

Motherwell, 19 March 2020 at 2 pm.

A Meeting of the **POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor Logue, Convener; Councillor Kelly, Vice-Convener; Councillor Roarty, Vice-Convener; Councillors Barclay, Beveridge, Burrows, Castles, Di Mascio, Duffy, Gallacher, Goldie, T. Johnston, Lennon, Magowan, McNally, McPake, Morgan, Alan Valentine and Watson.

ALSO PRESENT

In accordance with Standing Order 64(A), Councillors Jones, Kerr, Larson, and McCulloch attended as substitutes for Councillors Brannan-McVey, D Ashraf, Linden, and Graham respectively.

CHAIR

Councillor Logue (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Executive; Executive Director (Education and Families); Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities); Chief Accountable Officer, Health and Social Care; Head of Legal and Democratic Solutions; Head of Financial Solutions; Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions; Head of Business Solutions; Head of Communication and Strategy; Head of Communities; Head of Education (North); Head of Environmental Assets; Head of People and Organisational Development; Head of Planning and Regeneration; Assurance and Development Manager; Audit and Risk Manager; Business Solutions Manager; Enterprise Manager; Group Manager (Assets Management), and Democratic Services Manager.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Charles McCabe, Forward Planning and Specification Manager; Vicky Abernethy, Business Manager (Environmental Facilities); David Greer, Growth Programme Manager, and Gordon Laing, Planning Manager (Strategy and Policy).

APOLOGIES

Councillors D Ashraf, Brannan-McVey, Graham, Hume, Linden and Wilson.

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

1. Declarations of Interest were received from Members, details of which are set out below:-
 - Councillor Morgan declared an interest in paragraph 9, by virtue of the nature of a family member's employment and did not participate in its determination.
 - Councillors Burrows, Castles and Watson, each declared an interest in paragraph 10, by virtue of their membership of the Board of NL Municipal Bank, and left the meeting during consideration of the matter identified.

MINUTES

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

2. There were submitted the Minutes of the meetings of the Appointments Sub-Committee held on 17 September, and 2 and 23 October 2019.

Decided: that the Minutes be approved.

AUDIT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

3. There were submitted the Minutes of the meetings of the Audit and Scrutiny Panel held on 25 September, 14 November and 18 December 2019, and 20 February 2020.

Decided: that the Minutes be approved.

DRAFT LOCAL POLICE PLAN 2020-2023

4. There was submitted the Draft Local Police Plan which (1) set out the local police priorities and key areas of focus in the Lanarkshire Police Division from April 2020 to March 2023, and (2) intimated that the Plan itself was a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, and had been informed through consultation with communities and partners in both North and South Lanarkshire, together with an analysis of current and emerging threats and risks, to ensure that local police priorities were based on the needs of the communities across Lanarkshire.

Decided: that the Draft Local Police Plan be noted.

PRESENTATION: ONE PLACE – ONE PLAN

5. With reference to (1) paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 28 February 2019, when it had approved The Plan for North Lanarkshire (The Plan), and to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 21 March 2019, when it had approved the Programme of Work to achieve the delivery of The Plan, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (1) setting out plans for an interconnected approach to guide implementation of the programme of investment in respect of The Plan and Programme of Work, and to ensure more integrated and accessible services and service systems, while building more engaged, connected, and resilient communities; (2) advising that the accompanying operational model would build around co-production, and the realignment of relationships between the Council, services, partners, service providers, private sector, third sector, and residents with a focus on whole system approaches and shared infrastructure and responsibilities; (3) providing an update on the Programme of Work elements for town centre and community regeneration, integrated town and community hubs, schools new build programme, and parks master planning as well as associated active travel plans; (4) seeking approval of various proposals to allow these local regeneration programmes to move on to the next phase of physical delivery; (5) indicating that this in turn would inform the long term strategic enterprise contract, the key delivery vehicle for the full range of interconnected property, community asset, and linked infrastructure investments, and (6) informing (a) that as each specific delivery programme was developed and ready to progress to the next stage, an extensive programme of engagement would be undertaken with all stakeholder groups, and (b) that, thereafter, further detailed reports on the Programme of Work to support the ongoing delivery of The Plan would be submitted to future meetings of the appropriate committee for consideration.

