


Business Bulletin

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 23 August 2022

Teams Meeting

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

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

Recent news	Background/Contact
<p>First Line Governance and Assurance Model</p> <p>Rolling Action Log</p> <p>Education and Children’s Services – The Operations Manager started on 7 February 2022 and is now actively involved and overseeing all the audits within the Directorate.</p> <p>Corporate Services - The Directorate Assurance Officer is currently focussing on Internal Audit activity and the prioritisation of assurance activities for the Directorate. Three new governance officers have also started within the Governance team. Work on developing the framework continues.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Health and Social Care Partnership – The Directorate Assurance Officer is working on the prioritisation and implementation of assurance activities with an ongoing focus on Internal Audit management actions.</p> <p>Framework development</p> <p>It was originally hoped that the Governance and Assurance roles would be in place to enable design of the assurance reporting framework which services will operate to be complete by June</p>	<p>Nick Smith, Service Director: Legal and Assurance Division, Corporate Services Directorate</p> <p>Tel: 0131 529 4377</p>

2022. However, the impact of the Council 22 elections and substantial increase in levels of whistleblowing have meant that these tasks have had to take priority.

The design is ongoing and currently expected to be complete by 31 October 2022, with the first cycle of reporting through the relevant risk committees expected in early 2023. However, as noted above, assurance activity is already taking place within directorates.

[Council Companies – Edinburgh Leisure Annual Report 2020/21](#)

At Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee in March 2022, the Council Companies - Edinburgh Leisure Annual Report 2020/21 report was considered. It was requested that an update be provided on staffing issues and confirmation that Edinburgh Leisure was a Living Wage Employer.

Staff recruitment update from Edinburgh Leisure

Edinburgh Leisure have had recruitment challenges particularly in wet leisure attendants and coaches / instructors in swimming and gymnastics. The challenges around recruiting swim and gymnastic coaches are not new (it was an issue pre covid) but covid has exacerbated this area and they are continuing to take steps to try and address, however the situation does mean their swim and gymnastic programmes are restricted. The recruitment challenges in swim teachers is replicated in leisure trusts throughout Scotland. The recruitment of wet leisure attendants has improved recently but overall recruitment continues to be challenging and unpredictable.

Edinburgh Leisure and the Living Wage

On [17 March 2022](#) the Council agreed that the Chief Executive should write to all of the Council's Arm's Length External Organisations (ALEOs) to set out the expectation that the organisations should be Living Wage accredited by March 2023. Officers were asked to work with the ALEOs to support them achieving this.

Edinburgh Leisure currently pays the 'Real Living Wage' rate of £9.90 (there is no restrictions on age etc.) however they are not a member of the Living Wage Foundation.

[City of Edinburgh Council - 2020/21 Annual Audit Report to the Council and the Controller of Audit](#)

Rolling Action Log

It was requested at GRBV on 9 November 2021 that the Implementation of Best Value Assurance Review

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[Hayley Barnett](#),

Corporate Governance Manager, Legal and Assurance Division, Corporate Services Directorate

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 August progress table containing detailed updates under each key recommendation is available on the [GRBV MS Teams Channel](#).

Key update:

- While the Council has approved a balanced revenue budget for 2022/23, there are significant financial challenges going forward. Current projections indicate a need to deliver at least £63m of recurring savings in 2023/24, increasing to £144m over the five-year period to 2026/27. The grant funding and other planning assumptions underlying these gaps were reviewed following the publication of the Scottish Government's Resource Spending Review on 31 May and, given increasing inflation-related pressures, a further update will be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee on 8 September.
- In recognising the urgency of this requirement, Directorates have been asked to develop potential savings options with reference to the priorities set out in the Council's business plan. These proposals will be the subject of a process of co-design between the incoming administration and officers and form the basis of planned public consultation in Autumn 2022.
- 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.
- The initial 8-week elected member training and induction programme is now complete and development of the ongoing programme 2022/2023 is now being programmed. An evaluation of the programme to date will take place.
- All elected members will also have access to mylearninghub where all materials will be stored and

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members can use this to continually enhance their personal learning and development.

- An updated version of Edinburgh by Numbers and Locality Profiles was 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 August 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, following meetings with the EACC. The EACC planned to submit a report to the partnership in June to take forward the collaborative working. This however was deferred on their request. A report on the engagement programme for the Edinburgh Partnership Empowerment Strategy will be presented to the Board at its September 2022 meeting.
- A progress report on the framework was approved by the Culture and Communities Committee on 1 February 2022 and was considered by GBRV at the meeting on 8 March 2022.
- Work on the Edinburgh Partnership Empowerment Plan is ongoing.