

Minute of Meeting Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 27 September 2018	09:30	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor, Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Derek Bibby, Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Alison Jean Dowling, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor Paul Mack, Councillor Alistair Mackay, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Eileen McCartin, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McIntyre, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor Jim Sharkey, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor James Sheridan, Councillor Andy Steel, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Provost Cameron presided.

In Attendance

S Black, Chief Executive; S Quinn, Acting Director of Children's Services; M Crearie, Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services; G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; A Morrison, Head of Regeneration, L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning and L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications (all Chief Executive's); J Trainer, Head of Child Care and Criminal Justice (Children's Services); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager and E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); J McKellar, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Leisure Limited); and D Leese, Chief Officer and P McCulloch, Acting Head of Health and Social Care (Paisley) (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership).

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Campbell declared a non-financial interest in items 26 and 31 on the agenda as she was an employee with NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde but not in the Council's area and intimated that she would remain in the meeting.

Councillor J Cameron declared a non-financial interest in item 29 on the agenda as she was a member of the KAIROS group and intimated that she would remain in the meeting.

Obituary

The Provost acknowledged the death of Alex Murrin, a former Renfrewshire Councillor who had represented Renfrew, and after hearing tributes from members advised that she had extended sincere condolences to his family and friends on behalf of Renfrewshire Council.

Valedictory

The Provost advised that this would be Joyce McKellar's last Council meeting before she retired as Chief Executive of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. Both Provost Cameron and Councillor Hughes thanked her for her contribution to sporting, leisure and cultural activities in Renfrewshire.

Additional Item

Councillor Graham intimated that he wished to table an emergency motion which had not been included in the notice calling the meeting and he requested that this be taken as an additional item.

Provost Cameron ruled, in terms of Standing Order 14, that as there were no special circumstances which required the item to be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency, the motion would not be taken up as an additional item of business.

1 Minutes of Meetings of Council, Boards and Panels

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

Council, 28 June 2018

Regulatory Functions Board, 7 August 2018

Cross Party Sounding Board, 16 August 2018
 Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board, 21 August 2018
 Renfrew and Gallowhill Local Area Committee, 21 August 2018
 Regulatory Functions Board, 22 August 2018
 Education and Children's Services Policy Board, 23 August 2018
 Paisley North Local Area Committee, 23 August 2018
 Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, 27 August 2018
 Paisley South Local Area Committee, 28 August 2018
 Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board, 29 August 2018
 Johnstone and the Villages Local Area Committee, 30 August 2018
 Petitions Board, 3 September 2018
 Placing Requests, Exclusions and Appeals Panel, 4 September 2018
 Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, 5 September 2018
 Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine Local Area Committee, 5 September 2018
 Regulatory Functions Board, 6 September 2018
 Local Review Body, 11 September 2018
 Personnel Appeals and Applied Conditions of Service Appeals Panel, 12 September 2018
 Appointment Board, 13 September 2018
 Leadership Board, 19 September 2018
 Appointment Board, 19 September 2018
 Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, 25 September 2018
 Regulatory Functions Board, 25 September 2018

DECIDED: That the Minutes be approved.

2 Audited Annual Accounts 2017-18

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 28 June 2018, there was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the audit of the Council's 2017/18 annual accounts, which had been undertaken by the Council's appointed external auditors, Audit Scotland.

The report highlighted that the audit process had been completed and that an audit opinion, free from qualification, had been provided. In terms of the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, the Council required to consider and approve the annual accounts for signature no later than 30 September each year. The Assistant Director of Audit (Local Government) had previously provided a report detailing all matters arising over the course of the 2017/18 audit to the meeting of the Council's Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, held on 25 September 2018, for consideration, and a copy of this report was appended for information. In addition, the report intimated that the accounts of the charities controlled by the Council had also been audited by Audit Scotland and separate audit opinions on these accounts had been provided in accordance with the charities regulations and best practice promoted by the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR). Copies of the accounts for Renfrew, Paisley and Johnstone Common Good Funds and Renfrewshire Council Trust Funds were provided as appendices to the report for approval.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Council's annual accounts 2017/18 be approved for signature, in accordance with the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014;

(b) That the 2017/18 accounts of the Renfrew, Paisley and Johnstone Common Good Funds and Renfrewshire Council Trust Funds be approved and authority be delegated to the Director of Finance & Resources to submit these accounts to OSCR in accordance with the relevant regulations; and

(c) That the annual audit report be noted.

3 Financial Outlook 2019-21

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to an update to the financial outlook previously outlined to the Leadership Board in December 2017 and the updated financial position as presented to Council on 2 March 2018.

The report intimated that the Council's financial outlook continued to be characterised by considerable and ongoing uncertainty, was fluid and subject to material change over even a short-term time horizon. In the context of the wider economic and public spending environment across both the UK and Scotland and in particular the increasing uncertainty developing around the impact of the outcome of the UK's negotiations to withdraw from the European Union in March 2019, the Council's financial outlook over the short to medium term had the potential to move into a period of heightened uncertainty and change.

Reference was made to the report considered at the meeting of the Council held on 2 March 2018, entitled 'Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2018/19' which provided the most recent update and outlined a more favourable revenue grant settlement following the Scottish Parliamentary budget scrutiny process, generating a temporary revenue surplus after decisions taken by the Council of £15.750 million of which Council agreed to commit approximately £15.6 million on a non-recurring basis to a range of priority services. The report also highlighted that a residual funding gap of £12 million remained forecast for 2019/20, reduced to £10 million following decisions taken by the Council, based on existing assumptions, and that further annual funding gaps of significant scale were expected to continue over the medium term.

The report advised that the Council's current financial position remained within the financial planning parameters established when the Council had set its budget for 2018/19. In addition, Audit Scotland had completed their audit of the 2017/18 annual accounts which confirmed that the audited financial position remained in line with that reported to Council in June 2018. Overall the Council's immediate financial position remained stable and consistent with existing financial and service plans.

Key influential areas continued to relate predominantly to future levels of government grant support, future pay awards and a range of demand related service pressures. Current forecasts in relation to the future financial impact of each of these areas were at high risk of being subject to ongoing change and material movement. As a consequence, the Council's financial planning arrangements remained subject to active review and increasingly were founded upon a scenario-based approach in recognition of the scale of variability in the potential financial outcomes for the Council as uncertainties resolved and greater certainty was established.

DECIDED:

(a) That the update regarding the Council's current financial position be noted;

(b) That the updated financial forecasts for the medium term, the range of potential funding issues facing the Council and the requirement to continue to plan for further significant budget reductions in the period through to 2021 and potentially beyond be noted; and

(c) That the Council's ongoing commitment to the financial planning principles outlined in section 9 of the report be approved.

4 Review of Community-level Governance - Introduction of Local Partnerships

Under reference to item 1 of the Minute of the meeting of the Cross Party Sounding Board held on 16 August 2018, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Council's review of community-level governance arrangements.

The report outlined proposals for the introduction of a new model of Local Partnerships into the Community Planning Structure which would replace the existing Local Area Committees. The report detailed the proposals that had been the subject of consultation, including: refreshing the aims of community-level governance; moving from committees to partnerships; extending voting rights to community organisations; other public services playing a greater role; wider engagement with communities; moving from five areas based on ward boundaries to seven areas based on community council boundaries; meetings becoming more accessible and participative; and local grants being focussed on local priorities and the introduction of participatory budgeting. The findings of the consultation had been supportive of the proposals.

Once approved, the arrangements detailed in the report would take immediate effect and would disband the Local Area Committees. A series of community events would be held throughout October, where information could be shared with communities about the new Local Partnerships and how they would work. These events would also help identify community priorities for the new Local Partnerships to consider in preparation for their first meetings in November and December 2018.

The dates of the first meetings of the Local Partnerships were detailed at section 6.1 of the report. The primary purpose of the first meetings would be to agree membership of the partnerships, particularly the appointment of community representatives. The Local Partnerships would also be supported in their first meetings to consider local data, evidence and intelligence in order to identify three to five key local priorities for the Local Partnership area. These priorities would then inform each Local Partnership's work, but also the allocation of grants by the partnership later in 2019. A new grant process will then be introduced from April 2019 for the 2019/20 financial year, including the allocation of the general grant fund and Common Good funds, and participatory budgeting exercises to distribute the Youth Challenge Fund across Renfrewshire.

The proposed Terms of Reference and Standing Orders for the Local Partnerships were appended to the report.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Paterson moved that, in addition to the recommendations detailed in the report, the following appointments be made as Chairs of the new Local Partnerships: Renfrew – Councillor Shaw; Houston, Bridge of Weir, Brookfield, Kilbarchan, Lochwinnoch, Howwood and Elderslie – Councillor Don; Paisley North, Gallowhill, Ferguslie, Paisley West and Central – Councillor McNaughtan; Johnstone and Linwood – Councillor Steel; Foxbar/Brediland and Glenburn – Councillor McGurk; Inchinnan, Erskine, Bishopton and Langbank – Councillor Campbell; and Paisley East, Ralston, Hawkhead/Lochfield, Hunterhill and Charleston – Councillor Adam-McGregor. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Local Partnership arrangements be adopted as the Renfrewshire Scheme of Decentralisation in terms of Section 23 of the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994, and that the existing Local Area Committees be disbanded;

(b) That the Terms of Reference for Local Partnerships attached at Appendix A to the report be approved;

(c) That the Standing Orders for Local Partnerships attached at Appendix B to the report be approved and that the following appointments be made as Chairs of the new Local Partnerships:

Renfrew – Councillor Shaw

Houston, Bridge of Weir, Brookfield, Kilbarchan, Lochwinnoch, Howwood and Elderslie – Councillor Don

Paisley North, Gallowhill, Ferguslie, Paisley West and Central – Councillor McNaughtan

Johnstone and Linwood – Councillor Steel

Foxbar/Brediland and Glenburn – Councillor McGurk

Inchinnan, Erskine, Bishopton and Langbank – Councillor Campbell

Paisley East, Ralston, Hawkhead/Lochfield, Hunterhill and Charleston – Councillor Adam-McGregor;

(d) That a Lead Officer be appointed by the Council to each Local Partnership. The Lead Officer would be a Head of Service to be appointed by the Chief Executive;

(e) That in the interim period prior to the introduction of a new grant process in the 2019/20 financial year, the Director of Finance & Resources be authorised to determine the allocation of any returned grant funding in consultation with the elected member who previously chaired the Local Area Committee where the original grant award decision had been made;

(f) That, with regard to the allocation of grant funding made by Local Partnerships, the Lead Officer allocated to each Local Partnership be authorised to determine the allocation of grant funding as agreed by the Local Partnership;

(g) That the framework for the disbursement of grant funding set out in paragraphs 4.23 to 4.26 of the report be approved;

(h) That a review of the progress of the new model of Local Partnerships be carried out after at least one year of operation, in 2020; and

(i) That the first meetings of the Local Partnerships be held on the dates detailed at section 6.1 of the report.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Graham declared a non-financial interest in the undernoted item as he was a volunteer with Barnardos and intimated that he would remain in the meeting.

5 Annual Report of the Chief Social Work Officer 2017/18

There was submitted a report by the Acting Chief Social Work Officer relative to the 2017/18 annual report by the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO). In Renfrewshire this role was held by the Director of Children's Services.

The report provided an overview of the role of the CSWO, referred to the key areas of activity of the CSWO locally, outlined the issues and challenges encountered during 2017/18, local arrangements for the discharge of the functions of the post and provided an overview of activities undertaken by social work services together with the key priorities for 2018/19. A copy of the annual report by the Chief Social Work Officer was appended to the report.

The report intimated that the scope of the CSWO role covered all social work and social care services, whether provided directly by the local authority, or in partnership with others. Where these services were purchased or commissioned from external providers, the CSWO had responsibility to advise on the specification, quality and standards of services commissioned.

It was proposed that the Acting Director of Children's Services submit a report to a future meeting of the Education and Children's Services Policy Board relative to the establishment of a close support unit in Linwood; submit a report to a future meeting of the Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board relative to pressures on Criminal Justice Social Work; and provide information to elected members on the Improvement Plan put in place by the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership following the joint inspection of adult services. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the key activities outlined in the report be noted;
- (b) That it be noted that the report would be submitted to the Office of the Chief Social Work Advisor at the Scottish Government;
- (c) That it be agreed that the next update to Council would be presented in Autumn 2019; and

(d) That the Acting Director of Children's Services submit a report to a future meeting of the Education and Children's Services Policy Board relative to the establishment of a close support unit in Linwood; submit a report to a future meeting of the Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board relative to pressures on Criminal Justice Social Work; and provide information to elected members on the Improvement Plan put in place by the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership following the joint inspection of adult services.

6 Progress Report on Renfrewshire Gaelic Language Implementation Plan

There was submitted a report by the Acting Director of Children's Services relative to progress on the Council's Gaelic Language Implementation Plan.

The report intimated that the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 required all local authorities in Scotland to produce a Gaelic Language Plan. These plans were part of an effort to protect and revitalise Gaelic as a living language in Scotland.

Renfrewshire Council's current plan, approved by Council in 2016 and subsequently by Bòrd na Gàidhlig in 2017, ran from 2016 to 2021. The Council's annual progress report to Bòrd na Gàidhlig was appended to the report.

It was proposed that the Acting Director of Children's Services provide information to elected members relative to the number of Gaelic speakers in Renfrewshire and the number of children from Renfrewshire attending a Gaelic School. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the progress made by Renfrewshire Council in the delivery of the Gaelic Language Plan be noted;

(b) That it be noted that a progress report had been provided to Bòrd na Gàidhlig;

(c) That it be noted that, as agreed by Council in December 2015, annual progress reports would continue to be provided to Bòrd na Gàidhlig and to Council; and

(d) That the Acting Director of Children's Services provide information to elected members relative to the number of Gaelic speakers in Renfrewshire and the number of children from Renfrewshire attending a Gaelic School.

7 2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the conclusion of the Boundary Commission for Scotland ("the Commission") review of UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland.

The report advised that the UK Parliament decided in 2011 that the number of parliamentary constituencies would decrease from 650 to 600. In Scotland this meant a reduction from 59 constituencies to 53. Two of the 53, Na h-Eileanan an Iar and Orkney and Shetland, were not subject to review. The remaining 51 had been reviewed against set criteria and the Commission's report had now been submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland. The UK Government would consider the terms of the report and the matter would then come before Parliament for approval. If approved the new boundaries would be used at the next General Election scheduled for May 2022.

If the Commission's proposals were accepted and approved by Parliament then Renfrewshire residents would vote in one of three constituencies: Paisley; Renfrewshire West and Garnock Valley; or Clyde Coast. Paisley Constituency was a burgh constituency comprising of Paisley, Renfrew and Elderslie. Renfrewshire West and Garnock Valley Constituency was a county constituency which contained Erskine, Inchinnan, Houston, Crosslee, Brookfield, Bridge of Weir, Linwood, Johnstone, Howwood, Kilbarchan and Lochwinnoch along with large parts of North Ayrshire and East Renfrewshire. The Clyde Coast Constituency was a county constituency which contained Bishopton and Langbank along with all of the Inverclyde Council area, and parts of North Ayrshire including Largs and Millport. Maps showing the extent of each of these constituencies were appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the outcome of the review and the next steps in the process be noted.

8 Membership of Boards and Other Organisations

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the appointment of elected members to Council Boards and other organisations.

The report advised that a member required to be appointed to each of the vacant positions on the Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board and the Leadership Board following the recent suspension of Councillor Sheridan by the Labour Party pending the outcome of an investigation. The Labour Group had proposed Councillor Hood as a member of the Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board and Councillor Kennedy as a member of the Leadership Board.

The report advised that intimation had also been received indicating that Renfrewshire Sports Network had been dissolved following a special general meeting. Accordingly, Councillor Kerr's appointment to this body was no longer required.

Councillor Nicolson proposed that Councillor Audrey Doig be appointed as a member of the Regulatory Functions Board in place of Provost Cameron. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That Councillor Hood be appointed as a member of the Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board and Councillor Kennedy be appointed as a member of the Leadership Board;

(b) That the dissolution of Renfrewshire Sports Network be noted; and

(c) That Councillor Audrey Doig be appointed as a member of the Regulatory Functions Board in place of Provost Cameron.

9 Revised Financial Regulations

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the updated Financial Regulations of the Council.

The report stated that a comprehensive and up-to-date set of Financial Regulations was deemed a key element of corporate governance, as they provided a framework for good financial management. The last revision to the Council's Financial Regulations had been approved at the meeting of the Council held on 25 September 2015. Since then the Council had approved revisions to the decision-making structures on 18 May 2017 and the resulting changes to Board remits had been incorporated into the revised Financial Regulations. The responsibilities in the revised regulations of the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board and other relevant boards had been amended to better align with the remits of these boards and some other minor changes had been made to improve the clarity of the Financial Regulations and to reflect changes in operational arrangements resulting from the implementation of Business World. Following the approval to declassify previous voluntary trading operations by the meeting of the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board held on 28 March 2018, reference to trading operations had been removed from the revised Financial Regulations. It was proposed that the revised Financial Regulations come into effect on 1 October 2018, to coincide with the introduction of Business World. The updated Financial Regulations were appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the revised Financial Regulations, as appended to the report, to come into effect on 1 October 2018, be approved.

10 Scheme of Delegations

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the revised Council's Scheme of Delegations ("the Scheme").

The report intimated that the proposed change to the Scheme took into account the most recent part of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 that had come into force relating to Common Good. Separately a technical delegation relating to the roads function for the sign-off of compliance with design standards for new roads was required to provide delegations to officers to deal with approvals for new structures associated with roads.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 relating to common good and also abandoned, neglected and detrimental land were now in force;

(b) That the Director of Finance & Resources be authorised to publish a list of common good property held by the Council for consultation in terms of the 2015 Act and that it be agreed that the Register of Common Good property be submitted to a future meeting of the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board for approval; and

(c) That Section 5 (Powers Delegated to Officers) of the Council's Scheme of Delegated Functions be amended as follows:

(i) A new paragraph be added to the delegations to the Director of Environment & Infrastructure as follows:

"The Director of Environment & Infrastructure, along with the Head of Operations, is authorised to carry out the following functions of the Council as Roads Technical Approval Authority in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges Volume 1 Section 1 Design Standard BD2 Technical Approval of Highway Structures:-

In relation to accepting submissions for Approval in Principal, Design and Check Certificate, Certificate of Construction Compliance and Departure from Standard, after being agreed and signed by a suitably qualified chartered civil or chartered structural engineer employed by the Council, for a new structure associated with a road, works to an existing structure associated with a road or a third party development adjacent to a road with the potential to cause damage to an existing structure associated with a road."

(ii) A new paragraph be added to the delegations to the Director of Finance & Resources as follows:

"To exercise the Council's functions in relation to maintaining a register of common good property in terms of section 102 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015."

11 Timetable of Meetings

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a proposed timetable of meetings of the Council and its Boards covering the period August 2019 to June 2020, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The timetable was based on the current governance arrangements and incorporated recess periods at summer, October, Christmas/New Year and spring. Whilst meetings of the Appeals Board and Local Review Body had been included in the timetable the report intimated that there could be occasions when these meetings were not required and would be cancelled in consultation with the respective Convener. It was highlighted that an additional meeting of the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board had been incorporated into the timetable on 23 September 2019 to allow the Board to consider the Council's audited annual accounts.

DECIDED:

(a) That the timetable of meetings of the Council and its Boards to June 2020, including the dates during which there were to be recesses, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be approved; and

(b) That it be noted that meetings of the Appeals Board and Local Review Body, although timetabled, would be cancelled in consultation with the respective Convener, if there was no substantive business.

12 Revised Councillors' Code of Conduct

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Revised Councillors' Code of Conduct.

The report advised that the Scottish Government had published an amended version of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, as agreed by the Scottish Parliament. The substantive changes to the Code related to an addition to Section 3 of the Code to make it clear that bullying or harassment was completely unacceptable and would be considered to be a breach of the Code and changes to the rules on declarations of interest by councillors who were also members of Regional Transport Partnerships. The Standards Commission had also published an Advice Note for members on bullying and harassment. There were also a number of minor changes to the Code which were intended to clarify various existing provisions and these were detailed in paragraph 3.3 of the report.

It was noted that the Head of Corporate Governance would provide a briefing to members on changes to the Code and the terms of the Advice Note on 7 November 2018. The Standards Commission were also organising roadshows that were available for elected members to attend at Perth on 14 November 2018 and in Motherwell on 18 February 2019.

DECIDED: That the revised Councillors' Code of Conduct be noted.

13 Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders: Thin Red Line Appeal

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a request from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum Trust that the Council contribute to the Thin Red Line Appeal which had been launched to fund a redevelopment of the Regimental Museum located at Stirling Castle.

Provost Cameron, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved that a donation of £1,000 be made to the Thin Red Line Appeal fund in recognition of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders close links to the Renfrewshire area.

Councillor Grady, seconded by Councillor McCulloch, moved as an amendment that a donation of £5,000 be made to the Thin Red Line Appeal fund in recognition of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders close links to the Renfrewshire area.

In terms of Standing Order 27, Provost Cameron and Councillor Nicolson, being the mover and seconder of the motion accepted the amendment and the motion, as amended, was approved unanimously.

DECIDED: That a donation of £5,000 be made to the Thin Red Line Appeal fund in recognition of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders close links to the Renfrewshire area.

14 Contract Award: Paisley Museum Re-imagined - Exhibition Design Team (RC-CPU-18-002)

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of a Contract for the Paisley Museum Re-imagined - Exhibition Design Team (RC-CPU-18-002) to OPERA Amsterdam BV.

