



MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL PART 2 held in the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Alloa, on Thursday 27 November 2025 at 11.05 am, having followed on 15 minutes after the conclusion of Part 1.

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
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)
Monika Bicev, Policy Officer, Housing (Place) (Chambers & Via Teams)
Andrew Buchanan, Housing Operations Manager (Place) (Via Teams and in Chambers)
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) (Via Teams)
Gillian Scott, Senior Manager, Early Intervention (People) (Via Teams)
Robbie Stewart, Senior Manager, Sport and Leisure (People) (Via Teams)
Ben Watson, Team Leader, Revenues (Partnership & Performance)
Jackie Davies, Members' Services (Partnership & Performance)
Melanie Moore, Committee Services (Partnership & Performance)
Gillian White, Committee Services (Partnership & Performance) (Minute)

CC(25)092 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Mark McLuckie.

CC(25)093 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Janine Rennie declared an interest in "Item 7 Non-Domestic Rates Discretionary Relief (Charities and Sports Clubs)" and advised she would withdraw from the meeting during that item of business.

CC(25)094 MINUTES OF CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL – 2 OCTOBER 2025

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 2 October 2025 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 2 October 2025 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

Action

Clerk to the Council

CC(25)095 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

The report, submitted by the Chief Executive, sought Council approval of recommendations which had been made by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on 30 October 2025.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

Decision

From the Audit and Scrutiny Committee of 30 October 2025, in relation to the "Audit & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report" report, where the Audit and Scrutiny Committee noted, challenged and commented on the report and agreed to submit the report to Council for comment, challenge and approval.

The Council, having commented on and challenged the report:

1. Approved the Audit and Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/2024 which included the self-assessment actions set out in paragraphs 12.2.1 to 12.2.4 of the Annual Report that:

To support reflection, review, and self-development, members agreed that, on a voluntary basis, Committee members would be invited to remain briefly after each meeting to reflect on what went well and identify areas for improvement.

Members requested that quarterly financial information from the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) be presented to the Committee to enable robust scrutiny. The Strategic Director for Partnership and Performance will liaise with the Chief Officer and Chief Finance Officer of the HSCP to ensure regular reporting is provided.

Members expressed a preference for year-end accounts to be presented to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee prior to submission to Council, where possible. It was acknowledged that this may not always be feasible; however, where accounts are first presented to Council, they should subsequently be brought to Committee for further scrutiny and review.

2. Noted that the "[Audit & Scrutiny Annual Report](#)" is available on the Council's website.

From the **Audit and Scrutiny Committee of 30 October 2025**, in relation to the "*HRA Financial Performance 2025/26 as at June 2025*" report, where the Audit and Scrutiny Committee having commented on and challenged the report, noted and recommended for Council approval, the request to vire £0.450m from the safe electrical testing programme to the window replacement programme as set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report.

The Council:

1. Approved the request to vire £0.450m from the safe electrical testing programme to the window replacement programme; and
2. Noted that the "[HRA Financial Performance 2025/26 as at June 2025](#)" report is available on the Council's website.

Action

Chief Executive

CC(25)096 BE THE FUTURE UPDATE: DIGITAL AND DATA TRANSFORMATION

The report, submitted by the Chief Executive, provided the latest update in respect of the Council's Be the Future Target Operating Model (BtF TOM) and associated Transformation Programme. The report also provided an update on progress on the Digital and Data Transformation Theme and set out the proposed Be the Future Corporate Priorities for 2026/27. These priorities are agreed before the start of each financial year to ensure alignment with business and operational plans. The report also provided an update on the Clackmannanshire Transformation Space.

