenants on the annual rent setting process which had asked five key questions regarding the priorities tenants had identified previously and as to whether they felt they were still very important, important, or not important. The consultation results identified that only 3.8% of responses deemed the priorities previously identified as not important.

The report also detailed the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28 which would deliver a total investment of £270.840 million in the Council's housing stock. It was anticipated that this level of investment would attract £26.595 million of government grant for projects including new-build housing and that this resulted in a net capital programme of £244.245 million.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor Innes, moved "that the recommendations in the report be amended as follows:

(i) Considers the contents of this report and approves an average weekly rent increase of £4.53, which is below the commitment made by COSLA to keep increases below £5 on average, and equates to a 5.5% increase for house rents. A 5.5% increase is also proposed for lock ups;

(ii) Approve the development of a tenant's support fund and to increase our housing

advice provision to support tenants in financial hardship;

(iii) Notes the findings of the recent Tenant Consultation exercise and the feedback from tenants concerning the importance of the ongoing capital investment in their homes and in regeneration, and instruct officers in identifying the £300k recurrent saving brought about by this motion to identify savings from revenue spending and operating costs (ie not capital financing costs) and bring back options to a future meeting of the Communities and Housing Board.

(iv) Agree that £300k from HRA reserve balances be utilised to compensate for a lower level of rent increase in 2023/24 while recurrent savings options are developed.

(v) Approves the Housing Revenue Account Budget for financial year 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix 2 subject to the amendment in point (iv) above.

(vi) Approves the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28 as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report; and

(vii) Notes the continuing requirement to achieve best value in the commissioning of works by having an optimum workflow over the 5 years of the investment plan and authorises the Director of Communities and Housing to liaise with the Director of Finance and Resources to re-profile the capital programme and available resources, as necessary, in line with the appropriate limits established under the Council's capital prudential framework arrangements. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That an average weekly rent increase of £4.53 be approved, which was below the commitment made by CoSLA to keep increases below £5 on average and equated to 5.5% for house rents. A 5.5% increase was also proposed and approved for lock-ups;

(b) That the development of a tenant's support fund be approved and the provision of housing advice to support tenants in financial hardship be increased;

(c) That the findings of the recent Tenant Consultation exercise and the feedback from tenants concerning the importance of the ongoing capital investment in their homes and in regeneration be noted and that officers be instructed, in identifying the £300,000 recurrent saving brought about by this motion, to identify savings from revenue spending and operating costs and submit options to a future meeting of the Communities & Housing Policy Board;

(d) That it be agreed that £300,000 from HRA reserve balances be utilised to compensate for a lower level of rent increase in 2023/24 while recurrent savings options were developed;

(e) That the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix 2 be approved subject to the amendment in point (d) above;

(f) That the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28 as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report be approved; and

(g) That the continuing requirement to achieve best value in the commissioning of works by having an optimum workflow over the five years of the investment plan be noted and that the Director of Communities & Housing Services be authorised to liaise

with the Director of Finance & Resources to re-profile the capital programme and available resources, as necessary, in line with the appropriate limits established under the Council's capital prudential framework arrangements.

Valedictory

Councillor McGurk, as Convener of the Communities & Housing Policy Board, advised that this was the last meeting of the Council that Mary Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services would attend before her retirement and took the opportunity to thank her for service to the Council and made reference to her professionalism and the invaluable help, support and advice she had provided during her employment with Renfrewshire Council.

Sederunt

Having previously declared an interest in the following item of business Councillor K MacLaren left the meeting.

6 Council Motion – Street Furniture, Towns and Villages

Under reference to item 13 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council meeting held on 24 June 2021- there was submitted a report by the Director of Environmental Services relative to the motion agreed at that meeting in connection with the difficulties encountered by blind, visually impaired and disabled people resulting from the proliferation of street furniture in Renfrewshire towns and villages.

The report intimated that a survey had been developed by the Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership to engage with blind, visually impaired and disabled community organisations to gather as much information as possible regarding issues experienced by these communities in relation to street furniture in Renfrewshire towns and villages to enable identification of options and targeted intervention. A summary of the survey and outcomes received was provided within section 3 of the report. To address the survey's outcomes, the report proposed that a Town and Village Centre Engagement forum, comprising representatives from the Council's Environment & Infrastructure and Chief Executive's Services, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership, Paisley First, Renfrewshire Access Panel, Renfrewshire Visual and hearing-impaired Forums and Shopmobility, be created. The forum would meet three times a year, with the inaugural meeting being held during Spring 2023, to discuss community infrastructure matters as well as proposed future infrastructure or public realm projects in Renfrewshire.

The Head of Corporate Governance advised that the report required to be amended to indicate that future updates would be submitted to meetings of the Council rather than the Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board and that the word stakeholders should be deleted from paragraph 4.7 of the report.

DECIDED: That the creation of the Town and Village Centre Accessibility Forum be approved and that it be noted that updates, in the form of operational reports, would be submitted to future meetings of the Council.

Sederunt

Councillor K MacLaren re-joined the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11.50 am and reconvened at 12.20 pm.

7 Notice of Motion 1 by Councillors Smith and Davidson

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Smith and Davidson in the following terms:

"Disposable Vapes Ban

Renfrewshire Council agrees to support the 'Ban Disposable Vapes' campaign. Council officers will write to the Scottish Government to ask them to enact the ban."

Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Davidson, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Disposable Vapes Ban

Renfrewshire Council agrees to support the 'Ban Disposable Vapes' campaign. Council officers will write to the Scottish Government to ask them to enact the ban.

Sederunt

Having previously declared an interest in the following item of business Councillor McCulloch left the meeting.

8 Notice of Motion 2 by Councillors McCulloch and Montgomery

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Montgomery and McCulloch in the following terms:

"Affordable Housing Programme

Despite nearly fifteen years of sustained affordable home building, and the repeal of the damaging 'Right to Buy' that crippled local affordable housing supply, the number of homeless families remains unacceptably high. Tens of thousands of people are without a place to call home, with thousands of children languishing in wholly unsuitable temporary accommodation.

Council calls upon the Scottish Government to further expand its affordable house building programme, focusing on building for social rent and ensuring homeless people are prioritised for these new homes to reduce homelessness across Scotland. Council further calls upon the Scottish Government to markedly increase and expand the provision and funding of critical housing support services, so that more people are offered the vital holistic support needed to avoid homelessness."

Councillor Montgomery, seconded by Councillor McMillan, then moved the motion.

Councillor Leishman, seconded by Councillor McGonigle, moved as an amendment

“That the number of homeless families remains unacceptably high. Tens of thousands of people are without a place to call home, with thousands of children languishing in wholly unsuitable temporary accommodation.

Council calls upon the Scottish Government to further expand its affordable house building programme, focusing on building for social rent and ensuring homeless people are prioritised for these new homes to reduce homelessness across Scotland. Council further calls upon the Scottish Government to markedly increase and expand the provision and funding of critical housing support services, so that more people are offered the vital holistic support needed to avoid homelessness.”

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Ann-Dowling, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Clark, Davidson, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Gilmour, Grady, G Graham, Hannigan, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McDonald, McEwan, McGurk, McGuire, McMillan, McNaughtan, Montgomery, Mullin, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw, Smith and Steel.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors N Graham, Gray, Leishman, J MacLaren and McGonigle.

5 members having voted for the amendment and 35 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Affordable Housing Programme

Despite nearly fifteen years of sustained affordable home building, and the repeal of the damaging ‘Right to Buy’ that crippled local affordable housing supply, the number of homeless families remains unacceptably high. Tens of thousands of people are without a place to call home, with thousands of children languishing in wholly unsuitable temporary accommodation.

Council calls upon the Scottish Government to further expand its affordable house building programme, focusing on building for social rent and ensuring homeless people are prioritised for these new homes to reduce homelessness across Scotland. Council further calls upon the Scottish Government to markedly increase and expand the provision and funding of critical housing support services, so that more people are offered the vital holistic support needed to avoid homelessness.

Sederunt

Councillor McCulloch re-joined the meeting.

9 Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors Innes and Audrey Doig

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Innes and Audrey Doig in the following terms:

“Linwood War Memorial Association”

Council welcomes the news that Linwood War Memorial Association has received official charity status from the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Notes the hard work and dedication that has been put in by this local group to give Linwood a place to honour victims of war.

Council agrees that officers provide relevant support to Linwood War Memorial Society in their efforts going forward."

Councillor Innes, seconded by Councillor Audrey Doig, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: "Linwood War Memorial Association"

Council welcomes the news that Linwood War Memorial Association has received official charity status from the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Notes the hard work and dedication that has been put in by this local group to give Linwood a place to honour victims of war.

Council agrees that officers provide relevant support to Linwood War Memorial Society in their efforts going forward.

Sederunt

Having previously declared an interest in the following item of business Councillors Andy Doig and Audrey Doig left the meeting.

10 **Notice of Motion 4 by Councillors N Graham and Leishman**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors N Graham and Leishman in the following terms:

"Opposition to any ban on alcohol advertising.

Council agrees to write to the Scottish Government to state our opposition to any ban on alcohol advertising in Scotland out with the safeguards that are already in place. The proposed legislation will have a damaging impact on Scotland and Renfrewshire.

Council will continue to work with services such as RCA Trust and partners across Renfrewshire and beyond to help those with addictions to alcohol and to promote the safe consumption of alcohol."

Councillor N Graham, seconded by Councillor Leishman, then moved the motion.

Councillor J Cameron, seconded by Councillor K MacLaren, moved as a first amendment that the motion be replaced with

"Council notes that the consultation on alcohol advertising is on-going. No decisions have yet been made on the types of restrictions that could be implemented. There are ongoing discussions with the drinks and advertising industry, and these will be considered as part of the consultation.

Council recognises that alcohol-related harm is one of the most pressing public health challenges in Scotland and that steps must be taken to reduce it. One of the key aims

of the proposed legislation is to limit the exposure of children to alcohol advertising.

Renfrewshire's Alcohol and Drug Commission considered the impact of alcohol consumption on children in the home and the wider community. This included work by the Scottish Children's Parliament, from the report 'It's all around you, all the time'. The children who participated in this national investigation spoke about how visible and available alcohol is and the negative impact that this has on their lives.

Council supports a review on alcohol advertising and awaits the outcome of the consultation."

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor Davidson, moved as a second amendment that

"Council notes that the Scottish Government are currently carrying out a consultation to seek views on potential restrictions on alcohol and promotion in Scotland.

This consultation is due to end on the 9th March.

Renfrewshire Council looks forward to hearing the results of this consultation".

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors J Cameron and K MacLaren, being the mover and seconder of the first amendment, accepted the second amendment as an addition.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors N Graham, Gray, Leishman, J MacLaren and McGonigle.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Ann-Dowling, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Clark, Davidson, Gilmour, Grady, G Graham, Hannigan, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McCulloch, McDonald, McEwan, McGurk, McGuire, McMillan, McNaughtan, Montgomery, Mullin, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw, Smith and Steel.

34 members having voted for the amendment and 5 members having voted for the motion, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED:

Council notes that the consultation on alcohol advertising is on-going. No decisions have yet been made on the types of restrictions that could be implemented. There are ongoing discussions with the drinks and advertising industry, and these will be considered as part of the consultation.

Council recognises that alcohol-related harm is one of the most pressing public health challenges in Scotland and that steps must be taken to reduce it. One of the key aims of the proposed legislation is to limit the exposure of children to alcohol advertising.

Renfrewshire's Alcohol and Drug Commission considered the impact of alcohol consumption on children in the home and the wider community. This included work by the Scottish Children's Parliament, from the report 'It's all around you, all the time'. The children who participated in this national investigation spoke about how visible and available alcohol is and the negative impact that this has on their lives.

Council supports a review on alcohol advertising and awaits the outcome of the consultation.

Council notes that the Scottish Government are currently carrying out a consultation to seek views on potential restrictions on alcohol and promotion in Scotland.

This consultation is due to end on the 9th March.

Renfrewshire Council looks forward to hearing the results of this consultation.

Sederunt

Councillors Andy Doig and Audrey Doig re-joined the meeting.

11 Notice of Motion 5 by Councillors Davidson and Ann-Dowling

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Davidson and Ann-Dowling in the following terms:

"International Women's Day

Council notes that the 8th of March is International Women's Day. Council commends the annual illumination of Renfrewshire landmarks in the colour purple each year on the 8th March to celebrate the achievements of Renfrewshire Women and the indispensable contributions women make worldwide."

Councillor Davidson, seconded by Councillor Ann-Dowling, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: International Women's Day

Council notes that the 8th of March is International Women's Day. Council commends the annual illumination of Renfrewshire landmarks in the colour purple each year on the 8th March to celebrate the achievements of Renfrewshire Women and the indispensable contributions women make worldwide.

12 Notice of Motion 6 by Councillors McMillan and G Graham

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors McMillan and G Graham in the following terms:

"IJB Reserves

Council notes that the IJB are in the process of returning unspent monies previously allocated to them by the Scottish Government that was for Covid related issues.

Council believes that a substantial percentage of this money should be reallocated to Scottish councils in order for them to address the continuing challenges resulting from the pandemic.

Furthermore, council agrees to write to the finance minister to this effect."

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor G Graham, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: IJB Reserves

Council notes that the IJB are in the process of returning unspent monies previously allocated to them by the Scottish Government that was for Covid related issues.

Council believes that a substantial percentage of this money should be reallocated to Scottish councils in order for them to address the continuing challenges resulting from the pandemic.

Furthermore, council agrees to write to the finance minister to this effect.

13 **Notice of Motion 7 by Councillors Andy Doig and Hood**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan in the following terms:

"Citizens Assembly on Council Tax
Replacement and the Funding of Local Government –

This Council regrets the lack of political impetus in Holyrood towards the replacement of the hated Council Tax with a comprehensive system of local government finance which is fair, progressive, and effective, and which delivers the certainty and fiscal security which Scottish local authorities need.

Council notes that a Citizens Assembly on Council Tax replacement was a condition of the SNP/Green Coalition Agreement, and looks with interest on the openness of the Welsh Labour/Plaid Cymru Government to new approaches for local government finance such as a Land Value Tax.

Council therefore calls on the Scottish Government to convene a Citizens Assembly on Council Tax replacement at the earliest opportunity, and on the conclusion of its findings and recommendations to convene an All Party Commission at Holyrood to examine them with a view to implementing the replacement of the Council Tax with an agreed alternative."

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Hannigan, then moved the motion.

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor Clark, moved as an amendment:

"Council notes the SNP stood on a manifesto commitment in 2007 to abolish the Council Tax.

Council notes that this promise has never been delivered.

Council agrees a review of how local government in Scotland is financed is long overdue.

Other fundraising options should be looked at such as a tourist tax and land value tax. Council therefore agrees to write to the Finance Minister to urge the Scottish Government to start tackling this issue as a matter of urgency".

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors

Ann-Dowling, Clark, Davidson, Gilmour, N Graham, Grady, G Graham, Gray, Leishman, J MacLaren, McCulloch, McDonald, McGonigle, McGuire, McMillan, Montgomery, Mullin and Smith.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Hannigan, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughtan, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden and Steel.

18 members having voted for the amendment and 22 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Citizens Assembly on Council Tax
Replacement and the Funding of Local Government –

This Council regrets the lack of political impetus in Holyrood towards the replacement of the hated Council Tax with a comprehensive system of local government finance which is fair, progressive, and effective, and which delivers the certainty and fiscal security which Scottish local authorities need.

Council notes that a Citizens Assembly on Council Tax replacement was a condition of the SNP/Green Coalition Agreement, and looks with interest on the openness of the Welsh Labour/Plaid Cymru Government to new approaches for local government finance such as a Land Value Tax.

Council therefore calls on the Scottish Government to convene a Citizens Assembly on Council Tax replacement at the earliest opportunity, and on the conclusion of its findings and recommendations to convene an All Party Commission at Holyrood to examine them with a view to implementing the replacement of the Council Tax with an agreed alternative.

14 **Emergency Motion by Councillors McMillan and Mullin**

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor Mullin, moved an emergency motion in the following terms:

“Changes to McGill's services

Council notes the information received by elected members from McGill's buses concerning changes to their services within the Renfrewshire area.

Council agrees to convene a meeting at the earliest possible opportunity with SPT, the Scottish Government, Local MSPs and the appropriate Councillors to discuss the impact of these changes and to seek any possible actions that would mitigate any possible negative impact on communities and the public who rely on bus travel”.

This was agreed unanimously.

