

GOVERNANCE

COMMITTEE DECISION SHEET

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - WEDNESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2022

Please let the Committee Officer know as soon as possible if you do not agree with any action proposed in this decision sheet. These are decisions of the Committee and there is an expectation that action will be taken. If for any reason it is apparent that you will not be able to act on these instructions in full or in part or that there will be a delay, please let the Committee Officer know as it may be necessary to advise the Committee or seek further instructions from the Committee.

	Item Title	Committee Decision	Cluster Required to take action	Officer to Action
1.1	<u>Notification of Urgent Business</u>	there was no Urgent Business		
2.1	<u>Determination of Exempt Business</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business:- 9.1 – Verbal Update on Stoneywood Mill and Belmont Cinema.		
3.1	<u>Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statements</u>	(1) Councillor Cooke advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda item 7.1 (Council Financial Performance – Quarter 2, 2022/23) which related to the provision of a bank guarantee to Sport Aberdeen, by virtue of him being an observer member on the Board of Sport Aberdeen, however having applied the objective test, he did not consider that he had an interest and would not be		

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		<p>(2) withdrawing from the meeting; Councillor Macdonald advised that she had a connection in relation to agenda items 6.1 (Notice of Motion by Councillor Macdonald – Stoneywood Mill) and 9.1 (Verbal Update on Stoneywood Mill and Belmont Cinema) by virtue of her being a member of Unite the Union, however having applied the objective test, she did not consider that she had an interest and would not be withdrawing from the meeting; and</p> <p>(3) Councillor Grant advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda items 6.1 (Notice of Motion by Councillor Macdonald – Stoneywood Mill) and 9.1 (Verbal Update on Stoneywood Mill and Belmont Cinema) by virtue of him being a member of Unite the Union, however having applied the objective test, he did not consider that he had an interest and would not be withdrawing from the meeting.</p>		
4.1	<u>Minute of Meeting of City Growth and Resources Committee of 21 September 2022</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> to approve the minute.		
5.1	<u>Committee Planner</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> (i) to remove item 47 (Impact on Aberdeen of Scottish Government Funding), item 49 (Living Well) and 57 (Altens East Waste and Recycling		

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		<p>Centre) from the planner for the reasons outlined therein;</p> <p>(ii) to transfer item 56 (Queen Street – Outline Business Case) to the Council Planner for the reason outlined therein;</p> <p>(iii) to retain item 54 (Tillydrone Primary School) and item 55 (Housing Capital Council Led New Build Projects) on the planner until the next meeting of the Committee, in order for members to have oversight of the combined Capital Programme Report, following which members could consider the removal of the aforementioned items;</p> <p>(iv) to note the update provided by the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord in relation to item 52 (City Centre Multi Storey Blocks – Option Appraisal), noting that a report would be submitted in early 2023;</p> <p>(v) to request that the interim Chief Officer – Governance liaise with Group Leaders on the arrangements for a potential briefing session for all interested members of the Council on the new Committee Terms of Reference document approved by Council recently as part of the Review of the Scheme of Governance; and</p> <p>(vi) to otherwise note the content of the Committee Planner.</p>		
6.1	<u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Macdonald - Stoneywood Mill</u>	<p>The Committee resolved:</p> <p>(i) notes the announcement on 22 September that Stoneywood Mill has</p>		

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		<p>been put into Administration, and that over 300 staff have been made redundant;</p> <p>(ii) recalls the actions taken by the City Council working with Scottish Ministers and other partners in 2019, to prevent such an outcome at Stoneywood Mill by supporting a management buy-out;</p> <p>(iii) commends the workforce and its trade union Unite for their commitment to the Mill and their continuing efforts to protect jobs and to sustain the dynamism and diversity of the local economy in Aberdeen;</p> <p>(iv) recognises in particular the impact on the local communities on Donside, where Stoneywood Mill has been a major employer for over 250 years;</p> <p>(v) notes that the initial sale of business deadline passed on October 14 2022 without Interpath Advisory, the Administrators, identifying any deliverable transaction to secure the sale of Stoneywood Mill as an operational facility;</p> <p>(vi) notes that Scottish Enterprise has supported the company in the period up to its entering administration in October 2022, including by exploring all options for its continued operation;</p> <p>(vii) acknowledges the work by trade unions, Skills Development Scotland and its partners, including Aberdeen City Council and Business Gateway,</p>		