Following a procurement exercise conducted in accordance with both Council procedure and the Competitive Dialogue Procedure under the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, 12 tenders had been received and after evaluation the tender from OPERA Amsterdam BV was found to be the most economically advantageous.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the Paisley Museum Re-imagined - Exhibition Design Team (RC-CPU18-002) to OPERA Amsterdam BV in the sum of £998,900.00 excluding VAT;

(b) That it be noted that the total contract period was anticipated to be 255 weeks with the starting date scheduled to be 19 November 2018 with the estimated completion date of 13 October 2023. Timescales and dates would be confirmed in the contract with OPERA Amsterdam BV; and

(c) That it be noted that the commencement of this contract would be subject to receipt of evidence to demonstrate that the Council's minimum levels of insurance provision were obtained as indicated within the invitation to participate and final tender documentation and collateral warranties should be provided throughout the duration of the contract.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10.20 am and reconvened at 10.30 am.

15 Notice of Motion 1 by Councillors Sheridan and Kennedy

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Sheridan and Kennedy in the following terms:

"That this council resolves to adopt the modern slavery charter (below) to ensure our procurement practices don't support slavery.

Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course of Ethical Procurement and Supply.

Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.

Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.

Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.

Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.

Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.

Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.

Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.

Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.

Report publicly on the implementation of the policy annually."

Councillor Sheridan, seconded by Councillor Kennedy, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That this Council resolves to adopt the modern slavery charter (below) to ensure our procurement practices don't support slavery.

Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course of Ethical Procurement and Supply.

Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.

Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.

Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.

Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.

Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.

Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.

Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.

Report publicly on the implementation of the policy annually.

16 Notice of Motion 2 by Councillors Mack and Andy Doig

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

"Recycling

Can the Council reassure the good people of Renfrewshire that their diligence is being rewarded and that all detritus that they are meticulously separating and putting into the myriad of coloured coded refuse bins is being transported to the various designated/dedicated sites and re-cycled wherever possible.

Can you scotch the rumour that despite our best efforts all refuse is going into one civic amenity site without the remotest regard for re-cycling and our carbon-footprint."

Councillor Mack, seconded by Councillor Andy Doig, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

It was proposed that the Director of Environment & Infrastructure provide information to elected members on the levels of contamination in Renfrewshire's recyclate. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) Recycling - Can the Council reassure the good people of Renfrewshire that their diligence is being rewarded and that all detritus that they are meticulously separating and putting into the myriad of coloured coded refuse bins is being transported to the various designated/dedicated sites and re-cycled wherever possible.

Can you scotch the rumour that despite our best efforts all refuse is going into one civic amenity site without the remotest regard for re-cycling and our carbon-footprint; and

(b) That the Director of Environment and Infrastructure provide information to elected members on the levels of contamination in Renfrewshire's recyclate.

17 Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors Andy Doig and Mack

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

"Renfrewshire Council highlights the fact that legal protection against libel, slander, and hate crime, exists in Scots law, and therefore calls on the Scottish Government to review the operation and remit of the Standards Commission for Scotland."

Councillor Mack, seconded by Councillor Andy Doig, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Renfrewshire Council highlights the fact that legal protection against libel, slander, and hate crime, exists in Scots law, and therefore calls on the Scottish Government to review the operation and remit of the Standards Commission for Scotland.

18 Notice of Motion 4 by Councillors Audrey Doig and Hughes

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

“Scotland Women's National Football Squad

Renfrewshire Council congratulates the Scotland Women's National Football Squad for qualifying for the 2019 Women's World Cup in France, and praises the management and team for inspiring Scotland to get behind them with such exceptional results.

Council calls, in recognition of this outstanding international sporting achievement, for the Scottish Football Association to increase its level of funding for Women's Football in Scotland.”

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

DECIDED: Scotland Women's National Football Squad - Renfrewshire Council congratulates the Scotland Women's National Football Squad for qualifying for the 2019 Women's World Cup in France, and praises the management and team for inspiring Scotland to get behind them with such exceptional results.

Council calls, in recognition of this outstanding international sporting achievement, for the Scottish Football Association to increase its level of funding for Women's Football in Scotland.

19 Notice of Motion 5 by Councillors Steel and McNaughtan

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Steel and McNaughtan in the following terms:

“Council rejects the report by the 'Taxpayers' Alliance' into time taken by union officials to go about their duties while employed by Renfrewshire Council and the cost this incurs.

Council applauds the work done by Trades Union officials within Renfrewshire Council to promote best working practices and condition, and recognises the contribution made to good working relations brought about by management working closely with Trades Unions.”

Councillor Steel, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan, then moved the motion.

Councillor Graham, seconded by Councillor Begg, moved as an amendment that Council notes the report by the Taxpayers Alliance and while we may disagree with its findings we recognise the right of external bodies to scrutinise local government spending and decisions.

Council calls on the relevant officers to ensure accurate and timely information is given in future.

Council applauds the work done by Trade Union officials within Renfrewshire Council to promote best working practices and conditions, and recognises the contribution made to good working relations brought about by management working closely with Trade Unions.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Begg, Binks, Graham, Kerr, J MacLaren, McIntyre and Strang.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Bibby, Brown, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Davidson, Devine, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Don, Dowling, Grady, Hood, Hughes, Kennedy, Mack, M MacLaren, McCartin, McCulloch, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughtan, Montgomery, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Sharkey, Shaw, Sheridan and Steel.

The following member abstained: Councillor Mackay.

7 members having voted for the amendment, 33 members having voted for the motion and one member having abstained, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Council rejects the report by the 'Taxpayers' Alliance' into time taken by union officials to go about their duties while employed by Renfrewshire Council and the cost this incurs.

Council applauds the work done by Trades Union officials within Renfrewshire Council to promote best working practices and condition, and recognises the contribution made to good working relations brought about by management working closely with Trades Unions.

20 Notice of Motion 6 by Councillors Steel and J Cameron

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Steel and J Cameron in the following terms:

“Council applauds the superb work done by Elderslie Community Council prior to the recent Wallace Day events in the village to tidy and clean the area around the Wallace monument.

Given the potential economic benefit to the area of the Wallace brand, council notes with disappointment that action has not been taken previously to utilise this hyper-localised and unique aspect of Elderslie's identity to maximum advantage.

Therefore, Council directs officers to bring a report to the appropriate board, setting out a plan to engage all stakeholders and develop a suite of activities to maximise the potential economic benefit to Elderslie in relation to the Wallace heritage.”

Councillor Steel, seconded by Councillor J Cameron, then moved the motion.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Hood, moved as an amendment that Council further believes that such stakeholders should include Elderslie Community Council, the Society of William Wallace, and the Johnstone Business Consortium, and proposes that one of the suite of activities examined for promotion should be the establishment of a Wallace Festival which will showcase musical, cultural, artistic, and historical expressions of the Wallace Story."

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Steel and J Cameron, being the mover and seconder of the motion accepted the amendment as an addition to the motion and the motion, as amended, was approved unanimously.

DECIDED: Council applauds the superb work done by Elderslie Community Council prior to the recent Wallace Day events in the village to tidy and clean the area around the Wallace monument.

Given the potential economic benefit to the area of the Wallace brand, council notes with disappointment that action has not been taken previously to utilise this hyper-localised and unique aspect of Elderslie's identity to maximum advantage.

Therefore, Council directs officers to bring a report to the appropriate board, setting out a plan to engage all stakeholders and develop a suite of activities to maximise the potential economic benefit to Elderslie in relation to the Wallace heritage.

Council further believes that such stakeholders should include Elderslie Community Council, the Society of William Wallace, and the Johnstone Business Consortium, and proposes that one of the suite of activities examined for promotion should be the establishment of a Wallace Festival which will showcase musical, cultural, artistic, and historical expressions of the Wallace Story.

21 Notice of Motion 7 by Councillors J MacLaren and McIntyre

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors J MacLaren and McIntyre in the following terms:

"Sight Lines

Council notes that despite requiring developers to build in visibility splays at junctions for new roads, these sight lines are not maintained once the new roads have been adopted. Council further notes that throughout Renfrewshire grass, bushes and hedges along the roads have been allowed to grow with little if any maintenance causing unnecessary dangers to traffic and pedestrians. Council calls for hedge and verge maintenance, necessary for the purpose of road safety, to have an increased priority and for early enforcement on landowners, when required, in order to keep pavements clear."

Councillor J MacLaren, seconded by Councillor McIntyre, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Sight Lines - Council notes that despite requiring developers to build in visibility splays at junctions for new roads, these sight lines are not maintained once the new roads have been adopted. Council further notes that throughout Renfrewshire grass, bushes and hedges along the roads have been allowed to grow with little if any maintenance causing unnecessary dangers to traffic and pedestrians. Council calls for

hedge and verge maintenance, necessary for the purpose of road safety, to have an increased priority and for early enforcement on landowners, when required, in order to keep pavements clear.

22 Notice of Motion 8 by Councillors J MacLaren and Begg

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors J MacLaren and Begg in the following terms:

"Primary school provision in Bishopton and Dargavel

This council calls on the Director of Children's Services to consider the current proposal of a new primary school for the Dargavel development only and to bring a report back to the next Education & Children's Services Policy Board setting out how the public will be consulted on the proposal and setting out the merits and cost implications of building one large primary school in Dargavel for the whole of Bishopton including Dargavel."

Councillor J MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Begg, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Primary school provision in Bishopton and Dargavel - This Council calls on the Director of Children's Services to consider the current proposal of a new primary school for the Dargavel development only and to bring a report back to the next Education & Children's Services Policy Board setting out how the public will be consulted on the proposal and setting out the merits and cost implications of building one large primary school in Dargavel for the whole of Bishopton including Dargavel.

23 Notice of Motion 9 by Councillors Davidson and Hood

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

"Webcasting of Policy Boards

Council notes the success of the web casting of full meetings of Renfrewshire Council.

In the interests of further transparency and public engagement Council agrees to introduce web casting of the following Boards and Committees:-

Infrastructure Land and Environmental Policy Board
Finance and Resources & Customer Service Policy Board
Communities Housing and Planning Policy Board
Education and Children's Services Policy Board Leadership Board
Petitions Board
Audit Scrutiny and Risk"

Councillor Davidson, seconded by Councillor Hood, then moved the motion.

Councillor Mackay, seconded by Councillor Strang, moved as a first amendment that before further webcasting is introduced, the cost of each webcast should be made transparent. Therefore, the members can decide if the additional costs of increasing the number of webcasts justifies the withdrawal of funds from more deserving causes.

Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Burns, moved as a second amendment that Council notes that the cost of webcasting the full Council over the last 8 meetings was approximately £14k per annum. Council also noted that the average number of views over these meetings had been 302, at a cost of £5.79 per viewer and at a cost of £1750 per meeting. Council agrees that webcasting the full Council was of interest to the public and that webcasting of Council meetings continues at its present level.

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Mackay and Strang, being the mover and seconder of the first amendment, withdrew their amendment.

The vote was then taken between the motion and the second amendment which was the only substantive amendment remaining.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Begg, Binks, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Audrey Doig, Don, Graham, Hughes, Kerr, Mack, Mackay, J MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McIntyre, McNaughtan, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw, Steel and Strang.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Bibby, Brown, Davidson, Devine, Andy Doig, Dowling, Grady, Hood, Kennedy, McCartin, McCulloch, Montgomery, Sharkey and Sheridan.

27 members having voted for the amendment and 14 members having voted for the motion, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: That Council notes that the cost of webcasting the full Council over the last 8 meetings was approximately £14k per annum. Council also noted that the average number of views over these meetings had been 302, at a cost of £5.79 per viewer and at a cost of £1750 per meeting. Council agrees that webcasting the full Council was of interest to the public and that webcasting of Council meetings continues at its present level.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11.50 am and reconvened at 12 noon.

24 Notice of Motion 10 by Councillors Davidson and Devine

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

“Parking Spaces at Whiteford Road, Paisley

Council agrees that grass verges at Whiteford Road be removed and replaced by parking spaces within the next 6 months.”

Councillor Davidson, seconded by Councillor Devine, then moved the motion, deleting the words “within the next 6 months.”

Councillor Mackay, seconded by Councillor Graham, moved as a first amendment that Council maintain the status quo and leave the grass verges as grass.

Councillor McCartin, seconded by Councillor Andy Doig, moved as a second amendment that Council agrees to examine all areas of Renfrewshire where the demand for local car parking spaces has outstripped their availability. Where grass verges are available, are not part of the general “green spaces” of the area, and where local communities are happy to lose them, Council should look to converting them to extra parking spaces for the local community.

Council recognises that most areas affected are likely to be mixed owner/Council estates where the houses were built at a time when there was little car ownership.

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Davidson and Devine, being the mover and seconder of the amended motion, accepted the second amendment as an addition to the amended motion.

Councillor McEwan, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan, moved as a third amendment that Parking Spaces at Whiteford Road, Paisley - Council agrees that this should be considered at the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board and follows the appropriate process for this type of local ward issue.

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Mackay and Graham, being the mover and seconder of the first amendment, withdrew their amendment.

The vote was then taken between the motion, as amended, and the third amendment which was the only substantive amendment remaining.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Begg, Binks, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Audrey Doig, Don, Graham, Hughes, Kerr, Mack, Mackay, J MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McIntyre, McNaughtan, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw, Steel and Strang.

The following members voted for the motion as amended: Councillors Bibby, Brown, Davidson, Devine, Andy Doig, Dowling, Grady, Hood, Kennedy, McCartin, McCulloch, Montgomery, Sharkey and Sheridan.

27 members having voted for the amendment and 14 members having voted for the motion as amended, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Parking Spaces at Whiteford Road, Paisley - Council agrees that this should be considered at the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board and follows the appropriate process for this type of local ward issue.

Order of Business

In terms of Standing Order 16, Provost Cameron intimated that she intended to change the order of business by taking item 35 on the agenda – Notice of Motion 21 – as the amendment to Notice of Motion 11, item 25 on the agenda.

25 Notice of Motion 11 by Councillors Kennedy and Grady

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Kennedy and Grady in the following terms:

"Childcare First

Council will take the necessary steps to ensure that Hillview Nursery (Ferguslie) and Rainbow Nursery (Shortroods) remain open beyond March 2019.

Council will reassure parents staff and children that they will continue to offer the support they need from Renfrewshire Council in future and agree that a report be brought back to the Full Council meeting on 13 December 2018."

Councillor Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Grady, then moved the motion.

Councillor Bibby, seconded by Councillor Devine, moved as a first amendment to insert after "Council will take the necessary steps" the following:

"by providing full funding to Child Care First."

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Kennedy and Grady, being the mover and seconder of the motion accepted the amendment as an addition to the motion.

Councillor Paterson, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved as a second amendment:

"Hillview Nursery

Renfrewshire Council notes the decision of the Board of Child Care First to close Hillview Nursery in March 2019. Council recognises the potential impact the decision will have on the children and families presently using the service at Hillview. Council wants to ensure that children in their pre-school year don't have to change nursery placement before they move to primary school.

Council is committed to ensuring that children entitled to the present 600 hours of funded learning and childcare can do so. Council is also developing the plan to expand the funded hours to 1140 by 2020.

The Council is committed to ensuring the continuation of service to the children and families who use Hillview nursery and agrees to approach Child Care First to secure the transfer of the service to the Council."

The vote was taken between the motion and the second amendment which was the only substantive amendment remaining.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Begg, Binks, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Don, Graham, Hughes, Kerr, Mackay, J MacLaren, M MacLaren, McCartin, McEwan, McGurk, McIntyre, McNaughtan, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw, Steel and Strang.

The following members voted for the motion as amended: Councillors Bibby, Brown, Davidson, Devine, Dowling, Grady, Hood, Kennedy, Mack, McCulloch, Montgomery, Sharkey and Sheridan.

28 members having voted for the amendment and 13 members having voted for the motion as amended, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Hillview Nursery - Renfrewshire Council notes the decision of the Board of Child Care First to close Hillview Nursery in March 2019. Council recognises the potential impact the decision will have on the children and families presently using the service at Hillview. Council wants to ensure that children in their pre-school year don't have to change nursery placement before they move to primary school.

Council is committed to ensuring that children entitled to the present 600 hours of funded learning and childcare can do so. Council is also developing the plan to expand the funded hours to 1140 by 2020.

The Council is committed to ensuring the continuation of service to the children and families who use Hillview nursery and agrees to approach Child Care First to secure the transfer of the service to the Council.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Campbell having previously declared an interest in the undernoted item remained in the meeting.

26 Notice of Motion 12 by Councillors Hughes and J Cameron

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Hughes and J Cameron in the following terms:

"Protest Buffer Zones for Reproductive Health Clinics

Council believes in upholding the right to peaceful protest. Council further believes that the right to peaceful protest should not interfere with the fundamental right for women to make individual reproductive choices, or NHS professionals to do their job without fear or abuse. Council further notes that campaigns against women exercising their sexual health rights can continue without occupying the space immediately outside clinics and services, which cause distress to both those accessing these services, and patients accessing general healthcare in the same sites.

Council note the recent decision by Glasgow city council requesting that NHSGG&C explore the possibility of protest buffer zones in the Glasgow area. Council supports the exploration of the case for buffer zones outside reproductive health clinics and hospitals as a means of ensuring that no individuals are harassed or obstructed from accessing confidential advice and treatment.

Council requests that the Chief Officer of the IJB to raise the issue of a potential buffer zone policy relating to sexual and reproductive health facilities and hospitals in Renfrewshire with Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board, and to provide feedback on these discussions to the Council."

Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor J Cameron, then moved the motion.

Councillor McCartin, seconded by Councillor Andy Doig, moved as an amendment that Council believes in the right to peaceful protest, and emphasises that the right to such protest, free from harassment and intimidation, is already enshrined in law.

Council notes the opposition of civil liberties groups, Big Brother Watch, and the Index on Censorship, as well as veteran LGBT campaigner, Mr Peter Tatchell, to buffer zones, and agrees they are a threat to civil liberties.

Council declares that buffer zones are illiberal, an impediment to the right to free assembly and contrary to Article 10 of the Human Rights Act 1998 on freedom of expression, and Article 11 of the Human Rights Act on the right to protest.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Begg, Devine, Andy Doig, Graham, J MacLaren, McCartin and Sharkey.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Bibby, Binks, Brown, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Davidson, Audrey Doig, Don, Dowling, Grady, Hood, Hughes, Kerr, Mackay, M MacLaren, McCulloch, McEwan, McGurk, McIntyre, McNaughtan, Montgomery, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw, Steel and Strang.

The following members abstained: Councillors Kennedy and Mack.

7 members having voted for the amendment, 31 members having voted for the motion and 2 members having abstained, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Protest Buffer Zones for Reproductive Health Clinics - Council believes in upholding the right to peaceful protest. Council further believes that the right to peaceful protest should not interfere with the fundamental right for women to make individual reproductive choices, or NHS professionals to do their job without fear or abuse. Council further notes that campaigns against women exercising their sexual health rights can continue without occupying the space immediately outside clinics and services, which cause distress to both those accessing these services, and patients accessing general healthcare in the same sites.

Council note the recent decision by Glasgow City Council requesting that NHS GGC explore the possibility of protest buffer zones in the Glasgow area. Council supports the exploration of the case for buffer zones outside reproductive health clinics and hospitals as a means of ensuring that no individuals are harassed or obstructed from accessing confidential advice and treatment.

Council requests that the Chief Officer of the IJB to raise the issue of a potential buffer zone policy relating to sexual and reproductive health facilities and hospitals in Renfrewshire with Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board, and to provide feedback on these discussions to the Council.

Adjournment

In terms of Standing Order 41, the meeting adjourned at 1.35 pm and reconvened at 2.05 pm.

27 Notice of Motion 13 by Councillors J Cameron and Adam-McGregor

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors J Cameron and Adam-McGregor in the following terms:

"Smoking is the biggest avoidable cause of death in Scotland and results in the disability and impoverishment of thousands of people in Renfrewshire Council every year. Childhood exposure to second-hand smoke causes ill-health, reduces educational attainment and smoking imagery can lead children to become smokers themselves.

In support of the Scottish Government's target of a Tobacco-free Scotland by 2034 (5% prevalence or less), this Council endorses the Principle of Scotland's Charter for a Tobacco-free Generation, to put tobacco out of sight, out of mind and out of fashion for children born in 2013 and give Renfrewshire Council access to the free resources and advice available from ASH Scotland and other Charter signatories across Scotland."

Councillor J Cameron, seconded by Councillor Adam-McGregor, then moved the motion, amending "Renfrewshire Council" with "Renfrewshire Council area" in the first paragraph of the motion, which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Smoking is the biggest avoidable cause of death in Scotland and results in the disability and impoverishment of thousands of people in the Renfrewshire Council area every year. Childhood exposure to second-hand smoke causes ill-health, reduces educational attainment and smoking imagery can lead children to become smokers themselves.

In support of the Scottish Government's target of a Tobacco-free Scotland by 2034 (5% prevalence or less), this Council endorses the Principle of Scotland's Charter for a Tobacco-free Generation, to put tobacco out of sight, out of mind and out of fashion for children born in 2013 and give Renfrewshire Council access to the free resources and advice available from ASH Scotland and other Charter signatories across Scotland.

28 Notice of Motion 14 by Councillors Steel and Hughes

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Steel and Hughes in the following terms:

"Council notes the success of closed road cycling events in Perth, London and Wrexham, and that these events now attract entrants in the tens of thousands. Renfrewshire, with an unparalleled combination of challenging climbs and quiet roads, is the ideal location to host such an event in central Scotland.

Council further notes that not only would such an event fit with the Council's strategy of Paisley 2021 legacy events being directed out with Paisley itself, it would complement policies to improve the physical and mental wellbeing of the community. The economic impact on the area could also be considerable.

Council therefore directs the Cycling Champion to create a working group with an aim to bring such an event to Renfrewshire by 2020; and to liaise with all relevant stakeholders and bring to the appropriate board a budgeted plan for an event which would put Renfrewshire at the forefront of mass participation cycling events in Scotland."

