

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

ACTION SHEET MASTER COPY

AUDIT and SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2018/19

Notes:-

1. Paragraphs Marked with a * require full Council approval before action can be taken
2. Items for which no actions are required are not included

TITLE	DECISION REQUIRING ACTION	DIRECTORATE/ SECTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	STATUS
25 June 2018				
National Performance Reports by Audit Scotland	(b) AGREED the proposed schedule for presentation of the National Performance Reports by Audit Scotland.	Finance Assets & Infrastructure	Chief Financial Officer Service Director Assets and Infrastructure	Complete - "2016/17 audit of Dundee City Council: Report of a significant fraud" March 2018 was presented to A&SC 24 September 2018. "2016/17 audit of City of Edinburgh Council: Report on Edinburgh Schools" April 2018 to be included in "Property Assurance" report for presentation 14 January 2019.
23 August 2018				
Welfare Benefits Service Changes Petition	AGREED: (a) that the service provision for welfare benefits claimants continue to be monitored on a regular basis, including seeking the views of clients on the service being provided; (b) that consultation, including with service users, be carried out prior to any future changes to service provision; (c) that communications be developed on how the service worked and could be accessed to try to address some of the misconceptions around claiming for benefits; (d) work with Border Care Service to agree on the criteria for key performance indicators; and (e) review the requests within the petition and provide a briefing note to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee and the petitioner on what could be put in place.	Customer & Communities	Service Director Customer & Communities	(a) New tools developed to achieve this. (b) Complete (c) Communication plan - complete (d) re-scheduled meeting to take place on 29 November 2018 (e) will be finalised after the meeting with Borders Care Voice.

TITLE	DECISION REQUIRING ACTION	DIRECTORATE/ SECTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	STATUS
Delivery of the IT Strategy and Plan within Scottish Borders	(b) AGREED that Members would check the private report on the ICT Review which had been considered by Council in March 2016 and send any questions to the Chief Financial Officer and Service Director Customer and Communities in advance of another meeting of Audit and Scrutiny to consider the delivery of the Council's IT Strategy and Plan.	n/a	Members	Added to Scrutiny Work Programme for presentation to 18 April 2019
1 November 2018				
Cove Car Park Petition	AGREED to refer the issues raised by the Cove Car Park petition to the Service Director Assets & Infrastructure to carry out the following work: (a) Introduce the new TRO proposing a restriction on vehicle size to under 3.5 tonnes and a time limit for parking of 48 hours; (b) include the Cove road in the proposed review of speed limits due to start in Summer 2019, with the aim of reducing the speed limit on the road to 30mph; (c) ensure the signage "Unsuitable for HGV/buses" and "No Through Road" be erected as soon as possible; (d) review the current layout of the car parking spaces to ascertain if further spaces could be made, including a turning area for large vehicles e.g. the refuse lorry; (e) consider erecting a "Slow pedestrians" sign; (f) seek clarification on the ownership of the car park; and (g) consider options for permitted parking for residents, liaising with Mr Payne and Cove residents on the way forward.	Asset and Infrastructure	Service Director Asset & Infrastructure	
Broadband Review	(b) that a special meeting of Audit and Scrutiny Committee to consider the Broadband Review would be held on Monday 5 November at 1pm in Committee Room 2 with a presentation by Scottish Government Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) team.	Democratic Services	Clerk to the Council	Complete – Meeting held on 5 November 2018.
5 November 2018				
Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB)	(a) that a special meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee to further consider the Broadband Review would be held on Wednesday 21 November; and (b) that the DSSB would provide further data if possible on the number of properties not connected and the number of properties not passed the level of >2Mbps.	Executive Director	Chief Officer Economic Development	Complete – Meeting held on 21 November 2018.

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21 November 2018				
Review of Broadband improvements in the Scottish Borders	<p>AGREED that officers would include the following points in the draft report in terms of the scope of the Review:</p> <p>(a) the assessment of the final coverage delivered by Contract 1 of the DSSB Programme and the associated Gainshare project – the spirit of the contract had been delivered although there had been a lack of clarity on the what was meant by coverage;</p> <p>(b) the quality of that coverage and any variations between premises in towns, villages and the countryside – postcode coverage; technical issues once the actual work started; exchange only lines; and long lines from cabinet to premises;</p> <p>(c) how appropriate and effective the communication processes used during the roll-out were, and whether appropriate information sharing and openness was evident to all stakeholders throughout the programme – inhibited by the commercial confidentiality; the scale and complexity of the problems; the need for simple messages to the public to sign up to superfast broadband; and raised aspirations;</p> <p>(d) did the Programme deliver appropriate value for money in relation to the Council’s £8.4M investment – possibly, depended on % in Scottish Borders against that in other areas;</p> <p>(e) how successful the take up of superfast broadband has been across the Scottish Borders – the numbers in the Scottish Borders compared to that nationally and how the numbers were spread across the Borders; and</p> <p>(f) identify appropriate lessons for future programmes, such as the new R100 Programme – transparency and openness especially on difficulties or challenges encountered; a break in the contract if there was a significant change in technology; and any website should contain information on each premises within a postcode area.</p>	Executive Director	Chief Officer Economic Development	Complete – review report presented at meeting on 27 November 2018.

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27 November 2018				
Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2018/19	AGREED b) recommend the presentation of the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2018/19, as contained in Appendix 1, to Council for approval of the revised indicators.	Finance	Chief Financial Officer	Complete – Presented to Council on 29 November 2018
Broadband Review	AGREED that Officers b) include an additional recommendation in the DSSB review report; and c) present a report on the outcome of the review to the Executive Committee on 4 December 2018.	Executive Director	Chief Officer Economic Development	Complete – Presented to Executive Committee on 4 December 2018