It was proposed that McGills buses be represented at the meeting. This was agreed.

DECIDED: That Council notes the information received by elected members from McGill's buses concerning changes to their services within the Renfrewshire area and agrees to convene a meeting at the earliest possible opportunity with McGills buses,

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT), the Scottish Government, local MSPs and the appropriate Councillors to discuss the impact of these changes and to seek any possible actions that would mitigate any possible negative impact on communities and the public who relied on bus travel.

That McGills buses be represented at the meeting

Minute of Meeting Head of Housing Services

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 03 March 2023	09:30	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor John Gray, Councillor Robert Innes, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain Nicolson

Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided

In Attendance

G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure and R Laouadi, HR Manager (Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the meeting.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item 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 paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973.

1 **Head of Housing Services - Interviews**

The Board interviewed candidates for the post of Head of Housing Services.

DECIDED: That L Feely be appointed to the post of Head of Housing Services.

Minute of Meeting Communities and Housing Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 07 March 2023	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Gillian Graham, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Robert Innes, Councillor Alec Leishman, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Jamie McGuire, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain McMillan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Emma Rodden

Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning and J Castle, Senior Communications Officer (both Chief Executives); C Dalrymple, Head of Facilities & Property Management (Environment & Infrastructure); N Drummond, Lead Officer (Environmental Co-ordination), L Feeley, Housing Asset & Investment Manager, C Hunter, Environmental Health Public Health Manager, C Robertson, Warden Services Manager and R Walkinshaw, Housing Regeneration & Development Manager (all Communities & Housing Services); and G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, J Kilpatrick, Finance Business Partner, D Pole, End User Technician, R Devine and E Gray both Senior Committee Services Officers and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast on the Council's internet site.

Apology

Councillor Carolann Davidson.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 Police and Fire & Rescue Services Scrutiny Sub-committee

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Sub-committee held on 17 January 2023. The Minute forms the Appendix to this document.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 General Services Revenue, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Budget Monitoring

There was submitted a General Services Revenue, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Budget Monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources for the period 1 April 2022 to 6 January 2023.

The report stated that the projected outturn as at 31 March 2023 for all services reporting to this Policy Board was an overspend position of £0.025 million. The projected capital outturn for projects reporting to this Policy Board was a breakeven position against the revised budget for the year. Summaries were provided over the relevant services in the tables within the report, together with further analysis. In addition, the report indicated that revenue expenditure budget adjustments totalling £1.056 million and capital budget adjustments of £2.5 million, had been processed since consideration of the previous report at the meeting of the Policy Board held on 17 January 2023. Details of the adjustments were outlined within the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the projected Revenue outturn position, detailed in table 1 of the report, be noted;

(b) That the projected Capital outturn position, detailed in table 2 of the report, be noted; and

(c) That the budget adjustments, detailed in sections 4 and 6 of the report, be noted.

3 Building Communities, Greenspaces, Parks & Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund Update

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the Greenspaces, Parks & Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund.

The report indicated that the key objective in allocating funding was to work with, and support, community groups to identify and deliver improvement projects in their local communities, improve their local greenspaces, including parks and play areas, and

strengthen the identity, heritage, uniqueness and character of village life. An update was provided on progress made in terms of supporting community projects, detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, projects approved in terms of delegated authority by the Director of Communities & Housing Services during the previous three-month period together with work undertaken to support active and engaged communities. Taking account of the projects approved in terms of delegated authority during the previous three-month period and all other projects awarded funding to date, £30,000 was currently unallocated in the Villages Investment Fund and £55,000 in the Green Spaces Fund.

The report also provided updates in relation to the progress of Team Up to Clean Up and the recently launched Environmental Taskforce, key performance indicators, relationships with businesses and housing associations, and detailed the impacts the Taskforce was having in Renfrewshire to support active and engaged communities. The report intimated that further umbrella projects to be launched imminently included the Sustainable Food Premises Scheme, in partnership with Sweco. In addition, the report highlighted that Team Up to Clean Up's Green Dog Walking Scheme and the Secondary School Bin Wrap project were under construction with these projects anticipated to be delivered between April and September 2023.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the work currently being undertaken to support communities as they developed and delivered projects to be funded using the Greenspaces, Parks & Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund be noted;
- (b) That the impact of the funding and the benefits to the wider communities delivered by the projects, as set out in section 4 of the report, be noted;
- (c) That the work currently being undertaken by the Environmental Taskforce to support communities in the efficient removal and investigation of flytipping be noted;
- (d) That the work of the Taskforce in creating partnerships with Housing Associations, and the education of private landowners be noted; and
- (e) That the upcoming Team Up to Clean Up projects designed to address wide reaching, common community concerns including dog fouling, excess of plastic waste and school lunchtime litter be noted.

4 Private Rented Sector - Advocacy and Enforcement Initiative Update

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of the meeting of Renfrewshire Council held on 4 March 2021 there was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to progress made in respect of the Advocacy and Enforcement Initiative.

The report advised that funding of £200,000 had been approved at the meeting of Renfrewshire Council held on 4 March 2021 in recognition of the challenges experienced by tenants as temporary legal protections, that had operated during the COVID19 pandemic, were transitioned away with the aim of improving access to support, housing options advice and advocacy for tenants, and where appropriate supporting the use of enforcement powers in the private rented sector. Three temporary posts had been established within Homeless Services, the Housing

Support team and Environmental Health - Enforcement, with close links being established across the three services to create an integrated support approach for tenants in the private rented sector. Details of the activities undertaken by the three postholders since their appointment were provided together with the perceived value of the initiative, feedback received from tenants, landlords and agents was also outlined. The report intimated that the current funding allocation would enable the project to continue until January 2024 and it was stated that a further update on activity and an evaluation of the initiative would be submitted to a future meeting of this Policy Board prior to that date.

DECIDED: That progress with the Advocacy and Enforcement Initiative be noted and that it be agreed that a further update be provided to a future meeting of this Policy Board.

5 **Renfrewshire Common Housing Allocation Policy – Council Allocation Targets for 2023/24**

Under reference to item 5 of the Minute of the meeting of the former Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 15 January 2019 there was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the Renfrewshire Common Housing Allocation Policy.

The report advised that the Renfrewshire Common Housing Allocation Policy had been implemented by the Council on 1 May 2019 with allocation targets set and reviewed annually by each landlord. The proposed Council allocation targets for 2023/24 in respect of the proportion of lets to each of the five groups in which applicants were placed according to their circumstances were detailed in section 4 of the report.

It was agreed that detailed information relative to the reasons for failing to meet the target for proportion of lets for the statutory homeless grouping in the first six months of 2022/23 would be issued to all members of the Policy Board.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Council's allocation targets for 2023/24, as set out in section 4 of the report, be approved; and

(b) That detailed information relative to the reasons for failing to meet the target for proportion of lets for the statutory homeless grouping in the first six months of 2022/23 be issued to all members of the Policy Board .

6 **Private Sector Housing Grant – proposed change to Scheme of Assistance in Regeneration Areas**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the proposed amendment of existing levels of financial assistance available through the Private Sector Housing Grant for participating owners who lived in properties that were included in approved Housing Regeneration Areas to provide an enhanced rate of assistance for resident owners.

The report made reference to the Council's housing-led regeneration and renewal programme, which brought forward up to £100 million of additional investment over the next ten-year period, to deliver high quality energy-efficient homes and environmental improvements. The report highlighted that the eight areas within the programme contained 1,648 properties of which, at the start of the programme, 1,147 were in Council ownership and 501 were privately owned and that working with owners and providing options to enable them to either participate in improvements or to sell their properties to the Council was crucial to its delivery. Details of proposals for properties and the tenure of properties involved were outlined together with options available for owners in terms of sale of the property, their participation in the programme of refurbishment works, assistance with costs and repayment arrangements. Due to the comprehensive nature of the whole house retrofit approach, base costs for owners were anticipated to be relatively high in comparison with previous mixed tenure investment programmes. The report proposed that given the relatively high costs of the improvement works and the desirability of securing a high level of participation to secure the area transformation proposed, the Scheme of Assistance for properties in the Housing Regeneration Areas, be revised to 25% for non-resident owners, 50% for resident owners and 75% for resident owners on benefits.

DECIDED: That it be agreed that the Council's Scheme of Assistance be altered only in respect of Housing Regeneration Areas included in the Housing-led Regeneration Programme to increase the level of Private Sector Housing Grant for eligible properties in mixed tenure blocks from 25% for non-resident owners, 35% for resident owners and 50% for resident owners on benefits, to an enhanced level in which it paid 25% for non-resident owners, 50% for resident owners and 75% for resident owners on benefits.

Valedictory

The Convener advised that this was the last meeting of the Policy Board that Mary Crearie, Director of Housing & Community Services would attend before her retirement and took the opportunity to wish her all the best for the future and to thank her for service to the Council, making reference to the help, support and advice she had provided and her many achievements. Other elected members took the opportunity to echo the sentiments expressed by the Convener.

Minute of Meeting Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 17 January 2023	15:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

PRESENT

Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Robert Innes, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain McMillan.

CHAIR

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services, O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection and M Hendry, Resilience & Deployment Manager (both Communities & Housing Services); R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer, K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer, D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

W Graham, Area Commander and D Falconer, Superintendent (both Police Scotland) and D McCarrey, Area Commander (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service).

WEBCASTING OF MEETING

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Sub-committee would be webcast via the Council's website. Thereafter the Clerk undertook a roll call of members in attendance at the meeting, indicating those in the Council Chamber and those participating remotely.

1 **SPOTLIGHT - POLICE SCOTLAND DIVISIONAL UPDATE**

The Sub-committee received a verbal update from Police Scotland on the recent personnel changes which had occurred.

W Graham, Area Commander and D Falconer, Superintendent, introduced themselves and provided a summary of their careers to date.

DECIDED: That the update be noted.

2 **RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL POLICING PLAN 2023-26**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities and Housing Services relative to the proposed Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan (LPP) 2023-26. The LPP contained information about the police priorities set out for 2023-26; outlined how Police Scotland intended to deliver policing services across Renfrewshire over the next three years; and highlighted the outcomes they aimed to achieve over that period.

The Local Policing Plan 2023-26 highlighted that much had changed since the publication of the previous LPP in 2020. The report explained that priorities had been re-examined in order to respond to the current climate and considered the continued recovery from the COVID global pandemic and the current cost of living crisis along with the harm caused by both.

The report intimated that the Council welcomed the approach and focus set out in the Local Policing Plan 2023-2026, and the recognition of the strong partnership working already well established in Renfrewshire that would help support the Police priorities which were aligned to priorities within the Renfrewshire Community Plan.

A consultation on the content of the Local Policing Plan opened on 3 November 2022 and would remain open until 12 February 2023. A link to the consultation, and a copy of the draft plan for Renfrewshire was provided.

DECIDED: That the comments on the Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan 2023-26 as outlined in section 4 of the report, for submission in line with the timescales for conclusion of the consultation process, be approved.

3 **SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY CORPORATE STRATEGY 2023-26**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the draft Scottish Police Authority (SPA) Corporate Strategy 2023-26. The Strategy set out the SPA's vision, values and ambition, which provided direction to the corporate organisation and supported delivery of the overarching Strategic Police Plan, aligned to the Scottish Government Strategic Police Priorities.

Views and observations from stakeholders, including local authorities, had been welcomed by the SPA which would help inform their final draft. The SPA intended to consult in a wider and more structured manner once they had developed a final draft which could include changes.

The deadline for providing comments was Monday 16 January 2023, and as a result of this, the response on behalf of Renfrewshire Council was provided to the

Scottish Police Authority within their timescales and was detailed in section 4 of the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the comments on the draft Scottish Police Authority Corporate Strategy 2023-26, as outlined in section 4 of the report, which were submitted within the timescale, be homologated; and

(b) That Renfrewshire Council's response to the formal consultation on the final draft be brought to a future meeting of the Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub-committee.

4 POLICE SCOTLAND - QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, relative to service performance and activities in the Renfrewshire area during the period 1 April to 30 November 2022. The report summarised the key performance indicators and provided statistical information relating to specific key objectives detailed in Police Scotland's Policing Priorities 2018-22, comparisons were made also against the previous five-year average.

The volume of recorded crime and offences had fallen by 5.5% on the five-year average, however had risen by 3.9% on the previous year. Crimes of dishonesty was the one category that had shown an increase (2.8%).

The report provided, in an infographics format, local updates in relation to Renfrewshire Policing Priorities 2018-22 of drug supply and misuse; violence & antisocial behaviour; dishonesty; and road safety. Drug dealing and misuse continued to be a priority area for attention in Renfrewshire as communities advised that they were concerned about the harm caused. Due to focus and proactivity on the issue, there had been an increase of 23.2% in the number of detected drug supply offences, compared to the previous five-year average.

Analysis had identified a minimum of 343 cybercrimes in the reporting period in Renfrewshire, suggestive of a rise of over 18% on the previous year. Around 80% of identified cybercrimes fell into one of the following three categories: threatening and abusive communications offences; fraud; and threats and extortion.

There were 522 recorded missing persons incidents, an increase of 45% on the previous year. Almost 13% of the total number of incidents related to the five most frequent missing persons within Renfrewshire, all of whom were young people aged 16 years or under. Overall, 80% of all missing persons in Renfrewshire were aged 19 or under. Young Persons' Units continued to feature predominantly amongst the most common locations for missing persons incidents (41%). Almost 75% of all missing people were traced within 24 hours, with over 50% of all missing people being traced within 12 hours.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

5 SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) relative to SFRS performance and local fire and rescue service plan priorities in the Renfrewshire area during period 1 October to 31 December 2022.

The report provided updates in relation to Renfrewshire activity, accidental dwelling fires and casualties, unintentional injury and harm, deliberate fire setting, non-domestic fire safety and unwanted fire alarm signals.

Accidental dwelling fires had decreased by 39% (22 incidents) from Q3 2021/22. Cooking remained the most common source of ignition within Renfrewshire. No firefighting action was required in 36% (8) of the cases, distraction was the cause in 36% (8) cases with alcohol/drug impairment being the cause in 9% (2) of the cases. The report advised that detection devices were installed in 19 of the 22 incidents and 84% of them had operated and raised the alarm.

There was one dwelling fire casualty for the reporting period, the injury sustained was slight in nature requiring first aid at the scene.

The report indicated that unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS) had increased slightly by 8% (22 incidents) year on year. Of the UFAS incidents recorded, residential care homes accounted for 11% (34 incidents).

DECIDED: That the contents of the report be noted.

6 LOCAL ISSUES

Police Scotland advised members that the position in Renfrewshire was positive, and that it was intended to continue the good work which was ongoing locally. Information was provided on the team based in Ferguslie which concentrated on drug supply and misuse, that continued to be a concern for people in the Renfrewshire area. The sub-committee was advised that following intelligence from members of the public, £500,000 worth of drugs had been recovered after 132 search warrants had been issued. The Sub-committee was advised that it was not possible to provide a breakdown of the type/class of drugs being used and also whether the use of legal highs impacted the figures provided.

The Area Commander, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service advised the Sub-committee that pro-active work was ongoing with the Community Action Teams visiting establishments and communicating with young people in schools. He also advised that the statistical information provided was very positive and that there had been no water related incidents in the area.

DECIDED: That the information provided be noted.

Minute of Meeting Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 08 March 2023	10:00	Remotely by MS Teams,

Present: Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Sam Mullin, Councillor Andy Steel

Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

F Wilson (Serious Organised Crime & Trading Standards Manager) (Items 1 to 6(c) and 7(i) only) and R Wilson (Fair Trading Officer) (both Communities & Housing) and R Graham, Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Regulatory Services), P Shiach, Senior Committee Services Officer, D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer, A Easdon, Team Leader (Licensing), R McCallum, Administrative Assistant and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources).

Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Convener intimated that this meeting would be recorded for subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Apology

Councillor Montgomery.

Transparency Statement

Councillor Mullin indicated that he had a connection to item 3 of the agenda by reason that the applicant Mr Wright was known to him. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Order of Business

In terms of Standing Order 16, the Convener intimated that he proposed to alter the order of business to facilitate the conduct of the meeting by considering items 6(c) and 7(i) of the agenda together, as they related to the same applicant, and that both applications be considered prior to item 7(a) of the agenda.

