

Minutes

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 20 April 2017

Present

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

1. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 9 March 2017 as a correct record.

2. Outstanding Actions

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

Decision

- 1) To agree to close items 3, 8 and 9.
- 2) To agree to adjust the expected completion dates for actions 4, 5 and 11 to June 2017 and amend the date for action 1 to “to be confirmed”.
- 3) To note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Outstanding Actions – April 2017, submitted.)

3. Work Programme

Decision

To note the work programme.

(Reference – Governance, Risk and Best Value Work Programme – April 2017, submitted.)

4. Edinburgh Roads Services Improvement Plan

An outline of the scope of the Edinburgh Road Services Improvement Plan and details of the relationship between services based in the localities, and services based centrally was considered.

Decision

- 1) To note the scope of the Edinburgh Road Services Improvement Plan
- 2) To note that the detailed Improvement Plan would be reported to Transport and Environment Committee in August 2017.
- 3) To note the relationship between services based in the localities and services based centrally.
- 4) To collect data on repeat visits to sites to allow a comparison on the quality of work between the Council and contractors.
- 5) To circulate information on the backlog of outstanding repairs and value to members of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.

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

5. Governance of Major Projects: progress report

An update was provided on 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 considered.

Decision

- 1) To note the current dashboard reports for the major projects portfolio in appendix 1 to the director's report.
- 2) To note the schedule of assurance reviews in appendix 2.
- 3) To note the review underway for how change was reported and managed across the Council which will also include strengthening of governance arrangements around project and programme delivery. This would be reported to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee with developed proposals in the next reporting period.
- 4) To circulate information to members of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on the status of the Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme.
- 5) To request that members of Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee have input into the scope of the lessons learnt report to be drafted on the New Boroughmuir High School and that this report was referred to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee following consideration at the Education, Children and Families Committee.

- 6) To circulate an update to members of the progress of St John's RC Primary School and the impact that any delay may cause.
- 7) To request communication with teachers, parents and parent councils on the progress with WiFi provision in schools.
- 8) To request that a report be submitted to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 22 June 2017 with information on the current status of the ICT Transformation Programme and how this would be tracked.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, 24 October 2016 (item 9); report by the Chief Executive submitted.)

6. Annual Treasury Strategy 2017-18 – referral from the City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council on 16 March 2017 considered a report on the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for the Council for 2017 - 18 which included an Annual Investment Strategy and Debt Management Strategy. The report was referred to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To thank Innes Edwards and the treasury team for their support and training to members in this complex area.

(References – Act of Council No 9 of 16 March 2017; referral report by the City of Edinburgh Council, submitted)

7. Report by the Accounts Commission – Local Government in Scotland: Performance and Challenges 2017 – referral report from the Finance and Resources Committee

On the 23 March 2017, the Finance and Resources Committee considered a report by the Accounts Commission that assessed Councils' readiness to confront the growing challenges ahead. The report was referred to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for consideration as part of its work programme.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 23 March 2017 (item 10); referral report by the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted)

8. Spot-checking on the Dissemination of Committee Policies

Committee considered the report which provided a spot-check on actions undertaken by directorates in order to ensure policies were effectively communicated to staff.

Decision

To note the response to the staff surveys on the dissemination of council policies and that further work was ongoing to improve communication methods.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, 26 May 2016 (item 8); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

9. Annual Workforce Controls Report – referral report from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee on 23 February 2017 considered an annual report on the progress of the implementation of the workforce control framework. The report was referred to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for consideration as part of the work programme.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 23 February 2017 (item 11); referral report by the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

10. Edinburgh Shared Repairs Service and Property Conservation Legacy Programme Reporting Arrangements

The proposed reporting arrangements for the Edinburgh Shared Repairs Services and Property Conservation Legacy Programme was provided.

Decision

To note the proposed reporting arrangements for the Edinburgh Shared Repairs Service (ESRS) and Property Conservation Legacy Programme.

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