

S37. OPTIONS APPRAISAL – ARE YOU GETTING IT RIGHT? – NATIONAL AUDIT REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services which provided a summary of the Audit Scotland ‘Options appraisal: are you getting it right?’ report.

The report outlined the key messages contained in the Audit Scotland report and the Council’s current practice in regard to options appraisal. Fiona Campbell provided an overview of the report and highlighted the ‘Questions for councillors’ document contained at appendix two to the Audit Scotland report.

The committee asked if all members would be provided with the Audit Scotland report. Fiona Campbell confirmed that all members would get a copy of the report.

Members commented that ‘Questions for councillors’ was a useful tool and asked why equality impact assessment was not included. Fiona Campbell stated that for any change of policy an equality impact assessment would be carried out.

Decision

The committee:

- (i) noted the national report on options appraisals;**
- (ii) requested that guidance on service reviews is reviewed to ensure it reflects best practice as set out in the report;**
- (iii) requested that a copy of the checklist is provided to all members; and**
- (iv) requested that guidance provided to scrutiny panels and policy development panels is reviewed to ensure it incorporates relevant elements of the checklists and guidance.**