Councillor Coyne raised some issues with numbering of paragraphs referred to in the Recommendations. It was confirmed that in recommendation 2.1, the paragraphs referred to should be 2.53 to 2.60; in recommendation 2.2, the paragraph referred to should be 2.56; in recommendation 2.3, the paragraphs referred to should be 2.6 to 2.16; in recommendation 2.4, the paragraphs referred to should be 2.17 to 2.52; and in recommendation 2.5, the paragraphs referred to should be 2.61 to 2.64.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

Decision

The Council agreed to approve:

1. The Be the Future Corporate Priorities for 2026/27 and agrees that these will continue to be reported to the Strategic Oversight Group and the Be the Future Board with thematic updates provided to Council each cycle. (paragraph 2.53-2.60 and Appendix C); and
2. That the priorities moved to implementation will be reported to Council when updates on progress need to be highlighted, to allow for continued transparency and scrutiny.(paragraph 2.56 and Appendix C).

The Council agreed to note:

3. The strategic direction of the Digital and Data Transformation programme as outlined in the 5-year roadmap (paragraphs 2.6-2.16 and Appendix A).
4. The progress across each of the workstreams which reflect the Council's ongoing drive to innovate, enhance efficiency, and put people at the centre of its services—supported by digital tools, continuous learning, and partnership working (paragraphs 2.17 – 2.52).

5. The progress on the Clackmannanshire Transformation Space (paragraph 2.61-2.64)

Action

Chief Executive

CC(25)097 ESTABLISHMENT OF A NON-DOMESTIC RATES (NDR) APPEAL COMMITTEE

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance), sought Council approval to establish a body to hear appeals against rating liability under section 238 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1947 given that an appeal has been received; and to consider the consequential changes to the Standing Orders and the Scheme of Delegation.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson Seconded by Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

Decision

The Council:

1. Approved the establishment of a Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) Appeal Committee to consider and determine appeals from ratepayers against rates claimed from them on the grounds that the ratepayers are being improperly charged in terms of section 238 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1947;
2. Agreed to make consequential changes to Standing Orders and the Scheme of Delegation;
3. Agreed that the terms of reference for the NDR Appeal Committee shall be:

“To consider and determine appeals from ratepayers against rates claimed from them on the grounds that the ratepayers are being improperly charged in terms of section 238 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1947; in accordance with such rules relating to the lodging and hearing of appeals as the NDR Appeal Committee may from time to time determine.”

4. Agreed that the NDR Appeal Committee will be made up of three members to be drawn from the pool of 18 members of Clackmannanshire Council; and that substitutes may participate as required;
5. Agreed that the Chair of the Committee will be agreed by those members present at each meeting of the NDR Appeal Committee; and that the Chair shall hold a casting vote;
6. Noted that no political balance is required as there is no law around the establishment of the Committee;
7. Noted that any elected member sitting on the NDR Appeal Sub Committee should consider their responsibilities as set out in the Councillors’ Code of Conduct, in terms of their involvement with any appeal submitted, particularly where the petition solely concerns their Ward; and
8. Noted that as set out in Standing Orders 9.21 to 9.25, should the matter solely relate to a single Ward, Ward Councillors may speak on a matter at a committee they are not a member of, subject to the Chair’s approval;
9. Noted that an appeal has been received in respect of the amount of non-domestic rates claimed from a person who has received of a demand notice for non-domestic rates. The appeal requires to be determined; and

10. Noted that training will be provided to any members participating in any meetings of the NDR Appeal Committee.

Action

Senior Manager, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance)

Councillor Janine Rennie withdrew from the meeting for the duration of the undernoted item of business having previously declared an interest.

CC(25)098 NON-DOMESTIC RATES DISCRETIONARY RELIEF (CHARITIES AND SPORTS CLUBS)

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager Partnership and Transformation/Senior Manager Finance and Revenues, (S95 Officer), presented the findings of a consultation on potential changes to the discretionary non-domestic rates relief currently offered by Clackmannanshire Council. The report highlighted that, while the original Council decision was to consult Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs), the scope was extended for reasons of fairness and transparency to include all organisations currently benefiting from non-domestic rates relief. The report invited Council to determine whether this relief should be withdrawn.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report and to take forward option (c) to maintain the provision of non-domestic relief to all organisations.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

Voting

Following debate on the Motion, in terms of Standing Order 14.7, Councillor Holden asked for a roll call vote. The Council agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were 16 members present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the members present voted as follows:

For the Motion (16)

Councillor Phil Fairlie
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor William Keogh
Councillor Fiona Law
Councillor Wendy Hamilton
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Craig Holden
Councillor Bryan Quinn
Councillor Scott Harrison
Councillor Kathleen Martin
Councillor Denis Coyne

Against the Motion (0)

Abstain from Voting (0)

The Motion was carried unanimously.

