

**MINUTES of MEETING of POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE held ON A HYBRID BASIS IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD AND BY MICROSOFT TEAMS
on THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2024**

Present:

Councillor Jim Lynch (Chair)

Councillor John Armour	Councillor Reeni Kennedy-Boyle
Councillor Gordon Blair	Councillor Liz McCabe
Councillor Math Campbell-Sturgess	Councillor Dougie McFadzean
Councillor Audrey Forrest	Councillor Ross Moreland
Councillor Kieron Green	

Also Present:

Councillor Jan Brown

Councillor Luna Martin

Attending:

Pippa Milne, Chief Executive
Douglas Hendry, Executive Director
Kirsty Flanagan, Executive Director
Anne Blue, Head of Financial Services
Fergus Murray, Head of Development and Economic Growth
Ross McLaughlin, Head of Commercial Services
Jane Fowler, Head of Customer and Support Services
Shona Barton, Governance Manager
John Gordon, Programme Manager - CHORD

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Robin Currie, Amanda Hampsey, Mark Irvine, Yvonne McNeilly and Dougie Philand.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Policy and Resources Committee

1. noted the progress on actions delivered for the Clipper 2023-2024 Round the World Yacht Race Oban Stopover contained at Table 1 within the submitted report;
2. approved up to £50k of funding to deal with additional costs linked to the event and
3. noted the key Oban Stopover civic events including the Clipper Award Civic Ceremony on 16 July 2024, the Clipper Connect Business Event on 19 July 2024 and VIP Reception on the Clipper Race departure day on 21 July 2024.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth dated 10 April 2024, submitted)

8. LEVELLING UP PARTNERSHIP PROCESS

The Committee gave consideration to a report inviting the prioritisation of a long list of projects in relation to Levelling Up Partnership Funding.

Decision

The Policy and Resources Committee

1. acknowledged the work done by officers to prepare and develop the list of projects which span Argyll and Bute and which link to a variety of strategic and local priorities;
2. welcomed the ongoing engagement with the UK Government at officer level;
3. noted the process in relation to identifying the projects which would be funded through the Levelling Up Partnership, that final decisions would be made by the UK Government and, as a consequence; and
4. agreed to submit the long list of projects provided in Table 1, without prioritisation, to the UK Government for consideration and decision as part of that process.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth dated April 2024, submitted; and Motion by Councillor Jim Lynch, seconded by Councillor Audrey Forrest, tabled)

9. ROTHESAY PAVILION UPDATE REPORT

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an update on Rothesay Pavilion, specifically the Tender Report for the works to complete stages 2 and 3.

Decision

The Policy and Resources Committee -

1. noted the content of the submitted report; and

2. agreed that a more detailed report be brought forward for consideration and decision by the Council at its meeting on 27 June 2024.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Commercial Services; and Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth and Financial Services and the Councils Section 95 Officer, submitted)

The Chair advised that in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the appendices relating to the following item of business would require the exclusion of the press and public should any Member wish to discuss the content of those appendices, on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The Committee agreed that they wished to discuss the content of the appendices and therefore resolved to exclude the press and public for the following item of business.

10. LORN ARC TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCE PROGRAMME - OBAN AIRPORT BUSINESS PARK - OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an update on the progress of the Oban Airport Business Park Project and its relationship to the wider Lorn Arc Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) Programme.

Decision

The Policy and Resources Committee

1. noted that discussions were ongoing with the Scottish Government in relation to varying the TIF agreement to maximise the benefit from the scheme and that progression of this project was subject to the Scottish Government agreeing to amend the date by which works must be completed;
2. approved the submission of the Outline Business Case (OBC) to the TIF Executive seeking funding of £8.05m (including 15% fees and 10% contingency) for the development of roads, infrastructure, servicing and site works at Oban Airport Business Park;
3. subject to approval by the TIF Executive, approved the drawdown of borrowing for a total of £1.6m (20% of total cost) for the development of a Full Business Case and associated fees to progress the Oban Airport Business Park project;
4. noted the additional resources that would be required to deliver this project in the form of the establishment of a Project Management Office (PMO) with Hub North Scotland providing strategic support; and
5. noted that the Full Business Case would be reported to a future Policy and Resources Committee before moving to the implementation stage.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth dated 9 April 2024, submitted)

11. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORKPLAN