

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - ECONOMY TOURISM STRATEGIC PLANNING AND  
TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE - REMOTE**

1 October, 2020

10.00 a.m. – 12.35 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Altany Craik (Convener), John Beare, Ian Cameron, Dave Coleman, Bill Connor, Ian Ferguson, Sharon Green-Wilson, Jean Hall-Muir, Jane Ann Liston, Mino Manekshaw, Ross Paterson, David J Ross, Ann Verner and Jan Wincott

**ATTENDING:** Keith Winter, Executive Director, Enterprise & Environment; Ken Gourlay, Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment, Derek Crowe, Senior Manager (Roads & Transportation Services), Frances Ratcliffe, Lead Consultant - Bridges & Structures, Steven Sellars, Lead Consultant, Road Safety & Travel Planning, Assets, Transportation & Environment; Pam Ewen, Head of Planning, Bill Lindsay, Service Manager, Development Plan, Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability, Pamela Stevenson, Service Manager - Economic Development, Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Jackie Johnstone, Accountant, Finance and Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillor Colin Davidson

**129. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Ann Verner declared an interest in paragraph 134 - Support for Voluntary Organisations below, as she was a Council representative on the Opportunities Fife Partnership, however she considered that this was covered by a Specific Exclusion so she would remain and participate.

Councillor Altany Craik declared an interest in paragraph 138 - Business Gateway Fife Annual Performance 2019/20 as a Board member of Business Gateway, however, he considered that this was covered by a Specific Exclusion so he would remain.

**130. MINUTE**

The Sub-Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning & Transportation Committee of 20 January 2020.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee approved the minute.

131./

**131. COVID-19 - BUSINESS SUPPORT**

Pamela Stevenson, Service Manager, Economic Development, gave a verbal update on support given to businesses in Fife during the COVID-19 pandemic to date, highlighting initiatives which had been implemented and work being undertaken to identify the ongoing impact on businesses.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee noted the update given.

**132. INTERIM REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY - EDINBURGH AND SOUTH EAST SCOTLAND**

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning requesting ratification of the interim Regional Spatial Strategy for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Area which was approved for submission to the Scottish Government by the SESplan Joint Committee at its meeting on 21 September 2020.

**Motion**

Councillor David J Ross, seconded by councillor Dave Coleman moved that:-

Due to the importance of the Interim spatial strategy to the people of Fife, the Sub-Committee does not endorse the strategy until further consultation has taken place.

**Amendment**

Councillor John Beare, seconded by Councillor Altany Craik, moved that:-

The Sub-Committee agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

**Vote**

Amendment - 10

Motion – 4

The Sub-Committee agreed in terms of the Amendment.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee agreed to:

- (1) ratify the interim Regional Spatial Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) note the next steps for submission of the interim Regional Spatial Strategy to the Scottish Government as set out in section 3.0 of the report; and,
- (3) authorise the Head of Planning, through the SESplan Board, to make minor changes to the documents, as required, prior to submission to the Scottish Government.

### 133. SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY AND HOUSING TECHNICAL CONSULTATION

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning to enable Members to consider the Scottish Government's proposed policy amendments to the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (2014) to clarify specific parts of the SPP that related to planning for housing, allowing a Fife Council response to contribute to the final interim changes to the SPP.

#### **Decision**

The Sub-Committee:

- (1) agreed Fife Council's draft response to the Scottish Government Technical Consultation on Scottish Planning Policy and Housing; Proposed Policy Amendments, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) delegated it to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Convener and Vice-Convener, to submit the finalised Fife Council response to the Scottish Planning Policy and Housing; Proposed Policy Amendments by the Scottish Government deadline of 9th October 2020.

### 134. SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability presenting recommendations for the level of support to voluntary organisations within the Enterprise and Environment Directorate for the period 2020-2022.

