

NOTICE OF MEETING

A **MEETING** of the **PROVOST'S PANEL** will be held in the **DRUMMOND ROOM, OLD VIEWFORTH, STIRLING** on **THURSDAY 7 JUNE 2018** at **3.00 pm**.

IAIN STRACHAN
Chief Governance Officer
Clerk to the Council

1 June 2018

B U S I N E S S

1. **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIR**
4. **MINUTES – 26 APRIL 2018** (Pages 1 - 2)
5. **REPORT ON EAST OF SCOTLAND EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM (ESEC) FACT FINDING MISSION**
Report by Chief Officer - Governance (Pages 3 - 10)
6. **PROVOST'S CHARITY OF THE YEAR 2018**
Report by Chief Officer – Governance (Pages 11 – 14)

(For further information contact Committee Officer – Karen Swan 01786 2 33081 or
Governance Officer/Clerk – Jean Houston, 01786 2 33100)

**THIS ITEM RELATES
TO ITEM 4
ON THE AGENDA**

STIRLING COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING of the PROVOST'S PANEL held in the DRUMMOND ROOM, OLD VIEWFORTH, STIRLING on THURSDAY 26 APRIL 2018 at 11.00 am

Present:

Provost Christine SIMPSON (in the Chair)
Bailie Bryan FLANNAGAN
Bailie Chris KANE
Bailie Alasdair TOLLEMACHE
Bailie Evelyn TWEED
Councillor Graham HOUSTON

In Attendance:

Brian Dickson, Corporate Accountant
Drew Leslie, Service Manager – Infrastructure Delivery
David MacKay, Team Leader - Accounting
Jean Houston, Governance Officer, Localities & Infrastructure (Clerk)

Also in attendance:

Elsbeth King, Director – Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum

PV25 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

There were no apologies for absence.

PV26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Provost Christine Simpson, Bailie Chris Kane and Bailie Evelyn Tweed all declared a non-financial interest in item 5 on the agenda as Trustees of the Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum.

PV27 URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIR

There were no items of urgent business.

PV28 MINUTES

Provost's Panel – 27 February 2018

The Minutes of the Provost's Panel held on 27 February 2018 were approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

PV29 SMITH ART GALLERY & MUSEUM – EXPENDITURE REPORT

This report provided the Panel with details of purchases made using the Common Good Fund's contribution to the Smith to complement the collections. The Director of the Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum attended to provide further information. The Provost's Panel commended the Director for her contribution to the Stirling Smith over the years.

Decision

The Provost's Panel noted the report from the Director of the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum reviewing the Common Good Fund's contribution to the Smith.

PV30 THE STEEPLE – PROPERTY AND MAINTENANCE UPDATE

This report had been requested at the last meeting of the Provost's Panel and provided an update on current property use of The Steeple and recent expenditure to maintain the property. The Service Manager, Infrastructure Delivery, agreed to update the Panel again in 6-12 months. In the meantime he would circulate information regarding maintenance of the statue at The Steeple.

Decision

The Provost's Panel noted the content of the report.

PV31 FUTURE INVESTMENT OF COMMON GOOD FUNDS

The report provided information on options available for investing the balances of the Stirling, Bridge of Allan, Callander and Dunblane Common Good Funds.

Officers advised that interest rates could improve during the current year and for this reason it was recommended that short dated investments be made at the present time. Officers confirmed that they would be investigating better investment opportunities in future. They responded to Panel Members' questions regarding alternative uses and investments, such as Credit Unions and property. They advised that the return on investment always needed to be assessed against risk and that, with regard to property, market conditions needed to be examined also.

It was agreed that an update would be submitted to a future meeting of the Panel.

Decision

The Provost's Panel agreed:

1. to note the options for investing funds;
2. to note the recommendation to utilise short dated investments;
3. to note Stirling Council Loans Advances to be the most appropriate to invest in;
4. to note forecast bank rates and potential interest for future spending decisions.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 12.05 pm.

Stirling Council

Agenda Item No. 5

Provost's Panel

Date of
Meeting: 7 June 2018

Not Exempt

Report on East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC) Fact Finding Mission

Purpose & Summary

This report provides feedback from the Leader of the Council on the East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC) fact-finding mission to Brussels in March 2018.