Decision

The Council unanimously:

1. Noted and consider the findings of the consultation conducted with groups currently receiving discretionary rates relief.
2. Noted that the consultation was broadened to include the removal of non-domestic relief for all organisations currently receiving such relief, rather than being limited solely to Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs).
3. Reviewed, and took into account, the Equality and Fairer Scotland Impact Assessment.
4. Agreed to maintain the provision of non-domestic relief to all organisations.

Action

Senior Manager Partnership and Transformation /
Senior Manager Finance and Revenues, (S95 Officer)

Councillor Janine Rennie re-joined the meeting at the conclusion of the previous item of business.

CC(25)099 ANNUAL REVIEW OF DEBTORS 2024/25

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer (S95 Officer) (Partnership & Performance), provided Council with the annual update on income collection and to propose the 'write-off' of those debts which are deemed irrecoverable.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson Seconded by Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

Decision

The Council:

1. Noted the trends in income collection for 2024/25;
2. Approved the proposed debt write-off of £719,639 (paragraph 6.2 & Appendix B);
3. Approved the write-off of school meal debt held within Schools of £3,543 (paragraph 4.6 & Appendix C); and
4. Noted and commented as appropriate on the other matters raised in the report.

Action

Chief Finance Officer (S95 Officer)

CC(25)100 IMPLEMENTATION OF SCOTLAND EXCEL CARE & SUPPORT FLEXIBLE FRAMEWORK

The report, submitted by the Head of Strategic Planning and Health Improvement, (Health and Social Care Partnership, sought Council approval for the procurement of care and support arrangements to cover the whole of the Clackmannanshire area using the Scotland Excel 2022 Care & Support Flexible Framework. It had been considered prudent to bring this before Council due to the significant value of the contract over its lifetime.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Fiona Law. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

Decision

The Council:

1. Approved the procurement of care and support under the Scotland Excel 20/22 Care and Support Flexible Framework and implementation of local terms and conditions.

Action

Head of Strategic Planning and Health Improvement (HSCP)

The convener advised that it was the last meeting for Joanna McDonald, Interim Chief Officer for Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership. He recognised that the role she had played had left a lasting impression and thanked her for her contribution and wished her well in her new role.

The Convener adjourned the meeting at 12.50 pm for a meal break. When the meeting resumed at 1.30 pm, 16 members remained present as Councillor Darren Lee had withdrawn from the meeting during the break.

CC(25)101 LIBRARY SERVICES

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager (People), provided the Council with alternative library service delivery models as per the agreed amendment from Special Council Meeting February 2025:

“That Council agrees to remove the savings for year 2026/2027 in respect of the cessation of Library and CAP from Alva and Tullibody to allow for a review on options of an alternative model of delivery of these services (including delivery of these services by a community group). A report will be brought back to Council prior to the budget setting in 2026/2027.”

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report and agree that the preferred option is Option 2 as presented in the Library Options paper (Appendix 1).

Moved by Councillor Graham Lindsay. Seconded by Councillor Fiona Law.

Decision

The Council:

1. Reviewed the three options presented in the Library Options paper (Appendix 1); and
2. Agreed their preferred option as Option 2, as presented in the Library Options paper (Appendix 1)

Action

Senior Manager (People)

Councillor Janine Rennie withdrew from the meeting prior to the next item of business at 1.52pm.

