

**MINUTES of MEETING of ARGYLL AND BUTE HSCP FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
held BY MICROSOFT TEAMS
on FRIDAY, 27 MAY 2022**

Present: Sarah Compton-Bishop (Vice-Chair)

Kenny Mathieson
Graham Bell

Elizabeth Higgins
Councillor Gary Mulvaney

Attending: Fiona Davies, Chief Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP
James Gow, Head of Finance and Transformation, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Stephen Whiston, Head of Planning, Performance and Technology, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Jillian Torrens, Head of Adult Services, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Charlotte Craig, Business Improvement Manager, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Gillian Maidment, Senior Improvement Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Councillor Kieron Green
Lynsey Innis, Senior Committee Assistant, Argyll and Bute Council

Having noted the absence of the Chair, Councillor Amanda Hampsey, the Vice-Chair Sarah Compton-Bishop assumed the role of Chair for the duration of the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:-

Councillor Amanda Hampsey (Chair)
Kevin McIntosh, Staffside, Argyll and Bute Council

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

The minute of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on 29 April 2022, was approved as a correct record.

4. PROVISIONAL YEAR END FINANCE POSITION 2021-22

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided the provisional year-end financial position for 2021/22. The report also summarised the final position in

respect of the savings programme for the year and provided analysis of the reserves that the HSCP is carrying forward into future years.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee:-

1. Noted that the provisional financial outturn for 2021/22 is an underspend of £682k against available resources.
2. Noted that the full debt balance of £2.8m owed to Argyll and Bute Council has been settled during the year.
3. Noted that the IJB is expecting to carry forward £21.2m as earmarked reserves.
4. Noted that the figures contained within the report are provisional and subject to external audit.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 May 2022, submitted)

5. TRANSFORMATION AND SAVINGS UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report which summarised the progress reported to the May meeting of the Integration Joint Board and provided an early summary of progress with the savings programme in the current year.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee:-

1. Noted that the Transformation Board is now meeting on a two monthly basis.
2. Noted progress with the Transformation Programme and provided scrutiny in connection with progress and direction of the programme and its priorities.
3. Noted progress to date with the savings programme for 2022/23.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 May 2022, submitted)

6. FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22 - DRAFT

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an assessment of their work throughout the last financial year. The report contained information on the activity of the Committee; the progress in respect of the improvement agenda arising from the self-assessment exercise carried out in April 2021 and the Committee membership and remit.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee:-

1. Considered the draft annual report for 2021/22.
2. Requested that the final version of the annual report is placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the IJB.

(Reference: Report by Chair of the Finance and Policy Committee, dated 27 May 2022, submitted)

7. PROGRESS UPDATE - LEARNING DISABILITY AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME BOARD

Consideration was given to a report which provided a summary of the Learning Disabilities and Mental Health services financial and savings position as at 30 April 2022; the current challenges to delivery of savings and an overview of the planned actions to progress the outstanding savings.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee:-

1. Noted the progress in respect of the Learning Disability and Mental Health savings programme as at 30 April 2022.
2. Noted the challenges affecting the delivery of savings.
3. Noted the actions planned to recover the outstanding savings proposals.

(Reference: Report by Head of Adult Services Mental Health, Learning Disability and Lifelong Conditions, dated 27 May 2022, submitted)

8. REVIEW OF MEETING SCHEDULE AND FREQUENCY

Having noted that they have been meeting on a monthly basis, largely due to the financial challenges which have faced the HSCP in recent years, the Committee gave consideration to a report which highlighted the early repayment of the debt owed to Argyll and Bute Council and the improved financial position as at the end of financial year 2021/22. The report also proposed a reduced meeting schedule going forward.

Discussion was had in relation to the budget process and the possibility of retaining the scheduled meeting of the Committee on 25 November 2022 on the basis that it could be cancelled if business dictated that it was unnecessary.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee:-

1. Noted that the IJB requested that the Finance and Policy Committee review their meeting schedule in light of the improved financial position and repayment of the debt to Argyll and Bute Council.
2. Approved the proposed revised meeting schedule for 2022/23 as attached at Appendix 2 to the report, subject to the re-addition of the meeting scheduled for

25 November 2022 with the opportunity to review whether this is required at the meeting on 28 October 2022.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 May 2022, submitted)

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Finance and Policy Committee noted that the next meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday, 4 August 2022.