

## Minute of Meeting



### Special Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee

Date	Time	Venue
8 March 2016	11.30am	Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

**Present:**

Councillor Milligan (Chair)	
Councillor Baxter	Councillor Bennett
Councillor Coventry	Councillor Imrie
Councillor Montgomery	Councillor Muirhead
Councillor Pottinger	Councillor Russell
Councillor Wallace	Councillor Young

## 1 Apologies

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- 1.1. It was noted that apologies had been received from Councillor de Vink

## 2 Order of Business

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- 2.1 The order of business was confirmed as outlined in the agenda that had been circulated.

## 3 Declarations of interest

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- 3.1 No declarations of interest were intimated.

## 4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

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The minutes of the following meetings were submitted and approved as a correct record:

- 4.1 Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee of 24 November 2015
- 4.2 Special Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee of 25 November 2015 (1)
- 4.3 Special Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee of 25 November 2015 (2)
- 4.4 Special Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee of 19 and 27 January 2016

## 5 Public Reports

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Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Dog Control</b>	<b>Director Resources</b>

### Outline and summary of item

With reference to the paragraph of the Minutes of the Cabinet dated 12 January 2016, there was submitted a report by Director Education, Communities and Economy dated 23 December providing members with an update concerning the activities associated with dog control matters in Midlothian.

The report highlighted that complaints received and notices served on dog control continues to increase. It is currently intended that micro-chipping of all canines in Scotland will be required from April 2016.

Since 2011/12 the service commenced the zero-tolerance to dog fouling campaign and the service has used a variety of techniques to make people aware of the legislation. It was noted that there was a decline in the number of complaints Environmental Health receives, with a 60% reduction in a four year period 2011 – 2015.

The Cabinet in respect of the Report had agreed on 12 January 2016 the following recommendations:

- (a) To note the progress made by the Environmental Health Service in addressing the issues of out of control dogs and dog fouling.
- (b) To endorse the approach of seeking to use preventative measures to ensure that all dog owners recognise dog fouling as socially unacceptable.
- (c) To refer this report to the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee for information.

The Head of Communities and Economy presented the report with an update concerning the activities associated with dog control matters in Midlothian to the Committee. Thereafter the Group Manager, Environmental Health answered questions put by Elected Members.

Elected members raised concerns that they continue to receive a high number of complaints from constituents regarding dog fouling although the numbers of complaints recorded shows a reduction between 2011/12 and 2014/15. The other issue raised was around the disposal of dog waste and the number of bins provided and the location of these bins.

#### Decision

- (a) To continue with zero tolerance approach.
- (b) That an update is brought back to the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee within 6 months on the progress of increasing the number of staff who have the authority to serve fixed penalty notices.
- (d) To endorse the decisions of the Cabinet.

#### Action

Director Education, Communities and Economy

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.2	<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Arising from Business Use of Staff Motor Vehicles ('Grey Fleet')</b>	<b>Director Resources</b>

#### Outline and summary of item

With reference to the paragraph of the Minutes of the Cabinet dated 12 January

2016, there was submitted a report by Head of Communities and Economy dated 18 December to brief members on the estimated levels of greenhouse gas emissions arising from business use of staff motor vehicles which has increased over recent years, to highlight possible reasons for the increasing levels of such emissions, and to advise on the intended response.

The Cabinet in respect of the Report had agreed on 12 January 2016 the following recommendations:

- (a) To note this report.
- (b) To refer this report to the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee for its information.

The Head of Communities and Economy presented the report on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Arising from Business Use of Staff Motor Vehicles ('Grey Fleet') to the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee. Thereafter the Committee received a verbal update from the Head of Commercial Operations regarding the Council's operational Travel Plan 2014-2017 looking at ways in which people travel. The main focus of the report today is the 'Grey Fleet' and the carbon emissions and the mileage incurred and the measures in place to tackle this, the main points highlighted were:

- The increase in Electric vehicles, currently there are 4 Electric vehicles and due to Scottish Government funding for 2016/17, another 5 vehicles would be purchased for business use.
- The addition of new charging points in Dalkeith Town Centre and the Campus.
- The appointment of a Graduate to work for a 3 month period analysing the historic mileage data collected and how staff can be encouraged to reduce business mileage and the options available for staff with regards to public transport.
- Also cycling provision and cycle use.

The Head of Commercial Operations then answered questions put by Elected members.

#### Decision

To endorse the decision of the Cabinet.

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Newbyres Village Care Home – Sub Committee</b>	<b>Director Resources</b>

#### Outline and summary of item

There was submitted a report by Director of Resources dated 22 February 2016 outlining the remit of the Newbyres Village Care Home Sub-Committee which is a Sub-Committee established by the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee. The Chief Executive answered questions raised by Elected members with regards to the membership and the remit of the Sub-Committee and also gave clarification with regards to 4.2 that if information was required about other Care Homes for comparison to Newbyres this would be appropriate.

#### Decision

- (a) It was agreed to amend the membership to include Councillor Wallace as a substitute for Councillor Beattie as agreed at the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee on 27 January 2016.
- (b) It was agreed that any amendments required to the remit of the Sub-Committee could be made at the first meeting and would be taken back to the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee for agreement.
- (c) It was agreed that the Democratic and Document Service Manager would liaise with members of the Sub-Committee to arrange a suitable date for the first meeting of the Sub-Committee.
- (d) To instruct the Director, Resources to update the Scheme of the Administration with the inclusion of the Newbyres Village Care Home Sub-Committee when the remit of the Sub-Committee has been confirmed.

#### Action

Democratic and Document Services Manager

## 6 Private Reports

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No Private Reports were submitted.

Meeting terminated at 12.30 pm