

Item 4.1 – Minutes

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 12 September 2017

Present

Councillors Wilson (Convener), Ian Campbell (Vice-Convener), Brown, Kate Campbell, Grazcyk, Griffiths (substituting for Councillor Doran), McNeese-Mechan, Miller, Mitchell, Osler and Staniforth.

1. Minutes

Decision

- 1) To approve the minute of the Culture and Sport Committee of 20 March 2017 as a correct record.
- 2) To approve the minute of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee of 28 March 2017 as a correct record.

2. Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Culture and Communities Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan was presented.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for September 2017.

(Reference – Key Decisions Forward Plan September 2017, submitted.)

3. Rolling Actions Log

The Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log for September 2017 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To approve the closure of actions 5 and 9.
- 2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log 12 September 2017, submitted.)

4. Business Bulletin

The Culture and Communities Committee Business Bulletin for September 2017 was presented.

Decision

To note the information set out in the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin September 2017, submitted.)

5. Edinburgh Festivals – Presentation

Julia Amour, Director of Festivals Edinburgh, and Donald Smith, Director of Scottish International Storytelling Festival, provided an overview of the key work carried out by the Edinburgh Festivals in the 70th anniversary year of the Fringe Festival. Edinburgh was unparalleled in terms of the scale of what was offered, attracting audiences of a similar size to that of the FIFA World Cup every year, but also the quality and diversity of the offering. Edinburgh's festivals were unique in that they were local as well as international, and had a good relationship with local cultural communities – the festivals were working with over 100 local arts organisations and 475 independent local artists. Digital innovation was a key area for the festivals' continual reinvention and the festivals were working with Edinburgh University, Scottish Enterprise and others to bring in support for improving the digital experience for users.

Volunteers from the Festival City Volunteers Scheme and Marion Findlay, Director of Services for Volunteer Edinburgh, were invited to speak about their experiences of the volunteering initiative, which was piloted in 2017 using the funding awarded by the city as part of the 70th anniversary programme, to enable more people to experience the festivals and to share the experience with city visitors.

Decision

To thank Julia Amour, Donald Smith and the volunteers for their presentation.

6. Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society – Presentation

Shona McCarthy, Chief Executive of Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, and Lyndsey Jackson, Head of Operations, Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, gave a presentation on the work carried out by the Festival Fringe, the largest arts festival in the world, and the Fringe Society, the charity that underpinned the festival, as well as the impact of the 70th anniversary year and ambitions for the future.

Decision

To thank Shona McCarthy and Lyndsey Jackson for their presentation.

7. Encouraging Live Music in Edinburgh: Music Is Audible Working Group Extension

An update on the work of the Music Is Audible Working Group and proposals to extend the lifespan of the working group for a further year were submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the range of work undertaken by the Music Is Audible (MIA) Working Group to provide better conditions for the support of live music in the city, with a view to fostering an environment in which live music could flourish.
 - 2) To note that, as a result of this, the Council had amended its licensing policy in regard to audibility of amplified music.
 - 3) To note that further work was needed to address the recommendations made in an independent report by the Music Venue Trust, commissioned by the Music Is Audible Working Group, such as establishing a role for a live music champion.
 - 4) To note the work that members of the Music Is Audible Working Group had undertaken in presenting and sharing information and findings relating to the provision on live music in the city, with a view to fostering an environment in which live music could flourish.
 - 5) To extend the lifespan of the Music Is Audible Working Group for a further year.
- (References – Culture and Sport Committee 25 October 2016 (item 9); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

8. Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 – Presentation

Michelle Mulvaney, Community Engagement Manager, and Lindsay Glasgow, Strategic Asset Management Senior Manager, provided an overview of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 in order to provide some context to the Locality Improvement Plans (see item 9). The Act received royal assent on 24 July 2015 and was designed to improve outcomes for communities, strengthen their influence on decisions about public services, and help to empower them through ownership of land and buildings. The Act committed public bodies to engage with and respond to communities.

Decision

To thank Michelle Mulvaney and Lindsay Glasgow for their presentation.

