

Minute of Meeting

Cabinet
Tuesday 8 September 2020
Item No 4.1



Cabinet

Date	Time	Venue
3 March 2020	11.00 am	Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Milligan - Convener	
Councillor Muirhead – Depute Convener	
Councillor Curran	
Councillor Imrie	
Councillor Hackett	

Religious Representatives:

Mrs Elizabeth Morton	
Mr Vic Bourne	

1 Apologies

No apologies had been received.

2 Order of Business

The Order of Business was as detailed within the Agenda.

3 Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were received.

4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minute of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 21 January 2020 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

5. Reports

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.1	Inspection of Midlothian Council Highbank Intermediate Care Service	Morag Barrow
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The purpose of the report was to provide an overview of the recent Care Inspection report on Highbank Intermediate Care facility inspection. It also provided a summary of the action plan for the service improvements.</p> <p>Midlothian Health and Social Care Intermediate Care Service was inspected in September 2019 by the Care Inspectorate, as a registered Care Home for people aged over 60. The report was published on 20th September 2019, and was distributed to all Elected Members of the Cabinet for their information. The inspection covered 5 key areas of the Scotland's Health and Social Care Standards attributed to care home services. The inspection report grades the areas of inspection from 1 (Unsatisfactory) to 6 (Excellent). This inspection report graded the 5 areas below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How well do we support people's wellbeing? 3 - Adequate• How good is our leadership? 4 - Good• How good is our staffing? 3 - Adequate• How good is our setting? 3 - Adequate• How well is our care and support planned? 3 - Adequate <p>The Joint Director of Health and Social Care presented this report highlighting the main sections of the report and provided an update on the</p>		
Decision		
(a) To note the content of the report and the progress made;		

(b)To note that a report on the current position and anticipated timescales involved in the re-provisioning of Highbank Intermediate care facility would be submitted to the next meeting of Cabinet; and

(c)That the report be passed to Performance Review and Scrutiny for their consideration.

Action

Joint Director Health and Social Care

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.2	Foster Care Fee and Allowances Uplift (including Kinship Care)	Joan Tranent
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The purpose of the report was to seek approval to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase the allowances and fees paid for Fostering and Kinship Care.• To subsequently revise and agree the Fostering Service Fee Policy to be effective from 1 April 2020.• Note that Kinship Carers will receive the equivalent of the Fostering Allowance.• That the revised fees and allowances continue post 16 as part of our Continuing Care approach.• Note the impact on the 2020/21 budget of the proposals contained within the report. <p>Midlothian Council's foster and kinship carers were previously awarded a minimal uplift in April 2014, pending the outcome of the National Care Review and their proposal to develop a national fee and allowance across Scotland. No such proposal had been forthcoming which now means Midlothian Council's fees and allowances were no longer competitively aligned with its neighbouring authorities and the independent fostering agencies.</p> <p>While financial incentives were not the sole motivating factor for people becoming foster carers, it was acknowledged that Midlothian Council was no longer considered to be competitive and that this could be a barrier to recruitment. Foster carers worked with some of the most vulnerable and challenging children and families while continuing to increase their professional skills and competence base.</p> <p>The Chief Officer Children's Services, Partnerships and Communities presented this report highlighting the main sections contained therein.</p>		
Decision		
<p>(a)That the revised fostering service fees and allowances be approved within the existing budget;</p> <p>(b)That the future fostering budgets be annually reviewed to monitor and re-evaluate Continuing Care placements and spend up until 2024; and</p>		

(c) That the fostering fees and allowances (including Kin Care) be reviewed bi-annually.

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.3	The Single Midlothian Plan Half Year Performance Report 2019/20	Chief Executive
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The purpose of the report was to highlight the half year performance report of Midlothian Community Planning Partnership. It was a statutory duty for the partnership to publish performance reports.</p> <p>Part 2 of the Community Empowerment Act 2015 set out clear expectations for what the purpose of community planning was and how it had to operate. Statutory Guidance flowing from the 2015 Act made clear that community planning was about “how public bodies work together and with the local community to plan for, resource and provide or secure the provision of services which improve local outcomes in a local authority area, with a view to reducing inequalities”.</p> <p>The six month performance report, which was attached as an appendix to the report set out a summary of the successes and challenges of the first half of 2019/20 financial year by the five themes of the Single Midlothian Plan. The 5 themes of work identified through public engagement as main areas in which the public expected partners to make improvements were Adult Health and Social Care; Community Safety; Sustainable Growth; Improving Opportunities and Getting it Right for every Midlothian Child.</p> <p>The narrative within the template against each action identified blocks of progress and planned mitigation actions where these had been agreed. Where it was the case, the narrative noted that targets were likely to be achieved by the end of the year, based on progress to date and other known factors.</p>		
Decision		
To note the content of the performance report.		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.4	Parking Cross-Party Working Group – update and recommendations	Executive Director Place
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the Cross-Party Working Group which had been considering proposals to expand parking enforcement to improve access and amenity for all. The report considered, advised and made recommendations on the three parking related matters listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residential parking in Dalkeith• Workplace parking levy• Possible future parking charges in Midlothian		

