

**MINUTE**  
**of**  
**EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Minute of Meeting held at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 28 June 2017.**

**Present:**

Provost Jim Fletcher	Councillor Alan Lafferty
Deputy Provost Betty Cunningham	Councillor Colm Merrick
Councillor Caroline Bamforth	Councillor Stewart Miller
Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)	Councillor Paul O’Kane
Councillor Angela Convery	Councillor Jim Swift
Councillor Barbara Grant	Councillor Gordon Wallace
Councillor Annette Ireland	

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Mhairi Shaw, Director of Education; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); Phil Daws, Head of Environment (Strategic Services); Candy Millard; Head of Strategic Services, HSCP; Louise Pringle, Head of Business Change and Revenues; Kate Rocks; Chief Social Work Officer; Eamonn Daly, Democratic Services Manager; and Ron Leitch, Committee Services Officer.

**Apologies:**

Councillors Paul Aitken, Danny Devlin, Charlie Gilbert, David Macdonald and Jim McLean.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

41. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

42. The Council considered and approved the Minute of the meeting held on 24 May 2017 subject to an amendment to show that Councillor McLean (substitute Councillor Miller) had been appointed to the East Renfrewshire Renewable Energy Fund.

**MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES**

43. The Council considered and approved the Minutes of the meetings of the undernoted except as otherwise referred to in Items 44 and 45 below:-:-

(a) Planning Applications Committee – 2 June 2017;

- (b) Licensing Committee – 20 June 2017;
- (c) Education Committee – 21 June 2017;
- (d) Planning Applications Committee – 21 June 2017;
- (e) Local Review Body – 21 June 2017; and
- (f) Cabinet – 22 June 2017.

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE – 2 JUNE 2017 – DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT MAIDENHILL, NEWTON MEARNES**

44. Under reference to the Minute of meeting of the Planning Applications Committee on 2 June 2017 (Page 21, Item 16 refers), the Director of Environment confirmed that future maintenance of areas of public open space within the proposed Maidenhill development would be the responsibility of a suitable grounds maintenance contractor appointed by the residents under a factoring arrangement. He also explained, supported by Provost Fletcher, that the Council had no executive responsibility for the commercial operations of Scottish Water and that in the event of flooding, responsibility would rest with the body whose failure had been the cause of the flooding.

The Council noted the position.

#### **CABINET – 22 JUNE 2017 – TRANSFERS FROM GENERAL FUND TO HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT**

45. Under reference to the Minute of meeting of the Cabinet on 22 June 2017 (Pages 46/47, Items 39 & 40 refer), the Head of Environment (Strategic Services) explained that the Council attempted to maintain a balanced estate through the construction of a range of house sizes with a view to being able to accommodate as many potential applicants as possible.

The Council noted the information.

#### **OUTCOME DELIVERY PLAN 2017-2020**

46. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of the Cabinet of 23 March 2017 (Page 2268, Item 2436 refers), when it was agreed to recommend to the new Council that the draft Outcome Delivery Plan (ODP) 2017/20 be approved, the Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive. A copy of the ODP 2017–2020 was appended to the report.

The report explained that the ODP was the Council's 3-year plan which was updated annually and was an important document as it set out the Council's key planned priorities for delivering better outcomes for all of East Renfrewshire's residents and communities, within its overall aim of making people's lives better. Furthermore, it had been developed to become a visual, streamlined plan through the use of a set of diagrams which showed 'at a glance' the key things the Council was planning to do to achieve its outcomes and some high level performance measures.

Since the draft plan had been presented to Cabinet in March there had been a small number of changes to the plan, predominately as a result of the finalisation of the Children and Young People's Service Plan as well as the addition of year-end data that had not been available at that time.

The report concluded by indicating that the ODP set out the Council's strategic intent. Council services had refined their input to the driver diagrams for the new ODP and checked that performance measures were robust and that they demonstrated the Council's ultimate aim of making people's lives better in East Renfrewshire.

