

MINUTE of MEETING of the PARTNERSHIP AND RESOURCES POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL held within MS TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING, on 10 JUNE 2022.

Present – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Chair), Kirsteen Sullivan, Janet Campbell, Tom Conn, Damian Doran-Timson, Lynda Kenna and George Paul

In Attendance – Donald Stavert (Joint Forum of Community Councils Representative)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Janet Campbell declared an interest in that she was an NHS Lothian employee.

2. MINUTE

The Panel confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 22 April 2021.

3. FINANCE AND PROPERTY SERVICES MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022/23

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services advising of the content of the Finance and Property Services Management Plan 2022/23.

It was recommended that the Panel note :-

1. The Finance and Property Services Management Plan for 2022/23 as set out in the appendix to this report
2. The summary of the work undertaken in previous years and the improvements achieved
3. The outcomes, priorities and activities for the service for the forthcoming financial year set out in the plan
4. That the plan will be the control document against which the service will monitor progress during the next financial year

Decision

To note the contents of the Finance and Property Services Management Plan 2022/23

4. CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022/23

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Corporate Services advising of the content of the Corporate Services Management Plan 2022/23.

The Panel was asked to note the content of the plan attached at Appendix 1 to the report and provide comment as appropriate.

Decision

To note the content of the Corporate Services Management Plan 2022/23.

5. HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022/23

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services advising of the content of the Housing, Customer and Building Services Management Plan 2022/23.

The Panel was asked to note the content of the plan attached at Appendix 1 to the report and provide comment as appropriate.

Decision

To note the content of the Housing, Customer and Building Services Management Plan 2022/23.

6. PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022/23

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising of the content of the Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration Management Plan 2022/23.

The Panel was asked to note the content of the plan attached at Appendix 1 to the report and provide comment as appropriate.

Decision

To note the content of the Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration Management Plan 2022/23.

7. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 4 OF 2021/22

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive providing the panel with the current level of performance for all indicators that support the council's Corporate Plan and were the responsibility of the Partnership and Resource Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel.

It was recommended that the Panel note the performance information and determine if further action or enquiry was necessary for any of the performance indicators in the report.

Decision

To note the content of the report

8. HORIZON SCAN

The Panel considered a joint report (copies of which had circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services and the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration providing members with a summary of the latest economic indicators and announcements for the UK, Scotland and West Lothian, particularly regarding the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic and the potential impact on the council

It was recommended that the Panel note :-

1. The results of the horizon scan for the UK, Scotland, West Lothian and West Lothian Council; and
2. The risks and uncertainties in relation to the council's budget model

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To ask the Head of Finance and Property Services to provide all Panel Members with further details of the effect Brexit was having on the food and drink sector in West Lothian.

9. SICKNESS ABSENCE 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Corporate Services reporting on sickness absence rates during the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 and to provide an update on the ongoing application of the council's Policy & Procedure on Managing Supporting Attendance at Work.

The report also provided an overview on the levels of absence attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic

Decision

1. To note the content of the report; and
2. To ask the Head of Corporate Services to provide all Panel Members with further information in respect of the number of staff suffering from long Covid.

10. WORKPLAN

A copy of the workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the workplan