

Minute of Meeting

Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee
Tuesday 18 September 2018
Item No: 4.1



Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee

Date	Time	Venue
5 June 2018	11.00am	Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Johnstone	Chair
Councillor Alexander	
Councillor Cassidy	
Councillor Hardie	
Councillor Lay-Douglas	
Councillor McCall	
Councillor Munro	
Councillor Russell	
Councillor Small	
Councillor Winchester	
Councillor Wallace	

Also in Attendance:

Kenneth Lawrie	Chief Executive
Kevin Anderson	Head of Customer and Housing Services
Mike Broadway	Democratic Services Officer

1 Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Johnstone and Parry.
- 1.2 In the absence of the Chair, Councillor McCall was appointed by the Committee and took the Chair.

2 Order of Business

The order of Business was as set out on the Agenda

3 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

- 4.1 The minute of the meeting of 24 April 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

Councillor Smail reported that following the last meeting he had a meeting with Allister Short regarding Newbyres and the financial background and he was satisfied that we are achieving value for money and greater flexibility as a result.

Councillor McCall also reported that as requested she had received some follow up information from Kevin Anderson.

5 Public Reports

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.1	Inspection of Bilston Primary School and Nursery Class	Head of Education
Outline and summary of item		
<p>There was a report presented by the Head of Education outlining the outcome of the Inspection of Bilston Primary School and Nursery Class in January 2018 which was communicated in their letter dated 24 April 2018.</p> <p>The Head of Education advised the Committee that Education Scotland are trying out some new approaches to inspection and this inspection followed one of the new approaches called the short, more focussed school visit. This involved visiting the school for two and a half days with fewer inspectors with the two working week notification period. The visit had a specific focus on raising attainment and achievement and how a school was addressing the need to close the equity gap; and the quality of teaching, learning and assessment. Education Scotland published a statement about the confidence they had in the school's capacity for improvement.</p>		

Noted below are the evaluations for Bilston Primary School and Nursery Class:

Nursery

QI 1.1 Self-evaluation for self-improvement	Good
QI 3.2 Securing Children's Progress	Good

School

QI 1.1 Self-evaluation for self-improvement	Satisfactory
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Satisfactory

Decision

The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee noted:

- (i) The content of the inspection report
- (ii) That Education Scotland are trying out some new approaches to inspection and this inspection followed one of the new approaches called the short, more focussed school visit as outlined in section 2.2
- (iii) The key strengths outlined in the report
- (ii) The significant areas for improvement
- (iii) The background factors outlined in section 2.5
- (iv) That Education Scotland would not return to the school in connection with this inspection

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.2	Inspection of Dalkeith High School	Head of Education

Outline and summary of item

There was a report presented by the Head of Education outlining the outcome of the inspection of Dalkeith High School in February 2018 as carried out by Education Scotland, which was communicated in their letter dated April 2018.

This Inspection was the full inspection model lasting 5 days. Education Scotland published a statement about the confidence they had in the school's capacity for improvement. Noted below are the evaluations for Dalkeith High School:

School

QI 1.3 Leadership of change	Good
QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Good
QI 3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Satisfactory
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Good

Several Councillors commented favourably on this good report. The Head of Education in responding to a comment by Councillor Smaill advised that comparison data on raising attainment and achievement could be included in the attainment reports.

Decision

The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee noted:

- (i) The content of the inspection report.
- (ii) The key strengths outlined in the report.
- (iii) The areas for improvement outlined in the report.
- (iv) That Education Scotland would not return to the school in connection with this inspection.
- (v) Future attainment reports would include comparative data on raising attainment and achievement.

Action

Head of Education

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.3	Inspection of Midlothian Council Highbank Intermediate Care Service	Joint Director, Health and Social Care

Outline and summary of item

There was a report presented by the Head of Health and Older People's Services providing an overview of the Care Inspection report on Highbank Intermediate Care facility. Also provided was a summary of the action plan for the service improvements.

