

# Minute of Meeting

Cabinet  
Tuesday 19 October 2021  
Item No 4.1



## Cabinet

Date	Time	Venue
07 September 2021	11.00 am	Held via Microsoft Teams

### Present:

Councillor Milligan - Convener	
Councillor Muirhead – Depute Convener	
Councillor Imrie	
Councillor Hackett	

### Religious Representatives:

Mrs Elizabeth Morton	
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## 1 Apologies

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Apologies for absence had been received on behalf of Mr Vic Bourne and Cllr Stephen Curran

## 2 Order of Business

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The Order of Business was as detailed within the Agenda.

## 3 Declarations of interest

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No declarations of interest were received.

## 4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

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4.1 The Minute of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 25 May 2021 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

## 5. Reports

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Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.1	Adult Health and Social Care 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Report 2021/22	The Joint Director, Health and Social Care
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>The Adult Health and Social Care Annual Performance 1st Quarterly Report 2021/22 was submitted. The Joint Director, Health and Social Care highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.</p> <p>Areas Highlighted included –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Success of the ongoing Covid vaccination program</li><li>Careworker support by NHS Lothian</li><li>Single point of contact for mental health access</li><li>Work on Midlothian Carers Strategy</li><li>Improved Cancer Journey</li><li>Options to offer the Gorebridge community who are without Leisure facilities due you the building being used as a vaccination centre are being developed.</li></ul> <p>Winter provision and planning was raised and the pressures on services. The Joint Director, Health and Social Care confirmed planning for the winter was already underway and the plan would be ready by the end of September , it was noted that NHS Lothian are also involved and offering support and has underwritten the costs, this will be reviewed in 6 months. A winter team is overseeing all appropriate services and meets weekly at this point.</p> <p>A concern was raised about staff being stretched in al medical services and it was acknowledged that further guidance is expected from Scottish gov is expected, but</p>		

planning is ongoing in the meantime.

**Decision**

Noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.2	Children's Services, Partnership and Communities 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Report 2021/22	Chief Officer, Children's Services, Partnerships and Communities

**Outline of report and summary of discussion**

The Children's Services, Partnership and Communities 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Performance Report 2021/22 was submitted. The Chief Officer Children, Young People and Partnerships highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.

Areas Highlighted including

Successful recruitment of new qualified social workers

Raised the point that there has been 45% increase in referrals to services

Covid and raised mental health concerns continues to be a challenge

The National Care service consultation and the response it requires is taking up officers time

It was noted that a high number of apprenticeship places are being filled which is a positive

**Decision**

Noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.3	Corporate Solutions 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Performance Report 2021/22	Executive Director: Place

**Outline of report and summary of discussion**

The Corporate Solutions 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Performance Report 2021/22 was submitted. The Executive Director: Place highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.

Members were shown a document on a shared screen that highlighted various

areas of the report, although in a different format it contained exactly the same information as was distributed in the agenda papers.

Areas highlighted included –

Danderhall Library development

The transfer of 13 housing units

Areas of improvement were also highlighted and included –

8% of all calls were abandoned due to a number of factors

Cyber security enhancements being investigated to improve all services

Well-being and resilience of staff has improved including reduction in absence and lower turnover

Also noted that a new lead Procurement Officer has been appointed

#### Decision

Noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.4	Education –1st Quarter Performance Report 2021/22	Chief Officer, Children's Services, Partnerships and Communities

#### Outline of report and summary of discussion

The Education, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Performance Report 2021/22 was submitted. The Chief Officer, Children's Services, Partnerships and Communities highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and thereafter answered questions raised by Elected Members.

Areas highlighted included –

SQA data not expected to be available until Q2

National Attendance figures likewise

Additional Teaching staff have been successfully recruited but their impact hasn't been fully effective yet due to the disruption caused by Covid Isolations

Cllr Hackett noted for the record his support for Education staff and the work they do and felt strongly they should be acknowledged for that work with a salary increase in parity with Health Staff.

#### Decision

Noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
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5.5	Place – 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Performance Report 2021/22	Executive Director: Place
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>The Place, Annual Performance Report 2021/22 was submitted. The Executive Director: Place highlighted the progress in the delivery of strategic outcomes and summary of the emerging challenges as detailed within the report and answered questions raised by Elected Members.</p> <p>Shared slides with Members, noting that although in a different format it contained all the information contained in the distributed Agenda documents.</p> <p>Areas highlighted included –</p> <p>Building services ongoing work to improve energy efficiency which is part of the Climate Agenda, further contracts throughout the year will continue to make improvements in line with this commitment.</p> <p>Building services customer satisfaction rating remains high despite various ongoing challenges</p> <p>The acquisition of 70 properties now complete to increase existing stock</p> <p>The capital works programme has been enhanced</p> <p>Noted successful funding bid for Town Centre improvements</p> <p>Chief Officer, Place, respond to questions around supply chains and support services. He confirmed that the situation was being monitored, that no HGV drivers had left Midlothian Employment but also noted a national shortage in mechanics, this is being addressed by recruitment and offering apprenticeships.</p> <p>Chief Officer, Place, responded to questions concerning building services staff, acknowledging a nationwide shortage in qualified staff in this area and the creative attempts to resolve this, also noted was the reorganisation of responsibilities between RCC and planning services.</p>		
<b>Decision</b>		
Noted the content of the report.		

<b>Agenda No.</b>	<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Presented by:</b>
5.6	Midlothian Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Report 21/22	Chief Executive
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
The Midlothian Council Annual Report 21/22 was submitted. The Chief Executive was heard in amplification of the report after which she answered questions raised		

by Elected Members.

Thanked all the staff and partners for their excellent work during a very difficult time.

Highlighting key partner work which progressing and will deliver on various strategies, noting the ongoing work of NESTA and the development of of staff wellbeing programmes.

Elected members acknowledged the work done by staff despite the challenges and also commended the staff on their flexible approach and their ability to continue to provide quality services.

#### Decision

To note the content of the report.

## **6 Private Reports**

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No items for discussion

## **7 Date of the Next**

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The meeting terminated at 1220 pm.

Next Meeting Tuesday 19 October 2021 at 11.00 am