

Minute of Meeting Leadership Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 05 December 2018	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillor Derek Bibby, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McIntyre, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor John Shaw

Chair

Councillor Nicolson, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

S Black, Chief Executive; P MacLeod, Director of Children's Services; M Crearie, Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services; G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, L Mahon, Head of Communications & Marketing, A Morrison, Head of Regeneration, S McFadden, City Deal Project Director, A Armstrong-Walter, Strategic Partnerships and Inequalities Manager and R Cooper, Economic Development Manager (all Chief Executive's); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, C McCourt, Finance Business Partner and L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager (all Finance & Resources); and D Leese, Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership and V Hollows, Chief Executive, Renfrewshire Leisure.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Andy Doig declared a financial interest in respect of items 14 and 16 of the agenda as he was the husband of an employee of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. He indicated that it was his intention to leave the meeting during consideration of these items and not to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Hughes declared a non-financial interest in respect of items 14 and 16 of the agenda as she was Chair of the Board of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. Councillor Hughes indicated that as she had a general dispensation from the Standards Commission which allowed her to take part and to vote in relation to such matters it was her intention to remain in the meeting during consideration of these items.

1 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a joint revenue budget monitoring report to 14 September 2018 by the Directors of Finance & Resources, Communities, Housing & Planning Services and the Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership, summarising the financial position for services reporting to the Board.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

2 Capital Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a capital budget monitoring report to 14 September 2018 by the Director of Finance & Resources summarising the position for those services reporting to the Board.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 Council Plan 2017-2022 - Six Monthly Progress Update

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to progress with the Council Plan 2017/22 which had been approved by Council on 28 September 2017.

The priorities set out in the Council Plan were closely aligned to those agreed by the Council's partners in the Community Plan. The Council Plan was intentionally high level and strategic in nature, set out how the Council would work with partners, communities and businesses to achieve the five key outcomes of: reshaping our place, our economy and our future; building strong, safe and resilient communities; tackling inequality, ensuring opportunities for all; and working together to improve outcomes. The report intimated that significant progress had been made across a number of areas of the plan, including in cultural and economic regeneration; attainment; tackling poverty and inequality; and sustainability. Key achievements against each of the strategic outcomes were highlighted in the report and full details of progress was provided in the appendix to the report.

It was noted that reference in paragraph 2.1 of the report to April 2019 should be to 1 May 2019

DECIDED:

- (a) That the progress achieved to date in terms of progressing the key outcomes and priorities detailed in the Council Plan be noted; and
- (b) That it be noted that the next six-monthly update would be reported to the Leadership Board on 1 May 2019.

4 Best Value Assurance Report - Progress Update on Improvement Plan

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to the Council's Best Value Assurance Report (BVAR) which had been published by the Accounts Commission on 31 August 2017.

The report intimated that overall the BVAR had been positive, providing independent assurance on the extent to which the Council was achieving best value. At that time Audit Scotland also provided direction on the key areas on which the Council should focus its improvement activities and specifically included seven recommendations on cross party working, community engagement, partnership working, financial stability, workforce planning and governance arrangements. An action plan to progress these recommendations was approved by Council at its meeting held on 28 September 2017. The appendix to the report provided an update for each recommendation and related activity. Each year Audit Scotland provide an assessment, within the Annual Audit Report of the ongoing position in relation to best value. In the 2017/18 Audit Report, Audit Scotland noted that the Council was making good progress in addressing the recommendations in the BVAR and that the Council had several improvement activities working in parallel and these were clearly linked to the Council's priorities and budget setting process.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the progress achieved in terms of implementing the BVAR as detailed in the appendix to the report be noted; and
- (b) That the independent and positive assessment of progress confirmed by Audit Scotland in the recent Annual Audit Report relating to Renfrewshire Council be noted.

5 Tackling Poverty Programme - Six Monthly Update

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to progress against the Tackling Poverty Programme. The report highlighted key progress against priority areas and also gave an update on the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 and the requirement for local authorities and health boards to jointly prepare a Local Child Poverty Action Report.

