

## Minute of Meeting Leadership Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 15 September 2021	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

**Present:** Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Eileen McCartin, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McIntyre, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor John Shaw

### Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

### In Attendance

S Black, Chief Executive; M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing; G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications, A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development Services, L Adamson, Communications & Public Affairs Manager, A Armstrong-Walter, Strategic Partnerships & Inequalities Manager and R Cooper, Economic Development Manager (all Chief Executive's); J Trainer, Head of Childcare & Criminal Justice (Children's Services); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, L Belshaw and D Low, Democratic Services Managers, R Devine and C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officers and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources); C Laverty, Interim Chief Officer and L Howat, Interim Head of Mental Health, Addictions & Learning Disability Services (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership); and V Hollows, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Leisure).

### Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener indicated that the meeting of the Board would be recorded and that the recording would be available to watch on the Council's website.

Thereafter the Clerk took a roll call of members in attendance at the meeting, indicating those in the Council Chamber and those participating remotely.

## **Declarations of Interest**

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

## **Order of Business**

In terms of Standing Order 16 the Convener intimated that he proposed to alter the order of business to facilitate the conduct of the meeting by considering item 7 after item 6 and not as detailed in the agenda.

### **1 Budget Monitoring**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive, Director of Finance & Resources and the Chief Finance Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to the projected revenue and capital outturn position as at 31 March 2022 across all services reporting to this Board. For financial year 2021/22 the projected outturn position was split into core (business as usual) and Covid-19 related variances to outline the impact of the pandemic on service finances.

The report intimated that there was a projected annual overspend of £0.259 million in revenue expenditure and that since the last report to the meeting of this Board held on 16 June 2021 there had been capital budget adjustments totalling £16.843 million.

#### **DECIDED:**

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

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

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

### **2 Climate Change Sub-committee**

There was submitted the Minute of the Meeting of the Climate Change Sub-committee held on 1 September 2021.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute, as appended hereto, be approved.

### **3 Climate Change Update**

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to the work programme considered and agreed by the Climate Change Sub-committee, and specifically highlighting work being undertaken to develop Renfrewshire's first net zero plan which would set out actions which would need to be taken by the Council and its partners. The report also provided information on two funding proposals endorsed by the Sub-committee at its meeting held on 1 September 2021 - net zero business grant support programme for local businesses and Bridge of Weir Primary

School energy modelling - and funding of £115,000 was sought from the Climate Change Action Fund to support these initiatives.

The report detailed the key priorities during the next three months as agreed by the Sub-committee as completion of public and business climate surveys; establishment of a community climate panel; appointment of a supplier to support detailed assessment of carbon emissions in Renfrewshire and net zero plan development; and development of further Climate Change Action Fund proposals.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That the progress update provided in terms of the work programme in relation to the climate emergency response be noted; and

(b) That the funding proposals detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be agreed with £115,000 to be allocated from the Climate Change Action Fund to support the initiatives outlined.

**4 Social Renewal Plan - Income, Poverty and Financial Insecurity**

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to actions being taken by the Council and partners to support people and families across Renfrewshire experiencing issues in relation to low income and financial insecurity.

The report referred to the findings of the community impact assessment that had been undertaken across Renfrewshire in order to develop a deeper understanding of the impact of Covid-19 across communities. It was noted that work was ongoing to develop local responses to other impacts identified within the community impact assessment and the resulting Social Renewal Plan and an update on these proposals would be submitted to the next meeting of this Board.

The report also intimated that there were significant concerns that national developments relating to universal credit, the end of the furlough scheme and increasing food and fuel costs would have significant implications for local households. The report set out how partners would work together to ensure arrangements were in place as quickly as possible to provide the additional support required.

The report provided updates on allocation of the Social Renewal Plan budget as agreed at the meeting of this Board held on 16 June 2021 and recommended funding to Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau; Engage Renfrewshire, Linstone Housing Association and Renfrewshire Foodbank.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That the work that had been undertaken to progress the Social Renewal Plan in Renfrewshire be noted;

(b) That the arrangements in place for the Fair Work Renfrewshire employment advice service, provided by Citizens Advice Bureau be noted;

(c) That grant funding of £45,000 be approved to Engage Renfrewshire for the delivery of an affordable credit project, detailed at section 4 of the report;

(d) That grant funding of £16,665 each be approved to Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau, Linstone Housing Association and Renfrewshire Foodbank for the provision of support around fuel insecurity, as detailed in section 4 of the report;

(e) That the guidance for the Community Food Fund as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved; and

(f) That it be noted that the recommendations in relation to funding applications would be collated by officers and presented for consideration by this Board at its meeting to be held on 1 December 2021.

