

## Minute

### Development and Infrastructure Committee

Tuesday, 6 June 2023, 09:30.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



### Present

Councillors David Dawson, Gillian Skuse, Graham A Bevan, P Lindsay Hall, Kristopher D Leask, W Leslie Manson, Raymond S Peace, James W Stockan, Mellissa-Louise Thomson, Owen Tierney, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge.

### Also Present:

Councillor James R Moar, who had been invited for Item 4.

### Clerk

- Hazel Flett, Service Manager (Governance).

### In Attendance

- Gareth Waterson, Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.
- Hayley Green, Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.
- Sweyn Johnston, Head of Enterprise and Economic Growth.
- Roddy Mackay, Head of Planning and Community Protection.
- Lorna Richardson, Head of Neighbourhood Services.
- Stuart Allison, Service Manager (Enterprise).
- David Custer, Service Manager (Engineering) (for Items 1 to 5).
- Shonagh Merriman, Service Manager (Corporate Finance).
- Karen Bevilacqua, Solicitor.

### Observing

- Kirsty Groundwater, Team Leader (Communications) (for Items 1 and 2).

### Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

### Chair

- Councillor David Dawson.

## **1. Disclosure of Exempt Information**

The Committee noted the proposal that the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Annex B of Item 6, as the business to be discussed involved the potential disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the relevant paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

## **2. Performance Monitoring – Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration**

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, the Committee:

Scrutinised:

**2.1.** The performance of Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration for the period 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023, as set out in sections 3 and 4 and Annexes 1 and 2 of the report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.

The Committee resolved to **recommend to the Council:**

**2.2.** That, as this was the last performance monitoring report on the Development and Infrastructure Service Plan 2019 to 2022, the following actions, which had not been progressed to completion, be considered for inclusion in the Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration Directorate Delivery Plan:

- 04 – Regional Marine Planning and Crown Estates Pilot Governance – continue to prioritise resources and engage with Marine Scotland and Crown Estate to establish Regional Partnership and pilot.
- 10a – Improve Accessibility to all Transport Services – continue to pursue funding opportunities where possible.
- 10b – Improve Accessibility to all Transport Services – ensure all contracted services have accessibility provision.
- 11b – New Business and Growth in Current Marine Activities – review staff and resource capacity and develop business case for increasing these where necessary to delivery strategic objectives.
- 13 – Port Master Plan – finalise Port Masterplan, identify funding sources and deliver.
- 15 – Airfields Plan and Infrastructure Improvements – retain and where necessary secure additional funding for continuous infrastructure programme including water rescue capability.
- 24 – Delivery of the North Isles Landscape Partnership Project – delivery of the projects outlined in the North Isles Landscape Conservation Plan.

## **3. Performance Monitoring – Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure**

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated, the Committee:

Scrutinised:

**3.1.** The performance of Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure for the reporting period 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023, as set out in sections 3 to 5 and Annexes 1, 2 and 3 of the report by the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.

The Committee resolved to **recommend to the Council:**

**3.2.** That the following actions, that had been progressed to completion, be closed:

- 19a – Ensure viable land supply for development, including addressing constraints to housing in Kirkwall – complete surface water management plan.
- 19b – Ensure viable land supply for development, including addressing constraints to housing in Kirkwall – engage with Scottish Water, Scottish Government and development industry to ensure fair distribution of resource to deliver the strategic objectives.

