

CABINET

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting on 28 October 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

Present

in County Councillors Brian Connolly (Chair), Alec Clark, Ian Davis, William Grant,
Hall: Martin Kilbride and Bob Shields.

Present

Remotely: Councillors Chris Cullen and Hugh Hunter.

Attending

in County

Hall: C. Sneddon, Chief Executive; K. Braidwood, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development; J. Bradley, Director of Communities and Transformation; C. Caves, Chief Governance Officer; T. Eltringham, Director of Health and Social Care; C. Cox, Assistant Director - Planning and Development; L. Reid, Assistant Director – Transformation; S. Marshall, Head of Community Health and Care; and E. Moore, Committee Services Assistant.

Opening Remarks.

The Chair took the sederunt, confirmed to Members the procedures to conduct this meeting and advised that the meeting was being broadcast live.

1. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Cabinet in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of 23 September 2025 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

3. Decision Log.

The Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to approve the [overdue actions](#);
- (2) to approve the actions listed with [revised due dates](#); and
- (3) to note the recently [completed actions](#).

Housing and Property Services.

4. Empty Homes Strategy

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 1 October 2025 by the Chief Executive and Depute Chief Executive seeking agreement of the revised Empty Homes Strategy for the period 2025-2030, which set out new proposals to maximise the number of empty homes brought back into use across South Ayrshire.

Following discussion, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to approve the revised Empty Homes Strategy and actions for the period 2025 2030 (detailed in Appendix 1); and
- (2) to request that Members be kept updated annually on progress against this Strategy via the Service and Partnership Performance Panel,

Health and Social Care

5. Gaelic Language Plan (2025 – 2030)

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 8 October 2025 by the Chief Executive seeking approval of the Gaelic Language Plan (2025 -2030).

The Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to approve the Gaelic Language Plan (2025 - 2030) (appendix one) and thereafter formal submission to the Bòrd na Gàidhlig on the 28th of October 2025; and
- (2) to approve delegated authority to amend the Gaelic Language Plan (if required) following formal consideration by the Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Council Leader, Economy and Strategy

6. Collaborative Working in Ayrshire

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 2 October 2025 by the Chief Executive providing an update on progress of collaborative working across Ayrshire and outlining the recommended next steps.

Following discussion and clarification on governance arrangements, the Cabinet

Decided: to note the progress to date and approve further development of collaborative opportunities across Ayrshire.

Council Leader, Economy and Strategy

7. Shaping Our Future Council

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 29 September 2025 by the Director of Communities and Transformation updating Members on 'Shaping Our Future Council' transformation activity and; seeking approval to extend the scope and timescales of the transformation programme until 31 March 2029.

Following discussion, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note the updated 'Shaping Our Future Council' transformation programme on a page at Appendix 1 and the actions being progressed through the Transformation Board at 3.3 to refresh the transformation programme to focus on initiatives that realise significant savings/ income generation and support the Council's short to medium term budget strategy;
- (2) to note the update on Transformation Fund spend at section 6 and the most recent Dashboard Report and Portfolio Risk Register at Appendix 2 and Benefits Report at Appendix 3;
- (3) to agree that all activity of a transformational nature (i.e. change activity that supported the future financial sustainability of the Council), where agreed by the Transformation Board, is included within the transformation governance arrangements, as recommended at 3.5;
- (4) to agree the recommendation of the Transformation Board and the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel (SPPP) that the transformation programme be extended from 3 to 5 years to 31st March 2029 and;
- (5) to note the update on the Business Support Model project and agree the final Business Case for Business Support be subject to Cabinet approval in January 2026.

Leisure and Community Services Portfolio/Depute Council Leader Commercial/Operational Services

8. Girvan Conservation Area Management Plan

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 7 October 2025 by the Director of Housing, Operations and Development to feedback the outcomes of public consultation on the draft Girvan Conservation Area Management Plan and to seek approval to adopt the finalised Girvan Conservation Area Management Plan.

Following discussion, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note the outcomes of the consultation on the draft Girvan Conservation Area Management Plan, as set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2; and
- (2) to agree to adopt the Girvan Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plan, as set out in Appendix 3, and that delegation be given to make appropriate typographical changes, if required.

Exclusion of press and public.

The Cabinet resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the remaining item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Health and Social Care Portfolio.

9. Practice Development Team Service Review

There was submitted a report (Members only) of 21 October 2025 by the Chief Social Work Officer proposing a restructure of the Practice Development Team following a review of the service; providing an update on the progress made in implementing the approved recommendations; and seeking approval of additional structural changes identified through a subsequent review.

The Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note the progress to date;
- (2) to approve the additional proposed structural revisions; and
- (3) to approve the severance costs to allow the full implementation of the Practice Development Team Service review.

10. **Consideration of Disclosure of the above confidential report.**

Decided: to agree that under Standing Order 32.4, the undernoted report remain exempt until the structural changes are complete when the report can be disclosed subject to redaction for GDPR purposes:

- Practice Development Team Service Review.

The meeting ended at 11.00 a.m.