

## Notice of Meeting and Agenda Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 28 September 2017	09:30	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

KENNETH GRAHAM  
Head of Corporate Governance

### Membership

Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor: Councillor Tom Begg: Councillor Derek Bibby: Councillor Bill Binks: Councillor Bill Brown: Councillor Stephen Burns: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron: Councillor Michelle Campbell: Councillor Carolann Davidson: Councillor Eddie Devine: Councillor 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 Paul Mack: Councillor Alistair Mackay: Councillor James MacLaren: Councillor Kenny MacLaren: Councillor Mags MacLaren: Councillor Eileen McCartin: Councillor Colin McCulloch: Councillor Marie McGurk: Councillor John McIntyre: Councillor John McNaughtan: Councillor Kevin Montgomery: Councillor Will Mylet: Councillor Emma Rodden: Councillor Jim Sharkey: Councillor John Shaw: Councillor James Sheridan: Councillor Andy Steel: Councillor Jane Strang:

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

### Further Information

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

A copy of the agenda and reports for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley and online at [www.renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/CouncilandBoards.aspx](http://www.renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/CouncilandBoards.aspx)

For further information, please either email [democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk) or telephone 0141 618 7112.

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## Items of business

### Apologies

Apologies from members.

### Declarations of Interest

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

## 1 Minutes of Council, Boards and Panels

Minutes attached separately:

Council, 29 June 2017, pages 209-224

Placing Requests and Exclusions Appeals Panel, 30 June 2017, pages 225-226

Paisley North Local Area Committee, 17 August 2017, pages 227-230

Cross Party Sounding Board, 22 August 2017, pages 231-234

Renfrew and Gallowhill Local Area Committee, 22 August 2017, pages 235-238

Regulatory Functions Board, 23 August 2017, pages 239-246

Education and Children Services Policy Board, 24 August 2017, pages 247-250

Johnstone and the Villages Local Area Committee, 24 August 2017, pages 251-254

Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, 28 August 2017, pages 255-262

Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board, 29 August 2017, pages 263-276

Paisley South Local Area Committee, 29 August 2017, pages 277-280

Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board, 30 August 2017, pages 281-292

Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, 30 August 2017, pages 293-314

Petitions Board, 30 August 2017, pages 315-320

Council, 30 August 2017, pages 321-324

Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine Local Area Committee, 30 August 2017, pages 325-328

Regulatory Functions Board, 7 September 2017, pages 329-336

Leadership Board, 19 September 2017, pages 337-344

Regulatory Functions Board, 20 September 2017 (to follow)

Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, 26 September 2017 (to follow)

## 2 Report on Audit of Accounts 2016/17

11 - 14

Report by Director of Finance and Resources (Accounts attached separately)

## 3 Best Value Assurance Report - Renfrewshire Council

15 - 78

Report by Chief Executive

<b>4</b>	<b>Paisley's Bid for UK City of Culture 2021</b>	
<b>4(a)</b>	<b>Investment in 2021 Venues and Town Centre Infrastructure</b>	<b>79 - 88</b>
	Joint Report by Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources	
<b>4(b)</b>	<b>Paisley's Final Stage Bid for UK City of Culture 2021</b>	<b>89 - 94</b>
	Report by Chief Executive	
<b>5</b>	<b>Council Plan 2017-22</b>	<b>95 - 116</b>
	Report by Chief Executive	
<b>6</b>	<b>Community Plan "Our Renfrewshire 2017-2027"</b>	<b>117 - 148</b>
	Report by Chief Executive	
<b>7</b>	<b>Annual Report by the Chief Social Work Officer</b>	<b>149 - 172</b>
	Report by Director of Children's Services	
<b>8</b>	<b>Collaboration to Deliver Excellence and Equity in Education</b>	<b>173 - 178</b>
	Report by Director of Children's Services	
<b>9</b>	<b>Appointments to Boards and Outside Organisations</b>	<b>179 - 182</b>
	Report by Director of Finance and Resources	
<b>10</b>	<b>Timetable of Meetings</b>	<b>183 - 188</b>
	Report by Director of Finance and Resources	
<b>11</b>	<b>Notice of Motion 1</b>	
	Notice of Motion by Councillors Sharkey and Brown in the following terms:	
	"1820 Radicals' War	
	Council agrees to host events to commemorate the bi-centennial of the 1820 Radicals' War and to liaise with the 1820 Society to maximise their involvement in the commemoration."	
<b>12</b>	<b>Notice of Motion 2</b>	
	Notice of Motion by Councillors Kennedy and Dowling in the following terms:	
	"Tackling Period Poverty	
	Council notes that female hygiene products are a necessity, not a choice.	