Recommendations

The Panel is asked to note the contents of the report.

Resource Implications

The estimated costs of the visit were reported to the Provost's Panel at its meeting on 14 November 2017.

Legal & Risk Implications and Mitigation

None.

1. Background

- 1.1. The Leader of the Council submitted a request to attend an ESEC fact finding mission in Brussels from 19-21 March 2018, this having been reported to the Provost's Panel on 14 November 2017.
- 1.2. This visit was intended to learn more about how 'third country' local authorities engage with the EU institutions.

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- 1.3. It was proposed that meetings take place with the European Parliament Brexit steering group, Scotland's MEPs, EFTA members and Scotland Europa.
 - 1.4. The Leader of the Council was to provide the Panel with feedback on the visit.

2. Considerations

- 2.1. The aims of the fact finding mission were to minimise any detrimental effects of Brexit, and to develop and maximise opportunities when leaving the EU: for example by remaining part of existing EU institutions. This would provide access to shared knowledge, expertise and funding for potential partnership working.
- 2.2. A key example would be to remain a member of the Erasmus programme, which provides foreign exchange options for students and involves many of the best universities and seats of learning in Europe. With over 4,000 students involved in the programme at any one time, it offers an excellent chance of experience abroad.
- 2.3. Appendix 1 to the report provides feedback and evaluation from the Leader of the Council on the schedule of meetings, which included a briefing on the Euro Cities initiative, which is open to cities outwith the EU.
- 2.4. Appendix 2 provides a summary of findings and presentations to the delegation, by the EU Officer Policy and Partnerships, ESEC.

3. Implications

Equalities Impact

- 3.1. Not applicable.

Fairer Scotland Duty

- 3.2. The contents of this report were considered in terms of the Fairer Scotland Duty and were determined not to be of strategic importance.

Sustainability and Environmental

- 3.3. Not applicable.

Other Policy Implications

- 3.4. None.

Consultations

- 3.5. None.

4. Background Papers

- 4.1. Councillor Attendance at East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC) Fact Finding Mission - Report to Provost's Panel, 14 November 2017.

5. Appendices

- 5.1. Appendix 1 – Report on Fact Finding Mission to Brussels with East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC) by Councillor Scott Farmer.
- 5.2. Appendix 2 – Report by Joanne Scobie, EU Officer Policy and Partnerships, East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC).

Author of Report: Jean Houston,
Governance Officer

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Approved by: Iain Strachan
Chief Officer - Governance

Signature:

Date: 15 May 2018



Details of Convener(s), Vice Convener(s), Portfolio
Holder and Depute Portfolio Holder consulted on
this report:

Provost Christine Simpson

Wards affected:

All.

Key Priorities:

D - We will deliver inclusive economic growth and promote prosperity. We will deliver a City Region Deal and pursue policies and solutions that encourage high quality, high paying jobs into all of Stirling's communities.

E - We will create & implement environment and infrastructure improvements; deliver new ownership & delivery methods around energy generation, public transport & internet access, ensuring profits & services work to community, not commercial priorities

F - We will commit and coordinate our resources to ensuring Stirling becomes a must visit destination; with heritage, culture, environment & economic strategies working hand in hand to encourage tourists to stay for minimum 3 days and 2 nights

Key Priority Considerations:

Stirling Plan Priority Outcomes:
(Local Outcomes Improvement Plan)

Prosperous - People are part of a prosperous economy that promotes inclusive growth opportunities across our communities

Report on Fact Finding Mission to Brussels with East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC) from the Council Leader 18 -22 March 2018

The purpose of the mission was to establish pro-active relationships with European Institutions in terms of building positive understanding and relationships post Brexit. It was also to maximise Scottish Local Authorities opportunities to engage in mutually beneficial programmes in enhancing economic growth opportunities around science and innovation.

We had a very packed and diverse schedule of meetings and it was an opportunity to build relations with other member Authorities. The Authorities that attended were Aberdeen City Council, Angus Council, Dundee City Council, Fife Council, Perth & Kinross Council and Stirling Council.