Thereon, the Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities), Forward Planning and Specification Manager, Business Manager (Environmental Facilities), Growth Programme Manager, and Planning Manager (Strategy and Policy) gave a presentation on the plans to deliver The Plan, and the Programme of Work elements.

Decided:

- (1) that the guiding principles to be adopted and used to further develop the design proposals for Town and Community Hubs, as outlined in the report, be approved;
- (2) that the prioritisation matrix to be used as the methodology to determine the priority order for Town and Community Hubs development, as outlined in the report, be approved;
- (3) that the concept designs for Town Visions, as outlined in the report, be approved, in order to move to the next phase of stakeholder engagement;
- (4) that a phased programme of delivery be developed for the parks masterplans, and that detailed plans be developed with reports thereon being submitted to future meetings of the Environment and Transport Committee for consideration, and
- (5) that the realigned Community Matters model for working with communities be endorsed, and that an associated delivery plan be developed.

ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIP – OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

6. With reference to paragraph 15 of the Minute of the Special meeting of this Committee held on 28 February 2019, when it had (1) approved the initial stages of the procurement of an Enterprise Contract for North Lanarkshire, including the consideration of potential delivery vehicle options; (2) authorised (a) the procurement of appropriate specialist advice to support the procurement exercise, and (b) the publication of a Prior Information Notice in the Official Journal of the European Union to notify the market of the Council's intention to procure a new delivery vehicle for a range of interconnected property, community asset and infrastructure investments, and (3) noted the financial and human resources implications, there was submitted a report by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions (a) providing details therein of the high level outcomes from the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the Enterprise Strategic Commercial Partnership, and (b) seeking approval to proceed to the next phase of the project, that being the Procurement of the Preferred Model.

Decided:

- (1) that the completion and the outcomes of the OBC for the Enterprise Strategic Commercial Partnership project be noted;
- (2) that the development of the scope outcome recommendations, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted;
- (3) that it be noted that the OBC Preferred Model, based upon the scope outcome, was for a Full Strategic Single Joint Venture Partnership for no less than a 20 year concession period, but that the definitive Preferred Model and partnership concession duration would be developed and finalised through the procurement process;
- (4) that it be noted (a) that, to meet the ambitions of the Enterprise project to best benefit North Lanarkshire, the innovative parts of the solution would be shaped from industry dialogue as part of the procurement, and (b) that, consequently, the procurement procedure, subject to undertaking the Sourcing Methodology, would be likely to involve competitive dialogue;

- (5) that it be noted that the commercial and procurement aspects of the project could only be dealt with as high level principles at the OBC stage and would be developed as part of the procurement stage, with finalisation of some areas at preferred bidder stage;
- (6) that it be noted that although a high level indicative timeline for procurement and transition arrangements of the new partnership had been provided, the project programme would be developed after OBC approval to align to the approved project and the selected procurement procedure, which would be likely to be a lengthy and complex process;
- (7) that it be noted (a) that there was a plan in place for the level of funding available to correspond to the service delivery areas in scope for the Enterprise Strategic Commercial Partnership, and (b) that estimates would be subject to annual review, and that a key objective of the partnership was to manage expenditure within available resources to ensure that the partnership was both flexible and scalable to the availability of finance, and
- (8) that progression of the Enterprise project to the procurement stage, based upon the principles outlined in the text at (3), (4), (5) and (7) above, be approved.

THE PLAN FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE – PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2020 AND BEYOND

7. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 21 March 2019, when it had approved the Programme of Work which set out the priorities for action in order to deliver on the shared ambition articulated through The Plan for North Lanarkshire (The Plan), there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (1) providing an overview of progress made against the Programme of Work for 2019; (2) advising that various pieces of work had been undertaken to review the content and quality of reports on the Programme and the progress made in terms of delivering against the shared ambition articulated through The Plan; (3) intimating that these processes had informed the development of the Programme of Work for 2020 and beyond, details of which were set out in the report, and (4) indicating that further reports providing more specific and detailed information on each individual element of the updated Programme would be submitted to future meetings of the appropriate committee for consideration, in line with the indicative timetable which was set out in the Appendix to the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the updated Programme of Work for 2020 and beyond, as outlined in the report be approved;
- (2) that it be noted that further reports providing more specific and detailed information on each individual element within the Programme would be submitted to future meetings of the appropriate committee for consideration in line with the indicative timetable which was set out in the Appendix to the report, and
- (3) that the report be otherwise noted.

