

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 29 November 2018.

Present:

Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)
Councillor Caroline Bamforth
Councillor Danny Devlin

Councillor Alan Lafferty
Councillor Colm Merrick
Councillor Paul O'Kane

Councillor Buchanan, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Mhairi Shaw, Director of Education; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); Louise Pringle, Head of Business Change and Revenues; Andy Corry, Head of Environment (Operations); Phil Daws, Head of Environment (Strategic Services); Lesley Bairden, Chief Finance Officer (HSCP); Barbara Clark, Chief Accountant; Arlene Cassidy, Children's Services Strategy Manager; Sarah Jane Hayes, Customer Service Manager; Brian Dunigan, Money Advice and Rights Team Manager; and Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

702. Councillor Devlin declared a non-financial interest in Item 706 below by virtue of the fact he was a member of the Board of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Variation in Order of Business

In accordance with the terms of Standing Order 19, Councillor Buchanan altered the order of business to facilitate the conduct of the meeting.

CHARGING FOR SERVICES 2019/20

703. (a) Chief Executive's Office – Licensing

The Cabinet agreed to:-

- (i) alter charges for 2019/20 in accordance with the table set out in Appendix 1 to the report it being noted that where an increase occurred, the increases were approximately 2.7% in line with inflation over the intervening period since the last increase except as below:-

- (a) harmonise charge rates for certain licences in line with the rates shown in Appendix 1 to the report and re-classify as Category 1, 2, 3 and 4 licences and apply standardised 5% and 10% discounts for 2 and 3 year licence applications; and
 - (b) apply no increases to fixing kit equipment.
- (b) Corporate and Community Services Department

The Cabinet agreed that the recommendations regarding fees and charges policies as proposed be approved.
- (c) Education Department

The Cabinet agreed that the recommendations regarding fees and charges policies as proposed be approved.
- (d) Environment Department

The Cabinet agreed that the recommendations regarding fees and charges policies as proposed be approved.
- (e) Health and Social Care Partnership

The Cabinet agreed that the:-

 - (i) recommendations regarding fees and charges policies as proposed be approved; and
 - (ii) Chief Officer – Health and Social Care Partnership/Chief Finance Officer be authorised to set the contribution level for the new approach for calculating individual budgets up to 10%.

KERBSIDE RECYCLING SERVICE – UPDATE REPORT

704. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of 20 August 2015 (Page 1559, Item 1665 refers), when it was agreed to move to a 4 bin system of collection, subject to the Capital Programme Appraisal process, the Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, providing an update on the Council's 4-wheeled bin service and progress towards improved recycling rates.

Whilst noting that the initial capital investment in the 4-wheeled bin service had resulted in the effective implementation, management and delivery of the new kerb-side collection service, the report explained that recycling rates published by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) highlighted that the Council was leading the way in Scotland with an overall recycling rate of 67.1%, compared to the national average of 45.6%, and was 5% better than the next best performing council.

Furthermore, the Council was assessed by SEPA as the top recycling council in Scotland for the second year running and that landfill had successfully been reduced by several thousand tonnes leading to considerable financial benefit to the Council.

The report also highlighted that the future disposal of council waste had been secured through the Clyde Valley Waste Partnership for 25 years, and would ensure that the Council was compliant with the landfill ban commencing on 1 January 2021.

The Cabinet noted:-

- (a) the current position regarding the increased recycling rate for the 2017 calendar year; and
- (b) that the 4-wheeled bin service had achieved and exceeded its aims in terms of financial savings and reduction in the amount of residential (household) waste going to landfill for the 2017 calendar year.

PROPOSED LEASE OF JAMES MCGUIRE BUILDING, MAIN STREET, BARRHEAD

705. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval of the lease of the James McGuire Building, Barrhead. A plan showing the location of the building was appended to the report.

The report explained that the Include Me 2 Club (IM2C) which was a registered local charity based in Barrhead, had approached the Council seeking to lease the James McGuire Building in Barrhead. It was noted that as an organisation it engaged with and inspired children, young people and adults with additional support needs with clubs, play, arts, activities and events involving all members of families.

Whilst noting that the IM2C had proposed a business plan supporting the proposal demonstrating its ability to fund the running of the property, the report highlighted that the Environment Department was supportive of the proposal as it provided a viable use for the building and created a much needed community facility for families who had members with additional support needs. Details of the terms and conditions of the proposed lease were outlined in the report.

The Cabinet agreed:-

- (a) to approve the lease of the James McGuire Building to the Include Me 2 Club; and
- (b) 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 lease.

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Councillor Devlin left the meeting at this stage.

WELFARE CONTINGENCY FUND – CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU: HELPING EAST RENFREWSHIRE ONLINE (HERO) PROJECT

706. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of 21 June 2018 (Page 446, Item 473 refers), when it was agreed to note that £200,000 of welfare contingency funding had been made available in the revenue estimates for each of the next three years, the Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, in relation to a bid to the Welfare Contingency Resources to fund a shortfall in external funding for East Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau's (ERCAB) Helping East Renfrewshire Online (HERO) project in the next 12 months. A copy of the proposal detailing the work of the HERO project was appended to the report.

Whilst noting the details of the external funding that the ERCAB had now collated over 3 years, the report explained that approval was now being sought by the ERCAB to fund a shortfall of £22,288 in its HERO funding for the next 12 months only. Details of a directory of Universal Credit digital support in the local area which had been produced and publicised as part of arrangements for communicating the support arrangements in place for local residents dealing with the national roll out of UC was appended to the report.

The report explained that given the timing of the project starting midway through a financial year, it was recommended that any funding be split across 2018/19 and 2019/20 rather than all in 2018/19 as requested in the bid. This funding would be for this 12 month period only and did not seek to cover future years' funding gaps. Furthermore, there was potential for East Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau's HERO project to augment various support arrangements that had been put in place and the Council would continue its close working relationship with ERCAB as the Council worked together in partnership to provide services for vulnerable residents.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the East Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau's bid for £22,288 of welfare contingency funding over the next twelve months (split 50:50 in 2018/19 and 2019/20) to meet a shortfall in resources for helping East Renfrewshire Online (HERO) project).

CHAIR