

MINUTES of MEETING of the MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REVIEW**AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House,

Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday, 22 January 2013 at 11.00 am.

Present:- Councillors Milligan (Chair), Bennett, Imrie, Montgomery, Muirhead, Pottinger, Rosie, Russell and Wallace.**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillors Baxter and Coventry**1 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were intimated.

2 Minutes

The Minutes of Meetings of 21 November 2012 (2) and 27 November 2012 were submitted and approved as correct records.

Arising from paragraph 3(c) of the Minutes of 27 November 2012, the Committee noted that the post of Housing Options Officer had been backfilled and that homeless prevention work with youth groups and high school pupils was back on schedule.

3 Planning Performance Framework

With reference to paragraph 3 of the minutes of meeting of the Planning Committee of 20 November 2012, there was submitted report, dated 12 December 2012, by the Director, Corporate Resources, incorporating a report, dated 12 November 2012, by the Head of Planning and Development, in respect of new performance measures and reporting arrangements which had been put in place by Scottish Government in order to provide a comprehensive and balanced monitor of local planning authorities in Scotland.

Decision

- (a) To note that the Strategic Development Plan had been submitted to Scottish Ministers on 10 August 2012 and a decision was anticipated in June 2013;
- (b) To note that notwithstanding the current position in respect of the Strategic Development Plan, it was intended to ask the Council to consult on the Midlothian Local Plan and to bring forward a report in this respect in March 2013;
- (c) To note the need to define more appropriately information in respect of "Employment Land Take up" to reflect new development which had resulted in employment or employment opportunity;

- (d) To note that in assessing opportunities for new local development plan housing allocations due cognisance is taken of the disposition of the secondary education infrastructure at Penicuik and other areas in Midlothian; and
- (e) To note that negotiations in respect of Section 75 agreements were now conducted in parallel with negotiations on planning applications.

4 Development Management Performance

With reference to paragraph 4 of the minutes of meeting of the Planning Committee of 20 November 2012, there was submitted report, dated 12 December 2012, by the Director, Corporate Resources, incorporating a report, dated 12 November 2012, by the Head of Planning and Development, in respect of Development Management performance against key outcome indicators for the period April 2012 – September 2012 (Quarters 1 and 2). The report advised that overall performance (how many applications had been determined within target) improved in 2011/12 when compared to previous years. This improvement was being maintained through 2012/13 when in Q1 and Q2, 73% of planning applications had been determined within target compared to 70% in 2011/12, 65% in 2010/11 and 55% in 2009/10.

Decision

To note the report

The Meeting terminated at 11.25 am.