

Committee Minutes

Policy and Strategy Committee

Edinburgh, 17 May 2011

Present:- Councillors Dawe (Convener), Cardownie (Vice-Convener), Balfour, Blacklock, Brock, Buchanan, Burgess, Burns, Edie, Godzik, Hinds, Jackson, Gordon Mackenzie, MacLaren, Mowat, Munn and Wheeler.

1 Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Policy and Strategy Committee of 22 March 2011 as a correct record.

2 Severe Weather Review – Interim Report

Details were provided updating members on the review of the city's preparedness for severe weather. The report outlined progress made to date and described Project Team arrangements including governance, methodology of the review, key highlights and some early conclusions.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To request that the Director of Services for Communities provide a further report to the Committee on 9 August 2011.

(References –Policy and Strategy Committee of 18 January 2011 (item 11); report no PS/91/10-11/SfC by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted).

3 Edinburgh People's Survey – Autumn 2010 and Further Research

The results of the Edinburgh People's Survey and follow up qualitative research into resident satisfaction and perception of the Council and its services were provided. Details were provided on its methodology; city-wide findings; neighbourhood findings; summary of survey data and the next steps including how the results would be utilised and disseminated.

Decision

- 1) To note the findings of the report.
- 2) To refer the findings to the Edinburgh Partnership and partner agencies for information.
- 3) To request the Director of Services for Communities to submit a further report on the methodologies used to provide Survey results, specifically the presentation of 'don't know' responses.

(Reference – report no PS/119/10-11/SfC by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

4 The Use of Compulsory Purchase: A Consultation Response to Draft Government Guidance

The Committee considered the proposed response by the City of Edinburgh Council to Guidance on the Use of Compulsory Purchase, a consultation paper issued by the Scottish Government in February 2011.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Council's response to draft government guidance on the use of compulsory purchase as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To request further updates on the outcome of the consultation in due course.

(Reference – report no PS/120/10-11/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

5 Equality Act 2010 – Public Sector Equality Duty – General and Specific Duties

Details of recent developments and the consequent implications for the Council with regard to the introduction of new general and specific public sector equality duties, specified as part of the Equality Act 2010, were provided.

Decision

To note the intention to retain the current EDHR Scheme 2009/2012 as Council policy until the new 'Equalities and Human Rights Framework' was agreed in April 2012.

(Reference – report no PS/121/10-11/CS by the Acting Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

6 Transitional Pay Arrangement – Progress Report

An update on discussions with the trade unions on possible transitional pay arrangements was provided. An initial meeting between management and the trade unions had taken place on 23 April 2011. Further discussion would now take place prior to a report being submitted to the Committee on 14 June 2011.

Decision

1) To note the progress made in discussions with the Trade Union side.

2) To note that a further report on the final outcome of the discussions would be reported to the Committee meeting scheduled for 14 June 2011.

(Reference –report no PS/122/10-11/CS by the Acting Director of Corporate Services, submitted)

7 Wedding of Zara Phillips and Mike Tindall in Canongate Kirk on 30 July 2011

Details were provided about the Council's work with Lothian and Borders Police to facilitate the forthcoming wedding of Zara Phillips, daughter of HRH the Princess Royal, and Mike Tindall, England Rugby player, at Canongate Kirk on Saturday 30 July 2011.

Decision

- 1 To note the significant work which would be undertaken by the Council, alongside the Police to facilitate the wedding.
- 2 To note that the anticipated expenditure was currently unbudgeted, and would require to be contained within relevant service portfolios.

(Reference – report no PS/123/10-11/CS by the Acting Director of Corporate Services, submitted)

8 HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee**Decision**

To note that this item had been withdrawn.

9 The Covenant of Mayors: EC Climate Change Initiative

The Covenant of Mayors was an initiative by the European Commission to address climate change mitigation and adaptation. Cities who signed up committed to exceeding a 20% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020. Access to European funding was available to cities who were members. The initiative complemented existing and proposed work by the Council.

The Committee was asked to approve the Council becoming a formal signatory to the European Commission's Covenant of Mayors network and to commit to the required carbon reduction obligations.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Council's sign-up to the Covenant of Mayors as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 2) To agree that a Sustainable Energy Action Plan be prepared and approved by the Committee prior to being submitted to the EU in May 2012

(Reference – report no PS/125/10-11/CS by the Acting Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

10 A City for All Ages – Edinburgh’s Strategy for Older People: Evaluation Report

A City for All Ages was Edinburgh’s long term strategy to reduce discrimination and provide better opportunities and services for older people in the city.

A report by the Acting Director of Corporate Services provided results of the full evaluation of a City for All Ages and submitted proposals to continue its key assets through mainstreaming with Partnership, Council and partner strategies.

Decision

- 1) To note the evaluation and significant achievements from the programme to date and the identified options for the future.
- 2) To agree the proposed actions in 4.6 to 4.15 of the report to integrate ACFAA into existing structures and action planning.
- 3) To refer this report to the Edinburgh Partnership and the Edinburgh Community Health Partnership for their agreement and the Neighbourhood Partnerships for information.
- 4) To request a progress report be submitted in one year.

(Reference – report no PS/126/10-11/CS by the Acting Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

11 Outstanding Remits

The outstanding remits of the Council and the Policy and Strategy Committee for the period up to January 2011 were submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the list of outstanding remits in Appendix 1 to the report which still required to be addressed.
- 2) To agree to continue the remit on Low Emission Electric Vehicles and otherwise to discharge the outstanding remits in Appendix 2 to the report.

(Reference – report no PS/127/10-11/CS, by the Acting Director of Corporate Services, submitted)