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		<p>in delivering the Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE) response to provide direct and immediate support to help the affected employees access new training and jobs and that this support should continue; and</p> <p>(viii) notes the verbal update provided at this meeting by the Chief Officer – City Growth.</p>		
6.2	<p><u>Notice of Motion by Councillors Boulton, Bouse, Henrickson, Hutchison and Macdonald - Belmont Cinema</u></p>	<p>The Committee resolved:</p> <p>(i) notes the announcement on 6 October 2022 that the Centre for the Moving Image (CMI), the charity that operated The Belmont Cinema in Aberdeen has gone into Administration with the loss of 22 jobs;</p> <p>(ii) acknowledges the efforts of staff at the Belmont Cinema in contributing to the cultural offering of the city;</p> <p>(iii) agrees that the Belmont Filmhouse plays a number of important roles supporting accessible and inclusive cultural cinema across the North East, while also making significant contributions to people's lives in local communities in Aberdeen;</p> <p>(iv) notes that Aberdeen City Council owns the property that the Belmont Cinema operated from;</p> <p>(v) notes that the Chief Officer - City Growth is in contact with the administrators, the Save the Belmont Cinema campaign group, Creative Scotland, Scottish Government and</p>		

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		<p>other stakeholders to explore whether there are potential options for the sustainable operation of the Belmont Cinema; and</p> <p>(vi) instructs the Chief Officer – City Growth to report back to the next appropriate committee on any developments and the implications for the Council.</p>		
7.1	<p><u>Council Financial Performance - Quarter 2, 2022/23 - RES/22/247</u></p>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) note the positive cash position that has been achieved for the General Fund and HRA to the end of Quarter 2 as detailed in Appendix 1;</p> <p>(ii) note the Common Good financial performance to the end of Quarter 2 as detailed in Appendix 3, specifically the £3.7m reduction in cash balances due to investment volatility;</p> <p>(iii) note that the General Fund full year forecast position, as detailed in Appendix 2, is expected to show a deficit of £4.4m for 2022/23, and that the Chief Officer – Finance is instructing that budget holder act to delay, stop or reduced expenditure wherever possible to mitigate this deficit; and note that any remaining deficit will be mitigated from the use of earmarked reserves;</p> <p>(iv) note that the HRA full year forecast position, as detailed in Appendix 2, is on target to achieve the approved budget, making a contribution to HRA reserves for 2022/23;</p>		

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		<p>(v) note that the Council relies on the Integration Joint Board (IJB) achieving a balanced budget, and that the IJB retains reserves to mitigate unplanned additional costs arising during the year;</p> <p>(vi) note that the forecast for General Fund and Housing capital expenditure is that there will be lower spend than had been budgeted in 2022/23 as described in Appendix 2;</p> <p>(vii) to note that the Chief Officer – Finance agreed to circulate to members, details of the pre-pandemic figures compared to the current year in respect of car parking income (on and off street); and</p> <p>(viii) to note that in relation to the rising costs of supplies and materials in the building/construction sector, the Chief Officer – Finance would consider how best the impact in real terms for tenants could be captured as part of the budget setting process.</p>		
8.1	<u>Footdee Bus Services - COM/22/254</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u> to note the discussion at the meeting between the Council and First Aberdeen and the proposed local bus service provision for Footdee, as outlined in the report.</p>		
9.1	<u>Verbal Update on Stoneywood Mill and Belmont Cinema</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u> to note the verbal update provided by the Chief Officer – City Growth.</p>		

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If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Mark Masson, mmasson@aberdeencity.gov.uk or 01224 522989