

AIRDRIE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP – 12 December 2007

Airdrie, 12 December 2007 at 7 pm.

A Meeting of the AIRDRIE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP

PRESENT

Peter Chapman and Tom McFarlane, Airdrie and Villages Community Forum; Owen Watters, NHS Lanarkshire; Councillor Morgan, Convener; Councillors M. Coyle, Logue and J. Love, North Lanarkshire Council, and Chief Inspector J. Sweeney, Strathclyde Police.

CHAIR

Councillor Morgan (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

Susan Mitchell, Administrative Officer (Committee and Civic Governance Services), Corporate Services; Vincent McCulloch, Local Regeneration Manager and Stephen Brown, Community Engagement Officer, Chief Executive's Office; Alistair Crichton, Executive Director of Finance and Customer Services and Ronnie McBride, Production Services Manager, Finance and Customer Services; David McDove, Traffic and Transportation Team Leader and Gordon Laing, Senior Planning Officer, Environmental Services; Matt Costello, Principal Investigator, Anti-Social Task Force, Housing and Social Work Services, and Inspector I. Balmer, Strathclyde Police.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Greer, Richard McGowan and James McMillan, Scottish Water and Graham Elliott and Carol Deveney, Network Rail.

APOLOGIES

Councillors S. Coyle, Fagan and Stocks.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000

1. The Partnership noted that there were no declarations of interest.

BUDGET CONSULTATION – SETTING OF THE COUNCIL TAX AND THE GENERAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2008/2009

2. The Executive Director of Finance and Customer Services, North Lanarkshire Council provided a presentation on the budget process of the Council and the public expenditure allocation process insofar as they related to the settings of the Council Tax and the General Revenue budget for 2008/2009 and highlighted (1) the budgetary position incorporating proposals for financial long term planning; (2) the Scottish Government financial provision for North Lanarkshire Council; (3) the Council's income and expenditure position; (4) cost pressures facing the Council, and (5) the proposed revenue estimates and draft budget for the financial year 2008/2009 including possible efficiency savings for all services of the Council.

Thereon, the Executive Director of Finance and Customer Services responded to questions by members of the Local Area Partnership and public.

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Decided: that the presentation by the Executive Director of Finance and Customer Services be noted.

AIRDRIE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP AND AIRDRIE AREA COMMITTEE - MINUTES

3. There were submitted the Minutes of the meetings of Airdrie Local Area Partnership and Area Committee held on 10 October 2007.

Decided: that the Minutes be noted.

RECENT FLOODING PROBLEMS IN BROOMKNOLL STREET, AIRDRIE

4. The Convener introduced to the meeting Graham Greer, Richard McGowan and James McMillan, Representatives of Scottish Water.

James McMillan advised (1) that Scottish Water were working in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council to investigate the flooding problems at Broomknoll Street, Airdrie; (2) that further investigatory works would be undertaken in January 2008, and (3) intimated that he would attend a future meeting of the Partnership to provide an update on the outcome of the investigations.

Thereon, Graham Greer and Richard McGowan provided a presentation on the Capital Investment Programme within the Airdrie Area and highlighted a number of projects identified for the Area which would be carried out in the forthcoming year, subject to confirmation of funding. Thereafter, the representatives from Scottish Water responded to questions by Members of the Partnership and public and advised that they would attend a future meeting of the Partnership to provide an update on the Capital Investment Programme.

Decided: that it be noted that representatives from Scottish Water would attend a future meeting of the Partnership to provide an update on (1) the outcome of the investigation work at Broomknoll Street, and (2) the Capital Investment Programme, for the Airdrie area.

NHS REPORT – A PICTURE OF HEALTH UPDATE

5. There was submitted a report (docketed) by NHS Lanarkshire (1) advising of the current position in relation to the review of the Accident and Emergency Services; (2) summarising the key issues, and (3) attaching the interim report of the Independent Scrutiny Panel on the review of Accident and Emergency Services in NHS Lanarkshire as an Appendix to the report.

