

At this point, Councillor Nicol declared a non-financial interest in the following item as a Director of Falkirk Community Trust but did not consider that this required him to recuse himself from consideration of the item, having regard to the relevant specific exclusion contained in the Code of Conduct.

EX133. POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANEL – CULTURE AND SPORT STRATEGY

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services setting out the key findings and recommendations of the policy development panel established to review of the Culture and Sport Strategy.

The terms of reference for the panel were to reflect on the draft strategy and propose changes, to look at how the strategy would progress to implementation beyond the broad intent set within it and to make recommendations on a final strategy to the Executive.

Meetings of the panel were held between September 2013 and January 2014. All members of the Council together with key stakeholders were invited to contribute to the review.

The report provided an overview of the evidence submitted to the panel by Falkirk Community Trust and other key stakeholders, detailed outcomes from the panel meetings, summarised the panel's findings and presented a revised strategy, having made only relatively minor changes. The panel recognised that the Trust's delivery plans would set out in detail actions to implement the aims of the strategy and recommended that a protocol be established to enable members to participate meaningfully in the development of the plans.

Councillor Mahoney presented the findings of the panel.

Decision

Having noted the views and evidence provided to the Policy and Development Panel by Falkirk Community Trust and other stakeholders, the Executive agreed:-

- (1) the proposed protocol set out in the report to allow delivery plans supporting the strategy to be considered promptly by Members and to provide the Trust with the feedback it requires;**
- (2) to take steps to ensure that the Council optimises the opportunities provided by the HELIX to contribute to the attainment of the strategy and its supporting delivery plans;**
- (3) to advise the Trust, Falkirk Council and other partners to optimise opportunities and resources for collaborative and partnership working;**
- (4) to ensure that effective links are made between the strategy and delivery plans and the Council's Single Outcome Agreement and Strategic Community Plan and that the contribution made to these is clear**

- (5) to request officers in Corporate and Neighbourhood Services, Development Services and the Trust to progress the development of a Strategic Masterplan for our parks and to refresh the Parks Development Plan, as appropriate, by the end of 2014, and
- (6) to approve the final draft of the Culture and Sport Strategy attached at Appendix 3 to the report.