

Minute of Meeting



Cabinet

| Date | Time | Venue |
|--------------------------|----------|---|
| Tuesday 29 November 2022 | 11.00 am | Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith |

Present:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Councillor Parry (Convener) | Councillor Alexander |
| Councillor Bowen | Councillor Cassidy |
| Councillor McKenzie | Councillor Scott |

Religious Representatives:

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|------------------------|--|
| Ms Anne Theresa-Lawrie | |
|------------------------|--|

In attendance:

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| Dr Grace Vickers, Chief Executive |
| Kevin Anderson, Executive Director Place |
| Fiona Robertson, Executive Director Children, Young People and Partnerships |
| Nick Clater, Head of Adult Services |
| Derek Oliver, Chief Officer Place |
| Saty Kaur, Chief Officer Corporate Solutions (Acting) |
| Alan Turpie Legal Services Manager/Monitoring Officer |
| Andrew Henderson Democratic Services Officer |

1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Councillor Parry welcomed those in attendance to the meeting of Cabinet. Apologies were then noted on behalf of Elizabeth Morton, Morag Barrow, Grace Cowan and Joan Tranent.

2 Order of Business

The Order of Business was as detailed within the Agenda although it was agreed that item 5.7 and 5.8 would be discussed under one item.

3 Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were received.

4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

4.1 The Minute of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on the 18th of October 2022 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4.2 The Action Log of Cabinet was submitted and noted.

5. Reports

| Agenda No. | Report Title | Presented by: |
|--|---|------------------------|
| 5.1 | Inspection of Newbyres Village Care Home, Report by Joint Director Health and Social Care Partnership | Head of Adult Services |
| Outline of report and summary of discussion | | |
| <p>In speaking to the report Nick Clater provided a brief rub through of the key points highlighting that the assessment had been made across the inspectorate and that the facility had been scored the grade 3's (adequate) and 3 grade 4's (good). Nick Clater continued to outline the strengths and opportunities for improvement as outlined in the report and then opened to members questions.</p> <p>Members took the opportunity to welcome the report noting positive comments from residents and families. In responding to comments regarding the practical nature of improvements outlined in section 2.4.1 and the HR impact to this, Nick Clater confirmed that HR should have been reflected In the report.</p> <p>With regard to section 2.2 of the report, Nick Clater confirmed a typo confirming that the inspection had been undertaken across five areas and confirmed that reviewing the measurements sat within the remit of the Head of Primary Care and Older People's Services, the care home manager and an NHS Lothian Service manager with the option to bring other staff as required.</p> | | |
| Decision | | |
| Cabinet noted the content of the report and progress made and agreed forward the report to the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee. | | |

| Agenda No. | Report Title | Presented by: |
|------------|---|------------------------|
| 5.2 | Adult Health and Social Care Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 | Head of Adult Services |

Outline of report and summary of discussion

Nick Clater provided a brief overview of the Adult Health and Social Care Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 making reference to the NCS, the unpaid work backlog, substance use, staffing challenges, Mental health, Sport and Leisure memberships and vaccinations making further reference to the high rate of nonattendance. Nick Clater then took the opportunity to respond to members questions.

In response to comments relating to the possible increase in drug use as a result of COVID, Nick Clater confirmed that there was no evidence to indicate to this yet but that an increase in alcohol use had been noted and that the findings had been provided to ADP.

Members took the opportunity to note their approval of the fit for girls program, and Nick Clater agreed to provide members with further details.

Nick Clater then agreed to provide feedback in relation to the number of refugee families residing in Midlothian and outlined that in relation to the rationalisation of homecare visits that further work would be conducted in the new year.

Decision

- A) Nick Clater to forward details in relation to the Fit for Girls program and;
- B) Nick Clater to forward details in relation to the number of refugee families residing in Midlothian and;
- C) To otherwise note the contents of the report.

| Agenda No. | Report Title | Presented by: |
|------------|--|--|
| 5.3 | Children Service, Partnership and Communities Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 | Executive Director Children, Young People and Partnerships |

Outline of report and summary of discussion

Fiona Robertson provided a brief overview of the report making reference to single point of access, staffing issues within CAMHS and ongoing inspections at residential homes. Fiona Robertson then opened to members questions.

In responding to comments regarding the increase in violence in schools and violence against teachers, Fiona Robertson confirmed that Midlothian Council and EIS have undertaken surveys with responses being analysed. Fiona Robertson highlighted that staff have indicated an increase in social and emotional needs from children and noted the importance of listening to staff's views to ensure that a plan could be formulated to help support them.

With regard to free school meals, Fiona Robertson confirmed that uptake had been reviewed and that options for improving take up are being considered. Fiona Robertson further outlined that two head teachers sat on the cost of living task force and that a strategic view was adopted.