9. Locality Improvement Plans

Details were provided of the approval process and timescales for the development of Locality Improvement Plans (LIPs). All community planning partners had been involved in the development of the LIPs and the decision to take forward the LIPs would need to be taken individually by each organisation in the Edinburgh Partnership.

Councillor Child spoke to members about the LIPs from a ward perspective and asked members to approve the recommendations.

Motion

- 1) To approve the Locality Improvement Plans as set out in appendices 1 to 4 of the report.
- 2) To note the elected member involvement in the process to date and continued role as the plans were reviewed and developed as detailed in paragraph 3.11 of the report.

- 3) To note the commitments of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Police Scotland to the Locality Improvement Plans as outlined in paragraphs 3.14 and 3.15 of the report.
- 4) To note that the Locality Improvement Plans would be subject to separate approval by all partners including NHS Lothian and the Integration Joint Board
- 5) To note the plans would be subject to the endorsement of the Edinburgh Partnership on 28 September 2017 prior to publication on 1 October 2017.
- 6) To note that the Locality Improvement Plans were a work in progress and seen as a basis for going forward but not the finished article. It would be envisaged that once governance for the localities is in place that these plans would be subject to ongoing change and review by the Locality Working Group or appropriate Council body.

- moved by Councillor Ian Campbell, seconded by Councillor Wilson.

Amendment

- 1) To note the Locality Improvement Plans as set out in appendices 1 to 4 of the report.
- 2) To note the elected member involvement in the process to date and continued role as the plans were reviewed and developed as detailed in paragraph 3.11 of the report.
- 3) To note the commitments of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Police Scotland to the Locality Improvement Plans as outlined in paragraphs 3.14 and 3.15 of the report.
- 4) To note that the Locality Improvement Plans would be subject to separate approval by all partners including NHS Lothian and the Integration Joint Board
- 5) To note the plans would be subject to the endorsement of the Edinburgh Partnership on 28 September 2017 prior to publication on 1 October 2017.
- 6) To note that there was no governance in place for the localities in which these plans sat, including clearly defined relationships between locality committees and executive committees.
- 7) To express regret that the lack of definition of localities and governance has led to a lack of clarity over the scope of locality plans which could limit their effectiveness and relevance to many local communities.
- 8) To note that the desire to meet the legislative deadline for locality plans has meant that members' input has been comparatively sparse.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Osler.

Decision

To continue consideration of the report to the next meeting of the Culture and Communities Committee on 14 November 2017.

(References – Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 28 March 2017 (items 11 and 12); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

10. Thundering Hooves 2.0 – Council Actions and Annual Health Check

An update was provided on Council actions responding to the recommendations contained in the Thundering Hooves 2.0 action plan, and the work undertaken with festivals partners to implement the actions and deliver the festivals safely and appropriately each year.

Decision

- 1) To thank the Festival Directors and their staff, and Festivals Edinburgh colleagues, for the second set of annual health check meetings which informed the report.
- 2) To note the progress outlined in the report.
- 3) To note ongoing and future action set out in the Thundering Hooves 2.0 Action Plan Summary in Appendix 1.
- 4) To approve the Agreement on Action Areas as attached at Appendix 2.
- 5) To refer the report to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Business Bulletin.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 8 March 2016 (item 6); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

11. The Fifth Edinburgh Makar

The report on the appointment of the fifth Edinburgh Makar was presented.

Decision

- 1) To acknowledge Christine De Luca's achievements as Edinburgh Makar over her extended term from 2014 to 2017 and extend the Committee's thanks and best wishes for the future.
- 2) To approve the appointment of Alan Spence as the Edinburgh Makar from October 2017 to May 2020.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee of 20 March 2017 (item 10); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

12. Appointments to Working Groups – 2017/18

The report on appointments to Working Groups was presented.

