

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

MEETING 13

26 APRIL 2012

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION NO 1

**By Councillor Rose for answer by the
Convener of the Finance and
Resources Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 26 April 2012**

Question

Has an audit been carried out on the energy efficiency of the Council's Waverley Court building?

Answer

Yes in February 2011.

QUESTION NO 2

By Councillor Munro for answer by the Convener of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 26 April 2012

Question (1) On 2 April 2012 the Convener undertook to secure a response to the questions I asked at Full Council in December 2011 about the number of private contractors employed by the Council to undertake refuse collection and street cleansing. Can he now provide the response to my questions, including supplementary questions?

Answer (1) There are currently five contractors who could be used under the contingency framework agreement for street cleaning and refuse collection.

However, currently in Waste Services the Council are not using any of the contingency contractors. We have Palm who collect recycling materials on our behalf and some additional agency staff filling in for absence.

The Council used Enterprise as an additional resource during the spring clean initiative. This resulted in a spend of £162k for the period covering late February 2012 to the end of March 2012. There are currently no contingency contractors being used in street cleaning.

Question (2) How many private contractors are currently used by the Council to undertake refuse collection and street cleansing?

What is the total value of the contracts?

How many people are employed in total?

What is the duration of each of the contracts?

On whose authority was it decided to go ahead with issuing these contracts?

Answer (2) There are currently five contractors who can be used under the contingency framework agreement. None are currently being used.

This is a framework contract and payment is only made when work is requested by the Council. The value of the contract will depend on the number of requests made and the volume of work given in each request.

The number of people employed is determined by the contractor and depends on the volume of work given, which varies with each request.

The contract runs from June 2010 to December 2013.

The decision to procure the framework contract for waste and street cleaning contingencies was taken by Services for Communities Senior Management Team. The award of contract was signed off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.

QUESTION NO 3

**By Councillor Johnstone for answer
by the Convener of the Transport,
Infrastructure and Environment
Committee at a meeting of the
Council on 26 April 2012**

Question

To ask the Convener of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee what steps are being taken to optimise the excellent work of those involved in promoting and enhancing the world's oldest short hole golf course at Bruntsfield Links?

Answer

The Council has supported the use of Bruntsfield Links for golfing since the land was granted to the City by the Crown in 1508 and the laying out of the short hole course in 1895.

Last year the Council supported the 250th anniversary of the Bruntsfield Links Golfing Society by hosting a game using historical hickory sticks on a reconstructed Bruntsfield Links six-hole layout.

The Council still retains the "free to play" ethos of the course, which it promotes on its website and elsewhere.

Council representatives had a very productive meeting with representatives from Bruntsfield Short Hole Golf Club and an agreement on an ongoing maintenance regime has been agreed and implemented.