1 **Renewal of Private Hire Car Operators' Licences – Personal Appearances**

There were submitted the undernoted applications for renewal of Private Hire Car Operators' Licences. Applicant (a) had been asked to appear personally for the second time and applicant (b) had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

(a) Applicant: Mumtaz Yousafzai
Licence No.: PH0931

Mr Yousafzai, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Yousafzai's application be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Yousafzai to continue to operate his present vehicle, registration number RJ65 FKA, for a period of six months from 8 March 2022, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals, with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days of 8 March 2023. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Mr Yousafzai's application be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Yousafzai to continue to operate his present vehicle, registration number RJ65 FKA, for a period of six months from 8 March 2022, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals, with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days of 8 March 2023.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration the following item 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 would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part I of schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

(b) Applicant: Fraidon Abdul Aziz
Licence No.: PH1231

Mr Aziz, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years.

Admission of the Press and Public

The press and public were invited back into the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

2 Surrender and Re-issue of Taxi Operator's Licence

There was submitted the undernoted application for the surrender and re-issue of a Taxi Operator's Licence:-

Present Operator: Partnership of J & T Taxis
 Proposed Operator: Harwinder Johal
 Licence No.: TX078

The Convener proposed that the application be granted. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted.

3 Surrender and Re-issue of Taxi Operator's Licence – Personal Appearance

There was submitted the undernoted application for the surrender and re-issue of a Taxi Operator's Licence. The applicants had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

Present Operator: Ian Wright
 Proposed Operator: Willian Donohoe
 Licence No.: TX050

Mr Wright and Mr Donohoe, the applicants, both joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved that the press and public be excluded 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 would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part I of schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

4 **Variation of Taxi Operators' Licences - Personal Appearance**

There were submitted the undernoted applications for variation of Taxi Operators' Licences. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

Applicant: Graeme Anderson 2 applications

Variation: Exception to policy and condition 22 to operate saloon cars

Licences: TX137 and TX098

Mr Anderson, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. The Convener proposed that both applications be considered together but that separate decisions be made. This was agreed unanimously. Mr Anderson also agreed to this. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the applications. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that (i) Mr Anderson's application for variation of Taxi Operator's Licence TX098 be refused; and (ii) That Mr Anderson's application for variation of Taxi Operator's Licence TX137 be refused. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

(a) That Mr Anderson's application for variation of Taxi Operator's Licence TX098 be refused; and

(b) That Mr Anderson's application for variation of Taxi Operator's Licence TX137 be refused.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 10.46am and reconvened at 11.00am.

5 **Grant of Taxi Driver's Licence – Personal Appearance**

There was submitted the undernoted application for grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the second time together with Police Scotland who had submitted an objection received outwith the statutory timescale to the application: -

Jason Anderson

Mr Anderson, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call together with Sergeant Robertson who joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted an objection received outwith the statutory timescale to the application.

On hearing the reasons for the objection being received and after consideration of the age, nature and seriousness of the matters contained in the letter, the Convener proposed that the Board admit the letter as the interests of justice so required. This was agreed unanimously.

After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider this application. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the application be refused. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be refused.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 12.04 pm and reconvened at 12.15 pm.

6 Grant of Private Hire Car Operators' Licences – Personal Appearances

There were submitted the undernoted applications for grant of Private Hire Car Operators' Licences. The applicants had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

(a) Shohel Miah

Mr Miah, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

(b) Kabongo Ammon Tubayo

Mr Tubayo, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

7 Grant of Private Hire Car Operator's Licence and Grant of Private Hire Car Driver's Licence - Personal Appearance

There were submitted the undernoted applications for grant of a Private Hire Car Operator's Licence and grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time: -

Abdul Fahim Rahimi

Mr Rahimi, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. The Convener proposed that both applications be considered together but that separate decisions be made. This was agreed unanimously. Mr Rahimi also agreed to this. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that (i) Mr Rahimi's application for grant of a Private Hire Car Operator's Licence be granted for a period of one year; and (ii) that Mr Rahimi's application for grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

(a) Mr Rahimi's application for grant of a Private Hire Car Operator's Licence be granted for a period of one year; and

(b) That Mr Rahimi's application for grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence be granted for a period of one year.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 12.45pm and reconvened at 13.30pm.

8 Grant of Private Hire Car Drivers' Licences – Personal Appearances

There were submitted the undernoted applications for grant of Private Hire Car Drivers' Licences. The applicants had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

(a) Syed Faisal Imam

The Senior Solicitor advised that Mr Imam had withdrawn his application.

DECIDED: That it be noted that Mr Imam had withdrawn his application.

(b) Fahid Ijaz

Mr Ijaz, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

(c) Mohammad Nasir

Mr Nasir, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

(d) Mohammed Jamal

Mr Jamal, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

(e) Mohammed Ikram

Mr Ikram, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

(f) Omar Adil Ibrahim Mohammed

Mr Mohammed, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

(g) Zulfiqar Ali Khan

Mr Khan, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

(h) Oru Umeh

Mr Umeh, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

9 **Hearing into Possible Suspension or Revocation of Private Hire Car Driver's Licence - Personal Appearance**

The Board considered the possible suspension or revocation of the undernoted Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. The licence holder had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland: -

Licence holder: Gary Hutton
Licence No.: P0237

Mr Hutton, the licence holder, joined the meeting by telephone call, together with Inspector Henderson, who joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Senior Solicitor asked Mr Hutton if he wished to address the Board on any action the Board might impose prior to any motions being made in relation to his Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. Mr Hutton then addressed the Board.

Following consideration of Mr Hutton's submission, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the matter. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that Mr Hutton's Private Hire Car Driver's Licence be suspended for the unexpired portion of the duration of the licence with immediate effect. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That Mr Hutton's Private Hire Car Driver's Licence be suspended for the unexpired portion of the duration of the licence with immediate effect.

Minute of Meeting

Education and Children's Services Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 09 March 2023	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Adam, Councillor Fiona Airlie-Nicolson, Ms Mary Jane Bird, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Gillian Graham, Councillor John Gray, Councillor Anne Hannigan, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Robert Innes, Councillor David McGonigle, Councillor Iain McMillan, Councillor Will Mylet, Mr Jack Nellaney, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Mr Ravinder Singh, Councillor Ben Smith

Chair

Councillor Rodden, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

S Quinn, Director of Children's Services; J Calder, Head of Service (Early Years & Broad General Education), T McGillivray, Head of Schools (Senior Phase & Inclusion), J Trainer, Head of Childcare & Criminal Justice and L Johnston, Service Improvement Manager (all Children's Services); J Connolly and C Orr, both Senior Communications Officers (both Chief Executive's); M Conaghan, Head of Corporate Governance, R Conway, Finance Manager, E Gray and R Devine, both Senior Committee Services Officers, D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer and G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager (all Finance & Resources).

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Paterson declared an interest in item 9 of the agenda, - Distribution of Funding to Support Services for Children and Families – Funding Allocation for 2023/24, as he was the parent of a child who attended one of the facilities which was recommended to receive funding. He indicated that as he had declared an interest, he would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

Transparency Statements

Councillor Davidson indicated that she had a connection to item 4, The Promise: Progress on delivering on Renfrewshire's Promise, by way of having signed up to undertake the role of Promise Keeper. However, she indicated that she had applied the objective test and did not consider she had an interest to declare.

Councillor Airlie-Nicolson indicated that she had a connection to item 4, The Promise: Progress on delivering on Renfrewshire's Promise, by way of having signed up to undertake the role of Promise Keeper. However, she indicated that she had applied the objective test and did not consider she had an interest to declare.

1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring as at 6 January 2023

There was submitted a joint Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring report by the Directors of Children's Services and Finance & Resources for the period to 6 January 2023.

The projected Revenue outturn at 31 March 2023 for Children's Services was an overspend of £4.139 million (1.8 percent) against the revised budget for the year. The projected Capital outturn at 31 March 2023 for Children's Services was an underspend of £0.100 million (1.9 percent).

DECIDED:

(a) That the projected Revenue outturn position for Children's Services detailed in Table 1 of the report be noted, and that it be further noted that the forecast position was based on best estimates and confirmed government support at this point in time; forecasts were likely to be subject to fluctuation as the year progressed;

(b) That the projected Capital outturn position for Children's Services detailed in Table 2 of the report be noted; and

(c) That the budget adjustments detailed in sections 4 and 6 of the report be noted.

2 **Dargavel Education Provision**

Under reference to item 1 of the Minute of the special meeting of this Board held on 7 November 2022 there was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the outcome of a further school roll projection exercise in respect of primary education needs, relating to the Dargavel housing development.

The report provided a background to the initial school roll projection for Dargavel Primary School which estimated that the school roll would not exceed 430 pupils. As reported to the special meeting of this Policy Board on 7 November 2022, it had been discovered that this figure had been significantly underestimated. A further roll projection had since been carried out which estimated a peak pupil roll of 1,100. Following the meeting on 7 November 2022 an external roll projection was undertaken to provide additional rigour and assurance and was carried out by the specialist data analytics company, Edge Analytics and projected a peak school roll of 1,131.

Details were provided on the action being taken to meet the immediate capacity needs of the school including the installation of six modular classrooms which would meet the demand for the 2023/24 school session. It was noted that the footprint of the school and requirements for outdoor space meant that it would not be possible to install further modular classrooms if required in 2024. In the event of the school exceeding its capacity for catchment area children the Council's Admissions Policy, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, would be applied.

The report recommended that plans for a new school with the capacity to accommodate a minimum of 700 pupils be progressed and that a further report be submitted to the meeting of this Policy Board to be held on 18 May 2023.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the outcome of the detailed external roll projection exercise be noted;
- (b) That initial planning with a focus on a projected roll of 1,131 be approved;
- (c) That planning for an additional school, with a minimum capacity of 700, be approved for immediate progress;
- (d) That additional options also be developed to consider how to address potential additional capacity demands, up to the maximum planning scenario, should the current high rate of admissions continue; and
- (e) That it be noted that a further report would be submitted to the meeting of this Policy Board to be held on 18 May 2023.

3 **Renfrewshire – Getting it Right for Every Child – Inclusion Update**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to progress which had been made towards delivering improvements to support the wellbeing and learning of all children and young people with additional support needs in mainstream school and early year's establishments.

The report provided a background to the Scottish Government's September 2022 refresh of their Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) policy and practice materials and the refresh of Renfrewshire's GIRFEC policy and procedures by Children's Services and Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership which followed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the progress made within the inclusion strategy be noted; and

(b) That it be noted that an invite had been extended to members of this Policy Board to meet with the Head of Service for Inclusion and the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) Lead Officer to learn more about the GIRFEC refresh.

4 The Promise: Progress on delivering on Renfrewshire's Promise

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the progress made on delivering The Promise in Renfrewshire.

The report provided a background to The Promise which was a commitment made to the care experienced community in Scotland that by 2030 Scotland would be "the best place in the world to grow up in" and that all children would be "loved, safe, and respected and realise their full potential". A motion was approved at the meeting of Council held on 4 September 2020 to develop a plan on how The Promise would be delivered in Renfrewshire and at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 21 January 2021 a delivery plan had been approved.

An update on the progress made was provided and a number of areas were highlighted including the appointment of a Promise Lead Officer in October 2022; the work undertaken by the Renfrewshire Promise Strategic Oversight Group which involved all key strategic partners, frontline staff and individuals with lived experience of the care system; a refresh of the policy and governance structure and how this tied in with the Renfrewshire Children's Services Plan; the significant progress made in terms of expanding the network of Promise Keepers; and the successful application for grant funding to progress three projects with a view to driving forward the Promise ambitions.

DECIDED:

(a) That the progress made towards keeping the Promise in Renfrewshire be noted; and

(b) That it be noted that regular update reports would continue to be submitted to future meetings of this Policy Board.

5 Education Scotland Inspection of Park Mains High School

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the results of an inspection of Park Mains High School carried out by Education Scotland. A letter sent by Education Scotland to the parents and carers of pupils detailing the outcome of the inspection was appended to the report.

An inspection of Park Mains High School was carried out by Education Scotland in November 2022 with a focus on two quality indicators, learning, teaching and assessment and raising attainment and achievement. The inspection report was appended to the report and detailed three areas of strength and three areas for improvement.

DECIDED: That the key strengths and areas for further improvement identified in the Education Scotland inspection be noted.

6 **Education Scotland Inspection of Auchenlodment Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Class**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the results of an inspection of Auchenlodment Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Class carried out by Education Scotland. A letter sent by Education Scotland to the parents and carers of pupils detailing the outcome of the inspection was appended to the report.

An inspection of Auchenlodment Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Class was carried out by Education Scotland over a period of five days in October 2022 with a focus on four quality indicators, leadership of change; learning, teaching and assessment; ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion and raising attainment and achievement. The inspection report was appended to the report and detailed four areas of strength and three areas for improvement.

DECIDED: That the key strengths and areas for further improvement identified in the Education Scotland inspection be noted.

7 **Care Inspectorate Inspection of Brediland Residential House**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to an inspection which had been carried out by the Care Inspectorate at Brediland Children's Residential House. The inspection report was appended to the report.

An inspection of Brediland Children's Residential House was carried out by the Care Inspectorate on 15 December 2022 with a view to ensuring that all statutory duties were being undertaken and that care and support was being provided to vulnerable individuals. The inspection resulted in the facility being graded as 'Very Good' with the findings detailed in full in the inspection report.

DECIDED: That the positive evidence of very good care being delivered at Brediland Residential Children's House be noted.

8 **Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership Plan 2023/2026**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the proposed Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership Plan for the period 2023/26. The proposed plan was set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

The report provided detail on the Council's statutory requirement to produce a Children's Services Partnership Plan and how the plan would be used to shape children's services planning over the coming years and guide associated reporting activity. It was noted that the Plan would also be submitted to a meeting of the Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board for approval as Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership was jointly responsible for the plan under delegated authority from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board. It was further noted that, following approval, the Plan would be shared with the Scottish Government.

The Plan set out a single partnership vision - "Renfrewshire's children are happy, healthy, safe and thriving" along with four outcomes which the partners wished to achieve - "Our children and young people will enjoy good physical and mental health; Our children and young people will be safe and loved; Our children and young people will have rights protected and their voices heard; and Our children and young people will achieve and make positive contributions to their community." It was noted that a detailed action plan and associated measures of success would be developed in the coming months.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership Plan 2023/26 be approved;

(b) That it be noted the Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership Plan would be submitted to the Scottish Government by June 2023; and

(c) That it be noted that Renfrewshire HSCP were jointly responsible for the Plan, under delegated authority from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board, and that the plan would be submitted to the meeting of the Integration Joint Board to be held on 31 March 2023.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Paterson having previously declared an interest in item 9, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

9 Distribution of Funding to Support Services for Children and Families – Funding Allocation for 2023/24

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the proposed allocation of funding during 2023/24 to out of school care groups in the private and voluntary sector and for early years voluntary sector organisations, playgroups and toddler groups.

The report set out the Council's commitment to support voluntary sector organisations through the distribution of funding for the delivery of services for families with young children and recommended that £45,200 be awarded to Home-Start Renfrewshire and Inverclyde; £14,000 to Moorpark Community Association Cherrie Children's Day-care; £29,225 to out of school care service providers; and £2,000 to pre-five voluntary sector providers. A detailed summary of the proposed amount to be awarded to each provider was set out within Appendices 1 to 3 of the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the resource allocation to support the delivery of services for children and young people, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved; and

(b) That the proposed allocation of grant funding for out of school care and pre-five voluntary sector organisations, as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 to the report, subject to the completion of satisfactory checks and assessments, be approved.

10 **Addendum - Standard Circular 3a - Early Learning and Childcare Admission Policy**

Under reference to item 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 27 October 2022, there was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to an addendum to the Early Year's Admissions Policy and Guidance. The updated policy was detailed in full at Appendix 1 of the report.

The report advised that Standard Circular 3a which detailed the Early Year's Admissions Policy and Guidance had been approved at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 27 October 2022. Subsequently, a change to the criteria for eligible two-year-olds was made by the Scottish Government. Previously, funded early learning and childcare was available for two-year-olds who were care experienced from the point of their second birthday. Following the criteria change, children who had the experience of care from an earlier stage in their life were also eligible for funding.

DECIDED: That the addendum to Standard Circular 3a: Early Learning and Childcare Admissions Policy, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

11 **Children's Services Standard Circular 33 Update**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to an update to the Council's policy around Educational Excursions. The updated policy was detailed in full at Appendix 1 of the report.

The report advised that the Council's travel insurance policy no longer covered the cancellation of school excursions and residential trips due to a pandemic. Accordingly, an update was required to Section 17 of Standard Circular 33 to reflect the revised position.

