



MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL (PART 1) held in the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Alloa, on Thursday 27 November 2025 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillor Phil Fairlie (Convener) (Chair)
Councillor Donald Balsillie (Provost)
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Denis Coyne
Councillor Kenneth Earle (Via Teams)
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Wendy Hamilton
Councillor Scott Harrison
Councillor Craig Holden (From 10.21 am)
Councillor William Keogh
Councillor Fiona Law
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Kathleen Martin
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Janine Rennie (Via Teams)
Councillor Bryan Quinn

IN ATTENDANCE

Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive
Chris Alliston, Strategic Director (Partnership & Performance)
Kevin Wells, Strategic Director (Place)
Lorraine Sanda, Strategic Director (People)
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer (Partnership & Performance)
Michael Boyle, Improving Outcomes Business Manager (People) (Via Teams)
Colin Bruce, Chief Education Officer (People)
Sharon Robertson, Chief Social Work Officer (People) (Via Teams)
Adrienne Aitken, Improving Outcomes Team Leader (People)
Andrew Buchanan, Housing Operations Manager (Place) (Via Teams)
Claire Fullarton, Communications Officer (Partnership & Performance) (Via Teams)
Sarah Goldberg, Team Leader, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance)
Alastair Hair, Senior Manager (Partnership & Performance)
Cherie Jarvie, Senior Manager, Partnership & Transformation (Partnership & Performance)
Sarah Langsford, Senior Manager (Partnership & Performance) (Teams)
Nicola Mack, Chief Accountant (Partnership & Performance) (Via Teams)
Joanna McDonald, Interim Chief Officer for Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
Karen Payton, Team Leader Communications & Marketing (Partnership & Performance)
Lee Robertson, Senior Manager, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance) (Clerk)
Wendy Robertson, Senior Manager, Transformation
Catriona Scott, Senior Manager, Secondary Education (People)
Gillian Scott, Senior Manager, Early Intervention (People) (Via Teams)
Jacke Davies, Members' Services (Partnership & Performance)
Melanie Moore, Committee Services (Partnership & Performance)
Gillian White, Committee Services (Partnership & Performance) (Minute)

CC(25)089 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Mark McLuckie.

CC(25)090 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

CC(25)091 TRANSFORMATION THROUGH COLLABORATION

The report, submitted by the Chief Executive, updated Council on the work being undertaken to explore collaborative transformation opportunities with other Councils/partners as reported in the Budget Context and Outlook report in February 2025. It also sought agreement from Council to progress specific options in a 'Tranche 1' work programme, to a development and design phase. Progressing to the next phase does not commit the Council to a different model of service delivery. A decision on this would be taken following the completion of business cases and governance arrangements work is developed. This work would be submitted to a future meeting of Council.

This report also sought to progress a key area of mitigating action detailed within the Council's agreed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

The work has been undertaken jointly with Falkirk Council. A similar report was submitted to Falkirk Council who required to take a simultaneous decision on progressing this work, for the reasons outlined in the report.

Councillor Craig Holden joined the meeting during questions on this item of business at 10.21 am.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

The Council agreed:

1. The work programme, identified as Tranche 1: Proof of Concept (paragraph 5.5), and agreed that this moves to the next phase of development and design, noting that services delegated to the IJB will be considered by the IJB;
2. That other Councils/partners are now approached, as appropriate, for those Tranche 1 projects described as 'Regional/Regional+' and 'Once for Scotland' to ensure benefits are maximised;
3. That Scottish Government is engaged to discuss potential flexibilities which may be required to mitigate any risks and barriers to implementation of maximised benefits from the proposed work;
4. That work continues to develop the collaborative framework model and on a single governance model, as appropriate, which would be required for fully integrated functions, and that proposals on this are brought back to Council for consideration (paragraph 5.3); and
5. That officers accept the Invest to Save fund award of up to £2m to support the implementation of this work.

The Council noted:

1. The need for further ambitious transformational change to support the move to financial sustainability;
2. The Discovery project undertaken jointly with Falkirk Council, with support from PwC, to identify further cross-Council opportunities for transformation (Section 4 and Appendix 1)
3. That, subject to considerations at the development and design phase, and further Council agreement, there may be a need to explore the option of a single manager for functions which are fully integrated;
4. That there will still be a resource requirement for internal officers and teams to support the next phase of this work (paragraph 7.3);
5. That should additional investment be required above the £2m Invest to Save threshold, the Officer Programme Board, which is to be established, will seek appropriate governance from partners/ Councils as appropriate;
6. that all decisions taken are subject to Falkirk Council also agreeing these recommendations (paragraph 1.3); and
7. That further update reports will be submitted to Council as this work progresses and that there is no commitment being made by Council at this stage to different model (s) of service delivery.

Action

Chief Executive

Ends: 10.45 am