Midlothian Health and Social Care Intermediate Care Service was inspected in March 2018 by the Care Inspectorate, as a registered Care Home for people aged over 65. The inspection covered two key areas of the National Care Standards attributed to care home services which were Quality of Care and Support and Environment. The inspection report graded the two areas as follows:

Quality of care and support	4	Good
Environment	3	Adequate

The Head of Health and Older People's Services advised the Committee that the Care Inspectorate advised that they would never receive more than a 3 for Highbank as it was not fit for purpose. She also advised that a report would be presented to June Council on the re-provision of Highbank intermediate care facility.

Thereafter she responded to a question raised by Councillor Wallace on timescale for the re-provision of this service.

Decision

The Performance Review & Scrutiny Committee noted the content of the report and progress made.

QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.4	Adult and Social Care	Head of Adult and Social Care and Head of Health and Older People's Services
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Adult Social Care was presented by the Head of Adult and Social Care and the Head of Health and Older People's Services highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.</p> <p>Thereafter the Head of Adult Services responded to questions and comments raised by the members of the Committee which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The additional £20 million pounds from the Scottish government for services to tackle issues around alcohol and drug misuse. • The waiting time for Occupational Therapy Services and the options for reducing this waiting time. • An update on the progress of the Falls Strategy. 		
Decision		
To note the report.		

Councillor Hardie left the meeting 11.25 am

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.5	Customer and Housing Services	Head of Customer and Housing
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Customer and Housing Services was presented by the Head of Customer and Housing Services highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.</p> <p>Thereafter the Head of Customer and Housing Services responded to questions raised by members of the Committee which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of Universal Credit and the low figures in Rent Areas. • The number of households who receive DHP and the possible housing options available to them 		
Decision		
To note the report.		

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.6	Children's Services	Head of Children's Services
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Children's Services was presented by the Head of Children's Services highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.</p> <p>Thereafter the Head of Children's Services responded to questions and comments raised by members of the Committee which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The increase in the percentage of children that are 'Looked After at Home' and the Committee were advised that a Looked After and Accommodated at Home Reviewing Officer has been appointed and would carry out some analysis of the figures over the summer period. • Improving for the Future - Self Directed Support and an update on this within Children's Services. • The Sickness Absence figures and that stress was one of the main reasons for sickness absence. 		
Decision		
To note the report.		

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.7	Communities and Economy	Head of Communities and Economy
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Communities and Economy was presented by the Head of Communities and Economy highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.</p> <p>Thereafter the Head of Communities and Economy responded to questions and comments raised by members of the Committee which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in charges and looking at opportunities in maximising charges. • Trading Standards and progressing the partnership with East Lothian Council. • Test purchasing and the issues around this and ensuring appropriate safe guards are in place. • Development of the Business Improvement District within Dalkeith Town Centre. 		
Decision		
To note the report.		

Councillor Munro left the meeting 12 noon

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.8	Education	Head of Education
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Education was presented by the Head of Education highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.</p> <p>Thereafter the Head of Education responded to comments and questions raised by members of the Committee which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A good time to be 2 scheme and the information on location of eligible families being difficult to obtain.• Exclusions and the commitment to reducing exclusions and the activities in place for children who are excluded.• Sustainable destinations and how this was monitored and tracked.• Removal of the internal assessments and how this would be approached by education.• Cornbank Primary School and the achievement of the children in being awarded the green flag for the sixth time. The importance of Eco Schools and this being encouraged across all Midlothian Schools.		
Decision		
To note the report.		

Councillor Baird left the meeting 12.18 pm

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.9	Commercial Operations	Head of Commercial Operations
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Commercial Operations was presented by the Head of Commercial Operations highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the Report.</p> <p>Thereafter the Head of Commercial Operations responded to questions and comments raised by Members which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collapse of Crummock and how this would affect Midlothian and the recruitment of additional road workers.• The ability to maintain the conditions of the roads and the money from the Scottish Government for the severe winter conditions and Midlothian's share, £149,000.		