CC(25)102 BRAEHEAD GOLF COURSE CLUB REQUEST

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), sought the Council's determination on the request by Braehead Golf Club to waiving of loan conditions to permit sale of land to fund investment within the Course.

Motion

That Council agrees **NOT** to waive any financial penalty or condition associated with the Minute of Agreement with Braehead Golf Club that would allow them to sell the small parcel of land as outlined within Appendix 1 of the report.

Moved by Councillor Scott Harrison. Seconded by Councillor Jane McTaggart.

Amendment 1

That this item of business is deferred to allow for a valuation of the land proposed for sale and consideration of the financial circumstances of Braehead Golf Club.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by William Keogh.

The Convener adjourned the meeting at 2.30 pm to allow an opportunity for legal consideration by the Clerk. The meeting resumed at 2.40 pm, 14 members remained present, Councillor Earle having withdrawn from the meeting during the adjournment.

Voting on the Amendment 1

For the amendment	2 votes
Against the amendment	12 votes
Abstain from voting	0 votes

The amendment was defeated by 12 votes to 2 with 0 abstentions.

Councillor Janine Rennie re-joined the meeting during debate on the motion at 2.52 pm.

Amendment 2

That Council refuses the sale of the land in question.

Moved by Councillor Holden. As there was no seconder for Amendment 2, the amendment was not considered.

Voting on the Motion

Following debate on the Motion, in terms of Standing Order 14.7, Councillor Holden asked for a roll call vote. The Council agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were 15 members present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the members present voted as follows:

For the Motion (14)

Councillor Phil Fairlie
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor William Keogh
Councillor Fiona Law
Councillor Wendy Hamilton
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Bryan Quinn
Councillor Scott Harrison
Councillor Kathleen Martin
Councillor Denis Coyne

Against the Motion (0)

Abstain from Voting (1)

Councillor Craig Holden

The Motion was carried by 14 votes to 0 with 1 abstention.

Decision

The Council:

1. Agreed **NOT** to waive any financial penalty or condition associated with the Minute of Agreement with Braehead Golf Club that would allow them to sell the small parcel of land as outlined within appendix 1 on this report.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

CC(25)103 CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), sought approval of the Corporate Asset Management Strategy and associated policy and action plan as attached within Appendix 1 of the report.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Scott Harrison. Seconded by Councillor Jane McTaggart.

Decision

The Council:

1. Approve the Corporate Asset Management Strategy, associated Policy and Action Plan as attached within Appendix 1.
2. Agree for annual performance update on progress against the strategy's action plan to be presented to the Council's Audit & Scrutiny Committee annually;
3. Agree to receive a review of the Strategy on a 3 yearly cycle to ensure that the strategy remains aligned with Council priorities; and
4. Note the establishment of an Asset Management Board, its membership and reporting lines as outlined within paragraph 4.3 of the report.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

CC(25)104 PLACE BUSINESS PLAN 2025/2026

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), presented the Place Directorate Business Plan, 2025/26, for the consideration and approval of Council.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Scott Harrison. Seconded by Councillor Jane McTaggart.

Decision

The Council:

1. Noted, commented on and approved the Place Business Plan for 2025/2026 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

The Convener adjourned the meeting at 3.23 pm for a comfort break. When the meeting resumed at 3.40 pm, 14 members remained present, as Councillor Graham Lindsay had withdrawn from the meeting during the break.

CC(25)105 HOUSING SERVICE - CURRENT AND FORMER TENANT RENT ARREARS POLICY

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), provides Council with information on the work undertaken to develop the Housing Service Current and Former Tenant Rent Arrears Policy. The Policy supports Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget management by ensuring that tenant rent money, the core income for the HRA, is collected efficiently and effectively. This income is then reinvested into housing revenue and capital service delivery, including improvements to the Council's housing stock and investment in tenant priorities.

