

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 30 September 2021	09:30	Teams Meeting,

KENNETH GRAHAM
Head of Corporate Governance

Membership

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

Provost Lorraine Cameron (Convener): Councillor Cathy McEwan (Depute Convener):
Councillor Iain Nicolson (Leader): Councillor Jim Paterson (Depute Leader)

Apologies

Apologies from members.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

Webcasting of Meeting

This meeting will be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site – at the start of the meeting the Provost will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. To find the webcast please navigate to the link below and select the meeting from the calendar.

<http://renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/meetings.aspx>

Items of business

1 **Minutes of Meetings of Council, Boards and Panels**

(attached separately)

Council, 24 June 2021, pages 1-18

Placing Requests & Exclusions Appeals Panel, 16 August 2021, pages 19-20

Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board, 17 August 2021, pages, 21-38

Regulatory Functions Board, 18 August 2021, pages 39-50

Education & Children's Services Policy Board, 19 August 2021, pages 51-54

Placing Requests & Exclusions Appeals Panel, 20 August 2021, pages 55-56

Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board, 23 August 2021, pages 57-62

Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board, 25 August 2021, pages 63-70

Petitions Board, 30 August 2021, pages 71-72

Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board, 1 September 2021, pages 73-88

Regulatory Functions Board, 2 September 2021, pages 89-94

Appointment Board, 7 September 2021, pages 95-96

Appointment Board, 8 September 2021, pages 97-98

Regulatory Functions Board, 10 September 2021, pages 99-102

Leadership Board, 15 September 2021, pages 103-112

Appointment Board, 28 September 2021 (Copy to follow)

Appointment Board, 29 September 2021 (Copy to follow)

2 **Water Safety in Renfrewshire** **11 - 16**

Report by Director of Communities and Housing

3 **Renfrewshire Libraries Update** **17 - 24**

Report by Chief Executive

4 **Update on Audited Annual Accounts 2020/21** **25 - 28**

Report by Director of Finance and Resources

5 **Financial Outlook 2022-2025** **29 - 46**

Report by Director of Finance and Resources

6 **Governance Arrangements** **47 - 56**

Report by Director of Finance and Resources

7 **Annual Report of Chief Social Work Officer** **57 - 78**

Report by Chief Social Work Officer

8 Renfrewshire Community Protection Chief Officers Group 79 - 112
– Annual Report 2020/21

Report by Chief Executive

9 National Care Service Consultation 113 - 130

Report by Chief Executive

**10 Notice of Motion 1 by Councillors Andy Doig and
McCartin**

"Banning Glyphosates in Renfrewshire Council

Council notes the risk to small children and pets from the continual use of the pesticide, Glyphosate, who may inadvertently come in contact with sprayed areas. Council notes the increasing number of local authorities across the UK which have banned Glyphosate in favour of other safer alternatives for weed control, and is concerned at independent academic research highlighting how glyphosate harms humans, animals, and the wider environment.

Council therefore calls for a ban on the use of Glyphosate within Renfrewshire Council in favour of safer alternatives."

**11 Notice of Motion 2 by Councillors Andy Doig and
McCartin**

"Review of waste services for town centres and rural areas

Council notes with increasing concern the unresolved problems with the current waste management strategy of Renfrewshire Council, particularly with regard to its inability to professionally service our town centres and rural communities alike.

This has led to Councillors receiving repeated long standing complaints on the vexed problem of non collection, or partial collection, on a constant basis in rural areas, and the additional problem of bins being almost permanently present outwith town centre businesses which struggle to adhere to the current regime.

Council calls for an urgent review of the waste management strategy with regard to town centres and rural communities, and recommends examination of the merits of fixed waste crews rather than rotational crews."

**12 Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors McCartin and Andy
Doig**

"20mph streets

Council has previously written to the Scottish Government regarding the potential to allow councils to bring in 20 mph areas where and when it

sees fit, rather than have to wait for permission from the Traffic Commissioner. These letters have resulted in nothing being done by the Government.

With the recent “non-coalition” between the SNP and the Green party establishing a policy of 20mph as standard, can the council once again write to the Scottish Government asking them to focus on this policy as a priority, to give local councils the responsibility of assessing where and when to bring this legislation into force, and in so doing give councils the right to make local judgements on local matters.”

