

(c) Reports to Council

Councillor McCabe, seconded by Councillor Spears, moved that:-

Council recognises that to allow sustainable outcomes for its communities, it requires accurate information be provided by officers as part of the decision-making process. With a new Council and relatively new Corporate Management team in place, it is timely to review the format and content of reports provided to Council and its committees. Any review would consider how reports distinguish between fact and opinion. This will help members and officers assess the types of information contained in reports and give due weight to both.

It is proposed, in the spirit of collaborative leadership, that a member-officer working group is established, comprising representatives of Councillor groups and the Chief Executive, Chief Governance Officer and the 3 Service Directors.

As an amendment, in substitution for the motion, Councillor Kerr, seconded by Councillor Bundy, moved that Council recognises the importance of receiving balanced reports to inform decision-making but recognises that setting-up a committee to discuss the presentation of reports is not a prudent use of the Council's limited resources; understands that in the field of politics, there are occasions where the evidence does not point to one clear solution and seeks that reports reflect this fact; and therefore, asks officers to consider how they present reports to ensure that they are balanced and clearer align with the three priorities within the Council's strategic vision.

In terms of Standing order 22.1, the vote was taken by roll call, there being 28 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (12) – Provost Bissett and Councillors Aitchison, Anslow, Hannah, Kelly, McCabe, Nimmo, Paterson, Redmond, Ritchie, Spears and Stainbank.

For the amendment (16) – Depute Provost Balfour and Councillors Binnie, Bouse, Bundy, Collie, Deakin, Devine, Flynn, Forrest, Garner, Kerr, Meiklejohn, Murtagh, Patrick, Robertson and Sinclair.

Decision

Council agreed the amendment.