BEST VALUE ASSURANCE REPORT – UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS

8. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 26 September 2019 when it, following consideration of a report by the Chief Executive on the Accounts Commission's Best Value Assurance Review Report (BVAR) for the Council which had been published by Audit Scotland in May 2019, had approved actions to address the eight recommendations for improvement which had been identified in the BVAR, there was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) summarising, in the Appendix to the report, an update on progress on the work which had been undertaken as at February 2020 to implement the eight BVAR recommendations, including, where

appropriate, details of future plans with timescales and responsibilities; (2) intimating that integration with the respective elements in the Council's Programme of Work for 2020 and beyond had been referenced to further consolidate improvement actions and delivery plans in support of The Plan for North Lanarkshire; (3) indicating that further updates on the progress of the implementation of the BVAR recommendations would therefore be provided in line with the approved Programme of Work reporting timetable; and (4) advising of the forthcoming update to the statutory Best Value guidance and the changes to the national Best Value audit process in the future.

Decided:

- (1) that the information provided in Appendix 1 to the report to update on progress made to implement the BVAR recommendations be noted;
- (2) that the consolidation of the BVAR recommendations within elements of the Programme of Work for 2020 and beyond be noted;
- (3) that the incorporation of all future updates on the BVAR recommendations into the reporting timetable for the respective Programme of Work be approved, and
- (4) that the report be otherwise noted.

Councillor Morgan, by virtue of the nature of a Family member's employment, having declared an interest in the matter prior to consideration of the following item of business, did not participate in its determination.

IN SOURCING AND DELIVERY OF CULTURE, SPORT AND LEISURE SERVICES – PROGRAMME DELIVERY PLAN AND GOVERNANCE

9. **C** With reference to para 3 of the Minute of the Special meeting of this Committee held on 31 January 2020 when it had agreed to in-source the delivery of culture, sport and leisure services which were currently provided by Culture and Leisure North Lanarkshire Limited, there was submitted a report by the Head of Communities providing an update on (1) the preparation and implementation of a detailed in-sourcing plan, including a full timeline for the in-sourcing of culture, sport and leisure services; (2) the full timeline of the intended plan for the in-sourcing of the services and key milestones; (3) the actions being undertaken to rapidly address the harmonisation of terms and conditions of employment for staff; (4) the further assessment of any potential Equal Pay implications as a result of the process; (5) the future governance arrangements, including the reporting framework to ensure full scrutiny over the direction and provision of culture, sport and leisure services, and (6) the plans for Trade Union engagement and consultation.

Decided:

- (1) that the indicative process and actions, as outlined in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report, be noted;
- (2) that the progress to date as referred to in Section 1.2 of the report and in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted;
- (3) that the action taken by the Chief Executive in exercising the powers of the Council under the terms of Articles 48 and 50 of the Articles of Association of North Lanarkshire Leisure Limited (NLL) to remove four independent directors of NLL be homologated;
- (4) that the action taken by the Chief Executive in approving the special resolution to conclude the governance arrangements required to dissolve the Company, including submission of the final accounts and appropriate declarations as set out in paragraph 2.7.1. of the report, be homologated;

- (5) that the Head of Legal and Democratic Solutions be authorised, in so far as not already authorised in the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers, to progress the preparation and execute all resolutions on behalf of the Council as sole member of NLL to amend the Company's Articles of Association, to exercise authority as the appropriate officer, and to implement any decisions and take all necessary action to ensure the winding up of NLL, including its dissolution and removal from the Scottish Charity Register;
- (6) that the extension of the "emergency period" for the appointment of the Culture and Leisure North Lanarkshire Partner and Independent Directors be noted, and
- (7) that it be noted that future update reports on the in-sourcing of culture, sport and leisure services, and the scrutiny of these services, fell within the remit of the Community Empowerment Committee, and that the Scheme of Administration be amended to reflect this position.

