

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 16 August 2018.

Present:

Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)
Councillor Danny Devlin

Councillor Colm Merrick
Councillor Paul O’Kane

Councillor Buchanan, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Louise Pringle, Head of Business Change and Revenues; Andy Corry, Head of Environment (Operations); Gerry Mahon, Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement; Barbara Clark, Chief Accountant; Stuart Free, Principal Officer (Asset Management); and Paul O’Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Also Attending:

Anthony McReavy, Chief Executive, East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure.

Apologies:

Councillors Caroline Bamforth and Alan Lafferty.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

529. Councillors Devlin, Merrick and O’Kane declared a non-financial interest in relation to Item 533 – East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure – End-Year Performance Report 2017/18 on the grounds that they were members of the Board of East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust.

At this stage, the Leader proposed that the report be continued to the next meeting of the Cabinet on 30 August 2018 to allow Councillors Bamforth and Lafferty who were not members of the East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust Board to give consideration to the report. This was agreed.

ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENT 2017/18

530. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing details of the Council's Annual Efficiency Statement for 2017/18. A copy of the statement was appended to the report.

Whilst noting that councils were required to provide annual efficiency statements to COSLA each year and that thereafter a summary statement was developed for the Scottish Government, the report highlighted the ways in which efficiencies could arise such as savings being generated through the Council's Modern Ambitious Programme (MAP) and work on the Council's 5 capabilities which had resulted in cash-releasing savings of £4,604,735 in 2017/18.

The Cabinet approved the Annual Efficiency Statement 2017/18 for submission to COSLA.

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING POLICY

531. The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Financial Officer, seeking approval of an Anti-Money Laundering Policy to assist the Council in maintaining an anti-fraud culture and upholding high ethical standards in its administration of public funds. A copy of the policy was appended to the report.

The report explained that whilst the Council had an Anti-Fraud and Bribery Strategy which outlined the Council's zero tolerance approach to fraudulent or corrupt activity the strategy did not specifically include actions to be taken to detect or prevent money laundering. Whilst noting that local authorities did not have a statutory duty to comply with the Money Laundering Regulations 2007, the report advised that it was considered best practice for the Council to put in place measures to comply in order to protect its services from being used for potential money laundering activities. In this connection, it was proposed to limit the level of cash accepted for one transaction to £3,000 and that larger payments would have to be made by bank transfer, card or cheque in future.

The Cabinet approved the adoption of the Anti-Money Laundering Policy.

END-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORTS 2017/18

532. The Cabinet considered reports by the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive in relation to the End-Year Performance Report 2017/18 for their respective departments, details of which were outlined in the appendices to the reports.

The Cabinet approved the reports as summaries of the Chief Executive's Office and Corporate and Community Services Department End-Year Performance for 2017/18.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE CULTURE AND LEISURE – END-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2017/18

533. The Cabinet agreed that consideration of the report be continued to the next meeting on 30 August 2018.

LEGAL STANDING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

534. The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement, advising of a draft proposal for a Members’ Bill being brought before the Scottish Parliament seeking to put the European Charter of Local Self Government (“the Charter”) into law in Scotland. The report also sought approval to submit a summary response which supported that principle.

The report explained that the proposed Members’ Bill provided an opportunity to formalise and protect the role of Local Government in the governance of Scotland and that participation in the current consultation would assist in influencing the terms of any Bill going forward.

The Cabinet agreed that consideration of the report be continued to the meeting of the Council on 12 September 2018.

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF AMENITY LAND ADJACENT TO CRAIGHEAD STREET, BARRHEAD

535. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval of the sale of a small area of amenity ground adjacent to Craighead Street, Barrhead. A copy of a location plan showing the area of ground to be sold was appended to the report.

The report explained that St Andrew’s Church had approached the Council seeking to acquire an area of Council owned land extending to approximately to 200 metres square in order to assist with its development of a church hall proposed to be built within the existing church grounds. It was noted that the hall would be used by the church and the wider community.

The report explained that in the absence of a requirement for the Council to retain the ground for any foreseeable alternative development potential, negotiations had been progressed with the church for its proposed sale. Details of the terms and conditions associated with the proposed sale of the land were outlined in the report.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) approved the sale of a small piece of amenity ground held on the Housing Revenue Account to the adjoining St Andrew’s Church; and
- (b) agreed that delegated powers be granted to the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement, to finalise negotiations and conclude the disposal.

FLEET ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018/20

536. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, advising on the updated Fleet Asset Management Plan 2018/20. A copy of the Plan was appended to the report.

The report explained that the Plan sought to provide a policy context for an overview of the scope, existing uses and current activities of the Council’s fleet. In addition, it identified future actions and potential risks and sought to provide a well-managed environmental friendly fleet of vehicles.

The Plan also highlighted that fleet management and maintenance within the East Renfrewshire area was progressive with significant work being undertaken with an increased emphasis on improving processes and using modern technologies which would have beneficial effects in reducing the environmental impact of the Council's fleet.

The Cabinet approved the Fleet Asset Management Plan 2018/20.

NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE JOINT HEALTH PROTECTION PLAN 2018/20

537. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, advising of the contents of the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Joint Health Protection Plan 2018/20 and seeking approval for the Council to be a signatory to the agreement to promote the aims and implementation of the Plan. A copy of the work plan associated with the Plan was appended to the report.

By way of background, the report explained that the Public Health Oversight Board was leading on the creation of a new Scottish national public health body in 2019 with the new local joint public health partnerships thereafter. In the interim the Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group membership of which was drawn from Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS, the Environmental Health Services of the 6 councils within the Board's area and other organisations with a specific responsibility for public health matters had prepared a draft Joint Health Protection Plan (JHPP) following the requirements set out in the Public Health etc (Scotland) Act 2008.

Whilst noting the purpose of the Joint Health Protection Plan (JHPP), the topics covered in the Plan, details of which were listed in the report, and the process by which the JHPP would be reviewed and updated, the report explained that as Scotland moved towards the creation of a new national health body in 2019, public health provision and protection would remain high on the agenda and strengthened partnership working at this stage would be beneficial as new local arrangements were developed.

The report indicated that the JHPP would assist with this and provided a sound basis to move forward and therefore continued support from the Council for the Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group to progress and implement the JHPP Work Plan should remain one of the Council's priorities.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) noted the Environmental Health Service's participation on the Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group;
- (b) noted the work plan of the draft NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Joint Health Protection Plan 2018/20; and
- (c) agreed that the Council be a signatory to the plan and that delegated powers be granted to the Director of Environment to act as signatory on behalf of the Council.