

**MINUTES of SPECIAL MEETING of the MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL CABINET** held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday, 28 August 2012 at 10.00 am.

**Present:-** Councillors Constable (Convener), Beattie, Bryant, Johnstone and Thompson.

**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillor de Vink; Mr P Hayes and Mrs M Harkness

**1 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were intimated.

**2 2012/2013 Performance Reports – Quarter 1**

There were submitted Performance Reports detailing the progress made in respect of the Corporate Plan for the Council and the Plans for Education; Children and Families; Communities and Support; Adult and Community Care; Housing and Community Safety; Customer Services; Commercial Operations; Property and Facilities Management; Planning and Development and Finance and Human Resources. Each report contained a summary of the major successes; the major challenges and the actions to address them; and the budget position and the impact of efficiencies. Thereafter, the Cabinet received verbal updates in respect of each of the reports.

**Decision**

- (a) To approve the recommended changes to the Corporate/ Service priorities, as detailed in the respective reports, other than No. CSU. 1213. S-02.1 (Shared Education Services with East Lothian Council);
- (b) To note the intention to adopt the Scottish Government initiative to provide a minimum of two hours per week of Physical Education in schools;
- (c) To note the progress being made towards achieving the performance target of the number of “ Getting it Right for Every Child” Wellbeing indicators;
- (d) To record the Council’s appreciation of the work of Colin Taylor, who had acted as Head of Education during 2012/13 and who had now returned to his duties at Newbattle High School;

- (e) To note that preparation in respect of the Government's reform of Welfare benefits was dependent on information being provided by the Department of Work and Pensions;
- (f) To note the good relationship established with the Police in respect of the management of offenders;
- (g) To note that in excess of 2,000 clients now benefited from telecare packages;
- (h) To note that in providing respite care for Carers, every avenue was explored to minimise or obviate financial hardship to them;
- (i) To note the focus of the Housing and Community Safety Service in preparing for a further inspection by the Housing Regulator in 2013;
- (j) To note that details of the numbers of households affected by the proposed "cap" on Housing Benefits would be provided separately to Elected Members; and
- (k) To otherwise note the reports.

(Action; (a) Director, Education and Children's Services/ Corporate Improvement Manager; (j) Acting Director, Communities and Wellbeing)

The meeting terminated at 10.52 am.