

## Minute of Meeting Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 04 March 2021	09:30	Teams Meeting,

**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 Jim Harte, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor Alistair Mackay, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Kenny 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

### In Attendance

S Black, Chief Executive; S Quinn, Director of Children's Services; M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services; 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, B Walker, City Deal Project Director, L Adamson, Communications & Public Affairs Manager and D Christie, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); J Calder, Head of Service (Early Years & Broad General Education), G McKinlay, Head of Schools (Senior Phase & Inclusion) and J Trainer, Head of Child Care & Criminal Justice (all Children's Services); F Carlin, Head of Housing Services, L Feeley, Housing Asset & Investment Manager and L Muirhead, Planning & Housing Manager (all Communities & Housing Services); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, S Muir, Finance Business Partner, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, L Belshaw and D Low, both Democratic Services Managers, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, S Milligan, Service Desk/Remote Support Team Leader, I Blair, A Lowe and D Pole, End User Technicians and R Devine and C MacDonald, both Senior Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources); S Strachan, Interim Chief Officer, C Laverty, Head of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities & Addictions (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership); and V Hollows, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Leisure Limited).

## **Chair**

Provost L Cameron presided.

## **Recording of meeting**

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Provost intimated that this meeting of the Council would be recorded and that the recording would be available to watch on the Council's website.

## **Obituaries**

Provost Cameron acknowledged the recent deaths of Bob Brothers, a former Renfrew District Councillor and Rayleen Kelly, a former Renfrewshire Councillor, expressed deepest sympathy and offered the Council's support to both families.

During recollections of Rayleen's spell as a Councillor reference was made to her lovely, gentle, and kind demeanor. Mention was also made to Bob's time as a Councillor and specifically to his personality. Individual members of the Council paid tribute to both individuals endorsing the sentiments expressed. The Provost and members of the Council extended sincere condolences to both families on behalf of Renfrewshire Council.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Campbell declared an interest in respect of items 2, 7 and 12 of the agenda as she was an employee of NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde but not in the Council's area and a voluntary Covid vaccinator and intimated that it was her intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Dowling declared an interest in respect of item 2 of the agenda as she was a Director of Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau and intimated that it was her intention to leave the meeting and take no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Montgomery declared an interest in respect of item 2 of the agenda as he was a former employee of Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau and intimated that it was his intention to leave the meeting and take no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Councillors McIntyre and J MacLaren declared an interest in respect of item 2 of the agenda as they were private landlords and intimated that it was their intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Mackay declared an interest in respect of item 2 of the agenda as he was a Council Tax payer and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

## **Statement by Head of Corporate Governance**

The Head of Corporate Governance advised that members did not require to declare an interest in relation to their being Council Tax payers as there was a general exclusion in the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

Councillors Hughes, McCartin and Begg declared an interest in respect of item 10 of the agenda as they were members of the Board of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited and indicated that it was their intention to leave the meeting and take no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

## **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, 17 December 2020  
 Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board, 19 January 2021  
 Regulatory Functions Board, 20 January 2021  
 Education & Children's Services Policy Board, 21 January 2021  
 Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board, 25 January 2021  
 Special Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board, 26 January 2021  
 Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board, 27 January 2021  
 Petitions Board, 1 February 2021  
 Local Review Body, 2 February 2021  
 Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board, 3 February 2021  
 Regulatory Functions Board, 4 February 2021  
 Placing Requests & Exclusions Appeals Panel, 23 February 2021  
 Leadership Board, 24 February 2021

**DECIDED:** That the Minutes be approved.

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

Copies of the procedures to be followed in respect of consideration of the Revenue Estimates and Council Tax (item 2 of the agenda); and the Housing Revenue Account Budgets, Rent Levels and Capital Investment Plans (item 4 of the agenda) were appended to the relevant reports.

## **2 Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2021/22**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2021/22, together with appendices detailing revenue estimates for 2020/21; estimates of expenditure and income for the year

ended 31 March 2022; and the General Fund probable outturn for 2020/21.

The report provided an overview of the Council's anticipated financial position on the General Fund revenue budget and set out the information required for the Council to set its budget and Council Tax for 2021/22. The report also recommended that councillors considered the immediate and medium-term financial context for the Council, the legacy impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on service costs and demands and income streams, the significant disruption to transformation plans, the need for the Council to support the social and economic recovery and renewal process, together with the ongoing financial pressures facing the public sector more generally all as detailed in the report. The report stated that the Scottish Government had not provided detailed spending plans beyond their draft budget for 2021/22 but had through its Medium-term Financial Strategy (MTFS) outlined where it expected to position the local government budget relative to other main areas of their overall budget, most notably spending on the NHS. Within this MTFS, local government had been positioned more positively than in previous years relative to other major areas of the public sector in Scotland. This would imply a greater potential for a more positive relative financial outlook than forecast previously. The report highlighted however that the Scottish Government's own high-level forecast of overall future revenue spending in Scotland over the medium term was highly uncertain following the unprecedented fall in economic output as well as the uncertainty over the future scale and pace of economic recovery at both a Scottish and UK level.

Reference was also made within the report to the significant disruption to the normal budget setting cycle following the economic impact that had emerged from the Covid-19 pandemic. Consequently, the UK budget which would normally have been announced in the autumn of 2020, had been delayed and announced on 3 March 2021 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. This resulted in the draft Scottish Government budget being published on 28 January 2021, prior to the UK Government budget for the second year in a row.

The key elements of the Council's revenue settlement were summarised within the report and included an increase, in cash terms, in the Council's Government Revenue Grant Settlement of £9.335 million (2.7%); the inclusion within the Council's settlement of approximately £2.210 million of resources for Scottish Government priorities and commitments which drove a corresponding growth in Council spending; £3.019 million of conditional grant funding linked to the Council committing to a Council Tax freeze; the requirement for the Council to forward around £2.323 million of funding for Social Care to the Integration Joint Board (IJB), as Children's Social Care and Criminal Justice was not delegated to the IJB in Renfrewshire. Comparison, on a like for like basis, following adjustment for the areas of growing responsibility and the conditional aspects of the settlement, to the 2020/21 settlement indicated an increase of £1.783 million (0.5%) to the Council's underlying core grant.

In addition to the normal revenue settlement, the Scottish Government had also confirmed non-recurring Covid-19 specific funding for local government as part of the 2021/22 budget settlement although the distribution of resources to individual council level has yet to be confirmed, together with a further £60 million for local government for the safe reopening of schools and education catch up and £100 million to support low income households.

The report stated that in setting previous budgets, the Council had decided not to apply any general inflationary uplift to non-pay budgets. Given the financial challenges facing the Council, over the medium term and in line with historic practice, general

non-pay inflation was not provided for in the 2021/22 budget. The Financial Regulations required charges for services to be reviewed at least annually. The overview of the Council's spending, outlined in Table 3 of the report, made provision of £0.101 million for an inflation adjustment to charges of 2%.

Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved:

"1. That this Administration's fourth budget will continue to deliver on its commitments set out in its manifesto to the citizens of Renfrewshire to invest in inclusive economic growth, the environment, local communities and support the most vulnerable in Renfrewshire. This continues to be the case despite this budget being delivered during the most significantly challenging and disruptive period in the history of the Council. The COVID19 pandemic and public health emergency has impacted on our economy and communities in a way and at a scale we could never have imagined. This Administration is committed to supporting both our economy, communities, and most vulnerable citizens through this period of unprecedented challenge as well as the period of recovery and renewal where Renfrewshire and its citizens can begin to once again flourish. This budget sets out plans to deliver £443.5 million of capital investment when our economy needs it most. Investment that will not just create jobs and stimulate economic activity now but which is focused on generating long term inclusive economic growth to benefit all, supporting town centre regeneration to redefine and create sustainable town centres that can flourish, improving our roads and pathway infrastructure to keep Renfrewshire's economy moving, as well as continuing to grow the investment in our schools. Despite the unprecedented financial challenges that have been faced by the Council, this budget also puts in place investment to ensure support for social recovery and renewal is backed up by substantial resources, reflecting our commitment and promises to our communities and continues to invest in services to protect the most vulnerable across our communities when they need us most;

2. That as recommended by the Director, these budget proposals take a holistic view of resources available and include the use of the £2.500 million of available resources outlined in Agenda item 3 and direct them as follows: -

In recognition of the critical role quality outdoor time has played in supporting our communities during the challenging period of lockdown we will invest an additional £1.500 million to support improvement in outdoor access and play areas. These resources will augment the £0.784 million of Cycling, Walking & Safer Streets specific capital grant, providing a total £2.284 million investment in this key priority. These resources will be deployed across a range of priorities that will deliver improvements in important outdoor spaces used across our communities for exercise, recreation, and family enjoyment. A full programme will be brought back to the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Board and which will include investment in the following priorities areas:

Investment to encourage and support 'Freeplay' focused on enhancing and improving the play experience in council owned recreation areas across Renfrewshire;

A programme of work to deliver an improved outdoor environment to support increased recreational walking, activity and general enjoyment of our greenspace surroundings. This will include investment in Clyde Muirshiel Park & Gleniffer Braes and £0.150 million specifically to support a programme of tree works and path clearance across Renfrewshire's key urban conurbations;

A pilot schemes for traffic reduction studies on 'Gateway' village communities to promote safer walking within rural villages;

£0.750 million top up to the £1.600 million investment announced in 2020/21 to support a programme of improvement projects across the school and early learning estate, bringing this total investment to £2.350 million over the two years;

£0.250 million of funding to support the provision of safe road crossing facilities at appropriate points as part of improving safer walking routes to schools and nurseries with specific locations to be outlined in a future Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy board;

3. Supporting social recovery from COVID19 across Renfrewshire's communities is a major priority for this Administration. The work progressed to date and outlined in the Social Renewal Plan covered later in this agenda, reflects both the early priority this Administration has placed on addressing this key challenge and that we are committed to listening to those in our communities about what matters most to them and where they most need help. This Administration is not just committed to listening but acting and that is why today we will commit the following additional resources to support our Social Renewal Action plan;

£2 million from our flexible COVID resources in 2021/22;

The Council's confirmed £0.706 million share of the £20 million of financial insecurity resources announced by the Scottish Government on the 16th February 2021;

This further £2.706 million of funding is in addition to our own existing Tackling Poverty Programme and Alcohol & Drugs Commission resources, both of which are significantly funded programmes that will play key roles in the Social Renewal action plan and response. Additionally, it is expected that the social renewal across Renfrewshire's communities will also benefit from the deployment of £100 million of additional resources across Scotland by the Scottish Government in 2021/22 to tackle poverty and low income;

This commitment today will put in place enhanced capacity to support our Social Renewal Plan, ensuring priorities and actions, co-produced by the community for the community, is backed up by substantial funding that will help and support our communities through this most challenging of times;

Full details of the deployment of these resources will be outlined in the next Social Renewal report in June, However, today we can confirm the following priority commitments to allow actions to be commenced now: -

To assist the delivery in Renfrewshire on the Promise of the Independent Care Review, a grant totalling £0.180 million over a three year period to support the existing Who Cares Communities that Care Project for a further three years to continue their innovative community development work aimed building community resilience and support for care experienced young people. This is an early demonstration of our commitment to ensure that care experienced young people are fully supported to both successfully navigate this recovery process and continue to grow and thrive into confident young adults;

Recognising the importance of mental health and well-being of Renfrewshire's children an additional £0.250 million will be invested in children's services to enhance the £1.66 million of investment already in place through funding provided by the Scottish Government for school counselling and mental health, the contribution from Barnardo's Scotland via their strategic partnership on mental health and the funds already allocated through the Alcohol and Drug Commission. The focus of the additional funds will be on developing a trauma aware and response approach across Renfrewshire which will accelerate the delivery of support to children and young people and to their parents to build improvement in outcomes in mental health and well-being;

£0.200 million to support additional officers to provide direct support, advocacy and representation for private tenants and private landlord enforcement activities, recognising the very challenging time that will be experienced as temporary legal protections for tenants that have operated during COVID19 transition away;

£0.200 million to support the roll out of the Imagination Library Project with all of Renfrewshire's children becoming eligible on their 2nd birthday, recognising the highly valuable impact the pilot project has had with looked after children;

Providing £0.100 million of funding for Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau to provide independent welfare, employment and redundancy rights advice and advocacy, recognising the significant challenges that are likely to emerge for individuals as the furlough scheme begins to come to an end;

£0.100 million to provide an uplift for the Discretionary Housing Payment fund recognising the likely increased number of individuals requiring support with their housing costs;

£0.030 million to allow Children's Services to provide additional support for young carers including respite during the COVID period;

4. Redirect £0.150 million from the Council's own existing business grant resources already available in 2020/21 to support: -

the provision of £0.100 million for a grant scheme that will offset the on-premises licence costs covering the period such businesses have been required to close by law during COVID19 restrictions; and

£0.050 million to provide a Hot Food Retailer incentive scheme to transition away from single use plastics to bio-degradable packaging;

5. To protect services to the most vulnerable in Renfrewshire, and in line with the conditions set out in the 2021/22 financial settlement, agree to the recommendation outlined in the Director's report to make available £2.323 million of additional recurring resources to manage the net impact of new service and cost pressures within Adult Social Care Services, and continue the implementation of the Carers Act. These additional resources will be made available under delegation to the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (RHSCP) from 1 April 2021. In addition, as part of this delegation process, agree to continue to work in pro-active partnership with the RHSCP and social care providers to secure payment of the living wage to all care staff providing services to Renfrewshire residents in addition to those directly employed by the Council;

6. To agree the base budget assessment for all services for 2021/22 as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources, and subject to agreement of item 5 above, agree a 2021/22 base budget of £446.193 million;

7. To agree to make provision in 2021/22 for pay inflation as detailed in section 5.1 of the Directors report and make no provision for general non-pay inflation, as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources;

8. To agree to a general 2% inflationary increase in charges for services, subject to the note at paragraph 14 below;

9. To agree the resource allocations for 2021/22 for all services, as amended by these proposals;

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

11. Agree to draw £1.692 million of funding in from financial flexibilities identified in the financial strategy to support revenue spending in 2021/22;

12. Subject to agreement of the above, to agree that the council tax for 2021/22 be set at £1,315.42 for Band D subjects, representing a freeze at the 2020/21 level, securing access to the conditional local government grant and for all bandings to be set at:

<b>Band</b>	<b>£</b>
B	1,023.10
C	1,169.26
D	1,315.42
E	1,728.32
F	2,137.56
G	2,576.03
H	3,222.78

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

14. To agree to increase other charges for services by 2% (as detailed in paragraph 8 above) or where appropriate by the rate set in national legislation or guidance, or where charges are based on full cost recovery by the appropriate increase to maintain this position, subject to Directors being authorised

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

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



To note the requirement of financial code 13 that Directors review the amounts their departments charge for goods or services and if they think any charge needs to be increased, they will recommend this to the appropriate Board. The Council therefore agrees that when a Director carries out such a review and believes a charge for goods or services should be levied which reflects an increase greater than the increase of 2% or the rate set in national legislation or guidance, he or she will be entitled to recommend the same to the appropriate Board for approval.”

Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Sharkey, moved as an amendment:

“1. That as recommended by the Director, these budget proposals take a holistic view of resources available and include the use of the £2.500 million of available resources outlined in Agenda item 3 and direct them as follows: -

Invest £1.000 million to support investment in parks and recreational green space across Renfrewshire, recognising the important and positive role such spaces have made to the healthy and active lives of our communities during lockdown and will continue to play in the recovery and renewal process;

Invest £1.000 million of capital resources in upgrade works on community centres, specifically Bargarran Community Centre, Beechwood Community Centre, Foxbar Youth Learning Centre Glenburn Community Centre and Johnstone Castle Community Centre; with specific upgrade proposals to be the subject of a future report to the Leadership Board;

Invest £0.500 million to provide further investment in the provision of additional digital devices and connectivity for our school pupils recognising the critical role digital access and connectivity now plays in educating our young people;

2. Recognising the significant impact the pandemic has had on the education and welfare of our young people and in addition to the £1.8 million expected to be received from national resources to fund a programme of support to catch-up on missed learning, commit an additional £1.150 million of flexible COVID19 grant available in 2021/22 to specifically fund the following complimentary recovery and support priorities:

£0.750 million to provide additional mental health support to our schools over the next three years and for a future report to be provided by the Director to the Education and Children’s Services Policy Board to outline in detail the plans for the delivery of this service;

£0.300 million to provide £0.100 million per annum support to increase the provision of Breakfast Clubs across Renfrewshire’s schools, in recognition of the positive impact such clubs can have to support our young people in some of the most deprived areas be ready and prepared to learn each day as our children return to in-school learning;

£0.100 million to ensure that over the next three years every primary 5 to 7 pupil in Renfrewshire schools has access to a credit union account with a £10 starter balance;

3. In recognition of the highly positive impact tackling poverty and inequality has made in Renfrewshire and recognising the increased prominence this excellent work will play to support social renewal across our communities, commit additional revenue resources of £1.520 million, funded from £0.706 million of financial insecurity

resources and £0.814 million of flexible COVID19 grant resources in 2021/22, to invest in the following key priorities: -

Invest £ 0.300 million to provide a £ 0.100 million per annum top up over three years to the Scottish Welfare Fund in recognition of the ongoing demand pressure that this fund will experience across Renfrewshire moving forward;

Invest £ 0.450 million to provide a £ 0.150 million per annum top up over three years to the Discretionary Housing Payment fund, again in recognition of the increased pressure that will be experienced from hardship applications arising from citizens impacted by COVID19 and the wider economic and social impact;

Invest £ 0.210 million to provide £ 0.070 million per annum over three years to provide home starter packs for new tenants in Renfrewshire, providing much needed support for key items for citizens setting up their new council home;

Invest £0.210 million to employ, over three years, two Health and Homelessness Coordinators, providing a much needed service to some of our most vulnerable citizens in Renfrewshire in what will be a highly challenging recovery period;

Earmark £0.350 million to provide a £0.117 million per annum boost over three years to the highly successful Street Stuff initiative to support our young people enjoy safe play and social interaction as the post vaccine relaxations on restrictions increasingly emerge;

4. To protect services to the most vulnerable in Renfrewshire, and in line with the conditions set out in the 2021/22 financial settlement, agree to the recommendation outlined in the Director's report to make available £2.323 million of additional recurring resources to manage the net impact of new service and cost pressures within Adult Social Care Services, and continue the implementation of the Carers Act. These additional resources will be made available under delegation to the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (RHSCP) from 1 April 2021. In addition, as part of this delegation process, agree to continue to work in pro-active partnership with the RHSCP and social care providers to secure payment of the living wage to all care staff providing services to Renfrewshire residents in addition to those directly employed by the Council;

5. To agree the base budget assessment for all services for 2021/22 as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources, and subject to agreement of item 4 above, agree a 2021/22 base budget of £446.193 million;

6. To agree to make provision in 2021/22 for pay inflation as detailed in section 5.1 of the Directors report and make no provision for general non-pay inflation, as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources;

7. To agree to a general 2% inflationary increase in charges for services, subject to the note at paragraph 13 below;

8. To agree the resource allocations for 2021/22 for all services, as amended by these proposals;

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

10. Agree to draw £1.692 million of funding in from financial flexibilities identified in the financial strategy to support revenue spending in 2021/22;

11. Subject to agreement of the above, to agree that the council tax for 2021/22 be set at £1,315.42 for Band D subjects, representing a freeze at the 2020/21 level, securing access to the conditional local government grant and for all bandings to be set at:

<b>Band</b>	<b>£s</b>
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12. Subject to agreement of the points above, agree that the Council's budget is underpinned by appropriate decisions and makes appropriate provision to meet the specified commitments in the package of conditions linked to the Council's grant settlement;

13. To agree to increase other charges for services by 2% (as detailed in paragraph 7 above) or where appropriate by the rate set in national legislation or guidance, or where charges are based on full cost recovery by the appropriate increase to maintain this position, subject to Directors being authorised

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

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

To note the requirement of financial code 13 that Directors review the amounts their departments charge for goods or services and if they think any charge needs to be increased, they will recommend this to the appropriate Board. The Council therefore agrees that when a Director carries out such a review and believes a charge for goods or services should be levied which reflects an increase greater than the increase of 2% or the rate set in national legislation or guidance, he or she will be entitled to recommend the same to the appropriate Board for approval."

## **Chair**

The Provost lost connectivity to the meeting and Councillor McEwan, Depute Provost, assumed the chair. The Provost rejoined the meeting and reassumed the chair.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10.21am to allow members to consider the motion and amendments. The meeting reconvened at 10.58am.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Dowling and Montgomery having previously declared an interest left the meeting.

Councillors McIntyre and J MacLaren having previously declared an interest remained in the meeting.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors, Begg, Bibby, Binks, Brown, Davidson, Devine, Grady, Graham, Harte, Hood, Kennedy, Kerr, Mackay, James MacLaren, McCulloch, McIntyre, Sharkey, Sheridan, and Strang .

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Adam-McGregor, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Campbell, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Don, Hughes, Kenny MacLaren, Mags MacLaren, McCartin, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughtan, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw and Steel.

