

AYRSHIRE SHARED SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of Hybrid Meeting held on 7 June 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

Present
in County
Buildings: Councillors Bob Pollock (Chair) and Philip Saxton (South Ayrshire Council).

Present
Remotely: Councillors Alec Clark and Ian Cochrane (South Ayrshire Council),
Councillors Douglas Reid and Neill Watts (East Ayrshire Council) and
Councillors Marie Burns and Cameron Inglis (North Ayrshire Council).

Apologies: Councillor Craig Mackay (South Ayrshire Council), Councillors Barry
Douglas and Jim McMahon (East Ayrshire Council).

Attending
in County
Buildings: K. Braidwood, Director of Housing, Operations and Development (South
Ayrshire Council); L. Jeffery, Civil Contingencies Co-Ordinator (South
Ayrshire Council); J. Corrie, Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance;
C. Knape, Strategic Manager – Ayrshire Roads Alliance; and K. Hancox,
Committee Services Officer (South Ayrshire Council).

Attending
Remotely: C. Caves, Chief Governance Officer and C. Boyd, Service Lead – Risk &
Safety (South Ayrshire Council).

1. **Appointment of Chair**

The Committee Services Officer invited nominations for the appointment of Chair of the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee.

Councillor Philip Saxton, seconded by Councillor Alec Clark nominated Councillor Bob Pollock as Chair.

Decided: unanimously, that Councillor Pollock be appointed Chair of the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee.

Councillor Pollock then took the Chair.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of the Joint Committee's Order No. 25 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of [1 December 2023 and 1 March 2024](#) (issued) were submitted and approved.

4. Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 May 2024 by the Chief Governance Officer advising the Joint Committee on the progress made against the current Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team (ACCT) Service Plan for 2024/2025 (Appendix 1) and to provide an overview of their work to date.

Comments and questions from Members included:

- (1) What testing and monitoring had been carried out to ensure the mobile alarm systems continued working; and the Service Lead – Risk and Safety (SAC) advised that the Health and Social Care Partnership were responsible for monitoring the alarm systems. The Civil Contingencies Co-ordinator further advised that if there were any faults with the telephone line in a home with a mobile alarm installed, staff would be alerted and would contact the service user;
- (2) Are the ACCT working on plans regarding Battery Energy Storage Sites (BESS) due to the increased number of recent fires; and the Service Lead – Risk and Safety advised that the development of a plan was ongoing. The Civil Contingencies Co-ordinator stated that a national plan would be required which would be led by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service;
- (3) In an emergency situation, how do the ACCT proceed; and the Service Lead – Risk and Safety advised that on-call staff would receive notification of emergency incidents and assist; and that the ACCT undertake training through tests and exercises which prepared them for emergencies; and
- (4) That it may be beneficial for Elected Members to have more thorough communication with the ACCT to be aware of incidents and would then pass information to the community. The Chief Governance Officer noted that more communication would be beneficial, and briefings could be arranged to provide Elected Members with information. It had been advised that the Chief Governance Officer would contact East and North Ayrshire Council for detail regarding their Civil Contingency processes.

Decided: to approve the progress made against the work plan for 2024/2025.

Councillors Marie Burns and Cameron Inglis left the meeting at this point.

5. Ayrshire Roads Alliance – Performance Scorecard

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of May 2024 by the Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance advising the Joint Committee of the progress made to date against the Performance Scorecard.

A Councillor requested more information regarding the follow up for emergency road repairs. Information provided included that Priority 1 emergency temporary repairs were made 2 hours after the report had been received; and permanent repairs would need to be input into the Roadworks Schedule.

Decided:

- (1) to note the performance scorecard presented;
- (2) to continue to receive the performance scorecard updates; and
- (3) to otherwise note the contents of the report.

6. Ayrshire Roads Alliance - Risk Report and Register

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of May 2024 by the Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance advising on the management of risk associated with the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

A Councillor requested information on staff vacancies and material costs; and the Strategic Manager - Ayrshire Roads Alliance reported that vacancies had been filled and ARA now had fully resourced traffic teams. It was also noted that the material costs were not down.

Decided:

- (1) to note the risk register as presented in the report;
- (2) to continue to receive updates on progress; and
- (3) to otherwise note the contents of the report.

7. Ayrshire Roads Alliance – Roadworks Programme 2024/25

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of May 2024 by the Head of Ayrshire Roads Alliance advising on the progress of work through the roads improvement programmes within East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire for the financial year 2024 to 2025.

Comments and questions from Members included:

- (1) Complaints received by Members regarding the cost on Electric Vehicle chargers, and could these complaints be passed to ARA; and the Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that costs were being discussed and ARA would receive the complaints;
- (2) Maintenance of the Electric Vehicle chargers; it was noted ARA had funding for maintenance and repairs.
- (3) Ash Die Back – would it be possible for the removal around schools to be a priority; and it was advised that ARA were liaising with schools to determine the urgency; and
- (4) Roads in rural communities, Members suggested funding should be ringfenced for these areas. It had been advised funding options were being investigated.

Decided:

- (1) to note the Ayrshire Roads Alliance programmed works 2024/25; and
- (2) to otherwise note the contents of the report.

8. Ayrshire Roads Alliance – Service Plan 2024/25

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of May 2024 by the Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance to seek approval for the Ayrshire Roads Alliance Service Plan for 2024/25.

Members congratulated ARA on awards they had received and continued savings. A member requested a further explanation of the savings displayed in the plan. It was advised that the figure shown was an accumulation of savings from 2014.

Members also noted the potential for success surrounding the Active Travel plan.

Decided:

- (1) to approve the Ayrshire Roads Alliance Service Plan 2024/25;
- (2) to note the confirmed finance budgets for 2024/25;
- (3) to note the Performance Scorecard for 2023/24;
- (4) to request that progress updates are provided to future meetings of the Joint Committee; and
- (5) to otherwise note the contents of the report.

The meeting ended at 11.05 a.m.