The report intimated that at its meeting held on 1 March 2018 the Council had agreed funding of £5 million over the next five years to deliver a tackling poverty programme based on the learning and evaluation of projects carried out to date and building on the initiatives that had made the most difference to people's lives. A programme of activity had been developed which would sustain key projects which supported people on low incomes with a focus on low-income families with children. The projects supported three key priorities of the Tackling Poverty Programme: targeting support to

families who needed it most; removing barriers to participation for children and young people and supporting health and wellbeing for young people and the report highlighted progress against each of these priorities.

It was noted that in November 2018 a request for temporary funding had been received from Renfrewshire Foodbank to assist with the anticipated increase in demand for support arising from the roll-out of Universal Credit in Renfrewshire. The Council had provided funding to Renfrewshire Foodbank in recent years and the report recommended that funding of £10,000 over each of the next three years be approved in response to this request.

DECIDED:

- (a) That progress on delivery of the Tackling Poverty Programme as detailed in the report be noted;
- (b) That the requirement to produce a Local Child Poverty Action Report by 30 June 2019, in line with the requirements of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 be noted; and
- (c) That the award of £30,000 of grant funding to Renfrewshire Foodbank as detailed in the report be approved.

6 Update Report - Possible Implications for Renfrewshire of the Vote to leave the European Union

Under reference to item 3 of the Minute of the meeting of the Board held on 19 September 2018 there was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to the possible implications for Renfrewshire of the vote to leave the European Union.

The report intimated that the period to 31 December 2018 represented a significant stage in the Brexit negotiations with a draft withdrawal agreement subject to a final vote in the House of Commons. The report provided information on the negotiation process and a summary of the key elements of the withdrawal agreement based on information available at this time. The report also provided information in relation to areas linked to the withdrawal agreement and information in relation to the scenario whereby the UK left the EU in March 2019 without a withdrawal agreement. Information was also provided on the areas of contingency planning being progressed by the Council individually and with partner organisations.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the updated information detailed in the report be noted; and
- (b) That the activities being undertaken by Council officers internally and with community planning partners to prepare appropriately for EU withdrawal be noted.

7 Renfrewshire Economic Profile - November 2018

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to Renfrewshire's economic performance over the six-month period to November 2018.

The purpose of the economic profile was to describe and track the local demographic and economic indicators within Renfrewshire. It was noted that the range of

indicators had also been extended to reflect a broader indication of the health of the Renfrewshire economy and this report now included statistics on the manufacturing sector and town centre vacancies. Scotland and the Glasgow city region were used as comparators. The report assessed a selection of statistics against the Council and Community Plans' strategic objectives.

DECIDED: That the November 2018 Renfrewshire Economic Profile be noted.

8 Invest in Renfrewshire - Start-up Street

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to a proposal to create low-cost business space from long-term unoccupied Council retail units in Paisley to encourage early-stage, low-cost businesses to locate in Renfrewshire, offering employment and economic growth to the area. The 'Start-up Street' proposal would support the need for low cost business space and would be developed to address as many local requirements as possible. The space would be offered for a maximum of two years to small or early-stage businesses with a staged rental model. At the end of the contract period the business would be paying the full rental value and could then move to an alternative commercial space in the Renfrewshire area. A key feature of the proposal would be that a full-time business advisor would be based at the premises to offer ongoing support and advice. Council-owned premises at George Street, Paisley had been identified.

The report also referred to a partnership opportunity with the London Youth Support Trust (LYST) which had opened a centre in Dundee in November 2018 and had approached Glasgow and Renfrewshire to enquire about working jointly on an enterprise model. They intended to set up a charitable Scottish Trust to take forward developments and a potential partnership with Renfrewshire was being explored on the basis of LYST supporting young entrepreneurs (to age 30) and the Council leading on support to businesses whose owners' demographic profile is 30 plus years.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Paterson, moved that the proposal for a 'Start-Up Street' be agreed and that authority be delegated to the Head of Regeneration to take forward the additional work required to move the project forward.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Bibby moved as an amendment that a new recommendation 2(iii) be added to the report - "This Board agrees that to support businesses across Renfrewshire 'the Start Up Street' project will be rolled out further to Johnstone and Renfrew once the Paisley project was established."

