

SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL

Minutes of hybrid webcast meeting on
16 April 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

Present
in County
Buildings: Councillors Philip Saxton (Chair), Gavin Scott and George Weir.

Present
Remotely: Councillors Kenneth Bell, Ian Cochrane, Chris Cullen and Mary Kilpatrick.

Apology: Councillor Mark Dixon.

Attending
in County
Buildings: G. Hunter, Assistant Director – Communities; W. Carlaw, Service Lead – Democratic Governance; L. Reid, Assistant Director – Transformation; A. Mutch, Service Lead – Destination South Ayrshire; G. Farrell, Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services; M. Greaves, Co-ordinator – Economy and Regeneration; J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer; and K. Hancox, Committee Services Officer.

Also
Attending: P. Linton, General Manager – Quayzone.

Attending
Remotely: S. MacMillan, Co-ordinator – Project Implementation.

Chair's Remarks.

The Chair

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting; and
- (2) outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live.

1. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.

The Chair called the Sederunt for the meeting and having called the roll, confirmed that that there were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The Minutes of 5 March 2024 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

3. **Action Log and Work Programme**

There was submitted an update of the Action Log and Work Programme ([issued](#)) for this Panel.

Having heard the Assistant Director – Communities give a verbal update on the Action Log and Work Programme, he advised that in relation to no's.1 and 2 on the Action Log, relating to “South Ayrshire Way Strategic Change Programme” this had now been updated to reflect that the Strategic Change Programme team was no longer in existence and that this would now come under the new Transformation Board which would look at four new priority areas, namely workforce, technology, assets and delivery model.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to agree the current position with regard to the Action Log; and
- (2) to note the current status of the Work Programme.

4. **2022-25 Council Workforce Plan Update.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 5 April 2024 by the Director of Communities and Transformation providing further updates relating to the 2022-25 Council Workforce Plan, as requested by this Panel in October 2023.

A Member of the Panel requested clarification on how the actions detailed in Appendix 1 of the report would address the first recommendation submitted by Audit Scotland relating to developing performance measures. The Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services advised this action would be taken forward by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Education and would be further explained via the Transformation Board and Sub-Groups, once established.

After a Member of the Panel enquired on the current status of the Council employing graduates, he was advised that there were currently Graduate Internship Programmes available within the Council and that Organisational Development were also investigating the creation of Graduate Apprenticeships within the Council. After a Member of the Panel advised that it maybe beneficial for this Council to engage with universities regarding PHD programmes, it was noted that there were currently links in this regard between this Council and Stirling University and that connections would be further researched through the Career Pathways Exercise.

Having heard a Member of the Panel enquire on Action 29, Appendix 1 of the report relating to the Council staff's Performance and Development Reviews and his concern that only 20% of PDRs within the Council were completed, the Service Lead - Organisational Development and Customer Services advised that work with services within the Council would commence soon and that it was proposed to report this matter further to the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel in October 2024.

The Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

5. **The Quay Zone Performance Report.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 5 April 2024 by the Director of Communities and Transformation inviting Panel Members to scrutinise the performance of The Quay Zone.

The General Manager – Quay Zone gave an update on the performance of the Quay Zone and reported on a number of matters including issues arising from storm damage and subsequent storm damage insurance, relocation of leisure facilities and staffing.

A Member of the Panel enquired on the mention of Council Members observing Board meetings in the Appendix. He was informed that Council Members did attend Board meetings although they did not have voting rights.

Having heard a Member of the Panel seek clarification on the timescale for storm damage work being completed, the General Manager – Quay zone advised that the relevant insurance company had estimated between eighteen to twenty-four months for repairs to be completed. It was also noted that any other required alterations may prolong this timescale.

A Member of the Panel requested information regarding the recent change over of auditors responsible for the Quayzone. The General Manager informed that the previous auditors were based in Ireland and were no longer able to provide the service. The new auditors had been appointed in October.

There was a mover and seconder for the recommendation, as detailed in the report.

Due to technical difficulties, the Service Lead – Democratic Governance took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Philip Saxton	For
Kenneth Bell	For
Ian Cochrane	For
Chris Cullen	For
Mary Kilpatrick	For
Gavin Scott	For
George Weir	For

Having scrutinized the performance of the Quay Zone, the Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

The meeting ended at 10.45 a.m.