Councillor William Keogh withdrew from the meeting during questions to this item of business at 3.56 pm.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

Decision

The Council:

1. Approved the Housing Service's Current and Former Tenant Arrears Policy (as set out in Appendix 1 of the report).

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

CC(25)106 HOUSING PROPERTY ADAPTATIONS POLICY

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), provided Council with information on the work undertaken to develop the Housing Service Property Adaptations Policy.

The Policy supports the Housing Service in ensuring that individuals who require property adaptations receive timely and appropriate support. This contributes to improved health outcomes, reduces health and mobility-related risks, and alleviates pressure on health and social care services by reducing reliance on high-cost care packages, whilst future-proofing the Council's housing stock where appropriate and required to do so.

In addition, the Policy recognises and responds to the housing needs of kinship care households. In line with the Promise Plan, it aims to support families to remain together within their established community networks wherever possible, promoting stability and wellbeing for care-experienced children and young people

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

Decision

The Council:

1. Approved the Housing Service Property Adaptations Policy (as set out in Appendix 1 of the report).
2. Noted the Service's intention to support tenants with relocation to more suitable accommodation (where their current property is unsuitable for adaptation) by offering tailored relocation packages.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

CC(25)107 HOUSING - GARDEN STRUCTURE PERMISSIONS POLICY

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), outlined the work undertaken to develop the Housing Service Garden Structure Permissions Policy and set out a policy position for how garden structures will be managed within the council's social housing stock.

The Policy underpins the Council's commitment in ensuring that Council tenants can enjoy and make the full use of their homes, including their garden areas where applicable.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

Amendment

That the policy is amended to include "The erection of new garden structure may be refused where the impact of a new structure combined with an existing one would cumulatively occupy more than 30% of the total garden area and where the erection of a new structure would serve to hinder access to the garden area."

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Bryan Quinn.

The amendment was agreed by Council.

Decision

The Council:

1. Approved the Housing Garden Structure Permissions Policy, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report as amended to include "The erection of new garden structure may be refused where the impact of a new structure combined with an existing one would cumulatively occupy more than 30% of the total garden area and where the erection of a new structure would serve to hinder access to the garden area."

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

CC(25)107 HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING STRATEGY

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Partnership & Performance), invited the Council to agree the Health, Safety & Wellbeing Strategy for the period 2026-2028.

Motion

To agree the recommendations in the report.

Moved by Councillor Scott Harrison. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

Decision

The Council:

1. Agreed the Health, Safety & Wellbeing Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

Action

Strategic Director (Partnership & Performance)

CC(25)108 MOTION TO COUNCIL – ACTIVE TRAVEL AND PEDESTRIAN PRIORITY AT SIGNALISED CROSSINGS

A notice of motion in terms of Standing Order 16.0 was submitted by Councillor Fiona Law.

Motion

Council notes that in September 2025, the Council's Transport Team collaborated with Living Streets Scotland to launch "Active Travel Zone" maps at several primary schools. These maps encourage families to walk or wheel their journey to school by illustrating walking distances from local streets, transport hubs, and "Park and Stride" sites. They highlight the safest and most accessible routes to school. Choosing healthier and cleaner travel options improves road safety, reduces congestion, and supports the Council's climate emergency commitments. Council commends this work and encourages further initiatives of this nature.

Council recognises a barrier to safer streets are crossing streets. Living Street Scotland notes evidence indicating that when pedestrian wait times exceeding 30 seconds at crossings this can lead to risky behaviour, such as crossing before the green man. Living Streets Scotland reports that many crossings require pedestrians to wait excessively, prioritising motor traffic flow and creating barriers to walking and wheeling. Extended wait times increase the likelihood of unsafe crossings, putting pedestrians and other road users at risk. Council believes that wait times at junctions and crossings should prioritise pedestrians.

Council therefore agrees to:

- I. Amend Pelican, Puffin, Toucan, and Pegasus crossings so that the maximum wait time from pressing the button to the green signal is **20 seconds** where legally possible on such crossings;
- II. Implement this change during scheduled maintenance of crossings to minimise additional costs to the Council.

