

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday 2 October 2018

Present

Councillors McVey (Convener), Aldridge, Booth, Jim Campbell, Mary Campbell, Griffiths (substituting for Councillor Day), Macinnes, McLellan (substituting for Councillor Whyte), Councillor Mowat (substituting for Councillor Doggart), Rankin and Perry.

1. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee of 7 August 2018 as a correct record.

2. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Work Programme October 2018

The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Work Programme for October 2018 was presented.

Decision

To note the work programme.

(Reference – Work Programme October 2018, submitted.)

3. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Rolling Actions Log

Details were provided of the outstanding actions arising from decisions taken by the Committee.

Decision

- 1) To agree to close actions 9, 14, 16 and 17.
- 2) To otherwise note the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

4. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Business Bulletin

The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Business Bulletin was presented.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Business Bulletin, submitted.)

5. Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy

Details were provided on the proposals to progress a formal consultation on the Transient Visitor Levy for the City of Edinburgh with the tourism industry and residents. Reference was made to the proposed charging structure, the Scottish Government's national consultation on Transient Visitor Levies (TVL) and the requirement to respond to Edinburgh businesses' request to be consulted on the matter.

Motion

- 1) To agree to progress a formal public consultation on options for an Edinburgh TVL as laid out at a high level within the report.
 - 2) To agree that the Convener would write to Scottish Government Ministers sharing the progress of the Council's work on the TVL and to seek a meeting.
 - 3) To write to the Scottish Government seeking assurances on the timeline for the national consultation on TVL.
- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Amendment

To delay the consultation to await the outcome of the national consultation on TVL.

- moved by Councillor McLellan, seconded by Councillor Mowat

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	8 votes
For the amendment	-	3 votes

(For the motion - Councillors Aldridge, Booth, Mary Campbell, Griffiths, Macinnes, McVey, Perry and Rankin.

For the amendment – Councillors Jim Campbell, McLellan and Mowat.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(References – Act of Council No 6 of 31 May 2018; report by the Chief Executive, submitted).

6. Edinburgh Poverty Commission

An update was given on progress with establishing the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, including proposals to appoint an independent chair and to ensure its processes were driven by and responded to the voice of citizens of low incomes in Edinburgh.

Decision

- 1) To appoint Dr Jim McCormick as Chair of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission and the Depute Leader of the Council as Vice-Chair.

- 2) To agree the criteria set out for recruitment of other Commission members, and that the Commission Chair lead the recruitment and appointment of Commission members subject to those criteria with a view to a first meeting of the Commission by end October 2018.
- 3) To agree that a report on progress and a work programme for the Commission be brought to the next meeting of the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee.
- 4) To note planned actions to ensure that the Commission process responded directly to the experience of citizens living on low incomes in Edinburgh.
- 5) To note proposals submitted to Scottish Government and Edinburgh Partnership Board seeking financial contributions to the support the project.
- 6) To note plans to establish a cross party elected member group to support the work of the Commission.
- 7) To include a proposed interim date for publication of the Commission's final report.

(References – Act of Council No 13 of 28 June 2018; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

7. British Sign Language Plan for Edinburgh 2018-24

The British Sign Language Plan (BSL) for Edinburgh 2018-24 was presented. The Plan had been developed in response to the publication of the Scottish Government's National Plan for BSL in October 2017.

Decision

- 1) To note the Edinburgh BSL Plan attached at appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To note the extensive consultation and engagement that had taken place between The City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership and their BSL Stakeholders using a range of methods.
- 3) To note the deadline for publication of the plan by 24 October 2018.
- 4) To note that an implementation plan would be developed and an options appraisal carried out as required to determine the most appropriate ways that the Council could deliver the agreed actions.
- 5) To note the requirement to publish a biennial progress report, the first being required in October 2020.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

8. Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2017/18

The Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2017/18 was presented.

Approval was sought for submission of the Report to the Scottish Government as required by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Climate Change Duties.

Decision

- 1) To approve submission of the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2017/18 to the Scottish Government as set out in Appendix 1 of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 2) To note that the governance arrangements for climate change would be considered as part of the current independent audit of council activity on climate change and sustainability by the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation at the University of Edinburgh.

