

Minute of Meeting Leadership Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 01 December 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

Chair

Councillor Paterson, Depute Convener, advised that he was assuming the Chair as Councillor Nicolson, Convener, was having technical difficulties in joining the meeting. Councillor Paterson indicated that he would remain in the chair should Councillor Nicolson manage to join the meeting, as he would be joining by telephone.

In Attendance

A Russell, Chief Executive; M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services; A MacArthur, Interim 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, Programme Director - City Deal & Infrastructure and L Adamson, Communications & Public Affairs Manager (all Chief Executive's); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager, L Belshaw and D Low, Democratic Services Managers, E Gray and C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officers, J Barron, Assistant Committee Services Officer and D Pole, End User Technician (all Finance & Resources); C Lavery, Interim Chief Officer and F Burns, Head of Strategic Planning & Health Improvement (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership); and V Hollows, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Leisure).

Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Depute Convener intimated that this meeting of the Board would be webcast live on the Council's website.

Apology

Councillor McCartin for lateness.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hughes declared an interest in items 1,11, 12, 13, 14 of the agenda as she was the Chair of the Board of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. She intimated that she would remain in the meeting and take part in any discussion or voting thereon

Councillor Hughes declared an interest in item 11 of the agenda as a member of the Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership Joint Committee. She indicated that it was her intention to remain in the meeting.

Declaration of Interest

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

1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring as at 17 September 2021

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive, Interim Director of Finance & Resources and Chief Finance Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to the projected revenue and capital outturn position as at 17 September 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 overspend of £0.930 million in revenue expenditure and that since the last report to the meeting of this Board held on 15 September 2021 there had been capital budget adjustments totalling £4.402 million.

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.

2 **Climate Change Sub-committee**

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Climate Change Sub-committee held on 17 November 2021.

It was intimated that the spelling of Councillor Graham's name in the apologies section of the Minute required to be corrected.

DECIDED: That the spelling of Councillor Graham's name in the apologies section of the Minute be corrected and that otherwise the Minute, as appended hereto, be approved.

3 **Climate Change Update**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to an update on the work programme considered and agreed by the Climate Change Sub-committee (the Sub-committee), specifically highlighting work being undertaken to meet the target of achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

The report outlined the areas considered by the Sub-committee at its meeting held on 17 November 2021 and provided updates in relation to the recent climate survey; the Renfrewshire Climate Panel; Renfrewshire's plan for net zero; the Community Climate Fund grant scheme; the National Climate Resilience Summit Ambition statement; key priority areas; and the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting 2020/21.

DECIDED:

(a) That the progress achieved in relation to the Council's response to the climate emergency be noted;

(b) That the proposals for progressing a pilot Community Climate Fund as set out in section 4 and Appendix 1 to the report be agreed and that it be agreed to allocate £50,000 of the Climate Action Change fund for this purpose;

(c) That it be agreed to endorse the National Climate Resilience Summit Ambition Statement as outlined in section 5 of the report; and

(d) That the submission to the Scottish Government of the Public Sector Climate Change Duties Report 2020/21 at Appendix 2 be approved.

4 **Covid-19 - Recovery and Response**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Scottish Government's Covid recovery strategy and the Covid response in Renfrewshire.

The report intimated that the impact of the pandemic had been profound across Renfrewshire. As an organisation, the Council had also experienced significant challenges, delivering new services to support residents and businesses through the pandemic and adapting the way in which core Council services had been provided over the period in line with national guidance and legislation.

It was noted that the Council at its meeting held on 17 December 2020 had considered a suite of reports which outlined the initial response of the Council and its partners to the pandemic and specific plans to support recovery were approved, focussing on social renewal, economic recovery and the Council's financial sustainability.

The report referred to Covid recovery strategies which had been published at a national level by the Scottish Government in relation to key sectors such as education and health and social care and to the Covid recovery strategy - "For a Fairer Future" published in October 2021 which had a key focus on tackling widening inequalities with local government being a key partner in delivering this programme of work.

The report set out how the Council's social renewal and economic recovery plans aligned to the priorities identified by the Scottish Government.

DECIDED:

(a) That the priorities outlined within the Scottish Government's Covid recovery strategy – Fairer for All, which aligned closely to local priorities for recovery be noted; and

(b) That the ongoing focus of the Council and its partners on the Covid response in Renfrewshire, which remained a significant focus for the Council in terms of resource and capacity be noted.

Sederunt

Councillor McCartin joined the meeting during consideration of the following item.

5 Economic Recovery Plan Update and Renfrewshire Economic Profile (December 2021)

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to targets set out in the Renfrewshire Economic Recovery Plan and the 7th edition of the Renfrewshire Economic Profile.