19 members having voted for the amendment and 21 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

## **DECIDED:**

(a) That this Administration's fourth budget will continue to deliver on its commitments set out in its manifesto to the citizens of Renfrewshire to invest in inclusive economic growth, the environment, local communities and support the most vulnerable in Renfrewshire. This continues to be the case despite this budget being delivered during the most significantly challenging and disruptive period in the history of the Council. The Covid-19 pandemic and public health emergency has impacted on our economy and communities in a way and at a scale we could never have imagined. This Administration is committed to supporting both our economy, communities and most vulnerable citizens through this period of unprecedented challenge as well as the period of recovery and renewal where Renfrewshire and its citizens can begin to once again flourish. This budget sets out plans to deliver £443.5 million of capital investment when our economy needs it most. Investment that will not just create jobs and stimulate economic activity now but which is focused on generating long term inclusive economic growth to benefit all, supporting town centre regeneration to redefine and create sustainable town centres that can flourish, improving our roads and pathway infrastructure to keep Renfrewshire's economy moving, as well as continuing to grow the investment in our schools. Despite the unprecedented financial challenges that have been faced by the Council, this budget also puts in place investment to ensure support for social recovery and renewal is backed up by substantial resources, reflecting our commitment and promises to our communities and continues to invest in services to protect the most vulnerable across our communities when they need us most;

(b) That as recommended by the Director, these budget proposals take a holistic view of resources available and include the use of the £2.500 million of available resources outlined in Agenda item 3 and direct them as follows: -

In recognition of the critical role quality outdoor time has played in supporting our communities during the challenging period of lockdown we will invest an additional £1.500 million to support improvement in outdoor access and play areas. These resources will augment the £0.784 million of Cycling, Walking & Safer Streets specific capital grant, providing a total £2.284 million investment in this key priority. These resources will be deployed across a range of priorities that will deliver improvements in important outdoor spaces used across our communities for exercise, recreation and family enjoyment. A full programme will be brought back to the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Board and which will include investment in the following priorities areas:

Investment to encourage and support 'Freeplay' focused on enhancing and improving the play experience in council owned recreation areas across Renfrewshire;

A programme of work to deliver an improved outdoor environment to support increased recreational walking, activity and general enjoyment of our greenspace surroundings. This will include investment in Clyde Muirshiel Park & Gleniffer Braes and £0.150 million specifically to support a programme of tree works and path clearance across Renfrewshire's key urban conurbations;

A pilot schemes for traffic reduction studies on 'Gateway' village communities to promote safer walking within rural villages;

£0.750 million top up to the £1.600 million investment announced in 2020/21 to support a programme of improvement projects across the school and early learning estate, bringing this total investment to £2.350 million over the two years;

£0.250 million of funding to support the provision of safe road crossing facilities at appropriate points as part of improving safer walking routes to schools and nurseries with specific locations to be outlined in a future Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board;

(c) Supporting social recovery from Covid-19 across Renfrewshire's communities is a major priority for this Administration. The work progressed to date and outlined in the Social Renewal Plan covered later in this agenda, reflects both the early priority this Administration has placed on addressing this key challenge and that we are committed to listening to those in our communities about what matters most to them and where they most need help. This Administration is not just committed to listening but acting and that is why today we will commit the following additional resources to support our Social Renewal Action plan;

£2 million from our flexible Covid resources in 2021/22;

The Council's confirmed £0.706 million share of the £20 million of financial insecurity resources announced by the Scottish Government on the 16th February 2021;

This further £2.706 million of funding is in addition to our own existing Tackling Poverty Programme and Alcohol & Drugs Commission resources, both of which are significantly funded programmes that will play key roles in the Social Renewal action plan and response. Additionally, it is expected that the social renewal across Renfrewshire's communities will also benefit from the deployment of £100 million of additional resources across Scotland by the Scottish Government in 2021/22 to tackle poverty and low income;

This commitment today will put in place enhanced capacity to support our Social Renewal Plan, ensuring priorities and actions, co-produced by the community for the community, is backed up by substantial funding that will help and support our communities through this most challenging of times;

Full details of the deployment of these resources will be outlined in the next Social Renewal report in June, However, today we can confirm the following priority commitments to allow actions to be commenced now: -

To assist the delivery in Renfrewshire on the Promise of the Independent Care Review, a grant totalling £0.180 million over a three year period to support the existing Who Cares Communities that Care Project for a further three years to continue their innovative community development work aimed building community resilience and support for care experienced young people. This is an early demonstration of our commitment to ensure that care experienced young people are fully supported to both successfully navigate this recovery process and continue to grow and thrive into confident young adults;

Recognising the importance of mental health and well-being of Renfrewshire's children an additional £0.250 million will be invested in children's services to enhance the £1.66 million of investment already in place through funding provided by the Scottish Government for school counselling and mental health, the contribution from Barnardo's Scotland via their strategic partnership on mental health and the funds already allocated through the Alcohol and Drug Commission. The focus of the additional funds will be on developing a trauma aware and response approach across Renfrewshire which will accelerate the delivery of support to children and young people and to their parents to build improvement in outcomes in mental health and well-being;

£0.200 million to support additional officers to provide direct support, advocacy and representation for private tenants and private landlord enforcement activities, recognising the very challenging time that will be experienced as temporary legal protections for tenants that have operated during Covid-19 transition away;

£0.200 million to support the roll out of the Imagination Library Project with all of Renfrewshire's children becoming eligible on their second birthday, recognising the highly valuable impact the pilot project has had with looked after children;

Providing £0.100 million of funding for Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau to provide independent welfare, employment and redundancy rights advice and advocacy, recognising the significant challenges that are likely to emerge for individuals as the furlough scheme begins to come to an end;

£0.100 million to provide an uplift for the Discretionary Housing Payment fund recognising the likely increased number of individuals requiring support with their housing costs;

£0.030 million to allow Children's Services to provide additional support for young carers including respite during the Covid period;

(d) Redirect £0.150 million from the Council's own existing business grant resources already available in 2020/21 to support: -

the provision of £0.100 million for a grant scheme that will offset the on-premises licence costs covering the period such businesses have been required to close by law during COVID19 restrictions; and

£0.050 million to provide a Hot Food Retailer incentive scheme to transition away from single use plastics to bio-degradable packaging;

(e) To protect services to the most vulnerable in Renfrewshire, and in line with the conditions set out in the 2021/22 financial settlement, agree to the recommendation outlined in the Director's report to make available £2.323 million of additional recurring resources to manage the net impact of new service and cost pressures within Adult Social Care Services, and continue the implementation of the Carers Act. These additional resources will be made available under delegation to the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (RHSCP) from 1 April 2021. In addition, as part of this delegation process, agree to continue to work in pro-active partnership with the RHSCP and social care providers to secure payment of the living wage to all care staff providing services to Renfrewshire residents in addition to those directly employed by the Council;

(f) To agree the base budget assessment for all services for 2021/22 as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources, and agree a 2021/22 base budget of £446.193 million;

(g) To agree to make provision in 2021/22 for pay inflation as detailed in section 5.1 of the Directors report and make no provision for general non-pay inflation, as recommended by the Director of Finance and Resources;

(h) To agree to a general 2% inflationary increase in charges for services, subject to the note at paragraph (o) below;

(i) To agree the resource allocations for 2021/22 for all services, as amended by these proposals;

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

(k) Agree to draw £1.692 million of funding in from financial flexibilities identified in the financial strategy to support revenue spending in 2021/22;

(l) To agree that the Council Tax for 2021/22 be set at £1,315.42 for Band D subjects, representing a freeze at the 2020/21 level, securing access to the conditional local government grant and for all bandings to be set at:

<b>Band</b>	<b>£s</b>
B	1,023.10
C	1,169.26
D	1,315.42
E	1,728.32
F	2,137.56
G	2,576.03
H	3,222.78

(m) To agree that the Council's budget is underpinned by appropriate decisions and makes appropriate provision to meet the specified commitments in the package of conditions linked to the Council's grant settlement;

(n) To agree to increase other charges for services by 2% (as detailed in paragraph h above) or where appropriate by the rate set in national legislation or guidance, or where charges are based on full cost recovery by the appropriate increase to maintain this position, subject to Directors being authorised

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

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

(o) To note the requirement of financial code 13 that Directors review the amounts their departments charge for goods or services and if they think any charge needs to be increased, they will recommend this to the appropriate Board. The Council therefore agrees that when a Director carries out such a review and believes a charge for goods or services should be levied which reflects an increase greater than the increase of 2% or the rate set in national legislation or guidance, he or she will be entitled to recommend the same to the appropriate Board for approval.

### **Sederunt**

Councillors Dowling and Montgomery re-joined the meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11.42am and reconvened at 11.56am.

## **3 Non Housing Capital Investment Programme, Prudential Framework and Treasury Management Strategy, and Capital Strategy 2021/22 – 2025/26**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the planned capital investment for non-housing services for the period 2021/22 to 2025/26 which covered a range of corporate projects across all service areas within the Council with the exception of council housing. The report advised that the resources available to support investment included prudential borrowing and capital grant as well as contributions from revenue, partners, and external funding bodies.

The report intimated that on 1 February 2021 the Scottish Government had published the draft Scottish Government budget for 2021/22 and the provisional local government finance settlement. The proposed 2021/22 capital grant for Renfrewshire Council was £12.910 million, of which £0.784 million was specific grant relating to cycling and walking safer streets. It was noted that nationally the level of general capital grant had not increased from that announced in 2020/21 however updated distribution figures had resulted in a slightly increased allocation for Renfrewshire. The level of general capital grant allocated to local government in the draft budget for 2021/22 was substantially reduced from that received in 2019/20 and 2020/21. In addition the Scottish Government had recently published medium-term financial



planning figures for future grant levels which indicatively outlined an expectation that the level of core capital grant over the medium term would remain at flat cash for the next five-years, excluding funding for flood risk management. Confirmation of this funding environment would present challenges for the Council in terms of addressing asset lifecycle maintenance costs which generally equated to or exceeded £12 million annually. As a result, the Council would require to fundamentally review the approach to regular lifecycle maintenance planning recognising the more constrained level of capital grant that was likely to be available over the medium term. There would be little scope for investment in assets other than rolling lifecycle maintenance unless the Council was able to access and secure other sources of funding. It was highlighted that forecasts by the Scottish Fiscal Commission suggested the outlook for the economy was one of marginal growth over the medium term, which could translate into reduced opportunities for capital receipts as a source of income to the capital plan; with a potential greater reliance on increased borrowing as the main source of capital funding outwith the capital grant settlement which would result in revenue pressures at a time when the revenue fund was also constrained.

Outwith the core capital grant settlement, the Scottish Government had made further funding announcements, which although not anticipated would benefit local government directly could support applications and access to these funds

It was noted that the capital plan outlined in the report, and detailed in Appendices 1-5, extended beyond 2021/22 but that no capital grant from 2022/23 had been incorporated. Approved programmes already in place which were funded by other arrangements, for example prudential borrowing or specific funding related to the City Deal had however been included. It was further noted that this approach did not preclude the Council taking further investment decisions as part of the budget process where separate funding arrangements were established.

The report intimated that the Covid-19 pandemic and associated lockdown measures had impacted the planned capital programme as outlined in the report submitted to the meeting of the Council held on 17 December 2020, with the construction closedown and subsequent social distancing being key issues which had exposed the Council to contractor claims for additional costs. Discussions had been ongoing with contractors with regards the risk of claims and while not totally mitigated the risk appeared to have reduced. In addition, the Scottish Government had announced further Covid-related funding in both 2020/21 and 2021/22 which could be accessed to cover Covid specific risks of this nature and addressed costs arising from contractor claims. Both developments combined had reduced the requirement to maintain the contingency funding previously agreed and therefore it was proposed that this funding was made available for future investment and transferred to the Strategic Asset Management Fund.

The report stated that that the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes played a key role in capital finance in local authorities and they required the Council to set prudential and treasury management indicators for the following three years to ensure that the Council's capital investment plans were affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Treasury Management Code further required that the Council approve, annually in advance, a strategy for its treasury management activities, whilst the Prudential Code also required full Council approval of the Capital Strategy which set out the long term context within which capital investment decisions were made to improve capital, revenue and balance sheet planning. Details of the proposed prudential indicators and treasury management strategy and proposed capital strategy were attached as Appendices 6 and 7 of the report respectively.

Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Nicolson moved:

“1. To agree the investment programme totalling £443.499 million covering the period up to 2025/26, including the recommendations contained in the report for the allocation of resources to support the delivery of lifecycle maintenance programmes over the period;

2. To endorse the decisions taken by Council in consideration of item 2, to

Invest an additional £1.500 million to support improvement in outdoor access and play areas, augmenting the £0.784 million of Cycling, Walking & Safer Streets specific capital grant, providing a total £2.284 million investment in this key priority. These resources will be deployed across a range of priorities that will deliver improvements in important outdoor spaces used across our communities for exercise, recreation and family enjoyment. A full programme will be brought back to the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Board and which will include investment in the following priorities areas:

Investment to encourage and support ‘Freeplay’ focused on enhancing and improving the play experience in council owned recreation areas across Renfrewshire;

A programme of work to deliver an improved outdoor environment to support increased recreational walking, activity and general enjoyment of our greenspace surroundings. This will include investment in Clyde Muirshiel Park & Gleniffer Braes and £0.150 million specifically to support a programme of tree works and path clearance across Renfrewshire’s key urban conurbations;

A pilot schemes for traffic reduction studies on ‘Gateway’ village communities to promote safer walking within rural villages;

Invest £0.750 million to top up the £1.600 million investment announced in 2020/21 to support a programme of improvement projects across the school and early learning estate, bringing this total investment to £2.350 million over the two years;

Invest £0.250 million of funding to support the provision of safe road crossing facilities at appropriate points as part of improving safer walking routes to schools and nurseries, with specific locations to be outlined in a future Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board;

3. To delegate to the Head of Property Services, Head of Operations and Infrastructure and Head of Schools, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Resources, authority to adjust where appropriate resources across individual components of the lifecycle maintenance, roads and structures, and schools investment programmes respectively;

4. Agree to the suite of prudential indicators, treasury management indicators, treasury and capital strategy as set out in Appendices 6 and 7 of the report, subject to required adjustments arising from decisions outlined in points 1 – 3 above and in relation to any other decisions taken by members at this Council meeting.”

This was agreed.

**DECIDED:**

(a) To agree the investment programme totalling £443.499 million covering the period up to 2025/26, including the recommendations contained in the report for the allocation of resources to support the delivery of lifecycle maintenance programmes over the period;

(b) To endorse the decisions taken by Council in consideration of item 2 of this Minute, to

Invest an additional £1.500 million to support improvement in outdoor access and play areas, augmenting the £0.784 million of Cycling, Walking & Safer Streets specific capital grant, providing a total £2.284 million investment in this key priority. These resources will be deployed across a range of priorities that will deliver improvements in important outdoor spaces used across our communities for exercise, recreation and family enjoyment. A full programme will be brought back to the Infrastructure, Land & Environment Board and which will include investment in the following priorities areas:

Investment to encourage and support 'Freeplay' focused on enhancing and improving the play experience in council owned recreation areas across Renfrewshire;

A programme of work to deliver an improved outdoor environment to support increased recreational walking, activity and general enjoyment of our greenspace surroundings. This will include investment in Clyde Muirshiel Park & Gleniffer Braes and £0.150 million specifically to support a programme of tree works and path clearance across Renfrewshire's key urban conurbations;

A pilot schemes for traffic reduction studies on 'Gateway' village communities to promote safer walking within rural villages;

Invest £0.750 million to top up the £1.600 million investment announced in 2020/21 to support a programme of improvement projects across the school and early learning estate, bringing this total investment to £2.350 million over the two years;

Invest £0.250 million of funding to support the provision of safe road crossing facilities at appropriate points as part of improving safer walking routes to schools and nurseries, with specific locations to be outlined in a future Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board;

(c) To delegate to the Head of Property Services, Head of Operations & Infrastructure and Head of Schools, in consultation with the Director of Finance & Resources, authority to adjust where appropriate resources across individual components of the lifecycle maintenance, roads and structures, and schools investment programmes respectively; and

(d) Agree to the suite of prudential indicators, treasury management indicators, treasury and capital strategy as set out in Appendices 6 and 7 of the report, subject to required adjustments arising from decisions outlined in points 1 – 3 above and in relation to any other decisions taken by members at this Council meeting.

#### 4 **Housing Revenue Account Budget & Rent Levels 2021/22 and Housing Capital Investment Plan 2021/22 to 2023/24**

There was submitted a joint report by the Directors of Communities & Housing and Finance & Resources relative to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for financial year 2021/22 and the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2021/22 to 2023/24. Appendices to the report detailed budget changes for 2021/22; anticipated expenditure and income for the year ending 31 March 2021; and the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2021/22 to 2022/23.

The report provided an update on consultation with tenants on the annual rent setting process and outlined ongoing risks and challenges facing the HRA.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan, moved;

(a) That an average weekly increase of 1.5% for 2021/22 for housing rents, lock-up rents and launderette charges be approved;

(b) That the findings of the recent tenant consultation exercise be noted;

(c) That the Housing Revenue Account Budget for financial year 2021/22, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;

(d) That the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2021/22 to 2023/24, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved; and

(e) That the continuing requirement to achieve best value in the commissioning of works by having an optimum workflow over the three years of the investment plan be noted and that the Director of Communities & Housing liaise with the Director of Finance & Resources to re-profile the capital programme and available resources, as necessary, in line with the appropriate limits established under the Council's capital prudential framework arrangements.

This was agreed.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That an average weekly increase of 1.5% for 2021/22 for housing rents, lock-up rents and launderette charges be approved;

(b) That the findings of the recent tenant consultation exercise be noted;

(c) That the Housing Revenue Account Budget for financial year 2021/22, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;

(d) That the Housing Capital Investment Plan 2021/22 to 2023/24, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved; and

(e) That the continuing requirement to achieve best value in the commissioning of works by having an optimum workflow over the three years of the investment plan be noted and that the Director of Communities & Housing liaise with the Director of Finance & Resources to re-profile the capital programme and available resources, as

necessary, in line with the appropriate limits established under the Council's capital prudential framework arrangements.

## 5 Social Renewal Plan

Under reference to Item 3(c) of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 17 December 2020 there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the development of a Social Renewal Plan for Renfrewshire.

The report made reference to the decision taken at the meeting of the Council held on 24 September 2020, that a community impact assessment should be undertaken to develop an understanding of the impact of the pandemic on local people, and that this would inform the development of a Social Renewal Plan for Renfrewshire setting out how the Council would work with partners to tackle both the impact of Covid-19 and existing inequalities across Renfrewshire's communities. It was acknowledged that the impact on communities would have to be assessed over an extended period, as changes to for example employment, income, relationships and mental health and wellbeing might develop over time. Restrictions continued to impact local people, businesses and communities and there was an ongoing need for the Council to work with partners to identify and respond to any emerging issues as these arose. The report built on the report submitted to the meeting of the Council held on 17 December 2020, which had highlighted the initial findings from the community impact assessment. A summary of the work that had taken place to complete the first phase of the community impact assessment, including a COVID-19 impact survey which had been issued to 1500 local people, engagement with the Local Partnerships and targeted engagement with a range of different equality groups, was provided.

The report also stated that the information gathered to date had now been analysed and the key findings and areas of concern identified were outlined. These findings had been used to develop an initial Social Renewal Plan appended to the report, which detailed a range of proposed priority actions for the Council and its partners to progress. The Plan, focussed on improving wellbeing and tackling inequalities that existed across Renfrewshire's communities. This was the first step in the process of social renewal, with more detailed work scheduled to commence with community planning partners during late March 2021.

It was proposed that, if available, members be provided with information on which behaviours spread Covid. This was agreed.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the progress that had been achieved in terms of assessing the impact of COVID-19 on local people and communities to date be noted;
- (b) That the emerging issues being experienced locally, as identified through the community impact process, be noted;
- (c) That the initial Social Renewal Action plan in response to these key issues, a copy of which was appended to the report, be agreed;

(d) That it be agreed that regular updates on the Social Renewal Plan be submitted to meetings of the Council's Leadership Board; and

(e) That, if available, members be provided with information on which behaviours spread Covid-19.

## 6 Governance Arrangements

Under reference to item 6 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 17 December 2020, there was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources seeking approval for arrangements for the next cycle of meetings up to and including the next full Council meeting on 13 May 2021 and providing an update on the acquisition of a Public-i system that would enable live-streamed hybrid meetings to take place, once restrictions to combat the Covid-19 pandemic had been eased.

The report proposed the continuation of arrangements that had been in operation for Council and Board meeting since August 2020 with the aim of allowing the next cycle of Board meetings to take place as efficiently as possible in the current circumstances as well as enabling the Council to continue to respond to any urgent issues arising from the continuing Covid-19 pandemic. The report also proposed that the revised remit and extended membership of the Emergencies Board, agreed at the meeting of the Council held on 25 June 2020, continue. The arrangements for future Council and Board meetings would continue to be reviewed and be the subject of a further report to Council on 13 May 2021. It was noted that the date of the next meeting of the Council as detailed in the schedule required to be amended to 13 May 2021.

In addition, the report sought a delegation in relation to decisions regarding the lending or borrowing of museum collection items and sought approval or noting of various other governance related matters. Changes to the membership of various Boards were detailed and it was proposed that the meeting of the Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board due to be held on 28 September 2021 be rescheduled to 25 October 2021.

Furthermore the report advised of the outcome of Councillor Mack's appeal against the decisions of the Standards Commission and that as a result, Councillor Mack could resume his role as an elected member of Renfrewshire Council and indicated that a further hearing by the Standards Commission was due to take place on 9 March 2021.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the arrangements for the next cycle of Council and Board meetings, as set out in section 4 of the report, be approved;

(b) That the delay in the installation of the Public-i system be noted;

(c) That it be noted that the arrangements for subsequent Board cycles would be the subject of a report to be submitted to the meeting of the Council to be held on 13 May 2021;

(d) That the temporary changes to the membership and remit of the Emergencies Board approved at the meeting of the Council held on 25 June 2020 be continued;

(e) That a delegation to the Head of Policy & Commissioning, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to authorise lending of any item from the Council's museum collection and the borrowing of items from another party for exhibition by the Council and to agree the terms under which the lending or borrowing of items took place be approved;

(f) That the Leadership Board be authorised to decide requests for the return of items from the museum collection to the place or community of origin of those items;

(g) That it be agreed to appoint (i) Councillors Devine and Sheridan to replace Councillors McCulloch and Montgomery on the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board; (ii) Councillor Sharkey to replace Councillor Montgomery on the Cross-Party Sounding Board; (iii) Councillors Harte and Hood to replace Councillors Bibby and Davidson on the Education & Children's Services Policy Board; and (iv) Councillor Sharkey to replace Councillor Davidson on the Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board;

(h) That the outcome of Councillor Mack's appeal against the decisions of the Standards Commission be noted, that as a result, Councillor Mack could resume his role as an elected member of Renfrewshire Council and that it be noted that a further hearing by the Standards Commission was due to take place on 9 March 2021; and

(i) That it be agreed that the meeting of the Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board due to be held on 28 September 2021 be rescheduled to 25 October 2021.

## **7 Independent Review of Adult Social Care**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Independent Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland.

The report advised that in September 2020 the Scottish Government had announced that it intended to commission an independent review of adult social care in Scotland. This review had been identified as a key element of the 2020 Programme for Government and had been expedited in order that the key findings could be published in early 2021. The report outlined the principal aim of the review, stated that following a process of engagement and consultation, the final report of the review had been published and provided an overview of its findings. The report noted that the review highlighted the need to recognise and value the critical role that social care played within society. The review identified social care support as being an investment in citizens and the economy, that there required to be a greater shift to a model of care which was more consistent and fair, which enabled and promoted the rights and capabilities of individuals and that there was an inherent right to services rather than assessment for services in line with eligibility criteria. In addition, a strong, skilled, and valued workforce was recognised as being key to achieving these ambitions, with a system funded to deliver the improvements required. The report summarised the proposed changes and recommendations to the provision of adult social care as detailed in the review. The report highlighted that there were significant implications for the provision of adult social care across Scotland and for the future role of local authorities arising from the review recommendations and the fundamental changes proposed to achieve the future vision for adult social care.

The report noted that the recommendations outlined within the review report would be debated in the Scottish Parliament. The report anticipated that these recommendations would require significant further engagement with local authorities, Integration Joint Boards, NHS Boards, social care providers and representative organisations and those who used adult social care services across Scotland. Changes to existing legislation would also require to be enacted prior to any changes being implemented. In addition, the report highlighted that although the review was intended to focus on adult social care there were several recommendations within its report which related to the provision of social work services and that further clarity was required in relation to progression of these recommendations.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Cameron, moved;

(a) That the content of the independent review report and its recommendations as these related to Renfrewshire be noted;

(b) That it be noted that further updates would be provided to elected members as further information became available on the Scottish Government's response to this independent review and its recommendations; and

(c) That, in addition, Council notes the cross-party CoSLA position statement "Any National Care Service must be locally empowered, reflect the needs of our communities and recognise the vital role of the third sector. It must be outcome focussed with the principle of addressing health inequalities at its core, ensure that social care is on an even playing field and address the financial challenges facing the sector. This can only be achieved by Local Government that is rooted in the community and employs local people."

Councillor McCartin, seconded by Councillor Andy Doig, moved as an amendment that in addition Renfrewshire Council write to the Scottish Government advising them of our objection to removing responsibility for social care from local councils.

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

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the content of the independent review report and its recommendations as these related to Renfrewshire be noted;

(b) That it be noted that further updates would be provided to elected members as further information became available on the Scottish Government's response to this independent review and its recommendations;

(c) That, in addition, Council notes the cross-party CoSLA position statement "Any National Care Service must be locally empowered, reflect the needs of communities and recognise the vital role of the third sector. It must be outcome focussed with the principle of addressing health inequalities at its core, ensure that social care was on an even playing field and address the financial challenges facing the sector. This could only be achieved by Local Government that was rooted in the community and employed local people"; and



(d) That Renfrewshire Council write to the Scottish Government advising of the Council's objection to removing responsibility for social care from local councils.

