

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL**WOODHILL HOUSE, ABERDEEN, 27 SEPTEMBER, 2018**

Present: Councillors K Adam, W A Agnew, D Aitchison, A M Allan, P J Argyle, N Baillie, D Beagrie, L Berry, A A Bews, G Blackett, A S Buchan, C C Buchan, M A Buchan, S W Calder, G W Carr, R A Cassie, J B Cox, I Davidson, S Dickinson, A C Duncan, E Durno, A Evison, M Ewenson, A Fakley, M A Findlater, M A Ford, A Forsyth, P Gibb, J N Gifford, V Harper, F C P Hood, W Howatson, J Hutchison, M F Ingleby, J Ingram, P K Johnston, A Kloppert, A Kille, J J Latham, S Leslie, D Lonchay, C R McKail, D Mair, I J Mollison, G L Owen, H Partridge, G E Petrie, C Pike, G Reid, G D Reynolds, D Robertson, A Ross, M J Roy, H Smith, N J Smith, E A Stirling, I Sutherland, I W Taylor, R G Thomson, B A Topping, I M Walker, A Wallace, J M Whyte L Wilson, R Withey.

Apologies: Councillors R Bruce, A J Hassan, A McKelvie, D Robertson, S W Smith and A M Simpson.

Officers: Chief Executive, Director of Business Services, Director of Education and Children's Services, Director of Infrastructure Services, Chief Officer (Health and Social Care Partnership), Head of Finance, Head of Legal and Governance and Principal Committee Services Officer.

CHAIR

Councillor W Howatson, Provost of the Council, presided.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Provost welcomed Mr Laurence Findlay to his first meeting of the Council following his appointment as Director of Education and Children's Services.

The Provost also congratulated Michelle Gordon from Huntly who had won the Junior World Championship for Highland Dancing at the Cowal Highland Gathering in Dunoon at the end of August 2018 and highlighted the Council's recent successes at the CoSLA Excellence Awards for 2018 in achieving bronze awards for 'ThinC' for Achieving Better Outcomes in Partnership, Food & Drink Business Growth Programme for Strong and Sustainable Communities and the Aberdeenshire Youth Volunteer Awards for Local Matters and a silver or gold award in the Sustainable Communities category with the Town Centre First Principles initiative, which would be confirmed on 10 October, 2018.

The Provost concluded by wishing Councillor Robertson a speedy recovery following a recent illness.

1. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

The Provost asked members if they had any interests to declare in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct and the following declarations were intimated:-

- (1) Item 10 - Councillors Aitchison, C Buchan, Cox, Forsyth, Johnston, Kloppert, Mollison, Latham, Lonchay, Reid, Topping and Wallace as substantive or substitute members (as appropriate) of the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority (SDPA) and as a specific exclusion applied would remain and participate in the meeting;

- (2) Items 8, 10, 12 and 16 – Councillor Sutherland, as BID Manager Rediscover Peterhead, and having applied the objective test, would remain and participate in Items 8, 12 and 16 and in respect of Item 10 left the meeting and took no part in the decision;
- (3) Item 9 – Councillor Kloppert, as an employee of Alzheimer Scotland, but having applied the objective test considered the interest to be so remote and insignificant would remain in the meeting;
- (4) Item 12 - Councillor Allan, being the subject of the report, and left the meeting and took no part; and
- (5) Item 12 – Councillor A S Buchan, having been involved in the Standards Commission report, and continued to participate in the meeting.

2A. STATEMENT ON EQUALITIES

In making decisions on the following items of business, the Council **agreed**, in terms of Section 149 of the Equality Act, 2010:-

- (1) to have due regard to the need to:-
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (2) where an Equality Impact Assessment was provided, to consider its contents and take those into account when reaching their decision.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL OF 28 JUNE, 2018

The Minute of Meeting of Aberdeenshire Council of 28 June, 2018, had been circulated, was **approved** as a correct record, and thereafter signed by the Chair.

4. NOTICES OF MOTION

- (1) Notice of Motion by Councillor Ford –

“Brexit is expected to have significant economic and demographic consequences for Aberdeenshire. Depending on any terms agreed, there will be loss of access to markets and labour predicted to negatively affect the economy.

Accordingly, Aberdeenshire Council supports the holding of a further referendum to give the UK public the final say on any terms agreed for Brexit, that referendum to include the option of the UK remaining in the EU.”