Following brief discussion, in the course of which a number of issues including the reasons for the removal of the Community Warden service during the night were clarified, Councillor Buchanan, responding to a comment from Councillor Swift, explained that the plan had been agreed by the previous administration and that the new administration considered that the areas outlined in the plan were still appropriate to be addressed during the term of the current Council.

Thereafter, the Council agreed to:-

- (a) approve the content of the Outcome Delivery Plan 2017 – 2020; and
- (b) note that the East Renfrewshire Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) was required to be in place by 1 October 2017.

## **PROVOST'S ENGAGEMENTS**

47. The Council considered and noted a report by the Deputy Chief Executive providing details of civic engagements attended and civic duties performed by Provost Fletcher since the last meeting.

## **STATEMENTS BY CONVENERS**

### **East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust**

48. Councillor Merrick recognised the strong performance of East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure (ERCL) Trust since its launch in 2015 and commended the leadership its board and management had brought to culture and leisure services in the authority.

The Trust, which had completed its first full year of operation in March 2017 had built on its marked early successes. In particular, Councillor Merrick highlighted that sports venues had once again had their highest attendance levels in 5 years; attendances at Eastwood Park Theatre had increased by 16.7% with the success of the increased professional programme including a sell-out pantomime; libraries had once again been awarded Customer Service Excellence with their best-ever performance; and participation in Community Sports Development activities and events had risen by 15.7% on the previous year.

The ambition for ERCL was to be "the highest performing Leisure Trust in Scotland" and, as noted in the Outcome Delivery Plan (ODP) for 2017 – 2020, action was being taken to further improve performance and modernise service delivery, including a Business Support Review designed to create efficient processes that supported the delivery of excellent customer service; the development of an overall ERCL marketing strategy to increase the breadth and quality of exposure and drive up participation; the expansion of the network of Community Sport Hubs; and supporting the roll-out of the Accreditation Scheme to achieve a consistently high quality sports offer across East Renfrewshire.

Councillor Merrick concluded his statement by expressing his delight at having joined the Board of the Trust and looked forward to working with the Chair, Jim Wilson, his fellow trustees and the management to take culture and leisure services in East Renfrewshire from strength to strength.

Having heard Councillor Fletcher, in response to comments from Councillor Wallace regarding the long-term future of Eastwood Leisure Centre, explain that funding had been identified within the Council's 8-year General Fund Capital Programme for investment in that facility and that the Trust would bring a range of proposals to the Council for consideration in due course, the Council noted the position.

### **Integration Joint Board**

**49.** Councillor Bamforth reported that she had attended her first meeting as Chair of the Integration Joint Board (IJB) which had taken place that morning.

She explained that Councillors O'Kane and Swift had also joined the Board as new members and that they would all benefit from the experience of Councillor Buchanan who continued as a member of the Board.

The Board had approved the Annual Performance Report which, subject to some minor changes, would be presented to a future meeting of the Council. She expressed the view that the level of performance and the many examples of partnership working were a tribute to the long standing commitment of the Council to health and social care integration. She had been very impressed with the amount of innovative work undertaken over the past year.

She went on to report that the Chief Financial Officer had presented the unaudited accounts for the IJB. A copy would shortly be available on the HSCP website for the statutory inspection period and the accounts would be audited by Audit Scotland.

She concluded by reporting that a report on patient and public transport to Eastwood Health and Care Centre had been considered by the Board. Unfortunately, uptake of the additional 375 bus service had not reached a commercially viable level nor did it justify ongoing subsidy by the IJB. However, Community Transport East Renfrewshire, through its volunteer driver scheme, supported the most vulnerable residents to hospital and GP appointments and the Board had agreed to continue to fund that project.

A brief discussion followed, in the course of which a number of issues were raised including the ongoing squeeze on funding from the NHS; the need for closer co-operation between the IJB and the Licensing Board in an effort to tackle the issue of alcohol related ill-health; and the Council's awareness of the need for better bus services including those to Eastwood Health and Care Centre.

The Council noted the position.

## **STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES ON JOINT BOARDS/COMMITTEES AND COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY**

### **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**

**50.** Councillor Lafferty reported that 2 meetings of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) had been held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June and that new officer bearers had been elected. He also reported that all SPT agendas and reports were now available on the SPT website.