Councillor Steel, seconded by Councillor Hughes, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council notes the success of closed road cycling events in Perth, London and Wrexham, and that these events now attract entrants in the tens of thousands. Renfrewshire, with an unparalleled combination of challenging climbs and quiet roads, is the ideal location to host such an event in central Scotland.

Council further notes that not only would such an event fit with the Council's strategy of Paisley 2021 legacy events being directed out with Paisley itself, it would complement policies to improve the physical and mental wellbeing of the community. The economic impact on the area could also be considerable.

Council therefore directs the Cycling Champion to create a working group with an aim to bring such an event to Renfrewshire by 2020; and to liaise with all relevant stakeholders and bring to the appropriate board a budgeted plan for an event which would put Renfrewshire at the forefront of mass participation cycling events in Scotland.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor J Cameron having previously declared an interest in the undernoted item remained in the meeting.

29 Notice of Motion 15 by Councillors Rodden and Steel

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Rodden and Steel in the following terms:

"Council supports the work of Active Communities in the ongoing development of 'Kairos', a women's centre based in Johnstone. The project is funded by the Robertson Trust and is a community led initiative to meet the needs of all women, girls and families including those who are vulnerable. Their mission is a world where all women achieve their potential. Active Communities were the first recipient of the council's community empowerment fund, specifically for the Kairos initiative.

Kairos is one of only two women's centres in Scotland and Council welcomes the Robertson's Trust's decision in choosing Renfrewshire for this valuable asset to the community."

Councillor Rodden, seconded by Councillor Steel, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council supports the work of Active Communities in the ongoing development of 'Kairos', a women's centre based in Johnstone. The project is funded by the Robertson Trust and is a community led initiative to meet the needs of all women, girls and families including those who are vulnerable. Their mission is a world where all

women achieve their potential. Active Communities were the first recipient of the Council's community empowerment fund, specifically for the Kairos initiative.

Kairos is one of only two women's centres in Scotland and Council welcomes the Robertson's Trust's decision in choosing Renfrewshire for this valuable asset to the community.

30 Notice of Motion 16 by Councillors Dowling and Kerr

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

"Renfrewshire Council Events Team

Council agrees that the Renfrewshire Council events team will formally extend their support to all Renfrewshire Towns and Villages to help produce and deliver programming, marketing and the infrastructure required to host their annual Christmas Lights Switch On events".

Councillor Dowling, seconded by Councillor Kerr, then moved the motion.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Paterson, moved as an amendment that a full stop be inserted after "marketing" and "The infrastructure required to host annual Christmas lights switch on events will continue to be provided by Environment and Infrastructure" inserted.

In terms of Standing order 27, Councillors Dowling and Kerr, being the mover and seconder of the motion accepted the amendment and the motion as amended, was approved unanimously.

DECIDED: Renfrewshire Council Events Team - Council agrees that the Renfrewshire Council events team will formally extend their support to all Renfrewshire Towns and Villages to help produce and deliver programming, marketing. The infrastructure required to host annual Christmas lights switch on events will continue to be provided by Environment and Infrastructure.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Campbell having previously declared an interest in the undernoted item remained in the meeting.

31 Notice of Motion 17 by Councillors Andy Doig and Bibby

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

"Prostate Cancer Awareness

Renfrewshire Council supports the efforts of charities such as Prostate Cancer UK to raise awareness of the fact that prostate cancer is one of the biggest killers of men,

commends their educational campaigns about the risk factors and symptoms of prostate cancer, and their robust advocacy for further research on the causes of prostate cancer.

Council notes with concern the variation in Scottish Health Board Areas regarding the availability of multiparametric MRI (mpMRI) scans before a biopsy, which could radically boost detection of prostate cancer and cut unnecessary procedures, and backs the campaign by Prostate Cancer UK to promote parity across NHS Scotland."

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Bibby, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Prostate Cancer Awareness - Renfrewshire Council supports the efforts of charities such as Prostate Cancer UK to raise awareness of the fact that prostate cancer is one of the biggest killers of men, commends their educational campaigns about the risk factors and symptoms of prostate cancer, and their robust advocacy for further research on the causes of prostate cancer.

Council notes with concern the variation in Scottish Health Board Areas regarding the availability of multiparametric MRI (mpMRI) scans before a biopsy, which could radically boost detection of prostate cancer and cut unnecessary procedures, and backs the campaign by Prostate Cancer UK to promote parity across NHS Scotland.

32 Notice of Motion 18 by Councillors Andy Doig and Bibby

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

"School Catchment Areas

Renfrewshire Council recognises the requirement to review school catchment areas at periodic intervals and believes that such catchment areas must be based on criteria such as safe walking routes to school, as well as improving and fostering links with local communities. Furthermore, Council stresses that changes to school catchment areas should not be made without the fullest consultation with parents, in order to give the fullest support to long term community cohesion."

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Bibby, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: School Catchment Areas - Renfrewshire Council recognises the requirement to review school catchment areas at periodic intervals and believes that such catchment areas must be based on criteria such as safe walking routes to school, as well as improving and fostering links with local communities. Furthermore, Council stresses that changes to school catchment areas should not be made without the fullest consultation with parents, in order to give the fullest support to long term community cohesion.

33 Notice of Motion 19 by Councillors Bibby and Dowling

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

"Pride Rainbow Flag

Council recognises and fully supports the work of the LGBT community in promoting the rights and needs of LGBT people, and its pursuance of inclusion and equality.

In celebration of this work the Council agrees to fly the Pride Rainbow Flag outside Renfrewshire House on a date in 2019, and thereafter annually, and will consult with the local LGBT community on how best to mark this occasion."

Councillor Bibby, seconded by Councillor Dowling, then moved the motion.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Paterson, moved as an amendment that Council notes our decision taken on 29 September 2016 to support the Time for Inclusive Education campaign, which provides educational material to support LGBT young people in the school environment and to combat homophobia, and calls on Council officers to provide a progress report on the TIE campaign in Renfrewshire for the next full Council meeting in December 2018.

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Bibby and Dowling, being the mover and seconder of the motion accepted the amendment as an addition to the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Pride Rainbow Flag - Council recognises and fully supports the work of the LGBT community in promoting the rights and needs of LGBT people, and its pursuance of inclusion and equality.

In celebration of this work the Council agrees to fly the Pride Rainbow Flag outside Renfrewshire House on a date in 2019, and thereafter annually, and will consult with the local LGBT community on how best to mark this occasion.

Council notes our decision taken on 29 September 2016 to support the Time for Inclusive Education campaign, which provides educational material to support LGBT young people in the school environment and to combat homophobia, and calls on council officers to provide a progress report on the TIE campaign in Renfrewshire for the next full Council meeting in December 2018.

34 Notice of Motion 20 by Councillors Andy Doig and Hood

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

"The Reinstatement of the 307 Johnstone Station/Lochwinnoch and the Spateston/Corseford/RAH 20 McGills Bus Services

Renfrewshire Council deplores the decision by McGills Buses to cut back the 307 Johnstone Station/Lochwinnoch, and the 20 Spateston/Corseford/RAH/Whitehaugh bus services. Council condemns this callous decision which discriminates against non car users and promotes social exclusion.

Council further highlights the remit of the SPT in subsidising bus services for routes which bus companies deem to be non-profitable, and calls on the SPT to enter into discussions with McGills to reinstate the no 307 and no 20 services, and if need be, for the SPT to subsidise them."

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Hood, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: The Reinstatement of the 307 Johnstone Station/Lochwinnoch and the Spateston/Corseford/RAH 20 McGills Bus Services - Renfrewshire Council deplores the decision by McGills Buses to cut back the 307 Johnstone Station/Lochwinnoch, and the 20 Spateston/Corseford/RAH/Whitehaugh bus services. Council condemns this callous decision which discriminates against non car users and promotes social exclusion.

Council further highlights the remit of the SPT in subsidising bus services for routes which bus companies deem to be non-profitable, and calls on the SPT to enter into discussions with McGills to reinstate the no 307 and no 20 services, and if need be, for the SPT to subsidise them.

Minute of Special Meeting Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 27 September 2018	11:30	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor, Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Derek Bibby, Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Alison Jean Dowling, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor Paul Mack, Councillor Alistair Mackay, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Eileen McCartin, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McIntyre, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor Jim Sharkey, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor James Sheridan, Councillor Andy Steel, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Provost Cameron, presided.

In Attendance

S Black, Chief Executive; S Quinn, Acting Director of Children's Services; M Crearie, Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services; G McNeill, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, A Morrison, Head of Regeneration and L Mahon, Head of Marketing (all Chief Executive's); J Trainer, Head of Childcare and Criminal Justice (Children's Services); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, a MacArthur, Head of Finance, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager and E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); J McKellar, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Leisure Limited); and D Leese, Chief Officer and P McCulloch, Acting Head of Health and Social Care (Paisley) (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership).

Declarations of Interest

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

1 Review of Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of the meeting of the Cross Party Sounding Board held on 6 June 2018, there was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils 2015 (the Scheme).

Proposed amendments were set out in the Draft Scheme which formed Appendix 1 to the report, and the index of amendments, together with an Assessment of Impact formed Appendix 2. The report advised that before the Scheme could be amended, the Council required to undertake statutory public consultation by inviting community councils and other interested parties to make representations on the content and provisions of the Draft Scheme. The Draft Scheme included the proposed introduction of a Community Council Complaints Procedure and Guidance and the provision of additional support to help community councils achieve the aims of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

While there were no proposals to amend community council boundaries, it was proposed that the Craigielea Community Council area be amended to be known formally as the Ferguslie Community Council area.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be agreed that the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils 2015 be amended as proposed within the Draft Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils;

(b) That it be agreed that statutory consultation be undertaken on the content and provision of the Draft Scheme with community councils and the public invited to make representations; and

(c) That it be noted that a further report on the outcome of the public consultation exercise and the content and provisions of a final Scheme for adoption by the Council would be submitted to a special meeting of the Council called for that purpose.

Minute of Meeting

Renfrewshire Appointment Board - Head of Transformation & Organisational Development

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 04 October 2018	13:00	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources 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 Transformation and Organisational Development - Short Leet

There were submitted copies of the forms of application submitted by candidates for the post of Head of Transformation and Organisational Development. The Board considered the applications in detail and agreed the short leet of candidates to be invited to attend for interview on 25 October 2018.

DECIDED: That the short leet of candidates as agreed be invited to attend for interview on 25 October 2018.

Minute of Meeting

Renfrewshire Appointment Board - Head of Operations and Infrastructure

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 23 October 2018	13:00	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor John Hood, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor John Shaw

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 Operations and Infrastructure - Interviews

The Board interviewed candidates for the post of Head of Operations & Infrastructure.

DECIDED: That Gavin Hutton be appointed to the post of Head of Operations & Infrastructure.

Minute of Meeting

Renfrewshire Appointment Board - Head of Transformation & Organisational Development

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 25 October 2018	13:00	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener presided.

In Attendance

A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources & 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 Transformation and Organisational Development - Interviews

The Board interviewed candidates for the post of Head of Transformation & Organisational Development.

DECIDED: That Lee Neary be appointed to the post of Head of Transformation & Organisational Development.

Minute of Meeting

Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 30 October 2018	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor John Hood, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

M Crearie, Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning and A Armstrong Walters, Strategic Partnerships & Inequalities Manager (both Chief Executive's); J Trainer, Head of Child Care & Criminal Justice (Children's Services); F Carlin, Head of Planning & Housing Services, O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection, S Marklow, Assistant Manager–Policy, L Muirhead, Planning & Housing Manager and C Dalrymple, Regulatory Enforcement Manager (all Communities, Housing & Planning Services); and J Lynch, Head of Property Services, A McLaughlin, Senior Solicitor Litigation & Regulatory Services, J McIntyre, Assistant Business Partner, R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and N O'Brien, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

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

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

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 21 August 2018, which forms the Appendix to this Minute.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a joint revenue budget monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources, Communities, Housing & Planning Services, Environment & Infrastructure and Children's Services in respect of Services reporting to the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the budget position be noted.

3 Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a capital budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources in respect of Services reporting to the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4 Community Empowerment Fund

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Community Empowerment Fund.

The report outlined the key objectives and aims of the Community Empowerment Fund. The Appendix to the report provided details of applications received for funding, totalling £133,639.50. The value of grant funding recommended for approval was £59,250. It was highlighted that the deadline for the submission of applications for the next round of funding was 20 November 2018.

DECIDED: That grant awards, as detailed in section 4 of the report and the appendix to the report, to the total value of £59,250, be approved.

5a Children's Services: Service Improvement Plan 2018/21 Mid-Year Monitoring Report

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the Service Improvement Plan for Children's Services highlighting performance over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018. The Service Improvement Plan 2018/21 Mid-Year monitoring report was appended to the report. The report outlined the key achievements of the Service, detailed future priorities and provided an update on progress to implement the action plan.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the report be noted;
- (b) That progress made on service performance be noted;
- (c) That progress made on actions and performance in the action plan be noted;
- (d) That it be noted that an out-turn report would be submitted to this Board for consideration in spring 2019; and
- (e) That it be noted that the mid-year monitoring report would also be submitted to the Education & Children's Services Policy Board, which had the remit for approving actions relating to children and families, social work and education.

5b Communities, Housing & Planning Services: Service Improvement Plan 2018/21 Mid-Year Monitoring Report

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the Service Improvement Plan for Communities, Housing & Planning Services highlighting performance over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018. The Service Improvement Plan 2018/21 Mid-Year monitoring report was appended to the report. The report outlined the key achievements of the Service, detailed future priorities and provided an update on progress to implement the action plan.

DECIDED:

- (a) That it be noted that the report reflected the new Service structure and covered the service areas of Communities, Housing & Planning Services;
- (b) That progress made on service performance be noted;
- (c) That progress made on actions and performance in the action plan be noted;
- (d) That the change to the existing target for one of the performance indicators, referred to in paragraph 5.5 of the report, be approved; and
- (e) That it be noted that an out-turn report would be submitted to the meeting of this Board for consideration in mid-2019.

6 Annual Housing Performance Benchmarking Report 2017/18

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the fifth annual Housing Performance Benchmarking return, a copy of which was appended to the report, which had been submitted to the Scottish Housing Regulator during May 2018.

The report provided information and analysis on the Council's performance, during 2017/18, in relation to key Housing Charter indicators such as tenant satisfaction, housing quality and maintenance, customer and landlord relationship, estate management, anti-social behaviour, neighbourhood nuisance, tenant disputes, homelessness, rents and services charges. Comparative information was provided in respect of other local authorities and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs).

DECIDED: That the Council's performance during 2017/18, compared to other local authorities and Registered Social Landlords, in relation to key Housing Charter indicators be noted.

7 Housing Customer Engagement Annual Report 2017/18

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the 2017/18 Customer Engagement for Housing Annual Report, a copy of which was appended to the report. The Annual report reviewed progress made in relation to the Council's Customer Engagement Strategy and outlined resources made available to promote tenant involvement. It was noted that the information would be published on the Council's website and in the tenants' newsletter, the People's News.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

8 Scottish Social Housing Charter Performance 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the 2018/19 Half-Year Update report on Scottish Social Housing Charter Performance.

Local authorities and Registered Social Landlords were required to submit an annual return relating to their performance, to the Scottish Housing Regulator, by the end of May each year. The report indicated that the 2018/19 Half-Year Update on Scottish Social Housing Charter Performance, a copy of which was appended to the report, provided information in relation to performance in terms of the Charter indicators during the first two quarters of 2018/19, together with comparative data for the previous three-year period and management information for key areas of the housing service, including allocations, rent arrears, repairs, homelessness and housing advice. It was noted that performance had been maintained or improved across most areas of the Service, although it was highlighted that there had been a slight reduction in performance in areas such as tenancy offers refused, gross rent arrears, repairs satisfaction, rent lost through empty properties and average time to re-let properties, and these indicators would be monitored closely.

DECIDED: That the 2018/19 Half-Year Update report on Scottish Social Housing Charter Performance, a copy of which was appended to the report, be noted.

9 Rapid Re-housing Transition Plan for Renfrewshire

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the Rapid Re-housing Transition Plan (RRTP) for Renfrewshire.

A key recommendation from the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Action Group, established by the Scottish Government to produce solutions to end homelessness and rough sleeping, was that all local authorities required to consult on and produce a costed five-year RRTP by 31 December 2018. Guidance had been issued to local authorities on the completion of RRTPs and funding would be allocated from the Scottish Government's Ending Homelessness Together Fund to support and assist local authorities in the implementation of their RRTPs following their submission and evaluation.

The report indicated that key local partners were currently being consulted on the proposed content of a draft RRTP for Renfrewshire, that it was likely that RRTPs would require to be subject to regular review and adjustment and that it was proposed to develop and submit a draft RRTP to the Scottish Government in accordance with the stipulated deadline and submit the RRTP to a the next available meeting of this Policy Board for homologation.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that the Scottish Government had issued guidance to all Local Authorities on the production of Rapid Re-housing Transition Plans, that these plans were to cover the five-year period from April 2019 and required to be submitted to the Scottish Government by 31 December 2018; and

(b) That the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services be authorised to carry out the necessary consultation and to submit a Draft Rapid Re-housing Transition Plan for Renfrewshire to the Scottish Government and thereafter to submit this document for homologation to the next available meeting of this Policy Board.

10 Digital Support for Council Tenants

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to digital support provided for council tenants.

The report intimated that the Council was delivering a digital participation programme of activities for Council tenants, which aimed to promote access to technology and the internet in line with the Council's Digital and Tackling Poverty Strategies. The report and a DVD presentation summarised the nature of the support provided and its impact. It was noted that the skills training provided at Renfrewshire Council sheltered and amenity housing complexes had resulted in tenants of sheltered complexes becoming 'Golden Surfers' with the support provided being shortlisted for a national Information Technology award and also contributed to being shortlisted for the national Excellence Award from the Chartered Institute of Housing for the broader health and wellbeing service provided to sheltered housing tenants. Future priorities included working closely with Homelessness Services to provide digital learning classes for homeless applicants and deploying volunteers to help with continued digital sessions at sheltered complexes.

DECIDED: That the commitment to promoting access to technology for Council tenants, in line with the Council's Digital and Tackling Poverty Strategies, and the range of measures being put in place to support Council tenants and prospective tenants to become digitally-included be noted.

11 Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy 2016/21: Annual Update

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the annual Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy 2016/21 update.

The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) outlined the strategic vision for housing and housing-related services in Renfrewshire and sought to provide a clear direction for strategic housing investment. The LHS linked with other key plans and strategies for Renfrewshire including the Local Development Plan, Our Renfrewshire-Renfrewshire's Community Plan 2017-2027 and the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan. The report highlighted key achievements and progress in the delivery of identified outcomes and actions within the Renfrewshire LHS. It was noted that a copy of the annual Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy 2016/21 update report had been published on the Council's website.

DECIDED: That progress in implementing the actions of the Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy 2016/21 be noted.

12 Renfrewshire Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2019/24

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the 2019/24 Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP).

The report indicated that the SHIP was reviewed and updated annually. A draft SHIP for the five-year period 2019/24 had been developed for consultation. It was noted that the level of grant funding for the period beyond 2021 was not yet known and the 2019/24 SHIP, which detailed how investment in affordable housing would be targeted to meet the objectives of the Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy 2016/21, included a number of newbuild projects which would be brought forward in the latter stages of the Plan period depending on the availability of grant funding. In cognisance of the funding position the SHIP 2019/24 included both a 'core' and 'shadow' programme, with those projects within the 'core' element of the programme being progressed in the early years of the programme period.

Reference was made to the decisions taken at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 21 August 2018 to support the delivery of new affordable homes across Renfrewshire and in particular, to those relating to the area of ground at St Ninian's Crescent, Paisley which was part of the Thrushcraigs Phase II project. It was highlighted that to progress the development a further area of ground at St Ninian's Crescent and Rowan Street, Paisley, currently held on the Housing Revenue Account and identified on a plan appended to the report, required to be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and the Head of Property Services authorised to negotiate disposal for affordable housing.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Renfrewshire Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2019/24, a copy of which was appended to the report, be approved;

(b) That the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services be authorised to submit the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2019/24 to the Scottish Government; and

(c) That it be agreed that the sites at St Ninian's Crescent and Rowan Street, Paisley, identified on Plan A appended to the report, be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and the Head of Property Services be authorised to negotiate, as outlined in paragraph 5 of the report, disposal of the sites to a housing association for affordable housing.

13 Housing Investment Strategy for the Tannahill Area, Ferguslie Park

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the Housing Investment Strategy for the Tannahill area, Ferguslie Park, Paisley.

The report detailed updated housing investment proposals which it was anticipated would result in around 100 new homes being built by Renfrewshire Council on vacant land. The housing would be designed and built to meet current and future needs. The report outlined actions to be taken by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services in relation to re-housing options for Council tenants and listed Council-owned properties, the tenants of which were to be offered suitable alternative accommodation, and privately-owned properties where discussions would be held with the owners with a view to reaching agreement on voluntary acquisition of the properties and, if appropriate, demolition. It was noted that a Development Framework would be prepared by the Council for the wider Tannahill area in full consultation with the local community, which would consider all opportunities for land and assets to secure long term regeneration objectives.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan, moved;-

(a) That it be agreed that around 100 new Council homes be built on vacant land adjacent to the existing housing in the Tannahill area as identified on the plan appended to the report;

(b) That the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services take appropriate action, as outlined in paragraph 5 of the report, in relation to re-housing options for Council tenants;

(c) That rehousing priority and home loss payments/disturbance assistance be awarded to tenants and residents subject to qualifying criteria;

(d) That the Council tenants of the properties listed in Table 2 of the report which were to be subject to demolition be offered suitable alternative accommodation;

(e) That the Council enter into discussions with the owners of the 30 privately-owned properties, detailed in table 3 of the report, with a view to reaching agreement on voluntary acquisition of the properties and, if appropriate, demolition; and

(f) That a Development Framework be prepared by the Council for the wider area in full consultation with the local community, which would consider all opportunities for land and assets to secure long term regeneration objectives.

