

Item 4.1 - Minutes

Economy Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday, 28 June 2016

Present:

Councillors Barrie (Convener), Munro (Vice Convener), Corbett, Gardner, Keil, McVey, Milligan, Mowat, Rankin and Lunn (substituting for Councillor Ritchie).

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Economy Committee of 26 April 2016 as a correct record.

2. Economy Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Economy Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan for the period to the end of June 2017 was submitted.

Decision

To note the Economy Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan.

(Reference – Economy Committee Forward Plan, submitted.)

3. Economy Committee Rolling Actions Log

The Economy Committee Rolling Actions Log for 28 June 2016 was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To agree the closure of action 4.
- 2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log 28 June 2016, submitted.)

4. Economy Committee Business Bulletin

The Economy Committee Business Bulletin for 28 June 2016 was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the Business Bulletin.
- 2) To request that a report on proposals for participatory budgeting be submitted to Economy Committee and Finance and Resources Committee.

(Reference – Business Bulletin 28 June 2016, submitted.)

5. Proposed EDI Business Plan

The EDI Business Plan 2016-18, including a review of 2015 performance, was presented to Committee.

Decision

- 1) To note the proposed EDI Business Plan 2016-18.
- 2) To note that a report would be submitted to Committee within two cycles on arms length companies.

(References – minute of the Economy Committee 23 June 2015 (item 8); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Barrie and Munro declared a non-financial interest in the foregoing item as Directors of EDI and PARC Craigmillar Ltd.

6. City Deal Presentation

Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place, provided a presentation on the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal. The presentation covered the following areas:

- Vision and narrative.
- Development and themes of the proposition.
- Potential Edinburgh projects.
- Governance and delivery.
- Next steps.

Decision

To note the presentation.

7. Employability Service for People with Complex Needs

The Council was seeking to jointly commission a new service with a focus on employability for people with complex needs under the strategy of Inclusive Edinburgh – Getting it Right for Everyone. The significant co-production effort undertaken to

develop and shape the new service specification was detailed and approval was sought to re-focus £84,180 of grant funding to this new contract area.

Decision

- 1) To acknowledge the joint working of Council services and the co-operative approach being taken to develop this new service.
- 2) To recognise significant co-production undertaken by the Complex Needs Project Board.
- 3) To approve the re-focusing of £84,180 grant funding to this new service area.

(References – minute of the Economy Committee 20 January 2016 (item 9); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

8. Investment and Regeneration in Edinburgh – Next Steps

The Edinburgh 12 initiative was previously introduced by the Council in 2013 to help progress strategically important gap sites across Edinburgh's City Centre. It was considered appropriate to refocus the initiative on major economic regeneration priorities, particularly where the commercial property market required public sector leadership and possible intervention, to provide prime office space, light industrial space, housing for people on low incomes, and growth proposals for technology and creative sectors. Sites relevant to addressing such needs and the tools with which the programme would seek to unlock them were detailed.

Motion

- 1) To note the progress on the first phase of Edinburgh 12 sites.
 - 2) To approve the proposed refreshed approach to investment and regeneration in Edinburgh.
- moved by Councillor Barrie, seconded by Councillor Munro.

Amendment

- 1) To note the progress on the first phase of Edinburgh 12 sites.
- 2) To call for a further report with additional information on the following items;
 - i. Housing for people on low to middle incomes: what criteria will be used to determine that someone is in "specific work vital to the performance of the economy" and what an "appropriate location" is?
 - ii. How competing needs for sites/space will be reconciled – what methodology is to be used and who will determine this?
 - iii. How the CSIF can leverage in additional funding from external sources;
 - iv. Justify use of TIF as opposed to traditional borrowing;
 - v. Detail where additional funding to HLF bids are to come from;

- vi. What the Governance structure will be for each of these cases and where accountability will lie;
 - vii. What is the Council's role on the proposed Innovation Corridor?
 - viii. Transport implications and management of any proposals affecting the West End of Princes Street in order to protect the adjacent residential streets.
- 3) That the further report details the risk, policy and compliance and governance impacts of the proposals and sets out the paths needed to progress each project through the Council.”
- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Corbett.

Voting

For the motion	9
For the amendment	1

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Barrie.

(References – minute of the Economy Committee 15 September 2015 (item 9); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

9. Investing in Jobs: Economic Development Service Performance Update

An update was provided on the performance of the Economic Development Service (EDS) in delivering the key performance indicators (KPIs) for the period January to March 2016.

The EDS was currently ahead of target on all three of the headline KPIs as measured by a range of inputs on jobs, investment and helping people into work and learning.

Decision

To note the progress made against the three Key Performance Indicators between January and March 2016.

(References – minute of the Economy Committee 26 April 2016 (item 13); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

10. Economic Development Service – Travel Plan

The Annual Travel Plan for the Economic Development Service covering the period May 2015 to March 2016 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the travel undertaken in 2015/16 for the implementation of the Economic Strategy and European and International relations, and the anticipated travel for 2016/17.
- 2) That future versions of the Travel Plan include summary details of international visits.

(References – minute of the Economy Committee 23 June 2015 (item 18); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

11. Tackling Poverty and Inequality and Advancing Equality and Rights – Update – referral from Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee

The Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee on 10 May 2016 considered a report by the Chief Executive on the joint work being undertaken by the Edinburgh Partnership and the Council to tackle poverty and inequality and to advance equality and rights. The Committee referred the report to the Economy Committee with a request that future work in the area was focused on stimulating growth in areas of deprivation.

Decision

To note the report and to agree that future work in the area would focus on stimulating growth in areas of deprivation.

(References – minute of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 10 May 2016 (item 9); referral report by the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee, submitted)

12. Grade A Office Space – Motion by Councillor Barrie

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

“Committee recognises that City of Edinburgh is the commercial powerhouse of Scotland.

Committee notes that there are indicators that sufficient A Grade Office Space may be in short supply in the City in coming years.

This Committee calls for a report examining:

- Details of the indicators which highlight that there may be a shortage of Grade A office accommodation
- Where, in the last 10 years, areas of the development have taken place to supply office space
- The grading of the space built

- The relative success or otherwise of the letting of the office space developed, particularly by area
- Whether local planning policy is having the appropriate impact on the supply of office space for the future and any likely impact if an insufficient supply is identified.

This report to be provided to the committee within two cycles.”

Decision

- 1) To approve the motion by Councillor Barrie.
- 2) To note that as set out in paper 7.4 on today’s agenda, office space is one of a number of competing land uses where there are potential shortages – others including housing, light industrial workplace and creative workspace – and that these competing demands have to be addressed as a whole.
- 3) To note the need for industry views on sector shortage to be backed by objective evidence on actual shortage, by location and sub-sector.
- 4) To note the need to take into account changing patterns of flexible and remote working which impact on future demands for office space.