The report intimated that the purpose of the Economic Recovery Plan update was to provide details of progress made against priority actions agreed by Council at its meeting held on 17 December 2020. The purpose of the economic profile was to describe and track local demographics and economic indicators for Renfrewshire on a six-monthly basis. The data and analysis presented provided a context and a baseline to assess how well the Renfrewshire economy had performed over time.

The report referred to the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on the UK, Scottish and Renfrewshire economies and to the Economic Recovery Plan for Renfrewshire for the period December 2020/22 which had been developed in conjunction with the Renfrewshire Economic Leadership Panel. From the Plan's overarching themes, 14 priority actions had been developed and progress against these priorities and next steps were detailed in the report.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the content of the Economic Recovery Plan update be noted; and
- (b) That the content of the December 2021 Renfrewshire Economic Profile be noted.

6 Social Renewal Plan Update

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to the Social Renewal Plan which had been approved by Council in March 2021 to set out the high-level actions which the Council and its partners would take moving forward from the pandemic, with a focus on tackling inequality and improving well-being.

The report intimated that since the last update report to this Board at its meeting held on 16 June 2021, officers continued to work with partners to progress all actions with a specific focus on income, poverty and financial insecurity and details of progress made were highlighted in the report, including additional information on the wider tackling poverty programme and its existing range of activities.

The report noted that during the pandemic and through the community impact assessment undertaken in 2020, people living across communities continued to have very complex needs and the holistic support model would be piloted in early 2022 would allow partners to support recovery in a person-centred way.

The report highlighted that moving forward into 2022, a key priority for the Council and its partners would be in relation to supporting community resilience and working with local communities to identify priorities and local action plans in response to the pandemic and that this would be progressed through the Local Partnerships.

The Head of Policy & Commissioning confirmed that the Council continued to work closely with the food bank and that work was planned early in the new year with the local Poverty Alliance to explore options to support low income households and that a further report would be submitted to the Board on this.

Councillor Paterson, seconded by Councillor Hughes, moved

- (a) That the work that had been undertaken to progress the Social Renewal Plan in Renfrewshire be noted;
- (b) That the allocation of £8,940 from the Community Food Fund, to support the initiatives outlined in Section 4 of the report be approved;
- (c) That the allocation of £80,000 to Renfrewshire Leisure to co-ordinate a Digital Champions programme be approved, with a further £20,000 allocated to support further research and evaluation in digital exclusion in partnership with SCVO and a community device refurbishment initiative. This would be drawn from the £100,000 of social renewal funding agreed by Leadership Board in June 2021 to support digital exclusion;
- (d) That the allocation of £10,000 from Tackling Poverty funding to provide support to Renfrewshire Foodbank to respond to additional demand over Winter 2021 and into 2022 be approved and £20,000 be approved to support community youth engagement over this period by Youth Interventions;

(e) That the allocation of £200,000 to support the delivery of a holistic support service to local people impacted by drug and alcohol use be approved from the £2 million funding previously allocated by Council to respond to the findings of Renfrewshire's Alcohol and Drugs Commission;

(f) That the Scottish Government funding that had been allocated directly to the third and community sector in Renfrewshire to support the COVID response and recovery and mental health and wellbeing be noted;

(g) That the additional funding which was likely to be allocated to the Council from the Scottish Government to support low income households over the Winter be noted; and

(h) That the Chief Executive be authorised to develop and implement local arrangements to allocate this funding expediently, in consultation with the Council Leader, with an update to be provided to the Leadership Board in February 2022.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Devine, moved as an amendment that in addition this Board commends the work of the Renfrewshire Drug and Alcohol Commission, in particular, its positive focus on holistic and preventative approaches from a health and wellbeing perspective.

This Board notes the same preventative approach from many GP Practices and therefore asks Renfrewshire Leisure to evaluate and consider the introduction of subsidised membership of RLL for those on benefits, and to bring a report back to a future Leadership Board.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Devine, Andy Doig, Harte, Graham and McIntyre.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors J Cameron, Hughes, McCartin, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughtan, Nicolson, Paterson and Shaw.

5 members having voted for the amendment and 9 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED:

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

(b) That the allocation of £8,940 from the Community Food Fund, to support the initiatives outlined in Section 4 of the report be approved;

(c) That the allocation of £80,000 to Renfrewshire Leisure to co-ordinate a Digital Champions programme be approved, with a further £20,000 allocated to support further research and evaluation in digital exclusion in partnership with SCVO and a community device refurbishment initiative. This would be drawn from the £100,000 of social renewal funding agreed by Leadership Board in June 2021 to support digital exclusion;

(d) That the allocation of £10,000 from Tackling Poverty funding to provide support to Renfrewshire Foodbank to respond to additional demand over Winter 2021 and into 2022 be approved and £20,000 be approved to support community youth engagement over this period by Youth Interventions;

(e) That the allocation of £200,000 to support the delivery of a holistic support service to local people impacted by drug and alcohol use be approved from the £2 million funding previously allocated by Council to respond to the findings of Renfrewshire's Alcohol and Drugs Commission;

(f) That the Scottish Government funding that had been allocated directly to the third and community sector in Renfrewshire to support the COVID response and recovery and mental health and wellbeing be noted;

(g) That the additional funding which was likely to be allocated to the Council from the Scottish Government to support low income households over the winter be noted; and

(h) That the Chief Executive be authorised to develop and implement local arrangements to allocate this funding expediently, in consultation with the Council Leader, with an update to be provided to the Leadership Board in February 2022.

