

## South Ayrshire Council – 21 June 2024

### Formal Questions

<b>Received from:</b>	<b>Councillor George Weir</b>
<b>Response to be provided by:</b>	<b>Kevin Braidwood, Director of Housing, Operations and Development</b>

	<b><i>Question</i></b>	<b><i>Response</i></b>
1.	Given the good progress that has been made in building rent-controlled housing at the Riverside location, can you confirm, in keeping with two previous council decisions, that the remaining high-rise block at Riverside is still scheduled for demolition following removal of the telecoms mast, to allow for completion of the planned social housing?	Negotiations are at an advanced stage with regards to the removal of the telecommunication mast. We will be working towards the Council decision of 06 March 2024 to demolish the remaining block once the mast has been removed to build 25 new flatted properties for amenity housing

<b>Received from:</b>	<b>Councillor Laura Brennan-Whitefield</b>
<b>Response to be provided by:</b>	<b>Jane Bradley, Director of Communities and Transformation</b>

	<b><i>Question</i></b>	<b><i>Response</i></b>
1.	Under this current administration what has been the total capital expenditure on golf including course improvements and future earmarked capital expenditure?	<p><b>Completed Projects:</b>  Darley Golf Course – Public Access Footpaths - £199,150  Wetland Creation and Pollinator Corridors Belleisle Golf Course - £32,057  Lochgreen Golf Course Drainage - £168,511  Lochgreen and Fullarton Greenkeeping Facility (initial design fees) - £9,987</p> <p><b>Projects at Design Stage (including budget):</b>  Ayr Esplanade Adventure Golf Course (£100,000)  Girvan Shorefront Adventure Golf Course (£100,000)  Golf Course – Enhancements (Darley &amp; Belleisle) - £4,876,000  Golf Course – Belleisle enhanced practice facilities - £1,338,000  Lochgreen and Fullarton Greenkeeping Facility (£300,000)</p>
2.	When can the council expect /is forecast to recoup this expenditure?	<p>The decision to invest in the golf facilities within South Ayrshire was based on several key factors, including the need to modernise a number of courses and to address critical health and safety issues</p> <p>It is anticipated that the above measures will result in increased revenue / income but the investment is not predicated on recouping this funding for the reasons stated above</p>

<b>Received from:</b>	<b>Councillor Philip Saxton</b>
<b>Response to be provided by:</b>	<b>Jane Bradley, Director of Communities and Transformation</b> <b>Kevin Braidwood, Director of Housing, Operations and Development</b>

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Response</b>												
1.	The Citadel refurbishment, can you provide costs for the work to be done by contractors for each year until completion, estimated if required, the years are, 2024-2025 2025-2026 2026-2027.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2023/24 £</th> <th>2024/25 £</th> <th>2025/26 £</th> <th>2026/27 £</th> <th><b>Total £</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Citadel Refurbishment</td> <td>290,061 (a)</td> <td>3,709,939 (f)</td> <td>2,500,000 (f)</td> <td>3,500,000 (f)</td> <td><b>10,000,000</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>a – actual f - forecast</p>		2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	<b>Total £</b>	Citadel Refurbishment	290,061 (a)	3,709,939 (f)	2,500,000 (f)	3,500,000 (f)	<b>10,000,000</b>
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Citadel Refurbishment	290,061 (a)	3,709,939 (f)	2,500,000 (f)	3,500,000 (f)	<b>10,000,000</b>									
2.	Could you also provide information around the ARK will it be moved to another premises or continue to be located in another area of the Citadel, also the time frame for this, also will the ARK have a permanent venue in the Citadel when work is completed.	<p>Discussions are ongoing with the Ark regarding support to identify alternative premises when their current lease is terminated. Several Council properties have been considered by the Ark, however a decision on where to relocate has not been taken</p> <p>The refurbishment works at the Citadel are programmed to start on site in early September 2024 and we will require vacant possession of the Ark to commence the works</p> <p>The Citadel Refurbishment designs have allowed for new commercially lettable spaces to become available once the project is complete. The Ark will be welcome to enter into discussions with the Council as these are defined</p>												

<b>Received from:</b>	<b>Councillor William Grant</b>
<b>Response to be provided by:</b>	<b>Jane Bradley, Director of Communities and Transformation</b>