## **Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority Joint Committee**

51. Councillor Lafferty reported that agendas and reports for the Joint Committee were now available on the committee's website and that the future remit of the authority was currently under review. Further information would be brought to the Council as it became available.

The Council noted the position.

### **PRESENTATION – STRATEGIC YEAR END PERFORMANCE 2016–2017**

52. The Council viewed and noted a presentation summarising the performance of both the Community Planning Partnership and Council for 2016-/17.

### **STRATEGIC YEAR END PERFORMANCE 2016–2017**

53. Under reference to the preceding item, the Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive providing a summary of the East Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and Council year-end performance 2016/17 based on performance indicators in the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and Outcome Delivery Plan (ODP) 2016/19. The report highlighted areas of very good performance as well as those indicators that were off target. Details of the improvement actions for the CPP arising from the meeting of the Performance and Accountability Review (PAR) held on 9 May 2017 appeared as Annex 3 to the report and a year-end complaints report appeared as Annex 4.

The report explained that the PAR oversaw the CPP's performance against SOA outcomes and, in particular, focussed on areas where there was evidence of a decline in performance. Almost three quarters of all SOA indicators were on target at the year-end and an Advice Note had been issued to the CPP Board on the future focus and priorities for the PAR.

It went on to explain that the Council continued to achieve excellent performance results across many areas including educational attainment and school exclusion rates; household waste recycling; supporting people into employment; and sustaining the lowest rate of teenage pregnancy in Scotland. The Council also performed consistently well in other areas such as affordable housing provision; the number of awards received by young people; and satisfaction with Council services as measured through the Citizens' Panel survey. Overall, of the ODP indicators at year-end with targets set, the Council was meeting target in over 85% of the indicators. In the remaining areas where there was scope for improvement, such as absence and invoice processing, there was a clear understanding of the reasons for those performance levels and departments were closely monitoring progress and taking appropriate action to improve.

The report concluded by explaining that, in April 2013, in line with statutory guidance issued by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO), the Council had revised its complaints handling procedure and moved to a two-stage process. All Scottish councils were required to assess and monitor their complaints handling performance against a number of high-level performance indicators. A detailed report on the Council's performance against these indicators for 2016/17, including a comparison with 2015/16, was included. This provided details of the number of complaints received during 2016/17 together with an overview of the complaints handling performance in terms of the Council's corporate complaints procedure. The number of complaints received had dropped in comparison to 2015/16 and the Council was continuing to respond to complaints well within the national target timescales.

A brief discussion followed, in the course of which a number of issues were clarified including that data in the report relating to hospital admissions referred to the 2015/16 financial year and that the corresponding data for 2016/17 was expected to be available in August 2017. It was also noted that officers within the HSCP were continuing to monitor usage of the car park at Eastwood Health and Care Centre with a view to trying to arrange non-medical events such as meetings to avoid times of peak usage by patients attending medical appointments with a view to resolving the problem of lack of parking availability which was the source of a number of complaints to the HSCP.

Councillor Buchanan expressed his thanks for a comprehensive presentation and report which showed a largely positive outcome. However, he stressed that there was no room for complacency and that the Council had to continue to seek further improvements as it strives to continue to make people's lives better by delivering highly valued services and achieving positive outcomes for its communities.

The Council agreed to note:-

- (a) the summary of the Community Planning Partnership and Council year-end performance for 2016/17 and the comments made;
- (b) the Advice Note from the Performance and Accountability Review to the Community Planning Partnership in respect of the focus and priorities for 2017/18 following the meeting of 9 May 2017; and
- (c) the year-end complaints report.

## **EAST RENFREWSHIRE'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES PLAN 2017–2020**

**54.** The Council considered a report by the Chief Social Work Officer, presenting for consideration *Getting it Right for You*, the East Renfrewshire Children and Young People's Services Plan 2017-2020, a copy of which accompanied the report.

The report referred to the obligations placed on local authorities, in conjunction with their relevant health board, to jointly prepare a 3-year Children's Services Plan for the local authority area, as well as the requirement on the local authority and health board to jointly publish an annual report detailing how the provision of children's services and related services in the area had been provided in accordance with the plan. It was noted that the start of the first 3 - year period had been determined by Ministerial Order as 1 April 2017.

