

FC92. Arrangements for Carrying Out Council Functions March - May 2017

Council considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services proposing arrangements to allow Council to carry out its functions from the conclusion of today's meeting until its first meeting after the Local Government elections.

It was proposed that Council delegates authority to deal with business in the period following today's meeting when no formal meetings had been scheduled and for the period immediately after the election when, in addition, the offices of Leader of the Council, portfolio holder and Convener would be vacant. The terms of the proposed delegation were set out.

The report set out a provisional timetable for meetings of the key decision making bodies in May and June. These would be subject to approval at the statutory meeting of Council which would be held within 21 days of the election.

A general induction programme for new members was detailed. The initial introductory sessions would focus on practical issues and would be supplemented by specific sessions on Council services. A report to the statutory meeting of Council will set out proposals for training for members of various committees.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Nicol, moved that Council:-

- (1) delegates powers to Chief Officers, in consultation, where applicable, with the Leader of the Council and/ or the relevant portfolio holder or, as appropriate, the relevant Committee Convener, to determine urgent items of business from now until the statutory meeting of Council and to report the decisions thereon to the first meeting of the Executive thereafter, provided that any such decision:-
 - (a) is required to secure the proper delivery of Council Services and to comply with the Council's statutory duties;
 - (b) does not involve expenditure of Council monies outwith the approved Revenue Budget and Capital Programme;
 - (c) does not involve an increase in the permanent establishment of the particular Service; and
 - (d) involves no dispute as to legality, propriety or the proper interpretation of Council policy as affecting the decision
- (2) an addition to the programme of meetings adds a meeting of the Planning Committee (On-Site) and Planning Committee on 3 April 2017, should they be necessary; and
- (3) notes the provisional programme of meetings from 4 May to 30 June 2017.

As an amendment Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Garner, moved that Council substitutes the following wording contained in clause (1) of the motion 'the Leader of the Council and/or the relevant portfolio holder' with 'the Leader of the Council, and Leader of the Opposition and/or the relevant portfolio holder and shadow portfolio holder'.

Council then adjourned at 10.45 am to allow members of the Administration to consider the terms of the amendment and returned at 10.55 am with all members present as per the sederunt.

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i), the vote was taken by roll call, there being 31 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (18) – Provost Reid, Depute Provost Patrick; Baillies Buchanan and Coombes; Councillors Black, Blackwood, D Goldie, Gow, Jackson, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, C Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol, Nimmo and Spears.

For the amendment (12) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Garner, Hughes, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie and Turner.

Abstention (1) – Councillor McCabe.

Decision

Council agreed the motion.