

Scottish Children's Reporter Administration Executive Management Team Minute of Meeting held on Wednesday 08 May 2019 at Ochil House, Stirling

Present:

Neil Hunter (NH) – Principal Reporter/Chief Executive Susan Deery (SD) – Head of HR Lisa Bennett (LB) - Head of Strategy and OD Alistair Hogg (AH) – Senior Operational Manager Ed Morrison (EM) – Head of Finance and Resources Tom Philliben (TP) – Senior Operational Manager Malcolm Schaffer (MS) – Head of Practice and Policy

In attendance:

Pamela Armstrong (PA) – Governance Officer – Minutes

		Timescale	Action
1.	Apologies: Lawrie McDonald – Head of Digital		
2	New Email domain - Scottish Government have asked us to stop using the scra.gsi.gov.uk domain by the end of June 2019. As a result we need to move to a new email domain. EMT have asked that the IT team pursue the use of the scra.gov.scot domain name. EMT to be kept up to date offline.		LMcD
3.	Minute of previous meeting on 10 April 2019. Agreed as accurate		
4.	Matters Arising Staff Pay – SD has received approval from Scottish Government to move forward with the 2019/20 pay offer. A JNCC will be arranged in the next couple ofdays.	immediate	SD
	Sustainability Review – This will be taken to the May National Partnership Forum for discussion with UNISON.	immediate	NH
	Joint Investigative Interviews – Transmission from Police Scotland to SCRA – An approach has been agreed at the April EMT meeting. Regular liaison sessions will be put in place with Senior Officers.		

5. Hearing Room Improvement Update

EM introduced the report recommending EMT;

- Consider the options for completing the delivery of new-style hearing rooms across the country.
- Utilise the 2019/20 budget of £50k to upgrade 4 hearing rooms (Ayr, Aberdeen 2, Dundee 1 & Arbroath).
- Consider undertaking procurement exercises to establish frameworks for the delivery of the furniture, works and consultancy services to complete the upgrading of all Hearing rooms within a 4-5 year period.

Agreed:

 Utilise the 2019/20 budget of £50k to upgrade 4 hearing rooms (Ayr, Aberdeen 2, Dundee 1 & Arbroath).

6. Minor Works

EM introduced the report asking EMT to:-

- note the contents of the report and
- approve the programme of priority works.
- note the budget pressures identified and the proposal to manage the expenditure within overall Property budgets.

Noted:

- Within the capital budget for 2019/20 there
 is provision for £100K of expenditure on
 Minor Works. This budget line is intended
 for small works or minor improvements that
 are approved through the capital bid
 process and do not normally require a
 formal business case.
- The Minor Works programme is primarily focused on work that has been identified during the course of repairs and maintenance activities and have been determined to require improvement, upgrading or replacement.
- It is expected that the 2019/20 Minor Works budget will be fully spent across the various priority works identified.
- Whilst higher than the allocated budget, some additional budget capacity to meet these costs are anticipated through 1) capital carried forward from 18/19 along

- with 2) an expected underspend from within the wider Property programme.
- During the course of each financial year, it is inevitable that expenditure will be required to address emerging faults or incidents. In the event of significant pressures emerging consideration will be given to whether the works prioritised can be deferred into next financial year.

Agreed:

 To approve the programme of priority works subject to SOM review and approval.

7. Future of Connect

NH introduced the report advising EMT on issues around the future of the SCRA Shaprepoint site (Connect).

Noted:

- SCRA's intranet Connect was launched in April 2010. It was developed following a scoping exercise with external consultants in 2009. This was part of SCRA's Modernisation Programme.
- The site is hosted on SCOTS and maintained by the Press and Communications Team. The site was updated once in 2014, when iTECS updated the system from Microsoft Sharepoint 2003 to 2010.
- Over the years Connect has grown and been customised and we use all the available functionality. SCRA has one of the biggest Sharepoint sites on the SCOTS network.
- iTECS have advised that the SharePoint server will be switched off in January 2020 as it is at the end of life. iTECS have no immediate plans to replace the platform with a newer, supported version of SharePoint. Therefore, Connect will no longer be available via this Sharepoint platform and an alternative solution is required.
- An estimated cost of £20k has been assessed as likely

