

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LOTHIAN LEISURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 29 APRIL 2021.

Present – Councillors Cathy Muldoon (Chair), Alison Adamson, David Dodds, Charles Kennedy, Andrew McGuire, David Tait

Apologies – Councillor Dave King

In attendance

James Cameron – Lead Officer, WLC

Alan Colquhoun – Culture & Sport Manager, WLC

Robert Young – Senior Service Accountant, WLC

Tim Dent – Chief Executive, WLL

Andrew Heron – Head of Finance and Administration, WLL

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor David Dodds declared an interest in that his son was an employee of West Lothian Leisure. As his interest was remote, he would participate in all items of business.

Councillor Andrew McGuire declared an interest in that he was a member of West Lothian Leisure. He would participate in all items of business.

2. MINUTES

The Committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 18 March 2021 as a correct record.

3. PRIVATE SESSION

The committee resolved under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

4. WEST LOTHIAN LEISURE FINANCIAL POSITION

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services providing an update on the West Lothian Leisure (WLL) financial position for the 2020/21 financial year.

It was recommended that the WLLAC note:

1. WLL's financial performance for the eleven months to 28 February 2021.

2. WLL's financial forecasts for the year ended 31 March 2021.
3. Council Executive approved the WLL 2021/22 Annual Funding Agreement as well as the WLL 2022/23 provisional Annual Funding amount on 23 March 2021 and that the 2021/22 Annual Funding Agreement has been signed by both the council and WLL.
4. Following the March 2021 gateway review, the Head of Finance and Property Services approved a Quarter 1 2021/22 payment to WLL of £375,000 from the £3 million reserve (£1.5 million in each of 2021/22 and 2022/23) that the council has set aside to assist WLL with further financial issues arising from Covid-19.

During discussion, more details were provided about various aspects of WLL's expenditure as well as on its golf programme.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

5. MONITORING REPORT: CULTURE, SPORT, LEISURE & OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) providing an update on the operation of Culture, Sport, Leisure and Outdoor Education services delivered by West Lothian Leisure (WLL), related plans for reopening in line with the continued achievement of planned milestones in the Scottish Government's roadmap for moving gradually and safely out of lockdown, and recent decisions relating to the Low Port Centre.

It was recommended that the West Lothian Leisure Advisory Committee notes the content of the report.

WLL provided an update on their reopening on 26 April and indicated that it had overall been successful, with uptake and membership at positive levels. Clarifications were also provided on the council's and WLL's arrangements for the reprovisioning of outdoor learning after Council Executive's agreement on 20 April 2021 to vacate the Low Port centre.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.