Councillors Burrows, Castles, and Watson, by virtue of their membership of the Board of North Lanarkshire Municipal Bank Limited, having each declared an interest in the matter prior to consideration of the following item of business, left the meeting and took no part in its determination.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE MUNICIPAL BANK LIMITED – SERVICE REVIEW

10. There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) providing details of the findings and recommendations from the service review of North Lanarkshire Municipal Bank Limited; (2) advising that an options appraisal of the current service delivery had been carried out within the context of the future direction of the banking sector, the Council's Digital NL strategy, and The Plan for North Lanarkshire; (3) intimating that the options appraisal identified a number of challenges facing the long term sustainability of the Bank, those being: (a) the declining customer base and reducing balances; (b) the digital transformation, and (c) the legislative restrictions which prohibit significant expansion; (3) informing that, notwithstanding these limitations, customer satisfaction levels were high, and (4) recommending that customer trends be closely monitored for a further twelve months and that the resultant data be analysed to inform future service delivery and potential viability considerations.

Decided:

- (1) that the overall findings of the North Lanarkshire Municipal Bank service review, which had been completed within the final phase of the ALEO Review Programme, be noted;
- (2) that the feedback received from the Municipal Bank Board of Directors regarding the review findings, as referenced in paragraph 2.38 of the report, be noted;
- (3) that it be noted that while the Municipal Bank had been performing satisfactorily and delivering against its founding objectives, its long term sustainability had been severely impacted by demographics, limitations on the range of banking products deliverable, and increasing trends towards online banking and cashless transactions;
- (4) that the current banking operations and service provision be maintained on the basis that, given the long term sustainability issues, the customer numbers and sums deposited be monitored for a further 12 months and, thereafter, a report thereon be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, and
- (5) that the report be otherwise noted.

STRATEGIC CAPITAL DELIVERY GROUP - TERMS OF REFERENCE AND GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

11. With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of the former Policy and Resources Committee held on 7 June 2018 when it had approved the Terms of Reference and Governance for the Strategic Capital Delivery Group which had been developed to facilitate the effective management and delivery of the Council's 5 Year Composite Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2022/23, there was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities) providing details therein of the updated Terms of Reference and Governance Framework for the Strategic Capital Delivery Group.

Decided: that the updated Terms of Reference and Governance Framework for the Strategic Capital Delivery Group, as outlined in the report, be approved.

PROPOSED RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

12. With reference to paragraph 13 of the Minute of the meeting of the former Policy and Resources Committee held on 7 June 2018 when it had approved the Council's Risk Management Strategy, there was submitted a report by the Audit and Risk Manager (1) attaching as an Appendix to the report, a revised Audit and Risk Management Strategy for the Council for 2020 to 2022; (2) advising that effective risk management arrangements form an important element of good corporate governance and were designed to ensure that the Council operated systematic and logical processes for managing business risks within a comprehensive framework, ensuring that identified risks were managed consistently, effectively and efficiently, and coherently across the organisation, and (3) intimating that the Audit and Scrutiny Panel had regular oversight of the Council's risk management arrangements and regular reports on the operation of these arrangements, including the management of key corporate risks.

Decided:

- (1) that the revised Risk Management Strategy, attached as an Appendix to the report, be approved, and
- (2) that the role of the Audit and Scrutiny Panel in overseeing the Council's Risk Management arrangements be noted.

EMPLOYABILITY REVIEW - WORKFORCE FOR THE FUTURE STRATEGY 2020-2023

13. There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities) (1) advising that, in light of the recommendation of the North Lanarkshire Fairness Commission in November 2018 "that public sector partners should conduct a thorough, systematic, review of employability services focussed at decluttering the employability landscape and making it easier for people to understand their options", a review of employability services in North Lanarkshire had been carried out; (2) intimating that the review had been structured over three phases, those being (a) the review of current key employability activities which were undertaken by the Council, and the development of key recommendations; (b) the operational implementation of the Key Action Plan, and (c) the evaluation of the Key Action Plan; (3) providing details therein of (a) the outcomes of the review, including an overview of current strengths and challenges, and the key influences and drivers which would shape future employability activity and programmes, and (b) the four primary objectives which had been identified that would assist in implementing positive change moving forward; (4) setting out (a) in Appendix 1 to the report, detailed labour market commentary; (b) in Appendix 2 to the report, the Key Action Plan, and (c) in Appendix 3 to the report, the Workforce for the Future Strategy 2020 to 2023; (5) proposing that a new Programme of Work be established to implement and review the priorities outlined in the Key Action Plan, and (6) outlining the proposed (a) operating model principles for employability activity moving forward, and (b) governance arrangements.