This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

- (a) That it be agreed that around 100 new Council homes be built on vacant land adjacent to the existing housing in the Tannahill area as identified on the plan appended to the report;
- (b) That the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services take appropriate action, as outlined in paragraph 5 of the report, in relation to re-housing options for Council tenants;
- (c) That rehousing priority and home loss payments/disturbance assistance be awarded to tenants and residents subject to qualifying criteria;
- (d) That the Council tenants of the properties listed in Table 2 of the report which were to be subject to demolition be offered suitable alternative accommodation;
- (e) That the Council enter into discussions with the owners of the 30 privately-owned properties, detailed in table 3 of the report, with a view to reaching agreement on voluntary acquisition of the properties and, if appropriate, demolition; and
- (f) That a Development Framework be prepared by the Council for the wider area in full consultation with the local community, which would consider all opportunities for land and assets to secure long term regeneration objectives.

14 Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programme - Update

Under reference to item 14 of the Minute of the meeting of this Policy Board held on 21 August 2018, there was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the allocation of additional funding of £224,250 for the Renfrewshire Council area in terms of the Scottish Government's Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland (HEEPS:ABS) 2018/19.

The report advised that Renfrewshire Council had previously been awarded £1,518,477 for qualifying HEEPS:ABS projects in 2018/19 within the Renfrewshire area. This funding had been allocated to projects focused on mixed tenure blocks of solid-wall construction type to support social landlords in meeting the requirements of the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing. Notification had subsequently been received advising that additional grant funding of £97,175 had been allocated for the Renfrewshire area for 2018/19, taking the total grant allocation to £1,615,652. Due to funds being returned to the Scottish Government by other local authorities additional funding of £224,250 was available from the HEEPS:ABS 2017/18 programme and Renfrewshire Council had indicated that it would be able to allocate this funding to qualifying projects and meet the Scottish Government's requirements in terms of drawing down the monies.

The report indicated that it was proposed that the additional funding be utilised to extend the current wall insulation programme within the Lochfield area to more owners within mixed-tenure blocks. As previously reported to the Board, in addition to the HEEPS:ABS grant allocated to local authorities, the Scottish Government had made funds available to assist private owners with the costs of a range of insulation and heating measures through a variety of grants, interest free loans and equity loan schemes which were administered by Home Energy Scotland (HES).

To assist owners in wholly-private blocks whose properties were not included in the Council's mixed-tenure investment programme, the Council would continue to work in partnership with Home Energy Scotland to assess homeowners' eligibility for a range of energy efficiency measures and offer advice on the financial support available to support the installation of these measures.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that additional funding of £224,250 been allocated to Renfrewshire Council for qualifying projects within the Renfrewshire Council area in terms of the HEEPS:ABS 2017/18 programme;

(b) That the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services be authorised to accept the offer of grant and oversee delivery and operational management of the programme; and

(c) That the use of resources from the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme, as detailed in paragraph 3.6 of the report, to supplement the funding be noted.

15 Energy Efficient Scotland De-carbonisation Fund - Award of Funding 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the award of funding for 2018/19 from the Energy Efficient Scotland De-carbonisation Fund.

The report advised that the Scottish Government had announced the Energy Efficiency Scotland De-carbonisation Fund during May 2018 and invited expressions of interest from social landlords for a share of £3.5 million capital funding for de-carbonisation activity, such as ground or air source heat pumps, biomass, solar PV and storage. The funding was to assist social landlords in complying not only with the 2020 Energy Efficiency Standards for Social Housing (EESH) target but also maximising compliance with potential EESH2 standards after 2020. The funding criteria was that funding should be utilised for energy efficiency measures, including internal works, installation, etc within projects that also included de-carbonisation activity. Following the submission of an expression of interest and positive feedback from the Scottish Government Renfrewshire Council had submitted a successful application for £145,720, to support existing investment proposals and enable these to be expanded to include a pilot project of de-carbonisation measures in eight properties in Blackstoun Oval, Paisley. Details of the energy efficiency measures incorporated within the pilot project were provided.

The requirement for additional financial support for the pilot project of £213,000, from the Council's Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme was highlighted.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that Renfrewshire Council had been allocated £145,720 for 2018/19 as part of the Scottish Government's Energy Efficient Scotland De-carbonisation Fund;

(b) That the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services be authorised to accept the offer of grant and oversee the delivery and operational management of the programme for Renfrewshire Council; and

(c) That the use of resources from the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme, as detailed in paragraph 3.6 of the report, to supplement the funding be noted.

16 Counter Terrorism and Frauds and Scams within Renfrewshire

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to counter terrorism, fraud and scam activity within Renfrewshire.

The report stated that Renfrewshire Council had a duty in terms of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, to have regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and to work with partners to be vigilant to identify signs where someone may be in danger of becoming radicalised or involved in terrorist activities. Updated guidance had been published during 2018 that put safeguarding at the heart of the Prevent agenda. An updated version of the CONTEST strategy had been published by the Home Office during June 2018 and replaced the previous UK CONTEST Strategy and updated the Prevent Strategy. Scottish guidance on Prevent was being updated in line with the CONTEST 2018 Strategy. In addition, a divisional multi-agency CONTEST and Serious Organised Crime Group for the Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area had been established to highlight key issues of vulnerability and to co-ordinate work across the public sector to tackle terrorism and serious and organised crime.

The report also highlighted the work undertaken in Renfrewshire to prevent vulnerable residents from becoming victims of frauds and scams and detailed some of the wider implications of these types of activities.

DECIDED:

(a) That implementation of a Divisional Multi-Agency CONTEST and Serious Organised Crime Group for Renfrewshire and Inverclyde be noted;

(b) That the new CONTEST strategy 2018 be noted; and

(c) That the update on frauds and scams within Renfrewshire be noted.

17 External Scrutiny of Community Justice and Criminal Justice Social Work

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to external scrutiny of Community Justice and Criminal Justice Social Work.

The report advised that local authorities were informed, during June 2018, by the Care Inspectorate of initial proposals to take forward scrutiny of both community justice and criminal justice social work. Confirmation had subsequently been received that community justice would be subject to supported and validated self-evaluation, with criminal justice social work being subjected to formal inspection. The report outlined the anticipated focus of the inspections and indicated that the initial inspections would inform thematic areas to be explored further through future inspections with quality assurance work informing improvements. The supported and validated self-evaluation would focus on three quality indicators, namely planning and delivering services in a collaborative way; effective use and management of resources; and leadership of strategy and direction. It was noted that during 2018/19 four authorities would be subject to external scrutiny, two in relation to community justice and two in relation to criminal justice. Two local authorities had already been selected and advised of their participation in the external scrutiny programme the others chosen would be advised during November 2018. Renfrewshire Community Justice Steering Group had volunteered to be one of the first areas evaluated.

DECIDED: That the planned external scrutiny of Community Justice and Criminal Justice Social Work, with potential timescales, and work undertaken locally to quality assure and inform improvements be noted.

18 Disposal of Land adjacent to 44 Glentyan Avenue, Kilbarchan

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed declaration of an area of land located adjacent to 44 Glentyan Avenue, Kilbarchan, identified on a plan appended to the report, as surplus to the Council's requirements.

The area of land involved, which was held on the Housing Revenue Account, comprised a total area of 105 square metres and was an area of open space, maintained by Environment & Infrastructure. An offer to purchase the land for incorporation into their garden ground, had been received from the owner of the property at 44 Glentyan Avenue, Kilbarchan. Provisional agreement had been reached in terms of a purchase price subject to the ground being declared surplus to the Council's requirements. The area of land concerned was such that the purchase price/value of the land would be at a level upon which delegated powers granted to the Head of Property Services for the disposal of surplus property would be utilised. The Head of Planning & Housing Services had confirmed that the area of land involved had no operational requirement. It was highlighted that the proposed purchaser would require to obtain the required planning consents for the change of use from open space and that Environment & Infrastructure had advised that should the applicant wish to fence the outer boundaries of the space all fence heights required to be at a maximum height of one metre from the ground to preserve sightlines for the junction at Montgomery Drive, Kilbarchan.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the area of land located adjacent to 44 Glentyan Avenue, Kilbarchan, identified on the plan attached to the report, be declared surplus to the Council's requirements, with a view to disposing to the adjacent owner;
- (b) That the sale, to the adjoining proprietor of 44 Glentyan Avenue, Kilbarchan, of the land referred to above on such terms and conditions as may be negotiated by the Head of Property 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 Head of Housing & Planning Services would advertise the proposed sale of the area of open space in the local press in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1959.

19 Proposed Disposal of Commercial Property at 16 High Street, Johnstone

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed disposal of the commercial property at 16 High Street, Johnstone.

The property, which was held on the Housing Revenue Account and identified on a plan appended to the report, was leased to Mr Peralla, for an annual rent of £5,200. No trading was currently being undertaken from the premises. Provisional agreement had been reached to a purchase price of £67,000 for the property. The purchaser proposed to combine the property with the properties at 12/14 High Street, Johnstone, which he owned and which were trading as an Italian restaurant and takeaway. If this was not possible he proposed to open the premises as a retail opportunity. The Head of Planning & Housing Services had confirmed there were no objections to the proposed disposal. It was noted that there was a shared maintenance responsibility with three flats in High Street and eight flats on Walkinshaw Street, Johnstone and that five of these 11 flats were in private ownership. In accordance with changes to the Scottish Minister consent process when disposing of Housing Revenue Account assets, the disposal would be in terms of the General Consent available and be self-certified by the Council.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the Board declare the commercial property at 16 High Street, Johnstone surplus to requirements of the Council;
- (b) That it be noted that the property would be sold to the existing tenant, Mr Perella, on terms and conditions negotiated and provisionally agreed with the Head of Property Services and considered by the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board; and
- (c) That it be noted in accordance with changes to the Scottish Minister consent process when disposing of Housing Revenue Account assets, the disposal would be in terms of the General Consent available and be self-certified by the Council.

20 Planning Appeal Decisions 2018

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the outcome of planning applications which had been refused planning permission by the Council and had subsequently been subject to appeal to the Scottish Government's Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals. The appendix to the report provided details of the decisions.

DECIDED: That the outcomes of the planning appeals to the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be noted.

21 Making Places Initiative - Foxbar Place Plan

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the Foxbar Place Plan developed in terms of the Making Places Initiative.

The report advised that the Council had secured funding from the Scottish Government Making Places Initiative to support the development of a pilot Place Plan for the Foxbar neighbourhood of Paisley. The initiative supported communities to actively participate and lead the design and development of their local area with the outcomes of the Plan supporting delivery of actions within the Renfrewshire Community Plan 2017/27. A copy of the Foxbar local Place Plan, prepared by residents, local businesses and community groups and informed by an extensive and varied programme of consultation and engagement, was appended to the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Foxbar Place Plan be noted as a pilot, community-led plan supporting local involvement in shaping their places; and

(b) That it be noted that guidance supporting the wider delivery of Place Plans across Renfrewshire would be submitted to this Board in early 2019.

22 Proposal of Application Notices

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to proposal of application notices.

DECIDED: That the key issues identified to date be noted.

23 Planning Applications

There were submitted reports by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to applications for planning permission that required to be determined by the Board.

It was proposed that the Head of Planning & Housing Services ensured that all future planning applications for housing developments in Renfrewshire considered and reported on the cumulative impact of applications to be determined on the wider area in terms of infrastructure, education provision, including school capacity and catchment areas, and ensured that there was full consideration of supplementary guidance. This was agreed.

(A) 18/0211/PP - WARD 10: ERECTION OF 110 TWO-STOREY DWELLINGHOUSES. ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSOCIATED WORKS AT JOHNSTONE HOSPITAL, BRIDGE OF WEIR ROAD, LINWOOD, PAISLEY: TAYLOR WIMPEY WEST SCOTLAND & NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE.

It was proposed that consideration of the application be continued subject to clarification on school catchment areas and further information relative to the likely impact on traffic on the A737, safe walking routes to local schools and the cumulative effect of the application on education provision and infrastructure. The Board should also be advised on whether the proposals complied with supplementary guidance including guidance on suitability of units, and steps to achieve carbon reduction targets. This was agreed.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued subject to clarification on school catchment areas and further information relative to the likely impact on traffic on the A737, safe walking routes to local schools and the cumulative effect of the application on education provision and infrastructure. The Board should also be advised on whether the proposals complied with supplementary guidance including guidance on suitability of units, and steps to achieve carbon reduction targets.

(B) 18/0515/LB – WARD 4: DEMOLITION OF SIDE AND REAR EXTENSIONS AND INTERNAL ALTERATIONS TO MUSEUM AND LIBRARY AT PAISLEY MUSEUM AND ART GALLERIES, 68 HIGH STREET, PAISLEY PA1 2BA: RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

It was proposed that the application be granted subject to the conditions and reasons detailed within the report. This was agreed.

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

(C) 16/0726/PP - WARD 12: DISCHARGE OF PLANNING CONDITIONS 5 AND 10(A) AND (B) RELATIVE TO PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED FOR THE ERECTION OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT COMPRISING 195 DWELLINGHOUSES, WITH ASSOCIATED ROADS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING AT NORTH BARR, BANCHORY AVENUE, INCHINNAN, RENFREW PA4 9PR: CALA HOMES (WEST) LIMITED

A plan identifying the development site and local amenities/facilities was tabled for members information. It was proposed that consideration of the application for discharge of planning conditions 5 and 10 (a) and (b) of planning permission 16/0726/PP be continued to enable legal advice to be sought as to the powers available

to the Council to ensure that the detailed proposals submitted by the applicant were implemented. This was agreed.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application for discharge of planning conditions 5 and 10 (a) and (b) of planning permission 16/0726/PP be continued to enable legal advice to be sought as to the powers available to the Council to ensure that the detailed proposals submitted by the applicant were implemented.

Minute of Meeting

Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 21 August 2018	15:00	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillors Hood, McGurk, McNaughtan, Nicolson and Strang.

Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

M Crearie, Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services; C Grainger, Planning and Performance Manager (Chief Executive's); O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection and C Dalrymple, Communities and Regulatory Manager (both Communities, Housing & Planning Services); R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer (both Finance & Resources).

Also in Attendance

G Crossan, Divisional Commander; S Carle, Chief Superintendent, Head of Road Policing and S Wright, Superintendent (all Police Scotland); and G Binning, Local Senior Officer and M Gallacher, Group Manager (both Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Declarations of Interest

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

1 Police Scotland - Scrutiny Report

There was submitted a report by the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, relative to service performance and activities in the Renfrewshire area.

The report summarised the key performance indicators and provided statistics for the period 1 April to June 2018, relating to the specific key objectives detailed in the Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan 2017/21, together with comparative data. The report also provided in an infographic format local updates in relation to the Police Scotland priorities of violence and anti-social behaviour; public protection; major crime and terrorism; acquisitive crime and road safety and road crime. An update was also provided on progress made on a number of local high profile cases.

DECIDED: That the information be noted.

2 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - Scrutiny Report

There was submitted a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) relative to SFRS performance and activities in the Renfrewshire area during the reporting period Quarter 1 – 2018/2019. It was advised that future reports would be on a quarterly basis, be presented in an infographic format and align with the local Fire and Rescue Plan.

The report provided a summary across a range of performance indicators. Over the period there had been an increase in the number of accidental dwelling fires from 42 in the same period in 2017/18 to 51 in the current reporting period; the total number of all non-fatal fire casualties had increased from 9 to 14; the total number of incidents involving deliberate fire raising had decreased from 213 to 200 during the comparative periods; the total number of fires in non-domestic premises had increased from 14 to 21 in the current reporting period; the number of unwanted fire alarm signal incidents had increased from 204 to 207; the total number of non-fatal road traffic collisions attended by the Service had decreased from 24 to 16. The appendix to the report provided an analysis of performance and activities.

The report also detailed a number of priorities and interventions, specifically highlighting the Local Area Liaison Officer's attendance at the daily tasking meeting within Renfrewshire Safety Hub; the Community Action Team (CAT) engagement with a number of key partners to promote fire safety; information/awareness events that had been conducted by the CAT to support the work of the SFRS Spring/Summer Thematic Action Plan which included talks on deliberate fires; a Fireskills event held for pupils from two local secondary schools; and the number of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) carried out in Renfrewshire during the reporting period.

A commitment was made to work in partnership with Community Planning partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors for a safer Scotland. Strengthened working added value to communities which was critical to the success of the strategy.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the report be noted; and
- (b) That it be noted that infographic reports would be submitted to future meetings of the Sub Committee.

3 Reforming the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - An Audit Scotland Update

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to an update report by Audit Scotland on reforming the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.

The report stated that Audit Scotland had published its report 'The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service' during May 2015, which provided an overview of the merger of the eight former fire and rescue services to form a single Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. An update report by Audit Scotland had been published in May 2018. The update report assessed progress made by the Service, since 2015, on creating a single national organisation and the ongoing process of integration and transformation and advised that slow but steady progress was being made. The report had concluded that the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service continued to deliver emergency and prevention services while progressing a complex and ambitious programme of reform.

DECIDED: That the content of the Audit Scotland report "Reforming the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service" – an Audit Scotland Update be noted,

4 Commemoration of Firefighter - 7 October 2018

The Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Services advised that arrangements were in place to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Edmund Burt a serving Firefighter who had lost his life while attending a fire at R & W Paper Mill, Napier Street, Linwood on 7 October 1968.

The commemorative service would be held in Tweedie Halls, Linwood on Sunday 7 October 2018 at 2.00pm. A stone memorial plinth would be put in place on the ground as near as possible to where the firefighter had fallen. Details of those invited to attend were provided and it was noted that civic hospitality would be provided by the Council.

The Local Senior Office, Scottish Fire & Rescue advised that similar arrangements would be made to commemorate James Mair, a firefighter who had lost his life while attending a fire at Ferguslie Fireclay Works, Paisley in 1899.

DECIDED: That the information provided be noted.

5 Local Incidents and Events - Update

The Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service provided a summary of Partnership involvement at the recent Johnstone Fire Engine Rally held on 11 August 2018.

The Chief Superintendent made a presentation relative to the County Grand Lodge Parade held in Johnstone on 30 June 2018. Details of the numbers attending the event, aims and objectives of the multi-agency team established, planning and

operational arrangements made and the strategy deployed were provided.

The Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and the Chief Superintendent made reference to the close partnership working undertaken by their respective organisations which had resulted in an arrest and charges being made in respect of wilful fire raising.

DECIDED: That the information provided be noted.

6 Road Policing Unit

The Chief Superintendent, Head of Road Policing for Police Scotland gave a presentation relative to the Police Scotland Road Policing Unit (RPU).

The role, responsibility and aims and objections of the Unit were outlined. The Sub-Committee was also informed of the proposal to re-locate the RPU from 'K' division to Glasgow. Data analysis had indicated there would be no detrimental impact on response times. It was the consensus that the proposed relocation of the RPU to the Helen Street complex would result in more gains than losses but that the situation should be monitored.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.

Minute of Meeting

Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 31 October 2018	10:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor Andy Steel, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager (for item 10h only), A McLaughlin, Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Regulatory Services), M Hughes, Senior Solicitor, P Shiach, Committee Services Officer, G McIntosh, Civic Government Enforcement Officer (for item 1 only), N O'Brien, (Assistant Committee Services Officer) and K Marriot, Administrative Assistant (all Finance & Resources).

Apologies

Councillors Mackay and McEwan.

Declarations of Interest

Councillors Devine and Montgomery declared a non-financial interest in item 9 of the agenda as the objector was known to them and indicated their intention to leave the meeting during consideration of this item and not to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

1 List of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to certain provisions of the Equality Act 2010 and seeking authorisation to publish a list of wheelchair accessible taxis and private hire cars in accordance with section 167 of the Act.

The report advised that the Equalities Act 2010 provided local authorities with the discretion to produce a list of wheelchair accessible taxis and private hire cars. Drivers of those vehicles listed were then required to carry and provide assistance to passengers in wheelchairs and were prohibited from applying an additional charge.

The report highlighted the duties placed on drivers in terms of the Act and provided a definition of mobility assistance as outlined in the Act. Those drivers who wished to be exempt from these duties could apply to the Council for an exemption certificate and a notice of exemption could only be issued if the Council was satisfied that it was appropriate to do so on medical grounds; or the ground that the driver's physical condition made it impossible or unreasonably difficult for them to comply with those duties.

The report stated that the holder of an exemption certificate would only be exempt from the duties if the notice of exemption issued by the Council was displayed clearly in the vehicle and in the manner prescribed by the relevant regulations. A driver refused an exemption certificate was entitled to appeal the decision to the Sheriff Court within 28 days from the date of the refusal.

The report intimated that any driver who failed to comply with the above duties without an exemption notice displayed properly would be committing an offence. It was noted that the exemption would be from all the duties under the Act; there was no provision for making partial exemptions. As such, given that the Board allowed exemptions to drivers which were limited to assisting wheelchair passengers, the introduction of a designated list could potentially reduce the availability of vehicles able to carry wheelchair passengers.

The report indicated that it was a matter of discretion for each local authority to decide whether to publish a designated list under the 2010 Act. Adopting the list would mean that any wheelchair passenger who believed a driver had failed to comply with their duties under the 2010 Act would be able to report the matter to Police Scotland as well as to the licensing department of the Council. This could give some passengers added assurance that they would have proper access to travel in the Renfrewshire area.