Councillor Ford spoke to his motion which was seconded by Councillor Argyle.

Councillor Kille, seconded by Councillor Withey, moved as an amendment –

“This council respects the democratic decision made by the people of the United Kingdom and therefore does not support the holding of any form of a further referendum on the United Kingdom leaving the European Union”.

Councillor Thomson, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, moved as a further amendment –

“Brexit is expected to have significant economic and demographic consequences for Aberdeenshire. Depending on any terms agreed there will be a loss of access to markets and labour predicted to negatively affect the economy.

Accordingly, in order to minimise the adverse impact of leaving the EU, Aberdeenshire Council supports the UK Government negotiating to remain either within, or in regulatory alignment with, the European Single Market and Customs Union.

Aberdeenshire Council supports the holding of a further referendum to give the UK public the final say on any terms agreed for Brexit, that referendum to include the option of the UK remaining in the EU.”

On a division between Councillor Kille’s amendment and Councillor Thomson’s amendment, members of the Council voted –

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|--|
| for Councillor Kille’s amendment | (25) | Councillors Agnew, Beagrie, Berry, M Buchan, Carr, Cox, Fakley, Findlater, Gibb, Gifford, Hutchison, Ingleby, Kille, Leslie, Lonchay, McKail, Owen, Pike, Ross, Roy, N Smith, Sutherland, Taylor, Whyte and Withey |
| for Councillor Thomson’s amendment | (23) | Councillors Adam, Aitchison, Allan, Baillie, Bews, Blackett, C Buchan, Calder, Cassie, Duncan, Durno, Evison, Ford, Forsyth, Harper, Ingram, Johnston, Kloppert, Petrie, Reynolds, Topping, Thomson and Wilson |
| declined to vote | (10) | Councillors Argyle, Davidson, Dickinson, Ewenson, Hood, Latham, Mollison, H Smith, Stirling and Walker |
| absent from the vote | (6) | Councillors A S Buchan, Howatson, Mair, Partridge, Reid and Wallace |

Councillor Kille’s amendment was therefore carried.

On a division between the substantive motion and Councillor Kille’s amendment, members of the Council voted as follows –

- | | | |
|-------------------|------|---|
| for the motion | (33) | Councillors Adam, Aitchison, Allan, Argyle, Baillie, Bews, Blackett, C Buchan, Calder, Cassie, Davidson, Dickinson, Duncan, Durno, Evison, Ewenson, Ford, Forsyth, Harper, Hood, Howatson, Ingram, Johnston, Kloppert, Latham, Mollison, Petrie, Reynolds, H Smith, Stirling, Topping, Thomson and Wilson |
| for the amendment | (26) | Councillors Agnew, Beagrie, Berry, M Buchan, Carr, Cox, Fakley, Findlater, Gifford, Gibb, Hutchison, Ingleby, Kille, Leslie, Lonchay, McKail, Owen, Pike, |

Ross, Roy, N Smith, Sutherland, Taylor,
Walker, Whyte and Withey

absent from the vote

(5) Councillors A S Buchan, Mair,
Partridge, Reid and Wallace

The motion was carried.

Councillors Agnew, Beagrie, Berry, M Buchan, Carr, Cox, Fakley, Findlater, Gifford, Gibb, Hutchison, Ingleby, Kille, Leslie, Lonchay, McKail, Owen, Pike, Ross, Roy, N Smith, Sutherland, Taylor, Walker, Whyte and Withey requested that their dissent from the foregoing decision be recorded.

(2) Notice of Motion by Councillor Fakley -

That the Council supports Poppyscotland's *Count Them In* campaign, which aims to see the inclusion of an Armed Forces question in the next Census in 2021. Notes that there is currently very limited information about where our veterans now live and what support they may need. Believes that gathering this information through the Census will allow for an improved understanding of this unique community and ensure that the Council, alongside others, can ensure we are fully meeting the needs of our serving personnel, veterans and their families. Instructs the Chief Executive to write to Poppyscotland, the local constituency and regional MSPs within the local authority area to inform them of the Council's support.

Councillor Fakley spoke to his motion, which was seconded by Councillor Forsyth.

Thereafter, the Council unanimously **agreed** to approve the motion.

