

MINUTE
of
EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

Minute of Special Meeting held at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 21 January 2015.

Present:

Provost Alastair Carmichael	Councillor Ian McAlpine
Deputy Provost Betty Cunningham	Councillor Gordon McCaskill
Councillor Tony Buchanan	Councillor Stewart Miller
Councillor Jim Fletcher (Leader)	Councillor Paul O’Kane
Councillor Charlie Gilbert	Councillor Tommy Reilly
Councillor Barbara Grant	Councillor Ralph Robertson
Councillor Elaine Green	Councillor Jim Swift
Councillor Kenny Hay	Councillor Gordon Wallace
Councillor Alan Lafferty	

Provost Carmichael in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); Jim Sneddon, Head of Democratic and Partnership Services; Candy Millard, Head of Strategic Services; Iain MacLean, Head of Environment (Planning, Property and Regeneration); Eamonn Daly, Democratic Services Manager; and Linda Hutchison, Senior Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Danny Devlin, Mary Montague and Vincent Waters.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1369. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP - DRAFT INTEGRATION SCHEME

1370. The Council considered a report by the Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership seeking approval of the integration scheme to establish an East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and agreement to submit the scheme to Scottish Ministers for approval.

The report explained that the Public Bodies (Joint Working)(Scotland) Act 2014 required health boards and local authorities to integrate planning for, and delivery of, certain adult health and social care services. It was also explained that associated Regulations set out functions that required to be delegated by both the local authority and the health board, and that it was also an option to choose to integrate planning and delivery of various other services beyond the minimum prescribed.

Having clarified that the Act required health boards and local authorities to prepare jointly an integration scheme setting out how the joint working arrangements would be achieved, the report summarised related options. Both parties could opt to delegate their functions to a third party known as an Integration Joint Board (IJB), this being the approach already agreed by the Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board. Following approval of the draft scheme by both parties, it required to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for their approval following which Ministers would make an Order establishing the new joint board which would be a legal entity in its own right. The development of the HSCP was regarded as a natural progression of the work of the current CHCP in East Renfrewshire.

A copy of the draft integration scheme was attached to the report proposing the delegation of all Council and Health Board functions relative to adults, criminal justice and children and families' health and social care services that could be delegated to the IJB under the Act. Only those housing services prescribed as mandatory in the Act were included. The report also referred to the remit of the IJB and clarified that, on establishment and approval of the strategic plan, associated budgets for the functions in question would be aligned and managed by the Board. The position on related consultation was summarised.

In response to Councillor Grant, the Director of the CHCP clarified that the IJB would determine its own audit and scrutiny arrangements for services delegated to it. She explained that although reporting arrangements required to be developed further, the Board would report to the constituent bodies through its strategic plan annually or more frequently. The Head of Accountancy confirmed that the internal and external audit arrangements would be determined in the near future.

Having confirmed that the proposals had already been approved and well received by the Health Board, Councillor Lafferty thanked the Director of the CHCP and Head of Strategic Services for the associated work they had carried out in developing the scheme.

In response to Councillor Swift who sought some reassurance regarding the stability of the associated financial arrangements, the Director of the CHCP expressed optimism that the close working relationships that existed between partners associated with the CHCP would continue under the new arrangements. The Head of Accountancy added that the alignment and pooling of funds under the stewardship of a single body would make it easier to reallocate funds when required. Reference was also made to a recent announcement on funds to address hospital discharge issues, the good way in which the authority currently managed bed days, and related issues.

The Council approved the draft integration scheme for submission to Scottish Ministers subject to:-

- (a) delegated authority being granted to the Director/Interim Chief Officer to work with the Health Board's Director of Corporate Planning and Policy to make further changes to the scheme based on Council and Health Board discussions and engagement with Scottish Government in progressing the scheme's approval; and

- (b) if during that process issues were raised that could not be resolved, they were reported back to the Council for a decision.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP - DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS BY THE COUNCIL TO THE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

1371. Under reference to Item 1370 above, the Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive seeking approval for the delegation of functions relating to the provision of adult, criminal justice and children's social care services to the new East Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board (IJB).

Having reiterated the background to the proposals and made reference to the fully integrated CHCP currently operated by the Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, it was explained that the Council's formal agreement to the delegation of functions to the new IJB was required. A full list of functions to be delegated to the Board, including those optional functions it had been agreed to delegate to it, was attached to the report, as was a list of services to be transferred for the purposes of the delivery of the functions.

Reference was made to associated changes that required to be made to the Council's Scheme of Administration as a result of the delegation of functions to the IJB. It was explained that arising from the transfer of functions to the Board, it would be for the IJB itself to determine which of the functions were to be exercised by officers, including the Chief Social Work Officer. The Council's Scheme of Administration also needed to be amended accordingly to remove delegations to officers by the Council. It was explained that the Scheme also referred to the discharge of some Council functions by other parties and that a similar amendment to the Scheme was required to the effect that the Council had agreed that the functions set out in Appendix 1 to the report would be discharged on its behalf by the HSCP.

The report summarised how complaints relating to services discharged under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 were dealt with at present, explaining that the Government was undertaking a review of the social work complaints procedure which could result in change. As an interim measure, it was proposed that a Social Work Committee be established with limited terms of reference to consider and respond to recommendations made by the Social Work Complaints Review Committee. Its membership would be aligned with the proposals made for the Council to be represented on the IJB by four elected Members, one of whom would be appointed as Chair of the Social Work Committee.

It was confirmed that all existing arrangements would continue until such times as the Order creating the new IJB was made and took effect.

The Council agreed:-

- (a) to delegate those functions listed in Appendix 1 accompanying the report to the East Renfrewshire Integrated Joint Board;
- (b) to note the services listed in Appendix 2 to be transferred for the purposes of the delivery of the functions listed in Appendix 1;
- (c) that a new Social Work Committee be established with terms of reference and membership as outlined in the report; and
- (d) that the Council's Schemes of Administration and Delegated Functions be amended accordingly in due course.

GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL - GEORGE SQUARE TRAGEDY APPEAL FUND

1372. The Council considered and approved a report by the Deputy Chief Executive proposing that the Council make a donation of £500 to Glasgow City Council's George Square Tragedy Appeal Fund which had been created to assist those injured, their families and those who witnessed the event at George Square.

Resolution to Exclude Press and Public

At this point in the meeting, on the motion of the Provost, the Council unanimously resolved that in accordance with the provisions of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6, 8, 9 and 10 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION - WATERFOOT ROAD, NEWTON MEARNES

1373. The Council considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval to acquire a 3.24 hectare (8.0 acres) site at Waterfoot Road, Newton Mearns, from Mactaggart & Mickel to facilitate a new faith schools' joint campus with pre-five provision.

Having outlined the background to the proposal, the report summarised the provisional terms of the agreement between the Council and Mactaggart & Mickel and the position on related issues.

In response to Councillor Swift who questioned the size of the site, the Democratic Services Manager clarified that the report before the Council pertained to the acquisition of land, not the reasons why the site was required, which would be the subject of a separate report to the Education Committee in due course. Councillor McAlpine and Councillor Robertson were heard in support of the proposals. In response to Councillor Miller, the Head of Environment clarified the position on issues pertaining to the need for and funding of an access road to the site.

The Council:-

- (a) approved the purchase of a 3.24 hectare (8.0 acres) site at Waterfoot Road, Newton Mearns, to facilitate a new faith schools' joint campus with pre-5 provision; and
- (b) agreed that it be delegated to the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Chief Officer (Legal & Procurement) to make the necessary arrangements.

PROVOST