Business Bulletin

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee 10.00am, Tuesday, 11 October 2022

Teams Meeting



Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
Councillor Kate Campbell	Councillor Jule Bandel Councillor Katrina Faccenda	Rachel Gentleman Committee Officer 0131 529 4107
	Councillor Stephen Jenkinson	
	Councillor Adam McVey	
	Councillor Claire Miller	
	Councillor Joanna Mowat	
	Councillor Vicky Nicolson	
	Councillor Jason Rust	
	Councillor Edward Thornley	
	Councillor Lewis Younie	

Recent news Background/Contact

First Line Governance and Assurance Model

Rolling Action Log

Education and Children's Services – The Operations Manager started on 7 February 2022, since then we have commenced with monthly Internal Audit update meetings with the relevant colleagues involved across the Directorate. Ensuring audits are prioritised implemented. Risk and Assurance updates are communicated to SMT regularly to ensure awareness and understanding.

Corporate Services - The Directorate Assurance Officer is currently focussing on Internal Audit activity and the prioritisation of assurance activities for the Directorate. The governance officers are progressing with developing the framework.

Place – The Operations Manager continues to work on the prioritisation and implementation of assurance activities, with a continued focus on Internal Audit management actions and the Risk Framework.

Health and Social Care Partnership – The Directorate Assurance Officer is working on the implementation of assurance activities with an ongoing focus on Internal Audit management actions.

Framework development

Nick Smith,
Service Director: Legal
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Directorate

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As noted previously, development of the assurance reporting framework has been delayed due to other activities taking priority, principally whistleblowing. However, design continues and Committee should note that assurance activity is already taking place within directorates.

Update for the following action:

To request that the next review of the Report template for Council and committees includes a 'risk' section to ensure.

Due to resource pressures and the need to prioritise the review of political management arrangements and Standing Orders there are a number of governance workstreams that required to be pushed back into early 2023, namely the guide to the Council's governance and committee system, the further development of the governance and assurance framework and the ALEO management framework. Work is still progressing in these areas but at a slower rate until vacant posts are filled and other priority areas are concluded.

<u>City of Edinburgh Council - 2020/21 Annual Audit Report to the Council and the Controller of Audit</u>

Rolling Action Log

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 to monitor progress towards completion dates. Please see the details provided below.

GRBV Business Bulletin Best Value Assurance Audit Response Summary Update –

Members should note that the October progress table containing detailed updates under each key recommendation is available on the GRBV MS Teams Channel. The summary below only covers key updates from the period August-October.

Key update:

 An update on the Council's revenue budget planning assumptions was considered by the Finance and Resources Committee on 8 September 2022, indicating an increase in the estimated savings requirement for 2023/24 to £70.4m and £152.9m over the period to 2026/27 whilst noting a number of other inflation-related risks and pressures. Members also noted progress in the

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- development of the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan and the intention to present draft budget proposals for 2023/24 and broad programmes of activity to contribute towards future years' savings requirements at the Committee's meeting on 10 November 2022.
- The Council's full Annual Performance Report (APR) 2021/2022 and LGBF 2020/2021 report was approved by the Policy and Sustainability Committee 30 August 2022 and the APR by Council on 22 September 2022.
- The revised Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) will be considered by the Culture and Communities Committee at its meeting on 4 October 2022.
- A further two community asset transfers have been concluded, bringing the total number of completed transfers to six since the introduction of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
- In addition, a further two transfers have been agreed to by the Council and legal work is ongoing to bring them to a successful conclusion.
- After a hiatus during lockdown, community groups have resumed CAT activity and are preparing requests. Two stage 2 applications are being processed, six groups are preparing detailed business plans for consideration and a further seven further live cases are being discussed with applicants. We continue to receive initial enquiries on a regular basis, with 24 considered over the last reporting year.