**3.3.** That, as this was the last performance monitoring report on the Development and Infrastructure Service Plan 2019 to 2022, the following actions, which had not been progressed to completion, be considered for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure Directorate Delivery Plan:

- 03 – Local Development Plan, Open Space Strategy and Supplementary Guidance – prioritise resources on core work, with resultant reduction in non-statutory areas. Settlement Statements for Orkney's towns, villages and rural settlements.
- 05b – Environmental Services – engage with Empowering Communities work.
- 05c – Environmental Services – explore Circular Economy/community-based options as part of continuous service review.
- 05d – Environmental Services – seek recognition of Islands issues in the implementation of Scottish Government landfill ban on biodegradable materials, and deposit return scheme.
- 14a – Capital Programme Management – complete Member Seminar engagement.
- 14b – Capital Programme Management – revised Capital Programme.
- 17b – Sustainable Quarry Services – continued investment in replacement plant in line with rolling Business Plan.
- 21a – Orkney Outdoor Access Strategy Action Plan and Active Travel Programme – implementation of the actions contained in the Strategy Action Plan.
- 21b – Orkney Outdoor Access Strategy Action Plan and Active Travel Programme – programme of works/projects to retain and enhance existing network.

#### **4. Churchill Barrier No 1 – Road Pavement Reconstruction**

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Neighbourhood Services, the Committee:

Noted:

**4.1.** That concerns over the deterioration of the road surface at Churchill Barrier No 1 had been raised by members of the public and residents of the linked south isles over a number of years.

**4.2.** That defects, in the form of longitudinal cracking and surface undulations, had been observed over recent years and various investigations undertaken to establish a cause for those.

**4.3.** That, in 2019 and, as a result of concerns regarding the safety of motorists, particularly motorcyclists travelling over Churchill Barrier No 1, an advisory 40mph speed limit was introduced for all traffic.

**4.4.** That immediate priority works had been identified, including repairs to the worst areas of surface cracking and undulations on Churchill Barrier No 1, at an estimated cost of £35,000, which were planned to be undertaken in the current financial year, being funded from the Roads Revenue Maintenance Programme.

**4.5.** The Stage 1 Capital Project Appraisal in respect of proposed road pavement reconstruction at Churchill Barrier No 1, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, which recommended that Do Something Options 2 and 3 be progressed to a detailed Stage 2 Capital Project Appraisal.

**4.6.** That, should the project be approved for progression through the Capital Project Appraisal process, a sum of £45,000 was required to develop the Stage 2 Capital Project Appraisal, which could be met from the budgetary provision, previously agreed by the Capital Programme and Asset Management Sub-group in November 2021.

The Committee resolved to **recommend to the Council:**

**4.7.** That, as an exception to the Capital Project Appraisal process, in order to address longstanding road safety concerns, the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure should submit, to the Policy and Resources Committee, a Stage 2 Capital Project Appraisal in respect of proposed road pavement reconstruction at Churchill Barrier No 1.

## **5. Harbour Authority Sub-committee**

After consideration of the draft Minute of the Meeting of the Harbour Authority Sub-committee held on 23 May 2023, copies of which had been circulated, the Committee:

Resolved:

**5.1.** On the motion of Councillor David Dawson, seconded by Councillor Gillian Skuse, to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Harbour Authority Sub-committee held on 23 May 2023 as a true record.

The Committee resolved to **recommend to the Council**:

**5.2.** That the recommendation at paragraph 1.6 of the Minute of the Meeting of the Harbour Authority Sub-committee held on 23 May 2023, attached as Appendix 1 to this Minute, be approved.

## **6. Economic Development Grants**

### **Budget Outturn Statement and Delegated Approvals**

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Service Manager (Enterprise), the Committee:

Noted:

**6.1.** That, during financial year 2022/23, new spending commitments of £255,075 were approved which, relative to the revised Economic Development Grants budget of £306,300 including the capability to over-commit by 5%, resulted in an uncommitted allocation of the available budget by £51,225, as detailed in Annex A to the report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.

**6.2.** That the level of outstanding spending commitments held in the Economic Development Grants Fund, as at 31 March 2023, decreased by £197,694 to £768,387.

**6.3.** Grant approvals made in the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, totalling £255,075, including grants approved under delegated schemes for the same period, totalling £131,405, as detailed in Annex B to the report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.

## **7. Conclusion of Meeting**

At 10:55 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: David Dawson.