

GOVERNANCE

DECISION SHEET

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH 2024

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>Determination of Exempt Business</u>	<p>The Committee resolved: 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 items of business:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Item 15.1 (Christmas Village Feedback Report – Exempt Appendices); and• Item 15.2 (Work Plan and Business Cases – Exempt Appendices).		
1.2	<u>Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statements</u>	<p>The Committee resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) Councillor Brooks advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda item 9.4 (UK Shared Prosperity Fund) by virtue of him being a trustee with TLC (SCIO) a partnering organisation with ACVO, however having applied the objective test, he did not consider that he had an interest and would not be withdrawing from the meeting;(2) Councillor Greig advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda item		

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		<p>9.4 (UK Shared Prosperity Fund) by virtue of him being a Council appointed member of Great Western Community Trust, however having applied the objective test, he did not consider that he had an interest and would not be withdrawing from the meeting; and</p> <p>(3) the Vice Convener declared an interest in item 9.4 (UK Shared Prosperity Fund), by virtue of him being a Council appointed Director of Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group. He considered that the nature of his interest would require him to leave the meeting prior to consideration of the item.</p>		
1.3	<u>Minute of Previous Meeting of 30 January 2024</u>	<p>The Committee resolved: to approve the minute, subject to amending the sederunt to read that Councillor Brooks was in attendance and Councillor Houghton was not.</p>		
1.4	<u>Committee Planner</u>	<p>The Committee resolved:</p> <p>(i) to remove item 8 (External Transportation Links to Aberdeen South Harbour) from the planner, for the reasons outlined therein;</p> <p>(ii) to note the reason for deferral in relation to item 6 (Review of all Grants Awarded by the Council - Alignment to 3 Tier Prevention Approach), item 11 (School Estate Plan: Harlaw Academy Condition & Suitability Improvements – Outline Business Case), item 13</p>		

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		<p>(Denis Law Trail), item 21 (School Estate Plan: Victorian School Building Improvements – Outline Business Case), item 22 (School Estate Plan: Sunnybank School relocation of additional services – Outline Business Case), item 33 (School Estate Plan: Denominational Primary Schools), item 34 (School Estate Plan: Loirston Loch Primary School Provision - Outline Business Case), item 41 (School Estate Plan: Grandhome / Oldmachar / Bridge of Don Secondary School Provision – Outline Business Case) and item 42 (School Estate Plan: Bucksburn and Dyce Secondary School Provision – Outline Business Case); and</p> <p>(iii) to otherwise note the Committee Business Planner.</p>		
1.5	<p><u>Union Street Empty Shops Action Plan – Progress Update - COM/24/066</u></p>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>(a) note the progress made over the last 12 months in forming partnerships with city centre stakeholders to deliver activity in line with the Action Plan, as set out in Sections 3.2 to 3.3; and Section 3.10 to 3.13;</p> <p>(b) note the progress made since the launch of the Union Street Empty Shops Grant Scheme in July 2023 as set out in Sections 3.14 to 3.19;</p> <p>(c) note that Aberdeen City Council approved an additional £500,000 towards the Grant Scheme at its Budget meeting on 6 March 2024;</p>		

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		<p>(d) approve the updates to Union Street Empty Shops Grant Scheme Guidance as outlined in Section 3.20;</p> <p>(e) note the progress made over the last 12 months in supporting repopulation of empty units on Union Street in line with the Action Plan, as set out in Section 3.6; and Sections 3.21 to 3.26;</p> <p>(f) instruct the Chief Officer – City Development and Regeneration to progress the priority activities set out in Section 3.27 over the next 12 months; and</p> <p>(g) instruct the Chief Officer – City Development and Regeneration to provide an annual update on progress.</p>		
1.6	<u>Beachfront Masterplan Phase A: Projects Update - RES/24/071</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> note the update from the Chief Officer – Commercial and Procurement on progress of the Beachfront Masterplan Public Realm Phase A Projects.		
1.7	<u>Place Based Investment Programme - COM/24/072</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> (a) approve an award of up to £23,636 to Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums for the Sharing the Archives project, which focusses on community access to the archives during a period of closure at one of the current locations; and (b) approve that any unspent monies which are returned from projects be reallocated to any other previously		

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		<p>approved project within the Place Based Investment Programme which may require additional resources, following consultation with the Convener and Vice Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee.</p>		
1.8	<p><u>UK Shared Prosperity Fund - COM/24/075</u></p>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u> <u>UKSPF Communities and Place</u> (a) award up to £60,000 to Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations LTD (ACVO) for Aberdeen Third Sector Hub feasibility Study; (b) award up to £99,200 to Aberdeen City Council for the Tall Ships Races Aberdeen 2025 Culture Programme 24/25; (c) award up to £26,447 to Growing2gether for the Strengthening Communities by Building Local Skills, Wellbeing and Resilience project; (d) award up to £63,000 to Look Again in partnership with Culture Aberdeen and northeast based freelancers for the Aberdeen Independents project; (e) award up to £37,000 to Soundfestival for the Soundcommunities project; (f) award up to £45,228 to St Georges Community Centre for the Saint Georges Community Centre project; (g) award up to £108,000 to the Port of Aberdeen Trust Port to support Tall Ships Community Promotion, which includes volunteer recruitment and engaging young people with sail traineeships;</p>		