Referring to the plan, the report explained that in accordance with the statutory guidance, the plan had been framed within the national *Getting it Right for Every Child* agenda and in particular the Wellbeing Indicators. This ensured outcomes and success indicators were linked to the Community Plan and the developing Local Outcome Improvement Plan, amongst others.

Having set out the Wellbeing Indicators, the report provided details of the consultation and partnership working that had taken place in the development of the plan. In particular, the overarching role of the Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People Partnership was outlined.

The report concluded by confirming that the purpose of the plan was to set out the vision for East Renfrewshire's children, young people and their families, and demonstrate the commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes for them.

The Council agreed to:-

- (a) acknowledge the new duties of the Children and Young People Act 2014 as they relate to Parts 1 and 3 of the Act; and
- (b) note and approve the content of the Children and Young People's Services Plan 2017–2020 prior to its submission to the Scottish Government.

## **REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS REQUIREMENTS AND PLAN FOR EQUALITY OUTCOMES 2017–2021**

**55.** The Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing an update on progress to fulfil the Council's equality duties since 2013 and outlining proposals for Equality and Human Rights from 2017 to 2021.

The report explained that under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) the Council had, since 2012, been under a duty to publish a report on the progress made to make the equality duty integral to the exercise of its functions so as to better perform that duty. The first report was required to be published not later than 30 April 2013 with subsequent reports published at intervals of no more than 2 years. It went on to explain that the Council's wider Equality and Human Rights agenda was a combination of the equality and human rights-related aspects of the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and the Education Department's "Equalities Delivery Plan 2017-2020".

The report set out in detail the wide range of activities undertaken to ensure compliance with the legislation and explained that the Council continued to work with various partners to reduce inequalities between different groups within the local population and between different areas through early intervention and preventative approaches. This partnership approach was also being built in to activities to tackle inequalities across all areas of service delivery.

Councillor O'Kane, speaking in support of the report, commented on the wide diversity of the local population and expressed the view that the entire community benefitted from this diversity.

Thereafter, the Council agreed to:-

- (a) note the progress made by the Council since 2013 to fulfil its equalities duties; and
- (b) approve the proposals for Equality and Human Rights from 2017 to 2021.

## **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

**56.** The Council considered a report by the Chief Financial Officer seeking approval for revised Financial Regulations.

The report explained that, in line with good practice, the Chief Financial Officer periodically reviewed the Financial Regulations which set out the financial procedures to be followed by all departments and updated these to take account of changes to Council structures, processes and risks. The regulations had been redrafted to be shorter, written in "plain English", and aimed at the correct audience thereby making them easier to understand. The

redrafted regulations were more strategic in nature and had links to more detailed procedures and policies where necessary. This would ensure that any future update to the underpinning procedures and policies did not render the regulations out of date. Many of the links related to internal documents and therefore would only be accessible to Council staff. Not all of the links had been finalised. However, as the links became available, the Financial Regulations would be updated online.

Responding to comments from Members with regard to the payment of invoices to local businesses, the Chief Financial Officer explained that the Head of Business Change and Revenues had implemented an intensive programme of work in this regard and that considerable improvements were now being seen. A separate report on this work would be brought forward in the near future. The Chief Executive commented that the Corporate Management Team (CMT) monitored these figures on a monthly basis and confirmed that considerable improvements had been seen in the past few months. However, this was still a priority area for the Council to address and it was anticipated that further significant improvements were still to follow.

The Council approved the revised Financial Regulations.

## **GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

57. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of 9 February 2017 (Page 2220, Item 2385 refers), when the General Capital Fund Programme 2017/18 had been approved, the Council considered a report by the Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer) recommending adjustments to the programme resulting from finalisation of the previous year's programme and in light of subsequent information. The report highlighted the latest developments relating to the programme, including the latest income and expenditure movements and cash flow management issues and indicated that the projected shortfall of £279,000 represented approximately 0.8% of the resources available and was within manageable limits.

