



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL

**TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2021
VIA DIGITAL MEETING FACILITY**

Committee Members Present:

Provost J McMillan (Convener)	Councillor C Hoy
Councillor S Akhtar	Councillor W Innes
Councillor L Bruce	Councillor S Kempson
Councillor S Currie	Councillor G Mackett
Councillor F Dugdale	Councillor K Mackie
Councillor J Findlay	Councillor C McGinn
Councillor A Forrest	Councillor P McLennan
Councillor N Gilbert	Councillor K McLeod
Councillor J Goodfellow	Councillor F O'Donnell
Councillor N Hampshire	Councillor T Trotter
Councillor J Henderson	Councillor J Williamson

Council Officials Present:

Ms M Patterson, Chief Executive
Ms A MacDonald, Director of Health and Social Care
Mr A McCrorie, Depute Chief Executive
Ms L Brown, Executive Director for Education and Children's Services
Mr J Lamond, Executive Director for Council Resources
Mr D Proudfoot, Executive Director for Place
Ms S Saunders, Head of Communities and Partnerships
Ms S Fortune, Head of Finance
Mr T Reid, Head of Infrastructure
Ms J Tait, Head of Children's Services
Ms L Byrne, Group Service Manager – Children's Services
Mr R Campbell, Service Improvement Manager – Children's Services
Mr S Cooper, Team Manager – Communications
Mr J Coutts, Service Manager – Community Housing and Homelessness
Ms R Crichton, Committees Officer
Ms F Currie, Committees Officer
Mr C Grilli, Service Manager – Legal and Procurement
Mr K Dingwall, Service Manager – Planning
Ms K MacNeill, Service Manager – People and Governance
Ms W McGuire, Team Leader – Strategy and Development
Mr R Montgomery, Project Manager
Ms R Pringle, Strategy Officer – Economic Development
Ms C Rodgers, Team Manager – Improvement
Mr A Stewart, Project Manager – Growth Delivery
Mr P Vestri, Service Manager – Corporate Policy and Improvement

Visitors Present:

None

Clerk:

Mrs L Gillingwater

Apologies:

None

Declarations of Interest:

None

Prior to the commencement of business, the Provost advised that the meeting was being held remotely, in accordance with the Scottish Government's guidance on physical distancing; that the meeting would be recorded and live streamed; and that it would be made available via the Council's website as a webcast, in order to allow public access to the democratic process in East Lothian. He noted that the Council was the data controller under the Data Protection Act 2018; that data collected as part of the recording would be retained in accordance with the Council's policy on record retention; and that the webcast of the meeting would be publicly available for up to six months from the date of the meeting.

The clerk recorded attendance by roll call.

Order of Business

The Provost advised that Item 8 would be taken prior to the break.

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

The minutes of the following meeting were approved: East Lothian Council, 15 December 2020.

2. BUDGET DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING SETTING OF RENT LEVELS 2021-26

A report was submitted by the Executive Director for Council Resources providing an update of recent developments in respect of the Local Government Finance Settlement as well as advising on budget proposals for the Housing Revenue Account.

The Head of Finance, Sarah Fortune, presented the report, advising Members that the Council would normally be notified of the Scottish Government grant settlement in mid-December; however, this year the draft settlement figure had not been released until 1 February and it covered the 2021/22 financial year only – the Scottish Government budget process would not be completed until 9 March. She referred Members to Section 3.4 of the report, which provided further detail on this. Ms Fortune predicted that, going forward, the Council's General Services budget would have a shortfall of more than £4m in each of the next three financial years. On the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), she advised that the annual consultation with tenants had been undertaken, with a summary of the findings set out in Appendix 1 to the report. She confirmed that the Administration's proposed amendment to the HRA proposals presented to

Cabinet in January 2021 was competent and in compliance with the Council's Financial Strategy.

In response to questions from Councillor Williamson regarding the rent consultation exercise and rent arrears, Ms Fortune confirmed that there had been a reduction in the level of rent collection, and that additional efforts were being made to work with tenants to ensure that rental income could be recovered. On the consultation exercise, Douglas Proudfoot, Executive Director for Place, advised that the level of response was higher than in previous years; however, he could not draw any conclusions on this other than the information set out at Section 1.8 of Appendix 1 to the report.

