

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 22 June 2017.

Present:

Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)	Councillor Danny Devlin
Councillor Paul O’Kane (Deputy Leader)	Councillor Alan Lafferty
Councillor Caroline Bamforth	Councillor Colm Merrick

Councillor Buchanan, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Louise Pringle, Head of Business Change and Revenues; Jim Sneddon, Head of Democratic and Partnership Services; Andy Corry, Head of Environment (Operations); Phil Daws, Head of Environment (Strategic Services); Shona Fraser, Operations Manager; Tracy Butler, Community Planning Team Leader; and Paul O’Neil, Committee Services Officer.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

36. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

LOCAL SCRUTINY PLAN 2017/18

37. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing details of the Local Scrutiny Plan for 2017/18. A copy of the plan was appended to the report.

The report explained that the Local Scrutiny Plan for 2017/18 was updated each year by Audit Scotland in collaboration with the other main scrutiny and regulatory bodies covering education, social care and housing. Whilst noting that this grouping was known as the Local Area Network, the report explained that the plan set out the planned external scrutiny activity of the Council over the next year and was based on a Shared Risk Assessment (SRA) undertaken by all scrutiny bodies who engaged with the Council.

The report concluded by highlighting that the plan presented a positive external assessment which demonstrated the Council’s ongoing commitment to making people’s lives better and delivering better outcomes for its customers and residents across East Renfrewshire.

The Cabinet agreed to note:-

- (a) the Council's continued positive assessment by the Local Area Network (LAN) of external scrutiny bodies; and
- (b) that the planned external scrutiny activities by bodies in the LAN this year were listed in Appendix 1 of the Local Scrutiny Plan.

ROADS REVENUE WORKS PROGRAMME 2017/18 – PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING SCHEME DETAILS

38. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of 23 March 2017 (Page 2274, Item 2446 refers), when it was agreed amongst other things to approve the proposal to carry out a participatory budgeting exercise in relation to the Roads Revenue Works Programme 2017/18, the Cabinet considered a joint report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Environment, seeking approval for the Participatory Budgeting (PB) element of the Roads Revenue Programme for financial year 2017/18.

The report explained that as part of the Roads Revenue Works Programme 2017/18, a sum of £600,000 had been allocated as part of a participatory budget scheme which would allow householders to decide where this portion of the annual budget would be spent. Whilst noting that the allocated resources would be divided as fairly as possible across 4 locality areas, based around current community engagement arrangements, the report explained the division of resources and the voting process of the proposed scheme.

Furthermore, 33 potential schemes had been identified with at least one scheme being undertaken in each of the locality areas and a minimum spend of £100,000 in each area. It was noted that no area would receive more than £150,000 in spend. The schemes would range from £35,000 to £100,000 and residents and businesses would be able to choose their top three schemes by participating in an online voting exercise. It was proposed that works would most likely be undertaken between October 2017 and March 2018, once the results were known, and the work designed and programmed.

The Cabinet:

- (a) approved the mechanism detailed in the report to allow a “participatory budgeting” exercise to take place to apportion £600,000 of the Roads Revenue budget allocation; and
- (b) agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet providing details of the outcome of the exercise.

TRANSFER OF BLACKBYRES COURT, BARRHEAD FROM GENERAL FUND TO HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

39. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment seeking approval to transfer the land at Blackbyres Court from the General Fund (GF) to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) at nil cost, for the purpose of building 19 properties for rent by the Council. The report also sought approval for the future use of the land to be restricted for social housing only. A plan showing the site was appended to the report.

The Cabinet approved:-

- (a) the transfer of the land at Blackbyres Court from the General Fund (GF) to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) at nil cost, for the purpose of building 19 properties for rent by the Council; and
- (b) that the future use of the land at Blackbyres Court be restricted in perpetuity to social rented housing.

TRANSFER OF LAND AT ROBERTSON STREET FROM GENERAL FUND TO HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

40. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment seeking approval to transfer the land at Robertson Street, Barrhead, from the General Fund (GF) to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) at nil cost, for the purpose of building 13 properties for rent by the Council. The report also sought approval for the future use of the land to be restricted for social housing only. A plan showing the site was appended to the report.

The Cabinet approved:-

- (a) the transfer of the land at Robertson Street, Barrhead from the General Fund (GF) to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) at nil cost, for the purpose of building 13 properties for rent by the Council; and
- (b) that the future use of the land at Robertson Street be restricted in perpetuity to social rented housing.

CHAIR