13 Notice of Motion 4 by Councillors McCartin and Andy

Doig

"Blue Badge qualifications

Council recognises that Blue Badge permits have in recent years become much more restrictive than before, ensuring that there is no abuse of this system. However the restrictions seem to focus only on whether or not someone can physically walk any distance.

Some residents have what is often referred to as “unseen” illness or affliction so that, while they have the appearance of being able bodied, they in fact have illnesses which demand an ability to park as close as possible to, for example, toilet facilities if they are to have any quality of life. Our on-line application automatically refuses any such application.

Council requires to re-examine its eligibility criteria and ensure that those sufferers who require a Blue Badge can have access to a simple system of application, and have to go through a very unwieldy and sometimes unsuccessful application process with staff who then have to make individual judgements on these applications.”

14 Notice of Motion 5 by Councillors Hood and Devine

"Tree Specialist Officer

Council notes the appointment of an officer who can specialise in trees and looks forward to an imminent policy discussion on tree and woodland management. Council agrees that Scotland, and the UK, need to vastly increase the number of trees across the country. However, in the urban setting tree felling in appropriate places will always be necessary where the trees have an adverse effect on quality-of-life issues, such as access to light or where they are at risk of causing harm to our residents. Council instructs officers to include in any future tree felling policy an authority to take action where the effect on quality-of-life issues warrants it and also to allow the elected members the opportunity to hold officers to account when action is not taken.”

15 Notice of Motion 6 by Councillors Andy Doig and McCartin

"Public Entertainment Licenses and Community Halls

Council commends the organisers of the Lochwinnoch Arts Festival, the largest community arts festival in Renfrewshire, which over years have brought international acts of the calibre of folk musicians, Karen Mathieson and Dougie McLean, to the village for the benefit of all Renfrewshire residents.

Council further approves of the strong stance of the Scottish Government in promoting arts and culture in the community, and to facilitate and continue this trend calls on Renfrewshire Council to underwrite the cost of public entertainment licences for events in community halls across Renfrewshire."

16 Notice of Motion 7 by Councillors Andy Doig and McCartin

"Investment in rail and terms and conditions for Rail Workers

Renfrewshire Council believes that public ownership of Scotland's rail network will deliver significant benefits for Scotland's rail workers, passengers and taxpayers and help enable the creation of an affordable, accessible and sustainable rail network that contributes to Scotland's decarbonisation targets, and be able to better deliver crucial investment in aging rail infrastructure.

Council further supports comprehensive discussion and dialogue between the RMT and the Scottish Government to ensure that all ScotRail workers' jobs, pay and conditions, are protected throughout the transitional period and once they transfer to the new operator."

17 Notice of Motion 8 by Councillors Sharkey and Devine

"Universal Credit Payment Cut

Council condemns the cut £20 per week from Universal Credit (UC) payments and demands the Tory Government retain the £20 uplift payments on a permanent basis. Failure to do so will show that this government has, in the memorable phrase of Teresa May, gone "back to being the nasty party"."

18 Notice of Motion 9 by Councillors Sharkey and Hood

"Police Scotland – Protection of Workers

That the council writes to the Police as follows:

Dear Police Divisional Commander,

As you may be aware the Protection of Workers (Retail and Age-restricted Goods and Services) (Scotland) Act 2021 came into force on 24 August 2021.

Council is sure that you and your officers share our concern that nobody should face violence, threats and abuse at their place of work.

Retail workers in the Scotland have raised concerns about the way they are treated and the fact that they are regularly subject to abuse, threats of violence and even violence at their place of work. Often this is when they are enforcing the law on age-related goods.

We are writing to you to ask for a briefing on how the local police will be using these new powers and to find out Police Scotland will be working to protect retail workers many of whom worked through the pandemic and ensured that the country was supplied.

We also want to thank you and your officers for all the work you do locally. Keeping the community safe throughout the pandemic has been appreciated by us all."

19 Notice of Motion 10 by Councillor Sharkey and Devine

"Rail Network – State Ownership

Council welcomes proposals to move the rail network into state ownership from March 2022. Council believes that an effective and efficient transport system relies on democratic control and a responsive administration that allows both employees and passengers to have a meaningful contribution to the planning of services."

20 Notice of Motion 11 by Councillors Brown and Sharkey

"Flooding Events Across Renfrewshire

Council notes the recent flooding events across Renfrewshire and restates its decision about the climate emergency, taken on 27 June 2019. Council calls on the next Infrastructure and Environmental Board to detail the work undertaken and the plans drawn up since the council's decision."

