

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00 am Tuesday 17 March 2015

Present:

Councillors Hinds (Convener), McVey (Vice-Convener), Aldridge, Bagshaw, Barrie, Booth, Brock, Doran, Gardner, Bill Henderson, Jackson, Keil, Mowat and Perry.

1. Deputation: Edinburgh University Students Association – Bike Hire Scheme for Edinburgh

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Briana Pedago, Edinburgh University Students Association in relation to a report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities on a proposal to develop a public bike hire scheme.

The deputation intimated support for a public hire scheme for Edinburgh and were of the view that this would allow Edinburgh to become more accessible by bike and would also have a positive impact on the City's environment. The majority of students at Edinburgh University were travelling to campuses outwith the main campus at George Square. The costs of travelling to and from campuses continued to be a major concern for students and the introduction of a public bike hire scheme would help alleviate these pressures.

Decision

The Convener thanked the deputation for her presentation and invited her to remain for the Committee's consideration of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities at item 3 below.

2. Bike Hire Scheme – referral by the Petitions Committee

The Petitions Committee had referred a petition entitled "Bike Hire Scheme" to the Transport and Environment Committee for consideration.

Decision

- 1) To note the terms of the referral from the Petitions Committee.
- 2) To accept the petition from the Petitions Committee.

(Reference – referral by the Petitions Committee 22 January 2015)

3. Public Bike Hire Scheme

An update was provided on discussions with JCDecaux in respect of developing proposals for a public bike hire scheme in the City.

Decision

- 1) To note the work with JCDecaux to develop a proposal for a public bike hire scheme for Edinburgh.
- 2) To request a further report be brought to the Committee as soon as possible, and no later than October 2015, detailing the JCDecaux proposal together with recommendations on a way forward.
- 3) To request that an update be provided in the Petitions Committee Business Bulletin.
- 4) To discharge the action to undertake and report on further investigative work into a bike leasing scheme.

(References – Former Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 5 May 2009 (item 7); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

4. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Transport and Environment Committee of 13 January 2015 as a correct record.

5. Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Transport and Environment Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan for the period June 2015 to August 2015 was submitted.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for June 2015 to August 2015

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

6. Rolling Actions Log

As part of a review of the Council's political management arrangements, the Council had approved a number of revisions to committee business processes including the requirement that Executive Committees introduce a rolling actions log to track committee business.

The Transport and Environment Committee Rolling Actions Log updated to 17 March 2015 was presented.

Decision

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

- 2) To agree to close actions 14, 17, 19, 26 and 35.

(References – Act of Council No 12 of 24 October 2013; Rolling Actions Log 17 March 2015, submitted)

7. Business Bulletin

The Transport and Environment Committee Business Bulletin for 17 March 2015 was presented.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin, submitted)

8. Active Travel Governance and Funding

Approval was sought for enhanced opportunities for members of the public and the neighbourhoods to influence the Council's investment in cycling.

Decision

- 1) To agree the changes in Active Travel Action Plan governance as outlined in the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.
- 2) To agree the proposal to enhance the involvement of neighbourhoods in identifying local projects for inclusion in the programme for cycling spend.
- 3) To discharge the Committee actions referred to in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.
- 4) That the Acting Director of Services for Communities examine the local decision making process as part of the planned move from the current six neighbourhood partnerships to the proposed four new localities taking into account the Transport Review and the change from Neighbourhood Teams to Local Transport Teams.
- 5) To agree, in principle, that decisions on funding for small scale revenue cycling projects could be made at neighbourhood partnership level.

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

9. Road and Footway Additional Investment Budget Allocation 2015/16

Approval was sought for the budget allocation and maintenance schemes to ensure that the condition of roads and footways continued to improve, whilst supporting the Council's Local Transport Strategy objectives, in particular, the Active Travel Action Plan.

Decision

- 1) To approve the allocation of the additional capital budget for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix B of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.
- 2) To approve the list of additional carriageway and footway schemes as set out in Appendix C of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 28 October 2014 (item 13); Act of Council No 3 of 12 February 2015; report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

10. 8% Budget Commitment to Cycling

The Council had agreed to spend 5% of its 2012/13 transport budgets (capital and revenue) on projects to encourage cycling as a mode of transport in the city, and that this proportion should increase by 1% annually.

A summary of the proposed capital and revenue expenditure on cycling for 2015/16 was submitted.

Decision

To approve the proposed expenditure on cycling for 2015/16

(References – Act of Council No 2 of 9 February 2012; Act of Council No 3 of 9 February 2014; report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

11. Decriminalised Traffic and Parking Enforcement in Edinburgh

In response to a motion by Councillor Bagshaw, details were provided of issues caused by incorrect parking on yellow and red lines. The Council's responsibilities in relation to Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) and the measures that could be taken to tackle parking that contravenes parking restrictions were also submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the content of the report.
- 2) To note that specific measures to tackle illegal parking would be included in the draft Parking Action Plan (PAP) to be considered by the Transport and Environment Committee on 25 August 2015.
- 3) To discharge the motion by Councillor Bagshaw.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 28 October 2014 (item 35); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

12. 20 for Edinburgh: 20mph Network Implementation

Approval was sought for the implementation plan and for the commencement of the required Speed Limit Order for the roll-out of the citywide 20mph network.