Councillor Nicolson proposed that the wording of the amendment be changed to "This Board agrees that to support businesses across Renfrewshire the principles of 'the Start Up Street' project will be rolled out further to Johnstone and Renfrew and other towns and villages of Renfrewshire once the Paisley project was established."

In terms of Standing Order 27 this was accepted by the mover and seconder of the amendment, and the amendment was agreed unanimously as an addition to the motion.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the proposal for Start-up Street be agreed;

(b) That authority be delegated to the Head of Regeneration to undertake the additional work required to move the project forward; and

(c) That this Board agrees that to support businesses across Renfrewshire the principles of 'the Start Up Street' project will be rolled out further to Johnstone and Renfrew and other towns and villages of Renfrewshire once the Paisley project was established.

9 Request for Attendance - Conference

There was submitted an invitation to attend the 'Future of Apprenticeships in Scotland' conference to be held on 12 December 2018.

DECIDED: That the attendance by one member be approved.

10 Adult Social Work Services - Six Monthly Monitoring Report

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to activity and performance of the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) as at 30 September 2018.

The report referred to the functions which had been delegated by the Council to the Integration Joint Board (IJB). It was noted that regular reports in relation to these services were submitted to the IJB it had been agreed that regular updates would be provided to the Leadership Board in relation to the delegated services in order to ensure oversight of key achievements, challenges and the wider context relating to the delivery of these services. The report set out the strategic context in which the HSCP operated; the financial context highlighting that the HSCP was projecting a breakeven position for financial year 2018/19; service development activities; an overview of adult social work performance and current adult social work services performance.

DECIDED:

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

(b) That it be noted that an annual performance report would be presented to the meeting of the Board to be held on 19 June 2019.

11 Audit Scotland Report 'Health and Social Care Integration'

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership relative to the report by Audit Scotland on the second of three national performance audits of health and social care integration following the introduction of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.

The report intimated that the aim of the audit was to examine the impact public bodies were having as they integrated health and social care services. The report set out six areas which needed to be addressed if integration was to make a meaningful difference to the people of Scotland: commitment to collaborative leadership and building relationships; effective strategic planning for improvement; integrated finances and financial planning; agreed governance and accountability arrangements; ability and willingness to share information; and meaningful and sustained

engagement. The audit did not focus in detail on local processes or arrangements and it complemented the programme of strategic inspections by the Care Inspectorate and Healthcare Improvement Scotland. The report set out the key messages of the Audit Scotland report together with a local update on the Renfrewshire position in relation to those that were relevant:

DECIDED:

- (a) That the key messages contained in Audit Scotland's Health and Social Care Integration report, which was appended to the report, be noted; and
- (b) That Renfrewshire's position in relation to the key messages and recommendations set out in the Audit Scotland report be noted.

12 Renfrewshire Visitor Plan 2018-2021 Year 1 Update

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to first year progress with the Renfrewshire Visitor Plan 2018/21 (the Plan).

The report intimated that the Plan to 2021 had been approved by the Leadership Board at its meeting held on 12 December 2017, which included agreeing the Plan's objectives and targets and the establishment of seven strategic portfolios to support delivery of the Plan. The Plan had been developed in consultation with national tourism partners and a number of priority actions had been identified: establish a tourism business network; share data and insights; improve the attractiveness of entry points to the area; increase support for volunteer-led attractions; improve the consistency in seasonality and extend opening hours; create trails and itineraries to spotlight all of Renfrewshire; refine audience targeting to include passengers via Greenock cruise terminal and Glasgow International Airport; and improve facilities and itineraries for the travel trade. The report highlighted progress against objectives and a series of targets to grow Renfrewshire's visitor economy and provided an overview of activity during 2018.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Paterson, moved that in addition to the recommendations contained in the report that this Board welcomed the increased visitor numbers for the Council's schedule of tourist events, and resolved to examine the feasibility of adding a St Andrew's Day event to the Council's tourism calendar." This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the first year progress as detailed in appendices 1 and 2 of the report be noted;
- (b) That it be noted that a further progress report would be brought to the Board in December 2019; and
- (c) That this Board welcomed the increased visitor numbers for the Council's schedule of tourist events, and resolved to examine the feasibility of adding a St Andrew's Day event to the Council's tourism calendar.

