SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL

Minutes of hybrid webcast meeting on
22 August 2023 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, Chris Cullen; and Mary Kilpatrick.

Apology: Councillor Mark Dixon.

Attending
in County
Buildings: L. Reid, Assistant Director – Strategic Change; W. Carlaw, Service Lead – Democratic Governance; K. Anderson , Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning; K. Braidwood, Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance; Superintendent S. Baber and Chief Inspector K. Lammie, Police Scotland; A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer; and E. Moore, Clerical Assistant.

Attending
Remotely: B. Kiloh, Head of Transport Planning, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport.

Chair's Remarks.

The Chair

(1)   welcomed everyone to the meeting; and

(2)   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 13 June 2023 (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.

The Panel heard the Assistant Director – Strategic Change give a verbal update on the Action Log and Work Programme and advised that, in relation to item 6 on the Action Log when it was agreed that an officer from the Ayrshire Roads Alliance would express concern to the Chair of the Scottish Timber Transport Fund regarding the lack of funding being given to this Council by Scottish Timber Transport, this meeting had now taken place and an update would be provided to Members shortly.

The Panel

Decided:

(1)   to agree the current position with regard to the Action Log; and

(2)   to note the current status of the Work Programme.

4. **Local Performance Report: Police Scotland.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 14 August 2023 by the Director of Strategic Change and Communities providing information about the performance of Police Scotland in South Ayrshire.

The Service Lead, Policy, Performance and Community Planning gave a brief introduction and advised that Superintendent Baber and Chief Inspector Lammie were present in the Hall to speak on the detail of the report.

Superintendent Baber apologised that the year-end performance report for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 had not been submitted by them as an appendix to the report but instead a draft version for the quarter 1 April to 30 June 2023 had been provided for consideration. He further advised of the appointment of Chief Constable Farrell who would be commencing her duties in October 2023. It was also noted that Chief Superintendent Faroque Hussain had been temporarily promoted to Assistant Chief Constable and that the Division would be temporarily covered by Temporary Chief Superintendent Raymond Higgins.

Superintendent Baber and Chief Inspector Lammie spoke on the detail of the information submitted in the draft quarter 1 report and a number of issues were raised by Members of the Panel, including the following:-

(1)   that there was lack of mention in the report relating to the reduction of drug supply and disappointment that the correct appendix had not been provided by Police Scotland for consideration at this meeting . It was advised that more information would be made available in updated reports to this Panel;

(2)   the issue of the new police station at Newton House in Ayr and its lack of custody facilities;

(3)   the priority set by the Police in dealing with violence against women and girls; and

(4)   discussion regarding campus police and their commitment to delivering at schools.

The Panel adjourned to discuss the terms of what required to be approved at this meeting for this item, in light of a draft version of quarter 1 from 1 April to 30 June 2023 having been issued instead of the final version of quarters 1 to 4 for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Upon reconvening and in terms of Standing Order No. 19.9, there was no general agreement to the unopposed motion, therefore, the Council moved to a vote for or against the Motion.

The Panel

Decided: by a majority, having scrutinised a draft version of the police performance report for quarter 1, 1 April to 30 June 2023 to note the contents and that a final version for this period, together with a performance report for 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 be submitted to a future meeting of this Panel for scrutiny.

5.   **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) – Performance Report 2022/23.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 August 2023 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development

(1)   outlining the work of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) and the impact its services had on the public transport network in South Ayrshire and across the West of Scotland; and

(2)   providing the opportunity to identify any areas for further discussion or development of partnership activity.

After the Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance gave an introduction to the report, he introduced the Head of Transport Planning from the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport who spoke on the performance of the SPT in 2022/23.

Following issues raised by Members in relation to school transport and the concessionary travel scheme, it was agreed that SPT would provide various pieces of literature for issue to Panel Members to enable them to understand the work of the SPT. It was further proposed that there should be a Members' Briefing organised in this regard.

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

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

The meeting ended at 12.10 p.m.