Councillor Akhtar asked for an update on the costs associated with reopening schools. Ms Fortune reminded Members of the Scottish Government's initial commitment to support the reopening of schools, and that discussions were ongoing in relation to evidencing that the costs in question were required. She noted that no funding had been received to date, but that she anticipated that this would be forthcoming soon. She did not have confirmation of the additional funding that would be allocated to the Council for the reopening of schools.

Councillor Hampshire opened the debate by expressing his disappointment that the Scottish Government grant funding would only cover one year, and that the Council would need to produce a three-year budget based on assumptions. He noted that the funding available did not allow for the delivery of growth in East Lothian.

Councillor Akhtar voiced her concern at the projected funding gap, and called on the Council to support Unison's 'Fund the Gap' campaign.

Councillor Currie noted that the Scottish Government had only been given figures for one year from the UK Government, and that the comprehensive spending review process had not yet been concluded. He commented that the any additional funding to local government should be welcomed.

Councillor Goodfellow thanked East Lothian Tenants and Residents' Association and tenants for their participation in the tenants' survey, noting that a high proportion of respondents were happy with the level of consultation and agreed with the Council's commitment to building new homes and modernising existing stock.

Decision

The Council agreed:

- i. to note the implications for the Council arising from the Scottish Government Draft Budget announced on 28 January 2021; and
- ii. to consider and make recommendations in relation to the respective Housing budget proposal included at Item 3 of the agenda, reflecting an updated amendment to the Draft Administration Proposal for Housing approved by Cabinet on 19 January 2021.

3. RENT PROPOSALS 2021/22 – 2025/26

Councillor Goodfellow presented the Administration's Housing budget to the Council. He made reference to the complexities in setting rent levels during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to allow for 'targeted intervention which best supports tenants in the immediate short term, whilst supporting longer-term ambitions'. He advised that the annual consultation with tenants had been based on a proposal to increase rents by 2% in 2021/22, noting that this

had been supported by those who responded to the consultation. However, since then, with the impact of the pandemic on the Council's capital programme and lower than predicted debt charges, as well as the financial impact of COVID-19 on Council tenants, the Administration was now of the view that rent levels should be frozen for 2021/22. Councillor Goodfellow hoped that over the next five years the Council would be able to spend more than £175m on new Council homes and modernising existing stock, but cautioned that this would depend on future affordability and setting rents at levels which were affordable to tenants.

Councillor Forrest seconded the Administration's amendment. He thanked all those involved in the consultation exercise, recognising the importance of listening to the views of tenants. He welcomed the proposed rent freeze, in light of the difficult circumstances.

Councillor Bruce thanked the Administration for working constructively with his Group on the HRA proposals and welcomed the proposed rent freeze, which he believed would make life easier for many families at this challenging time. He advised that he was also broadly supportive of the longer-term strategy for the HRA, particularly the building of new homes and modernisation of existing stock, which would benefit current and future tenants.

Councillor Currie thanked staff in Housing and Revenues for their work in supporting tenants during the pandemic, commenting that their efforts had been 'incredible' at such a challenging time. He stated that his Group was also supportive of the proposed rent freeze, noting that it was good news for Council tenants.

Summing up, Councillor Goodfellow welcomed the support of other Groups. He stressed that despite the rent freeze, the building of new homes and modernisation of existing ones would continue. He noted that 80 homes had been completed during the lockdown period, with 94 more due to be built within the next year.

The Provost then moved to the vote on the Administration's amendment to the HRA budget proposals for 2021/22 to 2025/26, taken by roll call, which was approved unanimously.

Decision

The Council agreed to approve the rent proposals as presented by the Administration and to freeze Council house rents in 2021/22.

4. 2020/21 QUARTER 3 FINANCIAL REVIEW

A report was submitted by the Executive Director for Council Resources providing an update on the in-year financial position at the end of December 2020.

The Head of Finance, Sarah Fortune, presented the report, She drew attention to the financial position of each of the service groups, noting that although the majority of planned efficiencies would be achieved by the end of the financial year, many of these savings were non-recurring, which would result in future financial challenges. She highlighted the additional funding from the Scottish Government to address COVID-19-related challenges. On the Council's ALEOs, she proposed that a proportion of allocated funding should be passed on to Enjoy and the Brunton Theatre Trust to offset the loss of income resulting from the pandemic, and sought delegated authority to the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Leader/Depute Leader and Cabinet Spokesperson, to take decisions on any further financial support to these group partner bodies during the current financial year. She also advised that the Scottish Government had recently announced that additional funding would be made available to councils which could be used in the next financial year. Ms Fortune provided a summary on capital expenditure and on the situation with the Housing Revenue Account

(HRA). In conclusion, she advised that, due to COVID-19, the year-end close-down would be complicated this year, and that the Council would face significant financial challenges in the future.

