Minutes

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 28 November 2017

Present

Councillors Mowat (Convener), Main (Vice-Convener), Bird (substitute for Councillor Ritchie), Jim Campbell, Doggart (substitute for Councillor Webber), Gordon, Lang, Munro, Rae and Watt.

1. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 31 October 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 Action 20 Welfare Reform Update.
- 2) To note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Outstanding Actions – 28 November 2017, submitted.)

3. Work Programme

Decision

- 1) To request a further report by the Executive Director of Place, reviewing the process for the appointments of the Licensing Forum members.
- To otherwise note the work programme.

(Reference – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee Work Programme – 28 November 2017, submitted.)

4. Festival City Theatres Trust Company Performance Report 2016-17 – referral from the Culture and Communities Committee

The Culture and Communities Committee had referred a report on the annual performance report for the Festival City Theatres Trust covering the period 2016/17, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.



Duncan Hendry and Iain Ross from Festival City Theatres' Trust attended the meeting for this item.

Decision

To note the report by the Culture and Communities Committee.

(References – Culture and Communities Committee, 14 November 2017 (item 8); referral report from the Culture and Communities Committee, submitted.)

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Main declared a non-financial interest as a non-executive director of the Festival City Theatres' Trust and took no part in the Committee's consideration of tis item.

Council Companies – Edinburgh Leisure Annual Report 2016/17 referral from the Culture and Communities Committee

The Culture and Communities Committee had referred a report on the annual performance of Edinburgh Leisure covering the period 2016/17, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.

June Peebles and Kevin Johnston from Edinburgh Leisure attended the meeting for this item.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Culture and Communities Committee.
- 2) To ask that information be provided on consultation and engagement which had taken place with the Access Panel on independent access to venues.
- 3) To ask that information be provided on follow-up practices for programmes and their outcomes.

(References – Culture and Communities Committee 14 November 2017 (item 16); referral report from the Culture and Communities Committee, submitted.)

6. Re-basing the 2017/18 Internal Audit Plan

The Committee had approved its Internal Audit plan for 2017/18. Details were provided on proposed changes to the current year's risk based Internal Audit plan which reflected the addition and removal of audits to ensure ongoing alignment with the changing risk profile of the Council and the need to increase audit validation work.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Internal Audit (IA) proposals for a net decrease of 77 days of the planned audit time detailed in the current 2017/18 Internal Audit Plan.
- 2) To ask the Chief Internal Auditor to provide an update to the next meeting on the expected resource challenges for future audits.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best value Committee, 9 March 2017 (item 4); report by the Chief Internal Auditor, submitted.)

7. Revenue Monitoring 2017-18 – Month Five Position – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on the projected overall position for the Council's revenue expenditure budget for 2017/18 based on analysis of period five data, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for consideration as part of the Committee's work programme.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- To note that the Executive Director of Resources would discuss with the Chief Executive and Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, the possibility of a review of how the Council/NHS Lothian and the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board scrutinised and monitored services and the general governance arrangements.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 7 November 2017 (item 6), referral report by the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

8. Capital Monitoring 2017-18 Half Year Position – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on the overall position of the Council's Capital budget at the half year position (based on month five data) and the projected outturn for the year, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for consideration as part of its work-plan.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 7 November 2017 (item 9); referral report by the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

9. Treasury Management – Mid-term Report 2017-18 – referral from The City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council had referred a report on Treasury Management Activity in 2017/18, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Act of Council No 11 of 23 November 2-17; referral report by the City of Edinburgh Council, submitted.)

10. ICT in Schools - Update

The Committee had requested further information on ICT in schools and in particular the current situation at James Gillespie's High School.

Details were provided on the devices used at James Gillespie's High School, the implications of pupils using their own IT devices, other schools within the City who were in the same situation and possible solutions to the lack of wi-fi at the High School.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To note that a further report on ICT in schools would be brought to Committee in January 2018.
- 3) To request that the report to the Education, Children and Families Committee include information on the type and ownership of mobile devices being used by school pupils.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, 29 August 2017 (item 1); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted.)

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Main declared a non-financial interest in the above item as the parent of a young person attending James Gillespie's High School.

11. Corporate Governance Framework 2016-2017

Details were provided on the Council's governance framework which brought together an underlying set of legislative requirements, governance principles and management processes. The Council's self-assessment for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 was provided.

Decision

- To note the corporate governance framework self-assessment which was outlined in Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive.
- 2) To note the improvement actions meantime and that they be reconsidered following the planned workshop on this matter.
- 3) To note that a workshop was being organised for the new year to review the process.
- 4) To delegate authority to the Corporate Governance Manager, in consultation with the Convener, to establish a Member/Officer Working Group to look at how to improve the co-ordination, reporting and use of the strategic management information.

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

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Main declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a member of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board.

12. Whistleblowing Update

A high level overview of the operation of the Council's whistleblowing hotline for the period 1 July to 30 September 2017 was provided.

Decision

To note the report by the Chief Executive.

(References – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

13. Whistleblowing Monitoring Report

The Council, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 12 and 15 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

An overview of the disclosures received and investigation outcome reports completed during the period 1 July to 30 September 2017 was provided.

Decision

To continue consideration of the report to the next meeting for clarification on a case.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)