	<b><i>Question</i></b>	<b><i>Response</i></b>
1.	The Ayr Show is a very important event for South Ayrshire and should be very beneficial for local business. What is the process for tender for Food and Bars and will South Ayrshire businesses be involved?	<p>This year we are facilitating a local traders' village, which is open to applications from South Ayrshire based businesses only. It will be free of charge to trade in the village and all of the necessary event infrastructure will be provided, such as hand washing facilities, fridges, tables and chairs, power, wi-fi etc. The village is open to traders from all trading sectors such as food, drink and retail. The Council will manage the village directly and the closing date for applications is 14 June 2024</p> <p>We will also have a commercial route where food vans and trucks and ice cream vans can pay a fee to trade at the event. This will be managed by an appointed Local Food Village Manager. We published a Prior Information Notice on Public Contracts Scotland which meant anyone could note an interest in the Quick Quote. We received notes of interest from a range of businesses throughout Scotland. As there was enough local interest, we plan to only invite South Ayrshire businesses to the Quick Quote</p> <p>The bar provider was appointed through the Public Contracts Scotland Quick Quote process. South Ayrshire based businesses were invited to the Quick Quote, however the successful applicant is based out with South Ayrshire. They were appointed based on quality and income for the Council</p>
2.	What planes have been booked to date for the Ayr Show and am I correct in saying the Red Arrows will not be attending?	<p>The Red Arrows will not be attending due to their commitments in Canada in commemoration of the Royal Canadian Air force Centenary</p> <p>Currently we can confirm that the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, the RAF Falcons and the Typhoon Display Team will attend the Ayr Show</p> <p>We are also currently liaising with regards to other military and private display teams</p> <p>Details of these will be announced when contracts are in place</p>

<b>Received from:</b>	<b>Councillor Craig Mackay</b>
<b>Response to be provided by:</b>	<b>Mike Newall, Chief Executive</b> <b>Jane Bradley, Director of Communities and Transformation</b> <b>Kevin Braidwood, Director of Housing, Operations and Development</b>

	<b><i>Question</i></b>	<b><i>Response</i></b>
1.	<b>Outdoor play area “shovel ready” project list</b> Could I please have an update on the action to develop “an ongoing priority list of ‘shovel-ready’ improvements that could be implemented in each ward as and when funding becomes available”, as agreed as part of my motion to Council in June 2023?	The projects identified for the Troon Area as part of the Ward funding have been developed and are going through the tender process. The Grounds service have also applied for and been successful in gaining external funding to provide some more inclusive play equipment which will be included in some future projects. Unfortunately, the post that is dedicated to the design, maintenance, inspection and implementation of new play area/equipment has not been filled since a retiral in June 2023 due to budget constraints. This has meant there has been no further progress with regards to shovel ready projects across South Ayrshire. The Service Lead Neighbourhood Services is currently assessing roles within the service and intending to fill this post in the near future which will alleviate some of the pressure on the service and enable the project work to be undertaken
2.	<b>Troon Library</b> Could I please request an assurance that the ramp access to the entrance of the relocated Troon Library will comply with current Building Standards in their entirety, including gradient, width, length of flights, dimensions of landings, visibility, handrails and surface material – in line with the condition approved by Council in October 2023, and not be reliant on relaxations of the Building Standards?	Th existing entrance ramp at Troon Municipal Building will be widened and re-graded as part of the library relocation works The gradients are constrained by site conditions but are a significant improvement on the current ramp. All other items will meet current standards

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Response</b>
3.	<p><b>Flooding</b></p> <p>Further to my unanswered enquiries of 24th January, 13th February, 16th April and 10th May, could I please have a comment on the condition of the field west of Struthers Primary School where the flooding over the last two winters has been significantly worse than that experienced in the past. The level of flooding would seem to exceed the expectations in the flood risk assessment carried out before the new EYC building was approved and it may be there's a partial blockage in the culvert the Struthers Burn runs into at the corner of the field; my January request that this be inspected seemed a reasonable starting point.</p>	<p>The land to the west of Struthers PS has been prone to flooding for a number of years and pre-dates the new early years centre constructed to the east of the school</p> <p>Ayrshire Roads Alliance to check that the culvert on the Struthers Burn is clear</p>
4.	<p><b>Enquiry response times</b></p> <p>At March Council I asked a supplementary question requesting if an agreed timescale can be put in place for responding to member enquiries, accepting more complex enquiries will take longer to respond to than routine ones. The Chief Executive advised he would discuss this with officers and reply direct. Having not yet received a reply can I please have an update on this?</p>	<p>Response times for Members' enquiries are being reviewed as part of trialling of the caseload management system by Members Support and ICT. Pending conclusion of that trial, a reminder will be issued to officers that responses should ideally be provided within 48 hours and, where they are unable to respond within that timescale, a reason and estimated respond time is provided</p>
5.	<p><b>Open lessons</b></p> <p>Having twice asked for a copy of feedback notes from the 2016 golf Open in Troon, it seems that no such records were retained by SAC meaning that a number of issues which have arisen in recent months may have been avoidable. Can I request that feedback and records of issues and concerns during and following July's event be kept on file to</p>	<p>The command structure of Gold, Silver and Bronze meetings are all minuted and a risk register is reported through these groups</p>

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Response</b>
	help inform and improve arrangements for any future events?	