

## Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 18 August 2016

### Present

Councillors Mowat (Convener), Balfour, Child, Dixon, Keil, Main, Munro, Orr, Ritchie, Redpath, Robson and Tymkewycz.

### 1. Order of Business

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The Committee agreed to defer consideration of item 7.2 –Whistleblowing Update to September 2016 and to consider item B1.1 – Monitoring Officer Investigation – Cameron House, under the A agenda.

### 2. Minute

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#### Decision

To approve the minute of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 23 June 2016 as a correct record.

### 3. Outstanding Actions

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

#### Decision

- 1) To agree to close item 14.
- 2) To adjust the completion date of action 6 to October 2016.
- 3) To otherwise note the outstanding actions.

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

### 4. Work Programme

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#### Decision

- 1) To clarify the expected dates for items 17 and 18.
- 2) To otherwise approve the Work Programme.

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

## 5. Corporate Governance Framework 2015 /16

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Committee considered the Council's corporate governance framework self-assessment for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 and the identified improvement actions.

### Decision

- 1) To note the corporate governance framework self-assessment which was outlined in appendix one of the report.
- 2) To agree that the improvement actions which had been identified would be addressed through the Council Transformation Programme.
- 3) To request a report to the September Committee which provided:
  - (a) Clarity of the quality assurance and scrutiny arrangements for the integration of health and social care.
  - (b) Information on the current governance arrangements of the Edinburgh Partnership.
- 4) To arrange a workshop for all elected members on the future of Community Planning arrangements

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee 23 June 2016 (item 7); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

## 6. Audit Scotland: Review of Key Internal Controls 2015/16

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Details were provided on the findings of the Audit Scotland 2015/16 review of the Council's internal control framework and the resulting action plan.

### Decision

- 1) To note the findings of Audit Scotland's 2015/16 review and that a further update on progress in implementation would be provided to the Committee in January 2017.
- 2) To ask officials to investigate the self-regulation of inactive users of the online banking system as identified in paragraph 29 of the report.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee 21 April 2016 (item 12); report by the Acting Executive Director of Resources, submitted.)

## 7. Accounts Commission Annual Report 2015/16 and Audit Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2015/16

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Committee considered the annual reports the Accounts Commission and Audit Scotland for 2015/16.

### Decision

To note the reports.

(Reference – report by the Acting Executive Director of Resources, submitted.)

## 8. Property Conservation – Court Actions and Debt Recovery Activity

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The numbers of live court cases relation to statutory notices were considered, as requested by Committee on 23 June 2016.

### Decision

- (1) To request a further report on the extra judicial settlements process, including:-
  - (a) The governance and decision-making arrangements
  - (b) Details of cases settled out of court, including the reasons for settlement; engagement with the Council prior to settlement; the sums settled versus original sums billed
  - (c) Total recovery costs to date
  - (d) Earlier commitments regarding the fairness of settlements across multi-owner blocks
- (2) That the report also addresses the scope for legislative change regarding shared owners; how the Council was ensuring effective consultation with owners under the new Service, and the scope for ensuring that additional repair work should only be undertaken with the agreement of a majority of the owners.
- (3) To otherwise note the numbers of live court cases being brought against and by the Council in relation to Statutory Notices.
- (4) To note the Programme Momentum Progress Report to the Finance and Resources Committee dated 9 June 2016 in Appendix 1 of the report.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee 23 June 2016 (item 11); report by the Acting Executive Director of Resources, submitted.)

## 9. Update on Cameron House Investigation Action Plan

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An update report was provided on the progress of the action plan in place following the Monitoring Officer investigation into Cameron House.

### Decision

To note the report.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

## 10. Resolution to Consider in Private

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The Committee, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting for consideration of item 12 below on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

## 11. ICT Security Briefing - Presentations

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Claudette Jones, Chief Information Officer and Kirsty-Louise Campbell, Interim Head of Strategy and Insight provided the Committee with presentations on Cyber Security Futures and Information Security Governance, respectively.

### **Decision**

To note the presentations.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee 23 June 2016 (item 10))