Moved by Councillor Fiona Law. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

Decision

The Council agreed the motion as set out above.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

CC(25)109 MOTION TO COUNCIL – CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF THE ALLOA TO STIRLING RAILWAY AND SUPPORTING FURTHER RAIL OPENING

A notice of motion in terms of Standing Order 16.0 was submitted by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Motion

Council notes the continuing success of the Alloa to Stirling railway line since its reopening in 2008, which has delivered substantial economic, social, and environmental benefits to Clackmannanshire and the wider region;

Council recognises that the line has provided a vital sustainable transport link for residents, improved access to employment, education, and leisure opportunities, and helped to reduce road congestion and carbon emissions;

Council further notes the growing community and regional support for the reopening of the railway line from Alloa to Dunfermline, which would reconnect communities across Fife and Clackmannanshire, enhance regional connectivity, and open up new opportunities for growth and regeneration; and

Council also notes the potential reinstatement of a direct passenger ferry service between Rosyth and mainland Europe and acknowledges that the reopening of the Alloa–Dunfermline rail line would strengthen public transport connections to Rosyth, improving access to international travel and supporting Scotland's ambitions for sustainable transport and trade.

Council therefore agrees to:

1. Celebrate and promote the success of the Alloa to Stirling railway as a model of transport investment that delivers lasting community benefit.
2. Support, in principle, the reopening of the line from Alloa to Dunfermline as a natural next step in improving sustainable transport links across central Scotland and supporting future strategic international connections such as a Rosyth–Europe ferry service.
3. Engage with Transport Scotland, Fife Council, and other relevant partners to explore opportunities for collaboration in support of this project.
4. Request that the Chief Executive write to the Scottish Government expressing the Council's support for continued investment in rail connectivity, including the Alloa to Dunfermline proposal and its alignment with wider sustainable travel and international transport opportunities.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Bryan Quinn.

Decision

The Council agreed the motion as set out above.

Action

Chief Executive

CC(25)110 MOTION TO COUNCIL – ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FAMILY WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

A notice of motion in terms of Standing Order 16.0 was submitted by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Motion

That Council recognises the outstanding achievement of the Family Wellbeing Partnership (FWP) in securing recognition through the COSLA Excellence Awards process for its pioneering place-based, whole-family support approach, and commends the Council's bold ambition and its growing reputation as one of the most "transformative and forward-looking" local authorities in Scotland;

Believes that the success of the FWP is rooted in its unwavering focus on tackling child poverty, ensuring that improving outcomes for children, young people and families sits at the heart of our work across Clackmannanshire;

Notes the findings of independent evaluation demonstrating that the FWP is already making a positive and tangible difference—reducing social isolation, increasing confidence in accessing services, improving wellbeing, and supporting parents into employment, education or training;

Acknowledges that a major contributor to this success is the fact that the FWP is carried out with and for communities, families and the third sector, rather than through a traditional top-down, council-only model;

Further notes that it operates as a whole-system programme, connecting a wide range of projects across Council services, the Clackmannanshire Alliance, third sector partners and local communities, and is continually evolving and growing in response to learning and lived experience;

Welcomes the national interest that this approach has attracted from other local authorities seeking to reform how public services are designed and delivered for families and communities;

Pays tribute to the hard work, dedication and commitment of Council teams, partners in the third sector, and community organisations whose collaborative efforts have been central to the success of the FWP and to improving outcomes for families across Clackmannanshire; and

Agrees to continue supporting and strengthening the FWP as a core vehicle for ongoing improvement, placing whole-family support, prevention and early intervention at the heart of our anti-poverty work and our shared commitment to Keep the Promise, and ensuring that communities, families and third-sector partners continue to have meaningful input into the design, delivery and governance of services so the programme remains responsive, flexible and driven by those it aims to support.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

Decision

The Council agreed the motion as set out above.

Action

Councillor Ellen Forson

Ends: 5.30 pm