## 8 **Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Equality**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to progress with equalities and providing a draft set of equality outcomes together with information on activities delivered during the 2019/20 reporting period. It was noted that the report was intended to meet the Council's duties to report progress publicly and in an accessible manner.

The report highlighted that Renfrewshire Council had a general equality duty, which required it to pay due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations as set out in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010 and which also laid out a number of specific duties for public authorities to support the general equality duty. In line with these specific duties, Renfrewshire Council was required to report, by the end of April 2021, on progress with mainstreaming equality, its progress against its equality outcomes, employee information and gender pay gap information and these were detailed in the report along with more detailed information on education. The report further proposed a number of draft Equalities Outcomes areas for the period 2021/25, details of which were provided.

The report highlighted Renfrewshire's programme of events for Black History Month 2020; the Parental Employment Support Fund (PESF) Project; the Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund - by young people, for young people; the availability of sanitary products throughout Renfrewshire both in community settings and in organisations working with families with low incomes; the education-based Language Bank; the collaboration between pupils from six schools in Renfrewshire with "I Am Me" to develop an application that promoted mental wellbeing; the outdoor access strategy; Support for disabled employees via the roll out of mental health first aid training to several service areas across the Council; and the development of a new Council website, with accessibility as the key focus.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the Progressing Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Equality Report be approved for final publication on the Council's website;

(b) That the progress made in mainstreaming equalities and pursuing Renfrewshire Council's Equality Outcomes be noted; and

(c) That the proposed draft Equality Outcome areas for 2021/25 be approved.

## 9 **Notice of Motion 1 by Councillors Burns and Paterson**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Burns and Paterson in the following terms:

"Council condemns the use of 'fire and rehire' tactics by employers and calls on companies currently engaged in this process to immediately cease and engage with their workforce and trade unions to agree a fair and constructive way forward."

Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Paterson, then moved the motion.

Councillor Sheridan, seconded by Councillor Sharkey, moved as a first amendment that in addition: "That this council seeks to discourage said practice by ensuring suppliers tendering for council contracts commit to fair competition that does not exploit peoples job insecurity".

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor McCartin, moved as a second amendment that: "Council notes both the economic and social value of the dignity of labour and believes that a policy of employee participation at board level and a system of employee shares based on the German model would improve economic performance and promote social cohesion. Council accordingly calls for the repatriation of all employment law from Westminster to Holyrood to facilitate the roll out of this policy across Scotland."

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Burns and Paterson, being the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept the second amendment as an addition to the motion and the motion, as amended, became the substantive motion.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors, Begg, Bibby, Binks, Brown, Davidson, Devine, Dowling, Grady, Graham, Harte, Hood, Kennedy, Kerr, Mackay, Mack, J MacLaren, McCulloch, McIntyre, Montgomery, Sharkey, Sheridan, and Strang .

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

22 members having voted for the amendment and 21 members having voted for the motion, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That Council condemns the use of 'fire and rehire' tactics by employers and calls on companies currently engaged in this process to immediately cease and engage with their workforce and trade unions to agree a fair and constructive way forward; and

(b) That this Council seek to discourage said practice by ensuring suppliers tendering for Council contracts committed to fair competition that did not exploit people's job insecurity.

## **10 Notice of Motion 2 by Councillors Hood and Harte**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Hood and Harte which Provost L Cameron ruled was not competent in terms of Standing Order 19(c).

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1.39 pm and reconvened at 2.10 pm.

## **Sederunt**

Councillor Dowling was not present when the meeting reconvened.

### **11 Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors McCartin and Andy Doig**

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

"Unpaid Carers

Council aims to provide a minimum of 1 day per week break to support unpaid carers in their relentless task of caring for their loved ones, at least until the Covid pandemic is over.

"64% of carers have said they haven't been able to take any break during the pandemic; 74% are left feeling exhausted and worn out; and 44% say they have reached breaking point. [reference - Carers UK report "Caring behind closed doors, 6 months on]".

Council will contact the Scottish government to ensure that money provided through the Barnett formula for Covid related funding is provided for this type of support, and that we can start to meet the needs of these very important but vulnerable residents."

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

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Paterson, moved as an amendment that the first paragraph of the motion be replaced with "Council recognises the impact that Covid has had on the lives of unpaid carers during the pandemic and recognises that the lived experience of every carer is unique to them and their needs for support require to be individually assessed. Council agrees that any additional Covid specific resources available for carers during the pandemic will be fully deployed in supporting Carers and in line with the relevant legislation"

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors McCartin and Andy Doig, being the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept the amendment which was approved unanimously.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That Council recognised the impact that Covid has had on the lives of unpaid carers during the pandemic and recognised that the lived experience of every carer was unique to them and that their needs for support required to be individually assessed;

(b) That Council agreed that any additional Covid specific resources available for carers during the pandemic be fully deployed in supporting Carers and in line with the relevant legislation;

(c) That it be noted that “64% of carers have said that they haven’t been able to take any break during the pandemic; 74% are left feeling exhausted and worn out; and 44% say they have reached breaking point. [reference - Carers UK report “Caring behind closed doors, 6 months on]”; and

(d) That the Council contact the Scottish Government to ensure that money provided through the Barnett formula for Covid related funding was provided for this type of support, and that the needs of these very important but vulnerable residents could be met.

### **Sederunt**

Councillor Dowling re-joined the meeting during consideration of the following item.

### **Declaration of Interest**

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

## **12 Notice of Motion 4 by Councillors Kenny MacLaren and Burns**

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

"Covid Vaccinations

Council congratulates everyone involved in the ongoing campaign to deliver vaccinations against the Covid19 pandemic. This includes health board, Renfrewshire Leisure and council staff as well as those involved from the various medical practices across Renfrewshire. Council encourages everyone who is eligible to come forward and receive their vaccination when offered. Council also condemns those who have been spreading misinformation against the vaccination programme and calls for swift action to counter such misinformation, whether that be the removal of graffiti or other practices."

Councillor K MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Burns, then moved the motion which was approved unanimously.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That Council congratulates everyone involved in the ongoing campaign to deliver vaccinations against the Covid-19 pandemic. This included Health Board, Renfrewshire Leisure and Council staff as well as those involved from the various medical practices across Renfrewshire;

(b) That Council encourages everyone who is eligible to come forward and receive their vaccination when offered; and

(c) That Council also condemns those who have been spreading misinformation against the vaccination programme and calls for swift action to counter such misinformation, whether that be the removal of graffiti or other practices.

### 13 **Notice of Motion 5 by Councillors Audrey Doig and Jacqueline Cameron**

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

"Accessible Toilets for People with Crohn's Disease and Colitis

This Council notes that:

The charity Crohn's and Colitis UK is encouraging venues providing accessible toilets to install new signage. This is to help stop stigma and discrimination towards people with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis and other invisible conditions.

There have been instances nationally where such individuals using an accessible toilet have been accused by staff members of being ineligible to use them.

The charity signs have two standing figures and a wheelchair user with the words Accessible Toilet and the logo 'Not every disability is visible'.

Council further notes that the Scottish Government consultation last year recommended that large accessible toilets for severely disabled people - known as Changing Places - are built in large new non-domestic buildings.

Council therefore resolves to:

Ensure that accessible toilets on Council premises bear these signs.

Ask town and district centre retailers and leisure outlets to do likewise with their accessible toilets.

Seek advice from the charity Crohn's & Colitis UK on the information and training we should provide to council staff members. This is so they understand these conditions and to prevent potential embarrassment for those who suffer with them.

Ensure that any Changing Places toilets in our buildings are properly signposted for visitors."

Councillor Audrey Doig, seconded by Councillor J Cameron, then moved the motion which was approved unanimously.

It was proposed that members be provided with an update in relation to a previous Council decision on accessible toilets. This was agreed.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That Council notes that (i) the charity Crohn's and Colitis UK was encouraging venues providing accessible toilets to install new signage. This was to help stop stigma and discrimination towards people with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis and other invisible conditions; (ii) there had been instances nationally where such individuals using an accessible toilet had been accused by staff members of being ineligible to use them; and (iii) that the charity signs had two standing figures and a wheelchair user with the words Accessible Toilet and the logo 'Not every disability is visible';

(b) That Council further notes that the Scottish Government consultation last year recommended that large accessible toilets for severely disabled people - known as Changing Places - were built in large new non-domestic buildings;

(c) That Council resolves to (i) ensure that accessible toilets on Council premises bore these signs; (ii) ask town and district centre retailers and leisure outlets to do likewise with their accessible toilets; (iii) seek advice from the charity Crohn's and Colitis UK on the information and training to be provided to council staff members, so that they understood these conditions and prevent potential embarrassment for those who suffer with them; and (iv) ensure that any Changing Places toilets in Council buildings were properly signposted for visitors; and

(d) That members be provided with an update in relation to a previous Council decision on accessible toilets.

#### 14 **Notice of Motion 6 by Councillors McCartin and Andy Doig**

In terms of Standing Order 27, the motion was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

#### 15 **Notice of Motion 7 by Councillors James MacLaren and Graham**

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

"Council recognises the need to keep things local during this pandemic and calls for a re-think of our suppliers. Council will write to the Scottish Government to request a change to the Scottish Regulations on Public Procurement rules to allow more weighting to contractors who tender for work if they are locally based. Council believes that this would help embed green recovery principles in Renfrewshire by boosting local procurement and efforts to retain wealth creation in the community for local residents."

Councillor J MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Graham, then moved the motion which was approved unanimously.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That Council recognises the need to keep things local during this pandemic and called for a re-think of our suppliers;

(b) That Council writes to the Scottish Government to request a change to the Scottish Regulations on Public Procurement rules to allow more weighting to contractors who tendered for work if they were locally based; and

(c) That Council believes that this would help embed green recovery principles in Renfrewshire by boosting local procurement and efforts to retain wealth creation in the community for local residents.

## 16 **Notice of Motion 8 by Councillors James MacLaren and McIntyre**

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

"This Council agrees to write to the Scottish Government's Finance Secretary calling on her to extend business rates relief for all retail, hospitality, leisure, and aviation related businesses for all the forthcoming financial year. Believes that the current three month extension doesn't go far enough to support businesses who have had to shut their doors, calls on the Scottish Government to focus on doing everything they can to protect jobs and livelihoods across Renfrewshire and give them the breathing space of a 12 month rates relief extension."

Councillor J MacLaren, seconded by Councillor McIntyre, then moved the motion.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor McCartin, moved as a first amendment that the motion be amended by the addition of "and social enterprises" after "businesses" in line three and "for" in the same line.

Councillor Sharkey, seconded by Councillor Devine, moved as a second amendment that in addition "This Council believes that the inadequate Scottish Government response to the Covid 19 emergency has proved the necessity of robust social intervention in the Scottish economy. Council agrees to write to the Scottish Government's Finance Secretary to extend and encourage that support to the economy and ask for a revised local government settlement which both addresses the unfairness of Renfrewshire's allocation and replaces the current revenue arrangements."

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors J MacLaren and McIntyre, being the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept both amendments as additions to the motion and the motion, as amended, became the substantive motion.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Campbell, then moved as an amendment that; "This Council agrees to write to the Scottish Government's Finance Secretary calling on her to extend business rates relief for all retail, hospitality, leisure, and aviation related businesses and social enterprises for all the forthcoming financial year. Believes that the current three month extension doesn't go far enough to support businesses who have had to shut their doors, calls on the Scottish Government to focus on doing everything they can to protect jobs and livelihoods across Renfrewshire and give them the breathing space of a 12 month rates relief extension."

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

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors, Begg, Bibby, Binks, Brown, Davidson, Devine, Andy Doig, Dowling, Grady, Graham, Harte, Hood, Kennedy, Kerr, Mackay, J MacLaren, McCulloch, McIntyre, Montgomery, Sharkey, Sheridan, and Strang.

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

**DECIDED:**

(a) That this Council write to the Scottish Government's Finance Secretary calling on her to extend business rates relief for all retail, hospitality, leisure, and aviation related businesses and social enterprises for all the forthcoming financial year. Believes that the current three month extension doesn't go far enough to support businesses who have had to shut their doors, calls on the Scottish Government to focus on doing everything they can to protect jobs and livelihoods across Renfrewshire and give them the breathing space of a 12 month rates relief extension; and

(b) That the Council believes that the inadequate Scottish Government response to the Covid 19 emergency had proven the necessity of robust social intervention in the Scottish economy. Council write to the Scottish Government's Finance Secretary to extend and encourage that support to the economy and ask for a revised local government settlement which both addressed the unfairness of Renfrewshire's allocation and replaced the current revenue arrangements.

**17 Notice of Motion 9 by Councillors Don and Kenny MacLaren**

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

"Universal Credit Uplift

Council calls on the UK Government to make permanent the £20 per week uplift to Universal Credit and to extend this to include legacy benefits. This increase in Universal Credit was introduced at the start of the pandemic to reflect the additional pressures on those on benefits. However, nothing has changed since the start of the pandemic, we are still in the midst of a health and economic crisis and withdrawing this uplift would have a serious impact on those on benefits. Council will write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer to state the case to make this uplift permanent and to extend it to legacy benefits."

Councillor Don, seconded by Councillor K MacLaren, then moved the motion which was approved unanimously.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That Council calls on the UK Government to make permanent the £20 per week uplift to Universal Credit and to extend this to include legacy benefits;

(b) That this increase in Universal Credit had been introduced at the start of the pandemic to reflect the additional pressures on those on benefits, however, nothing had changed since the start of the pandemic, we were still in the midst of a health and economic crisis and withdrawing this uplift would have a serious impact on those on benefits; and

(c) That Council write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer to state the case to make this uplift permanent and to extend it to legacy benefits.



## 18 **Notice of Motion 10 by Councillors Grady and Kennedy**

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

"Curriculum for Excellence – OECD Interim Report

Renfrewshire Council urges the Scottish Government to release the OECD unedited interim report of their review into Curriculum for Excellence. This crucial information must be in the public domain prior to this year's Holyrood elections."

Councillor Grady, seconded by Councillor Kennedy, then moved the motion which was approved unanimously.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That Renfrewshire Council urge the Scottish Government to release the OECD unedited interim report of their review into Curriculum for Excellence; and

(b) That it be agreed that this crucial information must be in the public domain prior to this year's Holyrood elections.

## 19 **Notice of Motion 11 by Councillors McCartin and Andy Doig**

In terms of Standing Order 27, the motion was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

## 20 **Notice of Motion 12 by Councillors Don and McNaughtan**

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

"The Edinburgh Biodiversity Declaration

Council notes the Edinburgh Declaration on biodiversity and notes the issues raised regarding the importance of addressing the loss of biodiversity. Council notes with concern the significant implications that the loss of biodiversity and climate change has on our livelihood and communities and agrees with the need for a global framework in efforts to deliver biodiversity locally.

Council agrees to sign the Edinburgh Declaration on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Council believes this will help the development of effective policy and governance of biodiversity making Renfrewshire a place where nature is protected and enhanced."

Councillor Don, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan, then moved the motion which was approved unanimously.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That Council notes the Edinburgh Declaration on biodiversity and notes the issues raised regarding the importance of addressing the loss of biodiversity.
- (b) That Council notes with concern the significant implications that the loss of biodiversity and climate change has on our livelihood and communities and agrees with the need for a global framework in efforts to deliver biodiversity locally;
- (c) That Council agrees to sign the Edinburgh Declaration on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; and
- (d) That Council believes that this would help the development of effective policy and governance of biodiversity making Renfrewshire a place where nature was protected and enhanced.

## Minute of Special Meeting

### Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Friday 5 March 2021	11:00	Virtual Meeting via Teams

#### PRESENT

Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Bill Brown, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor James Harte, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Jim Sharkey, Councillor James Sheridan and Councillor Andy Steel.

#### CHAIR

Councillor J Shaw, Convener, presided.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, B Walker, Project Director (City Deal), N Watson, Cultural Infrastructure Project Director, B Lambert, Strategic Procurement Manager, R Park, Category Manager, N Hainan, Assistant Procurement Operations Manager, and D Christie, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, D Pole, End User Technician, E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer and P Shiach, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

#### RECORDING OF MEETING

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

## **APOLOGY**

Councillor Graham.

## **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Begg declared a non-financial interest in Item 2 of the agenda, Paisley Town Hall Redevelopment Main Works as he was a member of the Board of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. He intimated that he would remain in the meeting and would take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

### **1. Contract Award: Design and Construction Works for the Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside (CWRR) Project (RC/OC/349/18)**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of a contract for design and construction works for the Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside (CWRR) project.

The report indicated that the CWRR project aimed to regenerate the Clyde Waterfront as an attractive riverside and urban area that supported existing and promoted new residential, industrial, commercial, business, retail and leisure opportunities. With the construction of a new bridge across the River Clyde, which would accommodate vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists, and the construction of the Renfrew North Development Road, the project would better link communities and businesses on both sides of the river.

The area also included vacant, derelict, and underused sites that offered potential for development of new and enhanced commercial, business and housing use.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the design and construction works for the Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside (CWRR) Project to John Graham Construction Limited subject to the provision of a Performance Bond as specified in the tender;

(b) That the award of the contract for the total of the prices at £79,457,719.00 excluding VAT be authorised;

(c) That the contract value up to £88,680,605.00 excluding VAT which included for quantified risk and contingency be authorised; and

(d) That it be noted that the contract period was anticipated to be 30 months with the starting date anticipated to be in April 2021 and the completion date anticipated to be in October 2023. Actual dates to be confirmed within the formal contract to be issued.

## DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Begg, having previously declared an interest in the following item of business remained in the meeting.

### **2. Contract Award: Paisley Town Hall Re-development – Main Works (RC-CPU-19-286)**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of a contract for Paisley Town Hall Re-development – Main Works (RC-CPU-19-286).

The report indicated that the procurement exercise was conducted in accordance with the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 and Renfrewshire Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contract. A Contract Strategy addendum was approved by the Procurement Manager and the Head of Regeneration on 1st September 2020, this amended and updated an earlier approved Contract Strategy.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the Paisley Town Hall Re-development – Main Works (RC-CPU-19-286) to Galliford Try Construction Limited, T/A Morrison Construction;

(b) That the award of this contract for the contract sum of £16,042,852 excluding VAT, with an additional 10% contingency spend be authorised;

(c) That it be noted that the anticipated date of possession of the site was 30 March 2021 and the anticipated date for completion of the works was 11 November 2022. This would be confirmed in the letter of acceptance and formal contract to be issued; and

(d) That it be noted that the award of this contract was subject to the provision of a Performance Bond and Collateral Warranties as specified in the tender.



## Minute of Meeting

### Placing Requests and Exclusions Appeals Panel

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 11 March 2021	10:00	Remotely by MS Teams,

**Present:** Attendees

#### Chair

Councillor Adam-McGregor, Convener, presided.

#### In Attendance

D Briggs, Senior Solicitor (Litigation), P Shiach, Senior Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all 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 **Fordbank Primary School: Appeal against the exclusion of a child from attendance**

Consideration was given to an appeal against two exclusions of a child from attendance at school. All participants had been invited to attend virtually by means of MS Teams. C Adam, Senior Solicitor, (Finance & Resources), C Wandsworth, Acting Headteacher, M McClelland, Acting Principal Teacher (ACE Base, J Colquhoun, Education Manager (Development) and the appellant were invited into the meeting.

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

C Adam then presented the case for the Education Authority and led evidence from M McClelland, C Wandsworth and J Colquhoun in relation to the circumstances surrounding the exclusions.

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 Schools General (Scotland) Regulations 1975/1135, Regulation 4 in that they considered "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 or the educational well-being of the pupils there".



## Minute of Meeting

### Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 16 March 2021	13:00	Microsoft TEAMS Platform,

#### Present

Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor James Sheridan

#### Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

#### In Attendance

M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services; A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development, L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, S Marklow, Strategy & Place Manager, A Armstrong Walter, Strategic Partnership & Inequalities Manager and C Orr, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); J Trainer, Head of Child Care & Criminal Justice (Children's Services); F Carlin, Head of Housing Services, O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection and C Dalrymple, Communities & Regulatory Manager (all Communities & Housing Services); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, D Pole, End User Technician, N Young, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Litigation & Advice), S Muir, Finance Business Partner and R Devine and C MacDonald, both Senior Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources).

#### Recording of Meeting

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

## Declarations of Interest

Councillor Nicolson declared an interest in respect of item 5 of the agenda – Service Delivery Plan 2021/22: Communities & Housing Service - as he was a member of the Inchinnan Development Trust and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor M MacLaren declared an interest in respect of item 7 of the agenda – New Local Housing Strategy: Update - as she was a member of the Boards of both Linstone and Williamsburgh Housing Associations and intimated that it was her intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

### 1 Police and Fire & Rescue Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub-committee held on 19 January 2021, which forms the Appendix to this Minute.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute be approved.

### 2 Housing Revenue Account, Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a Housing Revenue Account, Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources for the period 1 April to 8 January 2021.

The report stated that the projected outturn at 31 March 2021 for all services reporting to this Policy Board was an overspend position of £1.296 million. The projected capital outturn at 31 March 2021 for projects reporting to this Policy Board was a breakeven position against the revised budget for the year. Summaries were provided over the relevant services in the tables within the report, together with further analysis. It was noted that for financial year 2020/21 the projected outturn position was split into core and Covid-19 related variances to assist understanding of the impact of the pandemic on service finances. It was highlighted that revenue budget adjustments totalling a net increase of £300,000, to reflect the transfer of the Families First Service from Children's Services to Communities & Housing had been processed since the last meeting. In addition, the Board was informed that since consideration of the previous report, capital budget changes totalling £3.805 million had arisen which reflected Budget re-profiling from 2020/21 to 2021/22 in respect of the following budget headings; Improvements to Existing Properties (£1.700 million); Regeneration and Council House New Build (£1.235 million); and Other Assets (£0.870 million). The report detailed the reasons for the re-profiling.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That the projected Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Revenue outturn

position, detailed in table 1 of the report, be noted;

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

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

### **3 Community Empowerment Fund**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to applications received for funding from the Community Empowerment Fund in the 13th round of funding. The report outlined the key objectives and aims of the Community Empowerment Fund. One new application had been received, from Friends of Howwood Park, and two deferred applications, from Linwood Community Development Trust and Kelburne Hockey Club, had been considered for funding. Summaries of these applications were provided. The total value of requested grant funding during the current round was £210,000. The recommendations of the cross-service panel of officers, for determination in respect of each application were detailed within Section 4 of the report and Appendix 1.

**DECIDED:** That the Board approve the recommendations, detailed in section 4 and Appendix 1, to award £100,000 to Linwood Community Development Trust for the completion of the Mossedge Village Project, subject to the conditions detailed in the report and £10,000 to Kelburne Hockey Club for feasibility work into the use of Ralston Community Sports Centre for hockey facilities and to defer the application from Friends of Howwood Park.

### **4 Greenspaces, Park and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the Greenspaces, Parks & Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund. A cross-service panel of officers had been established to review and assess applications against agreed objectives and criteria. The Director of Communities & Housing Services had been delegated authority to make grant awards under £5,000. Details of awards made in terms of this delegated authority, which had not previously been reported to this Policy Board, were detailed in Appendix 1. Updates were provided in respect of specific projects currently in development. Four applications which met the criteria, from (i) Erskine Outdoor Play and Leisure; (ii) Pals of the Privies; (iii) Elderslie Community Council; and (iv) Spateston Tenants & Residents Association, which sought more than £5,000, had been assessed during this funding round. Summaries of these projects were provided within the report with full details included within the Appendix.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That the work currently being undertaken to support communities as they developed projects to be funded using the Greenspaces, Parks & Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund be noted;

(b) That the award of grants in terms of delegated authority, to community groups detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be noted; and

(c) That it be agreed that the projects, detailed in section 3 of the report and Appendix 1, be awarded grant funding totalling £107,000 to support these community groups.

