Minute of Meeting

Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 24 April 2018 Item No 4.1



Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee

Date	Time	Venue
13 March 2018		Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Johnstone	Chair
Councillor Alexander	
Councillor Baird	
Councillor Cassidy	
Councillor Hardie	
Councillor Lay-Douglas	
Councillor Munro	
Councillor Russell	
Councillor Smaill	
Councillor Winchester	

Also in Attendance:

Kenneth Lawrie	Chief Executive
Gary Fairley	Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support
Kevin Anderson	Head of Customer and Housing Services
Joan Tranent	Head of Children's Services
Grace Vickers	Head of Education
Alison White	Head of Adult Services
lan Johnson	Head of Communities and Economy
Ricky Moffat	Head of Commercial Services
Garry Sheret	Head of Property and Facilities Management
Janet Ritchie	Democratic Services Officer

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Parry, Alexander and McCall.

In the absence of the Chair, Councillor Johnstone was appointed by the Committee and took the Chair.

2 Order of Business

The order of Business was as set out on the Agenda

3 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of 30 January 2018 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

5 Public Reports

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.1	Adult Social Care Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Head of Adult Services

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Adult Social Care was presented by the Head of Adult Services highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Adult Services responded to questions and comments raised by the members of the Committee which included:

- The new Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 and the work of the Carers Act Implementation Planning Group.
- Reassurances that all voluntary agencies would be involved in the decision regarding the best use of the Recovery Hub.
- The implementation of the Fall Strategy and as from 1 April there will be a Senior Manager with a strategic lead for falls.
- The Audiology Clinic and the challenges in progressing new hearing aid maintenance and repair clinics in Libraries.

Decision

- The Head of Adult Services agreed that Councillor Russell as the Carer's Champion would be provided with an update on the work undertaken with regards to the Carers Strategy and Action Plan 2017/19..
- To otherwise note the report.

Action

Head of Adult Services

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.2	Customer and Housing Services Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Head of Customer and Housing Services

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Customer and Housing Services was presented by the Head of Customer and Housing Services highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Customer and Housing Services responded to a question raised by Councillor Baird regarding the changes in Universal Credit combined with the new Council Budget passed in February and if these would have any impact on meeting the housing targets in particular regarding homelessness.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.3	Children's Services Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Head of Children's Services

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Children's Services was presented by the Head of Children's Services highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Children's Services responded to questions and comments raised by members of the Committee which included:

- The temporary closure of the Residential House at Woodburn Court and the change to both this house and the one in Penicuik from four bedrooms to 5 ensuite bedrooms.
- Increase in secure care and the impact on the Budget. Also the controls around secure care and looking at more creative cost reducing models as well as preventative work.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.4	Communities and Economy Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Head of Communities and Economy

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Communities and Economy was presented by the Head of Communities and Economy highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Communities and Economy responded to questions and comments raised by members of the Committee which included:

- Child Poverty Action Plan.
- Update of Dalkeith Town Centre improvements.
- The Tyne Esk LEADER programme.
- Tobacco testing and the appointment a Tobacco Monitoring Officer.

Decision

- To set up a development session for Members to provide an update on the Child Poverty Action Plan.
- To congratulate Midlothian Council's Planning Service on the two national awards.
- To otherwise note the report.

Action

Head of Communities and Economy

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.5	Education Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Head of Education

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Education was presented by the Head of Education highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Education responded to comments and questions raised by members of the Committee which included:

- Budget challenges.
- Lifelong Learning and Employability Service and positive destinations.

- Education (Scotland) Act 2015 and Gaelic provision.
- Expansion of 1140 hrs by 2020 and plans to implement this.
- Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation in relation to the expansion of 1140 hours

Decision

To note the report

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.6	Commercial Operations Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Head of Commercial Operations

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Commercial Operations was presented by the Head of Commercial Operations highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the Report.

Thereafter the Head of Commercial Operations responded to questions and comments raised by Members which included:

- Challenges during the bad weather and the good work done by the staff in keeping the roads open.
- Recruitment issues affecting income.
- Health and Safety Audit which consists of three phases, planning and implementing which is complete and the final stage auditing which is now in place.

Decision

To note the report

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.7	Finance and Integrated Service Support Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Business Services Manager

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Finance and Integrated Service Support was presented by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support responded to questions and comments raised by Members which included:

- Newbattle High School and any financial issues.
- Equal pay cases and any outstanding settlement.
- The development and improvement of the purchasing process and contract management.
- Best Value Audit timescale.
- Reserves and the impact of the bad weather.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.8	Property and Facilities Management Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Head of Commercial Operations

Outline and summary of item

The Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18 for Property and Facilities Management was presented by the Head of Commercial Operations highlighting the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and a summary of the emerging challenges going forward as detailed in the report.

Thereafter the Head of Commercial Operations responded to questions and comments raised by Members which included:

- Dalkeith Toilets repair costs and the procedure in place in assessing the damage and the cost of repairs.
- Destination Hillend project.
- Proposal to reduce the Janitorial Primary School estate.
- Catering in schools and the issue of queuing for school lunches.

Decision

To note the report.

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
5.9	Midlothian Council Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017/18	Chief Executive

Outline and summary of item

The Chief Executive presented the Midlothian Council Quarter 3 Performance report detailing the delivery of Midlothian Council's priorities through the Community Planning Partnership and the Single Midlothian Plan. The Council Transformation Strategy and Individual Service Plans outlined how Midlothian Council would deliver its contribution to the Single Midlothian Plan.

Thereafter the Chief Executive responded to questions and comments raised by several members of the Committee regarding the complaint procedure and the timescales in responding to complaints.

The Chief Executive also responded to questions raised with regards to any projected overspend and the financial challenges moving forward. He further provided examples of joint working across all Directorates as well partnership working with communities.

Decision

To note the report.

The meeting terminated at 1.15 pm