#### **Decision**

The Sub-Committee:-

- (1) approved the level of funding to voluntary organisations by the Assets, Transportation & Environment Service as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) approved the allocations given through Service Level Agreements from Business and Employability, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report; and
- (3) noted the allocations awarded by the Opportunities Fife Partnership for the delivery of Employability Pathway activities, to be used as part of the match for the European Programme, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report.

### 135. FIFE BRIDGE STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment providing an update and seeking approval for the updated Fife Bridge Strengthening Programme following the announcement of the return of the railway to Leven and reflecting the impact of project growth at the A91 New Bridge, Guardbridge.

#### **Decision**

The Sub-Committee approved the proposed timetable and list of priority capital projects forming the Fife Bridge Strengthening Programme up to financial year 2025/26 as detailed in Table 1 within the report.

**136. FIFE'S ROAD CONDITION REPORT 2020**

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment advising of the results of the 2018-20 Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS), reporting on road defect performance 2019-20 in Fife and providing an update on future budget allocations.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee:-

- (1) noted the current performance, activity and resources as detailed in the report; and
- (2) approved the continued use of the existing methodology for the distribution of roads related capital resources as detailed in section 3.0 of the report.

The meeting adjourned at 11.30 a.m.

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The meeting reconvened at 11.45 a.m.

**137. FIFE ROAD CASUALTY STATISTICS 2019**

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment advising on the numbers and severity of crashes and casualties on Fife's roads in 2019 and the performance against the Scottish Government Road Safety Casualty Reduction targets.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee noted:-

- (1) Fife's road casualty statistics for 2019 and the performance in respect of the Scottish Government targets for 2020; and
- (2) that Fife's road safety partners would continue to innovate and work together to meet the challenging casualty reduction targets for 2020.

**138. BUSINESS GATEWAY FIFE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE 2019/20**

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability providing an annual overview of the performance of Business Gateway Fife Ltd in delivering services during the period April 2019 to March 2020, including Fife Council's financial assistance to businesses scheme. The report provided information on performance and highlighted areas of service development.

**Decision/**

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee noted:-

- (1) the performance, expenditure and activity information on Business Gateway Fife for 2019/20, as detailed in the report; and
- (2) the progress made in terms of ongoing service and system integration to improve business efficiency and performance at Business Gateway Fife.

**139. 2019/20 REVENUE MONITORING PROVISIONAL OUTTURN**

The Sub-Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services and the Executive Director, Enterprise & Environment providing an update on the financial position for the 2019/20 financial year for the areas in scope of the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning & Transportation Sub-Committee.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee noted the current financial performance and activity as detailed in the report.

**140. 2019/20 CAPITAL MONITORING PROVISIONAL OUTTURN**

The Sub-Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services and the Executive Director, Enterprise & Environment providing an update on the Capital Investment Plan and advising on the provisional financial position for the 2019/20 financial year for areas in scope of the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning & Transportation Sub-Committee.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee noted the current performance and activity across the 2019/20 Financial Monitoring as detailed in the report.

**141. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY MARCH 2020 TO JULY 2020**

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services advising of decisions taken by officers, acting under delegated authority and within the remit of the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning & Transportation Sub-Committee.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee noted the decisions taken under delegated authority as set out in the Appendix to the report.

**142./**

**142. URGENT BUSINESS**

In terms of Standing Order 3.8, the Convener agreed that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency:-

Decision Taken Under Delegated Authority – Car Parking Recovery Plan – Kirkcaldy Special Measures – 2020/21

**143. DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY – CAR PARKING RECOVERY PLAN – KIRKCALDY SPECIAL MEASURES – 2020/21**

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services advising of a decision taken by the Executive Director, Enterprise & Environment, acting under delegated authority, to extend the suspension of parking charges at The Postings Car Park until 1 November 2020, which was within the remit of the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning and Transportation Sub-Committee.

**Decision**

The Sub-Committee noted the decision taken under delegated authority to extend the suspension of parking charges at The Postings Car Park until 1 November 2020.

**144. ECONOMY, TOURISM, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Sub-Committee noted the current forward work programme for the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning & Transportation Sub-Committee.