

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held remotely on Tuesday 7 March 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors BETH WHITESIDE, KENNY BRAES, CHRIS BEATTIE, JULIE BELL, BRIAN BOYD, SERENA COWDY, BILL DUFF, BRENDA DURNO, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, IAIN GALL, ROSS GREIG, IAN McLAREN, GAVIN NICOL, LYNNE DEVINE, LOIS SPEED and DEREK WANN.

Councillor WHITESIDE, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Cheape, David Fairweather and Martin Shepherd, with Councillors Brian Boyd, Ronnie Proctor MBE and Lynne Devine substituting respectively.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/STATEMENTS OF TRANSPARENCY

There were no declarations of interest or statements of transparency made.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 7 February 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. APPOINTMENT – CAPITAL PROJECT MONITORING GROUP

The Committee noted that Councillor David Cheape had intimated his resignation from the Capital Project Monitoring Group.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed to appoint Councillor George Meechan to the vacancy.

5. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT PARENTAL EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT FUND

There was submitted Report No 63/23 by the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth providing an overview of the Parental Employability Support Fund and the conditional financial allocation for Angus for 2023/24.

The Report indicated that Angus Council, as lead accountable body, would consult and prepare a Delivery Proposition Plan setting out how it was proposed to spend the allocation, and sought approval to delegate authority to the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth, following consultation with the Convener of Policy and Resources Committee, to submit the Delivery Proposition Plan along with the signed Grant Offer Letter to Scottish Government by the required deadline.

Following a number of questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the increased conditional financial allocation to Angus Council for the Parental Employability Support Fund for 2023/24 of £1.59 million;
- (ii) to note that a Parental Employment Support Delivery Proposition Plan for Angus was required to be prepared, in conjunction with partners and stakeholders and submitted to Scottish Government along with a signed Grant Offer Letter no later than 30 April 2023;
- (iii) to note the content of paragraph 5.4 of the Report which detailed some of the current themes proposed that would fit with the criteria for the Delivery Proposition Plan;
- (iv) in light of the deadline, to delegate authority to the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth, following consultation with the Convener of Policy and Resources Committee, to submit the Delivery Proposition Plan to the Scottish Government by the required deadline of 30 April; and

- (v) to note that a copy of the Delivery Proposition Plan would be shared with the Policy and Resources Committee at a future date.

6. LIGHTING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT EXTENSION

With reference to Article 14 of the minute of meeting of the Special Arrangements Committee of 26 May 2020, there was submitted Report No 64/23 by the Director of Infrastructure and Environment seeking approval to extend the existing Street Lighting Partnership with Tayside Contracts, Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council for a further 5 years to 31 March 2028.

Following a number of questions and having heard from the Director of Infrastructure and Environment, the Committee agreed to the extension of the Street Lighting Partnership Agreement with Tayside Contracts, Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council for a further 5 years to 31 March 2028.

At this stage in the meeting Councillor Speed declared a connection to the following Report as she had family members who received care at home. She indicated that she would take part in any discussion and voting.

7. CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY – NON-RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES – UPDATE

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 February 2022, there was submitted Report No 65/23 by the Chief Integration Officer providing an annual update regarding the Contributions Policy for Non-Residential Social Care Services.

The Report indicated that COSLA had issued Guidance on Charges Applying to Social Care Support for people at home 2023/24. This guidance was updated annually and issued to all local authorities to implement any changes that were required to be made to local charging policies and procedures. The Contributions Policy had been updated in order to move away from the need for annual updates by removing specific reference to the annual COSLA charging thresholds. Instead, the policy contained a link to access the most up to date information on the COSLA website. Appendix 2 to the Report provided further details in terms of the policy updates.

The Committee heard from the Head of Community and Health & Care Services who advised of a proposed update to recommendation (i) contained within the Report.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendations contained within and, adopt as policy, the relevant parts of the COSLA National Strategy and Guidance on Charges Applying to Social Care Support for people at home as detailed in Appendix 2 to the Report;
- (ii) to approve the updates contained in the Contributions Policy attached as Appendix 2 to the Report which implemented and supplemented locally the Strategy and Guidance referred to in (i) above; and
- (iii) to approve the annual amendment of external links contained within the Contributions Policy without the requirement to present it annually to Committee, however, any material changes to the content of the Contribution Policy, including the taper, would be subject to a separate Report to Committee.

8. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee agreed, in terms of Standing Order 28(2), that the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following items 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 1973, paragraphs 8 and 9.

9. RESTENNETH LANDFILL SOLAR PROJECT

There was submitted Report No 66/23 by the Director of Infrastructure and Environment which sought approval to enter into an agreement to lease land at Restenneth Landfill Site for the development of a solar farm.

Following a number of questions, the Committee agreed to approve the recommendations as detailed in the Report.

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 16(11)(ii), Councillor Greig requested that his dissent be recorded in relation to the foregoing decision.

10. TAY CITIES REGIONAL DEAL – PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY APPROVAL FOR COMMERCIAL ADVICE

There was submitted Report No 67/23 by the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth seeking procurement authority for the acquisition of services to provide robust commercial advice to Angus Council.

Following questions, the Committee agreed to approve the recommendations as detailed in the Report.

11. PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY REPORT – PROVISION OF SOCIAL PRESCRIBING WITHIN ANGUS GP PRACTICES

With reference to Article 12 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 6 December 2022, there was submitted Report No 68/23 by the Chief Integration Officer outlining the procurement strategy relating to the contract for Social Prescribing within Angus GP Practices in line with the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Commissioning Plan and seeking authority for its implementation.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendations as detailed in the Report.

12. PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY REPORT – PROVISION OF CARE IN SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION FOR ADULTS WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY

With reference to Article 21 of the minute of meeting of the Special Arrangements Committee of 23 June 2020, there was submitted Report No 69/23 by the Chief Integration Officer outlining the procurement strategy relating to the Provision of Care in Supported Accommodation for Adults with a Learning Disability in line with Angus Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Commissioning Plan and seeking authority for its implementation.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendations as detailed in the Report.

13. PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY REPORT – PROVISION OF A SENSORY SERVICE IN ANGUS

There was submitted Report No 70/23 by the Chief Integration Officer outlining the procurement strategy relating to the contract for a Sensory Service in Angus in line with Angus Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Commissioning Plan and seeking authority for its implementation.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendation as detailed in the Report.

14. PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY REPORT – COMMUNITY RECOVERY SERVICE

There was submitted Report No 71/23 by the Chief Integration Officer outlining the procurement strategy relating to the contract for a Community Recovery Service on behalf of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership in line with the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Commissioning Plan and seeking authority for its implementation.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendations as detailed in the Report.