With respect to the funding for 1140 hours early learning and childcare, Councillor Findlay asked if there would be sufficient funding to introduce this later in 2021. Ms Fortune indicated that additional capital and revenue funding had been allocated to support this over a number of years, and that the Scottish Government was allowing councils some flexibility over the use of this funding in the current year to support the in-year financial position. She pointed out that there would be pressures on the capital budget, and that the Council was working with the Scottish Government on additional flexibility to allow the Council to manage this. She remained hopeful that both the revenue and capital costs associated with the 1140 hours initiative could be delivered within budget.

In response to a number of questions from Councillor McLennan, Ms Fortune reported that there had been additional cost pressures on the roads budget due to recent poor weather, and the full impact of this was being assessed. On proposals regarding community projects and town centre regeneration, etc., she advised that there were no specific proposals to be considered at this time; it was likely that any such projects would have been affected by COVID-19. Judith Tait, Head of Children's Services, informed Members that there had been a marked reduction in the number of children requiring external placements. She pointed out, however, that bringing children back to East Lothian and working to avoid external placements was not cost-neutral. She added that the financial impact of this work would be clearer in the coming months. As regards the overspend in the additional support for learning (ASL) budget, Lesley Brown, Executive Director for Education and Children's Services, commented that this aspect was linked to the issues set out by Ms Tait, and that her team would be looking to establish packages of support for affected children. She was also looking at ways to address future pressures and address the wide range of issues affecting children in East Lothian.

Councillor O'Donnell asked for further detail on funding provided by the Scottish Government to address the challenges arising from the pandemic. Ms Fortune drew attention to Appendix 3 to the report, which set out details of funding received at the time of preparing the report. She noted that of the £38m received, £26m related to grant payments. She reiterated that the situation remained fluid, with additional funding recently announced which would allow the Council to exercise some flexibility to manage pressures in the current financial year. She reiterated that much of the additional funding was non-recurring, and that managing the year-end would be complex.

Councillor Currie asked if the figures set out in Section 3.6 of the report (relating to health and social care) took account of the additional recently announced Scottish Government funding. He asked if the Integration Joint Board (IJB) would be able to carry forward funding from the current financial year to address the pressures of the next financial year. He also asked if any Council staff had been furloughed. Ms Fortune confirmed that the report did not reflect recent announcements of further funding, and that it provided the position as of the end of December. She advised that flexibility on health and social care funding streams would need to be considered in line with the overall position of the IJB, and that it may be possible for the IJB reserves to be increased in the short term. Alison MacDonald, Director of Health and Social Care, added that the Council and NHS were working closely on this and that processes put in place would need to continue into the next financial year. She also noted that any reserves would be allocated for specific purposes. On the question of furlough, Ms Fortune advised that no Council staff had been furloughed, but that staff employed by ALEO partners, e.g. EnjoyLeisure, had been furloughed to ensure financial sustainability of the business.

Councillor Akhtar paid tribute to Council staff for continuing to deliver services in challenging circumstances. She also thanked all those involved in facilitating the return to school for

younger children at short notice, noting that the Council's focus on children's health and wellbeing had received national recognition.

Councillor Hampshire echoed Councillor Akhtar's comments, commending the efforts of staff to protect communities whilst continuing to provide services and deliver efficiencies.

Welcoming the report, Councillor Currie commented on the complexities of local government finance going forward. He anticipated that the full extent of Scottish Government funding would not be clear until June; however, he argued that the allocation of funding to local government was not reducing. He anticipated that the financial impact of COVID-19 would continue for some years, and stressed the need for local government to work with the Scottish Government to address this. He paid tribute to Alison MacDonald and her team for their work on the COVID-19 local mobilisation plan.

Councillor O'Donnell concluded the debate by thanking Council staff for their efforts to deliver services. She highlighted the contribution made by services within Health and Social Care, including Wellwynd and mental health services. On the independent review of adult social care services in Scotland, she hoped that control of these services would remain local.

The Provost moved the vote on the recommendations, taken by roll call, which were approved unanimously.

