

MINUTE of MEETING of the DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL of WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 12 JUNE 2017.

Present – Councillors Cathy Muldoon (Chair), David Dodds, Tom Conn, Robert De Bold, Chris Horne, Tom Kerr

In attendance – Pam Roccio, Voluntary Sector Gateway

Apologies – Councillor Dom McGuire

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTE

The Panel confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 3 April 2017 as a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. SESPLAN BUDGET RATIFICATION 2017-18 AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2 UPDATE

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising of the need to ratify SESPlan's 2017-18 operating budget following its approval by the SESplan Joint Committee on 13 March 2017 and to update the Panel on the preparation of Strategic Development Plan 2 (SDP2)

The Panel was advised that the SESplan Operating Budget for the financial year, 2017-18 was approved in principle by the SESplan Joint Committee on 28 December 2016. Members of SESplan Joint Committee highlighted that in view of councils not receiving their own budget settlements until 15 December 2016 it would be prudent to only approve the SESplan Operating Budget for 2017-18 in principle at this stage and agreed that a further report on the final budget position would be presented at their next meeting in March 2017.

At the meeting of the SESplan Joint Committee on 13 March 2017, an amended budget of £299,000 was agreed, with each member authority contributing equal contributions of £44,000. This represented a reduction of £2,550 on what had been projected in December 2016. The operating budget to the Joint Committee was attached as Appendix 1.

Looking to the future it was to be noted that the Scottish Government launched a consultation into Scotland's planning system "Places, People and Planning" which included a proposal to align community and spatial

planning, and better coordinate infrastructure planning locally and nationally.

In due course the 2018-19 Operating Budget would be drafted to take into account changes to the purpose of strategic development planning authorities. It was intended that this would be brought to the November 2017 meeting of the SESplan Joint Committee.

The Strategic Development Plan (SDP) 2 Proposed Plan was published for consultation on 13 October 2016 for six weeks with the consultation ending on 24 November 2016. SESplan had now reviewed all representations and prepared responses to these. The Joint Committee had agreed that no modifications were to be made to the Proposed plan.

The Joint Committee agreed that it would not be appropriate to immediately submit the Proposed Plan for Examination as the full ramifications of a draft Cross Boundary Study on transport matters had yet to be assessed. The result of this was that the transport impact of some proposals set out in the Proposed Plan had still to be fully realised. Submission of the Proposed Plan for Examination had therefore been deferred to facilitate that, and the Joint Committee agreed to reconvene on 26 June 2017 to approve the final submission package prior to the Proposed Plan being sent to the Scottish Government for Examination.

A new timetable for progressing SDP2 Development Plan Scheme 9 (DPS No9) was approved by the Joint Committee on 13 March 2017 and was available on the SESplan website at [www.sesplan.gov.uk](http://www.sesplan.gov.uk). DPS 9 indicated that SDP2 Proposed Plan would be submitted to the Scottish Government for Examination in June 2017 with approval being secured in Spring 2017.

It was recommended that the Panel note and consider the following recommendation which was intended to be submitted to Council Executive for approval:-

1. Note the decision by the SESplan Joint Committee on 13 March 2017 to agree the amended proposed operating budget for SESplan over the financial year 2017/18, noting that member contributions for this financial year were reduced to £44,000 per member authority;
2. Ratifies the amended proposed operating budget for SESplan over the financial year 2017/18, and specifically West Lothian Council's share of the budget (£44,000), as agreed by the SESplan Joint Committee on 13 March 2017; and
3. Note progress made to date on the preparation of the second South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan (SDP 2).

#### Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To agree that the report and its recommendations be forwarded to

the next appropriate meeting of the Council Executive.

4 PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017-18

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising of the purpose, scope and content of the Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration Management Plan for 2017-18, a copy of which was attached to the report.

The Management Plan comprised of three sections, details of which were summarised in the report, and which consisted of an overview from the Head of Service, an organisation chart showing the high-level structure of the service and a summary of each of the West Lothian Assessment Model Units.

The report provided a summary of the significant progress that had been made on the key activities in the previous plan.

The Head of Planning and Economic Development also reported that in the coming year the service would continue to focus on facilitating economic growth and community regeneration and continue working with the house-building industry in order to increase the rate of house construction in West Lothian. Other specific activities for the year ahead were also detailed in the report.

It was recommended that the Panel note the terms of the report and the Management Plan.

Decision

To note the contents of the Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration Management Plan 2017-18

5 OPERATIONAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017-18

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising of the purpose, scope and content of the Operational Services Management Plan for 2017-18, a copy of which was attached to the report.

The Head of Operational Services explained that the Operational Services Management Plan was fundamental to the delivery of its services. The Plan took into consideration the medium term financial strategy of the council developed under Delivering Better Outcomes and the available resources for 2017-18.

The Management Plan also took into full consideration the council priorities identified in the Corporate Plan 2013 to 2017

The report provided a summary of the work undertaken and the achievements of the service in the preceding year.

It was recommended that the Panel note the terms of the report and the Management Plan.

Decision

To note the contents of the Operational Services Management Plan 2017-18.

6. WORKPLAN

The Panel considered a list of items that would form the basis of the Panel's work over the coming months.

The Panel agreed to attend a workshop on the role and remit of the panel.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the workplan;
2. To agree to attend a workshop on the role and remit of the panel and identify priorities for inclusion on the workplan.