## **Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Nicolson having previously declared an interest in the following item of business remained in the meeting.

### **5(a) Service Delivery Plan 2021/22: Communities and Housing Service**

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 for Communities & Housing Services.

The report advised that typically, Services reported on their performance and intended improvement actions through Service Improvement Plans. The Service Delivery Plan sat beneath the Council Plan, Community Plan, and alongside the Risk Management Plan and the People Strategy to form a suite of documents which provided the strategic direction for the Service. The Plan also complemented the Council-wide Economic Recovery Plan and Social Renewal Plan.

The report indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted significantly on how services were delivered, on the needs of the community and consequently services had produced Service Delivery Plans for 2021/22 which outlined the actions that would be taken to assist in recovery over the next 12-month period. The Council however remained aspirational and the Plan also reflected a commitment from Communities & Housing Services to continuous improvement and to deliver a wide range of ambitious improvement programmes and projects. The Plan detailed the priorities being addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable and measures of success. A six-monthly update on progress of the Service Delivery Plan would be submitted to the appropriate Policy Boards in Autumn 2021, and an outturn report submitted in early summer 2022.

#### **DECIDED:**

(i) That the elements of the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 - Communities and Housing Services which fall within the remit of this Policy Board be approved;

(ii) That it be agreed that the mid-year progress of the Service Delivery Plan be submitted to this Policy Board in Autumn 2021 and an outturn report in early 2022; and

(iii) That it be noted that the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 - Communities and Housing Services would be submitted to the meeting of the Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board to be held on 24 March 2021 for approval of the elements of the Plan within that Board's remit.

### **5(b) Service Delivery Plan 2021/22: Children's Services**

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 for Children Services.

The report advised that typically, Services reported on their performance and intended improvement actions through Service Improvement Plans. The Service Delivery Plan sat beneath the Council Plan, Community Plan, and alongside the Risk Management Plan and the People Strategy to form a suite of documents which provided the strategic direction for the Service. The Plan also complemented the Council-wide Economic Recovery Plan and Social Renewal Plan.

The report indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted significantly on how services were delivered, on the needs of the community and consequently, services had produced Service Delivery Plans for 2021/22 which outlined the actions that would be taken to assist in recovery over the next 12-month period. The Council however remained aspirational and the Plan also reflected a commitment from Children's Services to continuous improvement and to deliver a wide range of ambitious improvement programmes and projects. The Plan detailed the priorities being addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable and measures of success. A six-monthly update on progress of the Service Delivery Plan would be submitted to the appropriate Policy Boards in Autumn 2021, and an outturn report submitted in early Summer 2022.

**DECIDED:**

- (i) That the elements of the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 – Children's Services which fall within the remit of this Policy Board be approved;
- (ii) That it be agreed that the mid-year progress of the Service Delivery Plan be submitted to this Policy Board in Autumn 2021 and an outturn report in early Summer 2022; and
- (iii) That it be noted that the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 - Children's Services would be submitted to the meeting of the Education & Children's Services Policy Board to be held on 18 March 2021 for approval of the elements of the Plan within that Board's remit.

## **5(c) Service Delivery Plan 2021/22: Chief Executive's Service**

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 for the Chief Executive's Service.

The report advised that typically, Services reported on their performance and intended improvement actions through Service Improvement Plans. The Service Delivery Plan sat beneath the Council Plan, Community Plan, and alongside the Risk Management Plan and the People Strategy to form a suite of documents which provided the strategic direction for the Service. The Plan also complemented the Council-wide Economic Recovery Plan and Social Renewal Plan.

The report indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted significantly on how services were delivered, on the needs of the community and consequently, services had produced Service Delivery Plans for 2021/22 which outlined the actions that would be taken to assist in recovery over the next 12-month period. The Council however remained aspirational and the Plan also reflected a commitment from the

Chief Executive's Service to continuous improvement and to deliver a wide range of ambitious improvement programmes and projects. The Plan detailed the priorities being addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable and measures of success. A six-monthly update on progress of the Service Delivery Plan would be submitted to the appropriate Policy Boards in Autumn 2021, and an outturn report submitted in early Summer 2022.

**DECIDED:**

- (i) That the elements of the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 – Chief Executive's Service which fall within the remit of this Policy Board be approved;
- (ii) That it be agreed that the mid-year progress of the Service Delivery Plan be submitted to this Policy Board in Autumn 2021 and an outturn report in early Summer 2022; and
- (iii) That it be noted that the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 – Chief Executive's would be submitted to the meeting of the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board to be held on 31 March 2021 for approval of the elements of the Plan within that Board's remit.

## **6 Neighbour Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Practice**

Under reference to item 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Policy Board held on 27 October 2020 there was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the ongoing work to review and develop an updated Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and to review and improve existing policies, practice and procedures within the Council's Housing Services division.

The report indicated that anti-social behaviour sat within the broader context of public protection and delivering safer communities. Community safety had a key role to play in creating the conditions in which communities could develop the confidence and capacity they needed to engage positively with their environment and with partner agencies improving quality of life and outcomes for individuals and families and maximising feelings of safety and security. Dealing with anti-social behaviour was a collective effort and delivered by the Council working with all relevant partners through the Community Safety Partnership. Processes and procedures were governed by legislation and guidance, including the Anti-social Behaviour (Scotland) Act 2004, and the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 and subsequent amendments. A table within the report provided data from the Scottish Housing Network return 2019/20 which detailed all categories of anti-social behaviour relating to Council housing stock. In addition to the complaints dealt with by Housing Services, in Renfrewshire during 2019/20 there had been 196 anti-social behaviour cases reported to and dealt with by the Community Safety Partnership, which involved cases across the spectrum of tenures. It was highlighted that the majority of anti-social neighbour complaints and disputes received by housing services were successfully resolved at an early stage and did not escalate to formal stages of intervention or require the support or involvement of the Community Safety Partnership. The report outlined the holistic approach adopted by the Community Safety Partnership to addressing anti-social behaviour.

A summary of the current processes, policies, practices and options to address neighbour disputes and managing and tackling anti-social behaviour was provided.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That it be noted that work was ongoing within Renfrewshire's Community Safety Partnership to review the overall Anti-Social Behaviour strategy as an integral part of the Community Safety Partnership Service Delivery Plan;

(b) That it be noted that the review would comprise two workstreams: (i) a review of the Community Safety Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy; and (ii) a review of housing landlord policy and practice in relation to anti-social behaviour, with each of these workstreams overseen by a steering group chaired by the Head of Housing Services;

(c) That it be noted that the review process would review the effectiveness of current practices, policies and procedures in managing neighbour disputes and anti-social behaviour; consider best practice in managing and tackling anti-social behaviour; work closely with local housing providers to develop new and improved ways of dealing with housing and neighbour related antisocial behaviour across all tenures; work closely with all relevant partners including Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Social Work, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership and the Voluntary Sector to provide an integrated approach to addressing all forms of anti-social behaviour and involve consultation with Council tenants on relevant policy and practice through mechanisms such as the Tenant Scrutiny Panel and/or focus groups; and

(d) That further reports on the progress of the review and the development of the Community Safety Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy be submitted to future meetings of this Policy Board for consideration and, if appropriate, agreement.

**Declaration of Interest**

Councillor M MacLaren having previously declared an interest in the following item of business remained in the meeting.

**7 New Local Housing Strategy - Update**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the development of the new Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy.

In terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 the Council required to prepare a five-year Local Housing Strategy (LHS) informed by an assessment of housing provision, need and related services in the area. LHS outlined the strategic vision for housing and housing related services in Renfrewshire and sought to provide clear direction for strategic housing investment. The LHS also linked with other key plans and strategies for Renfrewshire including the Local Development Plan, Our Renfrewshire - Renfrewshire's Community Plan 2017/27 and the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan.

The report advised of the progress achieved in respect of development of the new Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy, specifically, in relation to consultation and stakeholder engagement activity undertaken, as well as detailing the next steps in the development of the strategy. A resume of the engagement and consultation activity undertaken to date, the methods utilised to obtain views and the range of topics that

the responses covered was provided. It was noted that the majority of respondents agreed that the strategic outcomes of the current LHS remained appropriate. The appendix to the report summarised the consultation responses. Details of arrangements and timescales for future development, consultation and engagement and consideration of the LHS were outlined.

**DECIDED:** That the progress in the development of the new Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy and the summary of consultation responses, a copy of which was appended to the report, be noted.

## **8 Scottish Government Discussion Paper - The Criminal Law Dealing with Dangerous Dogs**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the discussion paper on the Criminal Law dealing with dangerous dogs published by the Scottish Government following on from previous consultation and subsequent guidance in respect of the operation of the Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010.

The report advised that the discussion paper focussed on the existing approach to the control of dangerous dogs and suggested proposals to change this, in particular with a view to how to hold to account those dog owners and others, who allowed dogs to act in a dangerous manner. It was noted that the discussion paper included proposals to provide new powers for dog seizure along with consolidation of relevant dog control legislation. The deadline for the submission of responses was 30 April 2021. A copy of the draft response to the discussion paper, prepared on behalf of the Council, was appended to the report.

**DECIDED:** That the proposed response, a copy of which was appended to the report, be approved for submission, on behalf of the Council, to the Scottish Government in line with the requested timescales.

## **9 Renfrewshire Planning Performance Framework Feedback 2019/20**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Renfrewshire Planning Performance Framework 2019/20 feedback.

The report advised that a system of performance management for planning had been established by local authorities and the Scottish Government. All planning authorities were required to produce an annual Planning Performance Framework based on that developed by the Heads of Planning Scotland to capture and highlight a balanced measurement of planning performance relative to: speed of decision making; provision of certainty through timescales, process and advice; delivering good quality development; project management; communication and engagement; and an overall 'open for business' attitude. It was noted that the Framework was not a policy document but provided planning authorities with an opportunity to demonstrate continuous improvement, achievements and successes. The Feedback report received from the Minister for Local Government and Housing in respect of the Renfrewshire Framework, a copy of which was appended to the report, was generally positive. Progress had been assessed using a red, amber and green traffic light system and, of the 15 performance indicators, ten were green, two were amber and one was red. Two performance indicators were not applicable to Renfrewshire.



**DECIDED:** That the Feedback Report for Renfrewshire's Planning Performance Framework 2019/20 be noted.

## **10 National Planning Framework 4 - Position Statement**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Scottish Government Position Statement for the emerging National Planning Framework 4.

The report stated that the Scottish Government was currently progressing a detailed work programme to implement the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. This included the preparation of National Planning Framework 4 alongside further regulations, plans and strategies to support proposals to transform the Scottish Planning System. The Scottish Government had published a Position Statement, structured around four themes for (i) a Plan for net-zero emissions; (ii) a Plan for resilient communities; (iii) a Plan for a wellbeing economy; and (iv) a Plan for better, greener places and sought views on the emerging National Planning Framework 4 which set out the governments' current thinking on the key planning issues for Scotland. A response to the consultation had been submitted which supported the opportunities and key issues set out within the Position Paper which ensured climate change was a guiding principle for all plans and planning decisions and supported the delivery of high quality places and place-based solutions that had the potential to reduce emissions and improve health and wellbeing. Copies of the Position Statement and response submitted to the consultation were appended to the report. A summary of the future arrangements and timescales for the development, publication, adoption and implementation of the National Planning Framework 4 was provided.

**DECIDED:** That the Scottish Government Position Statement for the emerging National Planning Framework 4 and the consultation responses appended to the report be noted.

## **11 Renfrewshire Local Development Plan**

Under reference to item 17 of the Minute of the meeting of this Policy Board held on 12 March 2019 there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (LDP).

The report advised that the Proposed Renfrewshire LDP, which represented the Council's settled view as to what the final adopted content of the LDP should be, had been approved at the meeting of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 12 March 2019. The Scottish Government had appointed Reporters to undertake an Examination into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan which had arrived at conclusions and recommendations largely supportive of the strategy, policies and proposals set out within the Proposed Renfrewshire LDP. The Appendix to the report summarised the Reporter's recommendations. It was noted that Section 19 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, stated that the recommendations contained within the Examination report were largely binding on Planning Authorities and only challengeable in very exceptional circumstances.

The Head of Corporate Governance provided legal advice and clarification in relation to the scope for the Council to depart from the recommendations contained within the

Reporter's examination report.

It was noted that the Council required to submit a modified version of the LDP to the Scottish Ministers within three months of receiving the Examination Report.

There were submitted amendments by (i) Councillors Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor K MacLaren; and (ii) Councillor James MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Binks, which the Convener ruled were not competent in terms of Standing Order 21(b).

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 14:40 and resumed at 14:50.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan moved:

(a) That the Head of Economy and Development be authorised to modify the Proposed Renfrewshire LDP in line with the Reporters recommendations contained within the Examination Report; and

(b) That the Head of Economy & Development be authorised to notify the Scottish Ministers of the Council's intention to adopt the LDP.

(c) That the Convener write, on behalf of the Board to the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning raising the issues referred to during the discussion.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Devine, moved as an amendment that the report be rejected.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors, Binks, Brown, Devine, Andy Doig, Don, Graham, J MacLaren, Rodden and Sheridan.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Burns, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McGurk, McNaughtan and Nicolson.

Nine members having voted for the amendment and six members having voted for the motion, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

**DECIDED:** That the report be rejected.

## **12 Proposal of Application Notice**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economy & Development relative to proposal of application notice 21/0051/NO.

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

## **13 Planning Applications**

There were submitted reports by the Head of Economy & Development relative to the following applications for planning permission that required to be determined by the Board.

**(A) 19/0782/PP - ERECTION OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT COMPRISING 142 DWELLINGHOUSES AND 106 FLATS WITH ASSOCIATED ACCESS, LANDSCAPING AND ANCILLARY WORKS AT LAND TO EAST OF CLYDE VIEW PARK, KINGS INCH ROAD, RENFREW BY BELLWAY HOMES LIMITED.**

It was proposed that consideration of the application be continued pending confirmation of the terms of the proposed Section 75 agreement and the conditions applicable should the application be approved. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That consideration of the application be continued pending confirmation of the proposed terms of the Section 75 agreement and the conditions applicable should the application be approved.

**(B) 20/0368/PP - CHANGE OF USE FROM OFFICE TO NURSERY WITH EXTERNAL PLAY AREA, SINGLE STOREY FRONT EXTENSION AND EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS AND FORMATION OF COMMUNITY GARDEN AT BARRATT HOMES SALES OFFICE, MULBERRY SQUARE, RENFREW BY MR HAMILTON.**

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan, moved that the application be approved subject to conditions detailed in the report and the successful conclusion of a Section 75 agreement to secure the provision and implementation of the open space/community garden area and that these areas would be maintained for lifetime of the developer by the owner of the land.

Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Doig, moved as an amendment that the application be refused for the following reasons:

(i) loss of greenspace; (ii) unacceptable increase in traffic volume at the site throughout the day; and (iii) detriment to the amenity of residents.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Binks, Burns, Andy Doig, Don, Graham, J MacLaren, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Nicolson and Rodden.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Brown, McGurk, McNaughtan, Devine and Sheridan.

Ten members having voted for the amendment and five members having voted for the motion, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

**DECIDED:** That the application be refused as it would result in (i) loss of greenspace; (ii) unacceptable increase in traffic volume at the site throughout the day; and (iii) detriment to the amenity of residents.

**(C) 19/0800/PP - ERECTION OF THREE STOREY EXTENSION TO REAR OF DETACHED, CONVERTED VILLA TO FORM NINE FLATS AT 30 MANSIONHOUSE ROAD, PAISLEY BY MS WILSON**

It was proposed that the application be refused for the reasons detailed within the report. This was agreed.

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

**(D) 19/0801/LB - ERECTION OF THREE STOREY EXTENSION TO REAR OF DETACHED, CONVERTED VILLA TO FORM NINE FLATS AT 30 MANSIONHOUSE ROAD, PAISLEY BY MS WILSON.**

It was proposed that the application be refused for the reasons detailed within the report. This was agreed.

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

**(E) 20/0613/PP - ERECTION OF CATTERY BUILDING, RECEPTION LODGE, ENTRY GATES AND ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING WORKS AT NETHER BELL TREES, NEWTON OF BELLTREES, LOCHWINNOCH BY MR MACFADYEN**

Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor McGurk, moved that the application be refused for the following reasons:

The proposal was contrary to the Local Development Plan, being an unacceptable and inappropriate development in the greenbelt; and for the material considerations that it would result in an unacceptable increase in traffic volume; adverse impact on road safety in the vicinity due to issues accessing the site; the fabric of the proposed building would have an adverse impact on visual amenity, in particular in relation to the listed buildings nearby; unacceptable noise impact; and interference with active travel use and enjoyment of the Semple Trail. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That the application be refused as the proposal was contrary to the Local Development Plan, being an unacceptable and inappropriate development in the greenbelt; and that it would result in an unacceptable increase in traffic volume; adverse impact on road safety in the vicinity due to issues accessing the site; adverse impact on visual amenity, in particular in relation to the listed buildings nearby; unacceptable noise impact; and interference with use and enjoyment of the Semple Trail.

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

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 19 January 2021	15:00	Microsoft Teams Meeting,

### Present

Councillors B Binks, B Brown, M McGurk, K MacLaren and J McNaughtan.

### Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

### In Attendance

M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services; O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection and C Dalrymple, Communities & Regulatory Manager (all Communities & Housing Services); D Pole, End User Technician; R Devine and C MacDonald, both Senior Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources).

### Also in Attendance

A Murray, Chief Superintendent, D Pettigrew, Superintendent and R Fraser, Chief Inspector (all Police Scotland); J McNeill, Area Commander and M Hill, Group Manager, (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service).

## Declarations of Interest

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

## Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Sub-committee would be recorded and that the recording would be available to view on the Council's website.

### 1 Police Scotland Scrutiny Board Report

There was submitted a report by the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, relative to service performance and activities in the Renfrewshire area during the period 1 April to 31 October 2020.

The report summarised the key performance indicators and provided statistics relating to the specific key objectives detailed in the Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan 2020/21, together with comparative data. The report provided, in an infographics format, local updates in relation to the Police Scotland priorities of violence and anti-social behaviour; acquisitive crime; public protection; major crime & terrorism and road safety & road crime.

It was highlighted that there had been an overall downward trend in both serious and minor violence crimes with a decrease of 13% in Group 1 crimes, which equated to 25 fewer victims, 100 fewer common assaults and 70 fewer serious assaults recorded than in the same period last year. A significant decrease in acquisitive crime was also reported, with shoplifting crimes reduced by 40.5%, while a decrease by 7.9% in domestic abuse crimes had also been reported compared to the same period during 2019 and which went against the national trend. Although nine bogus crimes had been reported during this period, six more than the previous year, it was emphasised that that this figure was likely to be higher as victims did not always report this type of crime. The Covid-19 pandemic provided additional opportunities for cybercriminals to target victims and it was noted that cyber-crimes had increased with significant amounts of money involved.

An update was provided in respect of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on policing.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

### 2 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - Renfrewshire Performance Report

There was submitted a report, in an infographics format, 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 1 October to 31 December 2020.

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

connection with Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) the Sub-Committee was advised that it was anticipated that arrangements regarding implementation of the Take 5 initiative within the Renfrewshire area would be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

An update was provided in respect of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Fire and Rescue Service.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

### **3 Local Issues Update**

**DECIDED:** No updates in relation to local issues were provided.

#### **Valedictory**

Councillor McGurk advised that this was the last meeting of the Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub-Committee that Chief Superintendent A Murray would be attending and took the opportunity to express appreciation, personally and on behalf of the Sub-Committee, Renfrewshire Council and the residents of Renfrewshire, for his efforts and commitment locally. Reference was made to the exemplary advice and assistance he had provided and to his involvement in various initiatives with vulnerable individuals. The Convener wished Chief Superintendent A Murray well for the future.





## Minute of Meeting

### Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 17 March 2021	10:00	Remotely by MS Teams ,

#### Present

Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Alistair Mackay, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Jane Strang

#### Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

#### In Attendance

D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing), E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer, P Shiach, Senior Committee Services Officer, G McIntosh, Civic Government Enforcement Officer (for item 1 only), E Graham, Administrative Assistant (for item 8 only), and N Barr, Administrative Assistant (for items 1 to 7 only) (all Finance & Resources).

#### Recording of Meeting

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

#### Apologies

Councillors McEwan, Rodden and Steel.

## Declarations of Interest

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

### 1 Variation of Taxi Operators' Licences - Personal Appearances

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

(a) Applicant: Rosalin Seymour

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 22

Licence No.: TX 193

Ms Seymour, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mrs Seymour's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 22 of her licence be amended to enable Ms Seymour to operate her present vehicle, registration number SG62 ZMO, for a period of one year from 17 March 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested on a three-monthly basis. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Ms Seymour's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 22 of her licence be amended to enable Ms Seymour to operate her present vehicle, registration number SG62 ZMO, for a period of one year from 17 March 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested on a three-monthly basis.

(b) Applicant: Wilma Anderson

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 22

Licence No.: TX 057

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Ms Anderson, who had previously indicated that she wished her application to be determined by way of written submissions. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Ms Anderson's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 22 of her licence be amended to enable Ms Anderson to operate her present vehicle, registration number YN62 DCZ, for a period of one year from 17 March 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested on a three-monthly basis. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Ms Anderson's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 22 of her licence be amended to enable Ms Anderson to operate her present vehicle, registration number YN62 DCZ, for a period of one year from 17 March 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested on a three-monthly basis.

(c) Applicant: Ian Mottram

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 22

Licence No.: TX 027

Mr Mottram, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Mottram's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 22 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Mottram to operate his present vehicle, registration number YN62 DVC, for a period of one year from 17 March 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested on a three-monthly basis. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Mr Mottram's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 22 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Mottram to operate his present vehicle, registration number YN62 DVC, for a period of one year from 17 March 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested on a three-monthly basis.

## **2 Variation of Late Hours Catering Licences - Personal Appearances**

There were submitted the undernoted applications for variation of Late Hours Catering Licences. The applicants had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

(a) Applicant: Wm Morrison Supermarkets plc  
Premises: Anchor Mill, Paisley  
Variation: to vary existing hours to Monday to Sunday – 11.00 pm to 5.00 am  
Licence No.: LHC 087

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Wm Morrison Supermarkets plc who had previously indicated that they wanted the application to be determined by way of written submissions. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the application be granted.

(b) Applicant: Wm Morrison Supermarkets plc  
Premises: Napier Street, Johnstone  
Variation: to vary existing hours to Monday to Sunday – 11.00 pm to 5.00 am  
Licence No.: LHC 086

There was no appearance on behalf of Wm Morrison Supermarkets plc who had previously indicated that they wanted the application to be determined by way of written submissions. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the application be granted.

