

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 1 September 2015 at 2.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillors IAIN GAUL, PAUL VALENTINE, BILL BOWLES, BILL DUFF, MAIRI EVANS, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, MARTYN GEDDES, ALEX KING, IAN MCLAREN, LYNNE DEVINE, BOB MYLES, BOB SPINK and SHEENA WELSH.

Councillor IAIN GAUL, Convener, in the Chair.

### 1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Fairweather, Glennis Middleton and Margaret Thomson, with Councillor Lynne Devine substituting for Councillor Middleton

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

### 3. MINUTES

#### (a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 9 June 2015 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

#### (b) Central Consultative Committee

The minute of meeting of the Central Consultative Committee of 22 June 2015, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX I**).

### 4. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 26 MAY TO 24 JULY 2015

There was submitted and noted Report No 332/15 by Chief Executive providing information to members with regard to services in the Chief Executive's Unit for the period 26 May to 24 July 2015.

### 5. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 31 JULY 2015

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 9 June 2015, there was submitted and noted Report No 333/15 by the Strategic Director – Resources providing information to members with regard to services in the Resources Directorate for the period 1 April to 31 July 2015.

### 6. RESOURCES DIRECTORATE ANNUAL REPORT 2014/2015

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 2 September 2014, there was submitted Report No 334/15 by the Strategic Director – Resources, advising of the production of the 2014/15 Annual Performance Report for the Resources Directorate.

The Report indicated that as an integral part of the Council's Performance Management arrangements, each directorate was required to prepare an annual report for submission to their service committee in the first committee cycle following the recess. These Reports were designed to give members, employees and the public, who had access to the Reports via the Council's website, an at a glance picture of the performance within the Directorates during the previous financial year.

The Committee agreed to note the terms of the Resources Directorate Annual Performance Report for 2014/15.

## **7. 2015/16 FINAL CAPITAL BUDGET VOLUME – GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING**

With reference to Article 5(f) of the minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 12 February 2015, there was submitted Report No 335/15 by the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance, presenting to members the updated 2014/2019 General Fund Financial Plan and 2014/2018 Housing Financial Plan (both of which incorporated the 2015/16 capital monitoring budget) which would be reflected in the 2015/16 Final Capital Budget Volume.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the contents of the updated 2014/2019 General Fund Financial Plan, as reflected in the 2015/16 Final Capital Budget Volume, attached as Appendix 1 to the Report;
- (ii) to note the contents of the updated 2014/2018 Housing Financial Plan, as reflected in the 2015/16 Final Capital Budget Volume, attached as Appendix 2 to the Report; and
- (iii) to note that the 2015/16 capital budgets for both the General Fund and Housing represented the Council's approved budgets for capital monitoring purposes.

## **8. WORKFORCE STRATEGY 2015-2018**

There was submitted Report No 336/15 by the Head of HR, IT and Organisational Development, seeking approval of the Workforce Strategy for 2015-2018 for Angus Council.

The Report indicated that the Workforce Strategy contained key elements and priorities to help Angus Council respond to the changing needs of its citizens, partners and customers and achieve the vision for the Council's workforce. The actions required in terms of the strategy would be built into Directorate Improvement and Operational Plans and would be phased over the period 2015 to 2018.

The Committee agreed to approve the Workforce Strategy, attached as Appendix 1 to the Report, subject to the number of full-time equivalents of Angus Council employees being amended from 2,420 to 4,109.

## **9. SCOTTISH WIDE AREA NETWORK**

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 28 April 2015, there was submitted Report No 337/15 by the Head of HR, IT and Organisational Development, seeking adoption of the Scottish Wide Area Network (SWAN) to deliver core network services.

The Report indicated that the SWAN programme was designed to deliver a single public services network available for the use of any, and potentially all public service organisations within Scotland. The SWAN initiative aimed to enable infrastructure and service sharing and would produce cost efficiencies and facilitate the creation of public services that were high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local needs.

It was proposed that the Council enter into a contractual agreement for SWAN services via the Pathfinder North collaborative HUB.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the move to a new model for network infrastructure based on SWAN (Scottish Wide Area Network);
- (ii) to authorise the Service Manager Information Technology to gain membership of the Pathfinder North SWAN HUB; and
- (iii) to approve the pooling together of existing network budgets from directorates to an "other services" budget managed by the Service Manager Information Technology.

## 10. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RENEWAL AND REPAIR FUND – CAPITAL PROJECTS

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 28 April 2015, there was submitted Report No 338/15 by the Head of HR, IT and Organisational Development, seeking approval of an allocation from the Information Technology Renewal and Repair Fund to support the 2015/16 capital projects identified in the Digital Angus programme of Transforming Angus as well as the IT Infrastructure Projects identified in the financial plan 2014/2019.

The Committee agreed to approve the following allocations from the Information Technology Renewal and Repair Fund to support capital projects in 2015/16:-

(i)	Corporate Infrastructure Renewal	-	£150,000
(ii)	Network Infrastructure Renewal	-	£20,000
(iii)	Server Infrastructure Renewal	-	£70,000
(iv)	Voice over IP	-	£80,000
(v)	Angus Digital	-	£245,000
(vi)	Web filtering renewal	-	£85,000

## 11. SCRUTINY AND AUDIT PANEL REVIEW REPORTS

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 23 June 2015, there was submitted Report No 339/15 by the Service Manager Governance presenting the Reports of the second tranche of Scrutiny Panel Reviews for consideration and agreement. Appended to the Report were the Scrutiny Panel Reviews of the Management Restructure in Transforming Angus (Appendix 1) and Improving Partnership Working (Appendix 2) both of which had been agreed by the Scrutiny and Audit Committee with the actions remitted to the relevant Strategic Directors for implementation.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Reports had been agreed by the Scrutiny and Audit Committee;
- (ii) to approve the Reports, recommendations and action plans, all contained in Appendices 1 and 2;
- (iii) to remit the actions to the relevant officers to implement;
- (iv) that the Reports be referred to Angus Council for their information and interest; and
- (v) to note that progress reports in relation to the discharge of the actions plans would be considered by both the Policy and Resources Committee and the Scrutiny and Audit Committee.

## 12. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of the Development and Enterprise Committee of 26 May 2015, there was submitted Report No 340/15 by the Chief Executive advising members of applications for Community Grants from Angus Council in 2015/16 of £1,000 or less submitted, and/or approved since 26 May 2015 and seeking approval of grant applications of over £1,000 recommended for approval since 26 May 2015.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the grant awards for 2015/16 of £1,000 or less approved since 26 May 2015;

- (ii) to note the grant awards for 2015/16 to the Food and Drink Fund approved since 26 May 2015; and
- (iii) to approve the grant applications of over £1,000 as follows:-
  - Phoenix Gymnastics Club - £4,912.60
  - Angus Cycle Hub CIC - £5,000.00
  - Carn Dearg Mountaineering Group - £4,783.00
  - Monikie Memorial Hall - £2,450.00
  - Forfar Albion JFC - £4,550.00.

**13. ANGUS LEADER PROGRAMME – UPDATE AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT 2014-2020**

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Development and Enterprise Committee of 3 March 2015, there was submitted Report No 341/15 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the process for bidding for European LEADER Funds and European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) funding to support rural development activities and fishing communities in decline in the period 2014-2020.

The Report also sought agreement for the financial risks associated with the LEADER Service Level Agreement with Scottish Government to allow the SLA to be signed on behalf of the Council with the Council as lead partner on behalf of Partners (the Local Action Group) and in turn to allow staff to be recruited and the programme to open.

The Committee agreed to approve the financial risks associated with signing the Angus LEADER Service Level Agreement, attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.