

## S22. ISSUES CONSIDERED AT PERFORMANCE PANEL

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer highlighting a number of issues discussed at the Performance Panel since 28 November 2013, as potential subjects for the next Scrutiny Plan. The report highlighted areas where there had been: in-depth discussion; discussion on more than one occasion; or where the issue raised followed on from a recent policy development or initiative. The committee was invited to call for a report on any of these issues, or any other issue identified by the committee, which merited further discussion to determine suitability for inclusion to the Scrutiny Panel work plan for 2015.

The committee considered each issue in turn and made the following decisions:

1. The impact of welfare reform and the effectiveness of the arrangement put in place by the Council to mitigate its effects. The committee considered that it was still early in the implementation of the welfare reform and **did not request a report.**
2. The physical quality of housing allocated to tenants and the impact of the impetus to reduce the length of void periods. The committee heard that this issue was currently under evaluation through the use of a Housing Questionnaire and **did not request a report.**
3. The effectiveness of the business gateway service following its transfer in-house. Following discussion the committee **requested that a report with further information be submitted to an early meeting.**
4. The impact of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act and, in particular, the volume of requests to the Council and the cost arising therefrom in addition to the Council's effectiveness in dealing with requests. Following discussion the committee sought clarity in relation to officers' time spent dealing with requests and the sources of requests. The committee **requested that a report with further information be submitted to an early meeting.**
5. Head Teacher recruitment, the secondment of head teachers from schools and the use of acting position in schools and Education Service management posts. Following discussion the committee sought clarity in relation to having former Falkirk Council teachers commencing supply work immediately after terminating employment with the Council and the process of Elected Member selection on school interview panels. The committee **requested that a report with further information be submitted to an early meeting**
6. The educational attainment of looked after children and other vulnerable groups. Following discussion the committee **requested that a report with further information be submitted to an early meeting.**
7. The effectiveness of the systems in place to assess community care needs, in particular, the prioritisation of assessments. Following discussion highlighting that this area would soon be under the control of the new Health and Social Care Partnership the committee **did not request a report.**

8. The provision of residential and nursing home places and the impact of delayed discharge from hospital. Following discussion highlighting that this area would soon be under the control of the new Health and Social Care Partnership the committee **did not request a report.**
9. The operation of the complaint system within the Council, in particular, the extent to which complaint outcomes are considered and lessons learned for the future. Following discussion the committee **requested that a report with further information be submitted to an early meeting.**

### Decision

The committee agreed that reports containing further information be submitted to the meeting of the committee on 11 September 2014 on issues 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 as set out in section 2.2 of the report.