Decision
<p>(a) To offer Dalkeith residents car park permits in either in St Andrew's Street or North Wynd Car Parks, at a cost of £50</p> <p>(b) That a maximum of 1 parking permit per household be applied and that permits would operate on Monday to Saturday between 8am and 6pm; and</p> <p>(b) To note that the cross party working group would consider the feasibility of additional parking charges in 2020.</p>
Action
Executive Director: Place

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.5	Adult Social Care Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Joint Director, Health and Social Care
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Adult Social Care was submitted. The Joint Director, Health and Social Care highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.</p>		
Decision		
Noted the content of the report		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.6	Children's Services Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Chief Officer, Children's Services, Partnerships and Communities
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Children's Services was submitted. The Chief Officer, Children's Services, Partnerships and Communities highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.</p>		
Decision		
Noted the content of the report		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.7	Commercial Operations Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Executive Director Place
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Commercial Operations was submitted. The Executive Director Place highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.</p>		

Decision
Noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.8	Communities and Economy Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Executive Director: Place
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Communities and Economy was submitted. The Executive Director: Place highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.		
Decision		
Noted the content of the report		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.9	Customer and Housing Services Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Executive Director: Place
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Customer and Housing Services was submitted. The Executive Director: Place highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.		
Decision		
Noted the content of the report		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.10	Education Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Executive Director: Children, Young People and Communities
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Education was submitted. The Executive Director: Children, Young People and Communities highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.		
Decision		
(a) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of Midlothian Council expanding on the ongoing work to prepare for the implementation of 1140 hours and the financial and other challenges associated with this initiative; and (b) To otherwise note the content of the report.		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.11	Finance and Integrated Service Support Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Executive Director Place
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Finance and Integrated Service Support was submitted. The Executive Director Place highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.		
Decision		
Noted the content of the report		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.12	Property and Facilities Management Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Executive Director Place
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Property and Facilities Management was submitted. The Executive Director Place highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.		
Decision		
Noted the content of the report		

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.13	Midlothian Council Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20	Chief Executive
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20 for Midlothian Council was submitted detailing the delivery of Midlothian Council's priorities through the Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) and the Single Midlothian Plan. The report highlighted that the 3 top priorities for 2019-22 were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing inequalities in learning outcomes • Reducing inequalities in health outcomes • Reducing inequalities in economic circumstances The Chief Executive highlighted the main sections contained within the report and highlighted that the thematic approach was used for quarterly reporting and the themes are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Health and Social Care - <i>Responding to growing demand for adult social care and health services</i> • Community Safety & Justice - <i>Ensuring Midlothian is a safe place to live, work and grow up in.</i> 		

- Getting it Right for Every Midlothian Child - *Improving outcomes for children, young people and their families.*
- Improving Opportunities for Midlothian - *Creating opportunities for all and reducing inequalities.*
- Sustainable Growth in Midlothian - *Growing the local economy by supporting business growth and responding to growing demand for housing in a sustainable environment.*

Decision

Noted the content of the report.

Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Cabinet agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted item, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

Agenda No	Report Title	Presented by:
6.1	Irrecoverable Debt Write Off	Executive Director Place
Decision		
Cabinet authorised write-off for the irrecoverable debts as shown in the attached:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 amounting to a total of £172,294.89 This includes for Housing Rent Former Tenants a total of £172,294.89 £76,831.33 where all possible recovery options have been exhausted; and £95,463.56 in respect of "Gone Away No Trace". • Appendix 2 amounting to a total of £81,298.27 This includes for Non Domestic Rates a total of £81,298.27 in respect of "Debtor ceased trading. Company has no assets and bank holds no funds". 		

The meeting terminated at 12.05 pm.