

# Minutes

## Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 18 February 2020

### Present

Councillors Mowat (Convener), Bird, Jim Campbell, Child, Doggart, Gloyer, Main, Munn, Munro, Staniforth and Work.

### 1. Minute

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#### Decision

To approve the minute of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 14 January 2020 as a correct record.

### 2. Outstanding Actions

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

#### Decision

1) To agree to close the following Actions:

**Action 6 (2)** - Accounts Commission – Local Government in Scotland: Challenges and Performance 2019 – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

**Action 7** – Internal Audit Annual Opinion for the year ended 31 March 2019

**Action 12 (1)** - City of Edinburgh Council – 2018/19 Annual Audit Report to the Council and the Controller of Audit

**Action 15 (1)** – Historic and Outstanding Internal Audits – Health and Social Care

**Action 19** – Half Year Capital Monitoring 2019/20 Position - referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

2) To note:

**Action 16** – a response had been received from the Convener of the Policy and Sustainability Committee and details would be in the Business Bulletin of the next committee.

**Action 22** – Place Directorate had advised that a briefing note would be available by 28 February 2020.

- 3) To otherwise note the outstanding actions

(Reference – Outstanding Actions 14 January 2020, submitted.)

### **3. Work Programme**

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#### **Decision**

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee Work Programme 18 February 2020, submitted.)

### **4. Business Bulletin**

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#### **Decision**

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee Business Bulletin 18 February 2020, submitted.)

### **5. Revenue Monitoring 2019/20 - Month Eight Position- referral from the Finance and Resources Committee**

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The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for consideration, which set out the projected Council-wide revenue budget position for the year based on analysis of period eight data, building on the earlier in-year forecasts reported to the Finance and Resources Committee.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To agree that details of the membership of the Housing Services Improvement Plan Board would be circulated.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 23 January 2020; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

### **6. Capital Monitoring 2019/20- Month Eight Position - referral from the Finance and Resources Committee**

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The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report which provided capital expenditure and income forecasts for 2019/20, providing explanations for significant

variances, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee to consider as part of its work plan.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To agree that details of any payment for Leith Theatre due to delays caused by relocation of an electrical substation would be circulated.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 23 January 2020; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

## **7. Accounts Commission: Local Government in Scotland – Financial Overview 2018/19 - referral from the Finance and Resources Committee**

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The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report which provided a summary of the main issues and themes identified within the Accounts Commission's recently-published Financial Overview 2018/19 and how these related to the local context within Edinburgh to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee to consider as part of its work plan.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To agree that a briefing note on the transfer of moneys from the NHS to the Council, and the recent SPICe briefing on Local Government Finance would be circulated.
- 3) To note Committee's request that the report should be considered at the next meeting of the IJB Audit and Assurance Committee.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 23 January 2020; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

## **8. Treasury Management Mid-Term Report 2019/20 - referral from the City of Edinburgh Council**

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The City of Edinburgh Council had referred a report which provided an update on Treasury Management Activity undertaken in the first half of 2019/20, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee to consider as part of its work plan.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.

- 2) To note the Committee's thanks to the Principal Treasury & Banking Manager and his team for the level of outperformance against the benchmark.

(References – City of Edinburgh Council, 6 February 2020; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

## **9. Internal Audit: Proposed Changes to the 2019/20 Internal Audit Annual Plan**

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Details were provided of five routine (non-urgent) changes to the 2019/20 Internal Audit annual plan.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note that the five proposed routine (non-urgent) changes to the 2019/20 Internal Audit (IA) annual plan have been discussed with both the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) and the Committee Convenor, who have confirmed their agreement in principle.
- 2) To approve the five proposed changes.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, 28 August 2018 (item12); report by the Chief Internal Auditor, submitted.)

## **10. Annual Assurance Schedule - Chief Executive**

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The Chief Executive Annual Assurance Schedule was submitted for scrutiny and to note that an action plan would be developed in response to areas where controls needed to be enhanced.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the annual assurance schedule.
- 2) To agree that details would be provided on item 3.2 of the assurance statement in relation to the service area's controls to effectively manage off-payroll workers/contractors, including what the issues were and how they were followed up.

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

## **11. The EDI Group - update report - referral from the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee**

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The Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee had referred a report which provided an update on the progress of the transition strategy for the EDI Group Limited, which aimed to close the group and its subsidiary companies and bring their projects and assets into the Council.

## **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To request that the forthcoming 2019 Annual Accounts report include detail of the reasons for the reduced revenue for the Market Street Hotel.

(References – Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee, 20 January 2020; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)