

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of HYBRID MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 30 January 2024 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors BETH WHITESIDE, KENNY BRAES, CHRIS BEATTIE, JULIE BELL, BRIAN BOYD, SERENA COWDY, BILL DUFF, IAIN GALL, ROSS GREIG, MARK McDONALD, IAN McLAREN, GEORGE MEECHAN, GAVIN NICOL, LOIS SPEED and CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM.

Councillor WHITESIDE, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Fairweather and Derek Wann with Councillor Craig Fotheringham substituting for Councillor Wann.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/STATEMENTS OF TRANSPARENCY

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

3. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 5 December 2023 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(b) Appeals Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Appeals Sub-Committee of 13 December 2023, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX I**).

4. POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee agreed, in terms of Standing Order 27(2), that the public and press be excluded during consideration of Items 8 and 9 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 6, 8 and 9.

5. CAPITAL MONITORING – GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME – 2023/24

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 5 December 2023, there was submitted Report No 24/24 by the Director of Finance apprising members of the capital expenditure incurred for the period from 1 April to 30 November 2023 and measuring projected capital expenditure for the year against budgeted provision.

The Report indicated that with eight months (66.67 per cent) of the financial year gone the actual spend levels presented in Tables 1 and 2 in the Report were 51.9 per cent on a gross basis and 69.3 per cent on a net basis respectively. Up to 10 per cent of annual capital spend could come through as accruals at the year end. The value of work completed up to 31 March 2024 would be assessed as part of the year end process and expenditure accrued accordingly, hence the reason why spend could increase significantly in the final month of the year. The Report also indicated that work was ongoing on a number of significant projects for which no payment had yet been made by virtue of the phasing of such projects. For information purposes, the 2022/23 actual spend outturn was 74.7 per cent (gross) and 73.3 per cent (net). The projected net expenditure of £25.557 million (reflected in Table 2 in the Report) would be indicatively funded from the sources detailed in Table 3 in the Report.

Having heard from the Director of Finance, the Committee agreed to note the expenditure to date and projected outturn position on the General Fund capital programme as per Tables 1 and 2 in the Report and the accompanying capital monitoring statement detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report.

6. REVENUE MONITORING 2023/24 AND RENEWAL & REPAIR FUND POSITION 2023/24

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 5 December 2023, there was submitted Report No 25/24 by the Director of Finance providing revenue performance information for the Committee to consider.

The Report detailed the latest projected year-end position for each main Council service area, gave a brief explanation of significant variances and provided an update on expenditure funded through the Council's Renewal and Repair Funds. The position within the Report was based upon actual spend and income information as at 30 November 2023.

Following a number of questions, and having heard from the Director of Finance in response, the Committee agreed: -

- (i) to note the contents of the Report, in particular the comment on the Financial Implications section regarding the projected year end position;
- (ii) to note that non-urgent expenditure and recruitment to vacancies was being deferred to try to reduce the scale of the projected year end deficit; and
- (iii) to note the Renewal and Repair fund position as set out in Section 4.17 of the Report.

7. SURPLUS PROPERTIES

There was submitted Report No 26/24 submitted by the Director of Infrastructure and Environment seeking approval to declare several properties surplus to the requirements of Angus Council.

Following a number of questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve that Monifieth Library, High Street, Monifieth, shown outlined on the plan at Appendix 1, be declared surplus to Angus Council's requirements and marketed for sale by the Council's retained agents Graham & Sibbald and sold on terms to be agreed by the Director of Infrastructure and Environment;
- (ii) to approve that that the vacant property known as the Tractor Shed, Commerce Street, Brechin, shown outlined on the plan at Appendix 2, be declared surplus to Angus Council's requirements and that the Director of Infrastructure and Environment bring a report back to Committee on the proposed future use of the property and the associated consultation to be undertaken; and
- (iii) to approve that the former Access Office, Municipal Buildings and Flat at 32-38 Bank Street, Brechin, shown outlined on the plan at Appendix 3, be declared surplus to Angus Council's requirements and that the Director of Infrastructure and Environment bring a report back to Committee on the proposed future use of the property and the associated consultation to be undertaken.

8. CONTRACT AWARD FOR THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF AN ELECTRONIC CARE MONITORING SYSTEM

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 6 June 2023, there was submitted Report No 27/24 by the Chief Integration Officer providing an update on the review which was undertaken on the electronic care monitoring system which was being used by Angus Health and Social Partnership.

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

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 15(12), Councillors Fotheringham and Greig requested that their dissent be recorded in relation to the foregoing decision.

9. PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY REPORT ANNUAL SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE OF GAS HEATING INSTALLATIONS IN HOUSING 2024 UP TO 2031

There was submitted Report No 28/24 by the Director of Infrastructure and Environment seeking procurement authority for the annual servicing and maintenance of gas heating installations in housing as the maximum value of the contract was above the Chief Officer's delegated authority limit.

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