Decision

Cabinet agreed to note the contents of the report.

| Agenda No. | Report Title | Presented by: |
|------------|--|--------------------------|
| 5.4 | Corporate Solutions Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 | Executive Director Place |

Outline of report and summary of discussion

In speaking to the report Kevin Anderson made reference to the capital budget capital plan and later year's projection. Kevin Anderson also noted the appointment of the acting Chief Finance Officer, the appointment of the acting Chief Officer Corporate Solutions, a new HR Lead and a Chief Digital Officer. Kevin Anderson then took the opportunity to respond to points of clarity.

Kevin Anderson agreed to provide figures in relation to Scottish Welfare Fund applications noting the general low eligibility of applications and that the criteria set by the Scottish Government.

A discussion ensued in relation other work of the Procurement team and Kevin Anderson confirmed the continuation of the work undertaken by the outgoing chief procurement officer and that work was being undertaken to escalate the local procurement process to pre pandemic levels. Derek Oliver also confirmed that the local procurement strategy had been taken through council in 2021 that this was being factored into the BMS service redesign.

With regard to a stretch target for LGBF, Derek Oliver confirmed that the initial aim was to achieve the Scottish average. Grace Vickers agreed that that the document would be shared.

Decision

- a) Kevin Anderson to provide figures in relation to Scottish Welfare Fund applications and;
- b) LGBF document to be shared and;
- c) To otherwise note the contents of the report.

| Agenda No. | Report Title | Presented by: |
|------------|--|--|
| 5.5 | Education Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 | Executive Director Children, Young People and Partnerships |

Outline of report and summary of discussion

Fiona Robertson provided a brief overview of the Education Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 highlighting that not all performance measures were updated between Q1 and Q2. Fiona Robertson then took the opportunity to respond to members questions.

A discussion ensued with members taking the opportunity to affirm the importance of ensuring staff had the necessary dyslexia training. Fiona Robertson confirmed that dyslexia training is being picked up by the professional learning academy and that this would also be a discussion point at the next meeting of the education cross party working group. Fiona Robertson also highlighted that staff are trained

to identify and undertake assessments for pupils with dyslexia.

Responding to comments regarding racial literacy Fiona Robertson confirmed that the appropriate staff had been appointed and that Midlothian was well placed to bring this out across its schools.

Decision

Cabinet agreed to note the contents of the report.

| Agenda No. | Report Title | Presented by: |
|------------|--|---------------------|
| 5.6 | Place Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 | Chief Officer Place |

Outline of report and summary of discussion

In speaking to the Place Performance Report Quarter Two 2022/23 Derek Oliver made reference to footpath repairs, ongoing work with regard to building maintenance services, property and facilities management, neighbourhood services, household waste and the environmental crime strategy. Derek Oliver then took the opportunity to respond to points of clarity.

With regard to school meals, Derek Oliver confirmed that school meals were subject to guidelines in relation to nutrition and portion control and that cost of was never to the detriment of the quality of nutrition and portion size.

With regard to the ongoing digital delivery of the business gateway, the number of pre start business in the pipeline and the number of networking events attended Derek Oliver agreed to provide the relevant data to substantiate the comments contained in the report and to include this in future reporting.

Derek Oliver acknowledged an initial lack of interest from the third sector for the reuse cabinet at Stobhill and confirmed that partners had since been found. A brief discussion then ensued in relation to street lighting and Derek Oliver confirmed that there is a system in place to monitor the carbon impact of the street lighting and made reference to the system used for street light repairs.

Decision

- a) Derek Oliver to provide data in relation to the number of pre start business in the pipeline and the number of networking events attended and;
- b) To otherwise note the contents of the report.

| Agenda No. | Report Title | Presented by: |
|------------|--|-----------------|
| 5.7 & 5.8 | Midlothian Council Report Quarter Two 2022/23 & Balanced Scorecard Indicators Half Year Report 2022/23 | Chief Executive |

Outline of report and summary of discussion

Grace Vickers provided a brief overview of the Midlothian Council Report Quarter Two 2022/23 and the Balanced Scorecard Indicators Half Year Report 2022/23 and then took the opportunity to respond to members questions.

With regard to the figures outlined relating to Learning and Growth Perspective percentage of employees within each banding, Grace Vickers confirmed that these figures are quality assured and agreed to provide a further breakdown with more

in-depth data in future balanced scorecard reports.

Decision

- a) To note the contents of the report.

6 Private Reports

No items for discussion.

7 Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was noted as Tuesday 17 January 2023 at 11 am.

The meeting terminated at 12:27pm