	A further report with options and costings will be submitted for consideration as soon as possible.	
	Agreed:	
	The Comms and IT Team to further explore	MM-I/DD
	options and consider opportunities. • Further report to be brought to a future EMT meeting.	MMcI/DR
	Audit 9 Diele Committee Amende	
8.	Audit & Risk Committee – Agenda The agenda for the Audit and Risk Committee on 16 May was reviewed.	
9.	Property KPI Update	
	EM introduced the report recommending the revised Property KPI alongside the existing KPI for an initial period to test its suitability and whether the expected benefits are achieved and to alter the frequency of reporting on the Property KPI from quarterly to annually.	
	Noted:	
	 SCRA's Property team currently produces a single KPI, used for both quarterly internal reports and as part of the externally published annual report. The existing Property KPI no longer provides reliable and meaningful data to inform decisions and record the performance of SCRA's estate. The current Property team KPI is a measurement of how the property estate as a whole performs against a range of measures based on Property Standards. The original Property KPI attempted to allocate a percentage score against both offices and hearing centre accommodation although there were different considerations for each of these properties. Going forward it is proposed to focus the Property KPI on our operational hearing centres and make use of more standard measures to look at the office 	

	Project work undertaken as a part of the		
	capital programme determines whether		
	adjustments to how properties are scored		
	by the KPI. Due to the lead times involved		
	with project work, quarterly updating of the		
	KPI is too frequent and it is proposed to		
	move to an annual reporting basis.		
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	Issues arising during discussion:		
	While EMT welcomed the paper,		
	discussion centred around the following;		
	o Are the weightings correct?		
	 Can we link back in with service 		
	users to confirm their views of the		
	property?		
	 There is a potential impact on SCRA 		
	in relation to discussion with key		
	partners, for example, Panel		
	Members and there is a need to		
	factor this in		
	 There is an expectation that LRM's will take 		
	some responsibility for working locally with		
	partners on overall progress.		
	Agreed:		
	To approved the revised Property KPI		
	alongside the existing KPI for an initial		
	period to test its suitability and whether the		
	expected benefits are achieved.		
	 To alter the frequency of reporting on the 		
	Property KPI from quarterly to annually.		
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10.	Protected Time – EMT Future monthly EMT meeting to be extended to	Immediate	PA
	the full day to accommodate full team discussions.	iiiiiieuiate	FA
	and rain day to decemmend the team decement.		
	Standing Items		
11.	Digital Strategy Update – Organisational		
	Readiness TP and SP provided a verbal undate		
	TP and SD provided a verbal update.		
	Noted:		
	Business Readiness meetings continue to take		
	place. The main issue is locality capacity to		
	provide resource to test and become familiar with		
	the system. Managers are being asked to take		

12. a)	their own responsibility for planning time release and tie in with SOM's if not able to accommodate. Agreed: Check with all localities what their plan is to release capacity. Information Governance Care Inspectorate – Transfer of Information MS advised than an agreement has been reached between SCRA and the Care Inspectorate. A member of the IG team will send information to the Care Inspectorate and they will send on to Inspectors involved in fieldwork.	SOM's/SD
b)	IG Update MS Introduced the Breach report which will be taken to the Information Governance Leads group. Noted: EMT are happy to note a continued downward trend in breaches.	
13.	Practice & Policy	
а)	Court Management Network - Draft Minute MS introduced the draft minute and reports from the recent Court Management Network. The minute covered the following; • Data Reports • Locality Use of Weekly Reports • Health and Wellbeing Survey • Delay • Locality Updates Issues arising during discussion: • Reports highlight locality issues i.e. frequency of callings, can help with identifying patterns and assist with guidance and training. • The information was felt to be rich with relevant detail and helpful in gauging a sense of issues from across the country	
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b)	PACE Resource Demands MS provided a verbal update on new ways of working that are creating potential heavy resource demands. Agreed: Determine which localities are working on the provided the DACE reflects.	SOM's
	 the new phase of the PACE rollout. Follow up with CELCIS on the changes and impact of the new programme on LRM's 	АН
c)	Feedback on Trainee Reporter Interviews MS provided a verbal update. Noted: Corrinne Carson and Emma Maidens have been appointed as Trainee Reporters. Support for the Accreditation Programme is required, especially in assessor time, particularly when considering the expansion in numbers of Assistant Reporters.	
14.	New Risks Digital Capacity – the amalgamated locality risk to be tracked through the Operational Risk Register.	
15.	Forward Look The forward plan was reviewed.	
	Date of next meeting Wednesday 05 June 2019 ay Ochil House, Stirling	