Decided:

- (1) that the current status of the employability review and progress made to date, as outlined in the report, be noted;
- (2) that the priorities outlined in the Key Action Plan, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;
- (3) that a new Programme of Work be established to implement and review the priorities outlined in the Key Action Plan;
- (4) that the Workforce for the Future Strategy 2020 to 2023, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved, and
- (5) that the report be otherwise noted.

STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING PLAN 2020 TO 2023, AND PROGRAMME OF WORK

14. There was submitted a report by the Chief Accountable Officer, Health and Social Care (1) intimating that there was a statutory requirement on Integrated Joint Boards to produce a Strategic Commissioning Plan; (2) advising that Health and Social Care North Lanarkshire had published its ten year strategy "Safer, Healthier, Independent Lives" in 2016, and that each year since then an annual Strategic Commissioning Plan had been produced to outline the key intentions to be delivered each year; (3) indicating that a significant programme of engagement had been undertaken to shape the development of the partnership's first three year Strategic Commissioning Plan; (4) setting out (a) in Appendix 1 to the report, the Strategic Commissioning Plan 2020 to 2023, and (b) in Appendix 2 to the report, the Programme of Work which set out details of the key programmes that would be undertaken over the three year period to meet the key ambitions contained within the Strategic Commissioning Plan, and (5) stating that the report would also be submitted to the NHS Lanarkshire Board and the Integration Joint Board for consideration.

Decided:

- (1) that the Strategic Commissioning Plan 2020 to 2023, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;
- (2) that the Programme of Work, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved, and
- (3) that it be noted that the report would also be submitted to the NHS Lanarkshire Board, and the Integrated Joint Board in March 2020 for consideration.

REVISED SCHEME OF INTEGRATION FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

15. There was submitted a report by the Chief Accountable Officer, Health and Social Care (1) intimating that in April 2019, the Cabinet Secretary had approved the revised North Lanarkshire Scheme of Integration for Health and Social Care to permit the transfer of the discretionary delegated functions for children, families and justice social work services to the Education and Families Service; (2) advising that, since then, further amendments had been made to the Scheme of Integration to reflect updated processes and structures relating to risk, Support Care and Clinical Governance and complaints processes; (3) recommending that, at this stage, the revised Scheme of Integration, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved, and (4) informing (a) that the revised Scheme of Integration would then be subject to public consultation for a four week period, and (b) that, thereafter, a further report on the revised Scheme of Integration would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, and to the NHS Lanarkshire Board, for consideration prior to submission to the Cabinet Secretary for approval.

Decided:

- (1) that the revised Scheme of Integration, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved, and
- (2) that it be noted that the revised Scheme of Integration would be subject to public consultation for a four week period and that, thereafter, a further report on the revised Scheme of Integration would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, and to the NHS Lanarkshire Board, for consideration prior to submission to the Cabinet Secretary for approval.

DIET AND NUTRITION POLICY

16. **C** There was submitted a report by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions (1) intimating that a review of the Council's Diet and Nutrition Policy had been undertaken by the Diet and Nutrition Working Group, which was comprised of representatives from the Council and external partners, such as NHS Lanarkshire, the Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership, and Culture and Leisure North Lanarkshire Limited; (2) advising that the purpose of the Policy was to ensure that the range of policy measures which had been introduced by the Scottish Government, along with the priorities of The Plan for North Lanarkshire, lead to an improvement in the diet and nutrition of service users, residents and staff in North Lanarkshire; (3) attaching, as an Appendix to the report, the updated Diet and Nutrition Policy 2019 to 2024, and (4) intimating that the progress of the updated Policy would be monitored, and that an annual report thereon would be submitted to the Corporate Management Team for consideration.

