

Minute of Meeting

Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee
Tuesday 11 December 2018
Item No 4.1



Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee

Date	Time	Venue
30 October 2018	11.00am	Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor McCall	Chair
Councillor Alexander	
Councillor Baird	
Councillor Cassidy	
Councillor Russell	
Councillor Smail	
Councillor Wallace	
Councillor Winchester	

Also in Attendance:

Grace Vickers	Chief Executive
Mary Smith	Director Education, Communities and Economy
Alison White	Head of Adult Health and Social Care
Maria Lloyd	Acting Head of Education
Janet Ritchie	Democratic Services Officer

1 Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Councillors Parry, Johnstone, Hardie, Lay-Douglas and Munro.
- 1.2 In the absence of the Chair, Councillor McCall was appointed by the Committee and took the Chair.

2 Order of Business

The order of Business was as set out in the Agenda.

3 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

- 4.1 The minute of the meeting of 18 September 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

5 Public Reports

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.1	Use and Impact of Pupil Equity Funding in Session 2017/18	Head of Education
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The purpose of this report which was approved at Cabinet on 16 October was to advise the Committee that Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) is additional funding from the Scottish Government's £750 million Attainment Scotland Fund, allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the poverty related attainment gap. This funding is to be spent at the discretion of Head Teachers working in partnership with each other and their local authority. In 2017/18, Scotland's schools received a share of over £120 million, and in 2018/19 this has increased to over £122 million.</p> <p>The Head of Education presented this report to the Committee highlighting the main sections contained within the report. Thereafter Head of Education responded to questions and comments raised by the Committee.</p>		
Decision		
<p>The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acknowledged and congratulated school staff and managers for the improvements in attainment of Curriculum for Excellence levels for those pupils in SIMD 1&2.• Noted the wide range of interventions adopted and progress made by schools with their use of the Pupil Equity Fund.• Acknowledged the barriers faced by schools in spending their Pupil Equity Funding.		

- Noted that schools will incorporate future PEF plans into their School Improvement Plans and publish them on their school websites as required by the Scottish Government.
- Requested a further update on progress at via Quarterly reporting cycle.

Action

Head of Education

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.2	Child Poverty Act (Scotland) 2017 and Council's Approach	Director Education, Communities and Economy
Outline and summary of item		
<p>The purpose of this report which was approved by Cabinet on 16 October 2018 was to inform the Committee of the Council's reporting obligations in the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 and provide an update on the Council's approach to reducing the impact of child poverty.</p> <p>The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 sets out ambitious targets to reduce child poverty. In summary the Act;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enshrines in legislation an ambition to eradicate child poverty. • Reinstates statutory income-based targets to reduce the number of children living in poverty. • Places a duty on Scottish Ministers to develop a Child Poverty Delivery Plan, and to report annually on their progress towards delivering that plan. • Places a duty on health boards and local authorities to produce annually a Child Poverty Action Report. <p>The Director presented this report to the Committee highlighting the main sections contained within the report.</p> <p>Thereafter the Director responded to a question raised by the Chair on the uptake of free school meals.</p>		
Decision		
<p>The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee noted the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the new reporting requirements of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act. A child poverty Local Action Plan report must be submitted by June 2019. • Noted the good practice that already exists in Midlothian. • Supported the Child Poverty Working Group to work across the authority and with other relevant agencies to develop a new Local Action Plan. 		

Councillor Winchester and Councillor Russell left the meeting at 11.14 am during the discussion on the above report.

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.3	Annual complaints performance analysis for the year 2017/18.	Head of Adult Health and Social Care
Outline and summary of item		
<p>Changes to social work complaints handling have been brought about through the Public Services Reform (Social Work Complaints Procedure) (Scotland) Order 2016. These changes included provision for the Ombudsman to consider the merits of social work decisions as part of the Scottish Public Service Ombudsman's (SPSO) independent investigation of complaints.</p> <p>The purpose of the Social Work Complaints Handling Procedure (SWCHP) was to provide a standardised approach to handling customer complaints about social work services, whether they are provided by local authorities (LAs) or by health and social care partnerships (HSCPs). In particular, the aim was to implement a consistent process to follow which made it simpler to complain, ensured staff and customer confidence in complaints handling and encouraged identification of, and making best use of lessons from complaints.</p> <p>The Head of Adult and Social Care presented this report and responded to a comment raised by Councillor Smail with regards to best practice.</p>		
Decision		
<p>The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted the content of the Social Work Annual Complaints Performance Analysis in appendix 1. Noted that was being processed for publication. 		