(3) Notice of Motion by Councillor Wilson -

“Council expresses its deep concern at the workforce shortages facing many farms in Aberdeenshire due to the discontinuation of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme (SAWS) in 2013, and also the fall in the value of Sterling following Brexit. The shortage of pickers from the EU has resulted in fruit and vegetables left to rot in the fields, with a significant economic impact. Council asks the Chief Executive to write to the appropriate UK Ministers to express concern about this and also to urge Ministers to urgently agree a new, permanent version of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme.”

Councillor Wilson spoke to his motion, which was seconded by Councillor C Buchan.

Councillor Gifford, seconded by Councillor Argyle, moved, as an amendment, revised wording to the motion as follows –

“Council recognises concerns over workforce shortages facing farms in Aberdeenshire, due to the discontinuation of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers, Scheme (SAWS) in 2013, the fall in the value of sterling following the EU referendum and other economic factors. There are also recruitment and retention challenges facing other sectors important to Aberdeenshire, including fish processing and hospitality. A solution can–only be found by engaging all stakeholders. Therefore, the Council asks that the Chief Executive writes to the appropriate UK Government Ministers expressing our concern and also to Scottish Government Ministers urging both Governments to work together in preparing robust post-Brexit policies covering all aspects of employment of non-UK workers”.

Following discussion, Councillor Wilson accepted the revised wording proposed by Councillor Gifford and the Council **agreed** to approve the amended motion as follows –

“Council recognises concerns over workforce shortages facing farms in Aberdeenshire, due to the discontinuation of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme (SAWS) in 2013, the fall in the value of sterling following the EU referendum and other economic factors. There are also recruitment and retention challenges facing other sectors important to Aberdeenshire, including fish processing and hospitality. A solution can–only be found by engaging all stakeholders. Therefore, the Council asks that the Chief Executive writes to the appropriate UK Government Ministers expressing our concern and also to Scottish Government Ministers urging both Governments to work together in preparing robust post-Brexit policies covering all aspects of employment of non-UK workers”.

5. AUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2017/18 FOR ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL AND ITS CHARITABLE TRUSTS AND THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT TO COUNCILLORS 2017/18

A report dated 29 August 2018 by the Head of Finance had been circulated together with the audited Annual Accounts for Aberdeenshire Council and its Charitable Trusts for the financial year 2017/18 and the report by the Council’s External Auditors, Audit Scotland, following completion of the audit for the financial year 2017/18. The report contained a detailed action plan which identified areas requiring improvement and a report on progress towards achieving the actions would be presented to the Audit Committee on 20 March 2019.

The Head of Finance introduced the report and advised that the audit certificate was unmodified, providing assurance that the financial statements gave a true and fair view of the financial position of Aberdeenshire Council at 31 March 2018. Unmodified certificates had also been received for the five sets of accounts in relation to the Council’s Charitable Trusts. He confirmed that the accounts had been signed off by the Council’s Audit Committee on 20 September 2018 and made reference to the proposed actions identified in the Action Plan attached to the External Auditor’s report.

Following discussion, the Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to endorse the audited Annual Accounts 2017/18 for the Council’s Charitable Trusts and the Independent Auditor’s report; and
- (2) to note the unmodified audit certificates for Aberdeenshire Council and its Charitable Trusts for 2017/18.

6. NON-HRA CAPITAL BUDGET 2018/19 MONITORING REPORT AND CAPITAL PLAN 2018 -2033 UPDATE

There had been circulated a report dated 7 August 2018 by the Director of Business Services which (1) detailed expected expenditure and income on projects contained within the Council’s Non-Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Budget; (2) highlighted projects which showed variations requiring amendments to be made to the Capital Plan; (3) advised that a new budget line had been added to show the Stonehaven Flooding Scheme separately from Harbours, Coast & Flooding; (4) explained funding arrangements for the expansion of early learning and childcare and for the Inverurie Community Campus project; and (5) sought approval for an increase in borrowing in respect of the Banchory Sports Village project.

The Head of Finance introduced the report and responded to questions relating to the timing of notification of the unsuccessful funding application to Sports Scotland in respect of the Banchory Sports Village project and to property ownership and ongoing revenue costs in that respect.

