

2024 FECSS 34

THE FIFE COUNCIL - FINANCE, ECONOMY AND CORPORATE SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

Committee Room 2, 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes

18 April 2024

10.00 am – 10.50 am

PRESENT: Councillors Allan Knox (Convener), Alistair Bain, Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw, Sam Steel (substituting for Councillor Auxi Barrera), Ian Cameron, Rod Cavanagh, Sean Dillon, Graeme Downie, Stefan Hoggan-Radu, Gary Holt, Robin Lawson, Gordon Pryde, Alistair Suttie and Ann Verner.

ATTENDING: Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability, Carlene Simpson, Project Manager - Strategic Growth City Deals, Business and Employability Service; Eileen Rowand, Executive Director - Finance and Corporate Services, Ashleigh Allan, Finance Business Partner, Donna Grieve, Accountant, Lindsay Thomson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Helena Couperwhite, Service Manager - Committee Services, Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Auxi Barerra and Colin Davidson.

94. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

95. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the Finance, Economy and Corporate Services Scrutiny committee of 25 January 2024.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

96. CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP

Decision

The committee noted that Councillor Holt had replaced Councillor Clarke as a member of this committee and welcomed him to his first meeting.

The committee thanked Councillor Clarke for his contribution to the work of the committee during his membership.

97. EDINBURGH AND SOUTH EAST OF SCOTLAND CITY REGION DEAL ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23 AND UPDATE ON THE BENEFITS REALISATION PLAN FOR THE FIFE INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION INVESTMENT (I3) PROGRAMME.

The committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability providing an annual update on the City Region Deal for 2022/23 and the Benefits Realisation Plan for the Fife Industrial Innovation Investment (i3) Programme, funded through the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal.

Decision

The committee noted the performance of the Fife i3 programme and the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Annual Report for 2022/23.

98. TAY CITIES DEAL ANNUAL REPORT AND BENEFITS REALISATION PLAN

The committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability presenting the third Annual Report on progress by the Tay Cities Region Deal for the period 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

Decision

The committee: -

- (1) noted the information contained in the report and the progress on activity in North East Fife; and
- (2) agreed that a site visit to the Eden Campus would be arranged for elected members.

99. 2023/24 REVENUE MONITORING PROJECTED OUTTURN – PLANNING SERVICE, BUSINESS AND EMPLOYABILITY SERVICE

The committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) and the Executive Director (Place), providing an update on the projected outturn financial position for the 2023/24 financial year for the areas in scope of the Finance, Economy and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee.

Decision

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

100. 2023/24 CAPITAL MONITORING PROJECTED OUTTURN – BUSINESS AND EMPLOYABILITY SERVICE

The committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) and the Executive Director (Place), providing an update on the Capital Investment Plan and advising on the projected financial position for the 2023/24 financial year for the areas in scope of the Finance, Economy and Corporate Services Scrutiny committee.

Decision

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

101. 2023/24 REVENUE MONITORING PROJECTED OUTTURN – FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) providing an update on the projected outturn financial position for 2022/23 for the Finance and Corporate Services Directorate.

Decision

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

102. 2023/24 CAPITAL MONITORING PROJECTED OUTTURN – FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) providing an update on the Capital Investment Plan and advising on the projected financial outturn position for the 2023/24 financial year for the Finance and Corporate Services Directorate.

Decision

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

103. FINANCE, ECONOMY AND CORPORATE SERVICES FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) outlining the draft workplan for future meetings of this committee.

Decision

The committee noted -

- (1) the draft Finance, Economy and Corporate Services Scrutiny Work Plan;
- (2) that work had been undertaken by the convener, depute convener and Lead Officer to streamline reporting of the forward work programme to ensure that reports are considered more timeously at future meetings of the committee; and
- (3) that Councillor Knox had arranged to meet with Lindsay Thomson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services in regard to reporting to committee on the following unallocated reports “Review of community council elections” and “Support and services for elected members with disabilities”.