Councillor Buchanan explained that the level of general capital grant from the Scottish Government had increased by £571k for infrastructure projects to support the increase in early years and childcare provision to 1140 hours by 2020 and that additional grant funding of £119k had been obtained to progress the Council's central Energy Efficiency Fund projects.

The Council:-

- (a) noted and approved the movements within the programme 2017/18; and
- (b) noted that the shortfall of £279,000 would be monitored and reported on a regular basis.

## **CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS – EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS RELATED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

58. The Council considered a report by the Director of Environment providing an update with regard to the capital arrangements for the financing of a variety of school and early-years related construction projects and seeking approval to vary the previously agreed budget allocations within the overall capital allocation.



The report explained that as part of the Council's continued programme of investment and early years infrastructure, a variety of new-build projects was underway or being investigated. Five key projects formed the focus of the report, these being the new non-denominational primary school at Maidenhill; the new Barrhead High School; the new Faith Schools Joint Campus; the extension and refurbishment of Crookfur Primary School; and feasibility appraisals of sites and buildings to expand capacity for early years provision in line with the Council's requirement to increase places for early learning and childcare across the area to meet the Scottish Government policy on increased entitlement to 1,140 hours by 2020. Three of these projects, namely Barrhead High School, the Faith Schools Joint Campus and Crookfur Primary School were due to be completed for the new school term commencing in August 2017.

The report went on to explain that as a result of competitive markets and prudent management, it was anticipated that the final accounts for these three projects would come in significantly under budget. At the same time the new-build project at Maidenhill plus essential preparations for the delivery of the Scottish Government's plan to increase early years provision would require an increase in funding alongside a rephrasing of some of the existing allocated expenditure and it was proposed that this would be funded through the identified underspend.

The Council agreed to:-

- (a) note the good progress and savings achieved in relation to the construction of Barrhead High School, the Faith Schools Joint Campus and Crookfur Primary School;
- (b) note the current position on costs and funding in relation to the construction of the new non-denominational primary school at Maidenhill;
- (c) note the revised funding requirements for the in-depth scoping exercise to undertake feasibility appraisals of sites and buildings to expand capacity for early years provision to 1,140 hours by 2020; and
- (d) approve the proposed budget variations as outlined in the report.

## **HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

**59.** Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of 9 February 2017 (Page 2222, Item 2387 refers), when the Housing Capital Fund Programme 2017/18 had been approved, the Council considered a report by the Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer) and Director of Environment recommending adjustments to the programme resulting from finalisation of the previous year's programme and in light of subsequent information. The report highlighted the latest developments relating to the programme, including the latest income and expenditure movements and cash flow management issues and indicated that the projected shortfall of £64,000 represented approximately 0.7% of the resources available and was within manageable limits

Councillor Buchanan explained that resources to support the programme had been increased by £1.7m as a result of the estimated level of capital receipts arising from the final applications under the Right to Buy scheme which had now come to an end. Additional capital grant of £52k had also been received from the Scottish Government to support Mortgage to Rent acquisitions within the programme.

The Council:-

- (a) noted and approved the movements within the programme 2017/18; and
- (b) noted that the shortfall of £64,000 would be monitored and reported on a regular basis.

## **SCHEME OF MEMBERS' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES**

**60.** The Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive on the Scheme of Members' Remuneration and Expenses for 2017/18. A copy of the Scheme was appended to the report.

The report explained that the Scheme provided details of the basic salary paid to all councillors and the increased salaries paid to the leader and the Civic Head (Provost), these amounts being prescribed in legislation. The Scheme also provided details of those positions in the Council that had been identified as Senior Councillor positions for the purpose of the regulations, and the levels of salary to be paid to each postholder. In addition, the Scheme provided details of those other categories in respect of which Elected Members were entitled to claim expenses, such as the performance of approved duties, travelling expenses, and subsistence allowances.

The report went on to explain that the Chief Auditor had recently conducted an investigation into the former Scheme and this had highlighted a number of areas where the Scheme was not sufficiently clear and she had made a number of recommendations regarding ways in which the Scheme could be made more robust. The Scheme had also been amended to reflect Scottish Government guidance on a number of issues and reflected the fact that the Council had reduced the number of Senior Councillors from 9 to 8.

