

Department of Business Operations and Partnerships

Director: Louise Pringle

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Date: 2 September 2022

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TO: Provost Montague; Deputy Provost Campbell; and Councillors Anderson, Bamforth, Buchanan, Convery, Cunningham, Devlin, Edlin, Ireland, Lunday, Macdonald, McLean, Merrick, Morrison, O'Donnell, Pragnell and Wallace.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

A meeting of the East Renfrewshire Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock, on **Wednesday 7 September 2022 at 7.00 pm.**

The agenda of business is as listed below.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Provost will make a statement that the meeting will be webcast live and recorded for later publicly accessible archive viewing.

Yours faithfully

Louise Pringle

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DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS OPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS

1. **Report apologies for absence.**
2. **Declarations of Interest.**
3. **Submit for approval as a correct record and signature the Minute of meeting of the Council held on 29 June 2022.**
4. **Submit for approval as a correct record the Minutes of meetings for the period 30 June to 6 September 2022.**

5. Items remitted to the Council

- (i) Annual Treasury Management Report for 2021/22– Report by Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer)(copy attached, pages 7 - 20)(Audit & Scrutiny Committee – 11 August 2022).

Audit & Scrutiny Committee Recommendation

That the organisations listed at Appendix 7 be approved for the investment of surplus funds.

- (ii) Nomination of co-opted and substitute co-opted member on the Integration Joint Board Performance and Audit Committee (Audit & Scrutiny Committee – 11 August 2022).

Audit & Scrutiny Committee Recommendation

That Councillors Macdonald and Wallace be appointed as the co-opted and substitute co-opted members on the Integration Joint Board Performance and Audit Committee.

- (iii) General Fund Capital Programme – Report by Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer)(copy attached, pages 21 - 68)(Cabinet – 1 September 2022).

Cabinet Recommendation

(a) that the movements in project phasing across the 10 year capital programme be approved;

(b) the movements within the 2022/23 programme be approved.

- (iv) Housing Capital Programme – Report by Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer) and Director of Environment (copy attached, pages 69 - 76)(Cabinet – 1 September 2022).

Cabinet Recommendation

That the movements within the 2022/23 programme be approved.

6. Notices of Motion

Motion No.1

That East Renfrewshire and its residents are suffering due to the cost-of-living crisis. The Conservative cost of living crisis is spiralling out of control due to continuing damaging decisions imposed by Westminster, including Conservative austerity cuts, tax hikes and Brexit. At a time when East Renfrewshire families are going to be thousands of pounds worse off, it is disgraceful that the Conservatives are hitting people's incomes further by raising regressive taxes like National Insurance and VAT, slashing Universal Credit by £1040, and scrapping the triple lock on pensions

On 6 April 2022, the Government increased National Insurance by 1.25 percentage points, which is projected to cost the some East Renfrewshire families hundreds of pounds additionally per year.

Council also notes

- **Recent figures provided by the Trussell Trust recording that 197,037 food parcels were distributed to Scottish residents between April 2021 and April 2022 – with 70,040 being distributed to children.**
- **On Ofgem has increased the energy price cap by 80 per cent. The price cap is expected to reach £3,576 in October, rising to £4,799 in January, finally hitting £6,089 in April**
- **In the light of the increased energy price cap, the average standard tariff energy bill will increase by £693 per year. The average pre-pay meter energy bill will increase by £708 per year (ofgem, 2022).**
- **Inflation could soar to 18.6 per cent by the start of 2023**
- **The Conservative government has suspended the pensions “triple lock” for 2022/3, meaning that East Renfrewshire’s pensioners will see a below inflation increase. Further, they have removed the relied on £20 Universal Credit uplift.**

Council believes:

Under this Government people are seeing tax hikes, energy bills soaring and petrol and food prices rising drastically.

The Conservative Government has failed to tackle the cost-of-living crisis. Therefore, this council declares a “Cost of Living Emergency”

Council resolves:

to declare a “Cost of Living Emergency”

As part of this Council calls on ERC’s Council Leader to contact the UK government and request that they:

- **Scrap the rise in the energy price cap,**
- **Double the energy grant to £800, and bring forward payments to the beginning of October**
- **Introduce as a matter of urgency an energy price cap for small and medium sized businesses**
- **Bring in a further windfall tax and extend this to include all large businesses who made significant profits during the pandemic.**

Council instructs the Council Leader to write to the UK Government to express the Council’s concerns.

Furthermore, Council calls for a cross party internal review into what the council can offer East Renfrewshire families struggling with the Cost-of-Living Emergency – with the input of stakeholders including Citizens Advice, Food Banks, local Trade Unions and Chambers of Commerce.

Moved by Councillor Buchanan and seconded by Councillor Merrick.

Motion No.2

That this Council will join workers, trade unions and communities in commemorating Workers' Memorial Day in East Renfrewshire. This council welcomes that Workers' Memorial Day is commemorated throughout the world and whilst officially recognised by the UK Government; expresses concern that more people are killed at work than in wars every year; calls on the Government to pursue stricter enforcement of health and safety laws; recognises that a strong trade union movement is vital for workers' rights in the UK.

This Council will therefore organise a workers memorial commemoration event every year from 28th April 2023. The Council will also investigate an official cairn to recognise the workers lost here in East Renfrewshire.

East Renfrewshire Council recognises the importance of the day, not only to remember lives lost at work, but also as an opportunity to raise awareness of health and safety at work and the key role the Trade Union movement can play in this."

Moved by Councillor Ireland and seconded by Councillor Bamforth.

7. **Statements by Conveners/Representatives on Joint Boards/Committees.**
8. **Appointments – Reports (2) by Director of Business Operations and Partnerships**
 - (i) **Nomination of Veterans' Champion (copy attached, pages 77 - 82).**
 - (ii) **COSLA Boards (copy attached, pages 83 - 90).**
9. **Provost's Engagements – Report by Director of Business Operations and Partnerships (copy attached, pages 91 - 92).**
10. **Review of Governance Arrangements – Report by Chief Executive (copy attached, pages 93 - 112).**
11. **Annual Statement on Adequacy and Effectiveness of Governance, Risk Management and Internal Control Systems – Report by Audit & Scrutiny Committee (copy attached, pages 113 - 117).**

A recording of the meeting will also be made available on the Council's YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/eastrenfrewshire/videos>

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