13 Cultural Regeneration in Johnstone and Renfrew Towns and Renfrewshire Villages

Under reference to item 13 of the Minute of the meeting of the Board held on 19 September 2018 there was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to cultural regeneration activity and proposals in Johnstone, Renfrew and Renfrewshire villages. The report intimated that the scope of the Council's cultural regeneration work was broad and covered a number of areas including: cultural infrastructure, placemaking; the Heritage Lottery Fund Great Places Scheme; events from the Visitor Strategy; cultural programmes including cultural activity planned across Renfrewshire; a continued programme of performing arts and film in venues across towns and villages and cultural funding schemes and Street Stuff Youth Culture Bus. The report set out planned activities across these areas.

DECIDED: That the cultural regeneration and heritage activity that is being delivered and planned in Johnstone, Renfrew and Renfrewshire Villages be noted.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hughes having previously declared an interest in the following item remained in the meeting. Councillor Andy Doig having also declared an interest was leaving the meeting when the item was agreed without any discussion.

14 Culture, Heritage and Events Fund

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the award of grants from the eighth round of applications to the Culture, Heritage and Events Fund (CHEF).

The report intimated that CHEF had been developed to support ambitions kickstarted by the UK City of Culture competition and it now supported heritage and cultural activity across Renfrewshire. A total of 18 applications had been received for the eighth round by the 10 October 2018 deadline. The recommended grants, as detailed in the appendix to the report, totalled £70,658, leaving a fund balance of £253,456 for future awards. The next deadline for applications was 10 December 2018.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the high level of interest generated in this eighth round of the CHEF be noted;
- (b) That the recommended grant awards, as detailed in the report and appendix, be approved; and
- (c) That the committed funds to date of £886,544 be noted, leaving £253,456 available from the fund approved by the Council.

15 Local Full Fibre Network for Renfrewshire

There was submitted an update report by the Chief Executive relative to development work that had been undertaken to date by officers and set out the next steps in terms of progressing through the Department for Digital Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Full Fibre Network Fund.

The report intimated that the Council at its meeting held on 2 March 2018, as part of its budget, had approved £2 million of funding to support further investment in digital infrastructure in Renfrewshire. The funding was £1.5 million capital resources and £0.5 million revenue to provide match funding for a bid to a DCMS Full Fibre Network Fund. The key driver for the investment was to deliver step change for Renfrewshire connecting schools and public buildings to a fibre network and facilitating access to businesses and homes. The report outlined the process for bidding for funding and it was noted that funding awards to individual local authorities would likely be capped at around £4.5 million. Officers had engaged in the informal stage of the DCMS application process and the report proposed that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to submit a bid as required within DCMS timescales.

DECIDED:

(a) That the development work that had been undertaken to date in terms of preparing to make a bid to the DCMS Full Fibre Network Fund be noted; and

(b) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to submit a bid to DCMS in light of the nature of the bidding process as outlined in the report.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Andy Doig having previously declared an interest in the following item left the meeting.

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

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Councillor Bibby left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

16 Renfrewshire Leisure Limited - Six-monthly Monitoring Report

There was submitted a monitoring report by the Chief Executive relative to the delivery of Renfrewshire Leisure's annual business plan, an integral part of which was submitting six-monthly progress reports to the Board. The report provided an update on performance, highlighted key achievements over the previous six months; provided a summary of the environment within which Renfrewshire Leisure operated; and outlined priorities for the next six months.

DECIDED:

(a) That the performance update and progress being made by Renfrewshire Leisure in the delivery of the services agreement and business plan be noted; and

(b) That it be agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Board on the arrangements for public access to the leisure facilities at Park Mains High School and that the report will include an operational assessment, including the costs of any further capital works required to support those arrangements.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board resolved to exclude the press and public 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 could be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 4 and 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

17 Business Loans Scotland (BLS) – Euroscot Engineering Ltd

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to a loan award from Renfrewshire Council's funds held in Business Loans Scotland.

DECIDED:

- (a) That a BLS loan to the company detailed in the report be approved; and
- (b) That the loan be repayable on the terms as detailed in the report.