The report proposed that, should the Board agree to publish and maintain a designated list, the make and model of vehicles, whether the vehicle was taxi or private hire and the name of the operator be included in the list. It would also be beneficial to the travelling public if a contact telephone number could also be published on the list in respect of any vehicle. To publish this information, the consent of licence holders would be required. It was anticipated that officers would seek this consent in advance of any designated list being published and would amend the terms of licence application forms to enable this information to be updated.

The Statutory Guidance published by the Department for Transport recommended that prior to publishing a list, local authorities should inform owners that their vehicles would be placed on the list and alert drivers to their upcoming duties. Drivers should also be given an opportunity to apply for exemptions where necessary before the publication of the list.

DECIDED:

(a) That officers be authorised to publish, on 31 May 2019 and maintain a designated list of wheelchair accessible taxis and private hire cars licensed by the Council, in accordance with section 167 of the Equalities Act 2010; and

(b) That officers be instructed to make any necessary changes to licensing application procedures and practices as required to enable publication of the above list on 31 May 2019 and maintenance of the list thereafter.

2 Renewal of Late Hours Catering Licence

There was submitted the undernoted application for renewal of a Late Hours Catering Licence: -

Applicant: WWCM Limited, 2 Broomland Street, Paisley

Premises: Kilty Kilty, 16 New Street Paisley

Authorised Goods: Bar and eatery

Operating hours: Friday and Saturday – 2.00 am to 4.00 am and Sunday (Bank Holidays only) 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Licence No.: LHC103

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.

3 Grant of Private Hire Car Operator's Licence

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

Allan Sneddon, 3 Ben Oss Place, Glasgow

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Sneddon. The Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items 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 Request for Exemption from Assisting Wheelchair Passengers - Personal Appearance

There was submitted the undernoted request for exemption from assisting wheelchair passengers. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time: -

David Snell, 44 Abbotsford Crescent, Paisley

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Snell. The Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board.

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

Under reference to item 2(c) of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 6 September 2018 the Board resumed consideration of the undernoted application for the grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the second time together with Police Scotland who had submitted a representation to the application: -

Ihsanullah Sahil, Flat 4/1, 50 Kings Way Court, Glasgow

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Sahil. Sergeant Hay, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application was invited into the meeting.

The Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board.

6 Renewal of Private Hire Car Driver's Licence - Personal Appearance

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 2 August 2018, the Board resumed consideration of the undernoted application for the renewal of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the second time together with Police Scotland who had submitted a representation to the application: -

Alexander McConville, 1 Helmsdale Drive, Paisley

Mr McConville was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay, 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.

7 Grant of Taxi Drivers' Licences - Personal Appearances

There were submitted the undernoted applications for grant of Taxi Drivers' Licences. The applicants had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland who had submitted a representation to application (b): -

(a) Scott Linton, 25 Ellisland Road, Busby.

Mr Linton, the applicant, was invited into the meeting. 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) Naveed Iqbal, 9 Brent Way, Thornliebank, Glasgow

Mr Iqbal, the applicant was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay 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 one year. This was agreed unanimously.

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

8 Renewal of Taxi Drivers' Licences - Personal Appearances

Under reference to item 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 22 August 2018 the Board resumed consideration of application (a) for the renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence and considered applications (b) and (c) for the renewal of Taxi Drivers' Licences. Applicant (a) had been asked to appear personally for the second time together with Police Scotland, who had submitted a representation to the application. Applicants (b) and (c) had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland who had submitted a representation in respect of application (b): -

(a) Thomas McGarrell, 287 Main Road, Elderslie T0352

Mr McGarrell, the applicant was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay 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.

(b) John Connolly, Flat 1/2, 4 Brediland Road, Paisley T1555

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Connolly. Sergeant Hay, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application, was invited into the meeting. The Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued, and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board.

(c) Andrew Lamont, 137 Hillside Road, Paisley T0111

Mr Lamont, the applicant was invited into the meeting and gave undertakings in relation to the renewal of his DVLA licence.

After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years in light of the aforementioned undertakings. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted for a period of two years in light of undertakings given in relation to Mr Lamont's DVLA licence.

Declarations of Interest

Councillors Devine and Montgomery having declared a non-financial interest in the following application left the meeting and took no part in any discussion and voting thereon.

9 Grant of Street Trader's Licence - Personal Appearance

There was submitted the undernoted application for grant of a Street Trader's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Councillor Sharkey who had submitted an objection to the application in relation to trading in the Ralston area of Paisley: -

Applicant: Alexander Brannigan, 5 Stoddart Square, Elderslie

Authorised goods: Soft ice cream, soft drinks and confections

Trading from: Renfrewshire Council area excluding Paisley Town Centre, Lochfield and Hunterhill

Operating hours: Seven days per week – 11.00 am to 10.00 pm.

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Brannigan or Councillor Sharkey

Councillor Doig, seconded by Councillor Rodden, moved that the application be granted

Councillor McNaughtan, seconded by Councillor Steel, moved as an amendment that consideration of the application be continued to a future meeting of the Board and that the applicant and the objector be invited to attend.

In terms of Standing Order 30 the Convener intimated that the vote would be by a show of hands.

On a vote being taken, three members voted for the amendment and three members voted for the motion. There being an equality of votes cast, the Convener used his second and casting vote in favour of the amendment. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: That the application be continued to a future meeting of the Board and that the applicant and the objector be invited to attend.

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

10 Grant of Landlord Registrations - Personal Appearances

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 23 May 2018, the Board resumed consideration of applications (a) and (b) for grant of Landlord Registration and considered applications (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) for grant of Landlord Registrations. Applicants (a) and (b) had been asked to appear personally for the second time and applicants (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland who had submitted representations to applications (c), (d), (e) and (f); the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services, Renfrewshire Council, who had submitted a representation to application (g) together with Matthew Blaikie and Kerryann Clark who had submitted complaints to application (g); and the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services, Renfrewshire Council, who had submitted a representation to application (h) and the Director of Finance and Resources, Renfrewshire Council, who had contributed to the representation to application (h):-

(a) Sophia Ahmed, 18 Fairfield Drive, Renfrew

Mr Irshad Ahmed, representing the applicant Sophia Ahmed, was invited into the meeting. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of three years. This was agreed unanimously.

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

(b) Gurjit Lally, 27 McMillan Crescent, Beith

Mrs Lally, the applicant was invited into the meeting. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be continued to allow the applicant to obtain and provide a completion certificate from the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be continued.

(c) Mark Troup, 2 Niamh Court, Inchinnan

Mr Troup, the applicant was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application.

Sergeant Hay advised the Board that the applicant was known to him, and this was noted.

After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of three years. This was agreed unanimously.

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

(d) Craig Morris, Holly Lodge, Hazlewood Road, Bridge of Weir (Joint owner Grant Morris)

Mr Craig Morris, the applicant, Mr Grant Morris and Mrs Hegg Morris were invited into the meeting.

After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of three years. This was agreed unanimously.

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

(e) Shahid Abdullah, 10 Tulloch-Ard Place, Rutherglen (Joint owner Aziza Qozat)

Mr Abdullah, the applicant and Mrs Qozat, wife and joint owner were invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application.

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.

(f) Paul Doherty, 91 Glenapp Avenue, Paisley

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Docherty. The Convener proposed that the application be continued to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be continued.

(g) Stuart McIlree, 3 Beinn Dubh View, Luss, Alexandria

Mr McIlree was invited into the meeting together with C Hunter, B Kettle and P Heaney representing the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services who had submitted a representation to the application. There was no appearance by or on behalf of M Blaikie and K Clark who had submitted complaints to the application.

After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned the Board adjourned to allow members to consider this application. The meeting was reconvened. Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Montgomery moved that the application be refused. This was agreed.

DECIDED: That the application be refused.

(h) John Owens, 6 Kincaig Park, Newton Abbey

Mr Owens, the applicant and Ms Canning, his agent were invited into the meeting together with C Hunter, B Kettle and P Heaney representing the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services who had submitted a representation to the application, and J Kane representing the Director of Finance & Resources, who had contributed to the representation to application

After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider this application. The meeting was reconvened.

Councillor McNaughtan, seconded by Councillor Steel, moved that the application be granted for a period of three years.

Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Montgomery, moved, as an amendment, that the application be refused.

In terms of Standing Order 30 the Convener intimated that the vote would be by a show of hands.

On a vote being taken, three members voted for the amendment and five members voted for the motion. The motion was accordingly declared carried.

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

Minute of Meeting

Education and Children's Services Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 01 November 2018	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Derek Bibby, Councillor Bill Binks, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Mr Iain Keith, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor Paul Mack, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Will Mylet, Mr Jack Nellaney, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor John Shaw, Mr Ravinder Singh

Chair

Councillor Paterson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

P MacLeod, Director of Children's Services, S Quinn, Assistant Director of Education/Chief Education Officer, J Trainer, Head of Childcare and Criminal Justice, G McKinlay, Head of Schools, L McAllister, Acting Head of Early Years and Broad General Education and L Fingland, Service Planning and Policy Development Manager (all Children's Services); and G McLachlan, Senior Finance Manager, D Low, Senior Committee Services Officer and N O'Brien, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

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

1 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a joint revenue budget monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources and Children's Services for the service for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

The report advised that since the last report there had been budget adjustments totalling £264,000 relating to £156,000 of transfers between departments, £75,000 allocated from Tackling Poverty in relation to Cost of School Day and £33,000 allocated to the Corporate Landlord.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

2 Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a capital budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources for the service for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 Children's Services Service Improvement Plan 2018/21:Mid-year Monitoring Report

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the Children's Services Service Improvement Plan highlighting performance over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018.

The report outlined the key achievements of the Service, detailed future priorities and provided an update on progress to implement the action plan. A copy of the Children's Services: Service Improvement Plan 2018/21 Mid-year report was appended to the report.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the content of the report be noted;
- (b) That the progress that had been made on service performance be noted;
- (c) That the progress that had been made on actions and performance in the action plan be noted;
- (d) That it be noted that an out-turn report would be provided to this Board in spring 2019; and
- (e) That it be noted that this mid-year report had also been presented to the Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board which had a remit to approve actions relating to criminal justice social work.

4 Education Improvement Plan 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the Education Improvement Plan 2018/19 which was appended to the report.

The report intimated that the Plan set out four priorities to: develop high quality learning and teaching that led to improved levels of attainment and achievement in all of our establishments; reduce inequalities and deliver improved health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people; develop high quality leadership at all levels; and improve employability skills and support all of our young people to enter positive and sustained post-school destinations.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

5 Education Standards and Quality Report

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to progress and impact on the key improvement priorities set out in the Education Standards and Quality Report which was appended to the report. The Education Standards and Quality report highlighted the effective partnership working across and beyond the directorate, with partners, parents and communities, to raise attainment for all and close the poverty-related attainment gap.

The report intimated that the five key priority areas were to: develop high quality learning and teaching that led to improved levels of attainment and achievement in all of our establishments; reduce inequalities and deliver improved health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people; support self-evaluation and performance improvements throughout our establishments; develop high quality leadership for staff at all levels; and support high numbers of our young people to enter positive destinations and sustained post-school destinations.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

6 Renfrewshire Scottish Attainment Challenge - End of Year Report

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to progress towards the Scottish Government's three long-term outcomes to improve learning and teaching; improve health and well-being; and to close the poverty-related attainment gap.

The report intimated that progress had been made over the last year relative to closing the poverty-related attainment gap in Renfrewshire. Work-streams continued to deliver high quality, evidence-based approaches and interventions which had a positive impact on the teaching of literacy and numeracy and the health and wellbeing of Renfrewshire pupils.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Graham declared a non-financial interest in the following item of business as he was a volunteer with Barnardo's and intimated his intention to remain in the meeting and take part in the discussion and voting thereon.

7 Scottish Attainment Challenge - Care Experienced Children and Young People Fund

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to initial plans to utilise Scottish Attainment Challenge funding for care-experienced children and young people in the current financial year.

The report intimated that the initial plans for utilising the fund were focused on literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. The proposals included extending access to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to include children aged birth to 5, who were looked after at home; providing "sleep hygiene" training for staff working directly with children and young people; providing additional support to care-experienced children to improve attendance at school and improve engagement in the curriculum; implementing a mentoring service in partnership with Aberlour Children's Charity; and staffing to develop the "family firm" model and education support for care-experienced children and young people. Further reports would be presented to future meetings of this Policy Board on the impact of the care experienced children and young people fund.

DECIDED: That the proposed utilisation of the Scottish Attainment Challenge – Care-experienced Children and Young People Fund be noted.

8 Glasgow City Region Education Improvement Collaborative - Phase 2 Plan

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to key actions identified for Phase 2 of the work of the Glasgow City Region Education Improvement Collaborative.

The report intimated that a key change for Phase 2 was the reconfiguration of themes which saw early learning and childcare absorbed into the other priority areas rather than as a stand-alone theme. The plan recognised the importance of a joined-up, cohesive approach to all our children and young people. In addition to the two core themes of improvement and learner journey, two sub-themes, leadership and learning had also been identified. A copy of the Regional Improvement Plan was appended to the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the content of the report be noted: and

(b) That it be noted that further updates on the progress made by the regional improvement collaborative would be brought to future meetings of this Policy Board.

9 Standard Circular 3a - Early Learning and Childcare Admission Policy

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to revisions to the early learning and childcare admissions policy and guidance for staff to reflect the commitments outlined in the Scottish Government Blueprint for 2020.

The report intimated that Standard Circular 3a detailed the Early Years Admissions policy statement and provided guidance to staff on the implementation of the policy. The Scottish Government Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland, published in 2017, set out the Government's policy objective that an increase in the hours of free early learning and childcare would give children the best start in life and support closing the poverty related attainment gap.

A short term working group involving officers from children's services, heads of early years establishments, including local authority and providers on the councils framework to deliver early learning and childcare was established to review and amend the early learning and childcare admission policy and guidance. The revision to the early learning and childcare admissions policy and guidance for staff reflected the commitments outlined in the Scottish Government Blueprint for 2020 and the report detailed the main changes to the priorities set out in the amended Standard Circular 3a, a copy of which was appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the revised Standard Circular 3a: Early Years Admissions Policy to Pre-five Establishments as appended to the report be approved.

10 Early Learning and Childcare Consultation - 2018

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the duty placed on local authorities by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 to consult representative populations of parents and carers on how any mandatory early learning and childcare, day-care and out-of-school care and discretionary services should be made available.

The report intimated that there was a requirement to consult every two years and to publish plans in response to these consultations. The findings of the early learning and childcare consultation carried out during June 2018 were detailed in the report and the consultation report formed the appendix to the report.

DECIDED: That the findings of the early years and childcare consultation be noted.

11 Update on Strategic Review of Support for Children with Additional Support Needs in Mainstream Education

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the need to undertake a strategic review of educational services and support for children with additional support needs in mainstream education in view of the increasing number of children with additional support needs and the location of authority-wide bases.

The report outlined proposals to deliver educational provision and approaches to children and young people with additional support needs by reorganising existing provision and staffing into a locality model in line with the principles of school empowerment, as well as ensuring best practice and best value.

The report intimated that the review would focus on ensuring that additional support needs were identified as early in a child's educational journey as possible, that supports were provided in the child's mainstream school where possible and that where a child needed support from outwith their mainstream school, this was provided as close to home as possible.

It was noted that Wallace Primary School should have been placed in the locality D cluster and not the locality B cluster as intimated in Appendix 1 to the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be agreed that the revised locality model for the delivery of additional support needs support and services as outlined in the report be further developed and implemented from August 2019 onwards; and

(b) That it be agreed that a further report providing fuller detail of the operation of the approach be submitted to this Policy Board in due course.

12 Examination Results 2018

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to Renfrewshire schools' attainment in the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) examinations in 2018.

The report intimated that schools had been engaging with a performance evaluation tool known as Insight which was provided to schools and education authorities by the Scottish Government as a way of benchmarking performance in relation to four key measures: literacy and numeracy; improving attainment for all; attainment versus deprivation; and leavers' destinations. The report provided data on the first three of these four measures for years S4, S5 and S6 for the last three years and set this data against Renfrewshire's comparator authorities. Leavers' destinations would become available in February 2019 and would form part of the report to this Policy Board in spring 2019.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the content of the report be noted;
- (b) That the efforts of pupils and the school communities in bringing about these results be noted; and
- (c) That it be agreed that a further report be brought to this Policy Board in spring 2019.

13 Primary School Provision in Bishopton and Dargavel

Under reference to item 22 of the Minute of the meeting of Renfrewshire Council held on 27 September 2018, there was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to primary provision in Bishopton and Dargavel.

The report provided information regarding the current proposal to build a new primary school to accommodate the number of pupils generated by the Dargavel development. The report detailed the arrangements which would be developed to ensure that the public was consulted on any proposals taken forward, compliant with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. The report also detailed the educational benefits and detriments assessment of schools with around 430 pupils and 740 pupils respectively. The report also considered the cost implications of building a single school for around 740 pupils for the whole of Bishopton including the Dargavel development.

It was noted that the revision to the number of houses being built was approved by Council in March 2018 and not June 2018 as detailed in paragraph 3.3 of the report.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the current proposal to build a school for around 430 pupils to accommodate the estimated number of primary school pupils living in Dargavel Village be approved; and

(b) That a further report seeking permission to consult on the establishment of a new primary school in Dargavel and to create a catchment area for this school be brought forward in due course.

14 Revised Site Proposal for the new Spateston Early Learning and Childcare Centre

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to a revised site proposal for the new Spateston Early Learning and Childcare Centre. The report identified challenges to the development of the project if the new centre was to be built on the site originally agreed in January 2016. A review of the location had been undertaken, and an alternative location was found within the immediate area which was identified as more suitable and cost effective. This report detailed the rationale for the revised proposal and a copy of the plan showing the revised site was appended to the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the construction of a new Spateston Early Learning and Childcare Centre on the revised site as appended to the report, located to the south-east of the existing building be approved; and

(b) That the revised delivery date of spring 2020 be noted.

15 Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in Need of Care and Protection

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the production of a revised model of inspection by the Care Inspectorate, 'joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection', which focussed on children and young people in need of protection and those who were subject to corporate parenting responsibilities.

The report intimated that the Care Inspectorate had agreed with Scottish Ministers to carry out a minimum of five joint inspections across the country each year, reporting publicly on the findings for each community planning partnership area. The approach continued to be based on self-evaluation and the Inspectorate remained committed to using the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) model.

Each inspection would produce a published report answering five key questions: how good was the partnership at recognising and responding when children and young people needed protection?; how good was the partnership at helping children and young people who had experienced abuse and neglect stay safe, healthy and well and recover from their experiences?; how good was the partnership at maximising the wellbeing of children and young people who were looked after?; how good was the partnership at enabling care experienced young people to succeed in their transition to adulthood?; and how good was collaborative leadership? The revised quality indicators and the revised inspection process were appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the content of the report be noted.

16 Best Services Trial

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to a randomised controlled trial being led by the University of Glasgow and delivered in partnership with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) to learn how to best support the development and wellbeing of young children who came into local authority care. The trial commenced in Renfrewshire in October 2018 and was scheduled to conclude in 2021.

The trial would compare two approaches: service (i.e parenting capacity assessment undertaken by the Council's social work team); and an evidence-based infant mental health intervention called Glasgow Infant and Family Team (GIFT) which was being delivered by the NSPCC. All families who had a child under the age of 60 months accommodated for reasons of maltreatment would be invited to participate in the Best Services Trial on a wholly voluntary basis.

DECIDED: That the involvement of children's social work in the Best Services Trial be noted.

17 Inspection of St Fergus' Primary School, Paisley

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the inspection of St Fergus' Primary School, Paisley by Education Scotland.

The report intimated that the purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the quality of education, with the assessment focussing on four quality indicators: leadership of change; learning, teaching and assessment; raising attainment and achievement; and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion.

The letter to parents, appended to the report, identified four key strengths and three areas for further improvement. Children's Services would continue to monitor the improvement in the school and the inspection report would be used by the school and service to support and develop the quality of educational provision.

DECIDED: That the key strengths and the areas for improvement in the Education Scotland report on St Fergus' Primary School, Paisley be noted.

Minute of Meeting

Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 05 November 2018	10:00	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Jim Harte, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor Jim Sharkey

Chair

Councillor Binks, Chair, presided.

In Attendance

L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning (Chief Executive's); G McKinlay, Head of Schools (Children's Services); C Dalrymple, Regulatory and Enforcement Manager (Communities, Housing & Planning Services); A McMahon, Chief Auditor, K Locke, Risk Manager, L Dickie, Finance Manager, S Fanning, Senior Health & Safety Officer and C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); and P McCulloch, Acting Head of Health & Social Care (Paisley) and D Wilson, Social Work Manager (both Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership).

Apologies

Councillors Dowling and Graham.

Declarations of Interest

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

1 Training for Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board Members

There was submitted a report by the Chief Auditor relative to training for Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board members.

The report intimated that at the meeting of the Board held on 28 August 2018 it was agreed that a programme of briefings for members would be provided and would continue to form part of the agenda at every alternate meeting. A copy of the amended programme of briefings was attached as an appendix to the report.

L Dickie, Finance Manager, gave a briefing to Members on the accounting and scrutiny issues at Northamptonshire Council. A McMahon, Chief Auditor, also provided a briefing to members on the National Fraud Initiative. The Local Authority (Scotland) Accounts Advisory Committee report "Holding to Account; using Local Authority Financial Statements" was attached as an appendix to the report.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the timetable of briefing sessions be agreed; and
- (b) That the briefings provided be noted.

2 Summary of Internal Audit Reports for Period 1 July to 30 September 2018

There was submitted a report by the Chief Auditor relative to the requirement in terms of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) that Internal Audit communicated the results of each engagement to the Board.