Thereafter, the Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to revisions to the Capital Budget for 2018/19 referred to at Appendix 4 and detailed in Appendix 2 of the report, giving new totals for expenditure and receipts & revenue financing of £118,861,000 and £45,698,000 respectively;
- (2) to revisions to the Capital Budget for future years, as detailed at Appendix 1 and Appendix 4 of the report;
- (3) to additional borrowing of £200,000 as detailed in paragraph 2.7 of the report, in respect of the Banchory Sports Village project and that a briefing note be issued to members clarifying the timing and notification to members of the unsuccessful funding application to Sports Scotland, together with ownership and revenue implications relating to the building; and
- (4) to the revenue financing costs set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report.

7. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

A report dated 24 August 2018 by the Director of Business Services was circulated explaining the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2018. The report stated that the forecast to the end of the financial year was expected to be in excess of budget, that Services were aware of a number of risks facing the Council, and that those risks were subject to ongoing review and would continue to be reported to the relevant policy committees, along with actions being taken to mitigate those risks. The report highlighted a requirement for budget movements between committees with regard to the Culture & Sport Business Unit where budget responsibilities would transfer to the Communities Committee from other policy committees and contained a number of proposed budget virements, together with an update on usable reserves.

The Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to note the Revenue Budget position as at 30 June 2018;
- (2) to note the forecast position and the actions taken to address the current situation; and
- (3) to approve the budget virements as set out in Appendix 2.

8. COUNCIL PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2017/2018

With reference to the Minute of Meeting of the Council of 23 November 2017 (Item 10), a report dated 16 August 2018 by the Director of Business Services had been circulated summarising the performance of the Council in delivering the priority outcomes in the Council Plan, based on data such as key performance indicators, risks, financial management and resident surveys. The report reflected the transition between the 2013/2017 and 2017/2022 Plans during the reporting year and provided a summary of the Aberdeenshire Strategic Assessment 2018.

The Leader of the Council introduced the report and members viewed a video presentation providing an overview of performance across the Council as a whole, together with interviews with each of the Policy Committee Chairs highlighting key achievements from 2017/18 and the focus for the current year.

Following discussion, the Council **agreed** to:-

- (1) approve the Council Plan 2013-2017 Annual Performance Report 2017/18;

- (2) acknowledge the Aberdeenshire Strategic Assessment 2018 summary; and
- (3) instruct the Chief Executive to report the performance of the Council Plan 2017-2022 in September 2019.

9. ABERDEENSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018

A report dated 12 September 2018 by the Chief Officer, Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership, had been circulated on the publication of the Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership Annual Report for 2017/18. The report advised that Section 42 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 required a performance report to be produced by integration authorities and published annually before 31 July on specific matters including (a) how the Partnership had performed against national Health and Wellbeing Outcomes, (b) a summary of financial performance for the current reporting year, (c) a description of arrangements put in place to involve and consult with localities and an assessment of how they had contributed to the provision of services, and (d) details of any inspections carried out relating to the functions delegated to the Partnership by Healthcare Improvement Scotland and the Care Inspectorate.

The Chief Officer introduced the report, highlighting a number of positive achievements over the second year of operation together with challenges and priorities over the coming years.

The Council also heard from the Vice Chair of the Integration Joint Board (IJB), who congratulated the Chief Officer and his Team on their performance and achievements over 2017/18.

During discussion, concerns relating to securing developer obligations for increasing health care capacity in leasehold properties were raised and the Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to acknowledge the publication of the Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership Annual Report for 2017/18 presented by Aberdeenshire's Integration Joint Board;
- (2) to acknowledge the achievements made by the Integration Joint Board in its second year of operation; and
- (3) that a briefing note be issued to members clarifying the position with regard to securing developer obligations for increasing health care capacity in leasehold properties.

10. PROPOSED ABERDEEN CITY AND SHIRE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A report by the Director of Infrastructure Services had been circulated, together with the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan, which had been approved for consultation by the Strategic Development Planning Authority (SDPA) at its meeting on 24 August 2018. The report stated that the Plan was now being submitted to Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council for ratification.

The Head of Planning and Building Standards introduced the report and explained that the proposed Plan represented a review of the current Strategic Development Plan 2014, outlined the purpose of the Plan and the consultation process undertaken and advised that much of the Plan content remained the same with a number of important updates detailed in Appendix 1. Reference was made to a number of supporting documents prepared alongside the Plan, the Proposed Action Programme setting out actions for the targets and objectives in the Plan to be delivered and the public consultation arrangements.

At this stage in the proceedings, the Council agreed to suspend Standing Order 2.1.2, to allow the meeting to continue beyond 1pm to conclude consideration of this item of business prior to adjourning for lunch.