21 Notice of Motion 12 by Councillors McNaughtan and K MacLaren

"1820 Radical Rising Martyrs Memorial

Council agrees to request Historic Environment Scotland to review the designation of the category C listed 1820 Radical Martyrs Memorial, Woodside Cemetery, Paisley.

With the bicentenary of the 1820 radical rising, much research has been undertaken on this important period of Renfrewshire's history. Several new books have been published on the subject which highlight Renfrewshire's key role in organising the uprising which sought the vote and regular elections against a backdrop of severe poverty and exploitation. Led largely by weavers, Paisley, Johnstone, Kilbarchan and wider Renfrewshire played a central role in organising an armed uprising to fight for those rights. Given the new research on the significance of this period in Renfrewshire's development, the Martyrs Memorial represents historical events of national importance which should be reflected in the listing by Historic Environment Scotland."

22 Notice of Motion 13 by Councillors K MacLaren and M

MacLaren

"Council condemns the Conservative Government at Westminster for abandoning the Pensions Triple Lock. Council notes that the triple lock guarantees that pensions grow in line with whichever is the highest out of earnings, inflation or 2.5%. This is yet another manifesto promise broken by the Conservative Government and a betrayal of Scotland's pensioners who already receive the lowest state pension compared to our European neighbours.

Council will contact both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to request they reverse their position and maintain the Pensions Triple Lock."

23 Notice of Motion 14 by Councillors McCartin and Andy

Doig

"Dumped cars

Council recognises that it's not presently its direct responsibility to remove abandoned cars from our streets. At present it is the DVLA which has sole responsibility for this, unless the car is in such a state as to be a danger to the public.

However, Council recognises that this allows abandoned cars to be left on our streets for many months while the DVLA "processes" this, and this can lead to the cars being wrecked, set on fire or otherwise so damaged which can bring them into the category of "dangerous" and can then be removed.

Council will write to both the Scottish Government and the DVLA asking that this process be examined and upgraded to give a finite time for a car to be removed, and to identify whose responsibility it will be to remove."

24 Notice of Motion 15 by Councillors Graham and McIntyre

"Ralston Community Sports Centre

Council notes that Ralston Community Sports Centre is a well-used public facility for everyone in the community. Council must ensure that going forward this facility remains in council ownership and operated by Renfrewshire Leisure."

25 Notice of Motion 16 by Councillors K MacLaren and Mylet

"Council condemns the recent decision by the Conservative Government in Westminster to increase National Insurance – yet again breaking

another manifesto promise. This move will see NI increasing by over 10%, impacting on those on lower wages while protecting the most well-off in society.

Council also notes that the Prime Minister has 'directed' how any income from this increase is to be spent in Scotland, clearly breaching the key principles of devolution. It is not for any Prime Minister or politician in Westminster to determine how the Scottish Government and Parliament decides to spend its block grant. By doing so the Conservative Government has put the future of devolution in doubt.

Council will contact both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to request that they scrap this increase in the National Insurance, and if it continues to go ahead, remove any conditions attached to this funding so that the Scottish Government and Parliament are free to use the funds as they see fit."

26 Notice of Motion 17 by Councillors Graham and McIntyre

"A737 in Renfrewshire

Council agrees to write to the Minister for Transport, Graeme Day MSP, to prepare a feasibility study for upgrading and dualling the remaining single carriageway sections of the A737 in Renfrewshire.

Council also agrees to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Kate Forbes MSP, to allocate funding for the project in the upcoming budget."

27 Notice of Motion 18 by Councillors Devine-Kennedy and Grady

"STUC Women's Committee – Universal Free School Meals for All

Council supports the STUC Women's Committee campaign to expand Universal Free School Meals for all.

Council instructs officers, to bring to the next council meeting a program of diligent planning to ensure everything is in place to deliver a healthy and nutritious free meal to every child whose family wants them to have one. It is important to improve the current capabilities of existing school kitchens and dining settings and identify where these need to be upgraded that they may accommodate the anticipated increase in uptake. The program must also take account of the training and staffing implications of the expansion.

Council is concerned that without such a program the quality both, of the food and the experience, will suffer if the only priority is headlining total numbers. The subsequent malnutrition will only thwart the very real advantages of the STUC campaign."