

THE FIFE COUNCIL - PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16th August, 2022

10.00 a.m. – 1.40 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Eugene Clarke (Convener), Blair Allan, Ken Caldwell, Alex Campbell, Brian Goodall, Peter Gulline, Allan Knox, Donald Lothian, Julie MacDougall, Lynn Mowatt, Bailey-Lee Robb, Sam Steele, Ann Verner, Darren Watt and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Michael Enston, Executive Director - Communities, Carrie Lindsay, Executive Director - Education and Children Services; Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods; Kathy Henwood, Head of Children & Families & Criminal Justice; Diarmuid Cotter, Head of Customer and Online Services, Customer Service Improvement; John Mills, Head Of Housing Services; William Penrice, Research Manager; Nicky Connor, Director of Health and Social Care; Lindsay Thomson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Helena Couperwhite, Service Manager, Committee Services and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Alistair Cameron

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 7.1.

7. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting of 15th June, 2022.

Decision

The Committee agreed: -

- (1) to approve the minute; and
- (2) with reference to Item 4 - Consideration of Motion, to amend the wording of the motion as follows – “Councillor Allan, seconded by Councillor Goodall, submitted a motion requesting that Committee add three additional items to the forward work programme, to include housing crisis, cost of living crisis and Cafe Inc.”

8. SCRUTINY AT FIFE COUNCIL

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services providing a summary of the scrutiny framework at Fife Council, along with additional information on the purpose of scrutiny activity and the approaches that could be adopted when carrying out scrutiny.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

9. SERVICE PROFILES

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Communities which provided members with information on the roles and functions of Council Services within the remit of the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

Councillor Campbell left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BENCHMARKING FRAMEWORK PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Communities which provided context for elected members on the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) that would be a key element in service performance reporting.

Decision

The Committee noted the information provided within the report and the intention to use the Local Government Benchmarking Framework in future performance arrangements.

11. PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Having noted that the next meeting of the Committee was currently scheduled for 27th October, 2022, members requested that consideration be given to identifying an additional special meeting to avoid undue delay in consideration of the following items:

1. Impact on Temporary Accommodation following Court Decision;
2. Cost of Living Crisis; and
3. Cafe Inc.

Decision

The Committee agreed that an additional special meeting should be arranged and noted that the content of the Forward Work Programme would be further updated.