The Appendix to the report detailed the category of assurance, service, engagement and assurance rating and gave recommended risk ratings for each engagement as either critical, important, good practice or service improvement. A summary of findings was also provided in relation to final reports issued for those engagements completed during the period 1 July to 30 September 2018.

The report intimated that in addition to the reports listed in the Appendix, Internal Audit had an ongoing commitment to arrange corporate and service initiatives, progress information security matters in partnership with ICT and Legal Services, provide regular advice to officers, provide Internal Audit services to the associated bodies for which Renfrewshire Council was the lead authority and to Renfrewshire Leisure Limited and Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board, coordination of the Council's Corporate Risk Management activity and management of the counter fraud, risk management and insurance team.

DECIDED: That the summary of Audit findings report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2018 be noted.

3 Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Progress and Performance to 30 September 2018

There was submitted a report by the Chief Auditor relative to Internal Audit and Counter Fraud performance from 1 April to 30 September 2018 in terms of the delivery of the Audit Plan for the year and outlining actual performance against targets set by the Director of Finance & Resources. No formal performance targets for fraud investigation had been established as a major part of the team's work involved being the single point of contact for the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Single Fraud Investigation Service.

It was noted that the focus over the last year had been on increasing fraud awareness amongst employees to prevent fraud from occurring against the Council. The types of fraud referrals received to date were wide-ranging and the team's objective was to concentrate on investigating those referrals considered to contain the greatest fraud risk.

The report detailed the progress made against local and national initiatives involving Internal Audit and the Counter Fraud Team from 1 April to 30 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Team progress and performance to 30 September 2018 be noted.

4 Audit Scotland Report - The National Fraud Initiative in Scotland

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer relative to Audit Scotland's National Fraud Initiative (NFI) in Scotland report 2016/17.

The report indicated that NFI aimed to detect and prevent fraud and error through a national data matching exercise across public bodies carried out by Audit Scotland with the aim of identifying instances of possible fraud or error. The initiative, which was being co-ordinated by the Council's Internal Audit section, operated on a two-year cycle with the data being downloaded and electronically matched centrally one year and the results issued, investigated and reported on the next year.

The report highlighted that Scottish public bodies had recorded outcomes of £18.6 million arising since the last NFI report in June 2014. The cumulative outcomes from the NFI in Scotland were now around £129.2 million and £1.69 billion across the UK.

The report highlighted areas for improvement which should be addressed by participating bodies and a summary of the current arrangements in Renfrewshire Council was detailed along with identified improvement actions.

DECIDED: That the report from Audit Scotland and the position in relation to Renfrewshire Council's arrangements be noted.

5 Risk Matters - Combined Risk Management Policy & Strategy

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to 'Risk Matters' the Council's combined risk management policy and strategy. The report intimated that Risk Matters was formally reviewed every two years and an interim review was conducted by the Corporate Risk Management Group on behalf of the Corporate Management Team. The report also highlighted that risk management arrangements were well established and robust. Risk Matters continued to reflect good practice, was aligned to recognised standards and took account of learning through benchmarking with other public sector organisations.

The report advised that minor amendments had been made to reflect changes to the intranet; incorporated reference to the new ISO 31000:2018 standard; and reflected an update from the 2012 edition to the 2016 edition of the CIPFA Delivering Good Governance guidance.

DECIDED: That Risk Matters, version 13.0, be approved.

6 Strategic, Corporate and Service Risks, Mid-year Report

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources in keeping with the Council's risk management policy relative to the mid-year progress on management of the risks recorded in the strategic and corporate risk registers and service plans risks.

The report advised that there had been good progress made in the control and management of the identified risks. No new risks had emerged that were not anticipated as part of the process to revise the risk register earlier in the year and the overall risk profile remained unchanged from the report submitted to the meeting of the Board held on 29 May 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

7 Absence Statistics - 2018/19 - Quarter 2

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Council's absence statistics for the period 1 July to 30 September 2018.

The report provided information in relation to absence targets and how services and categories of staff had performed against them. An analysis of the reasons for absence for the period was included in the report. Information was also provided on supporting attendance activity levels by service and cost of sick pay and the overall number of days lost during the period and for the equivalent quarters in previous years.

DECIDED: That the report on absence statistics for the period 1 July to 30 September 2018 be noted.

Prior to consideration of the following item, the Convener welcomed M Higginbotham, Development Manager, Environment & Communities and R Macauley, Traffic Manager, Police Scotland to the meeting.

8 Review of the Newly-introduced Speed Limit in Brookfield (Lead Officer - David Wilson)

There was submitted a report by the Lead Officer relative to the review of the newly-introduced speed limit in Brookfield (A761).

The report advised that in 2006 the Scottish Government provided new guidance to Local Authorities regarding the speed limit on roads under their control. The guidance provided a detailed framework for how speed limits should be assessed and imposed. Within this guidance was an instruction for each Local Authority to carry out a "Speed Limit Review" on all A and B class roads by 2011.

In 2011, the Council carried out the review which identified several locations where the existing speed limit did not meet the framework's criteria and requested consideration to reducing the speed limit on those locations. The review did identify some locations where a technical evaluation suggested a raised speed limit. At this time Council officers suggested that there was little or no support for raising speed limits and consequently proposed no increased speed limits.

At the meeting of the Environment and Infrastructure Policy Board held on 8 June 2011, it was agreed that, subject to police agreement, nine A and B class roads, which included the section of the A761 going through Brookfield, be reduced to 30mph, from the original speed of 60 mph.

The report provided further background information relating to the A761 stretch of road going through Brookfield and outlined the next steps.

A statement from Environment & Communities detailing the background and current position was attached as an appendix to the report.

M Higginbotham, Development Manager, Environment & Communities and R Macauley, Traffic Manager, Police Scotland provided information in relation to the review and answered Member's questions.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the progress and information contained within the report be noted; and
- (b) That the next steps outlined within the report be agreed.

Minute of Meeting

Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 07 November 2018	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor, Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Will Mylet

Chair

Councillor McEwan, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection and C Dalrymple, Regulatory and Enforcement Manager (both Communities, Housing & Planning); G Hannah, Interim Head of Operations & Infrastructure, K Anderson, Amenity Services Manager – Waste, K Gray, StreetScene Manager, J Wallace, Roads Technical Officer and D Kerr, Service and Coordination Manager (all Environment & Infrastructure); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, F Hughes, Asset Manager, A Stevenson, Assistant Business Partner, R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and N O'Brien, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Audrey Doig declared a financial interest in respect of items 13 and 16 of the agenda as she was an employee of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. She indicated that it was her intention to leave the meeting during consideration of these items and not to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

1 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a joint revenue budget monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources, Communities, Housing & Planning Services, Children's Services and Environment & Infrastructure in respect of Services reporting to the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

2 Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a joint capital budget monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources and Environment & Infrastructure in respect of Services reporting to the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

The report advised that budget changes totalling £77,000 had arisen since the previous report to the Board as a result of an increase in the Vehicle Replacement Programme to reflect grant funding received for electric cars.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 Environment & Infrastructure Service Improvement Plan 2018/19: Mid-Year Monitoring Report

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the Service Improvement Plan for Environment & Infrastructure highlighting performance over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018. A copy of the Environment & Infrastructure Service Improvement Plan 2018/21 Mid-Year monitoring report was appended to the report.

The report outlined the key achievements of the Service, detailed future priorities and provided an update on progress to implement the action plan.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that the report reflected the new service structure for Environment & Infrastructure;

(b) That progress made on actions and performance indicators specific to the areas of activity delegated to this Policy Board, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be noted;

(c) That it be noted that the Environment & Infrastructure Service Improvement Mid-Year Monitoring Report would also be submitted to the Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board for approval with regard to those areas of activity within its remit; and

(d) That an out-turn report in respect of areas of activity delegated to this Policy Board be submitted to this Board for consideration by spring 2019.

4 Operational Performance

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

The report provided an update on the main projects and activities delivered by the services within Environment & Infrastructure together with a performance update which summarised target and actual performance for key performance indicators and benchmarking targets under each of the key change themes.

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

5 Winter Maintenance Plan 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the Winter Maintenance Plan 2018/19.

The report detailed the Council's winter maintenance preparations and arrangements for 2018/19 to ensure that Renfrewshire's road network, footpaths and schools remained accessible during the winter period to support the economy and connect people with jobs, learning and social needs. A copy of the Winter Maintenance Programme 2018/19, which detailed priorities attached to roads and footpaths, staff deployment and co-ordination procedures, the assessment criteria used for the location of grit bins, salt supply arrangements and City Region winter maintenance planning activity was appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the Winter Maintenance Plan for 2018/19, as detailed in the Appendix to the report, be approved.

6 Chewing Gum

Under reference to item 16 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 28 June 2018 there was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to options and costs for the removal of chewing gum from Renfrewshire's pavements.

It was noted that it had been agreed that the Director of Environment & Infrastructure undertake a review of arrangements in relation to the removal of chewing gum from Renfrewshire's pavements. The report referred to the revision of the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse to include chewing gum and the associated implications for the Council and the potential introduction of a tax/charge on single use plastics, including chewing gum, following a consultation exercise by the UK Government.

The report outlined four potential options for the removal of chewing gum from pavements in Renfrewshire: continuation of the current approach; adoption of an enhanced service; addition of dedicated removal vehicles to the existing service; and the addition of dedicated mechanical sweepers to the existing service. Associated costs were provided in respect of each option and it was highlighted that any option or combination of options beyond the existing provision would result in additional revenue costs.

Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Don, moved that the Board agree option 1 and maintain the status-quo until proposed changes in legislation come into practice in June 2019 and further consideration is given to applying a levy on single use plastic, which would include chewing gum. Both considerations could influence the issue of dealing with the clean up of chewing gum dropped in our streets.

Councillor Hood, seconded by Councillor Davidson, moved as an amendment that option 2, the enhanced chewing gum removal service, be agreed.

On the roll being called the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Davidson, Devine, Hood and Kennedy.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Binks, Burns, Cameron, Campbell, Audrey Doig, Don, Graham, MacLaren, McEwan and Mylet.

Four members having voted for the amendment and 11 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: That option 1 be agreed and the status quo maintained until proposed changes in legislation came into practice, in June 2019, and further consideration was given to applying a levy on single-use plastic, which would include chewing gum, as both considerations could influence the issue of dealing with the clean-up of chewing gum dropped in streets.

7 Lochwinnoch Railway Station Access

Under reference to item 21 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 28 June 2018 there was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board relative to access at Lochwinnoch Railway Station Access.

It was noted that it had been agreed that the Council write to Network Rail and Scotrail to ask for a review of parking provision, including disabled parking spaces, at Lochwinnoch train station; request that the relevant authority make provision for disabled facilities at platform 2 within the train station; and that both the footpath at the bridge on the A761 adjacent to the train station be upgraded and a suitable crossing to the train station be provided to ensure it was fully accessible.

The report indicated that the Council had subsequently written to Network Rail, Scotrail and local MSPs regarding the car park and provision of disabled facilities at the station. It was noted that no response had, as yet, been received from Scotrail. A response, a copy of which was appended to the report, had been received from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure & Connectivity advising that there were currently no plans to extend the car park at Lochwinnoch train station and that, based on the criteria set by the UK Government the train station did not meet the criteria for accessibility investment. A response from Scotrail would be pursued. The Convener advised that she would write, on behalf of the Board, to both the UK Government, seeking changes to the criteria set for accessibility investment, and Network Rail.

The report intimated that a review had been undertaken by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure in relation to the requested improvements to the footpath at the bridge and the A760. The report detailed planned interventions which would be implemented to address the issues.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the response received from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure & Connectivity, a copy of which was appended to the report, be noted;
- (b) That the interventions, detailed in section 1.5 of the report, to improve accessibility on the footpath and road crossing on the A760, be approved; and
- (c) That it be noted that the Convener would write, on behalf of the Board, to the UK Government, seeking change to the criteria set for accessibility investment, and Network Rail.

8 Collection and Disposal of Grass Cutting Arisings

Under reference to item 22 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 28 June 2018 there was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the collection and disposal of grass cutting arisings.

It was noted that it had been agreed that a report be prepared on the cost of adding collection boxes to grass cutting machinery and, where possible, collecting and disposing of the grass cuttings.

The report stated that it was possible to uplift grass cuttings from the majority of the Council's grass/open spaces in accordance with previous decisions taken in relation to the Grounds Maintenance Service however grass cuttings were only collected from high amenity areas of Paisley Town Centre. It was highlighted that the existing grass-cutting equipment could not be converted to collect grass arisings. In order that grass arisings be uplifted the grass-cutting equipment would require to be replaced at an estimated capital investment cost of £1 million. Reference was also made to the need to increase the frequency of grass cuts to facilitate the lifting and disposal of arisings, the reduced productivity resulting as a consequence of the collection of arisings in comparison to the grass cutting approach currently employed and the associated staffing and disposal costs.

It was noted that the current grass-cutting service, which had been introduced in 2012, would be reviewed during winter 2018/19 with the aim of reflecting the inputs and activities undertaken and the outcomes achieved to deliver the needs of communities within current service resources.

DECIDED:

(a) That the costs of adding collection boxes to the grass-cutting machinery and the additional annual costs of the collection and disposal of the Council's grass-cutting arisings be noted; and

(b) That it be noted that a review of the StreetScene grass-cutting services, as outlined in paragraph 5.1 in the report, would be undertaken during winter 2018/19.

9 Reinstatement of Naturalised Areas into a regular Grass Cutting Schedule

Under reference to item 22 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 28 June 2018 there was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the reinstatement of naturalised areas into a regular grass cutting schedule.

It was noted that it had been agreed that the maintenance of grassed areas be reviewed with a view to reinstating naturalised areas into a regular grass-cutting schedule. The report referred to the review of StreetScene Services undertaken between June 2010 and April 2012 which had resulted in the implementation of the current grass-maintenance regime, introduced naturalised areas and achieved savings of £2.1 million. Of the 112 areas which were naturalised in 2012, 52 had subsequently been reintroduced into regular grass cutting schedules during 2013/14. A summary of the outcome of the review undertaken following the Council decision in June 2018, which had focused on the remaining 60 naturalised areas, was provided. Proposals for reinstatement of 97 of the existing 112 naturalised grass areas were detailed within an appendix to the report. It was noted that the remaining 15 naturalised areas were not recommended for reinstatement into a regular grass cutting schedule due to the complexity of cutting the grassed area involved in a safe manner. It was highlighted that no budget provision had been made for the additional recurring costs of maintaining the 97 naturalised areas, £140,000 per annum, the initial preparatory works required to facilitate scheduled maintenance, estimated to be around £50,000 and one-off capital costs associated with the purchase of vehicles and cutting machinery, £150,000.

Councillor Don, seconded by Councillor Adam-McGregor, moved that the Board agree that the Council incorporate naturalised areas into the review of StreetScene grass cutting services, agreed as item 8 of this Minute, to allow maintenance of all grassed areas to be considered in a comprehensive manner.

Councillor Hood, seconded by Councillor Davidson, moved as a first amendment:

- (a) That it be noted that the review of the existing naturalised areas had been completed;
- (b) That it be agreed to reinstate the 112 areas into the regular grass cutting schedule;
- (c) That the recurring revenue costs for the Council to reinstate the naturalised areas as part of regular grass cutting schedules be approved; and

(d) That the one-off revenue cost in 2018/19, to prepare the naturalised areas for return to a regular grass cutting schedule, be approved.

Councillor J MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Graham, moved as a second amendment:

(a) That it be noted that the review of the existing naturalised areas had been completed;

(b) That consideration of the reinstatement of 97 of the 112 areas into a scheduled grass cutting frequency, as detailed in the Appendix to the report, be noted;

(c) That the recurring revenue costs for the Council of £290,000 per annum to reinstate the naturalised areas as part of regular grass-cutting schedules be approved;

(d) That the one-off revenue cost of £50,000 in 2018/19, to prepare the naturalised areas for return to a regular grass cutting schedule, be approved; and

(e) That the Board agree that the Council incorporate naturalised areas into the review of StreetScene grass cutting services, agreed in item 8 of this Minute, to allow maintenance of all grassed areas to be considered in a comprehensive manner.

On the roll being called between the motion and the first amendment, the following members voted for the first amendment: Councillors Davidson, Devine, Hood and Kennedy.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Burns, Cameron, Campbell, Audrey Doig, Don, McEwan and Mylet.

The following members abstained: Councillors Binks, Graham and MacLaren.

Four members having voted for the first amendment, eight members having voted for the motion and three members having abstained, a vote was then taken between the motion and the second amendment.

On the roll being called the following members voted for the second amendment: Councillors Binks, Graham and J MacLaren.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Burns, Cameron, Campbell, Audrey Doig, Don, McEwan and Mylet.

The following members abstained: Councillors Davidson, Devine, Hood and Kennedy.

Three members having voted for the second amendment, eight members having voted for the motion and four members having abstained, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: That naturalised areas be incorporated into the review of StreetScene grass cutting services, agreed following consideration of the report entitled Collection and Disposal of Grass Cutting Arisings, as detailed in item 8 of this Minute, to allow maintenance of all grassed areas to be considered in a comprehensive manner.

10 Scottish Power Energy Networks Green Economy Fund

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the Green Economy Fund launched by Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN).

The report advised that applications for funding had been invited to support the Scottish's Government's energy strategy and the UK's drive to a low carbon economy.

The Green Economy Fund provided capital or revenue funding for projects and initiatives which focussed on activities which delivered low-carbon transport technology;

built the infrastructure and learning needed for the changes in transport expected over the next decade; and resulted in high-carbon savings and air-quality benefits. The applicant's ability to provide funding towards the project would be considered as part of the assessment of bids. The report referred to the funding application for £2.2 million submitted by the Council in terms of the Switched-on Towns and Cities Challenge Fund and highlighted that the bid criteria for the Switched-on Towns and Cities Challenge Fund focussed on a town approach whereas the SPEN Green Economy Fund allowed a wider Renfrewshire bid approach. It was noted that in order to meet the for applications a bid for £1.5 million had been made by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure on behalf of the Council which if successful would expand the electric-vehicle charging network and increase the number of electric vehicles within the Council Fleet. The Council's contribution, funded from the Annual Vehicle Replacement Programme, for delivery of the proposed project was anticipated to be £300,000 over 2019/21.

DECIDED:

(a) That the action by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure in submitting a bid of £1.5 million to the Scottish Power Energy Networks Green Economy Fund be homologated;

(b) That it be noted that the contribution from the Council for the delivery of the project was anticipated to be up to £300,000 during 2019/20 and 2020/21, which would be funded from the Council's annual Vehicle Replacement Programme; and

(c) That it be noted that, if the bid was successful, a further report would be submitted to a future meeting of this Policy Board setting out the award and detailed plans for the next two years.

11 Public Sector Climate Change Duties Reporting 2017/18

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the annual Renfrewshire Council Public Sector Climate Change Duties Report 2017/2018, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The report stated that Councils required, in terms of the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies; Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) to prepare an annual report detailing progress in helping to mitigate and adapt to climate change. It was noted that subject to approval by the Board arrangements would be made to submit the 2017/18 Annual Report to the Sustainable Scotland Network.

DECIDED: That the content and submission of Renfrewshire Council's mandatory 2017/18 Public Sector Climate Change Duties report be approved.

12 Consultation on the proposal for New Regulations for the Licensing of Dog, Cat and Rabbit Breeding Activities in Scotland

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to consultation by the Scottish Government in respect of the licensing of dog, cat and rabbit breeding activities in Scotland.

The report advised that the 2017/18 Scottish Government Programme for Government had made a commitment to introduce new legislation to improve and enhance the licensing of dog, cat and rabbit breeding activities in Scotland. The breeding of dogs was governed under the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 and the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 while the breeding of cats and rabbits was currently unregulated. Consultation was being undertaken in respect of the regulation of the breeding of dogs, cats and rabbits in Scotland. The proposed legislation would replace current legislation and be drafted under powers conferred by the Animal Health & Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006. Introducing the legislation under these powers would allow for relevant amendments to be made more easily in future, without changing primary statute. The proposed legislation would extend the requirement for a licence to breed cats and rabbits and lower the threshold for licensable dog breeding. It was noted that breeders who held independent accreditation would be subject to a different inspection regime.

Responses to the consultation required to be submitted by 30 November 2018. A copy of the proposed response prepared on behalf of the Council was appended to the report.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the consultation on the proposals to regulate the breeding of dogs, cats and rabbits in Scotland be noted; and
- (b) That the proposed response of the Council to the consultation, appended to the report, be approved.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Audrey Doig having previously declared an interest in the following item of business left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

13 Sub-Lease of Premises at Clark Street, Paisley

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed sub-lease of premises, identified on a plan appended to the report, currently leased by the Council at Clark Street, Paisley.

The report advised that as part of the capital investment works to refurbish Paisley Museum, services would be temporarily relocated to a range of alternative locations and facilities. The Council's operational portfolio had been reviewed and it had been established that Clark Street depot, which was leased by the Council, had adaptable vacant space. It was proposed that as a best value solution the vacant space at the Clark Street depot be sub-let, for a six-month period, to Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. Landlord's consent for the agreement had been agreed in principle and the terms and conditions agreed with the proposed tenant were detailed within the report.

DECIDED: That the Head of Property Services and the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to implement a sub-let, for a period of six months, of part of the premises at Clark Street depot, identified on a plan appended to the report and extending to circa 149 square metres, based on the terms and conditions detailed in paragraph 4 of the report.

Sederunt

Councillor Audrey Doig re-entered the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

14 Disposal of Commercial Property at 16 High Street, Johnstone

There was submitted a report submitted by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed disposal of commercial property, identified on the plan appended to the report, at 16 High Street, Johnstone.

