

# Finance and Resources Committee

10am, Thursday, 28 November 2013

## Civic clocks and time ball: maintenance service

Item number	7.8
Report number	
Wards	All

### Links

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Coalition pledges	<a href="#">P24, P31</a>
Council outcomes	<a href="#">CO20</a>
Single Outcome Agreement	<a href="#">SO1</a>

### Alastair D Maclean

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# Executive summary

## Civic clocks and time ball: maintenance service

### Summary

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The Council maintains 38 civic clocks and the time ball, an integral part of the A listed Nelson Monument on Calton Hill. Some of these clocks are located within the City Chambers; the remainder are in various locations across the city. One clock is an integral part of the Heart of Midlothian War Memorial, while the others are within listed buildings or structures or are antique pieces in their own right; all of these cultural assets require specialist conservation work to remain in operation. Details of the clocks, the time ball, and their locations are provided in appendices one and two.

The clocks require to be wound up regularly (either on a daily or weekly basis) and all require to be maintained in working order. The time ball also requires regular winding and maintenance.

James Ritchie & Sons, Clockmakers Ltd, has undertaken this work for more than 50 years, on behalf of the Council and its predecessor authorities. This company possess the specialist knowledge and skilled workforce which would allow the work to be undertaken without delay and within the available budget.

The Council's Contract Standing Orders require that this service be procured through a tender process unless there are grounds for the Committee to waive this requirement. From research, it is understood that the specialist historical and technical knowledge required to maintain these items is limited to James Ritchie & Sons, Clockmakers Ltd, which holds extensive knowledge about each clock's internal workings and previous repairs.

Our records show that the previous tender documentation was prepared in April 2006 and has been in operation since, with annual increases applied broadly in line with inflation.

James Ritchie & Sons, Clockmakers Ltd was requested to submit a revised set of quotations for the work plus rates for labour costs for unscheduled repairs and maintenance. The rates are based on a three year contract.

It would be in the Council's best interests to appoint James Ritchie & Sons, Clockmakers Ltd, to continue providing a maintenance service for these cultural assets. The extensive knowledge retained within the workforce of James Ritchie & Sons, Clockmakers Ltd, would ensure that the Council receives the best possible service and value for money.

## Recommendations

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1. It is recommended the Committee approve the appointment of James Ritchie & Sons, Clockmakers Ltd to provide a winding and maintenance service for the 38 civic clocks and time ball for 3 years

## Measures of success

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Edinburgh's 38 civic clocks and time ball are maintained in working order to the same excellent service standard which has been delivered to date.

## Financial impact

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The current contract with James Ritchies for this specialist work is based on a sum of around £22,500 per year plus a sum of up to £5,000 per year. These costs are contained in the Culture and Sport revenue budget.

James Ritchie & Sons has provided a new quotation to the total value of £66,000 covering both Contract Work and Reactive Works for the next three years, providing a reduction in cost to the Council.

## Equalities impact

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No impact

## Sustainability impact

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Continued provision of a high quality winding and maintenance service by a company which has in depth knowledge of these cultural assets will ensure they continue in full working order without any disruption, loss of specialist knowledge or reputational damage.

## Consultation and engagement

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The Council's Commercial and Procurement Manager has been consulted, as per the Council's Contract Standing Orders.

## Background reading / external references

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Contract Standing Orders.

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## Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	P24 Maintain and embrace support for our world-famous festivals and events P31 Maintain our city's reputation as the cultural capital of the world by continuing to support and invest in our cultural infrastructure
<b>Council outcomes</b>	CO20 Culture, sport and major events – Edinburgh continues to be a leading cultural city where culture and sport play a central part in the lives and futures of citizens
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	SO1 Edinburgh's economy delivers increased investment, jobs and opportunities for all
<b>Appendices</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Civic clocks in City Chambers</li><li>2. Location of other clocks and time ball</li></ol>

## Appendix 1

<b>Civic clocks in City Chambers</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Mechanism</b>	<b>Clock Dials</b>
Grandfather Clock	Main Foyer	mechanical	not illuminated
Grandfather Clock	Room 5.29	mechanical	not illuminated
Mantle Clock	Room 5.29	mechanical	not illuminated
Grandfather Clock	Room 6.22	mechanical	not illuminated
Atmosphere clock	Room 6.22	mechanical	not illuminated
Grandmother Clock	Room 7.19	mechanical	not illuminated
Wall clock	Room 7.19	electrical	not illuminated
Balcony clock	Room 7.24	mechanical	not illuminated
Long-case clock	Room 7.28	mechanical	not illuminated
Wall clock	Room 7.28	electrical	not illuminated
Marble Mantelpiece clock	Room 8.1	mechanical	not illuminated
Mantelpiece clock	Room 8.3	mechanical	not illuminated
Long-case clock	Main Staircase	electrical	not illuminated

## Appendix 2

Location of other clocks and time ball	Mechanism	Clock Dials
Bernard Street, The Shore, Leith	electrical	illuminated
Canonmills Pillar Clock	electrical	illuminated
Cowgate, Pillar clock	electrical	illuminated
Haymarket Pillar Clock, (an integral part of the Heart of Mildothian War Memorial)	electrical	illuminated
Leith Central Station	electrical	illuminated
Leith Walk/London Road Pillar Clock	electrical	illuminated
Lothian Road Pillar Clock (Bell's Clock)	electrical	illuminated
Morningside/Comiston Road Pillar Clock	electrical	illuminated
Tollcross Pillar Clock	electrical	illuminated
St Andrews Church, George Street	electrical	illuminated
Pilrig Church, Pilrig Street	electrical	illuminated
Portobello Old Town Hall, Baptist Church	electrical	illuminated
Roseberry Hall, South Queensferry	electrical	illuminated
Stockbridge Pizza Express, Deanhaugh Street	electrical	illuminated
St Colm's Church, Dalry Road	electrical	illuminated
St Giles Church, Marchmont, Kilgraston Road	electrical	illuminated
Floral Clock, West Princes Street Gardens	electrical	not illuminated
Pier Place, Newhaven	electrical	not illuminated
Tron Kirk, High Street	mechanical	illuminated
St Mary's Church, Bellevue Crescent	mechanical	illuminated
Canongate Tollbooth	mechanical	illuminated
St Stephen's Church, St Vincent Street	mechanical	illuminated
South Leith Parish Church, Kirkgate	mechanical	not illuminated
Highland Tollbooth Church, Lawnmarket	mechanical	not illuminated
St Giles, High Street	mechanical	no dials
Time ball (an integral part of the Nelson Monument on Calton Hill)	mechanical	no dials