Council commends the recent North Ayrshire Council initiative to provide free sanitary products in all of their Secondary schools in a bid to stamp out period poverty. Council further notes the campaign led by Monica Lennon, MSP to introduce a Members Bill which aims to change the law in Scotland, by putting a duty on Scottish Ministers to introduce a system of free universal access to sanitary products, and a duty on schools, colleges and universities to provide free sanitary products in their toilets.

Council accepts the need to help women and school girls who cannot currently access or afford sanitary products and will therefore take necessary action to provide free sanitary products in all Renfrewshire Primary and Secondary schools, as a first practical step to make period poverty and stigma a thing of the past."

### **13 Notice of Motion 3**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Harte and McCulloch in the following terms:

"Scottish Local Government Debt Amnesty

This council notes that work done by Unite Scotland, following information obtained through Freedom of Information requests, suggests that Scottish local government, since Scottish devolution, has paid a minimum of £3.3 billion to HM Treasury in interest payments on pre-devolution debt liabilities.

This council also notes that a further £2.5 billion of pre-devolution debts are owed by Scottish local government to HM Treasury's Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) at high interest rates of around 8%, at a time when interest on post-devolution debts are around 4%. For Renfrewshire, the total PWLB borrowing taken out before devolution on 1 July 1999 which is still outstanding is £107,909,451 - the average rate on this debt is 5.783%.

This council believes that the requirement for councils in Scotland, post devolution, to pay such large debts to HM Treasury at high interest rates, is unfair and recognises that the writing off of such debts would significantly reduce pressure on council budgets, potentially saving services and thousands of jobs.

This council therefore resolves to press HM Treasury to write off pre-devolution debts owed by councils in Scotland and to seek the support of the Scottish Government for this debt amnesty."

### **14 Notice of Motion 4**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Harte and Dowling in the following terms:

"Renfrewshire Council notes the recommendations of the Barclay Review of Non-Domestic Rates.

This council further urges the Scottish Government to reject Recommendation 24 of the review, that charity relief should be

reformed/restricted for a small number of recipients, as it relates to ALEOs.

Council notes that the cost of implementing this recommendation would have a detrimental effect on the Council's finances, estimated to be £1.6m."

## **15 Notice of Motion 5**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Harte and Devine in the following terms:

"Renfrewshire Council notes with concern, the lack of transparency and democratic accountability when procuring contracts through West Hub Scotland or any other HubCos.

The lack of democratic control over procurement, community benefits, our construction charter, paying the living wage and blacklisting means that elected members cannot exercise their duty of scrutiny for the lifetime of a project.

Council therefore instructs officers to bring back regular update reports to the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, and, to produce a report for Council on the advantages and disadvantages of using HubCos and comparisons made with our own procurement process."

## **16 Notice of Motion 6**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Davidson and Hood in the following terms:

"Council notes the success of the web casting of full meetings of Renfrewshire Council

In the interests of further transparency and public engagement Council agrees to introduce web casting of the following Boards and Committees:-

Infrastructure Land and Environmental Policy Board  
Finance and Resources & Customer Service Policy Board  
Communities Housing and Planning Policy Board  
Education and Children's Services Policy Board  
Leadership Board  
Petitions Board  
Integrated Joint Board Health and Social Care  
Audit Scrutiny and Risk"

## **17 Notice of Motion 7**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Mack and Andy Doig in the following terms:

"Review the Standards Commission for Scotland

Renfrewshire Council records that it places the highest value on integrity in public life concerning the behaviour of both its elected members, and

employees, but notes that across all thirty two Scottish local authorities the Standards Commission for Scotland is losing its core vision and is mired in trivia to the point of losing its credibility.

Council notes that much of this trivia currently considered actionable by the Standards Commission for Scotland is an attack on the principle of satire, which in other jurisdictions such as in the USA is classified as protected speech under the First Amendment of the US constitution.

Council highlights in particular that legal protection against libel, slander, and hate crime, exists in Scots law, and therefore calls on the Scottish Government to review the operation and remit of the Standards Commission for Scotland."

## **18 Notice of Motion 8**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Mack and Andy Doig in the following terms:

"Urgent Repairs to the Fabric of St Charles Primary School

St Charles Primary School, Rowan Street, Paisley, requires urgent repairs to the fabric of the building, but more importantly it's surrounding environs haven't seen a scintilla of garden maintenance since it's opening in 1968 - please remedy this inexcusable dereliction of duty forthwith."

## **19 Notice of Motion 9**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Mack and Andy Doig in the following terms:

"Sprinkler Systems Within High Rise Flats

Sprinkler Systems must be installed with immediate effect in all high rise flats within Renfrewshire Council."

