

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LoTHIAN LEISURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE held within MS TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 28 APRIL 2022.

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

Apologies – Councillors Harry Cartmill and David Tait

In attendance

Elaine Cook – 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 22 February 2022 as a correct record. The Chair thereafter signed the minute.

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.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. WLL's financial performance for the eleven months to 28 February 2022; and
2. WLL's reforecast for the year to 31 March 2022.

During discussion, it was noted that a change in utility contracts minimised WLL's exposure to the current rise in utility costs. The timings of equipment maintenance were also discussed.

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 Depute Chief Executive 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 Scottish Government's strategic framework for managing COVID-19.

It is recommended that the committee note the updates on WLL's operational performance and related matters outlined in sections D.3 to D.8 of the report.

During discussion, it was noted that the recent recruitment fair held by WLL had been successful and might be repeated in future. WLL officers advised that they were also tightening collaboration with the education sector with the aim of offering graduates a way into the industry. Membership retention was then discussed.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.