

PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 AUGUST AT 1600 HOURS IN THE RECEPTION ROOM, GRAND HALL, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Independent Trustees Robin Hume; and Jackie Livingston; and Councillors Linda Holland; and Graham Boyd, Trustees

ATTENDING: Anneke Freel, Chief Officer; Paul Mathieson, Executive Lead: Place, Projects and Programmes; and Lorraine Russell, Strategic Lead: Creating a Solid Foundation for Growth; all East Ayrshire Leisure Trust; and Nick Bennett, Azets Audit Services

CHAIR: Independent Trustee, Robin Hume.

APOLOGIES

1. Andy Wilson, Trade Union Trustee; and Jackie Biggart, Executive Lead: People, Policy and Performance, East Ayrshire Leisure

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. No declarations of interest were made.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. Were submitted and approved as a correct record of the Minutes from the meeting of the Performance and Audit Sub-Committee held on 16 May 2023 (circulated).

PERFORMANCE REPORT APRIL - JUNE 2023 (Q1)

4. There was submitted a report dated 4 August 2023 (circulated) by the Chief Officer, which provided details of the Trust's performance for the period April - June 2023, the first quarter of the 2023/24 financial year. In line with the organisational review, Strategic Vision and Corporate Delivery Plan, the performance report has been separated into 3 documents: East Ayrshire Leisure Performs; Corporate Delivery Plan Record of Progress; and Financial Performance.

During discussion on the report, the following was noted:

- Attendance figures across our venues was 560,022, which is a 25% increase on same period in 2022/23
- Lifestyle and Sports Hubs have performed particularly well in this period with Hunter Fitness Centre, Barony Sports Village and Doon Valley Leisure all demonstrating increases of 26%, 39.5% and 27.8% retrospectively.
- Libraries are also doing very well. Auchinleck, Cumnock, Galston and Stewarton libraries have shown an average increase of 26.8%. Housebound and mobile services have also shown a significant increase during the quarter.
- Dick Institute main gallery is hosting our very first Open Exhibition to support artists from across Ayrshire.
- Dean Castle opened in April 2023 has attracted over 35k visitors in the first 3 months. (Previously 20k per annum) A detailed survey of visitor profile has been undertaken

providing us with valuable feedback for future development of the Castle experience. The Chief officer will circulate a copy of the report.

- Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-24, we have now completed 62 outputs. Of the remainder, some will be completed and some will be carried forward to the next Corporate Delivery Plan. These have been noted within the progress report.
- The projected outturn for East Ayrshire Leisure at 30th June 2023 is a breakeven position.
- Graham Boyd requested update on security costs at Palace/Grand Hall complex – to date £17k incurred. Paul Mathieson advised that the current measures in place were gradually being reduced and should stop by the end of September as the situation with the antisocial behaviour has calmed. We will continue to monitor this.
- The 'Investing in our People and embracing our Values' team has a number of vacancies and are proposing to create a new Development Officer post and a new part time Corporate Services Assistant post.
- Museum Team propose a temporary Development Co-ordinator (Museums) post for 12 months to allow the existing Development Co-ordinator (Museums) post to focus on further development of Collection Management System

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the East Ayrshire Leisure Performs Report for the period April - June 2023;
- (ii) recommend to the Board of Trustees the changes to the Investing in our People and embracing our Values team and the temporary secondment and recruitment of the Development Co-ordinator (Museums) to be considered at the next Board meeting; and
- (iii) to otherwise note the content of this report.

2022/23 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

5. There was submitted a report dated 4 August 2023 (circulated) by the Chief Officer that presents the 2022/23 Report and Accounts for Trustees' approval.

The following was noted:

- Nick Bennett discussed reports referencing Trustee responsibilities (Page 21 of the report)
- Managers and Trustees confirmed that they were happy that all relevant information had been passed to Nick and his team in order to carry out the audit.
- Nick expressed thanks to Lorraine and the Finance Team for their work and support of the audit.
- The Chair thanked both Nick and Lorraine, along with their teams, for the work carried out to complete the audit.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the 2022/23 Report and Accounts;
- (ii) approve the Letter of Representation to accompany the accounts; and
- (iii) otherwise note the contents of the report.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

6. Councillors Boyd and Holland raised concerns re. a social media post which referred to a “paid partnership” with East Ayrshire Leisure. The Chief Officer advised that she would investigate further and update the Trustees accordingly

Chief Officer expressed thanks to both Jackie Livingston and Robin Hume for years of service and support to Performance and Audit Sub-Committee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7. East Ayrshire Leisure Board of Trustees – 28 September 2023
Performance & Audit Sub-Committee – 14 November 2023

The meeting terminated at 16.30 hours.