DECIDED: That the update to Standard Circular 33: Educational Excursions, as set out within Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

Minute of Meeting Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 13 March 2023	15:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Adam, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor John Gray, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Robert Innes, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Kevin Montgomery

Chair

Councillor Andy Doig, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Development and L Fingland, Service Planning & Policy Development Manager (both Chief Executive's); M Ure, Lead Officer (Tasking & Development) and D Murray, Area Housing Manager (both Communities & Housing); C McCourt, Head of Finance & Business Services, A McMahon, Chief Auditor, John Kilpatrick, Finance Business Partner and Lead Officer, D Pole, End User Technician, C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer, K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); and A Noble, Change & Improvement Officer and Lead Officer (Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership).

Also in Attendance

G Devlin, Partner & National Head of Internal Audit and A Kolodziej, Senior Manager (both Azets).

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Transparency Statement

Councillor Montgomery indicated that he had a connection to item 7 by reason that some of the data in the report was provided by his employer Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare.

1 Annual Internal Audit Plan 2023/24

There was submitted a report by the Chief Auditor relative to the 2023/24 risk-based Annual Internal Audit Plan which had been developed in line with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

The Plan took account of the outcomes of the internal corporate and service risk identification and evaluation processes and the current business environment. In addition to undertaking work which would provide assurance on the robustness of key internal controls, the Plan sought to reflect the key priorities and challenges for the Council.

The report set out the methods that had been employed to facilitate production of the Plan and the influencing factors that had been considered in the assessment of the current business environment and the priority areas of audit. A copy of the Annual Internal Audit Plan 2023/24 was attached as an appendix to the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the content of the risk-based audit plan for 2023/24 be approved; and

(b) That it be noted that the progress of the 2023/24 annual audit plan and summaries of the findings from each audit assignment would be reported to the Board on a quarterly basis.

2 External Audit Plan 2022/23

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the External Audit Plan 2022/23, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The report intimated that Azets, as the newly appointed external auditor, had submitted an Audit Plan which outlined the approach to the audit of the 2022/23 financial statements of the Council and the charities it controlled in order to assess whether they provided a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council, and also whether they had been prepared in accordance with proper accounting practice.

The Plan outlined the responsibilities of Azets and the Council, their assessment of key challenges and risks, and the approach and timetable for completion of the audit. The report also advised of an increase in Audit fees for the Council and the Coats Observatory Trust.

DECIDED: That the content of the attached report, including the proposed audit fees for the Council and the Coats Observatory Trust be noted.

3 **Internal Audit Review of Compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Auditor relative to the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

It was noted that the Chief Executive had responsibility for reporting annually to the Board in compliance with the Code and any changes to the Code that might be necessary to maintain it and ensure its effectiveness in practice. In addition, the Council's Chief Auditor had responsibility to review independently and report to the Board annually to provide assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Code and the extent of the Council's compliance.

The report intimated that Internal Audit had reviewed the effectiveness of the revised Code which operated during 2022/23 and confirmed that the Council complied with its requirements and had confirmed that it was evident that the Code had been subject to review and updating.

The Chief Executive had endorsed the Chief Auditor's recommendation that the local Code should continue to be subject to annual review to ensure that it continued to reflect developments and best practice in governance.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4 **Annual Review of Compliance with the Local Code of Corporate Governance 2022**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the annual review of the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance (the Code) which was based on the Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework. This framework set the standard for local authority governance in the UK and was revised by CIPFA and SOLACE in 2016 to ensure it remained fit for purpose.

A list of seven overarching principles and sub-principles against which compliance was measured was attached as Appendix 1 and evidence of how the Council complied with the updated Code was attached as Appendix 2.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Council's compliance with the Local Code of Corporate Governance be noted;

(b) That the evidence for compliance as set out in Appendix 2 be noted; and

(c) That it be noted that compliance with the code was also subject to planned internal audit activity.

5 **Audit Scotland Report - Local Government in Scotland Financial Bulletin 2021/22**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Audit Scotland Local Government in Scotland Financial Bulletin 2021/22.

The report advised that the bulletin set out some of the longer-term financial challenges facing councils in the context of the Scottish Government's Resource Spending Review and the cost-of-living crisis. It also advised that the Accounts Commission's wider local government overview report would be published in May 2023 and would include further analysis.

It was noted that councils were dealing with several significant financial challenges and would need to make some difficult decisions with their spending priorities.

DECIDED:

(a) That the contents of this report be noted; and

(b) That it be noted that a report on the Local Government Overview would be submitted to this Board in due course.

6 **Bulk Uplifts - Lead Officer John Kilpatrick**

Under reference to item 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 22 August 2022, there was submitted a report by the Lead Officer relative to an update on progress of the Board's review of bulk uplifts.

The report advised that research had commenced across all areas within the scope and provided an update on the findings to date. The update focused on research into demographics within Renfrewshire and in particular, the elderly population and current trends for existing service demand. The report also provided information in relation to existing services and free bulk uplifts for the elderly provided by neighbouring local authorities.

The report indicated that in order to continue with the review a definition was required on the age to be used in relation to the term 'elderly' solely within the context of the review. It was proposed that the age of 65 for both men and women was the most common age historically utilised for defining services for 'elderly' people and therefore, the age of 65 would be assumed in relation to the term elderly for the duration of the review. If an exception to this age was used, it would be clearly noted within the review.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the age of 65 be approved as the age for the term 'elderly' within the context of the review; and
- (b) That progress of the review be noted.

7 Neighbour Disputes - Lead Officer Andrew Noble

Under reference to item 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 22 August 2022, there was submitted a report by the Lead Officer relative to an update on progress of the Board's review of neighbour disputes.

The report highlighted the scope and scale of neighbour disputes in Renfrewshire and a number of sources of evidence and data was detailed to help illustrate the extent and different types of dispute.

The report also addressed the specific issue raised at the meeting of the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board held on 23 January 2023 regarding the use of domestic CCTV and the responsibility for regulating and enforcing the use of these systems in Scotland.

The report advised that the next stage of the review would be to consider two of the original aims; to look at the current arrangements and approaches the Council and other stakeholders had for responding to neighbour disputes; and to review the current disposals/actions that were available to the Council and others to resolve neighbour disputes.

Evidence would be sought from Council services including Housing, Community Safety and other key stakeholders such as Police Scotland and Tenants and Residents associations.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the content of the report be noted; and
- (b) That it be agreed to move to the next stage of the review, to consider the current arrangements and approaches the Council and other stakeholders have for responding to neighbour disputes.

Minute of Meeting Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 14 March 2023	10:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Graeme Clark, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Jamie McGuire, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain McMillan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Andy Steel

Chair

Councillor Steel, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development, L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications, B Walker, Programme Director (City Deal & Infrastructure), R Cooper, Economic Development Manager, E Shearer, Senior Manager for Regeneration and Place, M Moran, Assistant Economic Development Manager (Funding, Contracts & Commercial Development) and D Christie, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, D Pole, End User Technician, V Howie, Finance Business Partner, R Devine and E Gray, both Senior Committee Services Officers and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); and V Hollows, Chief Executive (OneRen).

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Policy Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Apology

Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the projected revenue outturn as at 6 January 2023 for those services reporting to the Economy & Regeneration Board.

The projected capital outturn for projects reporting to this Board as at 31 March 2023 was a breakeven position against the revised budget for the year. Tables 1 and 2 summarised the position and further analysis was provided in the appendices to the report. The report advised that since consideration of the previous report there had been net revenue budget adjustments totalling £0.079 million processed, which mainly related to pay award inflation and net capital budget adjustments in the 2022/23 approved capital programme for Economy and Regeneration of £19.823 million, largely as a result of reprofiling the budget from 2022/23 into 2023/24 for Paisley Town Hall and Paisley Museum to reflect updated cashflows.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the projected Revenue outturn position detailed in Table 1 be noted;
- (b) That the projected Capital outturn position detailed in Table 2 be noted; and
- (c) That the budget adjustments detailed in sections 4 and 6 of the report be noted.

Sederunt

Councillor McGuire joined the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

2 Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery - Funding Update

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Council spend to date in terms of the Scottish Government Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery (LACER) Fund allocation and outlining plans to utilise the remaining funds in financial year 2023/24.

The Convener advised that page 15 of the report required to be amended to indicate that it was planned to make 667 rather than 6667 hardship payments during 2023/24 to people experiencing financial insecurity.

The report advised that on 21 February 2022, the Scottish Government had announced a new £80 million Scottish Government Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery (LACER) Fund aimed at supporting businesses and communities to help

Scotland as it moved to a new phase in the Coronavirus pandemic. Renfrewshire Council had been awarded £2.654 million from the LACER Fund. A summary of principles which local interventions required to meet was provided and a range of project proposals for Renfrewshire had been approved at the meeting of the Leadership Board held on 20 April 2022. Details of the specific proposals approved were provided within section 4 and Appendix 1 of the report. An update on spend to date and plans to utilise the remaining funds were also provided.

Authority to apply the budget flexibly had been sought and agreed and this had been used to ensure that funding was available where impacts could be made. The report proposed that this authority be continued.

It was proposed that consideration be given (i) to the use of the unspent balance of the available budget, £959,151 to increase spend on the promotion of existing training programmes run by the Council aimed at upskilling/reskilling women, to maximise their career potential and broaden employment choices, together with further expenditure on unmet need in this area; and (ii) to reviewing the eligibility criteria for distribution of hardship payments to ensure fairness, without stigma, while retaining the integrity of the funds. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the report and spend to date be noted;
- (b) That the proposed use of funding for 2023/24 for similar activities be approved;
- (c) That it be agreed that budget changes across proposals could continue to be managed throughout the year to meet local demand;
- (d) That it be noted that a report outlining actual spend would be submitted to a future meeting of this Policy Board; and
- (e) That consideration be given (i) to the use of the unspent balance of the available budget, £959,151 to increase spend on the promotion of existing training programmes run by the Council aimed at upskilling/reskilling women, to maximise their career potential and broaden employment choices, together with further expenditure on unmet need in this area; and (ii) to reviewing the eligibility criteria for distribution of hardship payments to ensure fairness, without stigma, while retaining the integrity of the funds.

3 Modern Apprenticeship Programme Update

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Modern Apprentice Programme.

The report advised that Renfrewshire Council's Modern Apprenticeship Programme had been delivered successfully for approximately 17 years and in that time had supported over 700 Renfrewshire residents into employment. The Modern Apprenticeship Programme mainly supported young people aged 16 to 24, however, increasingly opportunities were being made available to applicants of all ages, with particular support offered to those aged up to 29, who were disabled or care experienced. It was highlighted that the Council's Programme supported approximately 80 apprentices at any given time, with 35 to 40 new opportunities

available each year, that the Programme outcomes consistently exceeded national targets, compared well to other providers and was shown to support under-represented individuals and groups. Updates on progress were provided together with confirmation from Skills Development Scotland of a contract for continued delivery of the 2023/24 programme.

DECIDED: That the content of the report and the continuation of funding from Skills Development Scotland into 2023/24 be noted.

4 **Cultural Infrastructure Programme Update**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the progress of the Council's Cultural Infrastructure Programme, which was being delivered on behalf of the Council by the City Deal & Infrastructure Team, with project management expertise from the Council's Property Services team, and in the case of the Paisley Museum Project, this was being delivered on behalf of the Council by OneRen.

The report provided an update in terms of the progress of the Cultural Infrastructure Programme to develop the Council's four premier cultural assets, Paisley Town Hall, Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub, Paisley Arts Centre and Paisley Museum in Paisley town centre. The investment programme built on the significant cultural and heritage foundations of the town and the Council was working closely with OneRen to ensure that the projects progressed through each project phase from construction, to building fit-out, into operational readiness, before delivering test events and public programming. It was anticipated that the programme of work would bring new visitors, cultural performances and activities and life-changing cultural experiences to the town.

The report advised that due to the scale and complexity of the cultural infrastructure programme, a managed programme of phased venue openings would take place to enable each venue to be successfully launched and celebrated. The significant operational demands involved in planning, preparing and implementing each venue opening were highlighted and it was noted that these were being managed to ensure that organisational capacity of both the Council and OneRen was available to appropriately support the associated demands of each venue.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

5 **Visitor marketing update**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to visitor marketing.

The report provided an update on visitor marketing undertaken by the Council and funded through Future Paisley since March 2018 together with an outline of planned marketing activity for 2023/24 and audience development work that would support the forthcoming Tourism Action Plan and the reopening of Paisley's cultural venues. Proposed activity incorporated marketing Renfrewshire as a visitor destination, promoting positive area image through networks, managing strategic partnerships, and managing the Paisley destination brand. It was noted that all activity was co-ordinated through the www.paisley.is visitor portal.

It was proposed that an audit of Art Deco buildings located in Renfrewshire be

undertaken with a view to developing Renfrewshire as a recognised Art Deco destination and that Doors Open Day opportunities would be explored for Art Deco buildings. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

- (a) That an audit of Art Deco buildings located in Renfrewshire be undertaken with a view to developing Renfrewshire as a recognised Art Deco destination;
- (b) That Doors Open Day opportunities be explored for Art Deco buildings; and
- (c) That otherwise the report be noted.

Minute of Meeting Planning and Climate Change Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 14 March 2023	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Adam, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Anne Hannigan, Councillor Bruce MacFarlane, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor Jamie McGuire, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Ben Smith

Chair

Councillor Paterson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development, D Love, Chief Planning Officer, G McCracken, Development Standards Manager, S Marklow, Strategy & Place Manager, K Dalrymple, Development Plans & Housing Strategy Team Leader, A McKenzie, Access Officer, P Moss, Strategy, Policy & Insight Manager, R Smith, Climate Emergency Lead Officer and D Christie, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); and R Graham, Senior Solicitor (Litigation & Regulatory Services), V Howie, Finance Business Partner, D Pole, End User Technician, R Devine and E Gray, both Senior Committee Services Officers and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources).

Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Policy Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Apology

Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Shaw declared an interest in Item 2 – Community Climate Fund; Progress Update - by reason of his attendance at meetings of Kirklandneuk Parent Council, who had submitted a successful application for funding for a project and indicated that he would leave the meeting during consideration of the item.

1 Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources for the period 1 April 2022 to 6 January 2023. The report stated that the projected outturn as at 31 March 2023 for all services reporting to this Policy Board was an underspend position of £0.508 million. It was noted that there were no capital budget projects reporting to this Policy Board. Summaries were provided over the relevant services in the tables within the report, together with further analysis. It was noted that the projected outturn was based on information currently available and assumptions made by service budget holders. It was also highlighted that budget adjustments totalling £0.091 million, mainly relating to pay award inflation, had been processed since consideration of the previous report at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 17 January 2023. Details of the adjustments were outlined within the report.

DECIDED: That the projected Revenue outturn position, detailed in Table1 of the report, and the budget adjustments, detailed in section 4 of the report, be noted.

Sederunt

Having previously declared an interest Councillor Shaw left the meeting prior to consideration of the following items of business.

2 Community Climate Fund – Progress Update

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Policy Board held on 14 June 2022 there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Community Climate Fund.

The report advised that during December 2021, the allocation of £50,000 from the Climate Change Action Fund was approved to progress a pilot Community Climate Fund, which provided awards of up to £3,000 to community organisations to develop localised, green community projects and initiatives tailored to the needs of individual communities. The aims of allocating this funding were to encourage participation and raise awareness of the climate emergency within local communities, with initiatives being designed and delivered by local residents with support from the Council. This Policy Board had approved, at the meeting held on 14 June 2022, the award of £49,132.42 from the Community Climate Fund to support 18 community projects and agreed that progress on these projects be monitored and reported to the Policy Board. The report provided a summary of the progress achieved in terms of the projects together with a spotlight on some of the Community Climate Fund projects in

the form of short case studies.

DECIDED: That the progress achieved in relation to the Community Climate Fund be noted.

Sederunt

Councillor Shaw rejoined the meeting.

3 Planning Applications

There were submitted reports by the Chief Executive relative to the following applications for planning permission that required to be determined by the Board.

3(a) 22/0078/PP: Erection of 10 detached dwellinghouses with associated access, parking and landscaping at Former Carsewood Home, Hillfoot Drive, Howwood, Johnstone by SIM Building Group & A S Homes (Scotland) Ltd

Councillor Paterson, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved that that the application be granted subject to the conditions and reasons detailed within the report.