The property, which had been declared surplus to the Council's requirements at the meeting of the Council's Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 31 October 2018, was leased to Mr Peralla. No trading was currently being undertaken from the premises. The tenant proposed to combine the property with the properties at 12/14 High Street, Johnstone, which he owned and were trading as an Italian restaurant and takeaway. If this was not possible he proposed to open the premises as a retail opportunity. Details of the provisional terms agreed with the tenant for the acquisition of the interest in the property were provided. It was noted that there was a shared maintenance responsibility with three flats in High Street and eight flats on Walkinshaw Street, Johnstone and that five of these 11 flats were in private ownership. In accordance with the Scottish Minister consent process when disposing of Housing Revenue Account assets, the disposal would be in terms of the General Consent available and be self-certified by the Council.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that the property, identified on the plan appended to the report, had been declared surplus to the Council's requirements at the meeting of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 30 October 2018;

(b) That the proposed purchase price of £67,000 for the commercial property at 16 High Street, Johnstone, be accepted;

(c) That the property be disposed of to the existing tenant, Mr Perella, on the terms and conditions negotiated with the Head of Property Services and any other terms as the Head of Corporate Governance deemed necessary to protect the Council's interests; and

(d) That it be noted that, in accordance with the Scottish Minister consent process when disposing of Housing Revenue Account assets, the disposal would be in terms of the General Consent available and be self-certified by the Council.

15 Disposal of Land adjacent to 42 Parksail, Erskine

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the disposal of land, identified on the plan appended to the report, adjacent to 42 Parksail, Erskine.

The area of land involved, which was held on the General Services Account, comprised a total area of 103 square metres and was an area of open space, maintained by Environment & Infrastructure. An offer to purchase the land for incorporation into their garden ground had been received from the owner of the property at 42 Parksail, Erskine. Provisional agreement had been reached in terms of a purchase price subject to the ground being declared surplus to the Council's requirements. The area of land concerned was such that the purchase price/value of the land would be at a level upon which delegated powers granted to the Head of Property Services for the disposal of surplus property would be utilised. The Head of Planning & Housing Services had confirmed that the area of land involved had no operational requirement. It was highlighted that the proposed purchaser would require to obtain the required planning consents for the change of use from open space.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the land adjacent to 42 Parksail, Erskine, identified on the plan appended to the report, be declared surplus to the Council's requirements with the land being disposed of to the adjacent owner;
- (b) That the sale to the proprietor of 42 Parksail, Erskine on terms and conditions negotiated by the Head of Property Services, 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 deemed necessary to protect the Council's interest; and
- (d) That it be noted that the Head of Housing & Planning Services would advertise the proposed sale of the area of open space in the local press in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1959.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Audrey Doig having previously declared an interest in the following item of business left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

16 Robertson Centre, 16 Glasgow Road, Paisley

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the provisional terms and conditions proposed in connection with the relinquishment of the existing lease with Renfrewshire Joint Valuation Joint Board (RVJB) of the Robertson Centre, 16 Glasgow Road, Paisley and associated car parking, and the proposed terms and conditions of the lease to be entered into with Renfrewshire Leisure Limited.

The report advised that to support the RVJB's medium-term financial planning and operating arrangements, the lease of the Robertson Centre had been extended

previously until 31 March 2024. This had enabled the RVJB to plan their service provision within the existing building, provided certainty in relation to rental charges and allowed the RVJB an extended period to repay existing loan charges. Following discussion with the RVJB in connection with modernising work practices it had been identified that savings could be achieved by reducing the office space occupied. Enquiries had been made by RVJB regarding the possibility of downsizing by vacating the first-floor offices and sub-letting the space. It was noted that the lease prohibited sub-letting and that the Council and Renfrewshire Leisure Limited would require space to relocate staff for up to four years while Paisley Museum and Library were refurbished. In this connection the space which RVJB proposed to vacate had been identified as offering a potential solution. Following discussion between all parties, provisional terms and conditions of lease had been reached. Details of the proposed terms and conditions agreed with both RVJB and Renfrewshire Leisure Limited in respect of the leases were provided.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the relinquishment of the existing lease between Renfrewshire Council and Renfrewshire Joint Valuation Board for the Robertson Centre as a whole be authorised;
- (b) That the grant of a new lease to RVJB of the Robertson Centre, 16 Glasgow Road, Paisley for the ground floor only with associated parking based upon the terms and conditions detailed within the report be approved; and
- (c) That the grant of a lease to Renfrewshire Leisure Limited of the first floor offices at the Robertson Centre, 16 Glasgow Road, Paisley with associated parking be authorised.

Sederunt

Councillor Audrey Doig re-entered the meeting and Councillor Davidson left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

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 paragraphs 12 and 13 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

17 Bird Fouling under Railway Bridges

Under reference to item 8 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 28 June 2018 there was submitted a report submitted by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the legal position, current practicalities and available options in relation to preventing bird fouling on the footways under railways bridges in Renfrewshire.

It was noted that it had been agreed that the Chief Executive submit a comprehensive report to the relevant Board on the subject setting out the legal position and all available options. The report detailed the current arrangements in place to address the issue and three potential options available to the Council together with estimated resources required to implement each.

Councillor Audrey Doig, seconded by Councillor J Cameron, moved that the Board agree to Option 1 and maintain the current arrangement. Board also agrees to consider other technological methods when dealing with bird fouling under bridges. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

- (a) That Option 1 be agreed and that the current arrangements be maintained; and
- (b) That other technological methods be considered when dealing with bird fouling under bridges.

Minute of Meeting

Placing Requests and Exclusions Appeals Panel

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 08 October 2018	10:00	Johnstone Town Hall, Ludovic Square, Johnstone, PA5 8EG

Present

Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor, Councillor Neill Graham, Ms Elaine McNamara

Chair

Councillor Adam-McGregor, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

D Briggs, Senior Solicitor (Litigation) and P Shiach, Committee Services Officer (both 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 Appeals Panel 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 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

1 St Andrew's Academy- Appeal Against the Exclusion of a Child from Attendance

Consideration was given to an appeal against the exclusion of a child from attendance. L Lilburn, Senior Solicitor, (Finance & Resources) and S Bell, Education Manager (GIRFEC) both representing the Education Authority, K Henry, Headteacher and the appellant and her companion were invited into the meeting.

The Senior Solicitor (Litigation) outlined the procedure to be followed in hearing the appeal.

L Lilburn then presented the case for the Education Authority and led evidence from K Henry in relation to the circumstances surrounding the exclusion.

The appellant then presented her case.

All parties having been given the opportunity to sum up, were thanked for their attendance and left the hearing.

DECIDED: That the appeal be determined as follows:-

The Appeals Panel confirmed the Education Authority's decision and agreed unanimously that the Authority had acted in accordance with the terms of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000, "that in all the circumstances to allow the pupil to continue his attendance at the school would be likely to be seriously detrimental to order and discipline in the school and the educational well-being of the pupils there."

Minute of Meeting

Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 14 November 2018	14:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Bill Brown, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Jim Harte, Councillor John Hood, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Jim Sharkey, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Andy Steel, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Councillor Shaw, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning and B Lambert, Strategic Procurement Manager (both Chief Executive's); D Gillies, Head of Facilities Management (Environment & Infrastructure Services); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, R McGrath, Head of Business & Customer Services, R Cree, OD and Workforce Planning Manager, S Fanning, Principal HR & OD Manager, A McNaughton, Senior Committee Services Officer and N O'Brien, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Apologies

Councillors Dowling and K MacLaren.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Shaw declare a non-financial interest in item 17 of the agenda, Consultation Response: Review of the Structure of the Scottish Local Government Pension Scheme, as he was a member of the Board of Strathclyde Pension Scheme and intimated that he would remain in the meeting and take part in the discussion and voting thereon.

Councillor Brown declared a financial interest in item 25 of the agenda, Contract Authorisation: Supply, Support and Maintenance of a Social Work Information Management System (SWIMS) as his daughter was employed by OLM Systems and intimated that he would leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Audrey Doig declared a financial interest in item 21 of the agenda, Civic Hospitality as her husband was employed by RCA Trust and in item 31 of the agenda, Contract Authorisation: Paisley Museum Re-imagined – Enabling and Strip Out Works, as she was employed by Renfrewshire Leisure Limited and intimated that, for both items, she would leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or voting thereon.

1 Joint Consultative Board (Non-teaching)

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Joint Consultative Board (Non-teaching) held on 5 September 2018 which forms the Appendix hereto.

DECIDED: That the Minute be noted.

2 Revenue Budget Monitoring to 14 September 2018

There was submitted a revenue budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources in respect of Finance & Resources, Environment & Infrastructure Services and Miscellaneous expenditure for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 Revenue Budget Monitoring - Council Overview to 14 September 2018

There was submitted a revenue budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to an overview of expenditure on general fund services and the Housing Revenue Account for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4 Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a capital budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to capital expenditure on corporate issues for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

5 Capital Budget Monitoring Report - Overview

There was submitted a capital budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to an overview of expenditure on the Housing and Non-housing Capital Programmes for the period 1 April to 14 September 2018.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

6 Treasury Management Mid-year Review 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to treasury management activity over the first six months of 2018/19. The report provided an economic update together with reviews of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2018/19 incorporating the annual investment strategy; the investment portfolio for 2018/19; the borrowing strategy for 2018/19; and compliance with treasury management indicators for 2018/19. Appendices to the report outlined the borrowing and investment position and Treasury Management performance indicators as at 19 October 2018.

DECIDED: That treasury management activity for the period 1 April to 19 October 2018 be noted.

7 Council Tax: Accounts for Write Off

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a proposal to write off Council Tax accounts for sums over £10,000 where recovery was no longer viable. The value of the debt to be written off was £344,389.67.

DECIDED: That the sum of £344,389.67, as detailed in the report, be written off.

8 Housing Benefit Overpayments: Accounts for Write Off

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a proposal to write off Housing Benefit overpayments for sums over £10,000 where recovery was no longer viable. The value of the debt to be written off was £50,213.99.

DECIDED: That the sum of £50,213.99, as detailed in the report, be written off.

9 Non-Domestic Rate: Accounts for Write Off

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a proposal to write off Non-domestic Rates accounts for sums over £10,000 where recovery was no longer viable. The value of the debt to be written off was £219,538.44.

DECIDED: That the sum of £219,538.44, as detailed in the report, be written off.

10 Sundry Debtors: Accounts for Write Off

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a proposal to write off Sundry Debtor accounts where recovery was no longer viable. The value of the debt to be written off was £9,791.00.

DECIDED: That the sum of £9,791.00, as detailed in the report, be written off.

11 Customer & Business Services Performance Report

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to performance across key Customer & Business Service functions over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018.

The report included performance information about revenue collection, benefit administration, Discretionary Housing Payments, the Scottish Welfare Fund and detailed contact centre performance in respect of telephone call handling and face-to-face customer service. Appendices to the report set out the Revenues Collection Statement and Supplementary Key Performance Indicators for the period.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

12 Chief Executive's Services Improvement Plan 2018/21 Mid-Year Monitoring Report

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 28 March 2018, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to mid-year monitoring of the Chief Executive's Service Improvement Plan 2018/21.

The report explained that changes to service arrangements had been made in April 2018 and responsibilities for regeneration, economic development and City Deal had been transferred from Development & Housing Services to the Chief Executive's Service. Corresponding changes would be incorporated into future service plans.

Performance information reflected the new service structure and included: details of the key achievements of the service over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018; an update on progress to deliver the action plan for 2018/21; details of how the work of the service contributed to the service scorecard of core performance indicators; and an overview of priorities for the service over the next six months. The attached scorecard provided an update of performance to date.

DECIDED:

(a) That progress made on service performance from April to September 2018 be noted;

(b) That progress made on actions and performance in the action plan be noted; and

(c) That it be noted that an outturn report would be provided on full year performance to this board in June 2019.

13 Finance and Resources Service Improvement Plan 2018/21: Mid-Year Monitoring Report

Under reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 28 March 2018, there was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to mid-year monitoring of the Finance & Resources Service Improvement Plan 2018/21.

Performance information in the report included: details of the key achievements of the service over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018; an update on progress to deliver the action plan for 2018/21; details of how the work of the service contributed to the service scorecard of core performance indicators; and an overview of priorities for the service over the next six months. The attached scorecard provided an update of performance to date.

DECIDED:

(a) That progress made on service performance from April to September 2018 be noted;

(b) That progress made on actions and performance in the action plan be noted; and

(c) That it be noted that an outturn report on full year performance would be submitted to this board in June 2019.

14 Environment & Infrastructure Service Improvement Plan 2018/19: Mid-Year Monitoring Report

Under reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 28 March 2018, there was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to mid-year monitoring of the Environment & Infrastructure Service Improvement Plan 2018/21.

The report explained that changes to service arrangements made in April 2018 had created Environment & Infrastructure Services with responsibility for Roads & Transportation, Fleet, StreetScene & Land Services, Waste, Hard & Soft Facilities Management, Building Services and strategic management of PPP contracts. Responsibility for communities and public protection had been transferred to the newly-formed Communities, Housing & Planning Services and corresponding actions and indicators would now be reported by that service. Changes to service arrangements would be incorporated into service plans next year

Performance information in the report included: details of the key achievements of the service over the period 1 April to 30 September 2018; an update on progress to deliver the action plan for 2018/21; details of how the work of the service contributed to the priorities in the Council Plan; and an overview of priorities for the service over the next six months. The attached scorecard provided an update of performance to date.

DECIDED:

- (a) That it be noted that the report reflected the new service structure for Environment & Infrastructure;
- (b) That progress made on service performance from April to September 2018 be noted;
- (b) That progress made on actions and performance in the action plan be noted; and
- (c) That it be agreed that an outturn report in respect of areas of activity delegated to this Policy Board be submitted to the Board in Spring 2019.

15 Better Council Change Programme Update

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to progress to deliver the Better Council Change Programme (the programme), specifically four of its key projects: Organisational Development Strategy; Customer Experience and Digital Projects; Business World (Enterprise Resource Planning); and Energy Efficiency.

The programme was an essential element of the Council's transformation approach and was key to ongoing and future financial stability. Since 2015, the programme had supported the delivery of over £24 million of savings.

The report detailed progress to deliver key priorities of the Organisational Development Strategy – workforce planning, people development and performance appraisal and Appendices 1 and 2 to the report summarised activities and progress to date.

In terms of Customer Experience and Digital Projects, the report highlighted progress to deliver online school payments and cashless catering and Appendix 3 to the report set out the timetable for phased introduction to various schools/establishments in Renfrewshire.

The report also advised that Business World had gone live on 1 October 2018. The phased roll-out of self-service to staff had started on 18 October 2018 and would be completed by early in 2019.

The report listed projects that had been delivered to improve energy efficiency and realise savings totalling £201,113.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

16 Operational Performance Report: Integrated Facilities Management (Hard & Soft Services)

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the performance of services delivered by Integrated Facilities Management (Hard & Soft Services) since September 2018.

The report provided performance information on re-letting void properties; general responsive repairs; compliance testing, street lighting maintenance; school catering service; school food regulations; period poverty; plastic straws campaign; general capital programme; partnership working; workforce development; attendance analysis; free school meals; enquiry handling; overtime and customer satisfaction.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Shaw, having declared an interest in the undernoted item, remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion thereon.

17 Consultation Response: Review of the Structure of the Scottish Local Government Pension Scheme

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a consultation on the review of the Scottish Local Government Pension Scheme (SLGPS) being undertaken by the Pensions Institute on behalf of the Scheme Advisory Board.

The consultation sought the views of employers and employee representative groups on whether outcomes for members and sponsors of the SLGPS could be improved by altering the structure of the scheme, by differing degrees, by consolidating the functions of the scheme's 11 constituent funds by collaboration, pooling and merger. Responses were invited by 7 December 2018. The appendix to the report detailed the Council's proposed response.

DECIDED: That the consultation response set out in the appendix to the report be approved for submission by 7 December 2018.

18 Health, Safety and Wellbeing Strategy 2019/22

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the introduction of a Health, Safety and Wellbeing Strategy for 2019/22 to promote a positive health and safety culture that included awareness and understanding; effective processes; and positive behaviour by staff, management, contractors and visitors. Full details of strategy were set out in the appendix to the report.

DECIDED: That the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Strategy 2019/22 be approved.

19 Revised Asbestos Policy

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the review and revision of the procedures for managing and controlling asbestos, in accordance with the provisions of the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and the Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2012 (as amended). A copy of the revised Asbestos Policy was appended to the report.

DECIDED: That the revised Asbestos Policy be approved.

20 2018/19 Mid-Year Report on the Health and Safety activities within Renfrewshire Council

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to an update on performance of Health & Safety activities throughout the Council.

The report detailed performance over a wide range of activities that supported the health, safety and wellbeing of employees and others including eliminating accidents as far as practicable; delivering training; reviewing and establishing policies and guidance; delivering accreditation standards; partnership working; participation at events, and risk management.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Audrey Doig, having declared an interest in the undernoted item, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

21 Civic Hospitality

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to requests received by the Provost for civic hospitality from individuals and 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 event and sought authorisation for the Director of Finance & Resources, in consultation with the Provost, to make the necessary arrangements.

DECIDED: That the Director of Finance & Resources, in consultation with the Provost, be authorised to make the necessary arrangements for civic hospitality at the approximate cost indicated, as follows:

Holocaust Memorial Service – £1,500

RCA Trust - £1,500

Paisley Indoor Bowling Club - £700

Scottish Provosts' Association - £200

SEDERUNT

Councillor Audrey Doig returned to the meeting.

Contract Authorisation Reports

As below.

22 Provision of a Day Care Service for Older People

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 (RC-CPU-17-301) for the provision of a day care service for older people living within Erskine, Bishopton, Inchinnan, Langbank and surrounding areas.

The report explained that the current service at Erskine represented the best and only option to deliver the specific requirements of this contract and therefore, in accordance with appropriate legislation and Council procedures, a negotiated tender was issued to the current service providers, Littleinch Limited.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract to Littleinch Limited for the provision of a day care service for older people, for one year from 26 November 2018 to 25 November 2019 with the option, at the discretion of the Council, to extend the contract for one additional year until no later than 26 November 2020, at a total cost excluding VAT of £349,329 being £171,121 for the first year and £177,208 for the second year.

23 Provision of a Specialist Dementia Day Care Service

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 (RC-CPU-17-299) for the provision of a specialist dementia day care service throughout Renfrewshire.

In accordance with appropriate legislation and Council procedures, a negotiated tender was issued to Alzheimers Scotland – Action on Dementia.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract to Alzheimers Scotland – Action on Dementia for the provision of a specialist dementia day care service for one year from 26 November 2018 to 25 November 2019 with the option, at the discretion of the Council, to extend the contract for one additional year until no later than 26 November 2020, at a total cost excluding VAT of £484,118 being £237,091 for the first year and £247,027 for the second year.

24 Provision of a Care at Home and/or Housing Support Service

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 framework agreement for the provision of a care at home and/or housing support service (RC-CPU-18-144).

Following a procurement exercise carried out in accordance with the Council's procedures, seven tenders were submitted that complied with the minimum selection criteria and for inclusion on the framework agreement. To also be included on the

framework agreement, one other tenderer required to provide sufficient evidence of financial stability within three months.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to:

(a) award places on the framework agreement for the provision of a care at home and/or housing support service to the undernoted organisations, subject to provision of insurance documents that met the tender requirements:

Ailsa Care Services Limited - trading as Ailsa Care Services West;

Carewatch Care Services Limited;

Clyde Healthcare Limited;

Constance Care Limited;

HRM Homecare Services Limited;

Invercare Services Limited;

SRS Care Solutions Limited;

(b) approve the award of a conditional place on the framework agreement to Nestor Primecare Services Limited – trading as Allied Healthcare, subject to prior disclosure to the Council of relevant insurance information requested under the tender procedure and provision of sufficient evidence of financial stability within three months of the date of award; and

(c) award the framework agreement for three years from 25 February 2019 to 24 February 2022 with the option at the discretion of the Council to extend the agreement for up to two further years until no later than 24 February 2024 at an annual cost excluding VAT of £5.1 million and at a total cost excluding VAT of up to £25.5 million where the option to extend for both additional years was exercised.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

25 Supply, Support and Maintenance of a Social Work Information Management System (SWIMS)

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive, the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to the award of a contract for the supply, support and maintenance of a social work information management system (SWIMS) (RC-CPU-18-130).

The report explained that using the search and selection process to purchase services via the Crown Commercial Services G-Cloud 10 Framework Agreement offered the best route to the digital marketplace. Of the 188 suppliers identified under this framework, only one supplier, OLM Systems Limited, met the Council's requirements.

DECIDED: That a contract for the supply, support and maintenance of a social work information management system (SWIMS) be awarded via a call off contract under the Crown Commercial Services G-Cloud 10 Framework Agreement to OLM Systems Limited, for an initial period of two years from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2021 or as stated in the letter of award and order form, with the option to extend for up to one year on two separate occasions from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 and 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, at a cost excluding VAT of no more than £431,353.30 for the initial two-year period and £752,706.60 for the full period including extensions.

SEDERUNT

Councillor Brown returned to the meeting.

26 Supply and Delivery of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to a multi-supplier ranked framework agreement for the supply and delivery of fresh fruit and vegetables (RC-CPU-17-140).

Under the framework, call off contracts for goods would be awarded to the supplier ranked first and if unable to deliver, to the supplier ranked second, and so on. Following a procurement exercise carried out in accordance with the Council's procedures, three tenders were received and McLays Limited was ranked first, Failte Food Service Limited was ranked second and George Carruthers & Sons Limited was ranked third.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to establish a framework agreement on behalf of the Council and Renfrewshire Leisure Limited for the supply and delivery of fresh fruit and vegetables with firstly McLays Limited, secondly Failte Food Service Limited and lastly George Carruthers & Sons Limited, to commence on 7 January 2019 until 6 January 2021 with the option at the Council's discretion to extend on two separate occasions for 12 months until no later than 6 January 2023, at a cost excluding VAT of up to £500,000 for the initial two year term with an additional maximum annual value of £250,000 excluding VAT for each of the optional extensions.