The first day comprised of a series of meetings at Scotland House where there was a clear emphasis of a "Team Scotland" approach in creating a Brussels Hub in the promotion of Innovation and Investment opportunities in partnership with Scotland Europa and Scottish Government. It was emphasised that it will be critical post Brexit to maintain and enhance Scotland's presence both at a national and municipalities level in continuing to work towards EU regulation alignment where shared competences are established both during and after the transition period. A common thread that ran through all our meetings was the genuine concern expressed over the continuing uncertainty of Brexit being pursued by the U.K. This chaotic and at times inconsistent approach remains an obstacle in developing a coherent framework in which to build constructive relationships with partner institutions and maximising the influence and benefits that can potentially be gained.

What is clear is that there will be no access to structural funds post Brexit but across the organisations we engaged with there was a clear desire to engage with Scotland and in particular Scottish Local Government in post Brexit European Cooperation Programmes.

It was established as an outcome that ESEC, in partnership with COSLA, will lobby at both Scottish Government and Westminster levels of Government, that it is essential that we have access to these programmes. These programmes underpin partnership working across EU Member States in the Science and Innovation and Economic, Social and Cultural Cohesion areas.

Examples of these funding streams for potential partnership working include Erasmus, INTERREG and Horizon 2020. There have been some positive indications from UK government indicating a possible desire to continue cooperation with regard to Erasmus and Horizon 2020 although this is still merely indicative. To date there have been no discussions on partaking in the INTERREG programme and this is an important programme for the East Scotland Area.

At Meetings on the second day with COSLA, the Council of the Municipalities and the Regions and the Committee of the Regions highlighted the critical role Scottish Local Authorities can play in entrenching positive relations with the European Institutions.

The Committee of the Regions highlighted the desire to find flexibility in the European Union's Programmes such as Erasmus or Horizon 2020 in order to allow Cities, Universities and SMEs to keep, under new conditions, and be part of the European multi-lateral partnership.

To date Scotland has performed well in Horizon 2020 with €468M being secured so far with academia, research institutes, business and the public sector all actively leading and involved in strategic projects.

Again the complete lack of a coherent approach by the UK was a continual thread running through the talks. The impact on rural areas is of concern with at present no formal talks to discuss arrangements to replace the Leader funding that has been extremely beneficial to Stirling over the years. Also great uncertainty is being experienced by business across the piece as there is still no clarity over what will replace the Structural Funds.

Again to date there have been no formal talks with the Devolved Administrations as to what proposals if any have been developed to take this forward. "The Shared Prosperity Fund" that has been mooted to replace the role of structural funds remains totally without substance. ESEC have it as an outcome to pursue clarity as a matter of urgency on what will replace the Leader programme and what shape the so called "Shared Prosperity Fund" will take and call for full consultation by respective Governments.

We had a briefing on the Euro Cities initiative that is open to Cities outwith the EU with more than 140 members across Europe. Euro Cities concentrates on cooperation and partnerships across six principal sectors, that of Culture, Economy, Environment, Knowledge Society, Mobility and Social Affairs. Membership is open to Cities with a minimum population of 0.5million and the focus is on the following; Cities as drivers of sustainable growth, Inclusive, diverse and creative cities, Green, free flowing and healthy cities, smarter cities, urban innovation and governance in cities. Given that both Edinburgh and Glasgow are members of Euro Cities there is potential for engagement for our smaller cities through the Cities Alliance. I intend as an outcome to raise this with fellow city leaders to progress this option given Stirling's City Deal and our digital ambitions and dependent on the type of Brexit there is potential for opportunities to enhance our outcomes through the above and participation in European programmes.

On the final day, after being briefed on the Norwegian model, we also heard from the Swiss delegation that emphasised they have no say on the European policy agenda or priorities which they found at times frustrating but had to engage on the basis of the model they have.

Interesting discussions were had with two of our MEPs pointing out the importance of access to the market.

In conclusion how we move forward in developing closer relations with our partners in Europe is very much out of our hands and dependent on the form that Brexit ultimately takes. What was very clear was the desire of European Institutions to constructively engage with Scotland and Scottish Local Government post Brexit.

