

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 6 December 2018.

Present:

Councillor Paul O’Kane (Deputy Leader)
Councillor Caroline Bamforth
Councillor Danny Devlin

Councillor Alan Lafferty
Councillor Colm Merrick

Councillor O’Kane, Deputy Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); Louise Pringle, Head of Business Change and Revenues; Stuart Free, Principal Officer (Asset Management); Jamie Reid, Data and Information Manager; Kim Gear, Corporate Policy Officer; Louise Thompson, Partnership Support Officer; and Paul O’Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apology:

Councillor Tony Buchanan, (Leader).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

714. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018/21

715. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, seeking approval of the East Renfrewshire Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan 2018/21. A copy of the plan was appended to the report.

The report highlighted that CLD provided young people (aged 12-25) and adults (aged 16+) with skills for life, learning and work including addressing personal and social development and individual health and wellbeing issues. Furthermore, it included work with community groups to support them to be well-run, sustainable and independent and focussed on growing community-led groups and services that made communities more cohesive, sustainable and better able to overcome the challenges they faced. The current CLD Strategy 2015/18 was about to come to an end and a refreshed plan was now required.

The report highlighted that the Council had a statutory duty to have a CLD plan in place, and to refresh the plan every 3 years, in accordance with the provisions of the Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013. The regulations placed a legal obligation on local authorities to work with partners to assess the need for CLD within their authority area through consultation, and set out how needs would be addressed.

Whilst noting that to ensure that CLD directly contributed to East Renfrewshire's ambitions for residents across the area, the report indicated that the CLD plan had been organised under the 5 strategic outcomes of the Community Plan. This ensured that capacity building, learning and support for adults and young people was targeted to the strategic outcomes and the locality plan areas areas in Barrhead, Neilston and Thornliebank to increase the resilience of the communities and improve outcomes for residents.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) approved the Community Learning Development Plan 2018/21; and
- (b) agreed that delegated powers be granted to the Deputy Chief Executive to further refine and strengthen the plan over its lifetime without further recourse to the Cabinet.

STRATEGIC MID-YEAR COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018/19

716. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing a summary of Council performance at mid-year 2018/19 based on performance indicators in the Outcome Delivery Plan (ODP) 2018/21. Details of the performance results, together with information on mid-year complaints appeared as appendices to the report.

The report summarised the performance of the Council at mid-year 2018/19 and highlighted that information presented showed performance was broadly on track at mid-year point, with excellent performance being noted in educational attainment and household recycling rates. Furthermore, the Council continued to work towards the aim of making people's lives better by delivering highly valued services and achieving positive outcomes for local communities.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) approved the report as a summary of the Council's performance at mid-year 2018/19; and
- (b) noted the mid-year Complaints Report that was appended as Annex 2 to the report.

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19

717. The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Financial Officer, monitoring expenditure as at 12 October 2018 against the approved Capital Programme for 2018/19 and recommending adjustments where necessary in light of issues that had arisen since the programme had been approved.

Whilst noting the latest developments relating to the programme, including the latest income and expenditure movements and cash flow management issues, the report indicated that the projected shortfall of £318,000, which represented 0.85% of the resources available, was within manageable limits.

The report highlighted that in light of the expenditure movements, the additional borrowing of £600,000 approved at the meeting of the Council on 27 June 2018 to support the increased level of expenditure on the Barrhead High School new build (ancillary works) project would not be required this financial year but would be required to support the expenditure transferred to 2019/20.

The Cabinet agreed to:-

- (a) **recommend to the Council** that the movements within the General Fund Capital Programme 2018/19 be approved; and
- (b) note that the shortfall of £318,000 would be managed and reported on a regular basis.

HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19

718. The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Chief Financial Officer and Director of Environment, monitoring expenditure as at 12 October 2018 against the approved Housing Capital Programme 2018/19 and recommending adjustments where necessary in light of the issues that had arisen since the programme had been approved.

The report highlighted the latest developments relating to the programme, including the latest income and expenditure movements and cash flow management issues and indicated that the projected shortfall of £85,000, which represented 0.88% of the resources available, was within manageable limits. In addition, approval was sought to approve the transfer of £50,000 from Purchase of Property to Aids and Adaptations to reflect the current levels of demand.

The Cabinet agreed to:-

- (a) approve the transfer of £50,000 from Purchase of Property to Aids and Adaptations;
- (b) **recommend to the Council** that the movements within the Housing Capital Programme 2018/19 be approved; and
- (c) note that the shortfall of £85,000 would be managed and reported on a regular basis.

WOODFARM EDUCATIONAL CENTRE

719. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of 12 April 2012 (Page 2364, Item 1887 refers), when it was agreed to extend the lease of the Woodfarm Educational Centre from 20 years to a 125 year lease on the basis that the centre would automatically revert to the Woodfarm Educational Trust ownership at the end of the lease, the Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval to transfer ownership of the Woodfarm Educational Centre from the Council to the Woodfarm Educational Trust. A plan showing the location of the centre was appended to the report.

Whilst noting that at the meeting on 29 October 2009, the Cabinet had agreed to lease the former Woodfarm Sports Centre ("the Centre") to Woodfarm Educational Trust (WET) for a period of 20 years on the basis that there would be an option to extend the lease from 20 to

125 years, the report explained that in 2012, the Cabinet subsequently agreed to extend the lease as noted above and that in return the WET had made a payment of £170,000 to the Council.

Furthermore, the report highlighted that the existence of a lease (instead of outright ownership) was now, however, impacting upon WET's ability to raise funds for an extension to the property for which planning permission had been obtained. In view of this, the District Valuer had been requested to carry out a valuation report and considered that the Council's remaining landlord's interest at present if sold to the tenant with a standard security containing similar multicultural centre use restrictions as applied within the current lease was £20,000.

The report concluded by indicating that the Cabinet was being asked to approve the proposal to bring forward the date when ownership of Woodfarm Educational Centre would transfer from the Council to Woodfarm Educational Trust, subject to payment of the price and securing future continuing use as a multicultural centre.

The Cabinet agreed:-

- (a) to bring forward the date when ownership of the Woodfarm Educational Centre reverted to Woodfarm Educational Trust in exchange for the payment of £20,000 and a Standard Security to secure the future use of the premises as a multicultural centre and to secure an uplift in value which would become payable to the Council should there be a future change of use; and
- (b) that delegated powers be granted to the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement to make the necessary arrangements.

CHAIR