

MINUTE of MEETING of the HEALTH AND CARE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LoTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 20 DECEMBER 2018.

Present – Councillors Harry Cartmill (Chair), George Paul, Chris Horne (substitute for Damian Timson), David Dodds, Charles Kennedy and Dom McGuire

Apologies – Councillor Damian Timson

Absent – Councillor Janet Campbell

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair ruled that agenda item 10 (Project Search) would be discussed immediately after agenda item 4 (confirm draft minute) as it involved a presentation.

3. MINUTE

The Panel confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 11 October 2018. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

4. WEST LoTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

A report had been circulated by the Depute Chief Executive to which was attached the Minute of the West Lothian Integration Joint Board meeting held on 24 September 2018.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

5. NHS LoTHIAN BOARD

A report had been circulated by the Depute Chief Executive to which were attached the minutes of the West Lothian Integration Joint Board meetings held on 1 August 2018 and on 3 October 2018.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

6. 2018/19 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - MONTH 6 MONITORING REPORT

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services providing an update on the general fund revenue financial performance in respect of the Health and Care Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel portfolio of services.

The report noted that the council's revenue budget was operationally managed at Head of Service level and the financial position included within the report was part of the overall council forecast position which was reported to Council Executive on 13 November 2018. The report also included the position on the delivery of approved budget reduction measures relevant to the Services for the Community portfolio for 2018/19.

The projected outturn for 2018/19 reported to Council Executive on 13 November 2018 showed that the overall General Fund Revenue budget was forecasting a net overspend of £300,000.

A table in the report summarised the position in relation to service expenditure and provided an update on the draft outturn. The revenue forecast for Social Policy was an underspend of £1.9 million. As part of the monitoring exercise, a number of issues had been identified and these were summarised in the report.

In terms of future budget issues and risks, West Lothian Council had approved savings of £41.281 million for the three-year period 2018/19 to 2020/2021 as part of the five year budget strategy. For 2018/19, there remained risks around the deliverability of budget reductions. In addition, recurring pressures of £2.863 million would have an impact on the council's ability to achieve a break-even position; specifically for the Social Policy portfolio, risks revolved around meeting growing demands for care provision due to budget challenges as well as demographic growth and price pressures.

It was recommended that the Panel:

1. Note the financial performance of the Social Policy portfolio as at month 6;
1. Note that the Social Policy portfolio position at month 6 was part of the overall council budget position reported to Council Executive; and
2. Note any actions required to be taken by Heads of Service and budget holders to manage spend within available resources.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7. FRAILITY PROGRAMME

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Frailty Programme Manager providing an overview of the work undertaken as part of the Frailty Programme.

The programme had been created in the context of the Integrated Joint Board's strategic Plan's 2020 vision for Health and Social Care, which aimed to support everyone being able to live longer, healthier lives at home, with a focus on prevention, anticipation and supported self-management for those most in need.

Historically, projects within the programme had been organisation specific. However, in August 2018, the Frailty Programme Board had explored specific areas of multi-agency development, and that work had evolved into a revised programme structure with four project workstreams. An Executive Sponsor and a Senior Operational Lead selected among senior members of partnership organisations were being assigned to each workstream to ensure each project was fully owned by each partner.

Two pathways for managing short-term interventions were shown in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report, while Appendix 3 provided an overview of the four work streams – Optimising Flow, Integrated Discharge Planning Hub, Home First and Intermediate Care.

It was recommended that the Panel note the contents of the report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

8. WEST Lothian Public Protection Committee 2016-18 Adult Protection Biennial Report

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy providing an overview of the West Lothian Public Protection Committee's 2016–2018 Adult Protection Biennial report.

The report had been prepared in the context of the Adult, Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, which requires the appointed Independent Convenor of the Public Protection Committee to prepare a general Adult Protection Biennial report on the exercise of the Committee's functions.

The West Lothian Public Protection Committee's 2016–2018 Adult Protection Biennial Report, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, addressed the two years of local activity to consider, progress and manage risk for Adults at risk and vulnerable people and emphasised local operational practices, key challenges and areas for ongoing continuous improvement whilst supporting and training staff on existing, new and emerging National themes. It also outlined the strong strategic governance structure and operational practices which enable agencies to

work together effectively and in partnership to progress complex issues for vulnerable people.

It was recommended that the Panel note the content of the West Lothian Public Protection Committee 2016–2018 Adult Protection Biennial Report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

9. PROJECT SEARCH

The Panel considered a presentation and accompanying report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy providing an update on Project Search, a work-based training programme for young people with a learning disability or autism which prepared students for competitive, integrated employment.

Project Search was a one-year, employer-led training programme for eight to 12 young adults aged 16 to 24 with autism and/or a learning disability. The West Lothian partnership, based in Livingston, involved a host employer as well as West Lothian College and West Lothian Council's Supported Employment team. The programme had been running since 2016 and provided support for three 10-week placements with a host employer for each participant, supported by a Job Coach and Lecturer. The variety of placements ensured that all students received the same employment experience, and the ultimate goal of the programme was for participants to gain full-time employment at the end of the programme.

The host employer for 2016/17 had been Jabil Electronics. After its site closure, Toys R Us was secured as the host employer for 2017/18. Due to the announcement of the liquidation of Toys R Us later that year, four other host employers were secured to provide work experience for the remainder of the year's programme.

The project job outcomes, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, showed that participants had had 100% success in securing full-time paid mainstream employment in each of the two years the programme had been running; for 2016/17, West Lothian had received the award for the highest achieving Project Search in the UK.

NHS had been secured as the new, and permanent, host employer for West Lothian Project Search as of January 2019.

It was recommended that the Panel note the progress of Project Search.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report and presentation.
2. To note the Panel's thanks and appreciation for a positive presentation and successful project outcomes.

10. WORKPLAN

A copy of the workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the contents of the workplan.