

Mavisbank House, Lasswade**Report by John Blair, Director, Resources****1 Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to bring to the Cabinet's attention, recommendations from the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee in relation to Mavisbank House, Lasswade arising from the Cabinet's decision on 27 August 2013.

2 Background**2.1** On 27 August 2013, the Cabinet agreed:-

"To recommend to the Council that in the event that the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund was successful, that the Council give consideration to providing financial support to the project"

2.2 The Cabinet's decision was subsequently called in by the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee on the following grounds:-

"The undersigned wish to call in the whole decision of Cabinet Meeting on Tuesday 27 August in relation to Item 8: Mavisbank House and Grounds. The reason being we have concerns at the potential cost to the Council in supporting this project and the impact on future capital and revenue budgets."

The effect of a call-in, is to freeze the Cabinet's decision until the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee's consideration of the issue and the consideration of any recommendations made by the Committee to the Cabinet. The call-in was considered by the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee on 3 September 2013 when the Committee agreed, as follows:-

"To recommend to the Cabinet that, in light of the current constraints on public spending, it advise the Trustees of Mavisbank House that any financial contribution from the Council towards the restoration of Mavisbank House and grounds, in either capital or revenue finance, could only be considered alongside other priority needs and should not therefore be relied upon in relation to any future application for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund."

3 Procedure

In terms of procedure, in the event that the Cabinet declines to accept any or all of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee's recommendations, the matter shall continue to be frozen and referred *simpliciter* to the Council, for determination

4.1 Resource

There are no resource implications arising from this report.

4.2 Risk

There are no risk issues arising from this report

4.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☐ Community safety
- ☐ Adult health, care and housing
- ☐ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☐ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☐ Sustainable growth
- ☐ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☐ None of the above

4.4 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Not Applicable

4.5 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not Applicable

4.6 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

There has been no direct consultation on the terms of this report with communities or stakeholders. The matter was the subject of a report to the Cabinet on 27 August 2013

4.7 Ensuring Equalities

Not applicable

4.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

Not Applicable

4.9 IT Issues

There are no IT issues arising from this report.

5 Recommendation

The Cabinet is invited to consider the recommendation of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee.

Date 18 September 2013

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Background Papers:

Declaration Box

Instructions: *This box must be completed by the author of the report. The box will be copied and saved by the Council Secretariat who will delete it from the report prior to photocopying the agenda.*

Title of Report:

Meeting Presented to:

Author of Report:

I confirm that I have undertaken the following actions before submitting this report to the Council Secretariat (Check boxes to confirm):-

- ☐ *All resource implications have been addressed. Any financial and HR implications have been approved by the Head of Finance and Human Resources.*
- ☐ *All risk implications have been addressed.*
- ☐ *All other report implications have been addressed.*
- ☐ *My Director has endorsed the report for submission to the Council Secretariat.*

For Cabinet reports, please advise the Council Secretariat if the report has an education interest. This will allow the report to be located on the Cabinet agenda among the items in which the Religious Representatives are entitled to participate.

Likewise, please advise the Council Secretariat if any report for Midlothian Council has an education interest. The Religious Representatives are currently entitled to attend meetings of the Council in a non-voting observer capacity, but with the right to speak (but not vote) on any education matter under consideration, subject always to observing the authority of the Chair.