7 Council Plan - Six-month Progress Update

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Council plan six-month progress update.

The report intimated that in September 2017 the Council approved new Council and Community Plans for Renfrewshire covering the period 2017 to 2022. The Council Plan set out the direction of the Council through five strategic outcomes - our economy, resilient communities, tackling inequality, creating a sustainable Renfrewshire and working together. Service Plans for each Council service sat under this framework and described in more detail how the priorities under each of these outcomes would be achieved, supplemented by detailed action plans and performance scorecards.

The report referred to the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on Renfrewshire's communities, residents and businesses and the work which had been done to continue to deliver vital frontline services. It was noted that at appropriate points during the pandemic, services worked to restart impacted services in line with Scottish Government guidance and with local partners to develop recovery plans for Renfrewshire. However, despite the challenges of the pandemic, progress had been made against the five Council Plan priorities and this was detailed in the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the progress achieved against the strategic outcomes since the last update to Leadership Board in June 2021, as outlined in Appendix 1 be noted; and

(b) That it be agreed that the next progress report for the Council Plan would be in summer 2022, marking the end of this Council Plan's term and acting as a final outturn report on progress.

8 Strategic Partnership Agreement - Active Communities

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Strategic Partnership Agreement, which had been agreed with Active Communities, and approved by Leadership Board in February 2020.

The report intimated that the Agreement required to be updated to reflect the funding Active Communities had received from the Community Empowerment Fund, Town Centre Regeneration funding and Regeneration Capital Grant Funding to support the development of a new community-led health and wellbeing hub in Johnstone as well as new and emerging areas of work.

The report proposed that going forward, any proposed minor amendments to the Strategic Partnership Agreement be reviewed and agreed by the Head of Policy & Commissioning in consultation with the Council Leader.

DECIDED:

(a) That the updated Strategic Partnership Agreement in relation to Active Communities be approved; and

(b) That authority be delegated to the Head of Policy & Commissioning to review and update the Strategic Partnership Agreement as required, in consultation with the Council Leader.

9 Levelling Up Fund Announcement

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the success of the bid to the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund which would be used to deliver the AMIDS South project.

The report intimated that the submission of a Transport bid to the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund to finance the AMIDS South Project, including the requirement to provide a local authority contribution had been approved by the Leadership Board at its meeting held on 16 June 2021. The Council had now been notified of the success of this bid, resulting in an award of £38.7million from the UK Government Levelling Up Fund which represented 90% of the total project cost. The 10% match-funding contribution of up to £4.3 million would be funded from prudential borrowing supplemented from other funding sources where possible and this would be built into future long-term financial planning to ensure the financial commitment arising from the prudential borrowing was appropriately planned for and accommodated.

It was noted that in relation to future rounds of the Levelling Up Fund that suggestions from councillors would be welcomed.

DECIDED: That the successful funding award of £38.7 million from the Levelling Up Fund for the AMIDS South Project, representing 90% of the total project costs and the scope as outlined in this report be noted.

10 **The Making of Ferguslie - Framework Report and Place Plan**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the completion of the 'Making of Ferguslie Park' project and the preparation of a plan, prepared in partnership with the local community, that guided a future place vision for the neighbourhood. A link to the report and plan was included in the report.

The report intimated that the Making of Ferguslie was a high-level framework which captured the aspirations of local people and their priorities while being flexible in response to changing circumstances, funding opportunities and available support. It set a long-term vision for the area with a range of actions to reimagine underused land, enhance greenspaces, encourage creativity and support existing community initiatives. It served as a guide for collaborative action by local residents, community groups and stakeholders, supported by the Council and Community Planning Partners, to deliver their aspirations for Ferguslie Park over the next five to ten years.

The report highlighted the five principles which underpinned Ferguslie Park vision as improving connectivity; enhancing the environment; cultivating a 'Park' identity; supporting community empowerment; embracing cultures; and heritage and social values. The principles were supported by 12 project ideas which were detailed in the report.

