

APSE Building and Housing Advisory Group Meeting

Friday 11 September 2015

BRE Innovation Park, Ravenscraig

1. Welcome & Introduction

Cllr Les Sharp thanked all for attending the meeting here in Ravenscraig which would allow all delegates to take a tour of the houses within the park including the Resource Efficient House.

2. Attendance & Apologies

See attached.

3. Minutes of meeting 24 April 2015

The group approved the minutes as a correct record from the day.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. East Ayrshire insight into steps taken to revamp selection processes for recruitment of craft apprentices

Derek Spence of East Ayrshire Council provided a very informative and interesting presentation on their apprenticeship programme. Derek provided information in relation to the Council's apprentice open day which attracted 670 young people and covered 80 different apprenticeship schemes. This event was advertised to finish at 7pm but due to the demand on the day the last visitor was seen at 9.20pm. Relationships with the colleges have been strengthened from the participation at the open day with the colleges looking into new courses.

Derek also provided information on the "Apprentice Road show" which provided information on the week in the life of an apprentice; this initiative was advertised via Facebook and again was extremely successful.

The building services department are also working with the Councils PR department to look more closely at using social media as a successful tool to engage young people in the opportunities available.

Following the presentation there was a number of questions including any difficulties Derek and the team still face. Derek highlighted the difficulty they were finding attracting electricians to the Council. Another difficulty highlighted for all within the group was the MyjobScotland website. Colleagues are currently finding that there is a gap in terms of those able to complete the form online to the correct high standard, meaning good candidates are not making it through the starting process.

6. Looking at the bigger picture: Exploring ways of joining forces on larger projects/contracts

It was agreed that this topic would be rolled over into the next advisory group meeting. It was highlighted that perhaps APSE could produce a survey to its membership to gauge whether there was appetite for further work in this area.

Louise informed the group that at the Annual Seminar in Swansea the AGM had agreed to introduce a new advisory group “Local Authorities Commercialisation, Income and trading network” therefore this networking group may provide useful discussions in relation to contracts.

7. APSE Scotland Building, Housing & Renewables potential seminar topics

Louise highlighted to the group that APSE Scotland would soon be looking at putting together the agenda for the 2016 Building, Housing & Renewables seminar. The group agreed for a small focus group to meet to discuss potential topics and speakers with Louise. It was agreed that Louise would invite advisory group attendees to this meeting, taking place in October.

8. Nudge, budge principals and theories for use within building and housing

Louise Melville provided the group with a presentation on the recently launched APSE publication “Park Life, Street Life: Managing demand in the public realm” and how these principals adopted for any service area. This included information on behavioural science and psychology, showing that people’s behaviour is strongly influenced by a range of factors both conscious and unconscious.

Louise finished off by providing some examples of potential nudge budge ideas for the building/ housing services.

9. APSE Update

Before Louise Melville provided an update on the work of APSE, Paddy Knowles member of the APSE Solutions team updated the group on the work of Solutions and areas of potential interest for the group.

Louise Melville provided a comprehensive update on the work of the Association. This included an update on the current research projects, one of which is the upcoming “Contribution Councillors make to their local communities”. Louise also updated the group on the various forms of advocacy undertaken by APSE recently including work at political party conferences and Scottish Government consultation responses. Louise completed the presentation by updating the group on APSEs services including APSE Training, Performance Networks and the upcoming seminars.

10. AOCB

There was no other competent business raised at the meeting.

11. Date/Time and venue for next meeting

The date for the next meeting is scheduled for Friday 6th November 2015.

12. Lunch

Attendees List

Louise Melville	APSE
Paddy Knowles	APSE Solutions
Jeanette Pearcy	Clackmannanshire Council
Cllr Les Sharp	Clackmannanshire Council
Owen Munro	Clackmannanshire Council
Michael Rosie	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Steven Trotter	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Bruce Patrick	Dundee City Council
Martin Wallace	Dundee city Council
Derek Spence	East Ayrshire Council
Joe Wilson	East Dunbartonshire Council
Tony Mallaghan	East Dunbartonshire Council
Robert Fortheringham	Falkirk Council
Kenny Gillespie	Falkirk Council
Moira Fitzsimmons	Falkirk Council
Steve Anderson	Fife Council
Allan Barclay	Fife Council
Vincent Nugent	South Lanarkshire Council
Heather Phillips	South Lanarkshire Council
Cllr Peter Craig	South Lanarkshire Council
Cllr Frank Anderson	West Lothian Council
Duncan MacPherson	West Lothian Council

Apologies

Kenny Shand	Fife Council
Ross Grieve	Fife Council
Robert Boal	West Lothian Council
Dougie McMillan	South Lanarkshire Council
Jim Thomson	Midlothian Council
Alison Diamond	North Ayrshire Council
Leigh-Ann Mitchell	North Ayrshire Council
Stewart Muir	Renfrewshire Council
Susanne Grieg	East Lothian Council
Ronnie Dempster	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Wallace Galloway	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Philip Saxton	South Ayrshire Council
Paul Grant	East Lothian Council