Decision

- 1) To appoint the membership of the Meadowbank Sports Centre and Stadium Working Group for 2017/18 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 2) To appoint the membership of the Music is Audible Working Group for 2017/18 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

- 3) To agree that a report would be brought back to Committee with proposals to establish a Child Poverty Action Unit, in collaboration with relevant conveners and committees.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

13. Inverleith House

An update was provided on the future of Inverleith House. There had been concern in 2016 when it was announced that Inverleith House would be closed as a contemporary art gallery. A motion was tabled at the Culture and Sport Committee on 25 October 2016 expressing concern about the closure and, following this, a working group was established by the Royal Botanic Gardens, which included representation from the Scottish Government and Creative Scotland, and was tasked with establishing a clear strategic direction for the development of an arts programme to support the core mission of the Botanic, which was “to explore, conserve and explain the world of plants for a better future”. A set of recommendations were reported to the Botanic Board in June 2017. The key recommendation was to establish an arts advisory group and to establish a five year plan with clear objectives and clear outcomes.

Decision

To note the verbal update.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee of 25 October 2016 (item 10) and 14 December 2016 (item 11).)

14. Edinburgh’s Christmas and Edinburgh’s Hogmanay Key Performance Indicators 2016/17

An update was provided on the Key Performance Indicators for Edinburgh’s Christmas and Hogmanay 2016/17. The previous contract for the delivery of the event had expired, and a new contract was in place for 2017/18 onwards. The results for 2016/17 were positive and details of the highlights were provided.

Decision

To note the outcomes of Edinburgh’s Christmas and Hogmanay 2016/17 event.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 23 August 2016 (item 10); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

15. Social Work Complaints Review Committee – 22 June 2017

Recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Committee (SWCRC) held on 16 August 2017 on a complaint against the social work service within Health and Social Care, and actions taken by Health and Social Care in response, were detailed.

Decision

- 1) To note the recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee.
- 2) To approve the recommendations outlined in the response.

(References – reports by the Chair of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee and the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, both submitted.)

16. Social Work Complaints Review Committee – 11 August 2017

Recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Committee (SWCRC) held on 16 August 2017 on a complaint against the social work service within Health and Social Care, and actions taken Health and Social Care in response, were detailed.

Decision

- 1) To note the recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee.
- 2) To approve the recommendations outlined in the response.

(References – reports by the Chair of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee, submitted and the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, both submitted.)

17. Social Work Complaints Review Committee – 16 August 2017

Recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Committee (SWCRC) held on 16 August 2017 on a complaint against the social work service within Health and Social Care, and actions taken Health and Social Care in response, were detailed.

Decision

- 1) To note the recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee.
- 2) To approve the recommendations outlined in the response.

(References – reports by the Chair of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee, submitted; and the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, both submitted.)

18. Social Work Complaints Review Committee – 30 August 2017

Recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Committee (SWCRC) held on 30 August 2017 on a complaint against the social work service within Health and Social Care were detailed.

Decision

To note the recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee.

(Reference – report by the Chair of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee, submitted.)

19. Safer and Stronger Communities – Revenue Monitoring 2017/18 – month three position

Details were provided of the month three position on revenue monitoring for Safer and Stronger Communities. There were unfunded pressures amounting to £8.6 million outlined in the report, stemming from pressures on temporary accommodation.

Decision

- 1) To note with concern the net projected residual budget pressure of £3.5m, which remained at month three.
- 2) To note that approved savings in 2017/18 totalling £0.8m were on track to be delivered in full.
- 3) To note that the Homelessness Task Force would report to relevant committees.
- 4) To agree to refer the report to the Housing and Economy Committee for information.

(Reference – report by the Acting Head of Safer and Stronger Communities, submitted.)

20. Invitation to Shanghai

Details were provided of an invitation to the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee to attend the official pre-launch of a new festival in Shanghai which would feature productions from Edinburgh.

Decision

To note the action taken by the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive, in approving attendance by Councillor Wilson, Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee, at the official pre-launch of a new festival in Shanghai which would feature productions from Edinburgh cultural production company AEMI. This was under the urgency provisions set out at paragraph 4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)