

Minute of Meeting North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 16 December 2016	10:45	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

PRESENT

Councillors Robertson (Argyll & Bute Council); O'Donnell (East Dunbartonshire Council); Lafferty (East Renfrewshire Council); Williams (Renfrewshire Council) and Casey (West Dunbartonshire Council).

CHAIR

Councillor Williams, Convener, presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

J Hunter, Chief Officer, W Kennedy, Planning Officer, V Quinn, Personal Assistant and F Cameron, Training Officer (all North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority); A Howard (Inverclyde Council); L Gaff and A O'Donnell (both East Renfrewshire Council); P Macleod, D Hawthorn, G McLachlan, L Mullin and E Currie (all Renfrewshire Council); N Firth (West Dunbartonshire Council) and A Haahr (Audit Scotland).

PARTNERS

F McKinnon and S Campbell (SACRO); D Abernethy (HMP Low Moss); C Winter, K Abercrombie and S Harkins (all Turning Point Scotland).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

K McCluskey, Chief Executive (Community Justice Scotland) and A Stewart (Scottish Government).

APOLOGY

Councillor McIlwee (Inverclyde Council).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

1 NOTE OF INQUORATE MEETING

There was submitted the note of the inquorate meeting of the Authority held on 9 September 2016.

DECIDED: That the note of the inquorate meeting be noted.

2 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

There was submitted a joint revenue budget monitoring report by the Treasurer and the Chief Officer in respect of the Authority. The report intimated that expenditure on core services was anticipated to be £92,129 over budget and expenditure on non-core services was anticipated to be £2,729 under budget, which resulted in an anticipated £89,400 net overspend for the Authority.

Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshire Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership was projecting an overspend of £41,922; East Renfrewshire Council was projecting an overspend of £48,275; Inverclyde Council was projecting a break-even position and Renfrewshire Council was projecting an underspend of £797. Any over-spend at the year-end was required to be met by the relevant local authority.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 ADMINISTRATION GRANT REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

There was submitted a joint administration grant revenue budget monitoring report by the Treasurer and the Chief Officer in respect of the Authority. The report intimated that expenditure against the administration grant was currently projected to result in a break-even position. Details of the projected expenditure were attached to the report.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4 AUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015/16

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Authority held on 10 June 2016 there was submitted a joint report by the Treasurer and Chief Officer relative to the audited annual accounts for the Authority 2015/16. The report intimated that the audit certificate issued by Audit Scotland provided an unqualified opinion that the annual accounts presented a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2016, in accordance with the accounting policies detailed in the accounts. A report on the 2015/2016 audit by Audit Scotland was also attached to the report and indicated that there were no matters arising from the audit which required reporting to members.

DECIDED:

(a) That the audited accounts be approved and the report by Audit Scotland be noted;

and

(b) That it be noted that, as the North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority would close on 31 March 2017, the financial responsibility would transfer from the Chief Officer to the Director of Finance & Resources, Renfrewshire Council, with effect from 1 April 2017.

5 FINAL NORTH STRATHCLYDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY PROGRESS REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer relative to the up-to-date position in relation to the Authority's financial position; assets; accommodation; minor contracts and issues; HR issues; future meetings of the Authority, and Community Justice Scotland.

DECIDED:

(a) That the report be noted;

(b) That the Chief Officer, in consultation with the Convener, assess whether the meeting of the Authority scheduled to be held on 17 March 2017 required to take place; and

(c) That prior to the disestablishment of the Authority, the Chief Officer, in consultation with the Convener, provide a written assurance to all members of the Authority that all matters relating to the closure were in order.

6 NORTH STRATHCLYDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer relative to the North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority Annual Report for 2016/17. The report intimated that the Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005 stated that Community Justice Authority (CJA) annual reports should be submitted as soon as practical after the end of each financial year. The Scottish Government had set a deadline of 31 January 2017 for submission of the final annual report.

Members heard presentations relative to the 'Up to You' project operating in East Renfrewshire; the Turnaround community and residential services; the SACRO Bail Supervision Programme; the HMP Low Moss PSP with Turning Point Scotland and the prison based social work team in HMP Greenock.

DECIDED:

(a) That the report be noted;

(b) That the Annual Report 2016/17 be approved and submitted to the Scottish Government by the deadline date of 31 January 2017; and

(c) That the presentations be noted.

7 COMMUNITY JUSTICE SCOTLAND

Karyn McCluskey, Chief Executive of Community Justice Scotland gave a presentation to members on the work being taken forward since her appointment in and the discussions currently taking place with partners.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

DECIDED: That the Chief Officer, in consultation with the Convener, assess whether the meeting of the Authority scheduled to be held on 17 March 2017 required to take place and that members be advised accordingly.

VALEDICTORY

Councillor Williams thanked members of the Authority and the staff of the Authority for their contribution to the work of the Authority and for their assistance to him during his period as Convener.

Jim Hunter, Chief Officer, thanked the Convener, members of the Authority and the staff of the Authority for their assistance to him during his period as Chief Officer.

On behalf of the Authority, Peter Macleod paid tribute to the Chief Officer and staff of the Authority and wished them well for the future.