The Policy Board agreed that we would continue to lobby and promote the case for continuing access to European programmes and continue to promote the benefits of closer cooperation and partnership working. I can only hope that these potentially significant opportunities are not lost and we can proceed to build a framework of constructive engagement and cooperation over a number of competences.

Councillor Scott Farmer

24 May 2018

Report by Joanne Scobie, EU Officer Policy and Partnerships,

East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC)

At the end of March, the ESEC Policy Board and Officer Group went to Brussels on a Brexit fact-finding mission, the objective of the trip being to investigate how third country local authorities engage with the EU institutions. Board members included Cllr John Reynolds (Aberdeen City Council), Cllr Ben Lawrie (Angus Council), Cllr Will Dawson (Dundee City Council), Cllr Altany Craik (Fife Council), Cllr Peter Barrett (Perth and Kinross Council) and Cllr Scott Farmer (Stirling Council).

The three day meeting schedule was facilitated by Scotland Europa and CoSLA, and the delegation met with the Committee of the Regions (COR), the Scottish Government, Eurocities, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities, Oslo Region European Office, the East of England European Partnership, MEPs David Martin and Catherine Stihler, the Swiss Mission to the EU, DG Regio of the European Commission, the North Sea Commission, and the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR).

Specifically:

Ian Campbell, Deputy Director, Scottish Government Office Brussels
 Eleanor McKeegan, Scotland Europa (The changing UK-EU landscape)
 Lynne Ross, Scotland Europa (Influencing the Next Multi-Annual Financial Framework)
 Charles Abbot, Scotland Europa (EU energy policy)
 Anna Lisa Boni, Secretary General, Eurocities
 Dr Angelika Poth-Mogele, Director, Council of EU Municipalities and Regions
 Serafin Pazos-Vidal, Head of Office, COSLA EU
 Juan Carlos Canoto Arguelles, Director, Committee of the Regions
 Åse Erdal, Norwegian Local & Regional Authorities – Regional Association
 Jan Edøy, Director, Oslo Region European Office
 Jonathan Millins, Head of Office, East of England European Partnership
 David Martin, Member of the European Parliament
 Catherine Stihler, Member of the European Parliament
 Mike Neilson, Scottish Government Director, Brussels
 Roland Krimm, Representative of the Swiss Canton Delegation to the EU
 Eleftherios Stavropoulos, Seconded National Expert, European Commission

A summary of findings:

- 3rd country status does not necessarily mean pulling up the drawbridge to the EU. Norway has a large presence in Brussels and its local government association provides training and job shadowing opportunities to councillors in order to help them better understand the EEA and EU. Switzerland also has a large presence, with 55 members of staff at the Swiss Mission.
- Brexit is high on the agenda for many other local authorities and regional bodies in the UK, with a particular focus preparing for what happens post-2020, to ensure the collective voices of local government is taken into account during the design of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), which will replace the bulk of EU funding (namely the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund). The meetings in Brussels enabled ESEC to foster relationships with other local authority bodies, allowing for intelligence-sharing and cooperation during the consultation process of the UKSPF.

- Many 3rd countries participate in transnational programmes such as Erasmus+, Interreg and Horizon 2020, although there are different models for doing so. In order to make the case for Scottish local authority continued participation in these funds post-Brexit, it is necessary to showcase the many successes of councils in these projects, and the impacts they have had, via case studies. This process was recently kicked off at the European Commission Europe Day event in Glasgow (9 May), where ESEC presented its case study booklet for the occasion. Two Stirling Council projects were involved; the LEADER tea plantation project, and the energy regeneration from waste water project, funded by the Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programme (European Regional Development Fund).
- Discussions around the next EU budget (2021-27) have already started and started in earnest when the European Commission adopted its initial budget proposals on 2 May. The Commission stated its ambitions to achieve results in a simple, fast, flexible and cost-effective manner. It will develop a single rule book for funding. It will also seek higher national co-financing and will an element of the budget for cohesion funding unallocated to allow them to be flexible to EU challenges and policies that develop during the 7 year budgetary period.

