



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held within the Council Chamber, Patons Building, Kilncraigs, ALLOA, FK10 1EB, on THURSDAY 13 AUGUST 2015 at 10.00 am.**

**PRESENT**

Provost Tina Murphy (In the Chair)  
Councillor Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Janet Cadenhead  
Councillor Alastair Campbell  
Councillor Archie Drummond  
Councillor Kenneth Earle  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Irene Hamilton  
Councillor Craig Holden  
Councillor Kathleen Martin  
Councillor George Matchett, QPM  
Councillor Bobby McGill  
Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Jim Stalker  
Councillor Derek Stewart  
Councillor Graham Watt  
Councillor Gary Womersley

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Elaine McPherson, Chief Executive  
Nikki Bridle, Depute Chief Executive  
Garry Dallas, Executive Director  
Val de Souza, Head of Social Services  
David Leng, Head of Education  
Stephen Coulter, Head of Resources and Governance  
Murray Sharp, Team Leader, Housing Business Management Services  
Andrew Wyse, Team Leader, Legal Services (Clerk to the Council)  
Gillian White, Business Support to the Council - Minutes

**CC.328            APOLOGIES**

None.

**CC.329            DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Graham Watt and Councillor Jim Stalker declared a non-financial interest in Item 8 - Private Sector Housing Assistance Scheme as they are both private landlords. The Clerk advised that as the report only relates to policy, then this would not preclude any member who is a private landlord from participating in this item.

**CC.330            MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL HELD  
ON 25 JUNE 2015**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 25 June 2015 were submitted for approval.

**Decision**

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on Thursday 25 June 2015 were agreed as a correct record of proceedings and signed by the Provost.

**CC.331            COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONVENED SINCE THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL  
MEETING ON 25 JUNE 2015**

The Council agreed to note the committee meetings that had taken place since the last Council meeting on 25 June 2015.

- (a) Education Appeals Committee (X4) 29/06/15
- (b) Regulatory Committee 30/06/15
- (c) Planning Committee 02/07/15
- (d) Licensing Board 07/07/15

**CC.332            WORKFORCE COMMITTEE**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive, which advised Council of a matter relating to the membership and operation of the Workforce Committee.

**Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Irene Hamilton.

**Decision**

The Council agreed to note that:

- a. the main Opposition Group have advised that they will not serve on the Workforce Committee in future;
- b. at the time of writing this report, one of the main Opposition's representatives on the Committee has resigned;
- c. a report will come to the October Council meeting with proposals for the future hearing of employee appeals and trade union disputes; and
- d. should the Committee require to be convened in the interim it can operate on a reduced membership (subject to quorum requirements).

The Chief Executive advised that changes to the Workforce Committee might require a change to Standing Orders. In terms of Standing Order 20.7, the Chief Executive gave notice that proposals to amend Standing Orders will, if required, be brought before the next meeting of the Council on 22 October 2015.

**Action**

Chief Executive

### **CC.333 BUDGET STRATEGY UPDATE**

A report which maintained Council's regular update on the medium term financial outlook was submitted by the Depute Chief Executive. The report also provided an update on progress with the Making Clackmannanshire Better programme.

#### **Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

#### **Decision**

The Council agreed to note:

- a. the significantly revised UK fiscal outlook (paragraphs 3.1 to 3.4 of the report);
- b. the incidence of announced Welfare changes (paragraph 3.5 of the report);
- c. that the impact of the July Budget for Scotland will not be clarified until the Autumn Spending Review (Paragraph 3.7 of the report);
- d. the three illustrative scenarios provided in relation to the council's net expenditure and indicative funding gap for the period to 2018/19 (Exhibits 1 to 4 set out in the report);
- e. that whilst the profile of reductions in public sector expenditure is potentially smoother than previously anticipated, the position remains extremely challenging;
- f. progress and indicative timescales for Budget preparation (Appendix A and paragraphs 4.6 and 4.7 of the report); and
- g. ongoing investment in improving staff and stakeholder engagement (Appendices B1 and B2 and paragraphs 4.7 to 4.10 of the report).

### **CC.334 HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION: FINANCE WORKSTREAM UPDATE**

A report, submitted by the Depute Chief Executive, provided some background information and an update on the progress with work being undertaken by the Finance Workstream group in preparation for the implementation of Health and Social Care Integration (HSCI), and pending more detailed discussions on proposed resource transfer.

#### **Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

#### **Decision**

The Council agreed to note:

1. those services prescribed for the purposes of HSCI (paragraph 3.4 of the report);
2. the use of professional and statutory guidance to develop and prioritise the work undertaken within the Finance workstream (paragraph 4.1 of the report);
3. methodologies for allocating budgets to prescribed services as prepared by NHS Forth Valley and Clackmannanshire, Stirling and Falkirk Councils (Appendices A and B of the report respectively);
4. the common principles adopted within each methodology (paragraph 4.4 of the report)
5. the relative complexity of the allocation process for NHS compared with local government (paragraph 4.5 of the report);
6. ongoing work to develop the indicative resource transfer figures (paragraph 4.8 of the report);

7. the proposed approach to due diligence work (paragraph 4.9 of the report);
8. the need to align Council Budget preparation and Strategic Plan development prior to agreeing the amount to be paid to the Board (paragraphs 4.11 and 4.12 of the report);
9. ongoing work within the Finance workstream project plan (paragraph 4.13).

### **CC.335 PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE SCHEME**

The report, submitted by Head of Housing and Community Safety, reviewed the Council's Private Sector Housing Assistance Scheme and presented a revised policy document which takes into account recent legislative changes and the current economic climate. The report also aimed to clarify the Council's policy on the use of public monies to renovate or enhance private landlord or commercial property, where no known hardship exists.

Councillor Graham Watt and Councillor Jim Stalker had previously declared a non-financial interest in this item as they are both private landlords. The Clerk had earlier advised that as the report only relates to policy, then this would not preclude any member who is a private landlord from participating in this item. Councillors Watt and Stalker remained present in the Chamber and participated in this item.

#### **Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

#### **Amendment**

To add as paragraph 2.1.2:

"asks that officers bring forward a further paper detailing policy and conditions for use of other Council monies to repair and enhance owner occupier or private landlord property. The purpose being to provide clarity, transparency and fairness. This would also include in particular commercial properties of which no mention is made in the report (ref. Para 1.2 of the report)."

Moved by Councillor Janet Cadenhead. Seconded by Councillor Les Sharp.

The Clerk advised that as the seconder of the amendment had moved the original motion, the motion as amended would become the substantive motion.

#### **Decision**

The Council agreed to:

1. approve the amended Private Sector Housing Assistance Scheme, as detailed in the report (as attached at Appendix 1) and agreed to note the remainder of the report; and
2. also ask that officers bring forward a further paper detailing policy and conditions for use of other Council monies to repair and enhance owner occupier or private landlord property. The purpose being to provide clarity, transparency and fairness. This would also include in particular commercial properties of which no mention is made in the report (ref. Para 1.2 of the report)

#### **Action**

Head of Housing and Community Safety

Ends 1130 hrs