## **3 Renewal of Street Trader's Licence**

There was submitted the undernoted application for renewal of a Street Trader's Licence:-

Applicant: William Greig  
Authorised goods: hot and cold snacks  
Trading from: Glebe Street and Broadloan, Renfrew  
Operating hours: Glebe Street – Monday to Friday – 10.30 am to 11.15 am and Broadloan – Monday to Friday – 11.30 am to 2.30 pm and Saturday and Sunday – 9.00 am to 2.00 pm  
Licence No.: ST 074A

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

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

#### 4 Renewal of Late Hours Catering Licences

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

(a) Applicant: Boots the Chemist  
Premises: First floor concourse, Glasgow Airport  
Authorised goods: snack food and soft drinks  
Operating hours: 7 days per week – 4.00 am to 5.00 am  
Licence No.: LHC 029

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

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

(b) Applicant: D P K Foods Limited  
Premises: Domino's Pizza, 41 Gauze Street, Paisley  
Authorised goods: pizzas and other takeaway food  
Operating hours: Sunday to Thursday – 11.00 pm to 1.00 am and Friday and Saturday – 11.00 pm to 2.00 am  
Licence No.: LHC 107

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

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

(c) Applicant: Select Service Partner UK Limited  
Premises: Starbucks, Landside Arrivals, Glasgow Airport  
Authorised goods: catering, including but not limited to, teas/coffees, hot and cold food  
Operating hours: 7 days per week – 11.00 pm to 5.00 am  
Licence No.: LHC 042

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

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

## **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 could 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.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10.45 am and reconvened at 11.00 am.

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

Under reference to item 3(b) of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 20 January 2021, the Board resumed consideration of the undernoted application for grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the second time:-

Bilal Aziz

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Aziz. The Convener proposed that the application be considered in Mr Aziz's absence. This was agreed unanimously. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be refused. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the application be refused.

### **6 Renewal of Window Cleaner's Licence - Personal Appearance**

There was submitted the undernoted application for renewal of a Window Cleaner's Licence. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with Police Scotland who had submitted an objection to the application:-

William Ritchie  
Licence No.: W 089

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Ritchie, who had previously indicated that he wished his application to be determined by way of written submissions. Sergeant Robertson, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted an objection to the application, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the matter. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the application be granted for a period of two years. This was agreed unanimously.

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

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

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

Kristopher McGlinchey

Mr McGlinchey, the applicant, and Mr Mitchell, his Solicitor, both joined the meeting by video call together with Sergeant Robertson, on behalf of the Chief Constable who had submitted an objection received outwith the statutory time limit to the application, who also joined the meeting by video call.

On hearing the reasons for the lateness of the objection, the Convener proposed that the objection be taken into account when the application was being considered. This was agreed unanimously.

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

**DECIDED:** That the application be refused.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12.35 pm and reconvened at 13.15 pm.

## **Sederunt**

Councillors Hughes and Montgomery were not in attendance.

## **8 Hearings into the Possible Removal from the Register of Private Landlords - Personal Appearances**

The Board considered the possible removal of the undernoted landlords from the Register of Private Landlords. The landlords had been asked to appear personally for the first time together with the Council's Director of Communities & Housing Services who had submitted reports:-

(a) Asghar Ali

Mr Ali, the landlord, joined the meeting by phone call together with Mr Hunter, representing the Director of Communities & Housing Services who had submitted a report, who joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the

Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the matter. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the landlord be removed from the Register of Private Landlords. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the landlord be removed from the Register of Private Landlords.

(b) Kwok Wah Ho

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Ho. Mr Hunter, on behalf of the Director of Communities & Housing Services who had submitted a report, joined the meeting by video call. The Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) advised that the landlord's agent had submitted email correspondence and it appeared Mr Ho no longer wished to maintain his registration. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Ho be removed from the Register of Private Landlords. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the landlord be removed from the Register of Private Landlords.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 14.00 and reconvened at 14.15.

(c) Dariush Mirzajani

Mr Mirzajani, the landlord, joined the meeting by video call together with Mr Hunter, on behalf of the Director of Communities & Housing Services who had submitted a report, who also joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the matter. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the landlord be removed from the Register of Private Landlords. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the landlord be removed from the Register of Private Landlords.

(d) Amrik Uppal

There was no appearance by Mr Uppal. His agent, Mr Mitchell, joined the meeting by video call together with Mr Hunter, on behalf of the Director of Communities & Housing Services who had submitted a report, who also joined the meeting by video call.

Mr Mitchell advised that he had been called to Court and was unable to have Mr Uppal in attendance with him at the meeting. He requested that consideration of the matter be continued to allow his client to be present and represented at a future meeting. The Convener proposed that the meeting be adjourned to allow members to consider this matter. This was agreed unanimously. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that consideration of the matter be continued and that the landlord be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That consideration of the matter be continued and that the landlord be invited to a future meeting of the Board.





## Minute of Meeting

### Education and Children's Services Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 18 March 2021	13:00	Remotely via Microsoft Teams,

#### Present

Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Jim Harte, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Jane Strang

#### Chair

Councillor Paterson, Convener, presided.

#### In Attendance

S Quinn, Director of Children's Services; J Calder, Head of Service (Curriculum and Quality), G McKinlay, Head of Schools and J Trainer, Head of Childcare & Criminal Justice (all Children's Services); J Connolly, Senior Communications Officer (Chief Executive's); G McLachlan, Senior Finance Manager, L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources).

#### Recording of Meeting

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

#### Apologies

Councillor Rodden, Ms Bird, Mr Nellaney and Mr Singh.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Graham declared an interest in item 8 of the agenda as he was a volunteer with Barnardos which was referenced in the report.

Councillor Graham declared an interest in item 9 of the agenda as he had signed the petition as a local elected member.

## **1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report**

There was submitted a joint revenue and capital budget monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources and Children's Services for the period to 8 January 2021. The report projected that there would be a breakeven position for both revenue and capital at 31 March 2021 and noted that for financial year 2020/21 the projected outturn position was split into core and Covid-19 related variances.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the projected revenue outturn position for Children's Services detailed in Table 1 of the report be noted; and that it be further noted that the forecast position was based on best estimates and confirmed government support at this point in time. Forecasts were likely to be subject to considerable fluctuation as the full service implications and associated costs of the pandemic became clear. The service would continue to mitigate as far as possible any overspend and would apply the flexibility within specific grant funding permitted by the Scottish Government in order to achieve a breakeven revenue outturn position; and

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

## **2 Children's Services Service Delivery Plan 2021- 22**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the Children's Services Delivery Plan 2021/22.

The report advised that typically, Services reported on their performance and intended improvement actions through Service Improvement Plans. The Service Delivery Plan sat beneath the Council Plan, Community Plan, and alongside the Risk Management Plan and the People Strategy to form a suite of documents which provided the strategic direction for the Service. The Plan also complemented the Council-wide Economic Recovery Plan and Social Renewal Plan.

The report indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted significantly on how services were delivered, on the needs of the community and consequently, services had produced Service Delivery Plans for 2021/22 which outlined the actions that would be taken to assist in recovery over the next 12-month period. The Council however remained aspirational and the Plan also reflected a commitment from Children's Services to continuous improvement and to deliver a wide range of ambitious improvement programmes and projects. The Plan detailed the priorities being addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable and measures of success. A six-monthly update on progress of the Service Delivery Plan

would be submitted to the appropriate Policy Boards in autumn 2021, and an outturn report submitted in early summer 2022.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the elements of the Service Delivery Plan which fell within the remit of this Board be approved;
- (b) That it be agreed that mid-year progress with the Service Delivery Plan be reported to this Board in October 2021; and
- (c) That it be noted that this Service Delivery Plan had been submitted to the meeting of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 16 March 2021 for approval of the elements covered by that Board's remit.

### **3 Education Update**

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the steps taken to support families during the period of lockdown and to provide an update on the current phased reopening of schools. It was noted that schools and early year centres had been closed for most children and young people throughout January and February 2021. The report intimated that a phased reopening of schools had now commenced and it was anticipated that this would continue over the coming weeks.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

### **4 Attainment of 2019/20 School Leavers**

Under reference to item 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 21 January 2021 there was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the attainment of 2019/20 school leavers in the key measures contained in the Insight benchmarking tool, which was a Scottish Government performance evaluation tool to benchmark performance in four key measures: attainment in literacy and numeracy; improving attainment for all; attainment versus deprivation; and leavers' destinations. The report intimated that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2020 exam diet could not take place and that results were awarded based on teacher estimates and were therefore not directly comparable with previous years. The report noted that destinations would also be impacted by the pandemic as the same range of opportunities might not have been available to young people.

The report provided information on attainment in literacy and numeracy; improving attainment for all; attainment versus deprivation and leaver destinations. The report also recognised the scope for further improvement and indicated that this would continue to be a priority.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the report be noted; and
- (b) That the efforts of young people and the school communities in bringing about these results be noted.

## **5 Distribution of Funding to Support Services for Children and Families – Funding Allocation for 2021/22**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the proposed allocation of funding during 2021/22 to out of school care groups in the private and voluntary sectors and for early years voluntary sector organisations, playgroups and toddler groups. The report noted that acceptance of the recommendations contained in the appendices to the report would result in £89,817 being disbursed.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the resource allocation to support the delivery of services for children and young people, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report be approved; and
- (b) That the proposed allocation of grant funding for out of school care and to the pre-five voluntary sector as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 to the report be approved, subject to the completion of satisfactory checks and assessments.

## **6 Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to The Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 which had been passed by the Scottish Parliament in October 2019 and which removed the common law defence of 'reasonable chastisement' from the law of Scotland on 7 November 2020.

The report intimated that the Act made it illegal to use physical punishment towards a child in Scotland and required Scottish Ministers to take steps to raise public awareness and understanding about the effect of the removal of the defence of reasonable chastisement. The legislative change required statutory agencies to consider their current procedural guidance and training in relation to physical chastisement of children and the report provided information on how services in Renfrewshire had responded to the new legislation.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That it be noted that the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 came into force on 7 November 2020; and
- (b) That the work undertaken to provide updated guidance and training to Council and Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee partner agency staff on the change of legislation be noted.

## **7 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill (UNCRC) which had been introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 1 September 2020. The report intimated that the Bill was now at stage 3 and the Scottish Parliament would consider any amendment to the Bill, debate these and vote on whether it should become law. Should the Bill make the UNCRC part of Scottish law, this would mean the Scottish Government and other public bodies, including local authorities, would be required to respect the UNCRC as law and that courts could be asked to decide if the government or other public bodies had respected or broken its terms.

The appendix to the report summarised the rights covered by the UNCRC, some examples of which were: respect for the views of the child; protection from violence, abuse and neglect; right to an education and juvenile justice.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the progress to date in relation to the United Nations on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill in the Scottish Parliament be noted; and
- (b) That the implication for Renfrewshire when the Bill became law, be noted.

## **8 Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Graham, having previously declared an interest in the following item, remained in the meeting.

## **9 “Missing People” Project Renfrewshire**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the Renfrewshire 'Missing People' project. The report intimated that in late 2012 Police Scotland raised concerns at the Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee (RCPC) in respect of young people under the age of 18 who were leaving their children's house or family home and going missing for a period of time ranging from a few hours to a number of days. RCPC asked Police Scotland and Children's Services Social Work to develop a proposal for improving the response to these incidents. A service model was developed and commissioned from Barnardo's Scotland and became operational in March 2013 and in 2017 the Scottish Government published the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland. It was noted that there were more than 20,000 incidents of missing children and adults reported to Police Scotland every year.

The report indicated that to ensure that the National Missing Persons Framework was implemented effectively across Scotland, 'Missing People', a national charity had been funded by the Scottish Government to deliver a programme of consultancy, training and good practice sharing to local areas. Renfrewshire had submitted an expression of interest to participate in the National Missing Persons Framework Implementation Project, which was successful. It was agreed that the support would largely focus on adults who went missing. However, opportunities to further develop the expertise relating to children and young people had also been pursued and the report provided information on the work undertaken to date by Children's Services.

**DECIDED:** That the work being undertaken by Children's Services in partnership with the Missing People Project in response to the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland be noted.

## **10 Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Graham, having previously declared an interest in the following item, remained in the meeting.

## **11 Petition: Early Learning and Childcare Admission Policy Review**

Under reference to item 1 of the Minute of the meeting of the Petitions Board held on 1 February 2021, there was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the petition which had been submitted by Mr Steven Harrigan relating to his concerns that his son had been denied the opportunity to attend his local pre-school nursery. The Petitions Board had agreed that the petition be referred to the Education & Children's Services Policy Board with the recommendation that the Board review the current admissions policy in relation to Early Learning and Childcare across Renfrewshire.

**DECIDED:** That it be noted that a review of the current Early Learning and Childcare Admissions Policy would be undertaken and that the findings would be reported to a future meeting of this Policy Board.

## Minute of Meeting

### Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 22 March 2021	10:00	Remotely via Microsoft Teams,

#### Present

Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Jim Sharkey, Councillor Jane Strang

#### Chair

Councillor Bill Binks, Convener, presided.

#### In Attendance

L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, L Neary, Head of Transformation and OD and N Irvine-Brown, Policy Lead, Performance & Quality (all Chief Executive's); D Gillies, Head of Facilities Management and D Kerr, Service Co-ordination Manager (both Environment & Infrastructure Services); A MacArthur, Head of Finance, A McMahon, Chief Auditor, K Campbell, Assistant Chief Auditor, K Locke, Risk Manager, S Fanning, Principal HR and OD Adviser, A Connor, Records Manager, D Pole, End User Technician, A McNaughton and C MacDonald, both Senior Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources).

#### Also in Attendance

J Cornett and M Ferris (both Audit Scotland).

#### Apologies

Councillors Harte and Rodden.

## **Declarations of Interest**

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

### **1 Annual Internal Audit Annual Plan 2021/22**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Auditor relative to the 2021/21 risk-based Annual Internal Audit Plan which had been developed in line with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

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

The report set out the methods that had been employed to facilitate production of the Plan and the influencing factors that had been considered in the assessment of the current business environment and the priority areas of audit.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the content of the risk-based audit plan for 2021/22 be approved; and

(b) That it be noted that the progress of the 2021/22 annual audit plan and summaries of the findings from each audit assignment would be reported to the Board on a quarterly basis.

### **2 Summary of Outstanding Internal Audit Recommendations**

Under reference to Item 3 of the Minute of the meeting of the Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board held on 19 March 2018, there was submitted a report by the Chief Auditor relative to a summary of outstanding Internal Audit recommendations.

The report provided an updated position of the critical recommendations that had been followed up during 2020/21 and had not yet been implemented fully. The appendix to the report detailed the recommendations that had not yet been implemented or were in the process of being implemented and the latest responses received from service management.

**DECIDED:** That the position in relation to the outstanding recommendations be noted.

### **3 Annual Review of Compliance with the Local Code of Corporate Governance 2020**

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



The report advised that Internal Audit had reviewed the adequacy and effectiveness of the revised Code and confirmed that the Council complied with the requirements of the Local Code of Corporate Governance.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

#### **4 Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) performance data for all Scottish local authorities.

The report advised that the Framework was a high-level benchmarking tool which allowed local authorities to compare their performance across a wide range of key service areas such as education, housing, and adult social care.

The Council had participated in the development of the LGBF since its inception in 2010, with the Framework now expanded to 97 indicators. The purpose of the Framework was to support evidence-based comparisons and encourage shared learning and improvement.

The report provided an overview of Renfrewshire's performance for 2019/20, as well as outlining the wider context and trends for local authorities across Scotland. Detailed information relating to the performance of similar councils which had been placed into a 'family group' with Renfrewshire Council and further context on performance across the broad service areas was contained in the appendix to the report.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

#### **5 Audit Scotland Annual Audit Plan 2020/21**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to Audit Scotland's Annual Audit Plan 2020/21, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The report intimated that the audit plan outlined Audit Scotland's approach to the audit of the 2020/21 financial statements of the Council and the charities it controlled in order to assess whether they provided a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council, and also whether they had been prepared in accordance with proper accounting practice.

The Plan outlined the responsibilities of Audit Scotland and the Council, their assessment of key challenges and risks, and the approach and timetable for completion of the audit.

**DECIDED:** That the report and Audit Scotland's Annual Audit Plan 2020/21 be noted.

#### **6 "Risk Matters", the Combined Risk Policy and 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 (CRMG) on

behalf of the Corporate Management Team. A new Risk Matters document had been developed which built on existing good practice, made sure it was fit for our time, ensured it was supportive of the council's core two-year strategies for economic, social and financial recovery, and ensured that good risk management added value wherever it was applied. A copy of "Risk Matters – the Next Level" was attached as an appendix to the report.

**DECIDED:** That "Risk Matters – the Next Level" be approved.

## **7 Local Government in Scotland Financial Overview 2019/20**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to Audit Scotland's Local Government in Scotland – Financial Overview 2019/20, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The report indicated that Audit Scotland, as appointed external auditors, had provided an independent analysis of how effectively Scottish Local Government was managing public money over the course of 2019/20 and had responded to the financial challenges it faced.

The key findings of Audit Scotland were highlighted within the report and the key messages, alongside the associated Renfrewshire position, were attached for information at Appendix 1.

**DECIDED:** That the key messages, Renfrewshire Council's position, and the content of the appendices be noted.

## **8 Records Management Plan Update**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a progress report on the Council's Records Management Plan (RMP).

The report advised that following the 2019 Progress Update Review ("PUR"), the Council achieved Green status for the Archiving element of the RMP. It was noted that the Council now had Green status for 13 of the 14 elements assessed through the RMP. To progress against the remaining amber element, the Council now categorised all SharePoint sites to align with the Council's Business Classification Scheme. The classification(s) relevant to each site were now held on a central SharePoint register.

The Keeper of Records in Scotland Assessment Team advised that assurances from an authority on their overall commitment to improvement formed a key part of their assessment. and had no concerns regarding the final element still being classed as amber after the initial five-year RMP cycle was complete.

**DECIDED:** That the progress of the Council Records Management Plan be noted.

## **9 Absence Statistics - Quarter 3 of 2020/21**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Council's absence statistics for the period 1 October to 31 December 2020.

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.

**DECIDED:** That the report on absence statistics for the period 1 October to 31 December 2020 be noted.



## Minute of Meeting

### Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 24 March 2021	13:00	Microsoft TEAMS Platform,

#### Present

Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Jim Sharkey

#### Chair

Councillor McEwan, Convener, presided.

#### In Attendance

G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; K Waters, Programme Manager (City Deal) (Chief Executive's); O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection and C Dalrymple, Communities & Regulatory Manager (both Communities & Housing Services); G Hutton, Head of Operations & Infrastructure, K Anderson, Amenity Services Manager - Waste, G Hannah, Strategic Change Manager, K Gray, Streetscene Manager, D Kerr, Service Co-ordination Manager, S Heron, Facilities Manager (Soft Services) and L Rennie, Operations Manager (all Environment & Infrastructure); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, D Pole, End User Technician, F Hughes, Asset Manager, D Farrell, Finance Business Partner and R Devine and C MacDonald, both Senior Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources).

#### Recording of Meeting

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

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Hood declared an interest in agenda item 8 – Community Asset Transfer: Request for Review Barnbrock Farm – Application by UP-2-US Ltd as he was a user of the group who had made the community asset transfer request and indicated that he would take no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

## **1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report**

There was submitted a joint Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring report by the Directors of Finance & Resources, Environment & Infrastructure and Communities & Housing Services for the period 1 April 2020 to 8 January 2021.

The report stated that the projected revenue outturn as at 31 March 2021 for all services reporting to this Policy Board was an overspend position of £2.698 million against the revised budget for the year. The projected capital outturn as at 31 March 2021 for projects reporting to the Board was a breakeven position against the revised budget for the year. Summaries were provided over the relevant services in the tables within the report, together with further analysis. It was noted that for financial year 2020/21 the projected outturn position was split into core and Covid-19 related variances. It was highlighted that budget adjustments totalling £0.633 million, comprising budget carry forwards from 2020/21 to 2021/22 of £0.350 million in the Roads/Footways Upgrade Programme; £0.044 million for the Bridge Assessment/Strengthening budget; £0.130 million for the Lighting Columns Replacement Programme; and £0.020 million in respect of the Multi-purpose Bins trial, together with an increase in the 2021/22 Vehicle Replacement Programme of £0.048 million, had been processed since consideration of the previous report.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the projected Revenue outturn position as detailed in table 1 of the report be noted, acknowledging that the forecast position was based on best estimates and confirmed government support at this point in time, that forecasts were likely to be subject to considerable fluctuation as the full service implications and associated costs of the pandemic became clearer;

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

(c) That the budget adjustments, detailed in section 5 of the report, be noted.

## **2 Operational Performance Report**

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

The report provided updates since the previous Board meeting in respect of key areas delivered by services within Environment & Infrastructure, which were within the remit of this Policy Board. It also outlined the areas of priority through to Summer 2021,

highlighting key areas of focus and plans for next steps to support the Council's recovery plans. Whilst developing these plans, the local and national position remained fluid and services would remain flexible and able to respond quickly in relation to changes in restrictions and local outbreaks as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The report stated that operational services continued within Covid-19 restrictions and services were being delivered in most instances to levels similar to those experienced by services in a pre-covid environment. It was noted that all required safety measures were in place and well established.

Reference was made within the report to the decision taken at the meeting of the Emergencies Board held on 27 March 2020 when the initial national lockdown had commenced that charges in Council-owned car parks be suspended to support key workers to undertake their duties and the decision taken at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 27 January 2021 to continue the suspension of charges in view of the lockdown restrictions imposed. The report proposed that due to the continuation of restrictions the suspension of charges in Council-owned car parks be extended to the end of May 2021.

Councillor McEwan, seconded by Councillor Don, moved that the suspension of charges until the end of May 2021 in Council-owned car parks in Paisley Town Centre, as detailed in paragraph 4.4 of the report, be agreed and that otherwise the report be noted.

Councillor MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Graham, moved that in addition "a report be brought back to the Board on the cost and use of LitterCam as seen on the BBC. It automatically spots when someone throws rubbish out of their vehicle, down to the size of a cigarette butt, and automatically issues a fine. This is currently being used by Maidstone Borough Council." This was agreed.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the suspension of charges until the end of May 2021 in Council owned car parks in Paisley Town Centre, as detailed in paragraph 4.4 of the report, be agreed;

(b) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of this Policy Board be brought back to the Board on the cost and use of LitterCam as seen on the BBC. It automatically spots when someone throws rubbish out of their vehicle, down to the size of a cigarette butt, and automatically issues a fine. This is currently being used by Maidstone Borough Council; and

(c) That otherwise the content of the report be noted.

## **3(a) Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 - Environment & Infrastructure**

There was submitted an update report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 for Environment & Infrastructure.

The report advised that typically, Services reported on their performance and intended improvement actions through Service Improvement Plans. The Service Delivery Plan sat beneath the Council Plan, Community Plan, and alongside the Risk Management Plan and the People Strategy to form a suite of documents which provided the strategic direction for the Service. The Plan also complemented the Council-wide Economic Recovery Plan and Social Renewal Plan.

The report indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted significantly on how services were delivered, on the needs of the community and consequently, services had produced Service Delivery Plans for 2021/22 which outlined the actions that would be taken to assist in recovery over the next 12-month period. The Council however remained aspirational and the Plan also reflected a commitment from Environment & Infrastructure to continuous improvement and to deliver a wide range of ambitious improvement programmes and projects. The Plan detailed the priorities being addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable and measures of success. A six-monthly update on progress of the Service Delivery Plan would be submitted to the appropriate Policy Boards in Autumn 2021, and an outturn report submitted in early Summer 2022.

**DECIDED:**

- (i) That the elements of the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 – Environment & Infrastructure which fall within the remit of this Policy Board be approved;
- (ii) That it be agreed that the mid-year progress of the Service Delivery Plan be submitted to this Policy Board in Autumn 2021 and an outturn report in early Summer 2022; and
- (iii) That it be noted that the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 - Environment & Infrastructure would be submitted to the meeting of the Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board to be held on 31 March 2021 for approval of the elements of the Plan within that Board's remit.

