



## **MINUTES**

## **B - Public**

**Executive Committee**  
**Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick**  
**Monday 5 May 2014 at 10am**

**Present:**

G Robinson	M Bell
A Cooper	C Smith
G Smith	T Smith
M Stout	J Wills
A Wishart	V Wishart

**Apologies:**

A Duncan

**Also:**

R Henderson

**In Attendance:**

M Boden, Chief Executive  
C Ferguson, Director – Corporate Services  
R Sinclair, Executive Manager – Capital Programme  
C Symons, Acting Executive Manager – Building and Transport Operations  
C Black, Procurement Manager  
K Adam, Solicitor  
L Adamson, Committee Officer

**Also in Attendance:**

E Robinson, Health Improvement Manager, NHS

**Chairperson**

Mr G Robinson, Chair of the Committee, presided.

**Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

**Declarations of Interest**

None

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2014 was confirmed on the motion of Mr C Smith, seconded by Mr Bell.

21/14      **Chair's Report – Environment and Transport Committee – Provision of Refuse Sacks to Households**

The Committee considered a report by the Chair of the Environment and Transport Committee [Exec-0505-ISD08], which concerned a proposed reduction in the charge for household refuse sacks.

Mr Wishart introduced the report, and moved that the Committee approve the recommendation contained therein. Dr Wills seconded.

During the brief discussion, a Member questioned why the Council is considering selling refuse sacks at the reduced price of £3.50 when refuse sacks are for sale in shops at a cheaper price. Mr Wishart advised on the quality of the Council's refuse sacks and reminded the Committee that refuse operatives are not compelled to collect spilled rubbish from poorer quality sacks. In response to a comment, the Leader advised that should it be found that there is little demand for Council procured refuse sacks, the distribution to local shops would be phased out.

A Member questioned why the reduced charging of £3.50 for a bag of refuse sacks could not be implemented from this point forward. It was concluded that the information would be sought in time for the Council meeting on 14 May.

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**Decision:**

The Executive Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Council resolve to approve the recommendation of the Environment and Transport Committee that the charge for a box of refuse sacks be reduced from £11 to £3.50.

22/14

**Chair's Report – Environment and Transport Committee – Non-Aviation Use of Council Owned Aerodromes**

The Committee considered a report by the Chair of the Environment and Transport Committee [Exec-0505-ISD09], which concerned the non-aviation use of a Council-owned aerodrome.

Mr Wishart moved that the Committee approve the recommendation contained in the report. Mr Stout seconded.

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**Decision:**

The Executive Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation from the Environment and Transport Committee, not to make the Tingwall Airport available for use as a location for motor sports in order to provide ongoing 24/7 provision of air ambulance.

23/14

**Shetland Mental Health Strategy**

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Community Health and Social Care [CC-12-14-F], which presented the Shetland Mental Health Strategy for approval.

In introducing the report, Ms E Robinson, Health Improvement Manager, NHS, provided Members with a summary of the main themes covered in the Strategy, and informed on the decision to include Suicide Prevention as part of the Strategy although with a recognition that suicide is not always related to mental ill health. She advised that an Action Plan will be developed to detail the actions required to deliver the Strategy and to measure the improvements and outcomes achieved.

In response to questions, the Health Improvement Manager, NHS, advised that art therapy is currently not provided or funded by either the Council or the Health Board however it is available on a private basis where individuals would pay for the service themselves. She added that the Psychological Therapies Steering Group is looking at ways to make the different types of therapies more accessible, including art therapy.

In referring to Page 26 of the Strategy, a Member commented that the target of 18 weeks from referral to treatment for children and adolescents to access mental health services was a lengthy delay at a critical time in a young person's life. The Health Improvement Manager, NHS, explained that 18 weeks is the Scottish Government target and local services usually meet a shorter timescale with priority given to those in most need.

Reference was made to the Suicide Prevention section in the Strategy, where it was reported that Shetland now has the highest suicide rate in Scotland. In response to questions, the Health Improvement Manager, NHS, advised Members on the common themes relative to most suicides locally. She reported that some suicides are impossible to prevent, however with the current resources the aim is to develop community resilience and build up confidence to talk about suicide, about thoughts of suicide and potentially reduce suicide rates in the future. A Member made comment on the responsibility on individuals and communities to be more open in discussing issues around suicide.

A Member made reference to the covering report where it advised that there were no financial implications, however she noted in the Strategy the priorities to recruit a second psychiatrist and increase the numbers of community psychiatric nurses. The Health Improvement Manager, NHS, advised on the Health Board's budget for next year to recruit to these posts.

Mr Robinson moved that the Committee approve the recommendations contained in the report. Mr Wishart seconded.

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**Decision:**

The Executive Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Council resolve to:-

- adopt the Shetland Mental Health Strategy; and
- agree to its inclusion within the Council's Strategic Policy Framework.

24/13

**Procurement Strategy Action Plan and Procurement Capability Assessment**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Manager – Capital Programme [CPS-06-14-F], which provided an update on the Council's Procurement Strategy Action Plan as requested by the Executive Committee, including a review of the Council's 2013 Procurement Capability Assessment (PCA) and options to be considered for future improvement.

In referring to the Council's scoring from the PCA, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme advised that the priority of the Council's procurement team continued to be generating savings in line with the Medium Term Financial Plan rather than the processes and procedures that would increase the Council's score from the PCA. Members noted that savings does not feature as criteria for the PCA. The Executive Manager – Capital Programme summarised the main terms of the report

and appendices, and he reminded Members that the PCA relates to the Council as a whole and therefore improvements will need the co-operation of all services of the Council.

During the discussion, a Member questioned the value of the PCA to the Council as the low scoring from the exercise does not correlate to the £600,000 savings achieved in 2013/14. The Executive Manager – Capital Programme advised that the PCA was useful in that it fostered good practice, and he advised that the intention is to work on improvements incrementally to build on the Council's PCA score.

During the discussion, a Member referred to the procurement issues in being an island Authority, with the need for greater recognition that some suppliers are not willing to supply to the islands, and on the need for the Council to have more coherent policies for procuring supplies. It was reported that although the amount of savings to date has no bearing on the score, it is more important for the Council that savings continue to be driven out. In response to a question, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme confirmed that the savings achieved to date were largely recurring savings and the target of approximately £300,000 for 2014/15 reflects the diminishing returns that are inevitable as lower value supplies are targeted.

**Decision:**

The Executive Committee **RESOLVED** to:-

- Note the progress made by the Procurement team in implementing the Council's Procurement Strategy as detailed in the action Plan at Appendix D to the report; and
- Note the options to improve the Council's PCA set out in Appendix A to the report and comments on the aspects of procurement activity to be priorities moving forward as set out in paragraph 3.11 of the report.

**Mr Robinson moved that in order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, the Committee resolve to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of the following item of business. Mr Cooper seconded.**

*[Representatives of the media left the meeting.]*

25/14      **Building and Transport Operations – Restructuring Proposals**

The Committee considered a report by the Acting Executive Manager – Building and Transport Operations, which detailed the changes needed to Building and Transport Operations (Estates Operations) staffing levels to reflect the current financial position following several budget cuts and a general reduction in work.

The Acting Executive Manager – Building and Transport Operations summarised the main terms of the report.

(Dr Wills left the meeting).

Following discussion, Mr Robinson moved that the Committee approve the recommendation in the report. Mr T Smith seconded.

**Decision:**

The Executive Committee **RESOVLED** to approve the Estates Operations restructure as detailed in the report.

The meeting concluded at 11am.

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Chair