Presentations and documents from the fact-finding meetings:

Scotland Europa

- [Scotland Europa position paper on new EU programme for R&I](#)
- [Scotland Europa position paper on Cohesion Policy \(included ESEC Interreg case studies\)](#)
- [Eleanor's presentation](#)
- [EU sustainable energy week, 4-8 June 2018](#)

Committee of the Regions (COR)

- [The likely impact of the UK's intention to withdraw from the EU for local and regional authorities](#)

Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)

- [Future of Cohesion Policy](#)

Swiss Mission to the EU

- [Switzerland's European policy](#)

DG Regio of the European Commission

- [DG Regio presentation - European Union Cohesion Policy post 2020](#)
- [Seventh report on economic, social and territorial cohesion](#)

North Sea Commission

- [Brexit impact on the North Sea region](#)

Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)

- [CPMR analysis: Projection of Cohesion Policy eligibility](#)
- [Mapping out a EU budget for post-2020](#)

Stirling Council

Agenda Item No. 6

Provost's Panel

Date of
Meeting: 7 June 2018

Not Exempt

Provost's Charity of the Year 2018

Purpose & Summary

This report provides details of the Provost's official Charity of the Year 2018 and seeks the endorsement of the Provost's Panel.

Recommendations

The Provost's Panel is asked to:

1. endorse Stirling Street Pastors as the Provost's Charity of the Year 2018.

Resource Implications

No direct resource implications. There will be a requirement for officer time towards promotion/awareness-raising of the charity which will be met from within existing budgets.

Legal & Risk Implications and Mitigation

None.

1. Background

- 1.1. At the Civic Committee meeting of 1 December 2015 it was agreed that on an annual basis the Provost would select a Provost's Charity of the Year, to help raise awareness of and provide fundraising support to a particular local charity.
- 1.2. Subsequently Stirling Young Carers and Strathcarron Hospice were recognised as the Provost's official Charity of the Year in 2016 and 2017. These charities were able to benefit from increased profile and awareness as a result of being named the official Provost's Charity of the Year 2017.
- 1.3. Following a review, on 26 April 2018 the Civic Meeting unanimously supported that Stirling Street Pastors be put forward to the Provost's Panel as the recommended organisation to be named Provost's Charity of the Year 2018.

2. Considerations

- 2.1. The Provost's Charity of the Year status enables the Charity to raise their profile locally by way of various community events in Stirling and by building relationships with partner services. This status can make a difference in raising awareness and recruiting volunteers.
- 2.2. The Street Pastors are part of a national team first pioneered in 2003, and they continue to grow throughout the UK and across the world, establishing in Stirling in 2009.
- 2.3. Street Pastors are trained volunteers from local churches who care about their local community. They are usually on patrol from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. on a Friday or Saturday night to care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets. They are led by a local coordinator and have support from local churches and community groups in partnership with the police, the council and other statutory agencies.
- 2.4. Street Pastors are not about preaching or telling people how to live their lives. Instead, they hand out personal safety equipment and give emotional care and physical help to people using Stirling City Centre.
- 2.5. In October 2016, The William "Citizen" Jaffray Award, for outstanding citizenship, went to the Stirling Street Pastors.

3. Implications

Equalities Impact

- 3.1. Not applicable.

Fairer Scotland Duty

- 3.2. The contents of this report were considered in terms of the Fairer Scotland Duty and were determined not to be of strategic importance.

Sustainability and Environmental

3.3. Not applicable.

Other Policy Implications

3.4. None.

Consultations

3.5. Civic Meeting on 26 April 2018.

4. Background Papers

4.1. Report to Provost's Panel, 21 February 2017.

5. Appendices

5.1. None.

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Approved by: Iain Strachan
Chief Officer - Governance

Signature:

Date: 15 May 2018



Details of Convener(s), Vice Convener(s), Portfolio Holder and Depute Portfolio Holder consulted on this report:

Provost Christine Simpson

Wards affected:

Wards 4, 5 and 6

Key Priorities:

A - We will look after all of our citizens, from early years through to adulthood, by providing quality education and social care services, to allow everybody to lead their lives to their full potential

Key Priority Considerations:

A.16 We will help people manage their own health by promoting and resourcing community led opportunities.

Stirling Plan Priority Outcomes:
(Local Outcomes Improvement Plan)

Resilient - People are part of safe and caring communities within an attractive and sustainable environment
