

Minutes

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday, 13 May 2014

Present

Councillors Burns (Convener), Cardownie (Vice-Convener), Burgess, Nick Cook, Day (substituting for Councillor Child), Edie, Gardner (substituting for Councillor Godzik), Ricky Henderson, Hinds, Lewis, Mowat, Rankin, Rose and Ross.

1. Welfare Reform - Update

a) Lothian Federation of Anti Bedroom Tax Groups– Deputation

The deputation indicated that as the Scottish Government were now able to set the limit for Discretionary Housing Payment Funds (DHP), there was now no financial barrier to all tenants hit by the bedroom tax being paid DHP.

They asked that all tenants affected by the bedroom tax be paid DHP as simply and quickly as possible and expressed concern at the Council's practice not to award backdated DHP to 1 April 2013.

The deputation expressed concern over reports that letters threatening eviction were still being sent to tenants in arrears due to bedroom tax which was in contravention of Council policy and asked that guidance be issued to local offices to ensure that the no evictions policy was being followed.

b) Report by the Director of Corporate Governance

An update was provided on the progress being made by the Council and partners to develop arrangements to mitigate, where possible, the negative impact of the UK Government's welfare reforms.

Decision

- 1) To note the council's ongoing activities relating to Welfare Reform.
- 2) To note that the next update would be reported to committee on 5 August 2014.
- 3) To note officers' intention to distribute available resources as soon as confirmation of Scottish Government funding had been received.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 22 January 2013 (item 7); report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted))

2. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee of 25 March 2014 as a correct record.

3. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan June to September 2014

The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan for June to September 2014 was presented.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for June to September 2014.

(Reference – Key Decisions Forward Plan for June to September 2014, submitted.)

4. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Rolling Actions Log

The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Rolling Actions Log was presented.

Decision

To note the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

5. Appointments to the Welfare Reform Working Group

The Committee was invited to appoint the membership of the Welfare Reform Working Group for 2014/15.

Decision

To appoint Councillors Ricky Henderson (Convener), Aldridge, Burgess, Day Howat, Rose and Work to the Welfare Reform Working Group.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 16 April 2013 (item 1); report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted)

6. Operational Governance: Anti Money-Laundering Policy

Details were provided on the Council's proposed Anti Money-Laundering Policy which aimed to prevent money-laundering within all the Council's dealings.

Decision

To approve the Anti Money-Laundering Policy.

(Reference – report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

7. McCrae's Battalion Trust – Commemorative Service at Contalmaison Cairn – 1 July 2014

Approval was sought for the Council to be represented at this year's commemorative service at Contalmaison, France, on 1 July 2014.

Decision

To approve the attendance of Councillor Cardownie at the Commemorative Service at Contalmaison on 1 July 2014.

(Reference – report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

8 Munich Civic Invitation

Details were provided on an invitation which had been received from the Mayor of Munich to the Lord Provost to attend a reception and programme of events taking place in Munich from 29 June to 1 July 2014 in recognition of the 60th year of the twinning between Edinburgh and Munich.

Decision

- 1) To accept the invitation from Munich and agree that the Depute Convener attend the Munich City Council Sister City reception and associated programme from 29 June to 2 July to boost civic and economic ties.
- 2) To note the action taken by the Director of Economic Development in consultation with the Convener in approving the visit in terms of the urgency provisions set out in paragraph 3 of the Council's Committee Terms of Reference.

(References – report by the Director of Economic Development, submitted)

9. Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act: Update

An update was provided on the progress of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Bill.

Decision

To continue consideration of the report to the next meeting of the Committee on 10 June 2014.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 6 August 2014 (item 10); report by the Director of Health and Social Care, submitted)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Ricky Henderson declared a financial interest in the above item as a Non-Executive Director of NHS Lothian.

Councillor Edie declared a financial interest in the above item as Chair of the Care Inspectorate and left the meeting during the Committee's consideration.

10 Edinburgh Joint Carers' Strategy and Joint Strategic Commissioning Plan for Carer Support

Details were provided on the feedback from the consultation which had taken place on the draft Edinburgh Joint Carers' Strategy. Approval was sought for the Edinburgh Joint Carers' Strategy and the priorities for carer support as well as the associated Edinburgh Joint Strategic Commissioning Plan for carer support.

Decision

- 1) To note the feedback from consultation on the draft Edinburgh Joint Carers' Strategy.
- 2) To approve the Joint Carers' Strategy.
- 3) To approve the Joint Strategic Commissioning Plan for carer support.
- 4) To note that due to the level of overall funding of the procurement exercise, the Finance and Resources Committee would be asked to approve the award of specific contracts in due course.

(Reference – report by the Director of Health and Social Care, submitted)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Edie declared a financial interest in the above item as Chair of the Care Inspectorate and left the meeting during the Committee's consideration.

11. Community Policing Service Level Agreement

The proposed Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the Council and Police Scotland was presented.

Decision

- 1) To agree the service Level Agreement with Police Scotland as set out in Appendix 1 to the report by the Director of Services for Communities including the Key Performance Indicators as set out in Appendix 2 of that report.
- 2) To agree that the quarterly report to the Finance and Resources Committee include detailed information on analytical provision.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted)