

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 31 October 2007 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors K Baird, J Law, I Campbell, A Gaunt, W Lumsden, D Scott and B Vaughan and Mrs H Bridge, Mr J Jackson and Mr D Stewart.

In Attendance: G Stevenson (Executive Director – Corporate Services), R Thomson and E Crighton (both Corporate Services); J Fyffe (Depute Director of Education & Children's Services); M Anderson (Education & Children's Services); G Taylor, T Yule, B Renton and J Dickson (all Chief Executive's Service).

Councillor Baird, Convener, Presiding.

639. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

640. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Minute of Meeting of Standards and Scrutiny Committee of 5 September 2007

The Minute of Meeting of the Standards and Scrutiny Committee of 5 September 2007 (Arts. 533-542) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Minute of Meeting of Audit Sub Committee of 13 September 2007

The Minute of Meeting of the Audit Sub-Committee of 13 September 2007 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix I*)

641. ATTAINMENT IN PERTH AND KINROSS SCHOOLS 2007 (Art. 610)

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (07/691) (1) analysing pupil attainment in primary schools and at S2 in secondary schools, (2) analysing the performance of candidates presented by Perth and Kinross schools in the Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) 2007 Examination diets and (3) outlining the specific actions proposed or currently underway to raise further the levels of attainment and achievement for all learners across Perth and Kinross.

The Depute Director of Education & Children's Services was present to answer members' questions in relation to a number of issues.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 07/691 be approved.
- (ii) It be noted that the Lifelong Learning Committee at its meeting on 17 October 2007 agreed to endorse the proposals to raise levels of attainment achievement as set out in the report and to instruct the Interim Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) to ensure that schools take forward the agreed outcomes of the learning and achievement visits through their School Improvement Plans.

J FYFFE AND M ANDERSON LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS STAGE.

642. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT – 1 APRIL 2006 TO 31 MARCH 2007 (Art. 550(i))

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (07/692) reviewing the performance of the Chief Executive's Service for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

The Head of Strategic Management and Improvement and the Head of Democratic Services were present to answer members' questions in relation to a number of issues.

Resolved:

- (i) It be noted that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 2007 had approved the Chief Executive's Annual Performance Report.
- (ii) The Chief Executive's Annual Performance Report for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007 be approved.

643. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (07/693) presenting the Business Management and Improvement Plan for the Chief Executive's Service for the period 2007 – 2010.

The Head of Strategic Management and Improvement and the Head of Democratic Services were present to answer members' questions in relation to a number of issues.

Resolved:

- (i) It be noted that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 2007 had approved the Chief Executive's Business Management and Improvement Plan 2007 – 2010.
- (ii) The Chief Executive's Business Management and Improvement 2007 – 2010 be approved and it be noted that further reports would be prepared on reviewing the performance of the service as per corporate guidelines.

D STEWART LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS STAGE.

I JACKSON LEFT THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

644. CORPORATE SERVICES ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (Art. 550(ii))

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Corporate Services) (07/694) reviewing the performance of Corporate Services for the period of 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007.

The Executive Director (Corporate Services) and representatives of Corporate Services were present to answer members' questions in relation to a number of issues.

Resolved:

- (i) It be noted that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 2007 had approved the Corporate Services Annual Performance Report.
- (ii) The contents of Report 07/693, reviewing the performance of Corporate Services for the period from 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007, be approved.

MRS BRIDGE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

645. CORPORATE SERVICES BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2007 - 2010

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Corporate Services) (07/695) presenting the Business Management and Improvement Plan for Corporate Services for the period 2007 – 2010.

The Executive Director (Corporate Services) was present to answer members' questions in relation to a number of issues.

Resolved:

- (i) It be noted that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 2007 had approved the Corporate Services Business Management and Improvement Plan 2007 – 2010.
- (ii) The contents of the Business Management and Improvement Plan be approved and further reports be prepared reviewing the performance of the service in line with the Corporate Performance Management Process.

646. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE

Resolved:

Councillor W Lumsden replace Councillor A Younger on the Audit Sub-Committee.