Decision

The Council agreed:

- i. to note the in-year financial performance for the Council;
- ii. to note that officers would continue to progress a range of mitigation measures in an attempt to manage the financial position during the remainder of 2020/21;
- iii. to approve that a proportion allocation reflective to the share of national funding received from the loss of income scheme would be transferred to group account partners in this financial year in order to support their ongoing financial sustainability; and
- iv. in accordance with Section 3.17 of the report, to approve that any decisions on any further financial support to these group partner bodies in this financial year, be delegated to the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Leader/Depute Leader and Cabinet Spokesperson.

5. 2021/22 COUNCIL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive reviewing the 2018-20 Council Improvement Plan and presenting the 2021/22 Council Improvement Plan for approval.

The Service Manager for Corporate Policy and Improvement, Paolo Vestri, presented the report, pointing out an error in relation to Action 12 of the Improvement Plan, which should read 'The Council's reporting and monitoring against its improvement plan could be further improved to update Members on what has been achieved through its improvement actions – officers will review how the Council Improvement Plan is monitored and reported to Members.' Mr Vestri noted that the current Improvement Plan had been adopted in December 2018 and updated in June 2019. He advised that four actions had been fully implemented; however, since March 2020 the Council had been operating on a business critical basis which had

resulted in some actions in the current plan not being carried out. He advised that 10 actions had been added to the new Improvement Plan, as set out in Appendix 1.

As regards the action 'Continue to focus on improving education performance for all children and young people in East Lothian', Councillor Akhtar asked which areas would be focused on as the Council moved into recovery from COVID-19. Lesley Brown, Executive Director for Education and Children's Services, advised that the initial focus would be on the health and wellbeing of children and young people, and that staff would be carrying out assessments of pupils as regards their learning progress. There would be a strong focus on literacy and numeracy, including one:one support and small group work, and her staff would also be looking at providing support across the whole curriculum. She added that the Scottish Government would be providing funding for additional teachers to provide this additional support. She also pointed out that targeted support for those experiencing hardship would be provided, which would involve third-sector partners.

The Provost then moved to the vote on the recommendation, taken by roll call, which was approved unanimously.

Decision

The Council agreed to approve the 2021/22 Council Improvement Plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

8. AMENDMENT TO EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL'S POLLING PLACE SCHEME

A report was submitted by the Executive Director for Council Resources seeking approval to formally amend East Lothian Council's Polling Place Scheme in respect of EL3D polling district.

The Executive Director for Council Resources, Jim Lamond, presented the report, advising that Macmerry Village Hall was no longer fit for purpose as a polling place, and that Macmerry Miners' Welfare Club had been identified as a suitable alternative, as it had good facilities and was easily accessible. He proposed this change on a permanent basis.

Councillor Mackett welcomed the proposal, commenting that this would be beneficial to residents in Macmerry.

The Provost moved to the vote on the recommendation, taken by roll call, which was approved unanimously.

Decision

The Council agreed to approve the permanent amendment to the polling scheme for the East Lothian Constituency for polling district EL3D.

6. EAST LoTHIAN CHILDREN'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES PLAN 2020-23

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services presenting the East Lothian Children's Strategic Partnerships: Children and Young People's Services Plan 2020-23 for approval.

The Head of Children's Services, Judith Tait, presented the report, advising of the requirements for such a Plan, and that it had been developed in partnership with the partners in Health, the Police, further education and the third sector. She drew attention to the three priorities of the Plan: (1) improving children's mental health and wellbeing; (2) supporting parents, carers and families to be more resilient; and (3) reducing inequalities for children and young people. She advised Members of workstreams already underway and declared that the Children's Strategic Partnership was committed to delivering the Plan to improve the lives and life chances of children and their families.

Ms Tait responded to a series of questions from Members. On governance, she advised that the sharing of budgets and resources, as well as greater integration with partners, was key to delivering the Plan. She pointed out that there would be support for early years' children and their families, which would include support for midwifery, new mothers, mental health, healthcare and pre-school provision. On the return to school following the pandemic, Ms Tait advised that measures were already in place to support families, and that mental health and nursing services would be provided within schools; additional funding had also been provided to support third sector services, a single point of access would provide a targeted referral service, and there would be closer working with health and GP services. As regards community support for the Plan, Ms Tait explained that a 'plan on a page' would be developed and distributed to communities and Area Partnerships. She advised that a member of staff from CAHMS had been seconded to work within the Council, which would strengthen the relationship between the two organisations and hopefully lead to better signposting to appropriate services and reduced waiting times for CAHMS services. On multi-agency working, Ms Tait believed that this approach would be more effective than organisations working separately, and this approach would provide integrated solutions for families. She accepted that funding remained a challenge; best use was being made of existing resources and ways of bringing in external funding would be explored. She also noted that having a 'trauma-informed' workforce across the public sector and partner bodies was an important aspect, and that training events had been organised to take this forward.