### **3(b) Service Delivery Plan 2021/22: Communities & Housing Services**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 for Communities and Housing Services.

The report advised that typically, Services reported on their performance and intended improvement actions through Service Improvement Plans. The Service Delivery Plan sat beneath the Council Plan, Community Plan, and alongside the Risk Management Plan and the People Strategy to form a suite of documents which provided the strategic direction for the Service. The Plan also complemented the Council-wide Economic Recovery Plan and Social Renewal Plan.

The report indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted significantly on how services were delivered, on the needs of the community and consequently, services had produced Service Delivery Plans for 2021/22 which outlined the actions that would be taken to assist in recovery over the next 12-month period. The Council however remained aspirational and the Plan also reflected a commitment from Communities & Housing Services to continuous improvement and to deliver a wide range of ambitious improvement programmes and projects. The Plan detailed the priorities being addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable and measures of success. A six-monthly update on progress of the Service Delivery Plan would be submitted to the appropriate Policy Boards in Autumn 2021, and an outturn report submitted in early Summer 2022

**DECIDED:**

- (i) That the elements of the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 - Communities & Housing



Services which fall within the remit of this Policy Board be approved;

(ii) That it be agreed that the mid-year progress of the Service Delivery Plan be submitted to this Policy Board in Autumn 2021 and an outturn report in early Summer 2022; and

(iii) That it be noted that the Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 - Communities & Housing Services had been submitted to the meeting of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 16 March 2021 for approval of the elements of the Plan within that Board's remit.

## **4 Covid-19 - The Regulation of Businesses During the Pandemic**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the regulation of businesses during the pandemic.

The report referenced previous Service update reports submitted to this Policy Board which highlighted that Environmental Health and Trading Standards had been at the forefront of public health interventions to prevent the onward transmission of Covid-19. The report outlined work undertaken to date with regards to businesses, the close working relationship being maintained with both the national expert group and Police Scotland and the proactive approach taken in the Renfrewshire area to ensure compliance with the constantly changing legislation, guidance and Frameworks. In this connection statistical data was provided in relation to local Service demands and enforcement action undertaken since March 2020 together with a summary of future action and approaches which would be adopted.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the update on the work undertaken within the Regulatory services teams of Communities and Public Protection be noted; and

(b) That the Board supported the on-going work by ensuring communities were aware of business compliance to date.

## **5 Infrastructure & Assets Community Investment Fund**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the development and delivery of an Infrastructure and Assets Community Investment Fund.

The report stated that the fund would seek to involve communities to submit proposals and make decisions on investments in infrastructure and assets within their local areas through participatory budgeting. It was noted that over a three-year period £1.2 million from the Roads Capital Investment Programme, 5% of the total Programme, would be allocated specifically for the fund. The funding was designed to be flexible and, dependent on the need and nature of the projects suggested and it was highlighted that there was potentially an opportunity to supplement the funding from the Council's Capital resources or funding from external providers. To ensure all areas benefited from this investment, proposals would be submitted for every area of Renfrewshire, with local communities shaping the investments that would bring benefits and improvements within their local area. Reference was made within the

report to the current Covid-19 restrictions, and the consequential requirement to think differently and innovatively about the way in which local people were able to engage in the process, with specific focus on engaging with people who might be more unlikely to participate or face barriers in terms of participation. It was noted that it would be important to adapt approaches and to continue to do so in response to feedback given, with consultation undertaken on an ongoing basis over a period of time. A public communications and marketing plan would be developed to promote the project, as detailed in section 4 of the report.

The funding process would involve three phases, with residents invited to share their initial ideas for infrastructure improvements in the first phase. In phase two this original long list of projects would be shortlisted against the criteria outlined in section 3.6 of the report and then in the third phase local communities would be involved in voting on the projects that they would like to see implemented in their community. A summary of the anticipated timeline was provided.

**DECIDED:** That the implementation plan as outlined in section 3 of the report be implemented and that it be noted that regular update reports would be submitted to future meetings of this Policy Board.

## 6 Review of Grass Cutting

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the grass cutting service and proposed approach to service delivery across Renfrewshire effective from 5 April 2021.

The report highlighted that the Council's greenspace had a key role to play in supporting the quality of Renfrewshire as a place for communities, residents and businesses and of increasing weight, its role in supporting the Council's ambitions to tackle climate change.

The Council's grass cutting service had been suspended during March 2020 as the country had entered lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic and was only able to restart under the Government's "Routemap" on 1 June 2020. Thereafter the re-introduction of grass cutting on a phased basis, was delivered on a community by community basis around Renfrewshire. This largely geographical approach during the restrictions had provided an insight and the direction for a review in how grass cutting was delivered across Renfrewshire and had shaped the proposed move to a fully geographical approach. Engagement had also been undertaken across communities in relation to both grass cutting frequencies, areas maintained and the wider biodiversity agenda.

As a result, it was proposed that going forward into the 2021 grass cutting season, the delivery of grass cutting services in Renfrewshire change to a single 14-day cyclic schedule on a community by community basis. Benefits of introduction of the proposal were outlined within the report.

**DECIDED:** That the changes to the 2021 grass cutting service, moving to a geographical based model where grass would be maintained through a single programme of cyclic maintenance, as detailed in the report, be approved.

## **7 Scottish Government Consultation: Protecting Scotland's Groundwater from Pollution**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities & Housing Services relative to the consultation undertaken by the Scottish Government, in conjunction with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), on proposals to improve how groundwater in Scotland was protected.

The report outlined proposals to revise environmental standards for substances within groundwater; revised the list of groundwater hazardous substances which required to be prevented from entering groundwater; and amended land contamination legislation. The proposed response to the consultation, prepared on behalf of the Council, was appended to the report. It was highlighted that SEPA was also consulting on revisions to their guidance documents on 'Land Contamination and Impacts on the Water Environment' and 'Assigning Groundwater Assessment Criteria for Pollutant Inputs'. Both of the aforementioned documents were referred to within the Scottish Government consultation paper and were to be considered in conjunction with the consultation as they were intrinsically linked. The two SEPA consultation documents were of a technical nature and it was noted that officers would submit responses to those documents directly.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the consultation on Protecting Scotland's Groundwater from pollution, along with the requirement to respond by 31 March 2021 be noted; and

(b) That the proposed response, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved as the Council's consultation response.

### **Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Hood having previously declared an interest in the following item of business took no part in the discussion or decision.

## **8 Community Asset Transfer- Request for Review Barnbrock Farm- Application by UP-2-US Ltd.**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a request for a review of a decision by the Head of Property Services to refuse an Asset Transfer Request by Up-2-U's Limited in respect of their application for the transfer of Barnbrock Farm.

The report advised that the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 included provisions enabling community bodies to apply to the Council to take over Council-owned land and facilities, referred to in the Act as an Asset Transfer Request. The Act detailed the manner that the Council required to deal with Asset Transfer requests with Regulations establishing the procedures to be followed. At the meeting of the Council held on 23 February 2017, the process for dealing with such applications had been agreed. As part of that decision, it was agreed that applications would be determined in the first instance by the Head of Property Services. The 2015 Act prescribed that where an applicant was not satisfied with the outcome of their request

the Council must provide for a review process. The report indicated that the Council had received a request from Up-2-Us Limited for a review of a decision by the Head of Property Services to refuse an Asset Transfer Request in respect of their application for the transfer of Barnbrock Farm. Information in respect of the Asset Transfer request was provided together with details of the proposed composition of the Community Asset Transfer Review Sub-committee. The proposed procedures for considering the review were appended to the report.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That it be noted that a request had been received for a review of a decision to refuse an asset transfer request, made in terms of Part 5 the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015;

(b) That it be noted that the review would be considered by the Community Asset Transfer Review Sub-committee;

(c) That Councillors J Cameron, Devine, Audrey Doig, Graham and McEwan be appointed as members of the Sub-committee to consider the review and that Councillor McEwan be appointed as the Chair of the Sub-committee;

(d) That the Chair of the Sub-Committee be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to set the date and make all necessary arrangements for the inaugural meeting of the Sub-committee; and

(e) That the procedure for dealing with the review, as detailed in the Appendix to the report, be agreed.

## **9 Lease of property - 24 Skye Crescent, Paisley**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed lease of the property at 24 Skye Crescent, Paisley.

The report advised that Helena Blessing, had leased the shop property at 24 Skye Crescent, Paisley, identified on the plan appended to the report, since November 2010 for use as a dental practice. The current annual rental for the property, agreed in 2010, was £5,750 and the lease had been granted on a year to year basis. Ms Blessing had requested security of tenure and discussions had taken place regarding the proposed terms and conditions of a new lease. The report detailed the proposed main terms and conditions of the lease provisionally agreed.

**DECIDED:** That the Head of Property Services be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to conclude a new lease of the shop property at 24 Skye Crescent, Paisley on the terms and conditions detailed in the report.

## **10 Disposal of Land at Albert Road, Renfrew**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed disposal of land at Albert Road, Renfrew, identified on location plan E3101, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The report advised that Renfrewshire's Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2019/20 –

2023/24 had been approved at the meeting of the Communities Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 30 October 2018 and detailed how investment in affordable housing would be targeted to achieve the objectives of the Local Housing Strategy. The Plan had been developed following consultation and engagement with Community Planning partners, including the Housing Associations operating in Renfrewshire. Williamsburgh Housing Association had been identified within the Plan as the partner for the development of the site at Albert Road, Renfrew and intended to develop 42 new affordable homes on the site. Discussions had been entered into between the Housing Association and Council regarding the proposed main terms and conditions of the lease details of which were outlined in the report.

**DECIDED:** That the Head of Property Services be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to dispose of the land at Albert Road, Renfrew identified on location plan E3101 appended to the report, to Williamsburgh Housing Association, on the terms and conditions detailed in the report.

## **11 AMIDS District Heat Network - New Lease from Scottish Water**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed lease with Scottish Water, for an Energy Centre and associated pipework within the Laighpark Wastewater Treatment Works.(WWTW)

The report advised that responding to the climate emergency had resulted in ambitious targets to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 to end Scotland's contribution to climate change within a generation. It was noted that the Council had also declared a climate emergency with ambitious targets which included a pledge to work proactively with others to make Renfrewshire carbon neutral by 2030. In this connection the report stated that it was proposed to install a District Heating Network for the AMIDS site, consisting of an Energy Centre and pipework to connect supplies to customers. The proposed Energy Centre would be constructed on land owned by Scottish Water within the WWTW. It was highlighted that a low carbon district heat solution would provide a significant opportunity for AMIDS and Renfrewshire, to reduce future carbon emissions and enhance the reputation of the site whilst acting as a demonstration to the rest of Scotland of how a transition to a low carbon future could be achieved. The funding for the AMIDS District Heating Network project had been approved at the meeting of the Leadership Board held on 2 December 2020 when it had also been agreed that associated land acquisition and assets requirements would be submitted to the this Policy Board for approval. The report detailed the proposed main terms and conditions of the lease provisionally agreed.

**DECIDED:** That the Head of Property Services be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to negotiate terms and enter into a lease with Scottish Water for an Energy Centre and associated pipework within the Laighpark Wastewater Treatment Works.

## **12 Amendment to Lease for Aird Meadow, Lochwinnoch**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the proposed terms and conditions agreed to amend the existing lease between the Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) in respect of Aird

Meadow, Lochwinnoch.

The report advised that the Council currently leased Aird Meadow, Lochwinnoch, identified on the plan appended to the report, to the RSPB for use as a nature reserve, in terms of a 99-year lease containing a mutual break option, which could be exercised on provision of two- years' prior written notice. The lease had commenced on 1 December 1973. The former Peel Tower, a historic building which was in ruins was located within the leased area. The RSPB had secured grant funding from Historic Environment Scotland and National Lottery Heritage Fund for the sum of £120,000, to reveal Peel Tower, which would involve consolidation of the ruins, installation of signage, investigation of the archaeological rubble and removal of invasive and non-invasive plant species. To secure the grant funding and pursue other grant funding options the RSPB required security of tenure by the removal of the current mutual break option from the lease, which would result in the RSPB having a lease of the area for 51 years. The report stated that all other terms of the lease would remain the same.

**DECIDED:** That the Head of Property Services be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to conclude an amendment to the existing lease on the terms and conditions detailed within the report.

## **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 6 and 9 of part I of schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

### **13 Option Agreement Field Adjacent to Neilston Substation, Glenniffer Braes**

There was submitted a report by the Director Finance & Resources relative to the terms and conditions agreed with a proposed tenant for an option agreement in respect of an area of land adjacent to Neilston Substation, Gleniffer Braes and identified on a plan appended to the report.

**DECIDED:** That the Head of Property Services be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to conclude an option agreement with the applicant on the terms and conditions contained within the report.

## Minute of Meeting

### Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 31 March 2021	14:00	Microsoft Teams

#### PRESENT

Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Bill Brown, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Neil Graham, Councillor James Harte, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Jim Sharkey, Councillor James Sheridan, Councillor Andy Steel.

#### CHAIR

Councillor J Shaw, Convener, presided.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning and D Christie, Senior Communications Officer (both Chief Executive's); G McKinlay, Head of Schools(Senior Phase and Inclusion) (Children's Services) D Gillies, Head of Facilities Management (Environment & Infrastructure); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, P Murray Head of ITC, L Neary, Head of Transformation and Organisational Development, R Cree, Organisational Development & Workforce Planning Manager, B Lambert, Corporate Procurement Manager, D Pole, End User Technician, P Shiach, Senior Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

#### RECORDING OF MEETING

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Policy Board would be recorded and that the recording would be available to view on the Council's website.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Begg declared a non-financial interest in Item 17 of the agenda, Paisley Museum Re-imagined– main works as he was a member of the Board of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited and indicated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Paterson declared a non-financial interest in item 23 of the agenda, Flexible Framework Agreement for Renfrewshire Council Early Learning and Childcare Places as a family member attended one of the providers of the framework and indicated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Nicolson declared a non-financial interest in Item 24 of the agenda, Provision of a Head Injury Support Service as a family member was employed by one of the services included in the report and indicated that he would take no part in the discussion or decision on the matter.

### **1. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING AS AT 8 JANUARY 2021**

There was submitted a revenue and capital budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to revenue and capital budget expenditure and adjustments for the period to 8 January 2021.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the projected revenue outturn position as detailed in Table 1 of the report be noted, considering that the forecast position was based on best estimates and confirmed government support to date, and may not incorporate the full financial implications of a sustained period of the current lockdown arrangements. Forecasts were therefore likely to fluctuate considerably as the full service implications and associated costs of the pandemic became clear.

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

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

### **2. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING – COUNCIL OVERVIEW AS AT 8 JANUARY 2021**

There was submitted a revenue and capital budget monitoring report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to an overview of revenue and capital expenditure for the period to 8 January 2021.

#### **DECIDED:**



- (a) That the projected revenue outturn position detailed in Table 1 of the report be noted, considering that the forecast position was based on best estimates and confirmed government support to date and did not yet incorporate the potential costs associated with Council support for the mass vaccination programme. Forecasts were therefore likely to fluctuate considerably as the full service implications and associated costs of the pandemic continued to evolve; and
- (b) That the projected capital outturn position detailed in Table 2 of the report be noted.

### **3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE – SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2021/22**

Under reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of this Policy Board held on 2 February 2021, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Chief Executive's Service – Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 (the Plan). A copy of the Plan was appended to the report and set out the priorities to be addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable; and our measures of success.

The report advised that each year Council services developed and prepared a Service Improvement Plan; a three-year rolling programme setting out the key priorities and actions to be undertaken by the service and the performance measures and associated targets to be used to evidence progress. However, this year, considering the significant impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the provision of services by the organisation overall, an interim change was made to the service improvement planning process for 2021/22, with Service Delivery Plans being developed for each Council service. Although these plans still focussed on some of the longer term ambitions and priorities being progressed by services, there was a much greater focus on the next 12 months, and the work that would be undertaken as part of the ongoing Covid-19 response to stabilise and adapt the way in which services were provided.

The report also explained that in line with operational changes to the delivery of services, planning and development management services had transferred from the Communities, Housing and Planning Service to the Chief Executive's Service. As such, the Plan had also been submitted to the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board for approval of the actions and performance targets that related to the planning and development management functions and therefore came under the remit of that Policy Board.

#### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the elements of the Chief Executive's Service – Service Delivery Plan 2021/22, as appended to the report, which came under the remit of this Policy Board be approved;
- (b) That it be agreed that an update on progress to deliver the Plan be submitted to this Policy Board in Autumn 2021; and

(c) That it be noted that the Plan had also been submitted to the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board for approval of the elements covered by that Board's remit.

#### **4. FINANCE & RESOURCES SERVICE – SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2021/22**

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Policy Board held on 2 February 2021, there was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Finance & Resources Service – Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 (the Plan). A copy of the Plan was appended to the report and set out the priorities to be addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable; and our measures of success.

The report advised that each year Council services developed and prepared a Service Improvement Plan; a three-year rolling programme setting out the key priorities and actions to be undertaken by the service and the performance measures and associated targets to be used to evidence progress. However, this year, considering the significant impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the provision of services by the organisation overall, an interim change was made to the service improvement planning process for 2021/22, with Service Delivery Plans being developed for each Council service. Although these plans still focussed on some of the longer term ambitions and priorities being progressed by services, there was a much greater focus on the next 12 months, and the work that would be undertaken as part of the ongoing Covid-19 response to stabilise and adapt the way in which services were provided.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the Finance & Resources Service – Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 as appended to the report be approved; and

(b) That it be agreed that mid-year updates on progress to deliver the Plan be submitted to the appropriate Policy Board in Autumn 2021 and early Summer 2022.

#### **5. ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2021/22**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the Environment & Infrastructure Service Delivery Plan 2021/22 (the Plan). A copy of the Plan was appended to the report and set out the priorities to be addressed; the key tasks to be implemented; the implementation timetable; and our measures of success.

The report advised that Council services typically reported on their performance and intended improvement actions through Service Improvement Plans. However, this year the Covid-19 pandemic had had a significant impact on how services were delivered and on the needs of the community. Consequently, services had produced

Service Delivery Plans for 2021/22 setting out the actions they will take to assist in recovery.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Environment & Infrastructure Service Delivery Plan 2021/22, as appended to the report and as specific to the areas of activity delegated to this Policy Board, be approved;
- (b) That it be agreed that progress to deliver the specific areas of the Plan that were delegated to this Policy Board be reported to this Policy Board in November 2021; and
- (c) That it be noted that the Plan would also be submitted to the Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board to approve elements of activity covered within that Policy Board's remit.

## **6. FACILITIES MANAGEMENT OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to an operational performance update on Facilities Management (Hard and Soft Services) delivered by Environment & Infrastructure since the last meeting of this Policy Board in February 2021.

**DECIDED:** That the operational performance update be approved.

## **7. REVIEW OF THE RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL BYELAWS ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN 2010**

There was submitted a joint report by the Director of Children's Services and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the outcome of a review of Renfrewshire Council Byelaws on the Employment of Children 2010 carried out in October 2020.

The report advised that a review of the Byelaws on the Employment of Children 2010 required to be undertaken every 10 years and had concluded that the Byelaws needed no alteration at this time.

**DECIDED:** That it be agreed that no changes be made to the Renfrewshire Council Byelaws on the Employment of Children 2010 at this time.

## **8. REVISIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S EXISTING PAY AND GRADING STRUCTURE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to revisions to the Council's existing pay and grading structure for Local Government Employees and the redesign of the Council's current pay and grading structure to meet the commitment of the Scottish Joint Council (SJC) to consolidate the living wage into locally agreed pay and grading structures as an hourly rate of pay for Local

Government Employees. The proposed pay and grading structure to be implemented with effect from 1 April 2021 was attached as an appendix to the report. The proposed pay and grading structure did not apply to employees covered by Teaching, Craft or Chief Officials conditions of service.

The report advised that the proposed pay and grading structure: consolidated the Scottish Local Government Living Wage into the Council's pay structure for Local Government Employees as the minimum hourly rate of pay; restored the pay differentials between grades within a pay structure that had been eroded by recent increases in the level of the Living Wage; removed all overlaps from the pay scales of adjacent grades in the structure, in accordance with best practice; and reduced the overall length of each pay scale, within the SJC spinal column points, to a maximum of five incremental steps by year 2025.

The cost of implementing the revised pay and grading structure was approximately £400,000, 90% of which would be invested within the first year of the new structure to the bottom four grades, impacting approximately 3000 of the lowest paid employees. No employee would be in financial detriment because of the implementation of the revisions to the pay structure.

#### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the implementation of the revised pay and grading structure as set out in the Appendix to the report be approved with effect from 1 April 2021, subject to agreement being reached with the recognised trade unions, Unison, Unite and GMB;
- (b) That the Head of Transformational & Organisational Development be authorised to carry out appropriate assimilation arrangements to transition employees to the revised pay and grading structure;
- (c) That the cost of the revised pay structure as detailed within the report be noted; and
- (d) That the positive outcome of the impact assessment undertaken by the Council's recognised independent technical adviser as detailed in the report be noted.

### **9. PEOPLE STRATEGY: 'OUR PEOPLE OUR FUTURE 2021-2026'**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the implementation of a new People Strategy following a review of current approaches to organisational development and workforce planning undertaken in 2020 that highlighted potential areas for improvement. An Appendix to the report, entitled 'Our People Our Future 2021/26' set out the revised strategy that would replace the current Organisational Development Strategy 2016/19 and Workforce Plan 2017/20.

The new strategy provided a 5-year framework, with three clear strategic outcomes, supported by range of organisational development and workforce planning activities to be delivered over the period. Immediate priorities over the next 1-2 years would focus on supporting the workforce to respond to and recover from Covid-19.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the new People Strategy as set out in the Appendix to the report be approved; and
- (b) That it be noted that an annual progress report would be presented to members.

**10. CONTRACT AWARD: DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS ON CHIVAS REGAL SITE, PAISLEY (RC-CPU-20-123)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a contract for the demolition of buildings on the Chivas Regal site, Paisley to Caskie Limited.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the demolition of existing buildings on the Chivas Regal site, Paisley, to Caskie Limited
- (b) That a contract sum of £394,250.00 excluding VAT be approved;
- (c) That, if required, expenditure of £28,000.00 excluding VAT for identified risks be approved;
- (d) That, if required, expenditure of a contingency sum of £129,278.00 excluding VAT be approved;
- (e) That it be noted that the date of possession of the site was 26 April 2021 and the date of completion of the works was 17 December 2021; and
- (f) That it be noted that the award of the contract was subject to the provision of a Performance Bond as indicated within the tender documentation and Caskie Limited was committed to have the required level of Employers Liability and Public Liability insurance upon receipt of the Council's letter of acceptance and prior to possession of site being granted.

**11. CONTRACT AWARD: ELECTRICAL UPGRADE – ST JOHN OGILVIE PS (RC-CPU-20-260)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a contract for electrical upgrade works at St John Ogilvie Primary School to Atalian Servest AMK Limited trading as Arthur McKay.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for electrical upgrade at St John Ogilvie Primary School to Atalian Services AMK Limited trading as Arthur McKay;

- (b) That a contract sum of £383,300.71 excluding VAT be approved; and
- (c) That the undernoted dates of possession and completion be noted and that any changes to these dates would be confirmed in the letter of acceptance:

Section 1 – Possession: 26 June 2021 and Completion: 11 August 2021

Section 2 – Possession: 12 August 2021 and Completion: 15 October 2021

Section 3 – Possession: 26 June 2021 and Completion: 15 October 2021

## **12. CONTRACT AWARD: ST ANTHONY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – EXTERNAL WORKS**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a works contract for St Anthony's Primary School – external works to John McGeady Limited.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for St Anthony's Primary School – External Works (RC-CPU-20-189) to John McGeady Limited;
- (b) That a contract sum of up to the value of £263,506.97 excluding VAT be approved;
- (c) That, if required, the use of a potential contingency sum of £26,350.70 excluding VAT be approved; and
- (d) That a contract period of three months commencing 28 June 2021 with completion by 17 September 2021 be authorised, the actual date of possession to be confirmed in the Council's letter of acceptance.