## 5 **Adult Social Work Services - Annual Monitoring Report 2020/21**

There was submitted the adult social care annual monitoring report for 2020/21 by the Interim Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership which provided an overview of activity and performance.

The report detailed the list of functions that must be delegated by a local authority to the Integration Joint Board (IJB). It was noted that whilst there was regular reporting to the IJB in relation to these services, it had been agreed by the Council that regular updates would be provided to the Leadership Board in relation to these delegated services, thereby ensuring oversight of the challenges, key activities and wider context relating to the delivery of these services.

The report outlined key activities during 2020/21; the impact of Covid-19 and resulting changes required to continue to deliver services; provided an overview of adult social work performance; highlighted the national direction in terms of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care, published in February 2021; and referred to the requirement for the IJB to produce a Strategic Plan in terms of how functions would be planned and delivered over the medium term and arrangements for review of the existing Plan which would be in place until 31 March 2022.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the report updating activity and performance of adult social work services delegated to the IJB be noted; and

(b) That it be noted that the six-monthly performance report would be presented to this Board at its meeting to be held on 23 February 2022.

## 6 **Alcohol and Drugs Programme Update**

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the meeting of the Board held on 24 February 2021, there was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to the local programme of work and progress since the February report.

The report intimated that it was clear from the publication of recent statistics in relation to alcohol and drug-related deaths that the local response to the Commission and its recommendations was critical and must continue to be prioritised by all partners. These statistics indicated that in 2020, drug-related deaths increased by 49% in Renfrewshire, whilst alcohol-related deaths increased by 22%.

The report referred to the allocation of £2 million funding by the Council and additional funding of £817,000 Scottish Government funding to the Renfrewshire Alcohol and

Drugs Partnership. It was noted that an Alcohol and Drugs Programme Board had been established to drive the local response to the Commission's recommendations, ensuring that all partners worked together, join up service developments and maximise available resources. The report noted a range of actions that had been prioritised by partners and detailed key developments that had been progressed.

It was proposed that further detail be provided in future reports in relation to residential service provision. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That Renfrewshire's response to the recommendations of the Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drugs Commission be noted;

(b) That the commitment of the Council and its partners to work together to address increasing levels of alcohol and drug-related deaths and wider harm in Renfrewshire be noted; and

(c) That further detail be provided in future reports in relation to residential service provision.

**7 Place-based Investment Fund 2020/21**

Under reference to item 11 of the Minute of meeting of the Board held on 16 June 2021, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative the place-based investment fund 2021/22.

The report intimated that both the Scottish and UK Governments had announced new funding programmes - the Levelling-up Fund, Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme and the Place-based Investment Programme through which the Governments were channelling capital investment into local economies and places to deliver, among other things, economic growth. The report highlighted advances on the regeneration themes as approved by the meeting of the Board held on 16 June 2021 and presented a set of priorities for officers to begin delivering to meet the conditions of the funding, under the themes of town centres; zero carbon infrastructure; improving the urban fabric; and visitor destination.

It was proposed that members be provided with information in relation to a timeline for the introduction of compulsory sales orders. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That the set of priority themes and indicative projects set out in section 4 of the report to be pursued in 2021/22 of the Place Based Investment Fund be agreed;

(b) That it be delegated to the Head of Economy & Development, in consultation with the Convener, to manage any potential over/underspends, from the indicative budgets presented, within the overall programme of projects and, if necessary, to bring forward substitute projects to ensure the complete commitment of the grant within financial year 2021/22; and

(c) That members be provided with information in relation to a timeline for the introduction of compulsory sales orders.

## 8 **Co-commissioning of Employability Services**

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to an overview of the current employment landscape and the proposed specific approach of Renfrewshire Council and the Local Employability Partnership to support those across Renfrewshire who were unemployed.

The report outlined the developing 'No-one Left Behind' employability policy between Scottish and Local Government to ensure that employability was aligned and integrated with service delivery at a local level and highlighted the increasing role of Local Employability Partnerships in local decision-making and the co-commissioning of local services.

The report proposed a new partnership grant process for employability service delivery, managed by the Council and delivered through the Local Employability Partnership, to ensure that the right employability services were delivered locally.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the approach proposed for Renfrewshire to establish an Employability Grant Programme delivered through the Renfrewshire Local Employability Partnership as the primary model for co-commissioning in 2021/23 be approved;

(b) That the use of the funding identified through existing and planned employability budgets be agreed; and

(c) That it be noted that regular progress would be reported through the Community Planning Partnership and that a review of the grant process and suggestions for any further grant programme would be reported to a future meeting of this Board.