Thereon, Owen Watters, NHS Lanarkshire provided a presentation on the review of the Accident and Emergency Services detailing (1) the five scenarios for consideration; (2) opportunity cost, and (3) the timetable for decision making.

Decided: that the report and presentation be noted.

ANTI-SOCIAL TASK FORCE - UPDATE REPORT

6. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 5 December 2007 by the Executive Director of Housing and Social Work Services, North Lanarkshire Council (1) providing an update in relation to the work of the Anti-Social Task Force within the Airdrie Area; (2) outlining the Anti-Social Task Force activities and local area initiatives, and (3) summarising in the Appendices to the report, actions, complaints, mediation and support carried out within the Airdrie area.

Decided: that the report be noted.

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STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

7. There was submitted a report (tabled) by Strathclyde Police regarding police issues in respect of the various wards in Airdrie and Villages area and of the action deployed to address those issues for the period from 1 October to 27 November 2007.

Decided: that the report be noted.

STRATHCLYDE FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT

8. There was submitted a report (tabled) by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue (1) advising that current statistics for Fire and Rescue activity in the Airdrie and Villages area had shown no discernible trends to give cause for concern, and (2) providing details of current local initiatives being carried out by the Service.

Decided: that the report be noted.

AIRDRIE TO BATHGATE RAIL LINE – PROCESS RELATING TO COMPULSORY PURCHASE AND LAND PURCHASE ORDERS

9. The Convener introduced to the meeting Graham Elliot and Carol Devaney, representatives from Network Rail.

Thereon, Graham Elliot and Carol Devaney provided a presentation on the Airdrie to Bathgate Rail Link Project (1) summarising progress in implementation of the project; (2) detailing the next stages, and (3) outlining the process in relation to Compulsory Purchase and Land Purchase Orders.

Decided: that the presentation be noted.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

10. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of the Local Area Partnership held on 10 October 2007, there was submitted a report (tabled and docketed) dated 30 November 2007 by the Head of Planning and Development, North Lanarkshire Council (1) providing in an Appendix to the report (a) the details of progress to date in respect of projects which had been identified in the Airdrie area for implementation under the Local Development Programme for 2006/07, and (b) details of the locations where it was anticipated that the Programme would be targeted in the period 2007/08; (2) detailing the background to the report, and (3) indicating that progress in delivering the projects or any alterations to the Programme would be reported to future meetings of the Local Area Partnership.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress on projects listed in the Appendix to the report be noted, and
- (2) that progress in delivering the projects or alterations to the Programme be reported to future meetings of the Local Area Partnership.

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AIRDRIE TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN

11. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Partnership held on 10 October 2007, the Senior Planning Officer, North Lanarkshire Council provided an oral update in relation to the progress on regeneration projects within Airdrie Town Centre.

Decided: that the report be noted.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW COMMUNITY PLAN AND CORPORATE PLAN 2008-2012

12. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 22 November 2007 by the Assistant Chief Executive, North Lanarkshire Council providing an update on the development of the draft Corporate and Community Plan for 2008-2012; (1) outlining the background to the draft Plan which provided the strategic direction for the Council and its partners; (2) enclosing, in Appendix 1 to the report, the questionnaire to be completed by elected Members and staff within services and organisations; (3) setting out in Appendix 3 to the report details of the timescales for the engagement process; (3) proposing that the Local Area Partnership provide feedback on the draft Plans and offer support to disseminate the Plans within their Services/Organisation to ensure that staff and relevant decision making groups receive an opportunity to comment, and (4) enclosing a draft copy of the Corporate and Community Plan for 2008-2012 as Appendix 2 to the report and seeking the views of members thereon by 7 January 2008.

Thereon, Vincent McCulloch, Local Regeneration Manager, North Lanarkshire Council, was heard in further explanation of the report.

