

**MINUTES of MEETING of the MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REVIEW****AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House,

Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday, 23 April 2013 at 11.00 am.

**Present:-** Councillors Milligan (Chair), Baxter, Bennett, Imrie, Muirhead, Pottinger, Rosie, Russell and Wallace.**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillors Boyes, Coventry, Montgomery and de Vink.**1 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were intimated.

**2 Minutes**

The Minutes of Meetings of 5 March 2013 and 6 March 2013 were submitted and approved as correct records, subject to Councillor Baxter's apologies being recorded in respect of the meetings on 6 March 2013.

**3 Inspection of Lasswade High School Centre**

With reference to paragraph 4 of the minutes of the Cabinet of 26 February 2013, there was submitted report, dated 9 April 2013, by the Director, Corporate Resources, incorporating a report dated 7 January 2013, by the Director, Education and Children's Services, outlining the outcome an inspection carried out at Lasswade High School Centre by HM Inspectors in November 2012.

The evaluations for Lasswade High School Centre were as follows:-

Improvements in performance - Good

Learners' experiences – Good

Meeting learning needs – Good

The curriculum – Satisfactory

Improvement through self-evaluation – Weak

Resulting from the inspection, the following areas for improvement had been agreed between Education Scotland, the school and the Education and Children's Services Division, viz:-

- An increase in the pace of curriculum development to ensure young people's needs and entitlements were fully met;

- Measures to improve the impact of self-evaluation on learning, teaching and achievement; and
- Measures to improve senior leadership and team-working for school improvement and achieving a mutual sense of purpose across the school.

Education Scotland would return to the school within one year of the publication of their report to assess progress in meeting the improvement measures.

### **Decision**

- (a) To note the imminent appointment of a new Head Teacher at Lasswade high School Centre;
- (b) To note the new selection process adopted in respect of Head Teacher appointments involving meetings with parents and pupils prior to interview;
- (c) To note that whilst work in individual departments of the School were strong these needed to be better co-ordinated and the improvement measures were designed to achieve this aim;
- (d) To congratulate the pupils, parents and staff connected with Lasswade High School Centre on the key strengths highlighted in the report; and
- (e) To otherwise note the report.

(Action: Director, Education and Children's Services).

The Meeting terminated at 11.30 am.