

Annual iESE Public Sector Transformation Awards 2021**Report by Dr Grace Vickers, Chief Executive****Report for Information****1 Recommendations**

Council is recommended to note the achievement by Midlothian Council of two iESE Certificate of Excellence awarded for the following:

- #KindnessMidlothian Campaign
- Net Zero Carbon Project

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to recognise and celebrate our achievement in receiving two iESE Certificates of Excellence awards for our work relating to the #kindnessmidlothian campaign during the pandemic and also for activities supporting our goal of being carbon neutral by 2030.

Date 01 March 2021**Report Contacts:****Annette Lang**Annette.lang@midlothian.gov.uk[Myra Forsyth](#)Myra.forsyth@midlothian.gov.uk

3 Background

- 3.1** The annual iESE Public Sector Transformation Awards are an opportunity to celebrate and share the most innovative practice in transforming local public services. Further information regarding the work of iESE can be found using the link: <https://iese.org.uk/>
- 3.2** For the iESE Public Sector Transformation Awards 2021, the Council submitted applications for the following two categories:
1. **Green Council** - This category recognises, rewards and promotes environmental best practice across the public sector in the UK. The organisation making a submission has shown how they have helped the environment and improved sustainability not only in their organisation, but their surrounding community.
 2. **Working Together** - This category is for simplifying the way that residents and local businesses deal with public services, bringing together multiple contact points, removing the barriers between organisations and moving resources closer to the customer.
- 3.2** Due to the standard of the work demonstrated by our submissions in the difficult climate of the past year, we were recognised with an iESE Certificate of Excellence for both submissions. This report is to recognise and celebrate our achievement in receiving two iESE Certificates of Excellence awards for our work relating to the #kindnessmidlothian campaign during the pandemic and activities supporting our goal of being carbon neutral by 2030 as noted below.
- a) We were awarded the iESE Certificate of Excellence Award to mark significant innovations in improving local public services for our #kindnessmidlothian campaign which we launched at the beginning of the Covid pandemic in March 2020. This was a shared effort across the Community Planning Partnership and our collective endeavour continues to support our communities through this difficult time.
 - b) We were also awarded the IESE Certificate of Excellence Award to mark significant innovations in improving local public services for our Climate Change approaches which include all of the work we are doing towards our goal of being carbon neutral by 2030.

The key projects included in the submissions under the theme #Kindness Midlothian were:

- Midlothian Food Fund, MTRAP (Midlothian Transport, Road and Paths Group), Community Resilience, Midlothian ART Resilience Exhibition, Locate in Midlothian, Reach 'Oot', Co-designing Neighbourhood Services, Midlothian Route Map through and out of the pandemic, Recovery Plans, Midlothian Compact and the TRACK values of togetherness, respect, accountability, creativity and kindness.

Within the Climate Change submission we demonstrated our commitment and work in the following areas:

- energy efficiency, recycling and waste, sustainable development, sustainable travel, businesses processes, carbon management, Passivhaus, solar energy, electric vehicles and innovations such as the energy waste plant and creation of an energy services company.

The full submissions can be accessed via the report contacts if required. Both provide more detailed information regarding these areas of work.

- 3.3** The annual iESE Public Sector Transformation Awards are an opportunity to celebrate and share the most innovative practice in transforming local public services. To celebrate our achievement staff are being encouraged to use the iESE logo as part of their email signature and/or footers in letter templates as shown below.



4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

4.2 Digital

There are no direct digital implications arising from this report.

4.3 Risk

N/A

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

4.4 Additional Report Implications (See Appendix A)

See Appendix A

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Midlothian Council and its Community Planning Partners have made a commitment to treat the following areas as key priorities under the Single Midlothian Plan:-

- Reducing the gap in economic circumstances
- Reducing the gap in learning outcomes
- Reducing the gap in health outcomes
- Reducing the impact of climate change

Achieving a range of awards and accreditations supports effective delivery of the key priorities.

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- ☐ Holistic Working
- ☐ Hub and Spoke
- ☐ Modern
- ☐ Sustainable
- ☐ Transformational
- ☐ Preventative
- ☐ Asset-based
- ☒ Continuous Improvement
- ☐ One size fits one
- ☐ None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- ☐ One Council Working with you, for you
- ☐ Preventative and Sustainable
- ☐ Efficient and Modern
- ☒ Innovative and Ambitious
- ☐ None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

Whilst this report does not directly relate to the delivery of best value, achieving external recognition via awards demonstrates good practice and therefore supports delivery of Best Value.

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The report does not directly relate to the need to involve communities and other stakeholders though it is useful to recognise that both awards received covered areas of work that were only delivered successfully due to strength of our partnership working.

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The areas covered by the awards have direct link to our key priorities and therefore support delivery of key outcomes identified by the Council and its partners.

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The areas covered by the awards have direct link to a preventative agenda in both supporting our communities during the pandemic and working on activities to meet our target to be Carbon Neutral by 2030.

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

The award for our Zero Carbon project supports sustainable development and supports our target to be Carbon Neutral by 2030.