

**MINUTES of MEETING of POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL
CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2016**

Present:

Councillor Dick Walsh (Chair)

Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor Ellen Morton
Councillor Robin Currie	Councillor James Robb
Councillor Mary-Jean Devon	Councillor Len Scoullar
Councillor Roderick McCuish	Councillor Isobel Strong
Councillor Aileen Morton	Councillor Sandy Taylor

Also Present:

Councillor John McAlpine	Councillor Donald MacMillan
Councillor Robert E MacIntyre	

Attending:

Douglas Hendry, Executive Director – Customer Services
Pippa Milne, Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
Fergus Murray, Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation
Kirsty Flanagan, Head of Strategic Finance
Patricia O’Neill, Central Governance Manager

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Maurice Corry, Alistair MacDougall, Neil MacIntyre and Gary Mulvaney.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none intimated.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 17 March 2016 were approved as a correct record.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTING 2016-17

The Committee considered a report setting out proposed arrangements for financial reporting during 2016-17.

Decision

The Committee noted the arrangements for financial reporting during 2016-17.

(Reference: Report by Head of Strategic Finance dated 5 April 2016, submitted)

5. 2016-17 SETTLEMENT CHANGES

The Committee considered a report advising of updates to both the capital and the revenue funding since the Council’s Budget meeting on 11 February 2016. The report highlighted a change to the Revenue funding in respect of the floor calculation where an error had been identified resulting in a reduction of funding of £0.068M. It also highlighted a change to the capital funding in respect of a 20% allocation of the

flooding capital grant (£0.113M) and additional monies in relation to the Children and Young People Act (£0.542M), a total increase of £0.655M.

Decision

The Committee –

1. Noted the decrease in revenue funding due to an error in the floor calculation by Scottish Government and noted that SMT would take steps to eliminate the variance which would be reported through routine budget monitoring.
2. Noted the increase in capital funding and the requirement to use some of the funding to meet the increased costs for the replacement of Dunclutha Children's House as agreed at Council on 21 April 2016.
3. Agreed that for the remainder of the capital funding, that the Asset Management Board bring forward proposals in due course for Member approval.

(Reference: Report by Head of Strategic Finance dated 26 April 2016, submitted)

6. REGENERATION INITIATIVES

(a) Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Rural Regeneration Initiative

Following agreement by Council to establish the Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Rural Regeneration Initiative, the Committee considered a report setting out further background including parallel developments and which sought to capture key plans, activities, investments and initiatives in a single framework document.

Decision

The Committee –

1. Noted the content of the report setting out the background and purpose of the Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Rural Regeneration Initiative and the associated framework document appended as appendix 1.
2. Noted that separate papers on the agenda were linked to this general paper, namely the Inward Investment Fund, the Rural Resettlement Fund, and the Lochgilphead and Tarbert Regeneration Fund.
3. Agreed that the Inward Investment Fund, the Rural Resettlement Fund and the Lochgilphead and Tarbert Regeneration Fund would be reported under the Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Rural Regeneration Initiative and that this would be reported to the Policy and Resources Committee.
4. Agreed that the Asset Management Fund is not an integral part of the Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Rural Regeneration Initiative and would be reported separately under the emerging transformation agenda.

(Reference: Report by Chief Executive dated 18 April 2016, submitted)

(b) **Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund**

The Committee considered a report providing an overview of the proposed criteria for distribution of a £3M regeneration fund targeted at the Mid Argyll and North Kintyre Area. The funding is intended to promote the further regeneration and economic development of Mid Argyll and North Kintyre focusing mainly on the communities of Lochgilphead and Tarbert.