Following a brief adjournment, Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Gilmour moved as an amendment that the application be refused under Policy I1 of the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan 2021, on the basis that the application did not provide safe connections and was detrimental to pedestrian and traffic safety.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Andy Doig, Gilmour, Hannigan, K MacLaren, McGuire and Smith.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam, N Graham, MacFarlane, McGurk, McNaughtan, Nicolson, Paterson and Shaw.

6 members having voted for the amendment and 8 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: That the application be granted subject to the conditions and reasons detailed within the report.

3(b) 22/0583/PP: Erection of two storey detached dwellinghouse with associated two storey detached outbuilding and landscaping at Site on South Western Boundary of West Cottage, Houston Road, Bishopton by Mr Derek Calder 243 Danes Drive Glasgow G14 8AH

In terms of Standing Order 59 Councillor Paterson, moved that the application be refused for the reasons detailed within the report. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be refused for the reasons detailed within the report.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor McGuire declared an interest in Item 3(c)- Planning Application 22/0837/PP – by reason of his attendance at a Community Council meeting at which there had been discussion in connection with the application and indicated that he would leave the meeting during consideration of the item.

Sederunt

Having declared an interest Councillor McGuire left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

3(c) 22/0837/PP: Formation of HGV layby and extension to car park with associated access, gates, and fencing at Argyll Avenue, Renfrew, PA4 9EB by Renfrewshire Council

In terms of Standing Order 59 Councillor Paterson, moved that the application be granted subject to the conditions and reasons detailed within the report. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted subject to the conditions and reasons detailed within the report.

Minute of Meeting

Appointment Board - Head of Climate, Public Protection and Roads

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 14 March 2023	15:00	Remotely by MS Teams,

Present: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor David McGonigle, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Ben Smith

Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure and R Laouadi, HR Manager (Finance & Resources)

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item 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 paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973.

1 **Head of Climate, Public Protection and Roads**

There were submitted copies of the forms of application for the candidates for the post of Head of Climate, Public Protection and Roads. The Board considered the applications in detail and agreed the short list of candidates who would be invited to attend the assessment centre on 30 and 31 March 2023 and as appropriate to interviews to be held at the meeting of this Board on 18 April 2023.

DECIDED: That the short list of candidates as agreed be invited to attend the assessment centre on 30 and 31 March 2023 and as appropriate to interviews to be held at the meeting of this Board on 18 April 2023.

Minute of Meeting Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 15 March 2023	10:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Adam, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor John Gray, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Iain McMillan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Ben Smith

Chair

Councillor Campbell, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development Services, B Walker, Programme Director (City Deal & Infrastructure), G Crawford, Senior Communications Officer, A Johnston, Principal Estates Surveyor, C Horn, Senior Planning & Policy Development Officer and S Inrig, Programme Manager – Community Asset Transfer & Regeneration (all Chief Executive's); G Hutton, Head of Operations & Infrastructure, K Anderson, Amenity Services Manager - Waste, K Gray, Streetscene Manager, G Hannah, Infrastructure, Transportation & Change Manager, L Rennie, Operations Manager, G Heaney, Assistant Infrastructure & Assets Manager and S Heron, Assistant Transportation & Development Manager (all Environment & Infrastructure); N Drummond, Lead Officer (Environmental Co-ordination) (Communities & Housing); and M Law, Senior Asset & Estates Surveyor, L Dickie, Finance Business Partner, D Pole, End User Technician, E Gray, Senior Committee Services Officer, K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Apology

Councillor Davidson.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 Community Asset Transfer Review Sub-committee

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Sub-committee held on 20 January 2023, a copy of which is appended hereto.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring

There was submitted a joint Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources, Environment & Infrastructure and Communities & Housing Services as at 6 January 2023.

The report stated that the projected revenue outturn as at 31 March 2023 for all services reporting to this Policy Board was an overspend position of £2.402 million against the revised budget for the year, 7.3 percent of the budget. The projected capital outturn as at 31 March 2023 for projects reporting to the Board was a break-even position against the revised budget for the year. Summaries were provided around the relevant services in the tables within the report, together with further analysis.

It was noted that there had been revenue budget adjustments to the value of £0.860 million through a drawdown from reserves for Environment and Place and Memorial Safety. It was also noted that there were capital budget adjustments to the value of £3.215 million arising from £0.248 million of budget increases; £0.070 million of budget brought forward from 2023/24; £3.533 million of budgets reprofiled from 2022/23 to 2023/24 and £0.200 million of 2022/23 budget transfers.

DECIDED:

(a) That the projected Revenue outturn position, as detailed in table 1 of the report, acknowledging that the forecast position was based on best estimates available at the time, be noted;

(b) That the projected Capital outturn position, as detailed in table 2 of the report, be noted; and

(c) That the budget adjustments, detailed in sections 4 and 6 of the report, be noted.

3 **Operational Performance Report**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the operational performance of the service.

The report provided updates since the previous Policy Board meeting in respect of key areas delivered by services within Environment & Infrastructure, which were within the remit of this Policy Board, including fleets; roads and transportation; parks investment; Streetscene; climate change; Team Up to Clean Up and waste recycling services.

Councillor Gilmour, seconded by Councillor Smith moved an amendment which the Convener ruled was not competent in terms of Standing Order 28 – rescinding of decisions – as it was contrary to the decision which had been taken at item 3 of the Minute of the meeting of Council held on 2 March 2023 and there had been no material change in circumstances justifying the matter being reconsidered.

DECIDED: That the operational performance update detailed in the report be approved.

4 **Renfrewshire Allotments Annual Report 2022**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Renfrewshire Allotments Annual Report 2022. The annual report was set out in full at Appendix 1 to the report.

The report set out the Council's statutory duty to provide allotments under the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (Part 9) along with a number of associated duties, including the requirement for the publication of an annual allotments report. It was noted that there were 351 individual growing plots and a waiting list of 123 people as of December 2022. The number of people on a waiting list had risen by three since the end of 2021 but the ratio between waiting list and plot numbers remained below the statutory requirement of 50 percent.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Renfrewshire Annual Allotments Report 2022 be approved; and

(b) That it be noted that the Renfrewshire Annual Allotments Report 2022 would be published on the Renfrewshire Council website in accordance with statutory requirements.

5 **The Renfrewshire Council (Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District Scotland, South) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023**

Under reference to item 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 31 August 2022, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to land required to implement the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District Scotland, South project. A detailed list of owners and reputed owners of the associated sites was set out at Appendix 1 to the report together with site plans at Appendix 2.

The report provided a background to the projects and detailed a number of areas of land where the Council required to acquire the titles for the duration of the construction phase, an expected period of 18 to 24 months, in order to successfully deliver the project. It was intended that, where negotiations had faltered, that Compulsory Purchase Orders be served, as agreed in principle at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 31 August 2022. The report noted that discussions would continue with affected owners throughout the process and that compensation would be negotiated with each owner in accordance with Compulsory Purchase Order legislation.

DECIDED:

(a) That the use of Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO) to acquire the titles and interests in the land (including leases and/or licences for periods in excess of 12 months and for the duration of the construction contract) shown on Plans CPO Location Plan, Maps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, as set out in an appendix to the report, be approved;

(b) That it be noted that discussions would continue with all affected owners concurrently with the publication of the CPOs and compensation would be negotiated with each owner as appropriate and in accordance with CPO legislation; and

(c) That it be noted that minor modifications to the areas of land to be acquired could be necessary if there were changes in ownership and/or voluntary acquisitions or otherwise.

6 **Lease renewal of Telecommunications Installations**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the proposed extension of the leases for the telecommunications masts at Maxwellton Court and Glencairn Court, Paisley and Provost Close, Johnstone by the current lease holder EE. The sites were identified in plans which were appended to the report.

The report intimated that the current lease holder had been a tenant for over 20 years and that the leases were currently operating on a year-to-year basis at a rate of £8,750 per year at Glencairn Court and £8,742.21 per year at Maxwellton Court and Provost Close plus VAT, service charges and insurance costs.

The sought extension was for a period of 10 years from a date to be agreed by both parties at a rate of £5,500 in year 1, £5,000 in year 2, £4,500 in year 3 and £4,000 in years 4-10 plus VAT, service charges and insurance costs. The proposed terms and conditions were detailed in full within the report.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised in conjunction with the Head of Economy & Development to conclude a new lease of the telecommunications masts at Maxwellton Court and Glencairn Court, Paisley and Provost Close, Johnstone on the basis of the terms and conditions detailed in the report.

7 **Shop at 36/40 Foxbar Road, Paisley**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to a proposed new lease for a shop at 36/40 Foxbar Road, Paisley. The site was identified in a plan which was appended to the report.

The report set out that Martin McColl Limited became a tenant of the unit in May 2016 for a period of 10 years with an annual rent of £18,200. Following the lease holder entering administration in May 2022 their interests were sold to Morrisons Plc. It was noted that the property had been refurbished and was trading as Morrisons Daily. The report sought to formalise the occupation through the granting of a new lease.

The sought lease was for a period of 10 years from a date to be agreed by both parties at a rate of £18,200 per year plus VAT, service charge and insurance costs. The proposed terms and conditions were detailed in full within the report.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to conclude a new lease of the shop property at 36/40 Foxbar Road, Paisley on the basis of the terms and conditions detailed in the report.

8 **Shop at 28/30 Skye Crescent, Paisley**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to a proposed new lease for a shop at 28/30 Skye Crescent, Paisley. The site was identified in a plan which was appended to the report.

The report set out that Mrs Rozena Ali became a tenant of the unit in December 2016 and that the lease was currently operating on a year-to-year basis with an annual rent of £11,400. The lease holder wished to transfer the lease to Mr Usman Asghar with a longer term to afford more security to the tenure.

The sought lease was for a period of 10 years from a date to be agreed by both parties at a rate of £11,500 per year, reviewable after five years, plus VAT, service charge and insurance costs. The proposed terms and conditions were detailed in full within the report.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to conclude a new lease of the shop property at 28/30 Skye Crescent, Paisley on the basis of the terms and conditions detailed in the report.

9 **Disposal of Land adjacent to 5 Barwood Drive, Erskine**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the proposed disposal of land adjacent to 5 Barwood Drive, Erskine. The site was identified in a plan attached as an appendix to the report.

The report referenced a 106sqm piece of land, held on the General Services account, which the owner of a neighbouring property had expressed an interest in obtaining to provide additional garden space. A price for the proposed sale had been agreed with the interested party and the Head of Economy & Development using delegated powers, subject to the land being declared surplus.

The report set out that confirmation had been received from the Council's Environment and Infrastructure, Planning and Legal services that the land had no operational or legal requirement. It was noted that, should the land be declared surplus, the Chief Planning Officer would place an advert in the local press in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1959 for the proposed sale of an area of open space.

DECIDED:

(a) That the area of land located adjacent to 5 Barwood Drive, Erskine, as detailed on in the plan at Appendix 1 to the report, be declared surplus to requirements, with a view to disposing to the adjoining owner;

(b) That the sale thereof to the adjoining owner of 5 Barwood Drive, Erskine, on such terms and conditions as may be negotiated by the Head of Economy & Development utilising delegated powers, be authorised;

(c) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to conclude the sale, incorporating into the bargain such terms and conditions as may be deemed necessary to protect the Council's interest; and

(d) That it be noted that the Chief Planning Officer would place an advert in the local press, in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1959, for the proposed sale of an area of open space.

10 Disposal of Land adjacent to 7 Barwood Drive, Erskine

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the proposed disposal of land adjacent to 7 Barwood Drive, Erskine. The site was identified in a plan attached as an appendix to the report.

The report referenced an 89sqm piece of land, held on the General Services account, which the owner of a neighbouring property had expressed an interest in obtaining to provide additional garden space. A price for the proposed sale had been agreed with the interested party and the Head of Economy & Development using delegated powers, subject to the land being declared surplus.

The report set out that confirmation had been received from the Council's Environment and Infrastructure, Planning and Legal services that the land had no operational or legal requirement. It was noted that, should the land be declared surplus, the Chief Planning Officer would place an advert in the local press in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1959 for the proposed sale of an area of open space.

DECIDED:

(a) That the area of land located adjacent to 7 Barwood Drive, Erskine, as detailed on in the plan at Appendix 1 to the report, be declared surplus to requirements, with a view to disposing to the adjoining owner;

(b) That the sale thereof to the adjoining owner of 7 Barwood Drive, Erskine, on such terms and conditions as may be negotiated by the Head of Economy & Development utilising delegated powers, be authorised;

(c) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to conclude the sale, incorporating into the bargain such terms and conditions as may be deemed necessary to protect the Council's interest; and

(d) That it be noted that the Chief Planning Officer would place an advert in the local press, in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1959, for the proposed sale of an area of open space.

11 **Land at Broomlands Street, Paisley**

Under reference to item 13a of the Minute of the meeting of this Policy Board held on 8 November 2017, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the proposed disposal of land at Broomlands Street, Paisley. The site was identified in a plan attached as an appendix to the report.

The report provided a background to the land which was declared surplus to requirements at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 8 November 2017 with a view to disposing of it to Nixon Blue Limited, subject to them acquiring the adjacent Ogilvie Club site. The Ogilvie Club actually sold their land to J & A Developments Limited who planned to build 40 flats on the site. J & A Developments Limited were seeking to purchase the land to allow approximately an additional 20 flats to be built.

The proposed purchase price was £250,000 subject to planning permission being obtained for the construction of 60 flats. The purchase price would be adjusted on a pro-rata basis should plans for more or less than 60 flats be granted at a rate of £12,500 per flat. The proposed terms and conditions of the sale were detailed in full in the report.

DECIDED: That the Head of Economy & Development and the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to conclude the disposal of land at Broomlands Street, Paisley shown shaded and hatched on the attached plan, to J & A Developments Limited, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the report.

Minute of Meeting Community Asset Transfer Review Sub-Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 20 January 2023	10:00	Microsoft Teams Meeting,

Present: Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor John McNaughtan

Chair

Councillor Campbell, Convener presided.

In Attendance

A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development Services, S Inrig, Assistant Manager (Employability), T Morlan, Social Enterprise Officer, and E Shearer, Economic Regeneration Officer, (all Chief Executive's); G McNeil, Director (Environment & Infrastructure); G Hunter, Chief Economic & Regeneration Officer (Communities & Housing); N Young, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Litigation & Advice), E Currie and E Gray, both Senior Committee Services Officers, J Barron, Assistant Committee Services Officer, and D Pole and J Whitehead, both End User Technicians.

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Sub-committee would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 **Review Request by Kelburne Hockey & Community Sports Club Re: Ralston Community Sports Centre**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) review request which had been submitted by Kelburne Hockey and Community Sports Club (KHCS) in relation to their transfer request for Ralston Community Sports Centre (RCSC).

The report provided a background to the review request, detailing that a CAT request had been submitted by KHCS for the transfer of RCSC and had subsequently been rejected by the Council's Community Asset Transfer Panel as set out in a decision notice dated 30 August 2022. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 prescribed that an applicant whose transfer request was rejected was entitled to request a review of the decision. KHCS submitted a review request on 29 September 2022 which had to be determined by 28 March 2023. Members were provided with a copy of the procedure to be followed when considering a CAT review request, a note of general legal advice and a pack containing the original application and review documentation.

The Head of Economy & Development Services highlighted an error in Property/Asset Implications section of the cover report which stated that, should the CAT request be approved, RCSC would be transferred out of Council ownership. The transfer request sought a 50-year lease with the centre remaining in Council ownership. It was also noted that in the minute of the Community Asset Panel meeting on 2 August 2022 it was stated that the RCSC building was a Category C listed building. The building was actually a Category A listed building.

