Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee annual assessment noted.

2 There was submitted a report by Councillor Laura Doherty, Chair of this committee regarding an annual assessment of the work of the committee,

(1) advising that

(a) Council Standing Order No 32 (8) required that an annual assessment of the work of each City Policy Committee should be carried out each year to assess the effectiveness of the working of the committee and to assess any training needs of members and officers and the effectiveness of the implementation of agreed policies;

(b) the Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee City Policy Committee had been re-established in May 2022 following the Local Government Elections with its Terms of Reference having been approved by Council on 19th May 2022 (Print 1, page 23); and

(c) the Council on 8th December 2022 (Print 5, page 479) amended the title of the Wellbeing, Empowerment, Community and Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee City Policy Committee to the Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee and approved updated Terms of Reference; and

(2) highlighting

(a) the committee's co-opted external members and that a future report would bring forward proposals for 2 outstanding vacancies;

(b) that the committee's work programme had been agreed on 10th August 2023 (Print 3, page 75);

(c) recommendations made from the findings of an independent assessment in November 2021;

(d) that a Public Petitions Working Group had been established to review the Council's petitions process and would report to the committee at a future meeting with recommendations;

(e) the committee's contribution to the development of Council policy and a development session that had focussed on services for young people held on 21st September 2023; and

(f) members' mandatory and non-mandatory training sessions.

After consideration, the committee noted

(i) the annual assessment; and

(ii) that members would take or refresh their Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) training if they had not done so since May 2022.