## **13. CONTRACT AUTHORISATION REPORT FOR THE PROVISION OF A GIS SYSTEM**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a negotiated contract for the provision of a GIS system to Esri (UK) Limited.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the provision of a GIS system to Esri (UK) Limited;
- (b) That a contract period of three years until 31 March 2024 to replace the existing contract for the provision of a GIS system due to expire on 31 March 2021 be authorised; and
- (c) That a contract value of £255,000 excluding VAT be approved.

#### **14. CONTRACT AWARD: COMMUNITY HALLS REFURBISHMENTS**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a works contract for the refurbishment of Community Halls (RC-CPU-20-211) to City Gate Construction (Scotland) Limited.

##### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the refurbishment of Community Halls (RC-CPU-20-211) to City Gate Construction (Scotland) Limited;

(b) That the contract value of up to £1,625,414.75 excluding VAT be approved;

(c) That the breakdown of spend per property be noted, viz: McKillop Institute £799,340.66; Elderslie Village Hall £498,985.34; and Southend Action Centre £327,088.75;

(d) That it be noted that the contract had sectional completion requirements with proposed dates for possession as listed below. Any changes to these dates would be confirmed in the letter of acceptance:

Section 1: Southend Action Centre – 25 May 2021

Section 2: McKillop Institute – 25 May 2021

Section 3: Elderslie Village Hall – 25 May 2021

(e) That it be noted that proposed dates for completed were as listed below. Any changes to these dates would be confirmed in the letter of acceptance:

Section 1: Southend Action Centre – 9 November 2021

Section 2: McKillop Institute – 9 November 2021

Section 3: Elderslie Village Hall – 9 November 2021;

(f) That it be noted that the award of contract was subject to the provision of a Performance Board and Collateral Warranties as indicated within the tender; and

(g) That it be noted that the award of contract was subject to the provision of Contractors All Risk Insurance as indicated within the tender and that City Gate Construction (Scotland) Limited was committed to have the required level of Contractors All Risk Insurance upon receipt of the letter of acceptance and prior to the site possession being granted.

## **15. SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 400 LAPTOPS**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the award of a contract for the urgent supply and delivery of 400 laptops in order to meet the unprecedented demand for increased home working by staff during the Covid-19 pandemic and in light of the limited availability of this key equipment. The report explained that the Director of Finance & Resources and the Head of Policy & Commissioning had awarded a contract to Capito Limited.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the action taken by the Director of Finance & Resources and the Head of Policy & Commissioning to secure the supply and delivery of 400 laptops from Capito Limited be homologated;
- (b) That the contract value of £224,632.00 excluding VAT be noted; and
- (c) That it be noted that the contract would be in place until full delivery was achieved and that all laptops had three years warranty.

## **16. CONTRACT FOR PAISLEY TO RENFREW ACTIVE TRAVEL ROUTE (RC-CPU-20-146) UNDER CLAUSE 9.1J) OF STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO CONTRACTS**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Head of Economy & Development relative to the award of contract for Paisley to Renfrew Active Travel Route. The report explained that given the timescales involved and the requirement to fulfil the conditions of grant awarded by the Scottish Government Clyde Mission Fund 2020/21, an exemption to Clause 9.1j) of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contract would apply. The contract would therefore be awarded in due course by the Head of Economy & Development on conclusion of the tender process.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That it be noted that authority to use Clause 9.1j) of the Council's Standing Orders relating to Contracts was granted by the Head of Policy & Commissioning and the award of contract would be made by the Head of Economy & Development;
- (b) That it be noted that the funding agreement required the Council to have committed the funds by 14 April 2021;
- (c) That it be noted that the contract had an anticipated start date of 19 April 2020 and a completion date of 15 March 2022; and
- (d) That it be noted that a further report would be submitted to the next meeting of this Policy Board to advise the outcome of the tender process.



## **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Begg having previously declared an interest in the following item of business remained in the meeting.

### **17. CONTRACT AWARD: PAISLEY MUSEUM RE-IMAGINED– MAIN WORKS (RC-CPU-19-419)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Programme Director – City Deal & Infrastructure relative to the award of contract for the Paisley Museum Re-Imagined - Main Works to Kier Construction Limited.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the Paisley Museum Re-imaged – Main Works (RC-CPU-19-419) to Kier Construction Limited.

(b) That the contract sum of £23,511,906.00 excluding VAT, with an additional 10% contingency spend, be approved;

(c) That it be noted that the contract sum could reduce prior to contract award as post tender negotiations with Keir Construction Limited continued. The concluding contract sum would be confirmed in the letter of acceptance and formal contract;

(d) That authority be delegated to the Head of Policy & Commissioning, in conjunction with the Programme Director – City Deal & Infrastructure, to accept recommendation for a revised reduced offer from Keir Construction Limited following post-tender negotiations and that the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to make an award for that revised reduced value;

(e) That it be noted that the anticipated date of possession of the site was 7 June 2021 with completion by 2 December 2022. The actual dates would be confirmed in the letter of acceptance and formal contract; and

(f) That it be noted that the award of this contract was subject to the provision of a Performance Bond and Collateral Warranties as indicated within the tender.

### **18. SITE SUPERVISION SERVICES FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR CWRR PROJECT**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of a contract for site supervision services for design and construction works for the Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside (CWRR) Project (RC-CPU-20-353) to Jacobs UK Limited.

#### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for site supervision services for design and construction works for CWRR Project (RC-CPU-20-353) to Jacobs UK Limited;
- (b) That a contract value of up to £3,000,000 exclusive of VAT be approved;
- (c) That it be noted that the contract was anticipated to commence in early May 2021 with completion by October 2023, subject to completion of the design and construction works for the CWRR Project, and that the commencement date would be confirmed in the letter of acceptance.

**19. CONTRACT AWARD: THE PURCHASE OF THREE 26 TONNE REFUSE COLLECTION VEHICLES (RCV) (RC-CPU-20-414)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a contract for the purchase of three, 26 tonne, refuse collection vehicles as part of the Council's vehicle replacement programme for 2021/22 to Faun Zoeller (UK) Limited.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the purchase of three, 26 tonne, refuse collection vehicles to Faun Zoeller (UK) Limited;
- (b) That a contract value of £534,211.53 excluding VAT be approved;
- (c) That it be noted that if an order was placed with Faun Zoeller (UK) Limited before the 18 April 2021 vehicle delivery to Fleet Services, Underwood Road, Paisley must take place before the end of November 2021.

**20. CONTRACT AWARD: THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF COATED ROADSTONE (RC-CPU-20-399)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment & Infrastructure relative to the award of a contract for supply and delivery of coated roadstone to Hillhouse Quarry Group Limited.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the supply and delivery of coated Roadstone (RC-CPU-20-399) to Hillhouse Quarry Group Limited;
- (b) That the contract period of 6 months commencing 30 April 2021, or such other date as specified in the letter of acceptance, be noted; and
- (c) That a total contract value of up to £600,000.00 excluding VAT, be approved.

## **21. PROVISION OF ADAPTATIONS AND SMALL REPAIR SERVICE (RC-CPU-20- 70)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Chief Officer Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership relative to the award of a contract for the provision of an adaptations and small repair service to Bridgewater Housing Association Limited.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award the contract for the provision of an adaptations and small repair service to Bridgewater Housing Association Limited;
- (b) That it be noted that the contract period was 11 months from 1 May 2021 to 31 March 2022; and
- (c) That a maximum contract value of £337,929 excluding VAT for the entire contract, with the spend pertaining to Renfrewshire Council being no more than £194,425 excluding VAT, be approved.

## **22. PROVISION OF EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE PLACES - LCC (RC-CPU20-332)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Children's Services relative to the award of a contract for the provision of early learning and childcare places to the Committee of Linwood Community Care.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the provision of early learning and childcare places to the Committee of Linwood Community Care;
- (b) That a contract period of six months from 16 August 2021 to 15 January 2022 be approved;
- (c) That a maximum contract value of £202,972.35 for the entire contract period be approved; and
- (d) That it be noted that the exact amount to be paid was dependent on the number of eligible children due funding in accordance with current legislation.

## **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Paterson having previously declared an interest in the following item of business remained in the meeting.

### **23. FLEXIBLE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE PLACES (RC-CPU-20-113)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Children's Services relative to the award of places on the Flexible Framework Agreement for the provision of early learning and childcare places. Appendix 1 to the report listed tenders received under Lot 1 and Lot 2 and Appendix 2 to the report listed those tenderers recommended for places on the Flexible Framework Agreement. The report also sought authority for the Head of Corporate Governance and the Director of Children's Services to award future places on the framework agreement.

#### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the award of the Flexible Framework Agreement for Renfrewshire Council Early Learning and Childcare Places be authorised;

(b) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a place on the Flexible Framework Agreement to those tenderers listed in Appendix 2 to the report, subject to each tenderer entering into an Information Sharing Protocol with the Council as a condition of their award;

(c) That the award of the Flexible Framework Agreement for an initial period of three years with the option to extend at the discretion of the Council for a further period of 12 months on two occasions be approved;

(d) That it be noted that the commencement date of the Flexible Framework Agreement was anticipated to be 30 April 2021 with funding available from 16 August 2021; and

(e) That the Head Of Policy and Commissioning, in conjunction with the Director of Children's Services, accept recommendations to award further places as and when required during the contract period to tenderers who meet the minimum requirements as detailed in the Invitation to Tender, and to authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to award any recommendation approved by them.

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Nicolson having declared an interest in the undernoted item, left the meeting and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon.

### **24. PROVISION OF HEAD INJURY SUPPORT SERVICE (RC-CPU-20-369)**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive, the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Officer Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership relative to the award of a contract for the provision of a head injury support service to Quarriers.

#### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the Head of Corporate Governance be authorised to award a contract for the provision of a head injury support service to Quarriers;
- (b) That a contract period of three years from 19 April 2021 to 18 April 2024 be approved; and
- (c) That a maximum contract value of £394,044 excluding VAT for the entire contract period be approved.



## Minute of Meeting

### Regulatory Functions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 01 April 2021	10:00	Remotely by MS Teams ,

**Present:** Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Alistair Mackay, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor Jane Strang

### Chair

Councillor McNaughtan, Convener, presided.

### In Attendance

D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing), E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer, P Shiach, Senior Committee Services Officer, G McIntosh, Civic Government Enforcement Officer (for items 1 to 4 only), E Graham, Administrative Assistants (for item 8 only), and N Barr, Administrative Assistant (all Finance & Resources).

### Recording of Meeting

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

### Apology

Councillor Steel.

### Declarations of Interest

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

## Order of Business

In terms of Standing Order 16, the Convener intimated that he proposed to alter the order of business to facilitate the conduct of the meeting by considering items 7(a), (b) and (c) of the agenda before item 5 of the agenda.

### 1 Variations of Private Hire Car Operators' Licences - Personal Appearances

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

(a) Applicant: Ian Latimer

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 1

Licence No.: PH1516

Mr Latimer, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Latimer's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Latimer to operate his present vehicle, registration number PE14 FJV, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Mr Latimer's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Latimer to operate his present vehicle, registration number PE14 FJV, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals.

(b) Applicant: Craig Halliday

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 1

Licence No.: PH1608

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Halliday, the applicant, who had previously indicated that he wished his application to be determined by way of written submissions. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Halliday's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Halliday to operate his present vehicle, registration number GL14 HJD, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Mr Halliday's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Halliday to operate his present vehicle, registration number GL14 HJD, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021.



## **Exclusion of Press and Public**

The Board resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 2 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.

## **2 Variation of Taxi Operator's Licence - Personal Appearance**

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

Applicant: Ian Wright

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 22

Licence No.: TX050

Mr Wright, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Wright's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 22 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Wright to operate his present vehicle, registration number YN13 CCY, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Mr Wright's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Wright to operate his present vehicle, registration number YN13 CCY, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021.

## **3 Variations of Private Hire Car Operators' Licences - Personal Appearances**

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

(a) Applicant: Moloy Sarker

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 1

Licence No.: PH1211

The Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) intimated that Mr Sarker had withdrawn his application.

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

(b) Applicant: Muhammad Alam

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 1

Licence No.: PH1625

Mr Alam, the applicant, joined the meeting by telephone call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr Alam's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Alam to operate his present vehicle, registration number PN14 XDT, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Mr Alam's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr Alam to operate his present vehicle, registration number PH14 XDT, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021.

(c) Applicant: Thomas McNeil

Variation: exception to policy and standard condition 1

Licence No.: PH0705

Mr McNeil, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that Mr McNeil's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr McNeil to operate his present vehicle, registration number YX14 UHV, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That Mr McNeil's application for variation be granted and that standard condition 1 of his licence be amended to enable Mr McNeil to operate his present vehicle, registration number YX14 UHV, for a period of one year from 1 April 2021, subject to the vehicle being tested at three-monthly intervals with the first inspection being carried out within 28 days from 1 April 2021.

#### 4 **Application for Landlord Registration - Personal Appearance**

Under reference to item 1(i) of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 4 February 2021, consideration was resumed of the undernoted application for Landlord Registration. The applicant had been asked to appear personally for the second time:-

Nick Swan

The Convener proposed that consideration of this application be continued and that, if required, Mr Swan be invited to a future meeting of the Board. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That consideration of the application be continued and that, if required, Mr Swan 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 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.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11.25 am and reconvened at 12 noon.

## **Sederunt**

Councillor Hughes was not in attendance when the meeting reconvened.

### **5 Applications for Exemption from Driver's Duties under Section 165 of the Equality Act 2010 - Personal Appearances**

There were submitted the undernoted applications for exemptions from driver's duties under Section 165 of the Equality Act 2010. The applicants had been asked to appear personally for the first time:-

(a) John Sandells T1796

There was no appearance by or on behalf of Mr Sandells, the applicant, who had previously indicated that he wished his application to be determined by way of written submissions. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for the duration of Mr Sandells' current Taxi Driver's Licence. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the application be granted for the duration of Mr Sandells' current Taxi Driver's Licence.

(b) William Guthrie T0018

Mr Guthrie, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for the duration of Mr Guthrie's current Taxi Driver's Licence. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the application be granted for the duration of Mr Guthrie's current Taxi Driver's Licence.

Sederunt

Councillor Hughes joined the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

(c) Colin Wardrop T1490

Mr Wardrop, the applicant, joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Convener proposed that the application be granted for the duration of Mr Wardrop's current Taxi Driver's Licence. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the application be granted for the duration of Mr Wardrop's current Taxi Driver's Licence.

## 6 **Grant of Private Hire Car Operator's Licence - Personal Appearance**

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

Rasel Mia

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

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

## 7 **Temporary Grant of Private Hire Car Driver's Licence - Personal Appearance**

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

Fraidon Aziz

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

**DECIDED:** That the application be granted.

## **Sederunt**

Councillor Audrey Doig left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12.40 pm and reconvened at 12.50 pm.

### **8 Hearing into Possible Removal from Register of Private Landlords - Personal Appearance**

Under reference to item 8(d) of the Minute of the meeting of this Board held on 17 March 2021, consideration was resumed of the possible removal of the undernoted landlord from the Register of Private Landlords. The landlord had been asked to appear personally for the second time together with the Council's Director of Communities and Housing Services who had submitted a report:-

Amrik Uppal

Mr Uppal, the landlord, joined the meeting by telephone call together with Mr Mitchell, his Solicitor, who joined the meeting by video call, using the audio function, and Mr Hunter, representing the Director of Communities and Housing Services who had submitted a report, who also joined the meeting by video call. After consideration of all matters before the Board, the Board adjourned to allow members to consider the matter. The meeting was reconvened and the Convener proposed that the landlord be removed from the Register of Private Landlords. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:** That the landlord be removed from the Register of Private Landlords.



## Minute of Special Meeting Leadership Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 06 April 2021	14:00	Teams Meeting,

### CHAIR

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

### IN ATTENDANCE

S Black, Chief Executive, A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources, A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development Services, S Marklow, Strategy & Place Manager and L Adamson, Communications & Public Affairs Manager (all Chief Executive's); F Carlin, Head of Housing Services (Communities & Housing Services); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, N Young, Assistant Managing Solicitor, L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager, C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources)

### RECORDING OF MEETING

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

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

### 1 **CALL IN NOTICE - DECISION OF THE COMMUNITIES, HOUSING AND PLANNING BOARD ON 16 MARCH 2021**

Under reference to item 11 of the meeting of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 16 March 2021, there was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a call in notice received by the Head of Corporate Governance, signed by the majority of the members of the Leadership Board, requesting that the decision taken at that meeting in relation to the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan, be called in. The effect of submitting a call in notice was to require that the decision of the Board was not implemented for the reasons set out in the notice.

The report outlined the options available to the Board following consideration of a call-in notice as set out in Standing Order 49(d) of the Council's Procedural Standing Orders, which were to confirm the decision, in which case it would be implemented; refer the matter to the next meeting of the Council for determination, or remit the matter to the originating Board for further consideration.

It was noted that Appendix 3 to the report required to be amended to remove reference to Councillors McCulloch and Montgomery having attended the meeting of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board held on 16 March 2021.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor McGurk, moved that the decision of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board on 16 March 2021 in relation to the report on the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan be not implemented and that it be agreed to remit the matter back to the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board for further consideration.

Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Andy Doig, moved as an amendment that recommendation 2.1(b) of the report be deleted and to insert "Agrees that the Decision of the Communities, Housing, and Planning Policy Board on 16th March 2021 in relation to the report on the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan be implemented.

This Board further believes that due to widespread community concern over the evidence presented to the Reporter, that renders the final Report as being concluded unreasonably, agrees to remit the matter to a full meeting of Renfrewshire Council for resolution due to the controversial nature of the LDP.

Accordingly we, the undersigned, hereby call for a special meeting of Renfrewshire Council to be convened prior to 2nd May 2021."

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Devine and Andy Doig, being the mover and seconder of the amendment, altered the first paragraph of their amendment to "Notes the decision of the Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 16th March 2021 in relation to the report on the Renfrewshire Development Plan."



On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Devine, Andy Doig, Graham, Harte, McCartin, McIntyre and Sheridan.

The following members voted for the motion, Councillors J Cameron, Hughes, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughtan, Nicolson, Paterson and Shaw.

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

**DECIDED:** That the decision of the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board on 16 March 2021 in relation to the report on the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan be not implemented and that it be agreed to remit the matter back to the Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board for further consideration.



## Minute of Special Meeting Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 14 April 2021	14:00	Microsoft TEAMS platform,

**Present:** Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor James Sheridan

### Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

### In Attendance

A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development, L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications, S Marklow, Strategy & Place Manager, K Dalrymple, Development Plans & Housing Strategy Team Leader and C Orr, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); F Carlin, Head of Housing Services (Communities & Housing Services); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, D Pole, End User Technician, N Young, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Litigation & Advice), R Devine and C MacDonald, both Senior Committee Services Officers and K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

### Recording of Meeting

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

### Declarations of Interest

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

## 1 Renfrewshire Local Development Plan

Under reference to Item 1 of the Minute of the Special meeting of the Leadership Board held on 6 April 2021, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (LDP).

The report advised that, in terms of the Council's decision making process, the decision taken at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 16 March 2021 in connection with the LDP had been 'called-in' by the Leadership Board for consideration. A special meeting of the Leadership Board had consequently taken place on 6 April 2021 at which it had been decided to remit the decision regarding the LDP back to this Policy Board for further consideration

The report outlined the process to be followed in order that the Council met its statutory obligations in terms of legislation relating to LDPs. Specifically, it was highlighted that members required to state which of the Reporter's Modifications to the Proposed LDP they agreed with and which, if any, they did not wish to accept. In addition, it was intimated that for any of the Modifications which they did not wish to accept members required to state which of the legislative criteria, which were detailed in paragraph 5.4 of the report, they were relying on to reach this judgement. It was noted that evidence that had not been available to the LDP Reporter could not be introduced at this stage of the process for the purpose of disagreeing with the planning merits of the Examination recommendations and that the deadline for the Council to offer a formal response to the Reporter's recommended Modifications, and to write to Scottish Ministers to advise how they planned to proceed, was 2 May 2021.

A copy of the Examination Report had been issued to all members of the Policy Board prior to the meeting. The report summarised the recommended modifications, which largely related to minor text and graphic changes and the addition of guidance from the New Development Supplementary Guidance to policies within the Plan, contained within the Examination Report. The report stated that the most significant changes recommended were in relation to housing sites and the inclusion of three new policies within the Plan relating to Communications and Digital Infrastructure, Zero and Low Carbon Developments and Developer Contributions. The report provided clarification in respect of the proposed position, in terms of recommended modifications by the Reporter, of the housing sites at Thriplee Road, Bridge of Weir; Elderslie Golf Club; Golf Driving Range, Johnstone; and also a site at West of Burnfoot Road, Lochwinnoch, which, although not subject to a Reporter modification, had been mentioned during discussion at the meeting of this Policy Board held on 16 March 2021. An appendix to the report detailed all of the Reporter's recommended modifications.

The report outlined the process and arrangements which would be made following a decision by this Policy Board in respect of the LDP.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor McNaughtan, moved:

(a) that with respect of the Recommendations of the Board Report, in particular paragraph 2.1 (ii), the Board agree to all the modifications with the exception of the modifications in relation to Issue 11 'Housing Sites in Johnstone and Elderslie', page 218 of the Examination Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan and Issue 15 'Housing Sites in Bridge of Weir', page 278 of the Examination

Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

#### Modification Not Accepted

Modification 1 - Removing the site Golf Driving Range, Johnstone (LDP2057) as depicted under Policy P2 Housing Land Supply on Proposals Map F, as outlined in Appendix 1 - Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Examination Report Recommendations by Issue Number – 29 January 2021 and all other text modifications associated with this site is not accepted.

#### Reason

As set out in Section 19(10) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009, the grounds are that the removal of this previously used site in a sustainable location would be inconsistent with the Development Plan which prioritises the reuse of previously used land before the consideration of greenfield and green belt sites. Furthermore the conclusions of the Reporter to remove this site from the Proposed Plan could not have been reasonably reached based on the evidence presented and considered as part of the Examination.

#### Modification Not Accepted

The modification in relation to Issue 15 'Housing Sites in Bridge of Weir', Page 278 of the Examination Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan. Modification 1 - Adding the site Thriplee Road (LDP2064) as a Policy P2 Additional Housing Site and depict this on Proposals Map B, as depicted under Policy P2 Housing Land Supply on Proposals Map F, as outlined in Appendix 1 - Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Examination Report Recommendations by Issue Number – 29 January 2021 and all other text modifications associated with this site is not accepted.

#### Modification Not Accepted

The modification in relation to Issue 11 'Housing Sites in Johnstone and Elderslie', Page 218 of the Examination Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

Modification 3 - Adding the site Auchenlodment Road, Elderslie (LDP2053) as a Policy P2 Additional Housing Site and depict this on Proposals Map F, as outlined in Appendix 1 - Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Examination Report Recommendations by Issue Number – 29 January 2021 and all other text modifications associated with this site is not accepted.

