

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 16 October 2014.

Present:

Councillor Jim Fletcher (Leader)
Councillor Tony Buchanan (Deputy Leader)
Councillor Danny Devlin

Councillor Elaine Green
Councillor Ian McAlpine
Councillor Vincent Waters

Councillor Fletcher, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Julie Murray, Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); Jim Sneddon, Head of Democratic & Partnership Services; Iain MacLean, Head of Environment (Planning, Property and Regeneration); Patrick Murray, Head of ICT; Phil Prentice, Regeneration and Economic Development Manager; and Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Alan Lafferty and Mary Montague.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1249. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

AUCHENBACK COMMUNITY CENTRE – MAJOR REPAIRS

1250. The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Environment, providing details of the results of an independent assessment of the maintenance condition of Auchenback Community Centre and seeking approval of the permanent closure of the facility.

The report explained that within the context of the current economic climate given the low levels of use; the proximity of alternative accommodation within a mile of the centre; the poor condition of the building and resulting unsustainable nature of maintenance and energy costs, it was proposed that the facility be closed. It was noted that everything possible would be done to minimise the impact on the current users of the facility.

The Cabinet agreed to the permanent closure of Auchinback Community Centre by the summer of 2015 as a result of a major issue with the condition of the building.

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

1251. The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive, providing details of the position in respect of the undernoted revenue budgets for the period to 15 August 2014 and making recommendations in respect of the variances which had been identified during this period:-

- (i) Objective and Subjective Summaries;
- (ii) Education;
- (iii) Community Health and Care Partnership;
- (iv) Environment;
- (v) Environment – Support;
- (vi) Corporate and Community – Community Resources;
- (vii) Corporate and Community – Support;
- (viii) Chief Executive’s Office;
- (ix) Other Expenditure and Income and Other Housing; and
- (x) Housing Revenue Account.

The report highlighted that some adjustments had been made to the budgets since they had been approved earlier in the year and in terms of the overall budget performance, the current operational underspend of £4,103,200 was largely due to timing issues with the underlying real underspend of £449,700 or (0.6%) of the profiled budget for the period. It was noted that much of the underspend lay within the Education Department and would therefore be available for virement under Devolved School Management arrangements.

Whilst noting that as previously reported, the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 placed a statutory requirement on significant trading operations to achieve a break even position over a rolling three year period, the report indicated that none of the Council’s services fell within the definition of a significant trading operation.

The report concluded by indicating that it was expected that management action would lead to all overspends being recovered, that all underspends were consolidated wherever possible and that spending up to budget levels did not take place.

The Cabinet, having noted the current financial position at this time, agreed that all service departments ensure that effective control and measurement of agreed operational efficiencies were undertaken on a continuous basis.

ICT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

1252. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, seeking approval of the ICT Asset Management Plan. A copy of the plan was appended to the report.

The report explained that this was the Council’s first ICT Asset Management Plan which along with the Council’s other five Asset Management Plans would feed into the overarching Corporate Asset Management Plan, and comply with guidance received from Audit Scotland and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

The Cabinet approved the ICT Asset Management Plan.

INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2013/16 YEAR 1 REPORT

1253. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership monitoring performance and providing details of progress in the delivery of those Year 1 actions set out in the 2013/16 Integrated Children's Services Plan. Copies of the Year 1 action and performance reports were appended to the report.

Whilst noting that the Year 1 report for the Integrated Children's Services Plan set out what had been achieved over 2013/14 in relation to key activities and actions along with the performance of services measured against agreed indicators, the report highlighted that all progress was measured in respect of the Safe, Healthy, Active, Nurtured, Achieving, Respected, Responsible, Included (SHANARRI) indicators of wellbeing for children and young people.

The report explained that overall the Integrated Children's Services Plan report reflected the range of integrated work being undertaken across universal, specialist and targeted services, and highlighted the role played by statutory and public bodies along with that of voluntary sector partners. As such, considerable progress was being made with completion of agreed actions across the SHANARRI outcomes framework within these reports.

The Cabinet noted the contents of the Integrated Children's Services Plan 2013-16 Year 1 Action and Performance Reports.

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT POLICY

1254. The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment, seeking approval for a sustainable procurement policy incorporating the Council's approach to community benefits. A copy of the policy was appended to the report.

The report explained that there was significant scope within procurement legislation and the statutory requirements of local authorities to maximise environmental, economic and social benefits from procurement. It was noted that the policy of seeking community benefits and environmental opportunities from public procurement and major economic development projects was being encouraged by government and practiced by public bodies in a range of contracts. The policy proposed that the Council would, in all relevant contracts, consider the merits of seeking community benefits and environmental opportunities, as appropriate to each opportunity.

The Cabinet agreed:-

- (a) to approve the proposed sustainable procurement policy; and
- (b) that it be delegated to the Director of Environment in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal & Procurement to implement the policy and prepare guidelines for Council officers, insofar as was permissible within current procurement legislation, in order to maximise social, environmental and economic benefits from procurement and major project delivery.

Resolution to Exclude Press and Public

At this point in the meeting, on the motion of the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet 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 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act.

SALE OF RHUALLAN HOUSE

1255. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment on the proposed sale of Rhuallan House.

The Cabinet, having heard the Chief Executive provide clarification on 'Best Value' in the context of the consideration of the offers, agreed:-

- (a) to accept Offer 2 as detailed in the report for the proposed sale of Rhuallan House; and
- (b) that it be delegated to the Director of Environment in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement to make the necessary arrangements for the disposal of the property.

CHAIR