

Hello,

I just wanted to tell you all about the results of an important meeting that took place on Monday of this week. This was the Joint Committee of Tayside Contract, which consists of Councillors of Angus, Dundee City and Perth & Kinross Councils. The Joint Committee governs our activities, and it is vital for our success that they have confidence in what we do. The more confidence they have in us, the more likely they are to trust us to run more of their services.

The Joint Committee covered a lot of business but there are three areas I'd like to share with you: -

- 1) **The opening of Tay Cuisine** – this is our new ground-breaking food production facility, based at the Claverhouse Industrial Park in Dundee, which started operating in January. This was a huge £1.9, investment and has involved an immense amount of skill and hard work by our people to set it up, led very ably by Gary Conway. As Councillors could not visit the facility due to current restrictions, we showed them a short video from the site. Councillors were delighted with progress and the future potential for Tay Cuisine. To see the short video, [click here](#).
- 2) **Business Plan** – The Joint Committee approved this Plan, which sets out where we need to go, and what we need to do, to be successful over the next few years. Many of our people in the organisation helped to create this Plan including open sessions with staff and also with affiliated Trade Unions, so it was great to get unanimous approval from the Committee, with comments ranging from 'excellent report' and 'very easy to read'. I want to share more with you about the Business Plan over the next few weeks and months, and how we can work together to achieve our aims set out in the Plan. In the meantime, the Plan can be viewed, [click here](#).
- 3) **Our Budget and Investment Plan for 2021/22** was also approved. This has been a massive piece of work for Wendy Grant and her Finance Team, as well as everyone else who spent so much time and expertise to get us on a sound financial position for next year.

Finally, there was a great appreciation from the Joint Committee members about how incredibly difficult it has been to deliver our ever-changing valuable public services during the pandemic, especially combined with other major challenges such as the recent winter weather. Particular mention was made of the Community Meals Service which operates 365 days a year, providing help to vulnerable people – despite the pandemic and whatever the weather.

The Business Plan states in its introduction: -

*All we are in Tayside Contracts, and all we can be, is achieved through our people, who work so hard, and so selflessly, every day to deliver excellent services to our communities. The pandemic has severely challenged what we do, and our people in Tayside Contracts have reacted magnificently - as we have had to adapt constantly, to deliver our vital services.*

This sums up how proud I, and our management team are, of what you've been able to achieve in the past year, and how grateful we are for how you have continued to deliver excellent services to our communities, despite all the challenges.

18 March 2021

Thank you so much,

Keith McNamara  
Managing Director