- Any additional support available through the Bellwin Scheme.
- Congratulations to the service on keeping the roads gritted during the severe winter and the speedy response of the Roads team in repairing pot holes when reported.
- Also congratulations to the Roads Services team being finalists for the best Council performer in the Roads, Highways and Winter Maintenance category.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.10	Finance and Integrated Service Support	Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Finance and Integrated Service Support was presented by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Councillors expressed their congratulations on the achievements of this service in being short listed for a National Living Wage Award and also the Healthy Working Lives Gold Award.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.11	Property and Facilities Management	Head of Property and Facilities Management

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 4 Performance Report 2017/18 for Property and Facilities Management was presented by the Head of Commercial Operations highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Property and Facilities Management responded to questions and comments raised by Members which included:

- Congratulations on the Newbattle High School Centre.
- The demolition of buildings which are no longer in use and the security in place for these empty buildings.

- The external wall installation scheme.
- The low uptake on the school meals and the reasons for this.
- The leisure facilities membership uptake and that the Tonezone was widely advertised. Also promoted was the Teenzone, junior and student membership.
- The new Leisure Management System (Legend).

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.12	Midlothian Council including SMP update	Chief Executive

Outline and summary of item

The Chief Executive presented the Midlothian Council Quarter 4 Performance report detailing the delivery of Midlothian Council's priorities through the Community Planning Partnership and the Single Midlothian Plan. The Council Transformation Strategy and Individual Service Plans outlined how Midlothian Council would deliver its contribution to the Single Midlothian Plan. The Chief Executive highlighted further on some of the successes and also some of the challenges as detailed in the report. He also stated the importance of Midlothian's exceptionalism and the financial pressures faced with Midlothian being the fastest growing Council.

Councillor Wallace congratulated the Chief Executive on his new appointment. He also commented on the Newbattle Centre and that this was a fantastic facility for Midlothian.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.13	Balanced Scorecard 2017/18	Chief Executive

Outline and summary of item

The Chief Executive presented the Quarter 4 Balanced Scorecard Indicators 2017/18 highlighting each of the perspectives were supported by a number of key measures and indicators which ensured that the Balanced Scorecard informed ongoing performance reporting and helped to identify areas for further improvement.

The Chief Executive briefly explained the content of this summary performance report for 2017/18 which covered the three key priorities in the single Midlothian Plan: Reducing the gap was Health Outcomes; Economic Circumstances and Learning Outcomes. The report then provides detail under the 5 key themes within the single Midlothian Plan and a series of indicators in relation to learning and growth, internal processes and financial health of the organisation and he

highlighted that a number of these would only be finalised after the financial accounts are completed.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.14	2016/17 Local Government Benchmarking Results	Chief Executive

Outline and summary of item

The Chief Executive presented this report providing the Committee with the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) overview of the Council's performance against the indicators for 2016/17.

In summary, whilst there are questions about the relevance, comparability and reliability of some of the indicators, there was nevertheless clear value in a number of the indicators, particularly those that are direct measures of performance. These show some areas of strength and some areas for improvement in Midlothian.

Full details of the 16/17 Benchmarking results were shown in an Appendix to the report, the table below provided a high level summary of performance across the four quartiles. It was noted that there were 5 indicators for which the data was not available yet and at this time half of the indicators were in the top two quartiles.

Scottish ranking	Percentage % of indicators falling within each quartile 2016/17
1st and 2nd Quartile (ranked 1-16)	34/68 50%
3rd and 4th Quartile (ranked 17-32)	34/68 50%

Thereafter the Chief Executive responded to a question raised by Councillor Smail on the high cost of waste collection.

Decision

To note the 2016/17 LGBF comparison results detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

6 Private Reports

No private reports were submitted for discussion.

7 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 September 2018 at 11 am.