Decision

The Committee –

1. Agreed the criteria set down in paragraph 4.3 of the submitted report.
2. Agreed that the main focus of the Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund should be the main town of Lochgilphead & Ardrishaig, the key settlement of Tarbert and the areas immediately surrounding them.
3. Noted that the Executive Director for Development and Infrastructure would report to the Policy and Resources Committee on a regular basis on the operation and performance of the fund.
4. Agreed that following consultation with the MAKI Area Committee that business cases would be developed for approval by the Policy and Resources Committee.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 14 March 2016, submitted)

(c) **Rural Resettlement Fund**

The Committee considered a report setting out proposed criteria, timescales and Governance for a £500K Rural Resettlement Fund to help incentivise new residents and/or businesses to relocate to Argyll and Bute to help grow the population throughout the area.

Decision

The Committee –

1. Agreed that the main focus of the Rural Regeneration Fund should be to incentivise new residents and/or businesses to relocate to Argyll and Bute.
2. Agreed that officers produce a range of options, including all administration arrangements, for member approval at the August Policy and Resources Committee
3. Noted that the Executive Director for Development and Infrastructure would report to the Policy and Resources Committee on a regular basis on the operation and performance of the fund.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 21 March 2016, submitted)

(d) **Inward Investment Fund**

The Committee considered a report outlining broad criteria of a £1M Inward Investment Fund covering the area of Argyll and Bute. It was intended that the fund would be to promote the growth of the Argyll and Bute economy through attracting significant inward investment to the region that has the potential for a transformational impact.

Decision

The Committee approved the implementation of the Inward Investment Fund and its associated criteria and governance arrangements, intended to promote the growth of the economy in Argyll and Bute.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 21 March 2016, submitted)

7. WIND TURBINE AT GLENGORM LANDFILL SITE

The Committee considered a report providing them with an update on progress made following the delegation given by Council, on 21 January 2016, to the Executive Director – Customer Services, in consultation with the Leader, Depute Leader and Leader of the main Opposition Group, to accept tenders in respect of the installation of a wind turbine at Glengorm Landfill Site on Mull.

Decision

The Committee noted the position in terms of the delegation granted by Council on 21 January 2016.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Customer Services dated 4 May 2016, submitted)

8. ENHANCED EMPLOYABILITY PIPELINE STRATEGIC INTERVENTION - EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The Committee considered a recommendation from the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 7 April 2016 in respect of the proposed Enhanced Employability Pipeline Strategic Intervention application to the European Social Fund 2014 to 2020.

Decision

The Committee noted that no further feedback was available at the current time and therefore no report was presented in relation to the recommendation that a report be provided to this meeting updating Members on a stage 2 application and setting out any match funding requirements.

(Reference: Recommendation by Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 7 April 2016 and report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated April 2016, submitted)

* **9. PROCEDURE FOR ROAD SAFETY INSPECTIONS AND DEFECT CATEGORISATION**

The Committee considered a recommendation from the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 7 April 2016 in respect of the adoption of the Procedure of Road Safety Inspections and Defect Categorisation document.

Decision

The Committee agreed to recommend to Council the adoption of the Procedure for Road Safety Inspections and Defect Categorisation.

(Reference: Recommendation by Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 7 April 2016, report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated March 2016 and Procedure for Road Safety Inspections and Defect Categorisation effective from 1 April 2016, submitted)

10. CAMPBELTOWN CHORD POSITION STATEMENT

The Committee considered a recommendation from the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islands Area Committee held on 6 April 2016 in relation to the purchase of a suitable mechanical sweeper using some of the unallocated CHORD funds.

Decision

The Committee agreed that up to £15,000 is allocated from the remaining £197,625 of Campbeltown CHORD Funds to allow the purchase of a suitable mechanical sweeper for use in Campbeltown Town Centre to ensure that the improved appearance of the town is maintained due to the start of the summer months.

(Reference: Recommendation from the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islands Area Committee held on 6 April 2016 and report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 3 May 2016, submitted)

11. POLICY AND RESOURCES WORK PLAN AS AT MAY 2016

The Policy and Resources Committee Work Plan as at May 2016 was before the Committee for consideration.

Decision

The Committee noted the Work Plan.

(Reference: Policy and Resources Committee Work Plan as at May 2016, submitted)