The Sub-committee members considered whether there was sufficient information available to determine the review without a requirement for further proceedings. Following discussion, Councillor Campbell, seconded by Cllr McNaughton moved:

(a) That consideration of the CAT review request be continued to a future meeting to allow for further information to be provided by way of written submissions;

(b) That correspondence be sent to KHCS requesting that written submissions be made to provide further information, providing evidence and working wherever possible, around:

(i) How Kelburne Hockey & Community Sports Club met the criteria to be considered a Community Transfer Body as set out by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015;

(ii) The basis upon which they believed the lease of the property at the minimal £1 rate was viable to the Council across a 50-year period;

- (iii) Detail on how the club would ensure that there was enough funding to address any unforeseen financial costs including information around the potential requirement for maintenance work of the Category A listed building;
 - (iv) The anticipated footfall associated with the immediate relocation of hockey games and training to RCSC, the days and times when this would occur, the impact on the local community and the steps which would be taken to mitigate any impact;
 - (v) The opportunities which would be provided to small businesses and social enterprise;
 - (vi) The community engagement which took place including which groups were met with, when and how often these meetings took place and any notes which were taken at these meetings;
 - (vii) Any consultations which took place, including but not limited to those relating to lighting, noise pollution and drainage, prior to submitting the application, detailing who was consulted with, the nature of the consultation, dates, the questions asked and the control measures which were in place;
 - (viii) Discussions with the Council and Renfrewshire Leisure (now OneRen) around replacing an established hockey pitch with a football pitch to ensure the number of available pitches would not be reduced and consultation with current users of RCSC in this connection;
 - (ix) Meetings with the Council Leader and the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy of Scotland and any financial working which came out of these meetings;
 - (x) An update on the funding sources which were listed as 'under discussion' or 'identified' and how the updated position would impact the business plan;
 - (xi) The availability of grass pitches and the booking system used for these;
 - (xii) How the figures in the revenue forecast were determined and detail of financial contingency planning;
 - (xiii) Any work carried out to assess the impact of extending the site footprint in terms of parking and vehicle access;
 - (xiv) Measures which would be put in place to ensure the longevity of RCSC; and
 - (xv) Management of drainage issues, particularly with regard to the use of a water-based pitch;
- (c) That correspondence be sent to OneRen requesting that written submissions be made to provide information around:
- (i) Any funding applications which had been made in relation to Ralston and any other funding sources which One Ren were eligible to apply for;
 - (ii) Forecast costs associated with the centre including the cost of relaying the synthetic turf and maintaining the A-listed building; and

(iii) An up-to-date summary of the number of service users at Ralston along with a forecast of user numbers; and

(d) That correspondence be sent to Paisley East and Whitehaugh Community Council and Ralston Community Council requesting that written submissions be made outlining any engagement which was carried out by KHCS in relation to their transfer request.

This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

(a) That consideration of the CAT review request be continued to a future meeting to allow for further information to be provided by way of written submissions;

(b) That correspondence be sent to KHCS requesting that written submissions be made to provide further information, providing evidence and working wherever possible, around:

(i) How Kelburne Hockey & Community Sports Club met the criteria to be considered a Community Transfer Body as set out by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015;

(ii) The basis upon which they believed the lease of the property at the minimal £1 rate was viable to the Council across a 50-year period;

(iii) Detail on how the club would ensure that there was enough funding to address any unforeseen financial costs including information around the potential requirement for maintenance work of the Category A listed building;

(iv) The anticipated footfall associated with the immediate relocation of hockey games and training to RCSC, the days and times when this would occur, the impact on the local community and the steps which would be taken to mitigate any impact;

(v) The opportunities which would be provided to small businesses and social enterprise;

(vi) The community engagement which took place including which groups were met with, when and how often these meetings took place and any notes which were taken at these meetings;

(vii) Any consultations which took place, including but not limited to those relating to lighting, noise pollution and drainage, prior to submitting the application, detailing who was consulted with, the nature of the consultation, dates, the questions asked and the control measures which were in place;

(viii) Discussions with the Council and Renfrewshire Leisure (now OneRen) around replacing an established hockey pitch with a football pitch to ensure the number of available pitches would not be reduced and consultation with current users of RCSC in this connection;

(ix) Meetings with the Council Leader and the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy of Scotland and any financial working which came out of these meetings;

- (x) An update on the funding sources which were listed as 'under discussion' or 'identified' and how the updated position would impact the business plan;
 - (xi) The availability of grass pitches and the booking system used for these;
 - (xii) How the figures in the revenue forecast were determined and detail of financial contingency planning;
 - (xiii) Any work carried out to assess the impact of extending the site footprint in terms of parking and vehicle access;
 - (xiv) Measures which would be put in place to ensure the longevity of RCSC; and
 - (xv) Management of drainage issues, particularly with regard to the use of a water-based pitch;
- (c) That correspondence be sent to OneRen requesting that written submissions be made to provide information around:
- (i) Any funding applications which had been made in relation to and any other funding sources which One Ren were eligible to apply for;
 - (ii) Forecast costs associated with the centre including the cost of relaying the synthetic turf and maintaining the A-listed building; and
 - (iii) An up-to-date summary of the number of service users at Ralston along with a forecast of user numbers; and
- (d) That correspondence be sent to Paisley East and Whitehaugh Community Council and Ralston Community Council requesting that written submissions be made outlining any engagement which was carried out by KHCS in relation to their transfer request.

Minute of Meeting Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 23 March 2023	10:00	Remotely by MS Teams,

Present: Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Sam Mullin

Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing), E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer, D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer, A Easdon, Team Leader (Licensing), R McCallum, Administrative Assistant and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources).

Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Convener intimated that this meeting would be recorded for subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Apologies

Councillors N Graham, Hughes, McDonald, Montgomery, Rodden and Steel.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Order of Business

In terms of Standing Order 16, the Convener intimated that he proposed to alter the order of business to facilitate the conduct of the meeting by considering items 6(c), (d) and (e) prior to item 6(b) of the agenda.

1 Renewal of Late Hours Catering Licences

There were submitted the undernoted applications for renewal of Late Hours Catering Licences:-

(a) Applicant: Motor Fuel Limited
Premises: Elderslie Service Station, Main Road, Elderslie
Activity: petrol station and retail shop
Operating hours: Monday to Sunday - 11.00 pm to 5.00 am
Licence No.: LHC115

The Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years and that the applicant continue to be an exception to the Board's policy on trading hours. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years and that the applicant continue to be an exception to the Board's policy on trading hours.

(b) Applicant: Motor Fuel Limited
Premises: BP Service Station, 10 Greenock Road, Paisley
Activity: petrol station and convenience shop
Operating hours: Monday to Sunday - 11.00 pm to 5.00 am
Licence No.: LHC121

The Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years and that the applicant continue to be an exception to the Board's policy on trading hours. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years and that the applicant continue to be an exception to the Board's policy on trading hours.

2 Grant of Private Hire Car Operator's Licence - Personal Appearance

There was submitted the undernoted application for grant of a Private Hire Car Operator's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

Sandip Singh

The Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) advised that Mr Singh had withdrawn his application.

DECIDED: That it be noted that the application had been withdrawn.

3 **Renewal of Private Hire Car Operator's Licence - Personal Appearance**

There was submitted the undernoted application for renewal of a Private Hire Car Operator's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

Applicant: Baiju Paul
Licence No.: PH1082

Mr Paul, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved that the press and public be excluded 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 would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part I of schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

4 **Grant of Window Cleaner's Licence - Personal Appearance**

There was submitted the undernoted application for grant of a Window Cleaner's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

Eliasz Burkiet

Mr Burkiet, the applicant, and his wife joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

5 **Grant of Private Hire Car Driver's Licence - Personal Appearance**

There was submitted the undernoted application for grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

Aman Singh

Mr Singh, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of one year.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 10.30 am and reconvened at 10.50 am.

6 Renewal of Private Hire Car Drivers' Licences - Personal Appearances

There were submitted the undernoted applications for renewal of Private Hire Car Drivers' Licences. The applicants had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland who had submitted objections to applications (a) and (e) and representations to applications (b), (c), (d) and (f):-

(a) Applicant: Muhammed Shahid Rafique
Licence No.: P5032

Mr Rafique, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call together with Sergeant Moore-McGrath, who also joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted an objection to the application. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the application. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years.

(b) Applicant: David Clark
Licence No.: P0675

Mr Clark, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call together with Sergeant Moore-McGrath, who joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years.

(c) Applicant: John Gaughan
Licence No.: P3223

Mr Gaughan, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call together with Sergeant Moore-McGrath, who also joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years.

(d) Applicant: Kevin Kerr
Licence No.: P0495

Mr Kerr, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call together with Sergeant Moore-McGrath, who joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years.

(e) Applicant: Obaidullah Asadi
Licence No.: P0147

Mr Asadi, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call together with Sergeant Moore-McGrath, who also joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted an objection to the application. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the application. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the application be refused. This was agreed unanimously. Mr Asadi was not in attendance when the meeting reconvened.

DECIDED: That the application be refused.

(f) Applicant: Sakil Khan
Licence No.: P0254

Mr Khan, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call together with Sergeant Moore-McGrath, who joined the meeting by video call, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application. After consideration of matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider matters. The meeting was reconvened.

Following consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the application. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years.

7 **Temporary Grant of Taxi Operator's Licence**

There was submitted the undernoted application for the temporary grant of a Taxi Operator's Licence:-

Graeme Anderson

The Convener proposed that the application be granted and that Mr Anderson be exempt from operating a wheelchair accessible vehicle. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted and that Mr Anderson be exempt from operating a wheelchair accessible vehicle.

Minute of Special Meeting Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 23 March 2023	14:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Sam Mullin, Councillor Andy Steel

Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

M Salisbury, Environmental Health Compliance Officer and N Scott, Regulatory Assistant (both Communities & Housing Services); and D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing), R Graham, Senior Solicitor (Litigation & Advice), E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer, D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer, A Easdon, Team Leader (Licensing), E Graham and K Marriott, both Administrative Assistants and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources).

Apologies

Councillors N Graham, Hughes, Montgomery and Rodden.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item 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 would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part I of schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

1 Application for Landlord Registration - Personal Appearance

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the special meeting of this Board held on 15 September 2022, consideration was resumed of the undernoted application for Landlord Registration. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the second time together with the Director of Communities & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council:-

Applicant: Ian Tennie
Registration No.: 54243/350/29190

Mr Tennie, the applicant, and Mr Jeffrey, Council of Letting Agents, were invited into the meeting together with Mr Hunter and Ms McEwan, on behalf of the Director of Communities & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council.

After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider this application. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the application be refused. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be refused.

Minute of Meeting Local Review Body.

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 28 March 2023	14:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor Anne Hannigan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson

Chair

Councillor Paterson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

K Dalrymple, Development Plans & Housing Strategy Team Leader (Independent Planning Adviser to the Local Review Body); R Graham, Senior Solicitor (Litigation & Regulatory Services) (Independent Legal Adviser to the Local Review Body), E Gray, Senior Committee Services Officer (Clerk to the Local Review Body) and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources).

Apology

Councillor Bruce McFarlane.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 Procedure Note

The Convener summarised the procedure to be followed at the meeting of the Local Review Body (LRB), a copy of which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

2 LRB06.22

Consideration was given to a Notice of Review in respect of the Planning Authority's decision to attach conditions to the granting of planning permission for the formation of extension to watersports storage compound with associated boundary fence, access and road at Ground A, Lochlip Road, Lochwinnoch. (22/0414/PP).

The following materials were before members in relation to the Notice of Review:

(i) the Planning Authority's Submissions which included the report of handling, accompanying documents and decision notice; and

(ii) the Notice of Review, together with supporting statement and productions submitted by the applicant.

The Convener confirmed that the LRB required to decide whether it had sufficient information before it to make a decision on this matter or whether further procedure was required to allow the LRB to determine Planning Application 22/0414/PP.

Councillor Paterson, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved that:

"Following the adoption of National Planning Framework 4 on 13th February 2023 the LRB invites the planning authority to provide a written statement which sets out an assessment of the proposal in relation to relevant policies in NPF4.

The planning authority is being asked to provide this information, in the first instance, by Tuesday 4th April.

The appellant will be notified once the response has been received from the planning authority. Thereafter, they will then be given a further 14 days, from receipt of our notification, to make any comments on the response from the planning authority."

This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

(a) That consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting of the Local Review Body to allow for further information to be provided by way of written submissions;

(b) That a request be made to the Planning Authority for a written statement setting out an assessment of the proposal in relation to relevant policies contained in National Planning Framework 4 to be submitted by 4 April 2023; and

(c) That, following receipt of the Planning Authorities written statement, the appellant be afforded a further 14 days to provide comment on the response from the planning authority.

3 **LRB01.23**

Consideration was given to a Notice of Review in respect of the Planning Authority's decision to refuse planning permission for the erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle) 50 metres east of St Brydes Cottage, Shields Holdings, Lochwinnoch. (22/0399/PP).

The following materials were before members in relation to the Notice of Review:

(i) the Planning Authority's Submissions which included the report of handling, accompanying documents, including flood risk assessment, ecological constraints survey and aerial tree survey reports and decision notice; and

(ii) the Notice of Review, together with supporting statement and productions submitted by the applicant.

The Convener confirmed that the LRB required to decide whether it had sufficient information before it to make a decision on this matter or whether further procedure was required to allow the LRB to determine Planning Application 22/0399/PP.

Councillor Paterson, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved that:

"Following the adoption of National Planning Framework 4 on 13th February 2023 the LRB invites the planning authority to provide a written statement which sets out an assessment of the proposal in relation to relevant policies in NPF4.

The planning authority is being asked to provide this information, in the first instance, by Tuesday 4th April.

The appellant will be notified once the response has been received from the planning authority. Thereafter, they will then be given a further 14 days, from receipt of our notification, to make any comments on the response from the planning authority."

This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

(a) That consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting of the Local Review Body to allow for further information to be provided by way of written submissions;

(b) That a request be made to the Planning Authority for a written statement setting out an assessment of the proposal in relation to relevant policies contained in National Planning Framework 4 to be submitted by 4 April 2023; and

(c) That, following receipt of the Planning Authorities written statement, the appellant be afforded a further 14 days to provide comment on the response from the planning authority.

Minute of Meeting

Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 30 March 2023	10:00	Teams - virtual meeting,

Present: Councillor Fiona Airlie-Nicolson, Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Graeme Clark, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Bruce MacFarlane, Councillor David McGonigle, Councillor Sam Mullin, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor John Shaw

Chair

Councillor Shaw, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

A MacArthur, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, B Lambert, Corporate Procurement Manager, B Bradley, Senior Procurement Specialist (Housing), D Christie, Senior Communications Officer, L Gillan, Strategic Commercial Category Manager, C Henderson, Senior Planning & Policy Development Officer, A Donaldson, Strategic Commercial Category Manager, S Gibb, Procurement Operations Manager and R Park, Category Manager, (all Chief Executives); C Dalrymple, Head of Facilities & Property Services and G Hutton, Head of Operations & Infrastructure (both Environment & Infrastructure); C McCourt, Head of Finance & Business Services, M Conaghan, Head of Corporate Governance, P Murray, Head of ICT, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, E Shields, Business Services Manager, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, D Pole, End User Technician, E Gray and P Shiach, both Senior Committee Services Officers and J Barron and D Cunningham, both Assistant Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources); and K Hampsey, Strategic Business Development Manager (Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership).

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Policy Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Apology

Councillor Gilmour.

Transparency Statements

Councillor Clark indicated that he had a connection with item 3, Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Council Overview Report. He indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare.

Councillor Mullin indicated that he had a connection with item 8, Harmonisation of Pay, Grading and Terms of Conditions of Employment for “Building Services Craft Employees” to “Local Government Provisions”. He indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare.

1 **Joint Consultative Board (Non-Teaching)**

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Joint Consultative Board (Non-teaching) held on 15 March 2023, a copy of which forms Appendix I hereto.

DECIDED: That the Minute be noted.

2 **Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report**

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to Revenue and Capital budget expenditure up to 6 January 2023 for those services reporting to this Board. Tables 1 and 2 of the report detailed the projected revenue and capital outturn positions. As at 31 March 2023 there was an overspend of £1.473 million (1.5%) against the revised budget for the year, and the Capital budget was projected to break even.

Appendices to the report provided detailed analysis of expenditure and budget adjustments were listed at paragraphs 4 and 6 of the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the projected revenue outturn position detailed in Table 1 of the report be noted;

(b) That the projected capital outturn position as detailed in Table 2 of the report be noted; and

(c) That the budget adjustments detailed in sections 4 and 6 of the report be noted.

3 **Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Overview Report**

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to an overview of Revenue and Capital Budget expenditure for the Council as at 6 January 2023. Tables 1 and 2 of the report detailed that the projected revenue and capital outturn positions for all services as at 31 March 2023 was an overspend of £7.528 million, and the projected capital outturn position for all services was an underspend of £0.100 million, split between General Fund services and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

Further analysis was detailed in the Appendices to the report and substantial risks to the budget positions were provided at paragraph 3 of the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the projected revenue outturn position detailed in Table 1 of the report be noted, considering that the forecast position was based on best estimates at that point in time;

(b) That the substantial risks to the budget position as outlined in section 3 of the report be noted; and

(c) That the projected capital outturn position detailed in Table 2 of the report be noted.

4 **Facilities Management Operational Performance Report**

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the operational performance of Facilities Management (Hard and Soft Services), including Building Services as delivered by Environment & Infrastructure since the last meeting of this Policy Board.