Councillor McGinn opened the debate by thanking Ms Tait, her colleagues and partners who had contributed to the Plan. He warned that young people and families were facing the biggest challenge of our time in terms of mental health issues and rising poverty levels, but was reassured that the Council and its partners, working with communities, had a plan to address such issues.

Welcoming the report, Councillor Hampshire stressed the importance of the Council working in partnership with other agencies to support children and young people. He believed that communities had a duty to support every child, and that preventative action was vital to address issues of poverty and inequality.

Councillor Akhtar pointed out that East Lothian had the fastest-growing population of young people in Scotland, and that it was important to have policies and resources in place to support this growth. She claimed that the Council had experienced a real-terms reduction in funding of 2.4% at a time when demand for services was increasing, as well as having to deal with the impact of COVID-19. She stressed the importance of working with CoSLA to ensure that East Lothian is not forgotten, particularly as the Council was not in receipt of Attainment Challenge Fund monies. She also noted the need for partner agencies to make a fair contribution to this area of work and that it was important to have a robust governance structure. She thanked Ms Tait and all those involved in devising the Plan, and called on all Members to support her and the Council's partners on the Children's Strategic Partnership.

Councillor Currie commended the report, which recognised the progress made as well as setting out the challenges facing children and young people. He agreed that the Council should work with CoSLA to ensure that the Council secured the best deal possible.

The Provost moved to the vote on the recommendations, taken by roll call, which were approved unanimously.

Decision

The Council agreed:

- i. to endorse the Children and Young People's Services Plan as the community plan for children in East Lothian; and
- ii. to approve the three priority areas targeted for improvement through strategic and operational partnership working.

7. COCKENZIE FORMER POWER STATION SITE UPDATE / NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK 4: POSITION STATEMENT AND ASSOCIATED RESPONSE

A report was submitted by the Executive Director for Place updating the Council on the high-level optioneering study into the creation of a cruise/port-related facility at Cockenzie as previously reported in May 2020; advising on the ongoing engagement with Scottish Government; advising on the associated position of Prestonpans Community Council, and on a further community idea proposed for the Cockenzie site; and, additionally, seeking approval of a response to the Scottish Government's recently published National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4): Position Statement.

The Executive Director for Place, Douglas Proudfoot, presented the report, explaining that there were ongoing discussions between the Council and the Scottish Government, and that progress was being made on those aspects considered to be of national interest and requiring to be safeguarded as regards NPF4. He drew attention to the Council's proposed response to the NPF4 Position Statement (Appendix 3 to the report). He also highlighted the findings of the recent study into port/cruise options at Cockenzie, as set out at Section 3.7 and Appendix 1 of the report, noting that to progress this idea at this time would incur considerable expense and that establishing a steering group to take this forward was therefore not recommended. Mr Proudfoot pointed out that a community-led 360-degree vision for the Cockenzie site had been submitted, which was attached at Appendix 2 to the report. He concluded his presentation by assuring Members that there was significant commercial interest in the site.

Councillor Hampshire recognised that there was a degree of frustration within the community as regards the future of the site, and that Members shared these frustrations; however, he stressed that the Council was required to work in accordance with the national planning system, and until NPF4 was adopted, options for parts of the site could not be considered.

Councillor Currie welcomed the cross-party involvement in discussions about the future of the site. He highlighted the importance of the Council securing ownership of the site, which in the longer term would allow the site to be developed in the interests of the local and wider community.

Councillor Innes expressed sympathy with the local community, but reiterated that as Cockenzie was a site of national importance, the Scottish Government would have a significant role in its development. He urged officers to keep the community informed of progress. These views were shared by Councillor O'Donnell, who stressed the need for transparency with the community. She thanked officers and Members for their efforts in securing ownership of the site.

Councillor Bruce echoed the comments of other Members, particularly in relation to community involvement.

The Provost moved to the vote on the recommendations, taken by roll call, which were approved unanimously.