Decided:

- (1) that the Diet and Nutrition Policy 2019 to 2024, attached as the Appendix to the report, be approved;
- (2) that it be noted that the progress of the updated Policy would be monitored, and that an Annual Report thereon would be submitted to the Corporate Management Team for consideration, and
- (3) that the report be otherwise be noted.

UPDATE TO THE 5 YEAR COMPOSITE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19 TO 2022/23, AND REVIEW OF THE CAPITAL STRATEGY 2022/23

17. **C** With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of the former Policy and Resources Committee held on 15 March 2018 when, inter alia, it had approved the Composite Capital Programme for the 5 year period from 2018/19 to 2022/23, there was submitted a report by the Head of Financial Solutions (1) providing an update for the remaining three years of the 5 Year Composite Capital Programme for the period from 2020/21 to 2022/23, incorporating all community capital investment programmes, and including details of the annual review of the Capital Strategy to 2022/23, and the Housing Revenue Account capital investment plans; (2) detailing the capital resource requirements for the Programme for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23; (3) seeking approval for the remaining three years of the 5 Year Capital Programme, and (4) providing an update on the annual review of the Council's Capital Strategy to 2022/23.

Decided:

- (1) that the capital resource requirements for the Composite Capital Programme for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23, as outlined in the report, be noted;

- (2) that the remaining three years of the 5 Year Composite Capital Programme for all community capital investment programmes, subject to future grant allocations and as outlined in the report, be approved;
- (3) that the annual review of the Council's Capital Strategy to 2022/23, as outlined in the report, be noted, and
- (4) that the Strategic Capital Delivery Group be authorised to amend the Composite Capital Programme, under its Terms of Reference, to ensure an efficient and effective delivery of the Programme, and to manage capital resource funding volatility.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND – ANNUAL UPDATE

18. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 6 June 2019, when, inter alia, the Committee had noted (1) the revised estimate of the potential funding available through the Community Investment Fund over the following 10 year period was £705.282m, and (2) the requirement for robust governance and monitoring arrangements to be put in place to ensure that investment plans were prudent, affordable and sustainable, there was submitted a report by the Head of Financial Solutions (a) providing an annual update on the assumptions used in determining the potential funding available through the Community Investment Fund over the following 10 year period; (b) setting out, in the Appendix to the report, an updated Community Investment Fund model; (c) advising that the potential resources through the Fund over the 10 year period had been revised down from £705.282m to £694.002m, and (d) summarising the steps which had been taken by the Council's Strategic Capital Delivery Group to ensure that sound governance arrangements were in place.

Decided:

- (1) that the impact of the revised assumptions on the resources available through the Community Investment Fund over the following 10 year period, as outlined in the report, be noted, and
- (2) that the governance arrangements which had been put in place by the Council's Strategic Capital Delivery Group, as outlined in the report, be noted.

It was agreed, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6, 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

ASSET REVIEW AND RATIONALISATION

19. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of the Special meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee held on 28 February 2019 when, inter alia, the Committee had agreed (1) that a proposal by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions to rationalise the Council's office accommodation portfolio be implemented, and (2) that the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions be authorised to develop an implementation strategy for the rationalisation of the Council's office accommodation portfolio and move towards a delivery stage, there was submitted a report by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions advising of a further option which had been developed to enable consideration of the opportunities and options available to further rationalise the office portfolio to a single administrative base, suitable for further service delivery needs to provide long term operational sustainability across the Council's office portfolio.

Decided:

- (1) that the further property rationalisation to a single administrative base and the negotiation of a lease, taking cognisance of the partnership' properties which would remain as operational offices, as outlined in the report, be approved;
- (2) that the Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities) and the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions be authorised to proceed with negotiations to lease a suitable office facility within North Lanarkshire for use as a single administrative base for the Council, and that progress reports thereon be submitted to future meetings of the Finance and Resources Committee for consideration, and
- (3) that the Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities) and the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions be authorised to formally engage with Police Scotland and other public sector partners to agree a joint lease arrangement for any proposed location.