

Item 4.1 - Minutes

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 26 May 2016

Present

Councillors Balfour (Convener), Child, Dixon, Doran (substitute for Councillor Redpath), Gardner, Keil, Main, Mowat, Munro, Orr, Ritchie and Tymkewycz,

1. Order of Business

Councillor Balfour announced his intention to stand down as Convener for the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, a successor would be appointed at the City of Edinburgh Council meeting on 2 June 2016.

2. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 21 April 2016 as a correct record.

3. Outstanding Actions

Details were provided of the outstanding actions arising from decisions taken by the Committee.

Decision

- 1) To agree to close items 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- 2) To otherwise note the outstanding actions.

(Reference – Outstanding Actions – May 2016, submitted.)

4. Work Programme

Decision

To approve the Work Programme.

(Reference – Governance, Risk and Best Value Work Programme – May 2016, submitted.)

5. Governance of Major Projects: Progress Report

Committee considered an update of the major projects portfolio, made up of projects with a value of over £5 million or those particularly sensitive to the Council's reputation. The forthcoming assurance review schedule was also provided.

Decision

- 1) To note the current synopsis of the dashboard reports for the major projects portfolio set out in appendix 1 of the report
- 2) To note the updated assurance review schedule and findings of assurance review/health check's undertaken since previous reporting to Committee.
- 3) To note the Transformation Team under the new Strategy and Insight Division was operational from 2 May 2016 with a number of current vacancies.
- 4) To investigate the delay in the installation of cabinets to support the broadband infrastructure as part of the Connected Capital Programme.
- 5) To review projects included in the portfolio and how various smaller projects that come from one larger fund were reported, with an update to the meeting of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 18 August 2016.
- 6) To provide an update to members of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on the progress of the Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 17 March 2016 (Item 7); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

6. The Audit Arrangements for the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

The audit arrangements Edinburgh Integration Joint Board and its duties compared to those still held by the City of Edinburgh Council were detailed.

Decision

- 1) To note the audit arrangements for the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board.
- 2) To note that the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee would be informed if the Council's Internal Audit team were requested to undertake more than the three agreed reviews for the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board.
- 3) To request an update report on the audit arrangements of the Integration Joint Board to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 24 October 2016

(References – Edinburgh Integration Joint Board, 20 November 2015 (item 9); report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh, Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

7. Edinburgh Schools – referral from the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee on 17 May 2016 considered a report on the temporary closure of schools affected by structural issues and the work being carried out to identify and remedy defects. The report was referred to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.

Decision

To note the report.

(Reference – referral report by the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee, submitted.)

8. Spot-checking on the Dissemination of Committee Decisions and Late Committee Reports

As requested by the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 19 June 2015, results of a spot-check to ensure actions were undertaken by directorates and decisions communicated to staff were provided.

Also detailed were the numbers of late reports to Committee along with actions taken by directorates for the period November 2015 to April 2016.

Decision

- 1) To note the response to the staff survey on the dissemination of council policies and that further work would be undertaken to improve communication methods.
- 2) To note the number of late reports and actions taken by directorates to address the issue as detailed in appendix 1 of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 3) To request an update report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 2 February 2017.
- 4) To include in future staff surveys, a question to clarify if a specific policy was relevant to the role of the respondent.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee 12 November 2015 (item 11); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

9. Report by the Accounts Commission – An Overview of Local Government in Scotland 2016 – referral report from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee on 12 May 2016 considered the national overview report from the Accounts Commission based on in-depth scrutiny and inspection across Scottish Local Authorities. The report was referred to the

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for consideration as part of its work programme.

Representatives from Audit Scotland were present for this item.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Act of Council No 10 of 10 March 2016; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)