#### Reason

On the basis of the re-insertion of the Golf Driving Range, Johnstone (LDP2057), as a site which will assist in meeting the Housing Land Requirements throughout the Local Development Plan Period, the site at Thriplee Road, Bridge of Weir (LDP2064) and the site at Auchenlodment Road, Elderslie (LDP2053) are no longer required in order to meet the Development Plan Housing Land Requirements.

As set out in Section 19(10) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009, on the basis of the re-insertion of the

Golf Driving Range, Johnstone (LDP2057) the Reporter could not have reasonably concluded that the site at Thriplee Road (LDP2064) and Auchenlodment Road, Elderslie (LDP2053) be allocated in the Plan.

(b) That with respect of the Recommendations of the Board Report, in particular paragraph 2.1 (iii) The Board authorises the Head of Economy and Development to modify the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan in line with the Reporter's recommendations in the Examination Report subject to the modifications above; and

(c) That with respect of the Recommendations of the Board Report, in particular paragraph 2.1 (iv), Authorise the Head of Economy and Development to notify the Scottish Ministers of the Council's intention to adopt the Local Development Plan, subject to the modifications above which the Board does not accept.

The Convener ruled, in terms of Standing Order 12 (b) that a proposed amendment, moved by Councillor Andy Doig and seconded by Councillor Devine, was incompetent.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Devine, then moved as an amendment that the recommendations, contained within the motion, not be adopted.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Binks, Brown, Andy Doig, Graham, Devine and Sheridan.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Burns, Don, J MacLaren, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McGurk, McNaughtan, Nicolson and Rodden. Six members having voted for the amendment and nine members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) that with regard to the recommendations within the Board report, in particular paragraph 2.1 (ii), the Board agree to all the modifications with the exception of the modifications in relation to Issue 11 'Housing Sites in Johnstone and Elderslie', Page 218 of the Examination Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan and Issue 15 'Housing Sites in Bridge of Weir', Page 278 of the Examination Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

### **Modification Not Accepted**

Modification 1 - Removing the site Golf Driving Range, Johnstone (LDP2057) as depicted under Policy P2 Housing Land Supply on Proposals Map F, as outlined in Appendix 1 - Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Examination Report Recommendations by Issue Number – 29 January 2021 and all other text modifications associated with this site is not accepted.

### **Reason**

As set out in Section 19(10) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009, the grounds are that the removal of this previously used site in a sustainable location would be inconsistent with the Development Plan which prioritises the reuse of previously used land before the consideration of greenfield and green belt sites. Furthermore the conclusions of the Reporter to remove this site from the Proposed Plan could not have been reasonably reached based on the evidence presented and considered as part of the Examination.

### Modification Not Accepted

The modification in relation to Issue 15 'Housing Sites in Bridge of Weir', Page 278 of the Examination Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan. Modification 1 - Adding the site Thriplee Road (LDP2064) as a Policy P2 Additional Housing Site and depict this on Proposals Map B, as depicted under Policy P2 Housing Land Supply on Proposals Map F, as outlined in Appendix 1 - Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Examination Report Recommendations by Issue Number – 29 January 2021 and all other text modifications associated with this site is not accepted.

### Modification Not Accepted

The modification in relation to Issue 11 'Housing Sites in Johnstone and Elderslie', Page 218 of the Examination Report into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

Modification 3 - Adding the site Auchenlodment Road, Elderslie (LDP2053) as a Policy P2 Additional Housing Site and depict this on Proposals Map F, as outlined in Appendix 1 - Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Examination Report Recommendations by Issue Number – 29 January 2021 and all other text modifications associated with this site is not accepted.

### Reason

On the basis of the re-insertion of the Golf Driving Range, Johnstone (LDP2057), as a site which will assist in meeting the Housing Land Requirements throughout the Local Development Plan Period, the site at Thriplee Road, Bridge of Weir (LDP2064) and the site at Auchenlodment Road, Elderslie (LDP2053) are no longer required in order to meet the Development Plan Housing Land Requirements.

As set out in Section 19(10) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009, on the basis of the re-insertion of the Golf Driving Range, Johnstone (LDP2057) the Reporter could not have reasonably concluded that the site at Thriplee Road (LDP2064) and Auchenlodment Road, Elderslie (LDP2053) be allocated in the Plan;

(b) That the Head of Economy & Development be authorised to modify the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan in line with the Reporter's recommendations in the Examination Report subject to the modifications above; and

(c) That the Head of Economy & Development be authorised to notify the Scottish Ministers of the Council's intention to adopt the Local Development Plan, subject to the modifications above which the Board did not accept.





## Minute of Meeting Leadership Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 28 April 2021	13:00	Teams Meeting,

**Present:** Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Jim Harte, 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, Councillor James Sheridan

### Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

### In Attendance

S Black, Chief Executive; M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services; G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; S Quinn, Director of Children's Services; A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications, L Adamson, Communications & Public Affairs Manager, A Armstrong-Walter, Strategic Partnerships & Inequalities Manager, S McMillan, Policy & Regeneration Manager, R Cooper, Economic Development Manager and E Shearer, Economic Regeneration Officer (all Chief Executive's); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, P Murray, Head of ICT, L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer, and I Blair, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources); V Hollows, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Leisure); and S Strachan, Acting Chief Officer and C O'Bryne, Head of Health & Social Care (Paisley) (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership).

### Also attending

C Quinn and C Scott, Commsworld and D Cameron, City Fibre (for item 1 only).

## **Recording of Meeting**

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

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Hughes declared an interest in item 10 of the agenda as she was a member of the Renfrewshire Cultural Recovery and Renewal Fund Review Panel and indicated that she would remain in the meeting.

Councillor McCartin declared an interest in item 10 of the agenda as she was a member of the Renfrewshire Cultural Recovery and Renewal Fund Review Panel and indicated that she would remain in the meeting.

Councillor Hughes declared an interest in item 11 of the agenda as she was the Chair of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited and indicated that she would remain in the meeting.

Councillor McCartin declared an interest in item 11 of the agenda as she was a member of the Board of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited and indicated that she would remain in the meeting.

### **1 Connectivity as a Service (CaaS)**

The Head of ICT gave a presentation on Connectivity as a Service (CaaS) detailing the background to the project; referred to the framework agreement established in 2020 with Commsworld with investment from CityFibre; highlighted that there would be enhanced connectivity at 180 Council buildings, including schools; and that more than 70% of Renfrewshire homes and businesses would be covered by full-fibre broadband. The representatives from Commsworld and CityFibre then outlined the background to both companies; the £40 million investment in Renfrewshire; their involvement in the project; the Council and community benefits of a future-proofed digital infrastructure, including gigabit speeds at 50 times the UK average; and the next steps in the project, including projected completion by 2023.

**DECIDED:** That the presentation be noted.

### **2 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring as at 08 January 2021**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive, Director of Finance & Resources and Chief Finance Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to the projected revenue and capital outturn position as at 31 March 2021 across all services reporting to this Board. For financial year 2020/21 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 underspend of £1.870 million in revenue expenditure and there had been capital budget adjustments totalling £6.866 million which reflected budget carry forward to 2021/22 due to continuing amendments to programme timetables arising as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**DECIDED:**

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

### 3 **Climate Change Sub-committee**

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Climate Change Sub-committee held on 19 April 2021.

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

### 4 **Tackling Poverty Programme**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the proposed 2021/22 Tackling Poverty Programme.

The report intimated that the Council at its budget meeting held on 2 March 2018 agreed an allocation of £5 million over five years to support a new Tackling Poverty Programme. A programme of activity was developed which would sustain key projects that supported people on low incomes with a focus on low-income families with children. The proposed programme detailed in section 4 of the report continued key projects from the programme and it was noted that there continued to be opportunities to review projects to make sure that delivery models were the most effective and to explore opportunities to align more closely to mainstream service provision.

**DECIDED:** That the content of the Tackling Poverty Programme for 2021/22 outlined in section 4 of the report be approved.

### 5 **Funding for Engage Renfrewshire 2021-22**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of funding to Engage Renfrewshire in relation to its role as third sector interface in Renfrewshire to support the capacity and resilience of the voluntary and community sector.

The report intimated that this built on existing funding arrangements and related to the 2021/22 financial year only. A grant support agreement in relation to this funding had been developed, performance against which would be monitored during 2021/22.

**DECIDED:** That grant funding of £360,610 to Engage Renfrewshire be approved to deliver the service outlined within the grant support agreement as detailed within Appendix A to the report.

## 6 **Renfrewshire Economic Profile**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Renfrewshire Economic Profile as at April 2021.

The report intimated that until the start of the Covid-19 pandemic the Board had received six-monthly updates relating to the economic performance of Renfrewshire. However, the need to focus resources on other matters such as the economic recovery plan resulted in the last update being presented to the Board in December 2019. The purpose of the economic profile was to describe and track the local demographic and economic indicators within Renfrewshire. The range of indicators had been extended to include furlough and claimant count statistics, to try to reflect a broader indication of the current health of the Renfrewshire economy and to gauge the impact of the pandemic. The data and analysis presented provided a context and baseline to assess how well Renfrewshire performed in terms of its economic activities over time. Scotland and Glasgow city region had been selected as the most appropriate comparators.

**DECIDED:** That the content of the April 2021 Renfrewshire Economic Profile be noted.

## 7 **Start-up Street**

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to the Council's pilot initiative 'Start-up Street' to better support business start-up and to provide subsidised managed workspace for new and fledgling businesses. The report provided an update on the Start-up Street initiative in Paisley and plans to open additional facilities in Renfrew and Johnstone.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the progress of the Paisley Start-up street facility be noted; and
- (b) That the approach being taken to develop further facilities in Renfrew and Johnstone be approved.

## 8 **Scottish Government 'Regeneration Capital Grant Fund 2020/21': Award of Additional Grant Funding**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and Director of Finance & Resources relative to an award by the Scottish Government of regeneration capital funding of £400,000 in 2020/21 for the Mossedge Centre project being delivered by Linwood Community Development Trust. The report intimated that subsequent to this award, the Scottish Government had confirmed a further £175,000 grant funding for the project in order to provide sufficient funding for its completion. This funding required to be committed and claimed from the Scottish Government in 2020/21 and

the report sought homologation of the Director of Finance & Resources' decision to accept the grant award.

**DECIDED:** That the decision of the Director of Finance & Resources to accept the grant offer of an additional £175,000 regeneration capital grant funding for the Mossedge Centre, Linwood, be homologated.

## 9 Paisley First Funding

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a request from Paisley First to the Council to waive normal administration fees charged for the invoicing and collection of levy payments from local businesses. The report also dealt with the issue of the payment of Business Improvement District (BID) levy payable to Paisley First by the Council during the Covid-19 lockdown period.

The report intimated that Paisley First was a BID which worked on a membership model. Members paid a fixed levy per annum based on the continuation of the BID, which was based on the votes of its members. Paisley First's costs were principally met from this levy. Renfrewshire Council acted as billing and collection agent on behalf of Paisley First and charged £10,000 for this. When the first lockdown took place in March 2020 Paisley First's Board took the decision not to levy their business members for financial year 2020/21. The report proposed that the Council make a voluntary contribution of its 2020/21 levy recognising that this payment would significantly assist Paisley First's financial position and ongoing operational activities.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the waiving of the normal £10,000 administration fee to Paisley First for levy collection for financial year 2020/21 be waived; and
- (b) That it be agreed to provide funding to Paisley First equivalent to the BID levy liable Renfrewshire Council properties in Paisley Town Centre for financial year 2020/21.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Hughes and McCartin having previously declared interests in items 10 and 11 of the agenda remained in the meeting.

## 10 **Future Paisley Renfrewshire Cultural and Creative Recovery Fund**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the development and launch of the Renfrewshire Cultural Recovery and Renewal Fund and the distribution of critical funding to artists, groups and organisations in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The report intimated that all available funding of £200,000 had been allocated to 28 artists and 14 organisations ensuring paid work and stability for Renfrewshire's cultural sector. The report also outlined ongoing support from Renfrewshire Leisure's arts team to previous Cultural, Heritage and Events Fund (CHEF) and Cultural Organisations Development Fund (CODF) recipients.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the breadth and diversity of grant awards approved by the Renfrewshire Cultural Recovery and Renewal Fund review panel and confirmed and distributed by officers between January and March 2021 be noted; and
- (b) That the ongoing support being provided to existing CHEF and CODF grant recipients to help them manage the impact of Covid-19 and lockdown restrictions on organisational stability and funded projects be noted.

**11 Review of Renfrewshire Leisure's Annual Business Plan**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to Renfrewshire Leisure's annual business plan 2021/22. The report intimated that in terms of the Service Agreement, Renfrewshire Leisure is required to submit an annual business plan to the Council which sets out priorities for the year and outlines how it will deliver the services specified in the Service Agreement. The business plan sets out the priorities and main actions that will be undertaken by Renfrewshire Leisure in 2021/22 and also highlights its revised five-year business strategy and strategic objectives.

The report outlined that the Board of Renfrewshire Leisure, in preparing the 2020/21 financial accounts, would require to make disclosures of the impact of Covid-19 on the organisation and the scale of earned income losses on cash generating activities. The external auditor would seek appropriate assurances over the financial going concern of the Trust and in order to meet this requirement, a letter of support would require to be provided by the Council, providing assurance that over the course of 2021/22 Renfrewshire Leisure would be financially supported by the Council to offset the loss of earned income due to Covid-19 disruption allowing the 2020/21 accounts to be compiled on a going concern basis.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That Renfrewshire Leisure's annual Business Plan for 2021/22 which meets the terms of the Service Agreement be agreed;
- (b) That the monitoring arrangements in place by the Head of Policy & Commissioning (the Renfrewshire Leisure Monitoring Officer) to undertake quarterly performance monitoring meetings with Renfrewshire Leisure and provide six-monthly progress reports to the Leadership Board be noted;
- (c) That the annual Business Plan for 2021/22 as appended to the report be noted; and
- (d) That it be agreed, as outlined in section 6 of the report, a letter of financial support be provided to Renfrewshire Leisure from the Council as part of providing the necessary level of assurance to external audit and as part of the closure of Renfrewshire Leisure's 2020/21 accounts.



## Minute of Meeting

### Climate Change Sub-Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 19 April 2021	10:00	Teams Meeting,

**Present:** Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Eileen McCartin, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor John Shaw

### Chair

Councillor Iain Nicolson, Chair, presided.

### In Attendance

L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, A Morrison, Head of Economy and Development, P Moss, Strategy, Policy and Insight Manager, S Edwards, Placemaking Officer, R Robertson, Community Links Team Manager and G Crawford, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); G Hutton, Head of Operations & Infrastructure and L Rennie, Operations Manager (both Environment and Infrastructure); F Carlin, Head of Housing, (Communities and Housing Services); J Lynch, Head of Property Services, D Pole, End User Technician, A McNaughton, Senior Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

### Apologies

Councillor Marie McGurk

### Declarations of Interest

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

### Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chair intimated that this meeting of the Sub-committee would be recorded and that the recording would be available to watch on the Council's website.



## Climate Emergency – Update on Strategic Responses

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive which provided an update on the work undertaken to develop a strategic programme of work, which demonstrated how all businesses, communities and residents could come together to achieve the ambition of net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. The initial proposals developed by services and funded from the Climate Change Action Fund had largely been identified to support feasibility studies and testing of changes, which allowed the Council to lever in potential significant levels of external funding in the future. There was a particular focus on the development of an Adaptation Plan for Renfrewshire which would set out how Partner organisations would work together to achieve shared ambitions in relation to climate change. A draft outline structure of the Adaptation Plan was attached as Appendix 1 to the report and built on that used within the high-level climate action plan approved at the meeting of the Council held on 27 February 2020.

Key dates for the development of the Adaptation Plan were detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, together with the key priorities which would be progressed over the course of the next three month period.

The Adaptation Plan, which would be developed in full consultation with local people, communities, partners and businesses, would help organisations form the actions needed to manage or reduce their contribution to the global climate emergency, within a strong local context, demonstrating an understanding of the risks and opportunities. The plan would help to prepare for and protect against the impacts of the climate crisis such as flooding, adverse weather conditions and food insecurity.

The proposed structure of Renfrewshire Adaptation Plan detailed in Appendix 1 was summarised into a number of categories: Strategic Context, Strategic Framework, Scope of the Plan, Priorities (Place, Energy, Waste, Transport, Engagement and Governance and Innovation), Monitoring, Measurement and Reporting and Glossary of Terms. Under each priority, there would be an opening statement, outlining the vision for Renfrewshire in relation to the theme, the opportunities and current position as it was understood. There would then be key activities within each category, developed through the engagement and consultation programme. Some of the activities would be actions for Renfrewshire Council, already highlighted through previous reports to Council, but some would be broader, reflecting the wider scope of the Adaptation Plan and would require stakeholders' agreement. These priorities would be obtained through listening events, grouping discussion around each of these themes in order to understand local views, opportunities and challenges.

The Monitoring, Measurement and Reporting category was critical to the successful implementation and linked back to the governance, this section would outline plans for how success was monitored and measured, and how suitable targets and milestones would be identified and reported to stakeholders.

Initially it was intended that the Plan would relate specifically to the activities of Renfrewshire Council, this would now be widened out to include the actions required across Renfrewshire and its communities. Additional engagement with local businesses would also be undertaken in close partnership with Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce prior to finalisation during the second half of 2021. It was emphasised that the Plan was accessible to all stakeholders and set out the key steps

which required to be taken collectively across Renfrewshire to achieve shared climate aspirations and would be linked to local COVID-19 economy recovery plans.

The report advised that the Renfrewshire Adaptation Plan would be informed by both the Scottish Government and Glasgow City Region Plans but would remain a principal focus on

what needed to happen in Renfrewshire to progress climate change aspirations locally.

The Glasgow City Region Adaptation Plan had been developed through Climate Ready Clyde which comprised key officers from member organisations, including the Glasgow City Region local authorities, the National Health Service, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, SGN, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Transport Scotland, the Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde and the Scottish Government and was managed and delivered by Sniffer, the sustainability charity, who prepared the Adaptation Plan. The draft Plan highlighted 11 key interventions - reshape governance mechanisms; develop ability of all sectors to adapt; financing adaptation; enabling community participation; embedding evaluation and learning into adaptation action; adapting the Clyde Corridor for the twenty-second century; early warning preparedness for floods and heatwaves; ensure homes, offices, buildings and infrastructure are climate resilient; deliver nature-based solutions for resilient places; establish the region as a research and knowledge hub; and transitioning to a climate-resilient economy.

The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the pace at which the climate emergency response had been progressed was detailed in the report. A work programme had been developed to pull together all key strands of the climate emergency response within the organisation and with partners, and regular updates would be provided to the Climate Change Sub-committee on the progress achieved.

The report highlighted the key priorities over the next three months as: establishment of Partnership Forum; recruitment of Renfrewshire Citizen's Climate Forum members; finalisation of Business Audit proposal with Chamber of Commerce; development of further Climate Change Action Fund proposals and exploration of potential to engage academic partner to support the Council to develop a detailed carbon budget which would allow more detailed milestones and targets to be set within the draft adaptation strategy.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the progress achieved to date in terms of the strategic response to the climate emergency be noted;
- (b) That the proposed approach, timetable and outline structure for Renfrewshire's Adaptation Plan be noted; and
- (c) That the key priorities for progression over the course of the next three months as set out in the report be agreed.

## **Climate Emergency – Policy Update**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive which provided an overview of the key policy updates at a national level since January 2021, the areas covered were: recent legislation; the Scottish Government's plans, strategies and consultations; the Scottish Government's budget and recently announced funding; the Edinburgh Declaration and plans for 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26).

The Heat Networks (Scotland) Bill had been passed by the Scottish Parliament in February 2021, and created a new licencing system to improve standards, new rights for heat network developers to level the playing field and encourage growth and investment and a new consent system to ensure new networks were developed in areas where there would be most benefit and were tailored to local needs. The development of heat networks was further supported by the publication of the Scottish Government's Heat in Buildings Strategy, published in February 2021, which outlined actions needed to transform Scotland's domestic and non-domestic building stock to use low and zero emissions heating systems.

In 2018, the Scottish Government published their Climate Change Plan, outlining action to meet Scotland's climate targets. In December 2020, this Plan was updated to reflect the new targets within the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 and the challenges and opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, aligning activity with a green recovery. It was also updated based on progress developing the Green New Deal; following advice and contributions from a range of advisory groups; and in the run up to COP26 in Glasgow. The Plan focused on: electricity; buildings; transport; industry; waste and the circular economy; land use, land use change and forestry; agriculture; and negative emissions technologies – and mapped out key milestones to 2032.

The Scottish Government had consulted on their draft public engagement strategy 'Net-Zero Nation' to ensure that public engagement was as effective and inclusive as possible, the deadline for submission closed on 31 March 2021. The strategy was underpinned by three strategic objectives:- that people were aware of the action that the Scottish Government had taken and how it related to their lives; that people actively participated in shaping the direction of travel in relation to adaptation and mitigation of climate change; and that people take action on climate change, and that this is normalised and encouraged across Scotland. Scotland's Climate Assembly would publish a report with detailed recommendations in May 2021 following the election of a new Scottish Parliament.

The Just Transition Commission had published its recommendations on 23 March 2021 and outlined four key themes with 24 recommendation grouped under each of these. The recommendations in relation to developing green skills; utilising the power of public sector supply chains and public sector pension funds; green participatory budgeting; for local authorities along with the Scottish Government and developers to commit to creating low carbon-communities, were highlighted as being most relevant for local government.

The report advised that the procurement activity of the public sector had a critically important role in supporting Scotland in meeting its climate goals. Following a presentation to the meeting of this Sub-committee by the Council's Strategic Commercial and Procurement Manager on 9 December, 2020 there had been further progress in this area with the cross-sector Climate and Procurement Forum working with Scottish Ministers to develop a policy note and Ministers writing to public sector leaders, including all Council Chief Executives, on 18 March 2021 outlining key messages to further inform and advance public bodies' approach to tackling the

climate emergency through procurement.

Information was provided on the Scottish Government's 2021/22 budget together with details of budget allocated to Low Carbon Fund, Green Jobs Fund, Heat in Buildings, Forestry, Zero-emission Buses, Active Travel and Recycling Improvement Fund. Details of funding in relation to COP26 was also provided.

The report provided details of The Edinburgh Declaration which was an international agreement to ensure action was taken at all levels to protect biodiversity and had been led and supported by the Scottish Government. The Declaration was a statement of intent agreed between subnational, regional and local governments across the world calling on the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) to take bold action to halt biodiversity loss. CoSLA had proposed that they would be willing to formally commit to the Declaration on behalf of all 32 Councils - this would need endorsement by CoSLA Leaders before May 2021.

**DECIDED:** That the policy update in relation to the climate emergency be noted.

## **Growing Grounds Initiatives**

A presentation was made by the Placemaking Officer, Chief Executive's, which highlighted the relevance of community growing groups on Climate Change. Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership recognised the benefits of these types of opportunities - some of which had been ongoing during the COVID-19 pandemic and some of which had not progressed due to the restrictions in place. The presentation provided details of the number of growing ground forums which operated in Renfrewshire and advised that since the first COVID-19 lockdown started on 23 March 2020, plot waiting lists across Renfrewshire had more than doubled, to just over 100 people.

The benefits of these initiatives was highlighted and included: improved access to fresh fruit and vegetables, helping the environment, local food production, reduced food miles, improvement in mental health, composting of green waste, providing havens for wildlife and improvement in mental health wellbeing.

Renfrewshire Growing Grounds Forum offered key advice and support to existing groups and had an opportunity to support the development of new projects, providing guidance on a number of subjects including – supporting Council services, finding and securing spare land for conversion to community growing facilities and access to technical skills required for site design.

**DECIDED:** That the presentation be noted.