



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the PLACE COMMITTEE held within the Council Chamber,  
Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, ALLOA, FK10 1EB, on THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2019  
at 1.00 pm.**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Craig Holden (Convenor)  
Councillor Donald Balsillie (Vice Convenor)  
Councillor Martha Benny  
Councillor Kenneth Earle  
Councillor Bill Mason  
Councillor Tina Murphy  
Councillor Derek Stewart

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Pete Leonard, Strategic Director (Place)  
Murray Sharp, Senior Manager, Housing  
Lindsay Sim, Senior Manager, Finance & Revenues  
Elizabeth Hutcheon, Team Leader, Management Accountancy  
Yvonne Sharp, Senior Adviser, Money Advice  
Wilson Lees, Homelessness and Supporting People Manager  
Scott Walker, Team Leader, Roads and Street Lighting  
Owen Munro, Team Leader, Planned Works and Compliance  
Andrew Buchanan, Team Leader, Business Improvement  
Caroline Muir, Performance and Information Officer  
Lindsay Thomson, Senior Manager, Partnership & Performance (Clerk to the Committee)  
Gillian White, Committee Services

**PLC(19)24 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Les Sharp.

**PLC(19)25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**PLC(19)26 MINUTE OF PLACE COMMITTEE HELD ON 6 JUNE 2019**

The minute of the meeting of the Place Committee held on Thursday 6 June 2019 were submitted for approval.

**Decision**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Place Committee held on Thursday 6 June 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Convenor.

## **PLC(19)27 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2019-20 – JUNE OUTTURN**

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer, provided an update on the financial performance for the Place Division of the Council in respect of revenue spend for General Fund and the Revenue and Capital Spend for Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the current financial year 2019/20. The update was based on forecast information at June 2019. General Fund Capital expenditure will be reported to the Audit Committee on 26 September 2019 as part of the overall Council's financial performance report.

### **Decision**

That the Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

### **Decision**

Having commented on and challenged:

- The forecast General Fund revenue underspend relating to the Place Division for the year of £(0.343)m;
- Progress on delivering planned savings in the year;
- The Housing Revenue Account underspend of £(0.369,); and
- The Housing Revenue Account capital underspend of £(0.016)m

The Committee agreed to note the report.

## **PLC(19)28 SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHARTER (ARC)**

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), presented the Council's annual submission of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Annual Return of Charter (ARC).

### **Motion**

That the Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to:

1. Retrospectively approve the submission of the 2018/19 Annual Report of the Charter (ARC) sent to the Scottish Housing Regulator on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019, noting the relevant performance results and measures for scrutiny purposes; and
2. Note the requirements of the Scottish Housing Regulator Annual Governance Statement (AGS), and that in future a full members' briefing will be held on the ARC as close to the submission date as possible.

### **Action**

Strategic Director (Place)

## **PLC(19)29 CORPORATE BUILDINGS UPDATE**

Following a corporate redesign, the Housing Service inherited responsibility for the Building Management of the Public Buildings Asset Portfolio in January 2017. This remit had been associated with the Housing Team Leader, Planned Work and Compliance since September 2017. The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), outlined the current position in terms of improvement actions that have been actioned and works that are underway.

### **Motion**

That Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

### **Decision**

The Committee:

1. Noted the progress made with corporate buildings and that further improvements are underway;
2. Noted the continuing resource requirement and review of the budget savings to be netted against savings identified during the budget process (as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report);
3. Noted that the Service will be seeking via business case to appoint a Building Surveyor to carry out a rolling stock condition survey programme of the General Fund Public Buildings. The will build up specific information on our General Fund Assets and develop Capital Investment priorities, and ensure Council can make informed decisions on retentions and disposals (as set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report); and
4. Noted the remainder of the report.

## **PLC(19)30 WIMPY PARK WALLED GARDEN UPDATE REPORT**

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), provided an update on progress made on the lease of the Walled Garden, Pine Grove, Alloa. The report also highlighted future considerations to enable the Wimpy Park Community Group to develop the site to meet their aspirations, in particular with regards to toilet provision.

### **Motion**

That the Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Kenneth Earle.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to note:

1. The progress made to date on the lease of the Walled Garden;
2. The practical steps and indicative costs of work required to meet the ambitions of the Wimpy Park Community Group;
3. The officer view that General Fund (GF) Council expenditure (up to £143k) on the proposed projects set out in paragraphs 3.12 and 3.12 of the report would not represent best value for the Council and therefore are not recommended for approval; and

4. That officers will continue to engage with Wimpy Park Community Group as it reviews its business plan and seeks to identify alternative sources of funding.

**PLC(19)31      SCOTTISH MATERIALS BROKERAGE SERVICE FOR RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT/DISPOSAL**

The Council have been disposing of residual waste at Avondale's landfill facility near Polmont for around 15 years. From January 2021, landfill operators in Scotland will be prohibited from accepting biodegradable municipal waste for disposal at landfill.

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), detailed how the Council has moved to (1) put in place a legally compliant short-term contractual arrangement for the processing and treatment of its 8,000 tonnes (per annum) of residual waste and (2) begin to undertake market insight into a longer-term treatment solution, optionally as part of a potential Local Authority collaboration.

**Motion**

That the Committee agrees the recommendation set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

**Voting**

For the motion	5 votes
Against the motion	0 votes
Abstain from voting	2 abstentions

**Decision**

On a division of 5 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions, the Committee agreed to note:

1. The Service has signed an Agency Agreement for the "Scottish Materials Brokerage Service for Residual Waste Treatment/Disposal" to permit Scottish Procurement to contract on behalf of the Council, with the potential for 2 further 1 year extensions; and
2. The requirement to explore a long term best value and secure residual waste treatment solution, potentially through Local Authority partnership arrangements (by inter-authority agreement or collaborative procurement process).

Ends 1035 hours