

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LoTHIAN LEISURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE held within MS TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 24 FEBRUARY 2022.

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

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 stated that his son was an employee of West Lothian Leisure. However, having applied the objective test, he considered that this did not amount to an interest and so took part in all items of business.

Councillor Andrew McGuire stated that he was a member of West Lothian Leisure. However, having applied the objective test, he considered that this did not amount to an interest and so took part in all items of business.

2 MINUTES

The committee confirmed the minute of its meeting held on 25 November 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 West Lothian Leisure's (WLL) 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial position.

During discussion it was noted that membership figures were on the rise; clarifications were also provided on funding distribution and use. It was noted that while there were unknown factors regarding future years, it was encouraging that membership continued to grow.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. WLL's financial performance for the nine months to 31 December 2021;
2. WLL's reforecast for the year to 31 March 2022; and
3. WLL's forecast for the year to 31 March 2023.

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) within the context of facility re-opening and service resumption in line with the continued achievement of planned milestones in the Scottish Government's roadmap for COVID recovery.

Arrangements for personal training were then discussed, as well as more information provided on the kickstart programme for staff recruitment. It was also noted that collaborations with external organisations were being progressed.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note the updates on WLL's operational performance and related matters outlined in sections D.3 to D.8 of the report; and
2. Note the requirement for officers to undertake a review of WLL, as summarised in section D.9 of the report, and that an initial report on the first stage of the review would be reported to this committee prior to being reported to Council Executive.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.