

SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held remotely on
8 February 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Clark (Chair), Brennan-Whitefield, D. Campbell, Dowey, McCabe and Pollock.

Apology: Councillor A. Campbell.

Attending: M. Newall, Assistant Director – People; L. Reid, Assistant Director – Place; K. Carr, Assistant Director – Place; W. Carlaw, Service Lead – Democratic Governance; T. Leijser, Service Lead - Economy and Regeneration; K. Anderson, Service Lead - Policy, Performance and Community Planning; D. Alexander, Service Lead – Procurement; J. Wood, Senior Manager (Planning and Performance) HSCP; C. Buchanan – Committee Services Officer; and E. Moore, Clerical Assistant – Democratic and Governance.

1. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest

The Chair took the Sederunt and outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live.

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

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2022 (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. The Assistant Director – People provided the Panel with a verbal update on the Work Programme and asked The Senior Manager (Planning Performance) HSCP to provide a verbal update on his allocated Actions, he highlighted that a briefing note had been prepared for circulation to Members in relation to Actions 1 – 3.

The Panel

Decided: to note the current status of the Action Log and Work Programme.

4. Council Plan 2018-22 (2020 Mid-Term Refresh) - October to December 2021

There was submitted a report of 31 January 2022 by the Assistant Director - People providing Elected Members the opportunity to review progress made towards achieving the strategic objectives contained within the Council Plan 2018-22 (2020 Mid-Term Refresh).

The Assistant Director - People gave a verbal overview of the report and invited the Panel Members to ask any questions that they had in relation to the report and outlined that all actions were completed or were on course to be complete by the specified due dates within the report.

Questions were raised by members in relation to;

Page 2 of the report appendix entitled 'Relocate Ayrshire Archives and Registration to a purpose-built repository at South Harbour Street.' Has there been an update on the equipment to be installed for safe working during Covid? The Service Lead – Democratic Governance highlighted that the opening of the Ayrshire Archives had originally been delayed due to Covid guidance issued by government but said she was hopeful that the facility would open once outstanding safety issues had been addressed.

Page 4 of the report appendix entitled 'COPL 01.4b Review the Councils House Allocations Policy to make best use of available housing stock' what impact had Government policies had on the Council's Policy in relation to housing allocations for refugees and homeless persons and if, during the process of looking at housing allocations the Council could look at how this effects tenants locally who may be looking to move elsewhere within the locality? The Assistant Director – Place outlined that the Council had a robust Policy in place and that work had been carried out alongside refugees in line with the Allocations Policy which was meeting Government standards. He also highlighted that the Council's House Allocations Policy would allow the review of circumstances for tenants locally.

Page 5 of the report appendix entitled 'COPL 02.1b Implement the Educational Services Improvement Plan' what progress had been made on this in relation to Education Services? The Assistant Director – Place outlined that he would seek the information from Education colleagues and provide a written response to Members in the form of a briefing note.

Page 14 of the report appendix entitled 'COPL 04.2b Deliver the office rationalisation programme to ensure the best use of Council-owned facilities' how does this fit with future operating model? The Assistant Director outlined that specific capital works around this project was now complete and that the works were being carried forward now by the Future Operating Model.

Page 15 of the report appendix entitled 'COPL 04.4c Target enforcement and support at non-compliant businesses to bring them into compliance and ensure that all businesses trade fairly, safely and equitably.' when was food enforcement last carried out? The Assistant Director – Place outlined that he would seek the information from Health and Safety colleagues and provide a written response to Members in the form of a briefing note.

Page 17, Section 5.4 of the report appendix entitled 'We will promote South Ayrshire as a visitor destination' how much economic impact had the Council suffered due to the Pandemic? The Assistant Director – Place outlined that he would provide a written response to Members in the form of a briefing note.

Having considered the report, the Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

5. **Pan-Ayrshire Community Wealth Building Commission and Anchor Charter**

There was submitted a report of 31 January 2022 by the Assistant Director – Place providing Elected Members with an update on the work of the Community Wealth Building (CWB) Member/ Officer Working Group (MOWG), the South Ayrshire Council led regional Community Wealth Building procurement workstream and an update on the current status of the Community Wealth Building workplan.

Service Lead – Economy and Regeneration gave a verbal update related to the report and invited the Panel Members to ask any questions that they had in relation to the report.

Questions were raised by members in relation to;

Page 3, paragraph 3.7 of the report, had there been any update on the NHS to take the lead on progress with the community wealth building? Service Lead – Economy and Regeneration highlighted that discussions had been ongoing between the Council and NHS but no conclusion had been reached at this point in time, he said that the Council would continue to participate in the work for the community wealth building and seek nominations from parties on the commission. The Assistant Director – Place added that Council had put forward the offer of lead role to the NHS but they had declined, he said that the Council were discussing alternatives with neighbouring Councils.

Page 2, paragraph 3.6 of the report, can evidence be shown on how the 5 principles are being taken forward? Service Lead – Economy and Regeneration outlined that greater detail would be provided in due course.

A Panel Member asked if there was a timescale in relation to the Community Wealth Building? The Assistant Director – Place stated that the Community Wealth Building work plan was expected to be presented at the Leadership Panel scheduled for 8 March 2022 and said that a Member/Officer Working Group had been set up in relation to the Community Wealth Building work plan and that the Working Group had met on 3 occasions already with a further meeting scheduled this month. It had been agreed that the Service and Performance Panel would receive annual updates

Having considered the report, the Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

6. South Ayrshire's Performance Management Framework (Update January 2022)

There was submitted a report of 31 January 2022 by the Assistant Director - People to seek approval from Elected Members to make changes to the Performance Management Framework. Members were invited to approve paragraph 2.1 of report.

The Assistant Director - People gave a verbal update related to the report and invited the Panel Members to ask any questions that they had in relation to the report.

A Member of the Panel referred to Page 10 of the report entitled 'Item 4 - Demonstrating Best Value' and said that, in his opinion he did not feel this section of the report adequately reflected concerns raised at the Service and Performance Panel previously in relation to Participatory Budgeting. The Assistant Director - People outlined that the Panel Members comment had been acknowledged and said that future reports on performance were being looked at to strengthen the report in relation to Participatory Budgeting.

Having considered the report, the Panel

Decided: to approve the proposed changes to paragraph 2.1 of the report.

7. South Ayrshire Council Gaelic Language Plan (GLP) Annual Monitoring Report

There was submitted a report of 31 January 2022 by the Assistant Director – People to update the Service and Performance Panel on the South Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan - Annual Monitoring Report 20/21.

The Assistant Director - People gave a verbal update related to the report and invited the Panel Members to ask any questions that they had in relation to the report.

One of the Panel Members enquired if there was any plan to introduce Gaelic stimulus into schools? The Assistant Director – Place outlined that he would seek the information from Education colleagues and provide a written response to Members in the form of a briefing note.

Having considered the report, the Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

The meeting concluded at 10:47 a.m.