Decision

- 1) To approve the commencement of statutory procedures to introduce a 20mph speed limit for the proposed network.
- 2) To approve the proposals for phased implementation of a 20mph network as outlined in the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, subject to approval of the necessary Speed Limit Order.
- 3) To approve the funding framework set out within the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, including the application for external match funding.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 27 August 2013 (item 14) and 13 January 2015 (item 12); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

13. Delivery of the Local Transport Strategy 2014-19 Priorities for Installing On-Street Electric Vehicle Charging Points in Edinburgh

Approval was sought for the installation of on-street vehicle charging points in Edinburgh and for a pilot on-street electric vehicle charging points scheme in the Marchmont and Sciennes area.

Decision

- 1) To note the current location of publicly available charging points.
- 2) To approve the priorities for installing on-street vehicle charging points in Edinburgh, as set out in the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.
- 3) To authorise the Acting Director of Services for Communities to proceed with preparations for a pilot of on-street electric vehicle charging, in partnership with Transport Scotland and report back in summer 2015 with details of locations, estimated cost, parking charges for bays used for charging, together with a detailed plan and programme.

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

14. Cleanliness of the City

The outcome of the Cleanliness Index Monitoring System (CIMS) assessment of Edinburgh's streets, which had been undertaken by Keep Scotland Beautiful in December 2014, was presented.

The City of Edinburgh Council had achieved a score of 71 with 95% of the streets surveyed as clean. The national standard of cleanliness is a score of 67.

Decision

To note the report.

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

15. Flood Risk Management - Consultation

An update was provided on the progress made towards developing a Local Flood Risk Management Plan as required for the Forth Estuary catchment. The Plan aimed to identify areas vulnerable to flooding from all sources and potential mitigating measures and actions.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.
- 2) To note that an engagement and consultation exercise, led by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, had begun on 22 December 2014.
- 3) To note that the Council had incorporated Draft Delivery Plans into the consultation on 2 March 2015.
- 4) To note the measures and actions for Edinburgh contained within the Draft Delivery Plans.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 13 January 2015 (item 10) and 28 October 2014 (items 9 and 10); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

16. George Street Experimental traffic Regulation Order - Mid Year Review

The Committee had approved a year-long trial to introduce an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) on George Street. Details were provided on measures that had been put in place and the outcomes that had been identified in the first six months of the trial.

Motion

- 1) To note the contents of the mid-year report.
 - 2) To agree to accept a further report on the outcomes of the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) trial, design options for the long-term layout of the street and a summary of the research outcomes in November 2015.
 - 3) To note that a further report would be brought to this Committee in June 2015 on the options for reviewing cycling provision and other successful aspects of the ETRO road layout on an interim basis.
 - 4) To contact Essential Edinburgh and also Economic Development officers to ensure that research and information was available regarding the relationship of footfall and retail.
 - 5) To note that research companies were already working on this project and would expand their remit to cover marketing trends and views with businesses.
- moved by Councillor Hinds, seconded by Councillor McVey

Amendment

- 1) To note the contents of this mid-year report.
 - 2) To agree to accept a further report on the outcomes of the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) trial, design options for the long-term layout of the street and a summary of the research outcomes in November 2015.
 - 3) To note that a further report would be brought to this Committee in June 2015, on the options for reviewing cycling provision and other successful aspects of the ETRO road layout on an interim basis.
 - 4) That there is consultation with a suitably qualified retail expert regarding the relationship of footfall and retail spend and future retailing trends as part of the design work to ensure that the impact of different decisions could be considered as part of the planning for George Street.
- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Jackson

Voting

For the motion	-	12 votes
For the amendment	-	2 votes

Decision.

- 1) To note the contents of the mid-year report.
- 2) To agree to accept a further report on the outcomes of the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) trial, design options for the long-term layout of the street and a summary of the research outcomes in November 2015.
- 3) To note that a further report would be brought to this Committee in June 2015 on the options for reviewing cycling provision and other successful aspects of the ETRO road layout on an interim basis.
- 4) To contact Essential Edinburgh and also Economic Development officers to ensure that research and information was available regarding the relationship of footfall and retail.
- 5) To note that research companies were already working on this project and would expand their remit to cover marketing trends and views with businesses.

References - Transport and Environment Committee 19 March 2013 (item 28), 29 October 2013 (item 5) and 29 April 2014 (item1); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

17. Landfill and Recycling

An update was provided on performance in reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill and increasing recycling. The positive trend in performance was continuing with the amount of waste sent to landfill reducing by 4.3% compared with the same period for the previous year.

Information was also provided on complaint numbers. On average between April and December 2014, there had been 726 complaints a week, 43% more than for the same period last year.