Decision

The Council agreed:

- i. to consider the information contained within the AECOM forecast update report dated January 2021, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report;
- ii. to note the ongoing engagement with Scottish Government officials following the request to meet with the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning, and senior civil servants, as agreed by Council in May 2020;
- iii. to note the suggestion from Prestonpans Community Council to form a steering group/development company to promote and deliver development at the Cockenzie site, and to agree this as premature at this stage in the context of the Scottish Minister's processes for preparing National Planning Framework 4;
- iv. to note the submission of a community-led 360-degree vision for part of the former power station footprint of the site, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report; and
- v. to approve a response to the National Planning Framework 4 Position Statement, a draft of which was attached as Appendix 3 to the report.

9. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

A report was submitted by the Executive Director for Council Resources seeking approval of proposed changes to the membership of committees and partnerships, and representation on outside bodies.

The Clerk presented the report, which set out a number of proposed changes to the membership of committees, partnerships and outside bodies, as proposed by the Administration, as well as the renewal of terms of office for three of the Council's IJB members. She noted that there were no financial implications arising from the proposed changes.

Councillor O'Donnell paid tribute to Alison MacDonald and officers in the Health and Social Care Partnership for their support in her term as Cabinet spokesperson for Health and Social Care and Chair of the IJB. She assured Members that the proposed membership changes would offer continuity, as Councillor Dugdale had experience of the Education Committee and Councillor Akhtar had been very active in her role as spokesperson for Education and Children's Services and on the IJB. She welcomed Councillor Akhtar's appointment to her new role.

Councillor Currie thanked Councillor O'Donnell for her contribution to the IJB, and also for her contributions at CoSLA. He commented that she was well thought of both at the local and national level.

Councillor McLennan added that Councillor O'Donnell had always been very helpful, and paid tribute to her contribution as Health and Social Care spokesperson.

The comments made were echoed by Councillor Bruce.

Councillor Akhtar reflected on her time as Cabinet spokesperson for Education and Children's Services. She thanked those officers in Education and Children's Services that she had worked with, in particular Lesley Brown for her support, leadership and expertise; Tom Reid for his team's efforts to safely re-open the schools during the pandemic; and Judith Tait for her support, dedication and commitment to children and young people. She also thanked Councillor O'Donnell for her work as Health and Social Care Spokesperson. Looking ahead to her new role, she stressed the need to support Alison MacDonald and her staff as regards the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Councillor Dugdale paid tribute to Councillor Akhtar's service as Education & Children's Services spokesperson, and wished her well in her new role.

The Provost moved to the vote on the recommendations, taken by roll call:

For (9): Councillors Akhtar, Dugdale, Forrest, Goodfellow, Innes, Hampshire, McGinn, McMillan, O'Donnell

Against (0):

Abstentions (13): Councillors Bruce, Currie, Findlay, Gilbert, Henderson, Hoy, Kempson, Mackett, Mackie, McLennan, McLeod, Trotter, Williamson

Decision

The Council agreed:

- i. to approve the following appointments to committees, as proposed by the Administration, to take immediate effect:
 - Cabinet: Spokesperson for Health and Social Care – Councillor Akhtar
 - Cabinet: Spokesperson for Education and Children's Services – Councillor Dugdale
 - Audit & Governance Committee – Councillor Forrest
 - Education Committee Convener – Councillor Dugdale
 - Education Committee Depute Convener – Councillor Goodfellow
 - Planning Committee – Councillor Forrest
- ii. to approve the following appointments to boards/partnerships, to take immediate effect:
 - East Lothian Licensing Board Convener – Councillor McMillan
 - East Lothian Integration Joint Board Convener (until 31 March 2021) – Councillor Akhtar
 - East Lothian Integration Joint Board (renewal of term of office) – Councillors Akhtar, Kempson and O'Donnell
- iii. to approve the following appointments to outside bodies, as proposed by the Administration, to take immediate effect:
 - NHS Lothian – Councillor Akhtar
 - CoSLA Board: Health and Social Care – Councillor Akhtar
 - CoSLA Board: Education and Young People – Councillor Dugdale
 - Children's Hearings Scotland: East Lothian Area Support Team – Councillor Dugdale

Sederunt: Councillor Currie left the meeting.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS – EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Council unanimously agreed to exclude the public from the following business containing exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 6 (information concerning the financial or business affairs of any particular person other than the Authority) of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

Cockenzie Power Station Site - Update

A private report by the Executive Director for Place updating Members on continuing interest in the former Cockenzie Power Station site was noted.