

SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL

Minutes of hybrid webcast meeting on
20 August 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

Present
in County
Buildings: Councillors Philip Saxton (Chair), Gavin Scott and George Weir.

Present
Remotely: Councillors Kenneth Bell, Ian Cochrane and Chris Cullen.

Apologies: Councillors Lee Lyons and Mark Dixon.

Attending
in County
Buildings: K. Anderson, Assistant Director – Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance; C. Cox, Assistant Director – Planning and Development; K. Briggs, Service Lead – Legal and Licensing; G. Cockburn, Service Lead – Education Support Services; A. Edgar, Supervisory Planner – Planning and Building Standards; R. Higgins, Chief Superintendent and I. McColl, Police Inspector – Police Scotland; D. Manson, Special Project Officer – Ayrshire Roads Alliance; K. Hancox, Committee Services Officer; and E. Moore, Clerical Assistant.

Attending
Remotely: B. McClean, Head of Community Health and Care Services; J. Hall, Co-ordinator – Planning Strategy; B. Kiloh, Head of Policy and Planning and J. Binning, Principal Policy Officer – Strathclyde Partnership for Transport.

Chair's Remarks.

The Chair

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting;
- (2) thanked Councillor Mary Kilpatrick for her assistance as a previous Member of the Panel and welcomed Councillor Lee Lyons as a new member to the Panel; and
- (3) outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live.

1. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.

The Chair called the Sederunt for the meeting and having called the roll, confirmed that that there were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The Minutes of 11 June 2024 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

3. Action Log and Work Programme.

There was submitted an update of the Action Log and Work Programme ([issued](#)) for this Panel.

Having heard the Assistant Director – Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance speak in relation to the Action Log and Work Programme, he advised that the action within the Work Programme, Participatory Budgeting Activity six-monthly reports, would now be reported yearly instead of six monthly. Following concerns raised by a Member of the Panel that significant budgetary changes would be missed in the interim period, the Assistant Director – Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance confirmed that the Panel would be updated if there were any matters that required to be brought to their attention.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to agree the current position with regard to the Action Log; and
- (2) to otherwise note the current status of the Work Programme subject to the amendment as detailed above.

4. Local Performance Report: Police Scotland.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 8 August 2024 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Education providing Members with information regarding the quarter four performance of Police Scotland in South Ayrshire.

Following questions and comments from Members including :-

- (1) if there had been evidence of “cuckooing” (where criminal gangs target the homes of vulnerable persons to be used for drug dealing) within South Ayrshire, the Chief Superintendent advised there had been no evidence of this locally and information leaflets regarding this had been distributed to the public as an awareness measure;
- (2) that they were disappointed by the misrepresentation of the Local Performance Report by the press;

- (3) clarification regarding percentages noted in the report; such as the 75.8% detection rate in shoplifting incidents, the Chief Superintendent informed that this figure represented that percentage of shoplifting crimes where the suspect responsible had been identified;
- (4) reference to the Public Confidence Survey results regarding how safe the public felt in their local area and what the percentages not displayed represented, as only percentages for those who had felt “very safe” and “fairly safe” had been shown, the Chief Superintendent advised that a response concerning the remaining percentage would be provided to Members;
- (5) that there had been reports from constituents with issues relating to the service and response received through the non-emergency 101 line, the Chief Superintendent confirmed that he would speak to the Elected Member directly on this matter;
- (6) that it was noted that the Anti-Social Behaviour incidents figure that had shown under 11% of these incidents that involved youths had been a useful insight as it had been expected this figure would be higher;
- (7) that further information had been requested regarding the number of police officers patrolling in South Ayrshire town centres, the Chief Superintendent advised that there had not been a reduction in the resourcing profile within South Ayrshire, however that the staffing model had changed and that there would be an increase in visibility of community policing teams;
- (8) that if there had been significant problems in relation to policing the Golf Open in Troon, the Chief Superintendent advised that the event had been a success and that an update would be provided to a future Panel meeting; and
- (9) comments in relation to both the decrease in drug supply charges and that officers being situated in the town centre to deter shoplifting were successful.

Having scrutinised the quarter four performance report of Police Scotland in South Ayrshire, the Panel

Decided: to note the feedback from the Panel, as detailed above.

5. **Developer Contributions Update Relative to Planning Permissions (2023/2024).**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 8 August 2024 by the Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on the Developer Contributions, obtained through legal agreements, gathered and utilised during the period 2023/2024.

A Member of the Panel requested clarification on the figure within the Developer Contributions Received and Spent 2023-24 table in relation to the income received by Symington and why this had been noted as nil. The Assistant Director – Planning and Development advised that there had been a time delay in receiving the developer contributions to when they were spent; and that there had been no income as the Symington development had been completed and the expenditure figure had been from the previous year’s income.

Having heard a Member of the Panel request if the contributions received for schools which had remaining funding could be transferred to benefit other education facilities,

the Assistant Director – Planning and Development advised that developer contributions could only be spent within the legal parameters and that it had been limited to provide additional accommodation to meet the needs arising from new housing developments and could not be used to improve a facility.

The Service Lead – Education Support Services further advised that the contributions had been based on projections made previously and that evidence would need to be provided that alternative work had been required as direct result from new pupils arising from the new housing development.

The Panel

Decided: to note the Developer Contributions collected from developers relative to their Planning Permissions and utilised to mitigate the impact of their development within the reporting period April 2023 to March 2024.

6. **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) – Performance Report 2023/24.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 8 August 2024 by the Director of Housing, Operations and Development outlining the work of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) and the impact on the public transport network in South Ayrshire and across the West of Scotland and providing an opportunity to identify areas for further discussion or development.

Having heard a Member of the Panel seek further information in relation to buses/bus routes and what impact SPT had in the decision making for these, the Head of Policy and Planning (SPT) advised that the provision of bus services were decided by the commercial market and that the bus operators made any decisions. However, it was reported that SPT maintained a good relationship with the bus operators and were able to have discussions when necessary.

A Member of the Panel requested information in relation to funding provided by South Ayrshire Council for the Concessionary Travel Scheme. The Head of Policy and Planning (SPT) advised that the National Concessionary Travel Scheme which included buses had been covered by Transport Scotland through the Scottish Government, however the local Concessionary Travel Schemes were funded by Councils and run by SPT which included transport such as subways and ferries.

Following a question from a Member of the Panel regarding Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme, MyBus and the People and Place Programme, the Head of Policy and Planning (SPT) advised that information and leaflets would be circulated to Members to provide further information.

Having scrutinised the performance of SPT relating to their activities in South Ayrshire, the Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

7. **Joint Inspection of Adult Community Health and Care Services.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 8 August 2024 by the Head of Community Health and Care Services providing an update on progress made against the

recommendations made in the Joint Inspection of Adult Services report, published in 2023.

A Member of the Panel requested further detail regarding the range of methods used to assess performance. The Head of Community Health and Care Services advised that the evidence available would be provided to Members.

Having heard a Member of the Panel seek clarification on the capacity and capability to deliver health and care services, the Head of Community Health and Care Services advised that there had been ongoing issues in relation to the transfer of care due to capacity problems within the care at home service as there had been a large increase in demand for these services. It was further noted in the report that those who received these services were highly satisfied.

The Panel

Decided:

- (1) to note the positive progress made against the recommendations in the Joint Inspection of Adult Services report; and
- (2) to endorse the work which had been undertaken and that was planned.

The meeting ended at 11.15 a.m.