Decision

To note the update.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 27 August 2013 (item 25); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

18. Response to the Scottish Government Consultation on Low Emission Strategy for Scotland

The Scottish Government had invited the Council to comment on a draft Low Emission Strategy for Scotland. Approval was sought for the draft response which welcomed the general direction of the Low Emission Strategy.

Decision

To approve the draft response to the Low Emission Strategy Consultation for submission to the Scottish Government as set out in the appendix to the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.

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

19. Update on Award of Contract for Use of The Meadows for Edinburgh Festival Period 2015

Information was provided on the outcomes of the tendering process regarding the use of the Meadows for the Edinburgh Festival Period 2015.

Approval was sought to award the contract to Underbelly Limited as the preferred bidder.

Decision

To award the contract for Use of the Meadows for the Edinburgh Festival Period 2015 (with an option to extend for the Edinburgh Festival Period 2016) to Underbelly Limited.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 28 August 2014 (item 6); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

20. Objections to Traffic Regulation Order TRO/13/06 Waverley Bridge and Market Street

Details were provided of objections received during the consultation on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for waiting and loading restrictions on Waverley Bridge and Market Street.

Decision

1) To note the objections received to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order.

- 2) To set aside the objections and give approval to make the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

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

21. Public Utility Company Performance 2014-2015 – Quarter 3 2014

Performance information relating to public utility companies for the third quarter of 2014/15 (October to December 2014) was presented.

An update on the performance of the Roadwork Support Team (RST) including the additional Inspectors employed on a temporary basis to allow the Council to inspect 100% of public utility reinstatements was also submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the performance information set out in Appendix A of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.
- 2) To note the arrangements for securing an improved level of performance from all Public Utilities.

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

22. Services for Communities Grants to Third Sector Organisations

Approval was sought for a range of grant applications for 2015/16.

Decision

- 1) To approve third sector grant award in 2015/16 for one applicant.
- 2) To agree that grant levels be maintained for Water of Leith Conservation Trust.
- 3) To note that expenditure for 2015/16 on third sector grants would be £26,500.
- 4) To note that savings were being sought from grant recipients during 2015/16 with a view to making recommendations to Committee on grant awards from 2016/17 onwards.

(References – Communities and Neighbourhood Committee 11 February 2014 (item 1); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

23. A71 Dalmahoy Junction Options Report

Options for the installation of a traffic signal at the A71 Dalmahoy Junction were submitted for consideration.

Decision

- 1) To note the three options identified along with the relevant detail of the accompanying safety audit results.
- 2) To note that the installation of traffic signals was the only practical option to improve road safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

- 3) To note that with the current shortfall in funding of approximately £76,000 this scheme could not proceed to construction at this time.
- 4) To undertake a detailed design for the signalisation of the junction with a more detailed cost estimate, including land acquisition and any required planning consents and to receive a report on these issues, along with details of how to find the additional required funding, in the first quarter of next year.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 28 October 2014 (item 22); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

24. Objections to Proposed Relocation of Permit Holder Parking Places – Dundas Street

Details were provided of objections received during the consultation on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to move parking places 18 metres south of 30-30A Dundas Street and replacing them with a single yellow line.

Decision

- 1) To set aside the objections received.
- 2) To make the TRO as advertised.

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

25. ECOSTARS Edinburgh Fleet Recognition Scheme – Update and Future Proposals

The aims of the ECOSTARS fleet recognition scheme in Scotland were outlined. Progress made by the scheme since its launch in January 2012 was reported.

Decision

- 1) To note progress made by the ECOSTARS Edinburgh fleet recognition scheme since it launched in January 2012.
- 2) To continue the ECOSTARS Edinburgh fleet recognition scheme in its present form, for one year, pending the outcome of feasibility work on national or regional partnership schemes.
- 3) To receive an ECOSTARS Edinburgh fleet recognition scheme progress update as part of the Council's annual Local Air Quality Management report.

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

26. Revisions to Proposed Waiting and Loading Restrictions - Cowgate

Approval was sought for the introduction of 24 hour waiting restrictions along the Cowgate and 24 hour loading restrictions at the junction of Cowgate/High School Wynd/Blackfriar's Street and on the eastbound carriageway leading up to St Mary's Street.

Decision

To approve the implementation of the amended waiting and loading restrictions, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities. (Reference – report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

27. Travel Discount Cards for Young Carers – Motion by Councillor Hinds

The following motion by Councillor Hinds was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16.1.

"Committee:

- 1) notes the Scottish Youth Parliament campaign to provide travel support for young carers.
- 2) notes that the Convener and Vice-Convener met with Bill Campbell (Lothian Buses) and Terri Smith (Vice-Chair of the Scottish Youth Parliament) to discuss ways that the Council could help the Campaign.
- 3) instructs the Acting Director of Services for Communities to explore options with Lothian Buses concerning the purchase of Discount Cards (with 100 journeys) for Young Carers (16-18 years old) and how these could best be distributed to Young Carers."

Decision

To approve the motion.