DECIDED: That the operational performance update be noted.

5 **Customer Services Performance Report**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to performance across key Customer Services functions including Call Centre, Face-to-Face and Digital Support for customers for February 2023.

The report provided an update on the overall contact centre call handling volumes and indicated that Face-to-Face services had returned in Renfrewshire House, with these being managed on an appointment basis.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

6 **Business Services Performance Report**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the performance of key Business Service functions including revenue collection and benefit administration for the period ending 28 February 2023.

The report provided an update on the funding and expenditure position for Discretionary Housing Payments and the Scottish Welfare Fund. Appendices to the report provided information on revenue collection and key performance indicators.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

7 **Civic Hospitality**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to consideration of requests received by the Provost for civic hospitality for financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24 from organisations for specific events as detailed within the report.

The report proposed the type and cost of civic hospitality to be provided in respect of each civic event and sought authorisation for the Director of Finance & Resources, in consultation with the Provost, to make the necessary arrangements to provide civic hospitality, or in the case of events that had already been arranged, to homologate the action taken by the Head of Corporate Governance, in consultation with the Provost, to provide civic hospitality.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Director of Finance & Resources, in consultation with the Provost, be authorised to make the necessary arrangements for civic hospitality at the approximate costs indicated below:

1st/3rd Renfrew Boys Brigade Company - £1,000

Paisley Magic Circle - £1,200

Renfrewshire Armed Forces Day events - £2,000; and

(b) That the action taken by the Head of Corporate Governance in terms of his delegated authority in respect of the contribution of £200 towards associated costs of the Scottish Provost's Association.

8 **Harmonisation of Pay, Grading and Terms and Conditions of Employment for "Building Services Craft Employees" to "Local Government Provisions"**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to agreement on the harmonisation of pay, grading and terms and conditions of employment for approximately 200 Building Services' Craft employees, including apprentices, in line with the current local government provisions.

Details of the trades involved were provided in the report.

The report advised that following a period of negotiation between the Council and trade unions last year, and with mediation support from the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS), a final proposal, accompanied with an equality impact assessment, had been balloted on and accepted during October 2022. Since then, Council officers had been working through an implementation plan to see the completion of this harmonisation project by the end of March 2023.

DECIDED:

(a) That the agreement reached be noted; and

(b) That the harmonisation of pay, grading and terms and conditions of employment for Building Services Craft Employees to Local Government Provisions be approved.

9 **Pensions Discretion Policy**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to Renfrewshire Council Pension Discretions Policy which did not enable the offer of shared Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVC) for employees, which, if enabled, could result in benefits to both Renfrewshire Council colleagues and the Council in terms of financial savings. The report detailed the benefits of a shared AVC to both the employee and the employer.

The report advised that several organisations could provide this service and it was proposed to work with the Council's procurement service to identify the best partner to support the Council. To enable this, a change was required to the Renfrewshire Council Local Government Pension Scheme Discretions Policy specifically in section R17. A copy of Renfrewshire Council Policy LGPS 2017 was appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the revised Pension Discretion Policy be approved.

10 **Postal Services - Hybrid Mail**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a Contract for Postal Services – Hybrid Mail to Critiqom Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award the contract for Postal Services - Hybrid Mail which was a direct award call-off contract made under the Scottish Procurement Framework Agreement for National Postal Services Framework (SP-19-035) – Lot 2 – Hybrid, Scheduled Bulk/Planned (Print & Post) and Digital Mail Services to Critiqom Limited, subject to the Framework call-off procedures;

(b) That it be noted that the initial period of the contract was two years with the Council's option to extend the contract for one year on two separate occasions, it being anticipated the contract commencement date would be 14 April 2023, however the actual commencement date would be confirmed in the Council's letter of acceptance and the contract would be awarded in accordance with the Buyer's Guide and call-off procedures issued by Scottish Procurement; and

(c) That it be noted that the contract would be up to a value of £480,000 excluding VAT for the first two years of the contract and up to a total value of £960,000 excluding VAT, where both extension periods were utilised.

11 **License, Support and Maintenance of NEC Document Management (info@work) (RC-CPU-22-279)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to homologation of the decision of the Director of Finance & Resources to award a negotiated contract on 7 March 2023 for the License, Support and Maintenance of NEC Document Management (info@work) to NEC Software Solutions UK Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the decision taken by the Director of Finance & Resources to award a contract for the License, Support and Maintenance of NEC Document (info@work) to NEC Software Solutions UK Limited be homologated;

(b) That it be noted that the contract value would be up to £206,508.19 excluding VAT; and

(c) That it be noted that the contract would commence on 1 April 2023 and would expire on 31 March 2026.

12 **Contract Award: Vehicle Fleet Tracking System**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a services contract for the Provision of a Vehicle Fleet Tracking System (reference RC-CPU-20-427) to UK Telematics Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the Vehicle Fleet Tracking System to UK Telematics Limited;

(b) That it be noted that the contract had a call-off initial period of three years from the call-off start date and an optional extension period for up to two additional one-year periods. The anticipated starting date was 17 April 2023 with a period of transfer of any new system which would not exceed 30 May 2023;

(c) That the contract be authorised to remain in force for up to five years or until the cumulative value of business under the contract reached £400,000 (excluding VAT); and

(d) That it be noted that the award of the contract was subject to the completion of the Crown Commercial Services Telematics Hardware and Software Solutions Order Form as indicated within the tender documentation.

13 Contract Award: Supply and Delivery of three Refuse Collection Vehicles

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a contract for the Supply and Delivery of three Refuse Collection Vehicles, contract reference RC-CPU-22-289 to Faun Zoeller (UK) Limited as part of the Council's Vehicle Replacement Programme for 2023/2024.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a Contract for the Supply and Delivery of three Refuse Collection Vehicles to Faun Zoeller (UK) Limited following a mini competition under Lot 10 of the Scotland Excel Framework Agreement for the Supply & Delivery of Heavy and Municipal Vehicles (ref: 03/21);

(b) That the total contract value of £601,509 excluding VAT be authorised; and

(c) That it be noted that Faun Zoeller (UK) Limited had confirmed delivery would be made for all three vehicles in the week commencing 16 October 2023. Delivery of the three vehicles would be made to Fleet Services, Underwood Road, Paisley.

14 Contract Award: Processing & Recycling of Mixed Paper and Card (RC-CPU-22-259)

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a Services Contract for Processing & Recycling of Mixed Paper and Card (contract reference RC- CPU-22-259) to WRC Recycling Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for Processing & Recycling of Mixed Paper and Card (RC-CPU-22-259) to WRC Recycling Limited;

(b) That it be noted the contract was for the period 1 May 2023 until 30 April 2024 with the Council having the sole right to extend this contract for up to one year until 30 April 2025. In the event the contract did not commence on 1 May 2023 the period of contract should run from the actual date of commencement as stated within the letter of acceptance;

(c) That it be noted that under the contract the Council would have the option to exercise a break clause and terminate the Contract every six months without penalty or compensation payable to the Service Provider where the Council identifies their proposed contract rate did not represent best value and did not match the emerging market conditions associated with mixed paper, card and cardboard; and

(d) That the total contract value of up to £900,000.00 excluding VAT be authorised.

15 **Contract Award: Watercourse Maintenance – RC-CPU-21-239**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a Works Contract for Watercourse Maintenance (reference RC-CPU-21-239) to John McGeady Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for Watercourse Maintenance (RC-CPU-21-239) to John McGeady Limited;

(b) That a maximum contract value of up to £800,000 excluding VAT be authorised, with the anticipated annual value of the contract being assessed as £200,000 excluding VAT and;

(c) That it be noted that the initial service period was 24 months, with the Council having the option to extend the service period for an additional 12-month period on two separate occasions, subject to contractor contract performance. The anticipated starting date was 1 May 2023. The actual starting date would be confirmed in the Council's letter of acceptance to John McGeady Limited.

16 **Design and Build for Plymuir Bridge Replacement Scheme (RC-CPU-18-415)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a contract for the Design and Build for Plymuir Bridge Replacement Scheme to Amalgamated Construction Ltd t/a AmcoGiffen.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award the contract for the Design and Build for Plymuir Bridge Replacement Scheme to Amalgamated Construction Ltd t/a AmcoGiffen;

(b) That it be noted that the intended starting date was 9 May 2023 with the completion date being six months from the starting date. The actual starting date would be confirmed in the Council's Letter of Acceptance; and

(c) That it be noted that the contract value was £468,242.03 excluding VAT. The cost of the contract would be met from Capital – General Services funds.

17 **Contract Award: Provision of a Care at Home Scheduling System**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of contract for the provision of a Care at Home Scheduling System (RC-CPU-22-285) to TotalMobile Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a call-off contract for the provision of a Care at Home Scheduling System (RC-CPU-22-285) to TotalMobile Limited in accordance with the award procedure under Crown Commercial Services G-Cloud 13 Framework Agreement RM1557.13;

(b) That a maximum call-off contract value of up to £1,447,056 excluding VAT (an annual contract value of £361,764 excluding VAT) be authorised; and

(c) That it be noted that the call-off term was three years with the Council having the option to extend the service (Extension Period) for up to 12 months. The proposed call-off start date was 29 April 2023, the actual date would be formally confirmed in the Crown Commercial Services G-Cloud 13 Framework Agreement RM1557.13 Order Form.

18 **Provision of a Registered Housing Support Service within Very Sheltered Housing Units (RC-CPU-22-049)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to the award of a contract for the provision of a Registered Housing Support Service within Very Sheltered Housing Units.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a Contract for provision of a Registered Housing Support Service within Very Sheltered Housing Units to Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association Limited;

(b) That it be noted that the contract period would be three years with no extensions, the anticipated commencement date was 1 May 2023 with the exact date being confirmed in the Council's letter of acceptance; and

(c) That it be noted that the award of the contract would be for a maximum value of £975,913 (£325,304 per annum).

19 **Contract Award: High Level Gutter Cleaning to 3 Storey Blocks and Above (RC-CPU-21-319)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the award of a services contract for High Level Gutter Cleaning to three Storey Blocks and Above (RC-CPU-21-319) to Caledonian Maintenance Services Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for High Level Gutter Cleaning to Three Storey Blocks and Above (RC-CPU-21-319) to Caledonian Maintenance Services Limited;

(b) That the maximum contract value of up to £800,000.00 excluding VAT be authorised; and

(c) That the contract Period of 24 months with the Council having the option to extend for up to 12 months on two separate occasions subject to the Service Provider's satisfactory operation and performance be authorised, it being noted that the Service Provider would begin performing the Service on the date stated in the letter of acceptance and would complete it by the expiry date.

20 **Contract Award: West Primary Electrical Upgrade Phase 2 (RCCPU-22-220)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a works contract for West Primary Electrical Upgrade Phase 2 to Atalian Servest AMK Limited T/A Arthur McKay & Company.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for West Primary Electrical Upgrade Phase 2 (RC-CPU-22-220) to Atalian Servest AMK Limited T/A Arthur McKay & Company;

(b) That the Tendered Total of £534,767.28 excluding VAT and an additional 10% contingency for any unforeseen works be authorised;

(c) That it be noted that the contract had sectional completion requirements, the proposed dates of possession and proposed dates for completion were noted below. Any changes to these dates would be confirmed in the Council's letter of acceptance:

Section 1 – Date of Possession – 28 June 2023 – Date of Completion – 13 August 2023

Section 2 – Date of Possession – 28 June 2023 – Date of Completion – 6 September 2023

Section 3 – Date of Possession – 14 August 2023 – Date of Completion – 22 October 2023; and

(d) That it be noted that the contract required the provision of a Performance Bond and Collateral Warranties as indicated within the tender documentation.

21 **Contract Award: Hawkhead Cemetery Civils Upgrade, (RC-CPU-22-193)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a works contract for Hawkhead Cemetery Civils Upgrade (RC-CPU-22-193) to John McGeady Limited.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for Hawkhead Cemetery Civils Upgrade, (RC-CPU-22-193) to John McGeady Limited;

(b) That the Contract Sum of £230,278.55 excluding VAT be authorised; and

(c) That it be noted that the contract had sectional completion requirements and the proposed date of possession of the site and proposed dates for completion of the works for those sections are noted below. Any changes to the undernoted dates would be confirmed in the Council's letter of acceptance: -

Section 1 – Date of Possession – 1 May 2023 – Date of Completion – 2 June 2023

Section 2 – Date of Possession – 5 June 2023 – Date of Completion – 30 June 2023

22 **Design Team appointments for the Main Works at Paisley Town Hall – Notification of increase in costs**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to notification in accordance with Standing Order 20.3 of the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts, of an increase in cost to the Design Team appointments for the Main Works at Paisley Town Hall, due to the circumstances set out in section 3.5 of the Report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the increase in the approved Fees from £738,519.00 (excluding VAT) to a revised fee of £1,282,409.78 (excluding VAT) be noted;

(b) That it be noted that the completion of the Design Team's services was aligned with the main works construction programme and was anticipated to be completed during the second quarter of 2023; and

(c) That it be noted that the modifications to the original Design Team appointments and for the design and construction of the Main Works at Paisley Town Hall had been instructed in accordance with Standing Orders Relating to Contracts 34.4 and 34.5.

Minute of Meeting Joint Consultative Board (Non-Teaching)

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 15 March 2023	15:00	Via Teams Platform,

Present: Councillor Fiona Airlie-Nicolson, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Sam Mullin

In Attendance

C Dalrymple, Head of Facilities & Property Management (Environment & Infrastructure); M Boyd, Head of HR & OD, R Laouadi, HR Manager, R Cree, OD & Workforce Planning Manager, S Fanning, Principal HR & OD Adviser, D Pole, End User Technician and R Devine, Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources); and K Hampsey, Strategic Business Delivery Manager (Renfrewshire Social Care Partnership).

Representing Trade Unions

J Boylan, M McIntyre and S Hicks (all UNISON).

Appointment of Chairperson

In accordance with the terms of the constitution of the Joint Consultative Board (Non-Teaching), which stated that the Chair of the Board should alternate between management-side and trade unions it was proposed and agreed that John Boylan (UNISON) chair this meeting of the JCB Non-Teaching.

DECIDED: That John Boylan (UNISON) chair this meeting.

Apologies

M Ferguson, Unison; K Muat and A Canning, both GMB; G Cochrane, UNITE.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Gilmour indicated that he had a connection to items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the agenda by reason of his membership of Unite the Union. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Hughes indicated that she had a connection to items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the agenda by reason of her membership of UNISON. However, she indicated that she had applied the objective test and did not consider she had an interest and intimated that it was her intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Mullin indicated that he had a connection to items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the agenda by reason of his membership of the GMB Union. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

1 Developments in Health, Safety and Wellbeing

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to developments in relation to health, safety and wellbeing issues since the previous meeting of the Joint Consultative Board (Non-Teaching), held on 25 January 2023.

The report advised that the Health & Safety Team continued to work collaboratively with key stakeholders, to ensure risks were assessed, review policies and guidance, support front line services in the delivery of emergency and prioritised work, evaluate contractors' and suppliers' health and safety documentation when applying for contracts, respond to Freedom of Information requests, produce health and wellbeing guidance to support the workforce, and review all injury accidents occurring within the Council. It was noted that since the previous meeting there had been 848 courses delivered across the Council.

The report stated that during the period there had been three visits from the Health & Safety Executive, one in relation to the household waste intervention programme and two in connection with the management of asbestos in schools' intervention programme. In addition there had been two meetings with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, as a result of attendance resulting from call outs to Council-owned premises, to discuss, where possible, improvements to the fire safety arrangements. Reference was also made to the review of the Council's blood borne virus documentation and associated face-to-face training provided, the production of health and wellbeing guidance and campaigns to support the workforce to become more active. In addition, the report indicated that support continued to be provided in respect of the new ways of working arrangements being developed across the Council and the Council's construction activities

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

2 **Details of Grievances**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the number of grievances received.

The report provided information on grievances at both the informal and formal stages and indicated that there were a total of nine grievances as at March 2023, a decrease of one case since the last meeting of this Board.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 **Agency Workers**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the number of agency staff employed within the Council as at 1 March 2023 and detailing the capacity and Services in which they were engaged. The report advised that as a 1 March 2023, 228 agency workers were employed across all Council Services, a reduction of nine agency workers since December 2022. RHSCP employed 177 of those agency workers.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4 **Right for Renfrewshire**

The UNISON representatives expressed concern in relation to the lack of information made available to the trade unions regarding staffing reviews and changes to staffing structures within Services proposed as part of the Right for Renfrewshire initiative. In this connection it was proposed that regular update reports be submitted to future meetings of the JCB Non-Teaching. To address the situation the HR Manager proposed that a standing item be included on the agenda of future Joint Trade Union Liaison meetings. This was agreed.

