



Minutes of the Resource Committee Meeting Held at Cairngorms National Park Authority and Virtually

26 January 2024 09.05am

Present

Russell Jones (Chair)

Lauren McCallum (Deputy Chair)

Hannah Grist

Sandy Bremner (Board Convener)

Derek Ross

Xander McDade

In Attendance

Grant Moir, CEO

David Cameron, Director of Corporate Services and Deputy CEO

Kate Christie, Head of Organisational Development

Louise Allen, Head of Finance and Corporate Operations

James Ade, Clerk to the Board

Apologies

None

Minutes from the previous meeting for approval

1. The minutes from the meeting on the 10 November 2023 were approved with no amendments.

Matters arising not covered from previous meeting

2. The Head of Organisational Development to look into purchasing a defibrillator to the Cairngorms National Park Authority Grantown Office and present this to the Resources Committee. This matter was noted as open.



Declarations of interest

3. No declarations of interest were made.

Budget Monitoring

4. Louise Allen, Head of Finance and Corporate Operations, presented the paper which sets out an overview of the Park Authority's budget management position at the end of month 8 of the 2023/24 financial year - 30 November 2023.
5. The Resources Committee discussed the paper and made the following comments:
 - a) David Cameron, Director of Corporate Services and Deputy CEO, highlighted that where possible expenditure commitments would be brought forward to alleviate pressure for 2024 and help break even for 2023.
 - b) A Member sought clarity on staffing and internal recruitment for the Cairngorms 2030 project. Kate Christie, Head of Organisational Development clarified that recruitment had commenced, employing five posts through the internal recruitment round. There was not a default position that roles vacated by internal recruitment have to be replaced. Each post vacated is considered by the Senior Management Team. . Of the five vacated positions two have not been back filled.

Recommendations

The Resources Committee was asked to:

- a) Consider the budget management position for 2023/24.
6. The Committee noted the paper.
 7. Action point arising: none
 8. **Update on Budget Position for 2024/25**

Louise Allen, Head of Finance and Corporate Operations presented the paper which sets out the current position of the Park Authority's 2024/25 financial year budget development. The paper provided the Committee with the opportunity to consider the overall budget position together with the impact of any key assumptions made in establishing budget estimates at this point in the 2024/25 budget development process.
 9. The Resources Committee discussed the paper and made the following comments:



- a) Discussion was had around the increase in capital budget, the reasons for that, and predicted reduction in operational plan expenditure from Grant in Aid.
- b) Discussion was had on the pressure that the Cairngorm National Park Authority ranger service, and partner ranger services, would be facing in the summer of 2024 due to potential changes in budgets across partners contributing to ranger provision across the Cairngorms. Members noted that the current Park Authority budget provided for maintenance of ranger services overall at levels equivalent to the current year.

Recommendations

The Resources Committee is invited to:

- a) review the position achieved in development of the 2024/25 financial year budget and provide any feedback to officers prior to the presentation of the budget proposals to the full board on 22 March 2024.

10. The Committee noted the paper.

11. Action point arising: none

Health and Safety Committee Minutes

12. Kate Christie, Head of Organisational Development, introduced this paper and noted that this is a standard item that comes to the Committee to provide oversight of the meeting and of Health and Safety matters generally.

13. The Resources Committee discussed the paper and made the following comments:

- a) Discussion was had on how safety of staff members who have more remote jobs was ensured. Issues with mobile coverage were raised. This is being mitigated through a number of actions: moving to a provider with a better range for those who needed it; GPS tracking devices; a buddy system and PeopleSafe (a contracted monitoring service) escalation measures.

AOCB

None

14. **Date of next meeting:** 17 May 2024