

**MINUTES of MEETING of ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE**



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## **10. TACKLING DIGITAL EXCLUSION IN ARGYLL AND BUTE**

The Committee gave consideration to a report presenting a set of options and criteria for the £250k Tackling Digital Exclusion Fund that had been approved by the Council at its budget meeting in February 2021. The options were described in detail with the advantages and disadvantages of each option identified.

### **Decision**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee

1. Approved that £10k of the £250k fund be used to start a marketing campaign to target low take-up areas for Superfast Broadband.
2. Approved that the remaining £240k be distributed as outlined in Option 2 at paragraph 4.5 of the submitted report.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth dated 22 July 2021, submitted)

## **11. TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECTS & REGENERATION TEAM - LARGE SCALE PROJECT UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an update on the delivery progress of the larger-scale, externally funded project work of the Transformational Projects and Regeneration Team.

### **Decision**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee

1. Noted the current progress contained within the submitted report.
2. Approved that £80,000 Place Based Investment Funding for Lochgilphead Front Green be swapped with £80,000 Town Centre Funding for Bowmore Public Realm to ensure that the delayed Bowmore project could still go ahead and to remove the risk of having to pay back any unspent Town Centre Funding.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth dated July 2021, submitted)

## **12. PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING GRANT UPDATE**

The Committee gave consideration to a report outlining works undertaken using the Private Sector Housing Grant in 2020/21. The Private Sector Housing Grant supports adaptations to allow people to stay in their own homes and also supports common repair works to properties in Argyll and Bute with a budget of £1.033M for 2020/21.

### **Decision**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee

1. Noted the statutory nature of the work carried out by the Private Sector Housing Grant budget.
2. Noted the role of the Private Sector Housing Grant in addressing common repairs enabling significant additional funding from other external sources helping maintain and improve existing housing stock in the local authority area.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth dated 7 July 2021, submitted)

### **13. RAPID REHOUSING TRANSITION PLAN ANNUAL UPDATE**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an annual update on Argyll using Transition Plan.

#### **Decision**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee noted the progress in Argyll and Bute of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan within the complex environment of the Covid-19 lockdown in 2020/21.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth dated 7 July 2021, submitted)

Councillor Sir Jamie McGrigor joined the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

### **14. STRATEGIC HOUSING FUND SCRUTINY REVIEW**

The Committee gave consideration to a recommendation from the Audit and Scrutiny Committee in respect of the Strategic Housing Fund Scrutiny Review which had been undertaken as per the 2019/20 Scrutiny Plan.

#### **Decision**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee considered and noted the content of the Strategic Housing Fund Scrutiny Report.

(Reference: Recommendation from Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on 15 June 2021 and report by Chair of Strategic Housing Fund Scrutiny Panel dated 15 June 2021, submitted)

### **15. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE EXTERNAL CONTRACTS**

A report providing an update on Roads and Infrastructure Services activities which had been outsourced to external contractors and works provided to external bodies over previous three financial years was before the Committee for noting, as per a request at the last meeting of the Committee.

#### **Decision**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee noted the content of the report.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure dated August 2021, submitted)

**16. ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE  
WORK PLAN**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee work plan was before the Committee for noting.

**Decision**

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee noted the content of the work plan.

(Reference: Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee Workplan dated September 2021, submitted)