The Democratic Services Manager explained that the Council's mobile phone policy was in the process of being amended to remove the need for Elected Members to access their bills to check them for content. Approval was therefore being sought for authority to be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive to amend the Scheme to reflect this change once the mobile phone policy change was completed.

Having heard Provost Fletcher in response to comments from Councillors Swift and Wallace reiterate that the proposed increase in the level of salary to Senior Councillors reflected the reduction in the number of such posts from 9 to 8, the Council agreed to:-

- (a) approve the Scheme of Members' Remuneration and Expenses for 2017/18; and
- (b) delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive to amend the Scheme once the change in the policy relating to mobile phone use had been finalised.

## **EXEMPTION FROM ACCESS RIGHTS – GLANDERSTON WOOD**

**61.** The Council considered a report by the Director of Environment informing of an application to exempt land at Glanderston Wood, Neilston from access rights and to agree that a draft Order be advertised for public consultation, and thereafter submitted to Scottish Ministers for consideration.

The report explained that representatives of a film location company had contacted the Council with a view to filming a television programme in an area within Glanderston Wood, Neilston. An application had subsequently been made under Section 11 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 for an exemption from access rights for a period from September 2017 to September 2019 on the grounds of safety and security. If approved by the Council, the draft Order would be advertised in the local press for a period of 14 days to invite objections or representations. Thereafter, the proposed Order and any objections received would be sent to Scottish Ministers for consideration. A copy of the proposed order formed Appendix 1 to the report.

Following brief discussion the Council agreed that the draft Order be advertised for public consultation and thereafter submitted to Scottish Ministers for consideration.

## **KIRKING OF THE COUNCIL**

**62.** The Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive putting forward proposals for the Kirking of the Council Service. The report explained that in 1996 the Council, when considering a request from the Eastwood Branch of Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS), had agreed that it would be appropriate to hold a Kirking of the Council Service at the outset of each new Council.

Against the background of the location where previous services had been held, it was reported that discussions had been ongoing regarding a service for the current Council and that a number of possible venues had been suggested by Elected Members and the local clergy.

The Council agreed that:-

- (a) the Kirking of the Council Service be held in St Aiden's Episcopal Church on Sunday, 27 August 2017; and
- (b) authority be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive to make the appropriate arrangements for the service.

## **EAST RENFREWSHIRE FLYING OF FLAGS**

**63.** The Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive seeking consideration of a protocol governing flags flown by the Council.

The report explained that the Council traditionally flew flags on 4 occasions annually, these being Commonwealth Day in March; Armed Forces Day in June; Merchant Navy Day in September; and Remembrance Day in November. It went on to explain that periodically the Council was asked to fly a flag at other times but that there was currently no formally agreed protocol for the Council in this regard. It concluded by explaining that a suggestion had been made by a member of the Council in relation to the flying of a Rainbow Flag to mark Glasgow Pride annually in August in support of the LGBTi community.

Responding to Councillor Swift who sought clarification on the policy of flying flags in schools, the Director of Education explained that schools which had been awarded the Sport Scotland Gold Award were entitled to fly a flag, the background of which was the saltire, but that this did not indicate affiliation to any political party.

The Council agreed to:-

- (a) fly flags on 5 occasions annually, these being Commonwealth Day in March; Armed Forces Day in June; Glasgow Pride Weekend in August; Merchant Navy Day in September; and Remembrance Day in November; and
- (b) delegate authority to the Head of Democratic and Partnership Services, in consultation with the Provost, should a national or international event deem it appropriate to fly a flag at any other time.

#### **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2018**

**64.** The Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive seeking approval for the 2018 calendar of meetings and agreement to a special meeting of the Council on 28 September 2017, following the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee, for consideration of the annual accounts.

The Council agreed to:-

- (a) approve the 2018 calendar of meetings; and
- (b) convene a special meeting of the Council on 28 September 2017, following the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee, for consideration of the annual accounts.

PROVOST