

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 14 September 2017.

Present:

Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)
Councillor Paul O’Kane (Deputy Leader)

Councillor Caroline Bamforth
Councillor Danny Devlin

Councillor Buchanan, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Jim Sneddon, Head of Democratic and Partnership Services; Phil Daws, Head of Environment (Strategic Services); Diane Pirie, Chief Procurement Officer; and Paul O’Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Alan Lafferty and Colm Merrick.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

139. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

INSPECTION OF THE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE LEVERN VALLEY

140. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, advising of the results of the recent Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Education inspection of Community Learning and Development (CLD) in the Levern Valley. A copy of the HMIE report was appended to the report.

Whilst noting that following an inspection by Education Scotland of Community Learning and Development provision in the communities in the Levern Valley, particularly Barrhead and Neilston, between January and March in 2017, the report indicated that the Council had received a positive inspection result with the only improvement area identified by the inspectors being for CLD partners to continue to further develop and foster a culture of co-production with communities. It was noted that this would be built into the CLD partnership’s ongoing improvement work.

The Cabinet noted the terms of the report.

REVIEW OF PROCUREMENT DURING FINANCIAL YEAR 2016/17

141. The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement providing an update on procurement activities within the Council during the last financial year. A copy of the Procurement Improvement Plan update was appended to the report.

Whilst noting that a number of significant changes had taken place within the Corporate Procurement section over the last year, the report highlighted that to help drive the changes a Procurement Board had been established together with a new Corporate Procurement Strategy and Improvement Plan being adopted. The plan had been developed following the first assessment of the Corporate Procurement section under the Procurement and Commercial Improvement Programme and was conducted by Scotland Excel.

The report provided details of the key areas of work undertaken during the year which included Purchase to Pay (P2P), contracts associated with the City Deal and a 'Meet the Buyer' event. Summary details of the procurement activities undertaken and the contracts awarded to Small Medium Sized Enterprise (SME) together with information on local spend for the last financial year were also outlined in the report. It was noted that spend with both local suppliers and suppliers in the Glasgow and Strathclyde region had increased from the previous year and that the Council continued to award the majority of contracts to SME suppliers.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) noted the progress made within Council's Corporate Procurement section; and
- (b) approved the report as a summary of the Corporate Procurement's End-Year performance for 2016/17.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY CONSULTATION RESPONSE

142. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, seeking approval of the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Socio-Economic Duty. A copy of the response was appended to the report.

The report explained that the socio-economic duty would place a new requirement on public bodies, including councils, to consider how they could reduce poverty and inequality whenever they made strategic decisions. The duty would build on the Council's extensive, existing work to tackle inequality and poverty, through early years, education and supporting those impacted by Welfare Reform.

The report advised that the Council's response highlighted that the duty should be expanded to cover additional bodies such as the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Further Education authorities. Furthermore, the Council proposed that Scottish Government guidance should be flexible enough to adapt to the Council's existing decision making structures.

The Cabinet approved the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Socio-Economic Duty.

PROPOSED LEASE EXTENSION – BRIG O’LEA STADIUM, UPLAWMOOR ROAD, NEILSTON

143. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval for the proposed extension of the lease of Brig O’Lea Stadium to Neilston Juniors Football Club.

Noting that Neilston Juniors Football Club had played at the Brig O’Lea Stadium, Neilston since 1945 and that its current lease would expire in 2020, the report highlighted that the club were seeking to extend the lease by 25 years to the year 2045 with a view to it securing external funding for a proposed synthetic pitch and associated improvements to the facilities at Brig O’Lea.

The Cabinet approved the proposed extension of the duration of the Council’s lease of Brig O’Lea Stadium to Neilston Juniors Football Club.

WRITE-OFF OF IRRECOVERABLE FORMER TENANT RENT AND COURT EXPENSES

144. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval to write-off former tenant rental debt and court expenses that could not be recovered through the debt collection process.

The Cabinet approved:-

- (a) the write-off sum up to the value of £19,768.80 of former tenant irrecoverable Rents and Court Expenses whilst acknowledging that these could be pursued and recovered in future should additional information and opportunities arise; and
- (b) that £18,716.90 of this amount be written-off against the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the remaining £1,051.90 be written-off against the Non-HRA as this was accrued by homeless households placed in temporary accommodation.

CHAIR