Councillor Ingram joined the meeting at 1pm.

Following a full discussion, the Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to ratify the proposed Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan and associated supporting documents as the settled view of Aberdeenshire Council;
- (2) to note the arrangements set out for public consultation on the proposed Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan and associated supporting documents; and,
- (3) to note that the Strategic Development Planning Authority (SDPA) would submit the proposed Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan to Scottish Ministers for Examination in Public if no significant modifications were proposed to the proposed Plan following the period of public consultation.

Councillor Wallace left the meeting at this stage in the proceedings.

11. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS REPORTING DUTIES, AND ABERDEENSHIRE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHARTER

There was circulated a report dated 30 August, 2018 by the Director of Education and Children's Services highlighting the Council's statutory duty as a public body to publish a report on steps taken in promoting Children's Rights, on progress made in this connection over the year 2017/2018 and introducing Aberdeenshire's Children and Young People's Charter. The report indicated that the Charter had been endorsed by the Education and Children's Services Committee at its meeting on 30 August 2018 and that a Doric version of the Charter had also been produced.

The Director of Education and Children's Services introduced the report and explained that the Charter had been developed over a period of time involving youths from all 17 networks across Aberdeenshire and including input from looked after children, gypsy/traveller liaison officers and children with additional support needs.

The Council then heard from Josh MacRae and Brodie Wylie, from Inverurie Academy, who had both been involved in developing the Charter.

The Provost then thanked Josh and Brodie for their presentation and the Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to note the statutory reporting duty on Aberdeenshire Council as a public body under Part 1 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014; and
- (2) to endorse Aberdeenshire Children and Young People's Charter and support its launch, in recognition of Aberdeenshire Council's role in championing children and young people's rights.

12. DECISION OF STANDARDS COMMISSION IN CASE NO. LA/As/2062/RN

The Council considered and **noted** a report dated 30 August 2018 by the Chief Executive on a decision by the Standards Commission for Scotland, following a hearing held on 28 August 2018 on a complaint concerning alleged contraventions of the Councillors' Code of Conduct by Councillor Anne Allan, to censure Councillor Allan for breaching paragraph 4.22 of the

Code under the terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 section 19(1)(a).

Councillor Adam joined the meeting at 2.10pm.

13. SCHEME OF GOVERNANCE

With reference to the Minute of Meeting of the Council of 28 June 2018 (Item 9), there had been circulated a report dated 11 September 2018 by the Director of Business Services (1) seeking approval of the previously reported additions and amendments to the Scheme of Governance following a review of the Scheme; (2) recommending implementation of the revised Scheme of Governance with effect from 28 September 2018; and (3) highlighting further proposed amendments to the Scheme of Governance as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3, which it was intended would be reported back to the next meeting for approval.

The Head of Legal and Governance introduced the report and following discussion on the proposals relating to the Audit Committee scrutiny arrangements, the Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to approve the proposed additions and amendments to the Scheme of Governance to Full Council on 28 June 2018;
- (2) to approve the implementation of the revised Scheme of Governance on 28 September 2018;
- (3) to note the further proposed amendments to the Scheme of Governance as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 of the report;
- (4) to note that a further report would be presented to the next meeting of Full Council on 22 November 2018 seeking approval of the amendments in Appendices 2 and 3 with implementation from 23 November 2018; and
- (5) that the Procedures Committee further review Part 2A - List of Committee Powers in respect of the Audit Committee at amended paragraph G.2.3 to ensure clarity around the committee review process and report back with recommendations for amendment if required.

14. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR 2019/2020

A report dated 28 August 2018 by the Director of Business Services had been circulated requesting the Council to approve the timetable of meetings of the Council, Policy Committees, the Audit Committee, the Sustainability Committee and Area Committees for the period May 2019 to April 2020.

The Council **agreed** to approve the timetable of meetings of the Council, Policy Committees, the Audit Committee, the Sustainability Committee and Area Committees for the period May 2019 to April 2020 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

15. PUBLIC PROTECTION IN ABERDEENSHIRE

There had been circulated a report dated 6 September 2018 by the Director of Business Services providing an overview of public protection arrangements in Aberdeenshire following a review including (1) details of an independent analysis commissioned from the Good Governance Institute (GGI) to help identify what needed to be done for governance arrangements to be fit for the future; (2) the establishment of a governance framework for the area covered by Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Moray Council which captured a shared commitment to multiagency governance by the three councils, NHS

Grampian and Police Scotland; (3) a clear definition of public protection; (4) a detailed breakdown of the public protection governance structure in the North East including specific roles and responsibilities; and (5) the benefits of the shared arrangements for Aberdeenshire.

