

Minute of Meeting



Special Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee

Date	Time	Venue
30 November 2016	2.00 pm	Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Milligan (Chair)	Councillor Baxter
Councillor Beattie	Councillor Coventry
Councillor de Vink	Councillor Muirhead
Councillor Pottinger	Councillor Wallace

In attendance:

Kenneth Lawrie	Chief Executive
Garry Sheret	Head of Property and Facilities Management
Ricky Moffat	Head of Commercial Operations
Gary Fairley	Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support
Janet Ritchie	Democratic Services Officer

1 Apologies

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillors Bennett, Montgomery, Russell and Young.

2 Order of Business

The order of business was confirmed as outlined in the agenda circulated.

3 Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

4 Public Reports

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.1	Property and Facilities Management Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Property and Facilities Management
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Garry Sheret, Head of Property and Facilities Management spoke to the terms of the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Property and Facilities Management and highlighted some key points from the report including a summary of the emerging challenges.</p> <p>Thereafter, questions were put by Councillors de Vink, Pottinger and Wallace and subsequently answered in relation to matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extending the provision of facilities at Hillend including the possibility of engaging with other providers to explore the possibility of partnership working; • problems with school meals equipment; • the operational difficulties involved in managing sickness absences; • carbon reduction in schools; • plans for Council assets housed in Newbattle High School. 		
Decision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the Report 		
Action		
Head of Property and Facilities Management		

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.2	Commercial Operations Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Commercial Operations
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Ricky Moffat, Head of Commercial Operations, spoke to the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Commercial Operations and highlighted the main points and the emerging challenges as detailed in the Report.</p> <p>Thereafter, questions were put by Councillors Pottinger, Beattie, Muirhead and the Chair and subsequently answered in relation to matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost of consultants for the decriminalised parking case; • Enterprise City Car Club; • Update in relation to Emily Bing; • Vogrie Play Day – extending facilities to include the cafeteria being available; • Provision of play facilities for children with special needs. 		
Decision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To report back to the Chair, as soon as possible, in relation to the provision of a centralised play facility in Midlothian for children with special needs; • To note the Report. 		
Action		
Head of Commercial Operations		

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.3	Finance and Integrated Service Support Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>Gary Fairley, Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support spoke to the terms of the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Finance and Integrated Service Support and highlighted the strategic focus continues to be that of delivering transformational change in service provision as a means to secure financial sustainability and the achievement of the Council's priority outcomes. He provided a brief outline of the successes achieved in the second quarter with particular reference to the introduction of Mi Rewards, revised pay and conditions and the Cycle to Work scheme. He advised that the next quarter would see the introduction of the new people management policies. He confirmed the successful completion of the audit process with new auditors now in place.</p>		
Decision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the Report. 		

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:
4.4	Midlothian Council Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/17	Chief Executive

Outline of report and summary of discussion

Kenneth Lawrie, Chief Executive presented the Quarter 2 2016/17 Performance Report for Midlothian Council and highlighted the challenges of future budget pressures and the scale of education changes. He advised it was the first time that the Balanced Scorecard had been presented to the Committee which lists progress against the 3 top priorities for 2016-2019 identified as a result of the review and engagement process undertaken by the Community Planning Partnership of (i) reducing the gap in learning outcomes; (ii) reducing the gap in health outcomes and; (iii) reducing the gap in economic circumstances.

Thereafter, questions were put by Members and subsequently answered in relation to how the Council presents itself to the people of Midlothian whereas it was acknowledged that the Council was doing a lot of good work but perhaps by improving the public's understanding of what was being done would assist people in understanding the role it plays. It was however acknowledged that the primary focus was on doing the right thing for the people of Midlothian rather than talking about it.

Decision

- To note the Report

5 Private Reports

No private business submitted to this meeting.

The meeting terminated at 2.55 pm