


Business Bulletin

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 08 March 2022

Teams Meeting

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Joanna Mowat</p> 	<p>Councillor Scott Arthur Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron Councillor Jim Campbell Councillor Mary Campbell Councillor Phil Daggart Councillor Gillian Gloyer Councillor Melanie Main Councillor Frank Ross Councillor Norman Work Councillor Ethan Young</p>	<p>Rachel Gentleman Committee Officer 0131 529 4107</p>

Recent news	Background/Contact
<p>First Line Governance and Assurance Model</p> <p>Rolling Actions Log – Action 8</p> <p>Education and Children’s Services – The Operations Manager has now been recruited and started on 7 February 2022. This new role will assist with the implementation of audit actions.</p> <p>Corporate Services - The Directorate Assurance Officer took up post on the 22nd December 2021 and is currently focussing on Internal Audit activity and the prioritisation of assurance activities for the Directorate. Funding for the additional Line 2 roles within Legal and Assurance has now been approved as part of the budget, recruitment for these roles will now commence.</p> <p>Place – The new Operations Manager started working in the Place Directorate on 1 November 2021 and continues to work on the prioritisation and implementation of assurance activities, with an initial focus on Internal Audit management actions.</p> <p>Health and Social Care Partnership – The Partnership has allocated a Directorate Assurance Officer to support first line activity alongside its Operations Manager. Following recruitment and due to the withdrawal of the preferred candidate, a further recruitment exercise for the Assurance Officer has commenced with interviews scheduled for the 22 & 23 February.</p>	<p>Nick Smith, Service Director: Legal and Assurance Division, Corporate Services Directorate Tel: 0131 529 4377</p>

Rolling Actions Log – Action 13.2

It was requested at GRBV on 9 November 2021 that the Implementation of Best Value Assurance Review recommendations be reported to each meeting of GRBV under the Business Bulletin to monitor progress towards completion dates. Please see the details provided in the subsequent table.

Tel: 07768 838 031

Best Value Assurance Audit Status Update – March 2022

GRBV Business Bulletin Best Value Assurance Audit Response Summary Update

Members should note that the March progress table containing detailed updates under each key recommendation is available on the GRBV MS Teams Channel.

Key update:

- A further update report on the Council's revenue budget framework was considered by the Finance and Resources Committee on 3 February 2022. The report outlined a number of proposed changes to current planning assumptions, including a revised level of grant funding following the announcement of council-specific allocations for 2022/23 on 20 December 2021. These assumptions were subsequently revised following the announcement of additional one-off funding as part of the Scottish Budget Bill's Parliamentary consideration, with the report referred to Council for decision on 24 February.
- The report considered by the Finance and Resources Committee on 3 February also provided an overview of the proposed process through which detailed options to address the significant funding gaps in 2023/24 and subsequent years of the budget framework will be developed.
- An approach to workforce planning has been developed and agreed. A workforce plan has now been completed by Human Resources (as a pilot to the approach) and has now been rolled out to: Education, Customer Services, Waste, Facilities Management, Culture and Housing. The timeline for completion of these will be impacted on service capacity and organisational reviews currently underway e.g. Place Directorate.
- The Council's Performance was considered at the February meeting of the Policy and Sustainability Committee. Commencing in March, Service Teams will undertake a review of the year 1 annual plans and performance. This will inform the development of annual plans for 22/23 at directorate, divisional and service team level. The implementation of directorate, divisional and service team scorecards, dashboard and action tracers is in progress.
- The Council is currently reviewing the EFQM (excellence model) methodology and toolsets for self-evaluation.

- Work on the medium and long-term response to support elected members to take advantage of learning and development opportunities provided by the Council continues.

Including:

- the training needs analysis.
 - an elected member survey was live for 4 weeks and closed on 13 Feb.
 - interviews have been offered to all councillors to provide an opportunity for members to provide feedback on previous/current training to inform the development of training post May 2022.
 - 4/7 committee evaluation sessions have now been completed with the other 3 scheduled.
 - A draft induction (May/June 2022) and follow up programme (Autumn 2022) is currently with directorates/key officers for comment.
 - A political group mentoring session has also been offered to all political groups.
 - There has also been discussion with the Improvement Service and academic partners to deliver training sessions.
- An updated version of Edinburgh by Numbers and Locality Profiles will be published in February/early March.
 - The first review of the Council's Consultation Policy has begun, involving stakeholders and colleagues. This will report to the Policy and Sustainability Committee in June 2022.
 - The Council and community councils continue to implement the actions identified in the collaborative framework. Development of the partnership element of the work is ongoing with progress to be reported to the Edinburgh Partnership Board in March 2022, following meetings with the EACC. A progress report on the framework was approved by the Culture and Communities Committee on 1 February 2022 and will be considered by GBRV at this meeting (8 March 2022).
 - Work on the Edinburgh Partnership Empowerment Plan is ongoing. A phased programme of engagement with stakeholders is planned between February and July 2022, with a progress report planned to go to the Edinburgh Partnership Board in March.