

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –  
BLENDED MEETING**

**Committee Room 2, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes**

**16 November, 2023**

**10.00 am – 12.45 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Eugene Clarke (Convener), Alycia Hayes (substituting for Councillor Brian Goodall), Blair Allan, Ken Caldwell, Alex Campbell, Allan Knox, Donald Lothian, Julie MacDougall, Kathleen Leslie (substituting for Councillor Peter Gulline), Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw (substituting for Councillor Sam Steele), Lynn Mowatt, Bailey-Lee Robb, Ann Verner, Darren Watt and Jan Wincott.

**ATTENDING:** Michael Enston, Executive Director - Communities; Diarmuid Cotter, Head of Customer and Online Services; Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, Ashley Birrell, Policy Officer, Community Investment, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Alan Paul, Head of Property Services; John Mills, Head of Housing Services; Christine Moir, Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice; Fiona McKay, Head of Strategic Planning, Performance and Commissioning Manager, Health and Social Care Partnership; Alison Binnie, Finance Business Partner, Helen Guthrie, Accountant, and Lesley Kenworthy, Finance Business Partner, Finance and Corporate Services and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Committee Services, Legal and Democratic Services.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** David Redpath, Chief Executive and Sarah Somerville, Business Development Manager, Citizens Advice and Rights Fife (CARF).

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors Brian Goodall, Peter Gulline and Sam Steele.

Prior to the start of business, the Convener intimated the intention to vary the sequence of items from that on the agenda to take items 6 (para 90) and item 10 (para 91) consecutively due to the presenting officer having to leave the meeting early.

**86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 22.

**87. MINUTE**

The committee considered the minute of the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting of 31 August 2023.

**Decision**

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

**88. CITIZENS ADVICE & RIGHTS FIFE – PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods updating members on the performance of the Citizens Advice and Rights Fife (CARF) during 2022/23.

**Decision**

The committee noted: -

- (1) the report and appendices;
- (2) the proactive approach that CARF had taken to manage the demand; and
- (3) the plans relating to increased capacity and the wider impact this had on those people accessing services.

**89. CUSTOMER & ONLINE SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Customer and Online Services presenting the performance scorecard for Customer and Online Services for 2022/2034 and including the first two quarters of 2023-2024.

**Decision**

The committee noted: -

- (1) the arrangements set out in Section 1 of the report to fulfil the Council's obligation to comply with Audit Scotland's 2021 SPI Direction; and
- (2) the performance information in Section 2 of the report, which included current challenges/priorities and risks. A high-level overview of KPI's was included in Appendix 1 which covers the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF), Plan for Fife (P4F), Customer and Resources and Services operations.

**90. CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER REPORT 2022-2023**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services providing members with updated information in relation to the Chief Social Work Officers Report and the financial position for 2023-2024.

**Decision**

The committee noted the content of the report.

**91. 2023-24 REVENUE BUDGET & CAPITAL PLAN PROJECTED OUTTURN - CHILDREN & FAMILIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES**

The committee considered a joint report by the Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services and the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services updating members on the forecasted financial position for the 2023-24 financial year, including the areas in scope of the People and Communities

## 2023 PCS 38

Scrutiny Committee in relation to Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services.

### **Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) considered and noted the current financial performance and activity detailed in the report in relation to both the revenue budget and capital plan; and
- (2) noted the projected outturn position and the relevant areas of projected over and under spend within the service.

*The meeting adjourned at 11.30am and reconvened at 11.40am.*

*Councillor Kathleen Leslie left the meeting at this stage.*

### **92. SWAN AND MEMORIAL COURT METHIL**

The committee considered a joint report by the Head of Property Services and the Head of Housing Services updating members on the recladding works carried out in 2012/2013 to improve the insulation of the multistorey blocks at Swan and Memorial Court following a request by the Cabinet Committee on 5 October 2023.

### **Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) noted the content of the report and the lessons learned; and
- (2) agreed that a further update report on the lessons learned would be considered at a future meeting of the committee in early 2024.

### **93. 2023-24 REVENUE BUDGET PROJECTED OUTTURN – COMMUNITIES**

The committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services and the Executive Director, Communities providing an update on the revenue budget projected outturn position for the 2023/2024 financial year for Communities and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) including the areas in scope of the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

### **Decision**

The committee considered and noted the current financial performance and activity for the 2023/24 revenue budget projected outturn as detailed in the report.

### **94. 2023-24 CAPITAL PLAN PROJECTED OUTTURN – COMMUNITIES**

The committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services and the Executive Director, Communities providing an update on the Capital investment plan and advised on the projected financial position for the 2023/24 financial year.

**Decision**

The committee considered and noted the current performance and activity for the 2023/24 capital monitoring as detailed in the report.

**95. 2023-24 REVENUE BUDGET PROJECTED OUTTURN – HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

The committee considered a joint report by the Director of Health and Social Care and the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services updating members on the 2023-24 revenue budget projected out-turn for Fife Council Social Care Services for Adults and Older People.

**Decision**

The committee considered and noted the current financial performance and activity as detailed in the report.

**96. 2023-24 CAPITAL PLAN PROJECTED OUTTURN – HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

The committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services and the Director of Health and Social Care updating members on the Health and Social Care Capital Investment Plan review and advising on the projected out-turn for the 2023-24 financial year for the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

**Decision**

The committee considered and noted the current performance and activity across the 2023-24 financial monitoring as detailed in the report.

**97. PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services, asking members to consider the future workplan for the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

**Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) considered and noted the People and Communities Scrutiny future workplan;
- (2) agreed that an update report on Café Inc would be brought back to the next meeting in February 2024 following a request that the café inc working group required to have a further meeting prior to the report coming back to committee;
- (3) agreed that an annual report on activities of the IJB would be submitted to the committee and that annual report would replace the following items on the forward work programme - including “day care provision” and “self directed care packages”; and
- (4) noted that a further review of the forward work programme would take place and any items suggested from members would be considered for

## **2023 PCS 40**

inclusion in the updated forward work programme should it be relevant under the remit of the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee.