

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of the Special MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 15 November 2016 at 2.30pm.

**Present:** Depute Provost ALEX KING, Councillors BILL BOWLES, BRIAN BOYD, COLIN BROWN, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, MAIRI EVANS, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, IAIN GAUL, JEANETTE GAUL, MARTYN GEDDES, SHEILA HANDS, JIM HOUSTON, DAVID LUMGAIR, DAVID MAY, IAN McLAREN, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, DONALD MORRISON, ROB MURRAY, BOB MYLES, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, MARK SALMOND, EWAN SMITH, PAUL VALENTINE and SHEENA WELSH.

DEPUTE PROVOST ALEX KING, in the Chair.

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Craig Fotheringham and Margaret Thomson.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

### 3. TRANSFORMING ANGUS: NEXT STEPS

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 27 October 2016, there was submitted Joint Report No 408/16 by the Strategic Director – Resources and the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance setting out proposals to increase the pace and scale of change to the Council's Transforming Angus (TA) change programme and seeking authority to procure additional services from the Council's strategic partner (EY).

The review of the TA programme had highlighted that the existing scope was insufficient to meet the emerging financial challenge nor was it progressing at a quick enough pace. To bring the pace, innovation and a higher level of certainty to the delivery of savings it was fundamental that an integrated "portfolio" approach to transformation was implemented across the entire organisation.

The Report detailed the commercial proposals with EY to procure additional services which were subject to the agreement of the recommendations in Report No 409/16. A £400,000 fixed fee element of the proposal would be delivered from the current budget provision within the TA change fund of £900,000. The additional £1.1 million "no win no fee" element would be funded from either the savings generated from the initial transformational proposals or alternatively funded from general fund balances.

In terms of the Council's governance arrangements it was proposed that a special sub-committee of the Policy and Resources Committee be established with full delegated powers to replace the existing Transforming Angus Board with the suggested membership being made up of six members, three from the Administration (one being Councillor Murray as Chair) and three from the Non-Administration (one being Councillor Myles).

The Report recommended that the Council:-

- (i) agrees the need to increase the pace and scale of change to the Council's Transforming Angus (TA) change programme which must be acted upon immediately, while also being a top strategic priority for the Council which would be included in the new Council Plan in due course;
- (ii) agrees that delivering the savings of the magnitude required would also require fundamental changes to the way in which the Council operated (political and operational), reflecting a need for strong leadership at all levels of the organisation, including making challenging decisions by Members, and a high risk that 'business as usual' activity would be impacted (i.e. re-designing, reducing and stopping services) as staff committed the required time and effort to develop the comprehensive 'pipeline' of projects and then deliver them;

- (iii) to authorise the procurement of additional services from the Council's strategic partner (EY); and
- (iv) agrees the proposed governance arrangements, which would support increasing the pace and scale of change, and remit the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to make the necessary formal arrangements,

(These recommendations being subject to the agreement of the recommendations in Report 409/16 to be considered at this meeting).

Councillor Iain Gaul, seconded by Councillor Valentine moved that the Council approves recommendations (i) to (iii) of Report No 408/16 and to amend recommendation (iv) and the detail in section 5.4 of the Report:-

- (i) by establishing a special sub-committee of Angus Council with the proposed membership being eight members, four from the Administration (one to include Councillor Murray, as Chair) and four Non-Administration members (one being Councillor Myles), which would be governed in terms of the existing Standing Orders; and
- (ii) to bring to the next scheduled meeting of Angus Council a proposed remit of the special sub-committee of Angus Council.

Councillor Fairweather, seconded by Councillor Myles, moved as an amendment, that the Council:-

- (i) approves recommendations (i) to (iii) of Report No 408/16; and
- (ii) does not agree the proposed governance arrangements in para 5.4 of the Report and that all decisions relating to the Transforming Angus next steps programme be taken by full Council.

Following discussion and having heard from a number of members and from the Strategic Director – Resources, Councillor Iain Gaul, as mover of the motion, agreed to withdraw his motion.

Thereafter, the Council resolved to approve the proposals as detailed in Councillor Fairweather's amendment.

#### **4. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Council resolved in terms of Standing Order 28(2) that the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following item so as to avoid the disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act paragraphs 8 and 9.

#### **5. TRANSFORMING ANGUS: NEXT STEPS (COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS)**

With reference to Article 3 above, there was submitted Joint Report No 409/16 by the Strategic Director – Resources and the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance setting out the commercial proposal for the Council to drive more value from the strategic partnership with EY.

The Council resolved to approve the recommendations, as detailed in the Report.