27 Flexible Floor Finishings

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a measured term contract for flexible floor finishes (RC-CPU-18-102).

Following a procurement exercise carried out in accordance with the Council's procedures, six tenders were received and after evaluation the tender submitted by Lawrie (furnishings) Limited was found to be the most economically advantageous.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a measured term contract for flexible floor finishes to Lawrie (furnishings) Limited for an initial period of three years commencing on 10 December 2018 or as confirmed in the letter of acceptance, with an option at the Council's discretion to extend the term for up

to one additional year, at a cost excluding VAT of £450,000 for the initial three years and a further £150,000 excluding VAT for the optional year.

28 Provision of a Housing Support Service for Single Homeless People and Childless Couples who may have Complex Needs

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the award of a contract for the provision of a housing support service for single homeless people and childless couples who may have complex needs (RC-CPU-18-094).

Following a procurement exercise carried out in accordance with the Council's procedures, two tenders were received and after evaluation the tender submitted by The Mungo Foundation was found to be the most economically advantageous.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the provision of a housing support service for single homeless people and childless couples who may have complex needs to The Mungo Foundation for two years from 1 March 2019 to 28 February 2021 with the option at the Council's discretion to extend the term for up to one year until no later than 28 February 2022 at an annual cost of £175,000 excluding VAT and a total cost of £509,000 excluding VAT.

29 Electric Storage Heating, Smoke and Heat Alarm Installations

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to the award of a works contract for electric storage heating, smoke and heat alarm installations (RC-CPU-18-87).

Following a procurement exercise carried out in accordance with the Council's procedures, seven tenders were received and after evaluation the tender submitted by BRS Electrical Limited was found to be the most economically advantageous.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a works contract for the provision of electric storage heating, smoke and heat alarm installations to BRS Electrical Limited for one year commencing 10 December 2018 or as confirmed in the letter of acceptance at a total cost excluding VAT of £849,835 including contingency of £200,000.

30 Paisley Learning & Cultural Centre - Enabling Works (Hub West Scotland)

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of a contract for enabling works as part of the Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub project.

The report explained that Hub West Scotland had been appointed lead contractor for the project and CCG (Scotland) Limited had been appointed as their sub-contractor. During the concept design stage an opportunity had arisen to undertake targeted enabling works to facilitate asbestos removal with a subsequent soft strip out element. This work would allow further intrusive surveys to be carried out in an asbestos-free environment.

Subsequently, CCG (Scotland) Limited had used its existing supply chain network to offer two work packages, one for asbestos removal and one for soft strip out, and three tenders had been submitted. Following evaluation, Greenair Environmental Limited was identified as an additional sub-contractor to undertake asbestos removal and Burnfield Builders and Demolishers Limited was identified as an additional sub-contractor to undertake enabling and soft strip out works.

DECIDED:

(a) That the work package for enabling and soft strip out works within Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub project be awarded to Hub West Scotland and sub-contracted to CCG (Scotland) Limited at a total cost of £433,590.00 excluding VAT for a period of 14 weeks commencing 7 January 2019 until 12 April 2019;

(b) That the use of a potential contingency allowance, where required, of an additional £20,000 excluding VAT be authorised; and

(c) That the use of further sub-contractors Greenair Environmental Limited and Burnfield Builders and Demolishers Limited as part of the supply chain for CCG (Scotland) Limited be noted.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Audrey Doig, having declared an interest in the undernoted item, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

31 Paisley Museum Re-imagined - Enabling and Strip Out Works

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of a contract for the Paisley Museum Re-imagined – Enabling & Strip Out Works (RC-CPU-18-004).

Following a procurement exercise carried out in accordance with the Council's procedures, three tenders were submitted and after evaluation the tender from Interserve Construction Limited was found to be the most economically advantageous.

DECIDED: That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the Paisley Museum Re-imagined – Enabling & Strip Out Works to Interserve Construction Limited at a cost of £557,341.54 excluding VAT for a period of 20 weeks commencing 4 February 2019 until 28 June 2019, or as confirmed in the letter of acceptance.

Minute of Meeting

Joint Consultative Board (Non-Teaching)

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 05 September 2018	15:00	Corporate Meeting Room 2, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Representing Renfrewshire Council Management - Councillors T Begg, J Harte, J McNaughtan, J Paterson and A Steel.

Representing Trade Unions – J Boyla, L Glover, M McIntyre, K Kernachan and S Hicks (UNISON) and S McAllister (Manual Workers Spokesperson); and J McMenemy (GMB).

In Attendance

G McKinlay, Head of Schools (Children Services); G Hannah, Acting Head of Operation & Infrastructure (Environment & Infrastructure); R Laouadi, HR Manager, R Cree, OD & Workforce Planning Manager, S Fanning, Principal HR Adviser (Health Safety and Absence) and R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); and P McCulloch, Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Services.

Apology

M Ferguson (UNISON).

Declarations of Interest

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

Appointment of Chairperson

It was proposed and agreed that J Boylan (UNISON) chair the meeting.

DECIDED: That J Boylan chair the meeting.

2 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.

The report detailed training undertaken, policies and guidance currently under review, advised that health, safety and wellbeing inspection and audit tools continued to be developed and outlined support provided to Services to assist with (i) the retention of accreditation to BS OHSAS 18001-2007; (ii) the review of fire arrangements for Renfrewshire House and (iii) the evaluation of contractor's health and safety documentation submitted as part of the procurement process. Updates were provided in respect of the Healthy Working Lives initiative, Freedom of Information enquiry information, the Corporate Health and Safety Committee and events which the section had supported to ensure they were safe, controlled and enjoyable.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 Absence Statistics

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Council's absence statistics for the period 1 April to 30 June 2018. The report provided information in relation to absence targets and how services and categories of staff had performed against them. An analysis of the reasons for absence for the period was included in the report. Information was also provided on supporting attendance activity levels by service and costs of sick pay and the overall number of days lost for Quarter 1, ending 30 June 2018 and for the equivalent quarters in previous years

It was highlighted that all Services had identified a senior manager who would act as an absence champion and devise, implement and manage bespoke strategies that would support attendance within the Service.

DECIDED: That it be noted that the report reflected the absence statistics for the period 1 April to 30 June 2018.

4 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. The report indicated that there was a total of 12 grievances as at August 2018, which was an increase of 3 from the previous report.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

5 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 July 2018 and detailing the capacity and service in which they were engaged. The report advised that as at the end of July 2018 95 agency workers had been employed across all services.

It was agreed that details of the number and types of apprentices employed by the Council would be submitted to a future meeting of the JCB Non-Teaching.

DECIDED: That arrangements be made to submit details of the number and types of apprentices employed by the Council to a future meeting of the JCB Non-Teaching and that otherwise the report be noted.

6 Timetable of Meetings 2019

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a proposed timetable of meetings for 2019 for the JCB Non-Teaching for 2019. It was proposed that meetings be held at 3.30pm on 30 January, 27 March, 5 June, 4 September, 13 November and 11 December 2019.

DECIDED: That the proposed timetable of meetings for 2019, as detailed in the report, be approved.

7 Date of Next Meeting

DECIDED: It was noted that the next meeting of the Joint Consultative Board Non-Teaching was scheduled to be held at 3 pm on Wednesday, 14 November 2018.

Minute of Meeting Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 15 November 2018	10:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Alistair Mackay, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Andy Steel, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing), A McLaughlin, Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Regulatory Services), E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer, G McIntosh, Civic Government Enforcement Officer; N Barr, Administrative Assistant and N O'Brien, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Apologies

Councillor Emma Rodden and Councillor Andy Steel (for lateness).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to 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 9(b) and 9(c) of the agenda prior to item 9(a) of the agenda.

1 Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Review of Taxi Fares within Renfrewshire

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance and Resources relative to a review of taxi fares within Renfrewshire.

The report intimated that the Council, as licensing authority, was obliged to fix scales for the fares and other charges in its area in connection with the hire of a taxi. Fares required to be fixed within 18 months beginning with the date on which scales last came into effect. The last taxi fares review had been carried out during 2016/17 with a revised taxi fares scale being fixed and effective from 28 August 2017.

Preliminary consultation had taken place with persons representative of taxi operators and a number of individual taxi operators on the current taxi fares scale. The responses received were detailed in paragraphs 3.4.1 to 3.4.4 of the report.

Appendix 1 to the report detailed the current taxi fares scale operating in Renfrewshire together with the proposed taxi fares scales. Appendix 2 to the report detailed the tariffs operating in surrounding areas and an amended Appendix 2 was tabled at the meeting. A report on the Review of Taxi Tariff in Renfrewshire carried out by Vector Transport Consultancy formed Appendix 3 to the report. A table detailing the current fares tariff and proposed fares per distance was also tabled at the meeting.

The report stated that the existing scales required to be reviewed and new scales proposed by the Board. Thereafter, formal notification of the proposed new scales would be advertised in the local press in order that representations could be made on the agreed proposal by a specified date at least one month from the date of the newspaper advertisement. A further report would thereafter be submitted to the Board to consider any representations received and the new taxi fares scale could be fixed. The new taxi fares scale required to be fixed by 27 February 2019 although the date for it to come into effect required to be decided by the Board.

Councillor McNaughtan, seconded by Councillor Hughes, moved (i) that proposals 1 and 2 be proposed as the new taxi fares scale for Renfrewshire and included in the newspaper advertisement as detailed in paragraph 1.4 of the report; (ii) that the proposed revised fare scale come into effect on 25 March 2019; (iii) that it be noted that the proposals would be advertised in the local press; and (iv) that it be agreed that the last date for lodging representations following on the proposed scale being advertised be one calendar month after the date of publication of that advertisement.

Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Montgomery, moved as an amendment that there be no increase in the taxi fares scale until the Council saw an improvement in the service delivered to Renfrewshire residents by the taxi trade.

In terms of Standing Order 30 the Convener intimated that the vote would be by a show of hands.

On a vote being taken, 4 members voted for the amendment and 4 members voted for the motion. There being an equality of votes cast, the Convener used his second and casting vote in favour of the motion. The motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED:

- (a) That proposals 1 and 2 be proposed as the new taxi fares scale for Renfrewshire and included in the newspaper advertisement as detailed in paragraph 1.4 of the report;
- (b) That the proposed revised fare scale come into effect on 25 March 2019;
- (c) That it be noted that the proposals would be advertised in the local press; and
- (d) That it be agreed that the last date for lodging representations following on the proposed scale being advertised be one calendar month after the date of publication of that advertisement.

2 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Devine declared a non-financial interest in the following item of business as one of the applicants was known to him and intimated he would remain in the meeting.

3 Grant of Temporary Public Entertainment Licence - Personal Appearance

There was submitted the undernoted application for grant of a temporary Public Entertainment Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Mr and Mrs Fisher who had submitted an objection to the application in relation to the fairground ride situated near the Cenotaph, Paisley:-

Applicant: Kifdo Limited, 77 Hamilton Road, Bellshill

Activity: fairground

Location: Paisley town centre, High Street, Gilmour Street and Central Way

Operating: 23 November to 30 December 2018 – 7 days per week – 10.00 am to 10.00 pm

Mr Dean, Mr Taylor and Ms Brady, on behalf of Kifdo Limited, were invited into the meeting together with Mr and Mrs Fisher, who had submitted an objection to the application in relation to the fairground ride situated near the Cenotaph, Paisley.

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 granted subject to the usual conditions and an additional condition that no part of the Big Wheel fairground ride be within 1.5 metres of the Cenotaph wall. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the application be granted subject to the usual conditions and an additional condition that no part of the Big Wheel fairground ride be within 1.5 metres of the Cenotaph wall.

4 Grant of Street Trader's Licence - Personal Appearance

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

Applicant: Elizabeth Donaldson, 400 Gladsmuir Road, Hillington, Glasgow
 Authorised goods: hot and cold food, beverages, confectionery and milk
 Trading from: Watt Road and Huntly Road, Hillington and Maxwell Street, Paisley
 Operating hours: Hillington – Monday to Friday – 6.00 am to 2.30 pm and Paisley – 7 days per week – 9.00 pm to 4.00 am

There was no appearance by Ms Donaldson. Mr Donaldson, on behalf of the applicant, was invited into the meeting. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the meeting was adjourned to allow members to consider this application. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the applicant be allowed to be an exception to the Board's policy on trading hours and that the application be granted for a period of one year. This was agreed unanimously.

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

5 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.

6 Grant of Street Trader's Licence - Personal Appearance

There was submitted the undernoted application for grant of a Street Trader's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland who had submitted a representation to the application:-

Applicant: Leonard Begaj, 136 Brown Street, Paisley
 Authorised goods: hot and cold food and soft drinks
 Trading from: Ferguslie, Hunterhill, Gallowhill and Foxbar areas of Paisley and Renfrew – all areas within routes except school areas
 Operating hours: 7 days per week – 3.00 pm to 11.00 pm

Mr Begaj, the applicant, was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted a representation to the application. After consideration all the 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 Recall of Suspension of Private Hire Car Driver's Licence - Personal Appearance

Under reference to item 1(b) of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 7 August 2018 there was submitted the undernoted request for recall of suspension of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland:-

Nebert Tumwesige, 35 Capelrig Street, Glasgow

Mr Tumwesige, the applicant, was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay, on behalf of the Chief Constable. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the suspension of Mr Tumwesige's Private Hire Car Driver's Licence be recalled. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That the suspension of Mr Tumwesige's Private Hire Car Driver's Licence be recalled.

8 Request for Exemption from Assisting Wheelchair Passengers - Personal Appearance

There was submitted the undernoted request for exemption from assisting wheelchair passengers. The licence holder had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

Michael Skinnider, 43 Raeburn Avenue, Paisley T1743

Mr Skinnider, the applicant, was invited into the meeting. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Skinnider's request for exemption from assisting wheelchair passengers be granted for the duration of his current Taxi Driver's Licence. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That Mr Skinnider's request for exemption from assisting wheelchair passengers be granted for the duration of his current Taxi Driver's Licence.

9 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 together with Police Scotland who had submitted objections to the applications:-

(a) Gordon Buchanan, Flat 1/1 4 Redshank Avenue, Renfrew

Mr Buchanan, the applicant, and his Solicitor, Mr Kennedy, were invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay, 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 this application. The meeting was reconvened and 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 meeting adjourned at 12.15 pm and reconvened at 12.20 pm.

SEDERUNT

Councillor McEwan left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

Councillor Steel entered the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

(b) Jamie Collins, 16C Dimity Street, Johnstone

Mr Collins, was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay, 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 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.

10 Hearings into Possible Suspension or Revocation of Private Hire Car Drivers' Licences - Personal Appearances

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

(a) Naqash Ahmed, Flat 2/1 19 Elizabeth Street, Glasgow

Mr Ahmed, the licence holder, was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay, on behalf of the Chief Constable. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) asked Mr Ahmed if he wished to address the Board on any period of suspension the Board might impose on his licence prior to any motions being made in relation to his Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. Mr Ahmed then addressed the Board.

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

(b) Robert O'Neill, 77 Parkvale Avenue, Erskine

Mr O'Neill, the licence holder, was invited into the meeting together with Sergeant Hay, on behalf of the Chief Constable. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) asked Mr O'Neill if he wished to address the Board on any period of suspension the Board might impose on his licence prior to any motions being made in relation to his Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. Mr O'Neill then addressed the Board.

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

11 Grant of Landlord Registrations - Personal Appearances

Under reference to item 6(a) of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 6 September 2018, consideration was resumed of application (c) for grant of Landlord Registration and there were submitted applications (a) and (b) for grant of Landlord Registrations. Applicant (c) had been asked to appear personally for the second time and applicants (a) and (b) had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland who had submitted a representation to application (a) and the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services, Renfrewshire Council, in relation to application (b):-

(a) Deborah Ameh, 74 Shielhill Crescent, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Ms Ameh. Sergeant Hay, on behalf of the Chief Constable was invited into the meeting. The Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board.

(b) David Blackwood, 15/1 Carriagehill Drive, Paisley

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Blackwood. Mr Hunter, Ms McIntosh and Ms Gray, on behalf of the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services, Renfrewshire Council, were invited into the meeting. The Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued and that the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board.

(c) Len Heslop, 39 Crookston Drive, Glasgow

Mr Heslop, the applicant, was invited into the meeting. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that consideration of the application be continued to await further information from the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland and that, if required, the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That consideration of the application be continued to await further information from the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland and that, if required, the applicant be invited to a future meeting of the Board.

Minute of Meeting Local Review Body

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 20 November 2018	14:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McNaughtan

Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

K Dalrymple, Development Plan & Housing Strategy Team Leader (independent Planning Adviser to the Local Review Body) (Communities, Housing & Planning Services); and L Lilburn, Senior Solicitor Litigation & Advice (independent Legal Adviser to the Local Review Body); and A McLaughlin, Senior Solicitor Litigation & Regulatory Services and R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer (Clerk to the Local Review Body) and N O'Brien, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Introductions

Prior to the commencement of the meeting members of the Local Review Board, the Clerk and independent advisers were introduced.

Declarations of Interest

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

1 Procedure

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 Notice of Review

Consideration was given to a Notice of Review in respect of the refusal to grant planning permission for the erection of a first-floor extension over shop, to accommodate storage area with associated stair access to side and alterations to frontage at 45 Broomlea Crescent, Inchinnan, Renfrew (planning application 18/0031/PP).

3 Materials

The following materials were submitted for members' attention: Planning application (18/0031/PP), together with supporting plans; the Planning Authority's submission, including the report of handling, accompanying documents and decision notice; the original and further representations received; and the Notice of Review, together with supporting statement and productions submitted by the applicant's agent.

4 Consideration

The Convener confirmed that the LRB required to decide whether it had enough information before it to make a decision on the matter or whether further procedure was required to allow the LRB to determine planning application (18/0031/PP). It was noted that the applicant had requested that the review be conducted by further written submissions, a site inspection and a hearing.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor Hood moved that the LRB had sufficient information before it to reach a decision. This was agreed.

There then followed discussion during which specific issues in relation to the proposal were clarified.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor Hood, moved that planning permission for the proposal should be refused for the reasons detailed in the report of handling. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

That planning application 18/0031/PP be refused for the following reason:

The proposed development would result in an increase in the floorspace of a commercial use which, as a result, would be over-dominant rather than complementary to the primary use in area of residential. The scale of the development would in this respect be detrimental to the function and character of the residential area and therefore be contrary to Policies P1 and C2 of the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

Recording of Dissent

Councillor McNaughtan, being the mover of a motion which failed to obtain a seconder, requested that his dissent be recorded in terms of Standing Order 24.

Minute of Special Meeting Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 29 November 2018	10:00	Corporate Meeting Room 2, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Andy Steel, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

A McLaughlin, Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Regulatory Services), E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer, A Easdon, Licensing Officer, G Easdon, Senior Business Relationship Manager and D Adkins, Business Relationship Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Apologies

Councillors Audrey Doig and Mackay.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to 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 Hearing into Possible Suspension or Revocation of Taxi Driver's Licence - Personal Appearance

The Board considered the possible suspension of the undernoted Taxi Driver's Licence. The licence holder had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Doug Paulley, complainer who would participate in the meeting by way of remote video:-

Stewart Williamson

Mr Paulley, complainer, was brought into the meeting by way of remote video and Mr Williamson, licence holder, was invited into the meeting. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Regulatory Services) asked Mr Williamson if he wished to address the Board on any sanction the Board might impose on his licence prior to any motions being made in relation to his Taxi Driver's Licence. Mr Williamson then addressed the Board.

Following consideration of these submissions, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider this matter. The meeting was reconvened and Mr Paulley was invited back into the meeting by way of remote video and Mr Williamson was invited back into the meeting. The Convener proposed that Mr Williamson had breached the Council's dress code for taxi and private hire drivers; that there was insufficient evidence in relation to whether Mr Williamson had restrained Mr Paulley's wheelchair in his taxi; that it was clear that Mr Williamson had not offered the seatbelt restraint to Mr Paulley; that Mr Williamson be reminded that he must offer the seatbelt restraint to all wheelchair passengers he carried in his taxi; and that no sanction be made at this time. This was agreed unanimously.

The Convener further proposed that as the matters raised were concerning to Members of the Board, officers within the Licensing Section remind drivers of wheelchair accessible vehicles that seatbelt restraints must be offered to all wheelchair passengers carried in their vehicles; that training for drivers of wheelchair accessible vehicles in the use of seatbelt restraints be discussed with the taxi trade; and that all taxi and private hire car drivers be reminded of the Council's dress code for taxi and private hire car drivers. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

(a) That Mr Williamson had breached the Council's dress code for taxi and private hire drivers; that there was insufficient evidence in relation to whether Mr Williamson had restrained Mr Paulley's wheelchair in his taxi; that it was clear that Mr Williamson had not offered the seatbelt restraint to Mr Paulley; that Mr Williamson be reminded that he must offer the seatbelt restraint to all wheelchair passengers he carries in his taxi; and that no sanction be made at this time; and

(b) That as the matters raised concerned Members of the Board, officers within the Licensing Section remind drivers of wheelchair accessible vehicles that seatbelt restraints must be offered to all wheelchair passengers carried in their vehicles; that training for drivers of wheelchair accessible vehicles in the use of seatbelt restraints be discussed with the taxi trade; and that all taxi and private hire car drivers be reminded of the Council's dress code for taxi and private hire car drivers.