

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****CABINET****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 1004 HOURS IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Douglas Reid, Iain Linton, Jim Buchanan, Hugh Ross, Robert McDill, Neil McGhee (Substitute for Maureen McKay), Jim Roberts, Kathy Morrice and Moira Pirie (Substitute for Barney Menzies); Church Representatives Maria Dorrian and Ian Rennie; and Teacher Representative Bryce Wilson.

**ATTENDING:** Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; Alex McPhee, Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support; Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services; David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; Alan Neish, Head of Planning and Economic Development; Andrew Sutherland, Head of Service: Schools; and Gillian Hamilton, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors John MacKay, Maureen McKay, Jim Todd, Barney Menzies; and Parent Representative: David Fraser.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Douglas Reid, Leader of the Council.

**PROMOTING LIFELONG LEARNING****MODERATION PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT ASSESSMENT OF CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS**

1. There was submitted a report dated 26 July 2010 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to utilise £73,000 allocated by the Scottish Government to develop moderation programmes which effectively support Teachers to assess the Curriculum for Excellence across all educational establishments.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the use of £73,000 to support an assessment and moderation programme across educational establishments in Session 2010/11;
- (ii) to approve the continued involvement of the Department of Educational and Social Services in Scottish and international surveys of attainment and achievement;
- (iii) to approve the potential introduction of a standardised externally administered assessment programme at key transition stages for a period of up to 3 years;
- (iv) to note the changes in assessment and reporting resulting from the end of 5-14 and the introduction of Curriculum for Excellence; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Church Representatives Maria Dorrian and Ian Rennie and Teacher Representative Bryce Wilson left the meeting at this point.

## **COMMUNITY REGENERATION**

### **CATRINE ENVIRONMENTAL HERITAGE PROJECT - EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH AUSTIN SMITH LORD**

2. There was submitted a report dated 18 August 2010 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval to (i) authorise the extension of the contract between East Ayrshire Council and Austin Smith Lord (ASL) relating to Catrine Environmental Heritage Project (CEHPr); and (ii) re-allocate the £0.060m allocated by Cabinet on 2 December 2009, for the CEHPr Stage 2 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), to the project implementation stage.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note and support the funding applications that have been submitted by Catrine Community Trust to the Scottish Rural Development Programme, Big Lottery Growing Community Assets and Scottish Investment Fund for the Catrine Environmental Heritage Project including the Catrine Community Renewables Project;
- (ii) to authorise the Head of Planning and Economic Development to negotiate an extension to the contract with ASL in terms of Item 20(2) of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts and Tendering to submit the Stage 2 bid to the HLF, utilising funds provided by Historic Scotland and Heritage Lottery Fund;
- (iii) to authorise the Solicitor to the Council/Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services to extend the ASL contract by an additional £0.150m;
- (iv) to reallocate the £0.060m allocated by Cabinet on 2 December 2009, for the CEHPr bid to the HLF, towards project implementation;
- (v) to approve a formal review of the Catrine Environmental Heritage Partnership Agreement to ensure its continuing fitness for purpose under changing circumstances;
- (vi) to give consideration to the Council funding up to the value of 10% of any application for external funding in relation to this project, where this is required to secure that funding; and
- (vii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP - ESF PRIORITY 5 FUNDING APPLICATION**

3. There was submitted a report dated 8 September 2010 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which (i) provided Cabinet with information relating to the East Ayrshire Community Planning (CPP) proposed new partnership arrangements for delivery of employability services across East Ayrshire from 1 July 2011; (ii) informed Cabinet that it had been necessary within a very short timescale to prepare and submit a Stage 1 application by 20 August 2010, providing basic outlines of the CPP (Community Planning Partnership) application for ESF (European Social Fund) Priority 5 funding; (iii) informed Cabinet that following assessment, the Scottish Government had confirmed on 6 September 2010 that the East Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership application could now proceed to the second stage of the process which required a completed application

to be submitted by no later than 1200 noon on 24 September 2010; (iv) sought approval to proceed with the detailed Stage 2 application to the Scottish Government for ESF funding for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2013 with potential for a third year should balances of funding remain unused; and (v) asked Cabinet to confirm match funding from the Council at the level required to deliver the employability services proposed in the CPP ESF Priority 5 application.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note the action already taken to lodge an interest in Stage 1 of the Priority 5 Bid;
- (ii) to confirm approval for the Skills Development and Employability Service to proceed with the Stage 2 detailed ESF application;
- (iii) to confirm match funding for the application over the next three years as detailed in Paragraph 4.2 of the report;
- (iv) to recommend to the Community Planning Partnership that the level of financial support required in Paragraph 4.2 of the report be approved;
- (v) to note the proposed partners included in the project;
- (vi) to note the proposed review of the Skills Development and Employability Service;
- (vii) due to the timescales involved, to authorise implementation of recommendations (i) - (vi), above, prior to any consideration by the Governance and Scrutiny Committee as to delay implementation would seriously prejudice the Council's position in relation to achieving the deadline set for submitting the Stage 2 bid; and
- (viii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON THE PROCEDURES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND  
(Item 8, Page 1033, 07/12)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 4 August 2010 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which (i) informed Cabinet of the consultation exercise undertaken regarding the proposed Procedures for the Operation of the Renewable Energy Fund; (ii) summarised the views that have been received on those proposals; and (iii) recommended appropriate responses to the views expressed.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note the consultation exercise undertaken;
- (ii) to note the consultation responses received;
- (iii) to approve the recommended amendments to the Renewable Energy Fund procedures as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report arising from the consultation exercise and note that the explanation relating to the commencement date for the "10 year period" for contributions detailed within Appendix 3(i), page 46, should also be repeated in the response section of Appendix 2 - Timing General Principle, pages 32/33;
- (iv) to note the amended application form, guidance notes etc all as detailed within Appendix 3 to the report;

- (v) that the Annual Report which Cabinet previously agreed at its meeting on 18 November 2009 captures all aspects of the process including a review of performance in relation to outputs and outcomes and a review of Community Representatives' roles in the processing of applications; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES AND EQUALITIES**

### **SHARED SERVICES - JOINT WORKING IN AYRSHIRE**

5. There was submitted a joint report dated 26 August 2010 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which updated Members on the progress in relation to the Shared Services Agenda and the work undertaken on a Pan-Ayrshire basis in this respect.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the steps taken and proposed to date, in respect of joint working arrangements pan-Ayrshire;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support and other relevant officers report back to Cabinet annually on progress made;
- (iii) to note that individual reports will be brought to the appropriate decision making forum as they arise; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

6. Cabinet resolved "That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act".

### **VOLUNTARY SEVERANCES**

7. There was submitted a report dated 3 September 2010 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which sought approval of voluntary severance arrangements on the grounds of redundancy in respect of five employees within Onsite Services in the Department of Educational and Social Services.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the voluntary severance arrangements detailed in Appendix A to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1058 hours.