The Director of Business Services introduced the report and the Council **agreed**:-

- (1) to acknowledge the Public Protection Arrangements in Aberdeenshire as detailed in the report;
- (2) to endorse the democratic oversight of the arrangements; and
- (3) to receive an annual update on public protection.

Councillors Blackett, Bews, Petrie and Reid left the meeting at 3.30pm.

16. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Written questions determined by the Provost to be admissible had been received in terms of Standing Order 4.3. The questions and answers thereto are listed below.

From Councillor A S Buchan -

- (1) To the Chief Executive - Can the Chief Executive confirm that The Electoral Commission's Local Council Elections Scotland Guidance for Candidates and Agents states at 1.25 If you hold any paid office or employment or other place of profit in the gift or disposal of the local council, you may stand for election to that council (unless you hold a politically restricted post). However, if you are elected, you must resign your office, employment or other place of profit on the first working day after you have been elected if you want to take up your seat. Your resignation will take immediate effect regardless of any notice period previously specified?

(A) Yes, the Electoral Commission's Local Council Elections Scotland Guidance for Candidates and Agents states that in paragraph 1.25.

- (2) To the Chief Executive - Can the Chief Executive confirm that up until 28 September 2017 the so called Rediscover Peterhead BID Steering Group had received £20,000 from Aberdeenshire Council?

(A) The Rediscover Peterhead Business Improvement District (BID) Steering Group received £20,000 from Aberdeenshire Council following submission of their expenditure receipts. The drawdown and invoices received were on the following dates for the following amounts:

Date	Amount
19/05/2013	£13,605.20
15/09/2017	£ 4,500.00
05/10/2017	£ 1,894.80

The final payment of £1,894.80 was processed on 13/10/2017.

- (3) To the Chief Executive - Can the Chief Executive confirm that the so called Rediscover Peterhead BID Steering Group had received £20,000 from The Scottish Executive which was conditional upon the payment of £20,000 from Aberdeenshire Council?

- (A) The Council's funding to the Rediscover Peterhead BID Steering Group was granted on the condition that the Rediscover Peterhead BID Steering Group were successful with their BID seed funding application to the Scottish Government. The Council is unable to comment on the conditions of the funding agreement between Rediscover Peterhead BID Steering Group and the Scottish Government.
- (4) To the Chief Executive - Can the Chief Executive confirm that without the monies detailed in questions 2 & 3, the so called Rediscover Peterhead BID would have been unable to pay the salary of the 'Project Coordinator'?
- (A) The Council does not hold this information. This question should be addressed to the Rediscover Peterhead BID.
- (5) To the Chief Executive - How much of money from the so called Rediscover Peterhead BID Steering Group was paid to an Aberdeenshire Councillor from the day after the declaration of Aberdeenshire Council May 2017 Local Government Elections Scotland to the 28th September 2017?
- (A) This information is not held by the Council. This question should be addressed to the Rediscover Peterhead BID.

From Councillor A E M Evison –

- (1) To the Chief Executive - At the meeting of Aberdeenshire Council on 27 April 2017, it was agreed that officers would report back to a future meeting of Full Council on the Ethical Care Charter.

I understand from the Chief Officer of the Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership that work is progressing with consideration of the Charter, but no further details have been made available.

Given that 17 months have now passed, can the Chief Executive confirm:

- (a) that the Council remains committed to the work agreed to in April 2017?
- (A) Yes, Health and Social Care Partnership officers have been progressing work following the decision of Aberdeenshire Council on 27 April 2017 and remain committed to the Council decision to bring a report back. Significant progress has already been made in improving the terms and conditions for both people who work for the Partnership as well as for employees of external providers who are commissioned to deliver health and social care services on our behalf.
and
- (b) when a paper on the Ethical Care Charter will be presented to a meeting of Aberdeenshire Council
- (A) A report will be brought to the October meeting of the Integration Joint Board to provide the findings and officer recommendation in respect of the Ethical Care Charter. Following this, and once the IJB has a defined position, a report will be brought to Aberdeenshire Council: this is anticipated to be in early 2019.