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		<p>(h) award up to £116,777 to Avenue for Mental Health and Relationship Support for Families and Individuals in Aberdeen;</p> <p><u>UKSPF Local Business Support</u></p> <p>(i) award up to £562,680 to Aberdeen City Council to enable delivery of Business Start-up grants;</p> <p>(j) award up to £45,000 to Aberdeen City Council for the Aberdeen Renewable Energy Groups (AREG)'s Enhancing Offshore Wind Renewables through Digital Innovation project;</p> <p>(k) instruct the Chief Officer – City Development and Regeneration to develop applications within Local Business Support which will deliver priority activities for approval by Finance and Resources Committee on 8th May 2024;</p> <p><u>UKSPF Multiply</u></p> <p>(l) award up to £827,773.44 to ABZ Works for the Core Numeracy Project; and</p> <p>(m) approve up to £133,885.36 of revenue funding from the Local Business Support, People & Skills and Multiply strands only be retained by Aberdeen City Council, as per UKSPF regulations which details that 4% of revenue funds can be retained by Local Authorities to ensure robust delivery and monitoring of the UKSPF Programme; and</p> <p>(n) to instruct the Chief Officer - City</p>		

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		Development and Regeneration to email the Committee members the names of the applicants which were declined to receive an award and to consider how best this information could be included within future reports.		
1.9	<u>Capital Programme Delivery: Projects Update - RES/24/070</u>	<p>The Committee resolved:</p> <p>(a) note the status of delivery of the Section 3.0 highlighted programmes/projects contained within the approved Capital Programme; and</p> <p>(b) note that this report aligns with the Council Budget report COM/24/060 as reported on 6 March 2024 to Council.</p>		
1.10	<u>Business Charter for Aberdeen City Council - COM/24/068</u>	<p>The Committee resolved:</p> <p>(a) note the progress made and lessons learnt in relation to the deployment of the Business Charter;</p> <p>(b) agree to continue with the aims and principles as set out in the Business Charter as a basis for the continued interaction between the Council and the city's businesses;</p> <p>(c) agree the virtual "cross services" working group established to support the delivery of the Union Street Empty Shops Grant should be used as the model for the future development and delivery of the Business Charter;</p> <p>(d) instruct the Chief Officer – City Development and Regeneration to report back, via a service update, on progress by May 2025; and</p>		

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		(e) to note that officers would submit a report to a future meeting, should there be a requirement to consider any further recommendations.		
1.11	<u>Performance Management Framework Report – Commissioning, Resources and P&OD - COM/24/065</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> note the report and the performance information contained within the Appendix.		
1.12	<u>Christmas Village Feedback Report - COM/24/064</u> There are exempt appendices in the Exempt Appendices Section below.	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> (a) note the findings of the evaluation of the 2023 Christmas Village; (b) instruct the Chief Officer – City Development and Regeneration to deliver the Christmas Village 2024 in line with the winning response to tender; and (c) instruct the Chief Officer – City Development and Regeneration to report back to the Finance and Resources Committee in March 2025 with the evaluation report of the 2024 event.		
1.13	<u>Lease of Sports Pitch at Cloverhill - RES/24/073</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> (a) approve the proposal for the Council to enter into a long term ground lease of the subjects; and (b) instruct the Chief Officer – Governance to conclude the appropriate legal agreements incorporating various qualifications as are necessary to protect the Council's interest.		

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1.14	<p><u>Work Plan and Business Cases - COM/24/067</u></p> <p>There are exempt appendices in the Exempt Appendices Section below.</p>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>(a) review the workplan as detailed in the Appendices for the Children’s and Family Services, Commissioning, Customer and Resources Functions;</p> <p>(b) approve the procurement business cases, including the total estimated expenditure for the proposed contract; and</p> <p>(c) approve the estimated expenditure on framework agreements as detailed in the Commissioning workplan.</p>		
1.15	<p><u>Disposal of Former Offices at 1 Queens Gardens - RES/24/074</u></p>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>To note that this report had been withdrawn and would be submitted for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.</p>		
1.16	<p><u>Christmas Village Feedback Report - Exempt Appendices</u></p>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>to note the information contained within the exempt appendices relating to the Christmas Village Feedback report.</p>		
2.1	<p><u>Work Plan and Business Cases - Exempt Appendices</u></p>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>to note the information contained within the exempt appendices relating to the Work Plan and Business Cases report.</p>		

If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Mark Masson, mmasson@aberdeencity.gov.uk or 01224 067556