

Minute of Meeting



Special Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee

Date	Time	Venue
30 November 2016	11.00 am	Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Milligan (Chair)	Councillor Baxter
Councillor Beattie	Councillor de Vink
Councillor Pottinger	Councillor Wallace

In attendance:

Kenneth Lawrie	Chief Executive
Alison White	Head of Adult and Social Care
Kevin Anderson	Head of Housing and Customer Services
Joan Tranent	Head of Children's Services
Ian Johnson	Head of Communities and Economy
Allister Short	Head of Health
Janet Ritchie	Democratic Services Officer

1 Apologies

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillors Bennett, Coventry, Muirhead, Montgomery, Russell and Young.

2 Order of Business

The order of business was in terms of the agenda circulated.

3 Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

4 Public Reports

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.1	Communities and Economy Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Communities and Economy
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Ian Johnson, Head of Communities and Economy, spoke to the terms of the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Communities and Economy and highlighted progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed in the Report.</p> <p>Questions were raised by Councillors Baxter, Pottinger, Beattie and de Vink and subsequently answered on matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to ease road congestion; • Carbon dioxide gas ingress, in particular to residential properties in Gorebridge; • Masterplan for Newtongrange Town Centre including funding bids; • Cascading of information to and from the Scottish Government's Building Standards Service; • Mayfield Town Centre; • Brexit impact; • Engaging with communities including the community councils. <p>Thereafter, Councillor Wallace acknowledged the work of the Council team in putting forward the bid for Penicuik Town Centre.</p>		
Decision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the report 		

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.2	Education Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Education
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Craig Biddick, Senior Education Manager, spoke to the terms of the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Education and highlighted that the quarter concentrated on the strategic direction for 2016/17 to create a world-class education system in Midlothian focussing on 5 improvement actions: improving attendance; reducing exclusions; excellent learning and teaching; raising attainment – closing the gap; self-evaluation for self-improvement and the leadership of change: an update on the leadership programmes and the work being undertaken to grow ASGs (Associated School Groups) into Learning Communities.</p> <p>Thereafter questions were put by Members and subsequently answered in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Impact of behaviours in schools on the wider community; • managing teacher shortages. 		
Decision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the report. 		

At 12 noon Councillors Baxter and de Vink left the meeting.

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.3	Children's Services Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Children's Services
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Joan, Tranent, Head of Children's Services spoke to the terms of the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Children's Services and highlighted the key priorities including the progress of the Children Services review noting that the proposed structure had been announced to staff on 9 September and following consultation the final structure had been reviewed by the Board on 18 October. She further advised that the PACE (Performance and Care Excellence) Programme noted in the Quarter 1 Report was due to commence on 1 January 2017. Further she summarised the emerging challenges detailed in the Report.</p>		
Decision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the report. 		

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.4	Adult Community Care Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Adult and Social Care
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Allister Short, Head of Health and Alison White, Head of Adult and Social Care, as a result of the change in local management with 2 Heads of Service with joint responsibility for Primary Care and Older People, and Adult Services jointly presented the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Adult Community Care.</p> <p>Thereafter, questions were put by Members and answered on matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints handling including waiting times for OT appointments and access to audiology; • Funding across the Service; • Availability of the Recovery Cafe with particular emphasis on it being available when it is most needed, at weekends and over the festive period. 		
Decision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To report back to the Chair, prior to the festive period, on measures which can be put in place to extend the availability of the Recovery Cafe during this time; • To note the report 		
Action		
Head of Adult and Social Care		

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.5	Customer and Housing Services Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Customer and Housing Services
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Kevin Anderson, Head of Customer and Housing Services spoke to the terms of the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Customer and Housing Services and highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges as detailed in the Report. He advised that of the 10 performance indicators applicable to the Service, 6 were off target but were being addressed.</p> <p>Thereafter, questions were put by Members and answered with regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective budget management; • Complaints handling; • Scottish Welfare Fund applications 		

Decision
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To note the report

5 Private Reports

No private business submitted to this meeting.

The meeting terminated at 1.00 pm