

# MORAY COUNCIL

## Minute of Meeting of the Corporate Committee

Tuesday, 13 June 2023

Council Chambers, Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Theresa Coull, Councillor John Cowe, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Amber Dunbar, Councillor Jérémie Fernandes, Councillor Sandy Keith, Councillor Graham Leadbitter, Councillor Marc Macrae, Councillor Paul McBain, Councillor Shona Morrison, Councillor Bridget Mustard, Councillor Kathleen Robertson, Councillor Derek Ross, Councillor John Stuart

### **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies submitted.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Also in attendance at the above meeting were the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development), Chief Financial Officer, Head of Governance, Strategy and Performance, Head of HR, ICT and Organisational Development, Communities Service Manager and Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer.

#### **1. Chair**

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Bridget Mustard.

#### **2. Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests \***

In terms of Standing Orders 21 and 23 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, there were no declarations from Group Leaders or Spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members will vote on any item on the agenda or any declarations of Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

#### **3. Minute of the meeting of the Corporate Committee on 25 April 2023**

The minute of the meeting of the Corporate Committee dated 25 April 2023 was submitted and approved.

#### **4. Written Questions \*\***

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

#### **5. Human Resources, ICT and Organisational Development and Strategy Governance and Performance Services' Service Plans 2023-24**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) invited the Committee to consider the Human

Resources, ICT and Organisational Development and Strategy Governance and Performance services' Service Plans for 2023-2024.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the Service Plans for services within Human Resources, ICT and Organisational Development and Governance, Strategy and Performance.

## **6. Financial Service Plan 2023-24**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) invited the Committee to consider and agree the Financial Services Plan for 2023-24/

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the Service Plan for Financial Services (Appendix 1).

## **7. Community Rental Support - Annual Review**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) invited the Committee to consider the level of rental support awarded to voluntary and community organisations (VCOs) occupying Council property under legacy arrangements and the Council's Scheme of Delegation for short-term low-value concessions and to consider options for the review of the level of support provided through community rent rebates.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) note that no rental support was approved under the Scheme of Delegation for short-term low-value rental concessions during the financial year 2022/23;
- ii) note the extent of long term rental support provided under the legacy arrangements detailed in Appendix 1;
- iii) note the extent of rental support provided under the Community Rent Rebate arrangements detailed in Appendix 2; and
- iv) cancel all rebates when the related rent is due to be reviewed, whether or not the rent review is implemented, and require the beneficiary to re-apply if they wish the rebate to continue.

## **8. Performance Report (Financial Services) Period to March 2023**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period to 31 March 2023.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) note performance in areas of service planning, service performance and other related data to the end of March 2023;
- ii) note the actions being taken to improve performance where required.

## **9. Corporate Asset Management Plan**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) provided the Committee with a report of progress made against the Corporate Asset Management Plan for 2022/23 and to consider targets for 2023/24.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) note the work done to date to meet the targets set in the Corporate Asset Management Plan for 2022/23 as set out in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.6;
- ii) note the status of Asset Management Plans for each type of asset as set out in Appendix 2; and
- iii) approve the actions included in the Corporate Asset Management Plan for 2023/24 as set out in paragraph 5.1.

## **10. Devolved School Budgets - Carry Forward**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) sought Committee's decision on whether to allow schools to carry forward budget spend which was for the current financial year however did not go ahead.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to allow the following schools to retain the following amounts for planned spend which has not been progressed:

- i) Newmill Primary School for £9,000
- ii) Speyside High School for £118,652

## **11. Volunteering Policy Refresh**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) informed the Committee of the need to review our current Volunteer Policy and to seek approval of the refreshed Moray Council Volunteering Policy which has been redrafted in direct engagement with council volunteers, community councils and other stakeholders.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to adopt the refreshed Volunteer Strategy to reaffirm the Council support for direct volunteering with council services and within communities.

## **12. Performance Report (Human Resources, ICT and Organisational Development) Period to March 2023**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period to 31 March 2023.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) note performance in areas of service planning, service performance and other related data to the end of March 2023;

- ii) note the actions being taken to improve performance where required.

### **13. Performance Report (Governance, Strategy and Performance) Period to March 2023**

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period to 31 March 2023.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) note performance in areas of service planning, service performance and other related data to the end of March 2023;
- ii) note the actions being taken to improve performance where required.

### **14. Information Reports - if called in**

The Committee noted that no Information Reports had been called in.

### **15. Question Time \*\*\***

Under reference to paragraph 10 of the minute of the meeting of 25 April 2023, Councillor Divers confirmed that following his meeting with the Chief Executive, he was assured of the reasoning for their being no Elected Members in attendance on the sub group to advance the work of the Culture Working Group.

In regards to the same point, Councillor Robertson said she was not aware of the measurable outcomes being circulated.

In response, the Chief Executive confirmed that he would check to ensure they had been circulated. He further added that a report of the findings would be presented to the next meeting of Corporate Committee.

He further added that he would re-issue the invitation to all groups to discuss the options available around the Culture Working Group and the existing framework for raising issues.