

CABINET

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting on 23 September 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

Present
in County Councillors Brian Connolly (Chair), Alec Clark, Ian Davis,
Hall: William Grant, Hugh Hunter and Martin Kilbride.

Present
Remotely: Councillors Chris Cullen, Julie Dettbarn and Bob Shields.

Apologies I. Gall; D Gemmell; and N Fullard.

Also
present
in County
Hall: H. McGuire; G Laird, K. Nelson and D. Griffiths.

Attending
in County
Hall: C. Sneddon, Chief Executive; K. Braidwood, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development; S. Mulholland Acting Director of Education; C. Caves, Chief Governance Officer; T. Eltringham, Director of Health and Social Care; C. Cox, Assistant Director - Planning and Development; M. Alexander, Service Lead – Housing Services; R. Jamieson, Co-ordinator – Asset Management; S. Marshall, Interim Head of Community Health and Care; . Chapman, Committee Services Officer; and E. Moore, Committee Services Assistant.

Attending
Remotely: L. Reid, Assistant Director – Transformation; G. Hunter, Assistant Director – Communities

Opening Remarks.

The Chair took the sederunt, confirmed to Members the procedures to conduct this meeting and advised that the meeting was being broadcast live.

1. Declarations of Interest.

In terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor Hunter declared an interest in item 9a but informed the Panel this would not affect his part in the debate or decision.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of 26 August 2025 (issued) were submitted and approved.

3. **Decision Log.**

The Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note there were no overdue actions;
- (2) to approve the actions listed with revised due dates (issued); and
- (3) to note the recently completed actions.

Education

4. **Educational Services Standards and Quality Report 2024/25.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by the Acting Director of Education seek Cabinet approval for the Educational Services Standards and Quality Report, which covers academic session 2024/25.

Following various questions from Members of the Cabinet and in particular in relation to the attainment gap, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to approve the Standards and Quality Report 2024/25 (Appendix 1);
- (2) to note the progress by Educational Services and the collective; efforts of all staff across the service over the past year; and
- (3) to agree the publication of the report and plan in line with the Education (Scotland) Act 2016.

Education/Health and Social Care.

5. **Annual Report 2024/25 - Children and Young People's Service Plan 2023-2026.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by the Acting Director of Education seeking approval for the publication of the second annual report sharing progress of the Children and Young People's Services Plan 2023-2026 over reporting period April 2024 to March 2025.

The Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to approve the Children's Services Annual Report 2024/2025 attached as Appendix 1; and
- (2) to agree publication of the annual report in line with the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Education/Buildings, Housing and Environment.

6. New Girvan Primary and Early Years Campus.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by Assistant Director – Planning, Development and Regulation providing Members with an update on progress of the New Girvan Primary and Early Years Campus Project and to seek approval for a revised funding package and to proceed to execute the necessary documents at financial close.

Following discussion on a number of issues arising from the report, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note the update for the Project, including the most up to date scheme, costs and programme;
- (2) to approve the revised funding package for the project; and
- (3) to request the Chief Governance Officer to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the Council at Financial Close.

Buildings, Housing and Environment.

7. Annual Assurance Statement – Housing.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 11 September 2025 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on the Regulatory Framework for Housing and seeking approval to submit the Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator and publish the statement for tenants and other customers.

Following a number of questions and comments arising from the report from Members of the Cabinet, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note the content of the Assurance Action Plan outlined at (Appendix 1) and the overview of operational service delivery outlined at (Appendix 2);
- (2) to consider and approve the Annual Assurance Statement at (Appendix 3);
- (3) to approve the submission of the Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator by 31 October 2025 and its publication for tenants and other customers; and
- (4) to note the requirements of the Regulatory Framework and ongoing work outlined in section 4.1 to achieve full compliance in the areas of Equalities and Human Rights and tenant and resident safety for the element of Electrical Safety (Electrical Installation Condition Reports - EICR's).

8. **Ayrshire Energy Masterplan.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on the progress of the Ayrshire Energy Masterplan, agreed at a meeting of South Ayrshire Council on 23 November 2021; noting the final strategy report; and informing Cabinet as to the next steps that the Council would take to support the implementation of the plan.

Following discussions, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note the contents of the Ayrshire Energy Masterplan final report and that the development of the high-level plan is now complete; and
- (2) to note and approve that Council officers will work to support the implementation of the plan in partnership through participation in the Clean Growth workstream of the Ayrshire Growth Deal and the Energy subgroup of the Sustainability Strategic Delivery Partnership (SDP) of the South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP). Recommendations within the AEM which accord with South Ayrshire Council's LHEES will be progressed through the LHEES. Housing Services will continue to progress energy efficiency improvements to the Council's domestic portfolio.

9. **Disabled Parking Bay Audit.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development setting out the findings of an audit conducted across South Ayrshire Council's property estate to establish compliance with disabled parking regulations and the required interventions to ensure disabled bays comply with standards and can be regulated.

The Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to note the audit results of disabled parking bays across the Council's estate;
- (2) to approve the Head of Roads' proposals to engage private owners to establish if they wish the Council to operate their disabled parking bays;
- (3) to note the Head of Roads' proposals for adding all identified unregulated disabled bays to a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), along with the associated timescales for the implementation of the TRO; and
- (4) to note the estimated expenditure required to undertake the work to install new or upgrade existing bays at Council premises.

Corporate and Strategic.

10. Strategic Risk Management.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by the Chief Governance Officer updating Members on the reviewed Strategic Risk Register (Appendix 1) in line with the agreed reporting framework.

Following discussions, the Cabinet

Decided:

- (1) to consider the reviewed Strategic Risk Register (Appendix 1) updated by Chief Officers; and
- (2) to note the 16 key risks and endorses the work currently being undertaken or proposed by risk owners to mitigate these risks.

Health and Social Care.

11. Age Well: Dementia Strategy 2024-25.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by the Director of Health and Social Care presenting the renewed South Ayrshire Age Well: Dementia Strategy 2024-34.

Having heard Members of the Cabinet commend the report, the Cabinet

Decided: to endorse the contents of the refreshed Age Well Dementia Strategy 2024-34 which was approved by the IJB in December 2024.

12. Live Well: Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024- 2034.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 September 2025 by the Director of Health and Social Care presenting the renewed South Ayrshire Live Well: Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024-34.

Following discussion on a number of issues arising from the report, the Cabinet

Decided: to endorse the contents of the refreshed Live Well: Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024-34 which was approved by the IJB in December 2024.

The meeting ended at 11.45 a.m.