Decided:

- (1) that Members of the Local Area Partnership complete and return the questionnaire on the draft Corporate and Community Plan 2008-2012 no later than 7 January 2008;
- (2) that Members of the Local Area Partnership disseminate the draft Plan within local Council Services and partner organisations and encourage staff in key decision making forums to provide comments within the timescale set out, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRESS

13. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 27 November 2007 by the Chief Executive, North Lanarkshire Council providing an update on the activities of the Community Engagement Officers within the Chief Executive's Office and the future objectives of the Community Engagement Team (1) advising that the main aim of community engagement was to improve the planning and delivery of services by making them more responsive to the needs and aspirations of communities; (2) intimating that following a review of Community Engagement arrangements in North Lanarkshire in May 2005, the North Lanarkshire Partnership had endorsed a new Community Engagement Strategy and an associated Action Plan; (3) indicating that the Strategy was recently reviewed to take account of the opportunities and challenges that face the Council and its partners in local communities; (4) setting out details of the key priorities for the Community Engagement Officers in the coming months, and (5) enclosing in Appendix 1 to the report the Action Plan for the Airdrie area.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the Local Action Plan for the Airdrie area be noted, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

AIRDRIE AREA – 12 December 2007

Airdrie, 12 December 2007 at 9.10 pm.

A Meeting of the AIRDRIE AREA COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor Morgan, Convener; Councillors M. Coyle, Logue and J. Love.

CHAIR

Councillor Morgan (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Administrative Officer (Committee and Civic Governance Services), Corporate Services; Local Regeneration Manager and Community Engagement Officer, Chief Executive's Office; Executive Director of Finance and Customer Services and Productions Services Manager, Finance and Customer Services; Traffic and Transportation Team Leader and Senior Planning Officer, Environmental Services and Principal Investigator, Anti-Social Task Force, Housing and Social Work Services.

APOLOGIES

Councillors S. Coyle, Fagan and Stocks.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000

Decided: the meeting noted that there were no declarations of interest.

2. CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE AIRDRIE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2007

The Committee gave consideration to the recommendations made by the Airdrie Local Area Partnership at its meeting held on 12 December 2007 and agreed in respect of each item, the following:-

(1) BUDGET CONSULTATION – SETTING OF THE COUNCIL TAX AND THE GENERAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2008/2009

Decided: that the presentation by the Executive Director of Finance and Customer Services be noted.

(2) MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF AIRDRIE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP AND AIRDRIE AREA COMMITTEE

Decided: that the Minutes be noted.

(3) RECENT FLOODING PROBLEM IN BROOMKNOLL STREET, AIRDRIE

Decided: that it be noted that representatives from Scottish Water would attend a future meeting of the Local Area Partnership to provide an update on (1) the outcome of the investigation work at Broomknoll Street, and (2) the Capital Investment Programme, for the Airdrie area.

(4) NHS REPORT – A PICTURE OF HEALTH UPDATE

Decided: that the report and presentation be noted.

(5) ANTI-SOCIAL TASK FORCE – UPDATE REPORT

Decided: that the report be noted.

(6) STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

Decided: that the report be noted.

(7) STRATHCLYDE FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT

Decided: that the report be noted.

(8) AIRDRIE TO BATHGATE RAIL LINE – PROCESS RELATING TO COMPULSORY PURCHASE AND LAND PURCHASE ORDERS

Decided: that the presentation be noted.

(9) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Decided:

- (1) that the progress on projects listed in the Appendix to the report be noted, and
- (2) that progress in delivering the projects or alterations to the Programme be reported to future meetings of the Local Area Partnership.

(10) AIRDRIE TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN

Decided: that the report be noted.

(11) DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW COMMUNITY PLAN AND CORPORATE PLAN 2008/2012

Decided:

- (1) that Members of the Local Area Partnership complete and return the questionnaire on the draft Corporate and Community Plan 2008/2012 no later than 7 January 2008;
- (2) that Members of the Local Area Partnership disseminate the draft Plan within local Council Services and partner organisations and encourage staff in key decision making forums to provide comments within the timescale set out, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

(12) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRESS

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the Local Action Plan for the Airdrie area be noted, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.