

2023 ETCCS 10

THE FIFE COUNCIL - ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

Committee Room 2, 5th Floor, Fife House, Glenrothes

31 January 2023

10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Jane Ann Liston (Convener), Tom Adams, Naz Anis-Miah, Aude Boubaker-Calder, Rod Cavanagh, Al Clark, Graeme Downie, Gavin Ellis, Stefan Hoggan-Radu, Andy Jackson, Nicola Patrick, Sam Steele (substituting for Councillor Jean Hall-Muir), Darren Watt and Daniel Wilson.

ATTENDING: Ken Gourlay, Executive Director, Enterprise and Environment; Nigel Kerr, Senior Manager - Protective Services; Michael O'Gorman, Service Manager, Estates; Lisa McCann, Service Manager; Lorna Starkey, Lead Officer, Environmental Health (Food and Workplace Safety); Lyndsey Radke, Lead Trading Standards Officer, Trading Standards; Caroline Ritchie, Accountant; Jay Wilson, Accountant; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services, Finance & Corporate Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Dr. Duncan Fortescue-Webb, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, NHS Fife.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors David Graham, Jean Hall-Muir and Derek Noble.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

27. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of meeting of the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee of 29 November 2022.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

28. 2022/23 REVENUE MONITORING PROJECTED OUTTURN

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services and the Executive Director, Enterprise and Environment providing an update on the projected outturn financial position for the 2022/23 financial year, as at October 2022, for the areas in scope of the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee.

Decision/

Decision

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

29. 2022/23 CAPITAL MONITORING PROJECTED OUTTURN

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services and the Executive Director, Enterprise and Environment, providing an update on the Capital Investment Plan and advising on the projected financial position for the 2022/23 financial year, as at October 2022, for the areas in scope of the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee.

Decision

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

30. JOINT HEALTH PROTECTION PLAN 2022-24

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Protective Services providing an overview of the Joint Health Protection Plan 2022-24 which Health Boards and Local Authorities were required to produce every two years.

Decision

The Committee noted the report.

31. TRADING STANDARDS AND ITS IMPACT ON THE COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Protective Services providing an overview of how the cost-of-living crisis was impacting on residents, communities and businesses in Fife, and the action Trading Standards was taking to help reduce the impact.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the information provided in the report; and
- (2) agreed to continue to support the significant work undertaken by Trading Standards to protect consumers and ensure businesses were compliant with legislation.

32. VACANT PROPERTY SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services providing an update on the arrangements relating to the security of vacant property, since a report considered by the Assets and Corporate Services Sub-Committee at its meeting on 22 April 2021.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the information provided in the report; and
- (2) agreed to consider, at a future meeting, a report on the findings and improvement actions arising from an internal audit of the management of vacant buildings.

33. ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION & CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services relating to the Forward Work Programme for the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme which would be updated as necessary to also include:-

- (1) a performance report on road maintenance detailing: current policy; pothole repairs; claims for damage to public vehicles, for example, due to potholes and access to online information, forms, etc. to facilitate submitting a claim; staff and financial resources and staff training – for consideration at the next meeting on 18th April, 2023; and
 - (2) as detailed at Para. 32. (2) above - a report on the findings and improvement actions arising from an internal audit of the management of vacant buildings to a future meeting of this Committee, on a date to be advised.
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