## **20 Notice of Motion 10**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Devine and Sharkey in the following terms:

"Council calls on the Scottish Government to change the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 to give Licensing Boards the power to make conditions with regard to the treatment of a licensed premise's staff so that they are safely transported home during the hours of darkness and early morning."

## **21 Notice of Motion 11**

Notice of Motion by Councillors J MacLaren and Begg in the following terms:

"Scottish Planning Policy states "The system should be genuinely planned, with succinct development plans setting out ambitious, long-term visions for their area. They must be kept up to date, and provide a

practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made with a degree of certainty and efficiency."

Council agrees that changes to the planning system has generated a culture of persistent and coordinated attempts by developers to ignore the Local Development Plan and to cherry pick prime green belt land which runs counter to the will of local democracy. This has the potential to erode confidence and belief in the Local plan as a means to manage development in a consistent and open way.

Council notes that the Scottish Government is to produce a white paper on planning following the independent review of planning. Council therefore agrees to write to the Cabinet Secretary and call on her to return power back to local Council's to determine individual sites that they consider suitable for release or not and that appeals should be heard by local review bodies not unelected Scottish Government officers."

## **22 Notice of Motion 12**

Notice of Motion by Councillors J MacLaren and Binks in the following terms:

"Warning sound devices are deemed necessary by some government regulators because vehicles operating in all-electric mode produce less noise than traditional combustion engine vehicles and can make it more difficult for pedestrians, the blind, cyclists, and others, to be aware of their presence.

This council calls on the Secretary of State for Transport and the Scottish Government Minister for Transport and the Islands to introduce legislation that requires all electric and hybrid vehicles to be fitted with an Acoustic Vehicle Alerting System as approved by the European Parliament."

## **23 Notice of Motion 13**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Paterson and Steel in the following terms:

"Council Motion - Citizen's Basic Income

Council welcomes the Scottish Government pledge to fund research into the feasibility of a Citizen's Basic Income Scheme and agrees to take necessary steps to access funding provided to help develop and establish suitable testing within Renfrewshire."

## **24 Notice of Motion 14**

Notice of Motion by Councillors McGurk and McNaughtan in the following terms:

"High Hedge Notice Fee

Each Local Authority is required to set a fee for dealing with a High Hedge application. There is no upper limit on the fees to be charged but

the fees should represent the reasonable costs the Local Authority incurs in processing the application. Council agrees to reduce the fee from its present level to £200 and maintains the concessionary rate at 25%. this will bring our fees in line with other local authorities regarding charging a reasonable fee and reducing the barriers for individuals who seek redress for an issue that is affordable."

## **25 Notice of Motion 15**

Notice of Motion by Councillors McGurk and McNaughtan in the following terms:

"Council calls upon the relevant council officers to bring forward a review of the Scheme of Delegations to the December meeting of the Council. The review is to consider amending the Scheme with regard to the Planning function and delegation and specifically but not exclusively the following:

Applications to be considered by the full board.

Any application subject of objection by a Community Council where those objections are relevant material considerations.

Any application which raises significant objections

Any application which if approved would be contrary to the development plan

The report to full Council should also consider the following change in process and it's implications.

The weekly planning list shall contain a schedule with the Planning Officer's recommendation on an application. At the end of a seven day period the recommendation will become the decision of the Planning Authority unless the Head of Housing and Development receives from a Councillor a written objection to the recommendation outlining relevant planning reasons and requesting that the application is referred to the Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board for determination. Such requests must reach the Head of Housing and Development before the deadline shown in the weekly planning list/schedule."

## **26 Notice of Motion 16**

Notice of Motion by Councillors McNaughtan and Rodden in the following terms:

"Electric Taxis & Private Hire Cars

Council notes that the current policy on vehicle licensing conditions precludes the use of electric vehicles as private hire cars as these vehicles would not meet the requirement for engines of 1600cc minimum size.

Council agrees to instruct officers to bring forward a comprehensive review of taxi and private hire car licensing conditions to the Regulatory Functions Board reflecting developments in electric vehicle technology; and

Council agrees, as an interim measure to encourage the licensing of electric and hybrid private hire cars, to remove the requirement for 1600cc engine size for private hire cars with immediate effect."

## **27 Notice of Motion 17**

Notice of Motion by Councillors Don and McEwan in the following terms:

"Council welcomes Scottish Government Announcement to Provide Free Sanitary Products in Educational Establishments

Renfrewshire Council welcomes the announcement by the Scottish Government that will see the provision of free sanitary products in schools, colleges and universities.

Council recognises that female hygiene products are a necessity, not a choice and notes that many young women may be unable to buy vital feminine hygiene products due to the cost. Council notes that whilst free products are currently available in high schools and food banks, this announcement may help to stop the shame and embarrassment caused by having to request these.

Council recognises that this is a huge step forward in eradicating period poverty."