2023 PCS 15

THE FIFE COUNCIL - PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Committee Room 2, Fife House, Glenrothes

19th January, 2023 **10.00 a.m. – 1.45 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, Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw (substitute for Bailey-Lee Robb), Sam Steele, Ann Verner, Darren Watt and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Michael Enston, Executive Director, Communities, Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods; Diarmuid Cotter, Head of Customer and Online Services, Customer Service Improvement; Steve Hopton, Service Manager, Lisa Mccran, Service Manager (Performance & Quality Assurance), Criminal Justice; Sheila Noble, Co-ordinator, Fife Violence Against Women Partnership; Fiona McKay, Head of Strategic Planning, Performance & Commissioning Manager, Health and Social Care; Ashleigh Allan, Finance Business Partner, Helen Guthrie, Accountant; Alison Binnie, Finance Business Partner, Lesley Kenworthy, Finance Business Partner, Finance; and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Committee Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE Chief Superintendent Derek McEwan, Police Scotland; Alistair Jupp, Group Commander, Iain Brocklebank, Group Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Paul Murphy, Chief Executive, Fife Golf Trust; Emma Walker, Chief Executive, Sport and Leisure Management Trust; Heather Stuart, Chief Executive, Fife Cultural Trust; Jeremy Harris, Chief Executive, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Alistair Cameron.

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

32. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the People & Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting of 27th October, 2022.

Decision

The Committee approved the minute.

33./

33. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN SIX MONTHS PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, providing incident information for the period of 1st April, 2022 - 30th September, 2022, to enable the Committee to scrutinise the Fife area against its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the progress across a range of key performance indicators as detailed in the report.

34. POLICE SCOTLAND PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Superintendent of Police Scotland, providing an oversight of the performance within the Fife Division of Police Scotland for the period 1st April to 30th October, 2022

Decision

The Committee noted the performance as detailed in the report.

35. FIFE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

The Committee considered a joint report by the Interim Senior Manager (Children Services, Sexual Health, BBV and Rheumatology) and the Chair of Fife Violence against women partnership (FVAWP), providing members with an update on the local delivery of *Equally Safe - Scotland's Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against Women and Girls*. The report also highlighted the impact of Covid-19 on those women and children living with domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women.

Decision

The Committee: -

(1) welcomed and noted the presentation;

(2) acknowledged the work undertaken by the Fife Violence Against Women Partnership (FVAWP); and

(3) acknowledged and supported the continued efforts of the Fife Violence Against Women Partnership and recognised the additional challenges for many women impacted by violence against women, the cost-of-living crisis and ongoing impacts of Covid-19.

36. JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK – PERFORMANCE REVIEW & IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2022-23

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice, providing an update on the work being carried out by the Justice Social Work Service, including those areas identified as a priority in the Performance Improvement Framework.

Decision

The Committee: -

(1) welcomed and noted the presentation; and

(2) considered and acknowledged the potential for positive impact across the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 11.30 a.m. and reconvened at 11.45 a.m.

37. 2022-23 REVENUE BUDGET PROJECTED OUTTURN – COMMUNITIES

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services and the Executive Director of Communities, updating members on the projected outturn position for the 2022/23 financial year for the areas in scope of the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee in relation to the Communities and Housing Account (HRA).

Decision

The Committee noted the current financial performance and activity for the 2022/23 Revenue Monitoring as detailed in the report.

38. 2022-23 CAPITAL PLAN PROJECTED OUTTURN – COMMUNITIES

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services and the Executive Director of Communities, updating members on the Capital Investment Plan and projected financial outturn position for the 2022/23 financial year.

Decision

The Committee noted the current performance and activity for the 2022/23 Capital Monitoring as detailed in the report.

39. 2022-23 REVENUE BUDGET & CAPITAL PLAN PROJECTED OUTTURN - CHILDREN & FAMILIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director of Education and Children Services and the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Services, updating members on the forecasted financial position for the 2022/23 financial year for the areas in scope of the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee in relation to Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee noted: -

(1) the current financial performance and activity for both revenue budget and capital plan as detailed in the report; and

(2) the projected outturn position and the relevant areas of projected over and under spend within the Service.

40. 2022-23 REVENUE BUDGET PROJECTED OUTTURN – HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

The Committee considered a joint report by the Director of Health and Social Care and the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Services, updating members on the 2022/23 projected outturn for the Fife Council Social Care Services for Adults and Older People.

Decision

The Committee noted the current financial performance and activity as detailed in the report.

41. 2022-23 CAPITAL PLAN PROJECTED OUTTURN – HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

The Committee considered a joint report by the Director of Health and Social care and the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Services, updating members on the Health and Social Care Capital Investment Plan and projected outturn for the 2022/23 financial year.

Decision

The Committee noted the current performance and activity across the 2022/23 Financial Monitoring as detailed in the report.

42. CUSTOMER AND ONLINE SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Customer and Online Services, presenting the current performance scorecard for the Customer & Online Services for 2021/22 and the first two quarters of 2022/23.

Decision

The Committee noted: -

(1) the arrangements set out in Section 1 of the report to fulfil the Council's obligation to comply with Audit Scotland's 2021 SPI Direction;

(2) the performance information as detailed in Section 2 of the report in relation to the current challenges, priorities, and risk; and

(3)/

(3) the high-level overview of Key Performance Indicators identified in Appendix 1 of the report in relation to the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF), Plan for Fife (P4F), Customer, Resources and Service Operations.

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

43. COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS AND TRUSTS ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, providing an update on the annual performance for the Communities and Neighbourhoods Services. The report highlighted the activity during 2021/2022 for the 4 trusts in Fife - Fife Sports and Leisure Trust, Fife Cultural Trust, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust and Fife Golf Trust.

Decision

The Committee: -

(1) noted the arrangements set out in Section 1 of the report, to fulfil the Council's obligation to comply with Audit Scotland's 2021 SPI Direction;

(2) considered and noted the performance information as detailed in the report; and

(3) noted the current challenges, priorities and risks for the Communities and Neighbourhoods Service.

Councillor Lynn Mowatt left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

44. CAFE INC - FURTHER

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Communities, providing an update on the Cafe Inc programme following a request by members at their previous meeting on 27th September, 2022. Members were asked to consider and agree if a working group should be established to undertake further scrutiny of the Council's Café Inc Programme.

Decision

The Committee agreed: -

(1) that further scrutiny should be undertaken on the Cafe Inc programme;

(2) on the terms of reference and timescales for the working group to be established; and

(3) that a future report on the findings of the working group should be brought back to the People & Communities Scrutiny Committee in June 2023.

45./

45. PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Services, asking members to consider the future workplan for the People & Communities Scrutiny Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the forward work programme for the People & Communities Scrutiny Committee.