

# STANDARDS AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Standards and Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 5 September 2007 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors K Baird, J Law, I Campbell, G Hayton (substituting for Councillor A Gaunt), D Scott, B Vaughan and A Younger and Mr I Jackson.

In Attendance: D Roberts (Executive Director – Housing & Community Care); J Valentine (Depute Director – The Environment Service); H Hope (The Environment Service); J Fyffe (Depute Director – Education & Children’s Services); B Atkinson (Education & Children’s Services); G Taylor, B Renton and J Dickson (all Chief Executive’s Service).

Councillor K Baird, Convener, Presiding.

## **533. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors’ Code of Conduct.

## **534. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minute of Meeting of the Standards and Scrutiny Committee of 20 June 2007 (Arts. 362-365) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

## **\* 535. THE ENVIRONMENT SERVICE – ANNUAL SERVICE PERFORMANCE REPORT 2006/2007 (Art. 511)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (07/548) (1) reviewing performance against The Environment Service Business Management and Improvement Plan for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007, and (2) highlighting areas of good performance in delivering service objectives and areas for performance improvement.

The Depute Director (Environment) was present to answer members’ questions on a number of issues.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 07/548 be noted.
- (ii) The Environment Service – Business Management and Improvement Plan and Action Plan, as detailed in the Appendix to Report 07/548, be noted.
- (iii) Reports detailing performance during 2007-2008 and each subsequent year of the Plan be submitted to future meetings of the Standards and Scrutiny Committee.

## **\* 536. EDUCATION AND CHILDREN’S SERVICES – ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2006/2007 (Art. 488)**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) (07/543) providing information on the performance against targets of the Education and Children’s Services Business Management and Improvement Plan for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

B Atkinson, Education and Children’s Services, was present to answer members’ questions in relation to a number of issues.

### **Resolved:**

The progress made with the Education & Children’s Services – Business Management and Improvement Plan and Action Plan, be noted.

## **\* 537. COMMUNITY CARE COMPLAINTS (Art. 474)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (07/525) (1) detailing the formal complaints relating to Community Care that had been received from

April 2006 to March 2007, (2) noting the number of informal complaints which were balanced by details of compliments received, and (3) outlining the actions that had been undertaken or were required to improve the service provided to service users.

The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) was present to answer members' questions in relation to a number of issues.

**Resolved:**

The contents of Report 07/525 be noted.

**\* 538. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2006-2007: HOUSING AND BUILDING SERVICES (Art. 305)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (07/377), providing details of performance against Housing and Building Services Business Management and Improvement Plan targets for the year ending 31 March 2007.

The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) was present to answer members' questions on a number of issues.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The annual performance report for Housing and Building Services division of Housing and Community Care, as detailed in the Appendix to Report 07/377, be noted.
- (ii) The publication of the Annual Performance report on the Council's website, along with the availability of a summary report to all stakeholders, be noted.

**\* 539. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY CARE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (Art. 306)**

There was submitted a report by Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (07/379) reviewing the performance of Community Care and Criminal Justice Services for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) was present to answer members' questions on a number of issues.

**Resolved:**

The contents of Report 07/379 be noted.

**\* 540. COMMUNITIES SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF LANDLORD AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES (Art. 472)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (07/523) (1) providing details on the outcome of the inspection of Landlord and Homelessness Services by Communities Scotland; and (2) seeking approval of an improvement plan developed in response to the key areas requiring targeted improvement.

The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) was present to answer members' questions.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Improvement Plan, as detailed in Appendix A to Report 07/523, be noted.
- (ii) It be noted that the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) had been remitted to agree a finalised Improvement Plan with Communities Scotland by 7 September 2007.

**541. REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES – INSPECTION REPORTS BY REGISTRAR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Democratic Services (07/579) commenting on the annual inspection reports from the Registrar General for Scotland on the provision of registration services in the Perth and Kinross local government area in 2006.

The Head of Democratic Services was present to answer members' questions.

**Resolved:**

The contents of Report 07/579 with regard to the annual inspection reports by the Registrar General for Scotland for 2006 on the provision of registration services in Perth and Kinross local government area, be noted.

**542. RISK MANAGEMENT YEAR END PROGRESS REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Strategic Management and Improvement (07/580) detailing the progress made in risk management during 2006/2007 in complying with the Local Code of Corporate Governance and outlining the Risk Management Plan for the forthcoming year 2007/2008.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Risk Management year-end report highlighting the progress made during 2006/2007 in complying with the Local Code of Corporate Governance be noted.
- (ii) The Risk Management Plan for the forthcoming year 2007/2008 be approved.