

THE FIFE COUNCIL - CABINET COMMITTEE - BLENDED MEETING

Council Chamber, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes

10 October 2024

10.00 am – 11.40 am

PRESENT: Councillors David Ross (Convener), David Alexander, Lesley Backhouse (substituting for Councillor Sarah Neal), Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw (substituting for Councillor John Beare), David Barratt, James Calder, Linda Erskine, Derek Glen, Brian Goodall, Peter Gulline, Judy Hamilton, Cara Hilton, Gary Holt, Allan Knox, Kathleen Leslie, Rosemary Liewald, Carol Lindsay, Donald Lothian (substituting for Councillor Fiona Corps), Gordon Pryde (substituting for Councillor Altany Craik), Ross Vettraino, Craig Walker and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Ken Gourlay, Chief Executive; Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services), Les Robertson, Head of Revenue and Commercial Services, Caroline MacDonald, Procurement Service Manager, Revenue and Commercial Services, Lindsay Thomson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Helena Couperwhite, Committee Services Manager and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services; Lauren Bennett, Project Manager (Community Wealth Building), Communities Directorate; Carol Connolly, Executive Director (Place), John Mitchell, Head of Roads and Transportation Service, Susan Keenlyside, Service Manager (Sustainable Transport and Parking) and Jane Findlay, Lead Consultant (Climate Change and Partnerships), Roads and Transportation Service and Grant Leaburn, Lead Officer, Employability and Employment.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors John Beare, Fiona Corps, Altany Craik and Sarah Neal.

291. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 22.

292. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the Cabinet Committee meeting of 12 September 2024.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

293. COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING - PROGRESS REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services providing a six monthly update in relation to the Community Wealth Building (CWB) Policy Framework approved by Cabinet Committee in April 2023.

Decision

The committee noted:-

- (1) the progress made to date to deliver Community Wealth Building; and
- (2) the priorities and next steps for 2025 and the intention to provide an annual report of future Community Wealth Building achievements.

294. SCHOOL CLOTHING GRANT - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The committee considered a report by the Head of Revenue and Commercial Services proposing a review of eligibility criteria for School Clothing Grant to ensure that those currently eligible within the tax credits system would continue to receive clothing grant once they had migrated to Universal Credit. Universal Credit had a much higher threshold for school clothing grant than the tax credit system and some families currently in receipt of school clothing grant would therefore no longer be eligible.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) agreed the changes to the School Clothing Grant policy contained within the report to ensure that no parents lost the grant due to migrating from tax credits to Universal Credit; and
- (2) noted that responsibility for maintaining the policy would transfer from the Education Service to Revenue and Commercial Services going forward.

295. FIFE COUNCIL ELECTRIC VEHICLE STRATEGY

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services seeking approval of the Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy for Fife.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) approved the Fife Council Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy and delegated to the Head of Roads and Transportation Services to make any minor amendments prior to publication; and
- (2) agreed that further development be undertaken towards an On Street Charging Strategy.

296. CABINET COMMITTEE - OUTSTANDING REMITS FROM COMMITTEES

The committee noted the list of outstanding remits from committees.