

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

At a Special Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held by Video Conference on Thursday, 7 January 2021 at 2.03 p.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie, Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Jim Bollan, Jim Brown, Gail Casey, Karen Conaghan, Ian Dickson, Diane Docherty, Jim Finn, Caroline McAllister, David McBride, Jonathan McColl, Iain McLaren, Marie McNair, John Millar, John Mooney, Lawrence O'Neill, Sally Page, Martin Rooney and Brian Walker.

Attending: Joyce White, Chief Executive; Peter Barry, Chief Officer – Housing & Employability; Malcolm Bennie, Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities; Beth Culshaw, Chief Officer - Health & Social Care Partnership; Peter Hissett, Chief Officer – Regulatory & Regeneration (Legal Officer); Laura Mason, Chief Officer - Education; Victoria Rogers, Chief Officer – People & Technology; Stephen West, Chief Officer – Resources; Angela Wilson, Chief Officer – Supply, Distribution & Property; George Hawthorn, Manager – Democratic & Registration Services; Gillian McNeilly, Finance Manager; and Christine McCaffary, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Daniel Lennie and Douglas McAllister.

Provost William Hendrie in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

RECORDING OF VOTES

The Council agreed that all votes taken during the meeting would be done by roll call vote to ensure an accurate record.

SPECIAL COUNCIL COVID-19 UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive providing an update on COVID-19 in West Dunbartonshire since the previous update report considered by Council at its meeting in December 2020.

Councillor McColl moved:-

Council agrees the recommendations and adds our thanks to the workforce across the Council for the work they are doing to keep our citizens safe and provide the services they need.

Council notes the verbal update from the Chief Executive and notes that a further written briefing will be issued to Elected Members early next week. Council asks that this briefing also be issued to non-elected members on the JCF, Audit and Educational Services Committees, who also have an interest in the Council's response to Coronavirus.

Council agrees that the Chief Executive will continue to keep Members informed of the impact of any further national changes in rules or guidance, and that the Provost will call further special meetings as required going forward.

Council notes that along with other Councils across Scotland, we have not yet been able to pay out monies from the discretionary fund granted to Councils to help those who have been unable to access other funding or who need extra support.

Council agrees that we must get this support to people in need quickly and to that end grants delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition, to set the eligibility criteria so that payments can start being made as soon as possible.

Councillor Mooney asked if Councillor McColl would accept the undernoted addendum to his motion:-

Council supports the regular testing of care at home staff, teachers and teaching support staff and their prioritisation in the vaccination programme along with care home staff and NHS staff.

Councillor McColl confirmed his acceptance to the addendum provided Councillor Mooney would include the following:-

And encourages the Leader of the Council to continue to lobby on this.

Councillor Mooney confirmed his acceptance to the additional sentence and then seconded Councillor McColl's motion.

The motion with addendums was then agreed by the Council.

The meeting closed at 3.38 p.m.