

Minutes

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 16 February 2021

Present

Councillors Mowat (Convener), Bird, Jim Campbell, Child, Dixon, Doggart, Munro, Osler (substituting for Councillor Gillian Gloyer), Staniforth and Work.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 19 January 2021 as a correct record.

2. Outstanding Actions

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 - Revenue Budget 2020/21 – Month Three Position

Action 9 – Internal Audit Revisiting Internal Audit Extension Timeframes

Action 10 -Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) Risk Register

Action 12 - Annual Assurance Schedule - Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

Action 14 - Annual Assurance Schedule -Communities and Families

Action 16 (1) - Quarterly Services Update - Digital Services

2) To otherwise note the outstanding actions.

(Reference – Outstanding Actions 16 February 2021, submitted.)

3. Work Programme

Decision

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee Work Programme 16 February 2021, submitted.)

4. Business Bulletin

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee Business Bulletin was presented.

Decision

- 1) To agree to circulate a briefing note to Committee from the Chief Executive of The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) and the Chief Officer of the Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board (EIJB) to clarify how the Council can control the risks it is exposed to through the EIJB.
- 2) To agree to organise a workshop for Committee Members with attendance from, the Chief Internal Auditor, the Governance Democracy and Resilience Senior Manager and the Chief Officer of the EIJB, to consider the working relationship between CEC and the EIJB, ownership of risks, members' level of comfort with risks and to reflect upon the findings of the Feeley Review of Adult Social Care.
- 3) To agree to circulate the Derek Feeley review of Adult Social Care.
- 4) To otherwise note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee Business Bulletin 16 February 2021, submitted)

5. Revenue Budget 2020/21: Month Eight Position – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny, which provided an update on the estimated expenditure and income impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic upon the Council and its Arm's-Length External Organisations (ALEOs) during 2020/21, alongside offsetting sources of confirmed or anticipated funding, based on analysis of income and expenditure for the period to the end of October 2020.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 21 January 2021; referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

6. 2020-30 Capital Budget Strategy – 2020/21 Month Eight Monitoring – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report which provided capital expenditure and income forecasts for 2020/21, providing explanations for variances, to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee to consider as part of its work plan.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 21 January 2021; referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

7. Accounts Commission: Local Government in Scotland – Financial Overview 2019/20 - referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

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 2019/20 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

To note the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 2 February 2021; referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

8. Annual Assurance Schedule – Chief Executive - Strategy and Communications

Each year the City of Edinburgh Council requires that Executive Directors complete Certificates of Assurance that represent their view of the effectiveness and appropriateness of controls in their areas of responsibility. These Certificates support the Annual Governance Statement which is a component part of the authority's Statement of Accounts. The Annual Assurance Schedule from Strategy and Communications was presented.

Decision

To note the annual assurance schedule.

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

9. **Edinburgh Living Annual Report 2019 – referral from the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee**

The Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee had referred the annual report for Edinburgh Living which provided an overview of the financial year for 2019, including activities carried out by Edinburgh Living, the financial position at the end of the year and key areas of work for 2020.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee, 14 January 2021; referral from the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Daggart declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a corporate member of Edinburgh Living.