

Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday, 23 September 2014

Present

Councillors Child (Convener), Lunn (Vice-Convener), Bagshaw, Bridgman, Gardner, Bill Henderson, Jackson, Keil, Robson and Walker.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee of 23 June 2014 as a correct record.

2. Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Communities and Neighbourhoods Key Decisions Forward Plan to December 2014 was presented.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for the period September to December 2014. (Reference - Key Decisions Forward Plan September to December 2014, submitted.)

3. Rolling Actions Log

Outstanding actions for the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee to September 2014 were presented.

Decision

To note that future actions agreed by Committee calling for further reports or information would be added to the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

4. Business Bulletin

The Communities and Neighbourhoods Business Bulletin for September 2014 was presented.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin September 2014, submitted.)

5. Natural Neighbourhoods: what's my patch?

An update was given on the project to engage with citizens around the production of a new set of defined natural neighbourhood boundaries. The project aimed to:

- (i) Create an online resource focussing on local events and news relating to each "patch";
- (ii) Ensure service-area boundaries were more tailored to citizen requirements;
- (iii) Create a common vocabulary across all agencies to encourage partnership working across the city;
- (iv) Ensure marketing campaigns and consultations were meaningful to local residents to encourage more participation in local initiatives.

Decision

- 1) To approve the natural neighbourhood boundaries as set out in Appendix 1 of the report by the Director of Corporate Governance.
- 2) To disseminate the boundaries amongst Edinburgh Partnership partners.
- 3) To congratulate the officers involved in the consultation process.

(References – Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee of Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 6 May 2014 (item 4); report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted)

6. Development of Neighbourhood Partnership Local Community Plans – Community Engagement

Neighbourhood Partnerships had been developing new local community plans for 2014-2017. The plans set out the ambitions for each neighbourhood, identifying the outcomes, measures and multi-agency action needed to make change happen.

The programme of engagement had been targeted at people who traditionally did not participate and focussed on face to face dialogue to gain an understanding of the priorities and aspirations of the local community.

The Acting Director of Services for Communities delivered a presentation providing further details for Members on the level of engagement activity which had informed the development of the new local community plans.

Decision

- 1) To note the presentation.
- 2) To note the engagement activity of Neighbourhood Partnerships in developing new local community plans for 2014-17.
- 3) To receive further reports on the Neighbourhood Partnership local community plans and the new public performance framework at the next meeting of the Committee on 25 November 2014.
- 4) To refer the report to other Executive Committees of the Council for information.

- 5) That the Acting Director of Services for Communities report back to Committee with a detailed breakdown of engagement undertaken within each of the natural neighbourhood areas.
- 6) To thank the officers involved for their work on the development of the local community plans

(Reference – report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

7. Participatory Budgeting Update

An update was provided on new participatory budgeting initiatives operating across the City together with details of the support and expertise available to develop the approach more widely and the work of the Participatory Budgeting Development Group.

Participatory budgeting allowed communities direct involvement in deciding the priorities of public budgets which could benefit community participation improving the effectiveness of public spending and promoting greater community cohesion.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To refer the report to the Finance and Resources Committee for information.
- 3) To receive a further report on progress on participatory budgeting initiatives and development activity at a future meeting.

(References – Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 24 September 2013 (item 8); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

8. State of Edinburgh's Third, Cultural and Sporting Sectors: Annual Report 2014

The Committee had previously agreed to receive an annual report on the state of the third, cultural and sporting sectors. The annual report for 2014 was presented which detailed the social, cultural and economic contributions of the third sector and information on Council investment in these sectors. A progress report on the establishment of new grant programmes was also submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the extensive contribution of the third, cultural and sporting sectors to the city's social, cultural and economic fabric.
- 2) To approve the establishment of a corporate database for payments to third parties.
- 3) To note the proposed measures to improve data collation for future reports.
- 4) To approve the establishment of an annual Compact Third Sector Forum.

(References – Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 11 February 2014 (item 1); report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)