DECIDED: That arrangements be made to include regular update reports regarding staffing reviews within Services and changes to staffing structures proposed as part of the Right for Renfrewshire initiative as a standing item on the agenda of future Joint Trade Union Liaison meetings.

5 Home Care Review

The UNISON representatives expressed concern in relation to the commissioning, in some areas of Renfrewshire, of care at home services from the third sector. The Strategic Business Delivery Manager, Renfrewshire Social Care Partnership made reference to the relevant framework agreements in place and outlined reasons why the external commissioning of services was utilised.

DECIDED: That the information provided be noted.

6 Soft Facilities Management

The UNISON representatives expressed concern in relation to the review of the Soft Facilities Management function, making reference to rumours circulating that the function was to be contracted out to Amey plc. The Head of Facilities & Property Management (Environment & Infrastructure) provided assurances that the rumours were false.

DECIDED: That the information provided be noted.

7 Date of Next Meeting

DECIDED: That it be noted that the next meeting of the JCB (Non-Teaching) was scheduled to be held at 3pm on 24 May 2023.

Minute of Meeting

Appointment Board - Head of Climate, Public Protection and Roads

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 18 April 2023	10:00	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor David McGonigle, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Ben Smith

Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; and R Laouadi, HR Manager (Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item 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 paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973.

1 **Head of Climate, Public Protection & Roads - Interviews**

The Board interviewed candidates for the post of Head of Climate, Public Protection & Roads.

DECIDED: That G Hannah be appointed to the post of Head of Climate, Public Protection & Roads.

Minute of Meeting Leadership Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 26 April 2023	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Graeme Clark, Councillor Gillian Graham, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Anne Hannigan, Councillor Alec Leishman, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain McMillan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Andy Steel

Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

A Russell, Chief Executive; G McNeil, Director of Environment, Housing & Infrastructure; A MacArthur, Director of Finance & Resources; S Quinn, Director of Children's Services; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications, L Adamson, Communications & Public Affairs Manager, A Armstrong-Walter, Strategic Partnership & Inequalities Manager and P Moss, Strategy, Policy & Insight Manager (all Chief Executive's); G Hannah, Head of Climate, Public Protection and Roads and K Anderson, Sustainability, Place (Assets) Manager (both Environment, Housing & Infrastructure); M Boyd, Head of People & OD, M Conaghan, Head of Corporate Governance, C McCourt, Head of Finance & Procurement, D Low, Democratic Services Manager, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, D Pole, End User Technician and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); V Hollows, Chief Executive, F Naylor, Finance, Governance and Business Improvement Director and J Doherty, Strategic Communications & Public Affairs Manager (all OneRen) and C Lafferty, Chief Officer and C O'Byrne, Head of Health & Social Care (Paisley) (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership).

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Board would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Ann-Dowling declared an interest in item 3 for the reason that she was Chair of the Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau. Councillor Ann-Dowling indicated that as she had declared an interest, she would leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

Transparency Statement

Councillor Paterson indicated that he had a connection to item 3 by reason of him being the Council's representative on the Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare.

1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a joint revenue and capital budget monitoring report by the Chief Executive, Director of Finance & Resources and the Chief Finance Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to the projected capital and revenue outturn positions as at 31 March 2023 for those services reporting to this Board.

It was noted that there was a projected underspend of £0.004 million in the revenue outturn and a breakeven position in respect of the capital outturn.

DECIDED:

(a) That the projected revenue outturn position detailed in Table 1 of the report be noted;

(b) That the projected capital outturn position detailed in Table 2 of the report be noted; and

(c) That the budget adjustments detailed at sections 4 and 6 of the report be noted.

2 Fairer Renfrewshire Sub-committee

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Fairer Renfrewshire Sub-committee held on 22 March 2023 which forms the Appendix to this Minute.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

Declaration of Interest

Having declared an interest Councillor Ann-Dowling left the meeting.

3 **Fairer Renfrewshire Update**

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to work being undertaken by the Council and its partners to progress the Fairer Renfrewshire Programme.

The report provided a summary of the key headline issues relating to the cost of living crisis locally, and set out the priorities for the Fairer Renfrewshire Programme over the coming quarter. The report also made recommendations in relation to the allocation of an additional £1.025 million of Council funding for initial investment during 2023/24 focussed on supporting the financial security of people in Renfrewshire.

In relation to the work of the Alcohol and Drugs Commission, the report also provided an overview of the Recovery Change Fund and set out a recommendation for further resources to extend an existing project funded from this source. It was noted that a review of the Fund would be undertaken to assess links with other national funding streams and to develop options for the funding going forward.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the progress made in relation to key projects within the Fairer Renfrewshire programme be noted;
- (b) That £818,812 be allocated to extend the delivery of projects within the Tackling Poverty Programme for 2023/24 as detailed at Section 4 of the report;
- (c) That £140,000 be allocated to develop a dedicated family advice team to provide income advice for families with children in Renfrewshire, as detailed at Section 4 of the report;
- (d) That authority be delegated to the Head of Policy & Commissioning to flexibly manage the Council's allocation of £100,000 for holiday activities and food in consultation with the Leader of the Council, as detailed at Section 5 of the report;
- (e) That £20,000 be allocated to extend the fuel insecurity pilot for a further six months from April 2023, as detailed at Section 5 of the report; and
- (f) That the allocation of £5,012 from the Recovery Change Fund to support the initiative detailed at Section 6 of the report be approved.

Sederunt

Councillor Ann-Dowling re-joined the meeting.

4 **Funding for Engage Renfrewshire 2023-2024**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to proposals for the allocation of grant funding of £360,610 to Engage Renfrewshire for 2023/24.

The report intimated that, together with annual core Scottish Government funding and wider income generation, this grant funding enabled Engage Renfrewshire to provide a range of activities and supports across the area and to operate as Renfrewshire's third sector interface organisation.

The report noted that as required by the Council's grant funding arrangements, a grant support agreement was developed jointly each year by the Council and Engage Renfrewshire setting out the key outcomes to which Engage Renfrewshire would continue to contribute to the delivery.

DECIDED: That grant funding of £360,610 to Engage Renfrewshire be approved to deliver the service outlined within the grant support agreement appended to the report.

5 **Refurbishment of Tennis Courts in Renfrewshire Parks and Development of Tennis in Renfrewshire Parks**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment, Housing & Infrastructure relative to the refurbishment of tennis courts and development of tennis in Renfrewshire parks.

The report intimated that in October 2021 the UK Government and the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) announced an investment into public park tennis courts for local communities. The Government was investing £22 million together with a committed spend from the LTA of £8.5 million.

The report outlined that the Council was working with the LTA in partnership with OneRen to submit a formal bid for funding to refurbish tennis courts in up to three sites within Renfrewshire's estate, namely Robertson Park, Renfrew; Brodie Park, Paisley and Park Road, Johnstone. The report noted that the LTA had advised that Robertson Park and Brodie Park had been prioritised for initial funding and that Park Road, Johnstone would be added if funds became available. As part of the grant funding agreement the LTA required that an approved court booking system was introduced to support the effective use of any refurbished court and that work was undertaken to develop tennis within the Council area and the report proposed that, should the bid be successful, OneRen would lead on booking, coaching programmes and sports development arrangements. It was also noted that a formal legal agreement with OneRen required to be approved to ensure due diligence with the contract terms and conditions associated with the grant.

DECIDED:

(a) That the work already undertaken to support the bids to the LTA bid to refurbish tennis courts and develop tennis as a sport in up to three sites within Renfrewshire be noted;

(b) That authority be delegated to the Director of Environment, Housing & Infrastructure

(i) to determine which, if any, of the three sites were suitable for refurbishment using LTA funding, taking account of the factors set out in paragraph 3.8 of the report;

(ii) in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to enter into funding

agreements with the LTA for any of the three sites, on the principle terms and conditions set out in Appendix 1 to the report titled Annex 2; and

(iii) in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to enter into agreements with OneRen in order to meet the requirements of any funding agreements;

(c) That it be noted that an update report would be presented to this Board which would provide further detail on the funding bid, required governance and capital and revenue costs; and

(d) That it be noted that it was anticipated that a report would be submitted to the OneRen Board on 15 June 2023 seeking approval for the proposed Heads of Terms and agreements between the Council and OneRen.

6 **Review of OneRen's Annual Business Plan – 2023-2024**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to OneRen's annual Business Plan for 2023/24.

The report noted that OneRen submitted an annual Business Report to the Council which set out the charity's priorities for the year ahead and outlined how it would deliver the services specified in the Service Agreement. The business planning process provided the opportunity to assess the context in which the charity was operating and to consider how it was responding to changing community and customer needs.

The report intimated that the implementation of the Business Plan actions and achievement of key priorities would be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the monitoring officer of OneRen, the Council's Head of Policy & Commissioning, to assess compliance with the service agreement and funding arrangement. The report advised that it was the recommendation of the OneRen monitoring officer that overall the Business Plan met the conditions of the service agreement and progress updates on the delivery of the Plan would be reported to this Board on a six-monthly basis during 2023/24.

DECIDED:

(a) That OneRen's annual Business Plan for 2023/24 as set out in the appendix to the report be agreed; and

(b) That the monitoring arrangements in place for the Head of Policy & Commissioning (OneRen's nominated monitoring officer) to undertake quarterly performance monitoring meetings with OneRen and to provide six-monthly progress reports to this Board be noted.

7 **Bus Partnership Funding - Paisley Town Centre**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment, Infrastructure & Housing relative to bus partnership funding for Paisley Town Centre.

The report intimated that the 2020 National Transport Strategy set out the delivery of an accessible, modern transport system which would protect the climate and improve

the lives of the people of Scotland over the next 20 years. In support of the Strategy, the Scottish Government committed to providing long-term funding of over £500 million to deliver targeted bus priority measures on local and trunk roads.

The report set out the proposed consultation process that would be undertaken over the coming months with elected members, partners, communities and businesses. Funding had been provided to identify bus prioritisation measures, as well as how to improve traffic flows and safety at and around four Paisley Town Centre junctions: Mill Street, Inle Street and Glasgow Road; Cotton Street, Gauze Street and Lawn Street; Canal Street and Causeyside Street; and Lonend, Cotton Street and Gordon Street. It was noted that design proposals had been developed in partnership with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and with bus operators and were now at the stage that a detailed engagement process could start to be undertaken.

The report highlighted that the spend of the previous award for a project to fund regeneration on Causeyside Street, including a segregated cycle lane and the electric charging infrastructure in Stow Brae car park, due to be spent by the end of September 2023 would not be achieved and it was not proposed to draw down further funding and that further engagement would take place relative to Causeyside Street as part of the Paisley Town Centre junctions engagement process.

DECIDED:

(a) That the stage reached in the development of the bus priority proposals for Paisley Town Centre be noted;

(b) That the consultation and engagement planned with elected members, partners, businesses and the local community be noted and that it be approved that updates be provided for discussion at the relevant policy boards;

(c) That it be noted that the infrastructure proposals were ambitious to support the continued evolution of Renfrewshire's infrastructure to support climate goals, safety and support for public transport across Renfrewshire; and

(d) That the remediation of the Low Carbon Travel and Transport Challenge Funding as set out in section 5 of the report be approved.

8 Review of Renfrewshire's Public Transport Provision

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment, Housing & Infrastructure relative to a review of the Council's public transport provision.

The report intimated that Renfrewshire's public transport provision had broadly taken the same delivery model for at least ten years with commercial bus services serving Renfrewshire's communities supported by Council funding to subsidise parts of bus routes or times/days of routes where the commercial service provision would have ceased. The report noted that there had been several changes to routes and provision to Renfrewshire's communities over this time, with communities experiencing reduced or altered services, with the latest changes to the bus network taking effect from 1 May 2023.

The report referenced strategic, national, regional and local drivers, cognisance of which required to be taken to shape and influence Renfrewshire's public transport

provision in the years ahead.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor J Cameron, moved:

- (a) That the commencement of the Review of Renfrewshire's Public Transport Provision be noted;
- (b) That the first stages of the Review as set out in section 5 of the report be noted; and
- (c) That it be agreed that update reports be brought back to this Board.

Councillor Paterson, seconded by Councillor McGurk, moved as a first amendment:

Add the following

2.4 – As part of the review instructs Officers to engage with the Community Transport Association who have a track record in supporting communities in setting up successful, sustainable not for profit public transport options.

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor Ann-Dowling, moved as second amendment:

In addition to recommendations at 2.

Add the following

Council calls on the Scottish Government to take decisive action to

- 1) Reverse the soon to be implemented cuts to Renfrewshire bus services
- 2) Investigate the placing of strict conditions on support to private bus companies
- 3) Look at introducing caps on fares to encourage people to use bus services
- 4) Move towards bringing local bus services under local authority control

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Nicolson and J Cameron, being the mover and seconder of the motion, accepted both amendments as additions to the motion. The motion, as amended by the two amendments, was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the commencement of the Review of Renfrewshire's Public Transport Provision be noted;
- (b) That the first stages of the Review as set out in section 5 of the report be noted;
- (c) That it be agreed that update reports be brought back to this Board;
- (d) That as part of the review Officers be instructed to engage with the Community Transport Association who had a track record in supporting communities in setting up successful, sustainable not for profit public transport options; and

- (e) That Council called on the Scottish Government to take decisive action to
 - (i) Reverse the soon to be implemented cuts to Renfrewshire bus services;
 - (ii) Investigate the placing of strict conditions on support to private bus companies;
 - (iii) Look at introducing caps on fares to encourage people to use bus services; and
 - (iv) Move towards bringing local bus services under local authority control.

Minute of Meeting Fairer Renfrewshire Sub-committee

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 22 March 2023	10:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Graeme Clark, Councillor Anne Hannigan, Councillor Alec Leishman, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson

Chair

Councillor J Cameron, Convener, was unable to attend the meeting in person at the Council Chambers. In accordance with the approved protocol for hybrid meetings, the Depute Convener, Councillor Clark, chaired this meeting of the Sub-committee.

In Attendance

L McIntyre, Head of Policy and Commissioning and A Armstrong-Walter, Strategic Partnership and Inequalities Manager (both Chief Executive's); and D Low, Democratic Services Manager and D Cunningham, Assistant Committee Services Officer (both Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Webcasting of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Depute Convener intimated that this meeting of the Sub-committee would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

1 **Cost of Living Update**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to a number of recent developments in the cost-of-living crisis including changes to the rate of inflation; the continued rise in the inflation rate for food; and the extension of the UK Government's Energy Price Guarantee from 1 April to the end of June 2023.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

2 **Fairer Renfrewshire Programme Update**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to progress made on the key priorities of the Fairer Renfrewshire Programme for March - June 2023 which included participation and engagement; developing the Local Child Poverty Action Report; developing the Fairer Food Renfrewshire programme; evaluating the Winter Connections Programme; developing and delivering budget investments including holiday activities and winter school clothing grant; and evaluating the Tackling Poverty Programme.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 **Parental Employability Support Fund**

The Economic Development Manager, Chief Executive's, gave a presentation on the Parental Employability Support Fund, a user-based model of delivery that supported parents into work as well as helping those already in work to increase their household income.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.

4 **School Holiday Childcare and Food Provision**

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of meeting of this Sub-committee held on 1 February 2023, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the review of the current provision of funds to increase the provision of meals and social activities over school holiday periods.

The report intimated that there was a range of activity programmes and funding sources for holiday activity provision locally and the report recommended that officers continued to map current provision and coverage to ensure maximum impact, and make sure provision was reaching the families that needed it most. The report advised that officers were awaiting notification of the Scottish Government resource allocation to Renfrewshire Council from the Scottish Government Holiday Food and Childcare programme.

The report advised that Council had agreed a further allocation of £100,000 of funding as part of the Council budget approved on 2 March 2023 and that this allocation would provide a programme of summer activities for children and young people from low-income families, encouraging them to access a wide range of activities and healthy food. It was anticipated that this fund would be supplemented by Scottish Government resource as was the case in 2021/22.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

5 **Fairer Renfrewshire Lived Experience Panel**

The Strategic Partnership & Inequalities Manager, Chief Executive's, gave a presentation on the membership and operation of the Fairer Renfrewshire Lived Experience Panel.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.