Refreshed Vision for Glasgow Libraries approved.

4 With reference to the minutes of the Wellbeing City Policy Committee of (Print page) Bailie Christie, City Convener for , presented a report regarding the matter, advising

(1) that in August 2015, a VfGL had been published which set out a collaborative, 5-year strategy for developing a library offer in line with the needs of the city's changing communities, and with the 2015 VfGL coming to the end of its anticipated lifespan, the Glasgow Life Business Plan had made a commitment to refresh the VfGL in 2022/23;

(2) that the Council on 2022 (Print 1, page 17) had passed a motion recognising the significant contribution made by the city's public libraries to local communities, re-affirmed the core services and recommended additional developments around the role of libraries in tackling the climate emergency and supporting local growth of the circular economy, tasking Glasgow Life with developing and consulting on a refreshed VfGL;

(3) that in developing the refresh of VfGL, it had been important to reflect and connect closely to city and national priorities where libraries, and the services they offered, could have significant impact on health and wellbeing, financial and digital inclusion, developing knowledge and skills, economic development, supporting sustainable community development, creating circular economies and addressing the wider climate change;

(4) that locally, the Council's Strategic Plan 2022-27 had set out its priorities as a series of grand challenges, as detailed in the report;

(5) that nationally 'Forward: Scotland's Public Library Strategy 2021-25 had set out its priorities under 3 key themes, namely, People, Place and Partnership, as detailed in the report;

(6) that since the approval of the VfGL in 2015, the Council had invested in the refurbishment of a number of libraries, as detailed in the report;

(7) that the broad rationale driving the refresh process was to re-state Glasgow's commitment to its public library service, reflect the significant changes that had taken place since 2015, and to ask service users and stakeholders how they would like to use the city's public library service over the coming years;

(8) that following a series of workshops comprising national and city stakeholders, partners who collaborated in delivering services and library staff, a draft VfGL document had been created identifying 5 key themes that connected to city and national priorities, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report; and

(9) of the public consultation feedback results of the VfGL, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

After consideration, the committee

(a) approved the refreshed Vision for Glasgow Libraries; and

(b) noted that progress on the Vision for Glasgow Libraries would be reported on an annual basis to the Operational Performance and Delivery Scrutiny Committee.