The report set out potential funding opportunities which would help deliver the plan over the coming years. The Making of Ferguslie provided a framework for partnership initiatives which supported community-led delivery of actions and vision for the neighbourhood. The Council and partners would work jointly with the local community to explore mechanisms and external resources which supported delivery of the plan

DECIDED:

- (a) That 'The Making of Ferguslie' framework report and place plan be approved;
- (b) That the Head of Economy & Development be authorised to support the local community within Ferguslie Park to realise the aspirations within the framework, including those early interventions for action set out in Section 6.2 of the report; and
- (c) That it be noted that the progress on delivery of the framework would be reported to the Board as appropriate.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hughes having previously declared an interest in the following items 11, 12, 13 and 14 remained in the meeting.

11 **Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board- Development of Strategic Plan**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the work being undertaken by Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership to develop a new Strategic Plan (Plan) on behalf of the Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board.

The report intimated that under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, integration bodies were required to review and produce a new Plan every three years and that this should involve a statutory consultation process. In Renfrewshire the current three-year Plan would come to an end in March 2022 and the report advised that work had now commenced to develop a new Plan in consultation with key stakeholders and a public consultation exercise which would run from 1 December 2021 to 31 March 2022. The Council's response to the consultation would be prepared for consideration by this Board at its meeting to be held on 23 February 2022.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the development of a draft Strategic Plan for Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board and the associated consultation process which had commenced be noted; and
- (b) That it be noted that a Council response to the Strategic Plan consultation would be prepared and submitted to the Leadership Board for approval in February 2022.

12 Future Paisley Update

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to progress on delivery of the Future Paisley programme, following the decision of this Board at its meeting on 2 December 2020 that the cultural regeneration team and programme of work under Future Paisley would be led by the Head of Marketing & Communications with the cultural lead sitting with the Chief Executive of Renfrewshire Leisure.

The report provided an update on priority areas of work undertaken during 2021 and reflected the demands of a post-pandemic context and Renfrewshire's social and economic recovery. This included the revision of Future Paisley's step changes and strategic outcomes, administration of crisis funding for Renfrewshire's cultural sector, new project development and the reprofiling to March 2024 as agreed by the Future Paisley Partnership Board in June 2021.

It was proposed that instead of there being an annual report to this Board each December that the reports be six-monthly. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the priority areas of work, including the revision of Future Paisley step changes and programme progress at Appendix 1 of the report be noted; and
- (b) That it be agreed that instead of there being an annual report to this Board each December that the reports be six-monthly.

13 Six Monthly Monitoring Report – Renfrewshire Leisure Limited

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to Renfrewshire Leisure Limited's (RL) six-monthly monitoring report.

The report intimated that this Board at its meeting held on 28 April 2021 had approved RL's annual business plan priorities and the arrangements in place to monitor the delivery of the plan, including six-monthly progress reports to this Board.

The report provided an update on the performance of RL, a summary of the environment in which the organisation operated within and highlighted key achievements in the previous six months. The report also contained information in relation to national performance indicator data for cultural and leisure services and separated out digital engagement to show how the pandemic context currently changed the balance of how people were interacting with RL service areas.

DECIDED: That the progress being made by Renfrewshire Leisure in the delivery of the Business Plan for 2021/22 and the change in operating context for performance statistics be noted.

14 **The Regeneration of Paisley Town Centre – Paisley Museum Project**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Paisley Heritage Asset Strategy, the signature project of which was the redevelopment of Paisley Museum to create an international quality visitor destination. It was noted that the Council had approved the finalised project proposal, scope and funding package in 2017. The report provided a progress update on the outcome of Historic Environment Scotland's (HES) funding decision which formed part of the approved funding strategy.

The report intimated that HES grant terms and conditions required the legal contract accepting the grant to be signed by 15 November 2021 and that this had been done. Acceptance of the grant meant that the Council would now be permitted to make grant claims retrospectively against the construction work which began on 21 June 2021 and was scheduled for completion on 30 December 2022.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that the Council's application to HES for a grant towards Paisley Museum Re-Imagined Project was successful and an award of up to £1,498,726 was made on 15 September 2021;

(b) That it be noted that HES grant terms and conditions required the legal contract accepting the grant to be signed by 15 November 2021 to be eligible, and as such the acceptance of the grant was signed on 15 November 2021;

(c) That the acceptance of the grant award be homologated; and

(d) That it be noted that the acceptance of the grant meant that the Council would now be permitted to make grant claims retrospectively against the construction work which began on 21 June 2021 and was scheduled for completion on 30 December 2022.

15 **Conferences/Seminars**

There was submitted a report by the Acting Director of Finance & Resources relative to attendance at an online managing conflict workshop, hosted by the Local Government Information Unit at a cost of £75 per person and which included a personal safety programme which focussed on tips and techniques for councillors to improve their personal safety.

DECIDED: That attendance at this event be made available to all councillors.