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:								
5.4	Inspection of Support service in Cherry Road Resource Centre	Head of Adult Health and Social Care								
Outline and summary of item										
<p>This report which was approved by Cabinet on 16 October 2018 outlined the outcome of the inspection carried out by the Care Inspectorate at the Council’s resource centre for individuals with learning disabilities.</p> <p>Cherry Road Resource Centre is a support service for individuals with learning disabilities. It was established for individuals with complex learning and physical disabilities to provide an environment where each individual can be develop a programme that is enjoyable, positive and meaningful for them.</p> <p>Following the inspection, noted below are the evaluations for support services in Cherry Road, Resource Centre:</p>										
<table><tr><td>Quality of Care and Support</td><td>6 – Excellent</td></tr><tr><td>Quality of Environment</td><td>Not assessed</td></tr><tr><td>Quality of Staffing</td><td>Not assessed</td></tr><tr><td>Quality of Management and Leadership</td><td>5 – Very Good</td></tr></table>			Quality of Care and Support	6 – Excellent	Quality of Environment	Not assessed	Quality of Staffing	Not assessed	Quality of Management and Leadership	5 – Very Good
Quality of Care and Support	6 – Excellent									
Quality of Environment	Not assessed									
Quality of Staffing	Not assessed									
Quality of Management and Leadership	5 – Very Good									

The Head of Adult Health and Social Care presented this report highlighting the main sections contained within the report.

Decision

The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee:

- Noted the content and recommendation in the inspection report.
- Passed on their gratitude to the staff and congratulated them on their hard work in achieving an excellent report.

Action

The Head of Adult Health and Social Care

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:
5.5	Inspection of Midlothian Council Health & Social Care SVQ Assessment Centre	Head of Adult and Social Care
Outline and summary of item		
<p>This report provides information about the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Inspections of Midlothian Council's Approved Health & Social Care SVQ Assessment Centre in 2018.</p> <p>The Health & Social Care SVQ Assessment Centre was Approved by SQA in January 2017. From 2004-2014 there was a Joint SVQ Assessment Centre with Scottish Borders Council (who made alternative arrangements in 2014). From 2014-2017 Midlothian Council SVQ Assessment Team had a partnership arrangement with VQ Insight for the registration of candidates while preparing all the documentation for approval as a Centre. Since January 2017 a SVQ Management Board has governance of the Centre with representation from Managers in Health & Social Care, Children & Families, Education, Community Justice and Business Support Services.</p> <p>The Head of Adult Health and Social Care presented this report highlighting the positive inspection report and responded to questions and comments raised by the members of the Committee.</p>		
Decision		
<p>The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee recognised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The positive SQA Inspection reports on the work achieved by the Health & Social Care SVQ Assessment Centre in delivering high quality qualifications to Midlothian Council staff• The hard work of the Health & Social Care SVQ Assessment Centre, in particular Carol McKay, SVQ Coordinator.		
Action		
<p>The Head of Adult Health and Social Care</p>		

Agenda No	Title	Submitted by:												
5.6	Inspection of Midlothian Residential Service for Young People Report	Head of Children's Services												
Outline and summary of item														
<p>This report which was approved by Cabinet on 16 October 2018 outlined the outcome of the above unannounced inspection as carried out by the Care Inspectorate in July 2018. Midlothian Residential Services consists of two purpose built houses in Penicuik and Dalkeith with a third traditional house in Gorebridge. The houses in Penicuik and Dalkeith have five en-suite bedrooms and are registered to provide care to a maximum of ten young people both male and female aged 10 years to 21 years. At the time of the Inspection there was a time limited variation in place to provide care to one additional young person with severe and complex needs within the house at Gorebridge.</p> <p>Based on the findings of this Inspection the Care Inspectorate awarded the following grades:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Quality of care and support</td><td>Grade 4</td><td>Good</td></tr> <tr> <td>Quality of Management and Leadership</td><td>Grade 4</td><td>Good</td></tr> <tr> <td>Quality of Environment</td><td>Not Assessed</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Quality of Staffing</td><td>Not Assessed</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>The Director of Education, Communities and Economy presented this report to the Committee highlighting the main sections contained within the report.</p>			Quality of care and support	Grade 4	Good	Quality of Management and Leadership	Grade 4	Good	Quality of Environment	Not Assessed		Quality of Staffing	Not Assessed	
Quality of care and support	Grade 4	Good												
Quality of Management and Leadership	Grade 4	Good												
Quality of Environment	Not Assessed													
Quality of Staffing	Not Assessed													
Decision														
<p>The Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the content of the Inspection report. • Noted that the report would be submitted to November Council for noting purposes. • Acknowledged the continued improvement since the last Inspection and the positive and ongoing work by management and staff connected with the Midlothian Residential Services for Young People. • Passed on their gratitude to the staff for their hard work and congratulated them on a good report. 														
Action														
The Head of Children's Services														

6 Private Reports

No private reports were submitted for discussion.

7 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 December 2018 at 11 am.

The meeting terminated at 11.31 am