(Reference –report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

9. Edinburgh Community Plan

The Edinburgh Community Plan (now termed the Local Outcome Improvement Plan) was presented. The Plan set out the strategic direction for community planning in Edinburgh together with a number of key shared priorities that Edinburgh Partnership Board members would work together to achieve improved outcomes for Edinburgh's citizens.

Decision

To agree that, subject to further development and consultation, a final version of the Plan would be considered for approval by City of Edinburgh Council on 25 October 2018.

(Reference –report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

10. Edinburgh Partnership Review

An update was provided on the Edinburgh Partnership review and consultation on governance arrangements to date.

Decision

- 1) To note that locality communities, including Neighbourhood Partnerships, Community Councils and residents, had been waiting for well over a year to have certainty over the governance arrangements for their participation in community planning and that continuing uncertainty was not acceptable.
- 2) To note that the Edinburgh Partnership decided on 24 September 2018 to put in place locality partnership arrangements and requested that detailed recommendations be brought to its October 2018 meeting.
- 3) To agree that Locality Partnerships were best placed to set up and develop any locality sub structures, and to engage and consult with their communities for agreement by the Edinburgh Partnership, and request that the Convener convey this to the Edinburgh Partnership.

(Reference –report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

11. Accounts Commission – Council’s Use of Arms-Length Organisations - referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 28 August 2018 considered a report on the Council’s use of Arms-Length Organisations (ALEOs). The report examined how Councils used ALEOs, how they were overseen, what they were achieving and their future direction.

The report had been referred to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee for its consideration.

Decision

- 1) To note that there were advantages and disadvantages of elected members and officers being on ALEO Boards.
- 2) To note that the Council had mitigated many of these disadvantages:
 - a) Officers did not sit on Boards unless in exceptional circumstances.
 - b) Scrutiny of ALEOs was split between the relevant Executive Committee and Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee to ensure independent scrutiny.
 - c) Training on director duties and conflicts of interests were integral elements of elected member training.
- 3) To agree that Committee Services would:
 - a) arrange any additional training that may be required for individual elected member appointments on respective boards;
 - b) ensure clear reasons were provided for any elected member appointments and suitable training/information was provided within any appointment report;
 - c) review any changes required to manage conflict of interests and report back to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee should any changes be required.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee 28 August 2018 (item 18); report by Chief Executive, submitted.)

12. Sustainable Energy Action Plan Update

The Sustainable Energy Action Plan update was presented.

Decision

To continue consideration of the report for one cycle of meetings to receive a further update.

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

13. McCrae's Battalion Trust: Commemorative Service at Contalmaison Cairn- 1 July 2018

Arrangements had been made by the Chief Executive under urgency provisions for the Council to support the Hearts Great War Memorial Committee by providing a £5,000 grant toward the cost of a Cairn at Contalmaison to commemorate the 15th and 16th Battalions of the Royal Scots at the Battle of the Somme and for Bailie Councillor Norman Work to attend a commemorative service.

Decision

To note the action taken by the Chief Executive , in terms of paragraph 4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions to approve the attendance of Bailie Councillor Norman Work at the Commemorative Service at Contalmaison on 1 July 2018.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

14. Visit to Shenzhen, China and Agreement Cooperation Agreement

An update was provided on Edinburgh's collaborative agreement with Shenzhen. Details were provided of a planned visit to Shenzhen and plans to sign a commitment to reinforce and extend cooperation between Edinburgh and Shenzhen for a period of five years.

Decision

- 1) To note the delivery of mutual opportunities for Edinburgh and Shenzhen from the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in 2013.
- 2) To note the potential ongoing and future benefits to the city of furthering links between Edinburgh and Shenzhen as part of the Council's strategic international engagement with China.
- 3) To note the co-delivery and pooling of resources and opportunities with key sectoral interests in Edinburgh in furthering relations with Shenzhen.
- 4) To approve that the Lord Provost lead a delegation to Shenzhen in October 2018, as agreed with Shenzhen, to further extend discussions on the relationship, jointly with key Edinburgh stakeholders to include agreement on behalf of the Council to sign a commitment with Shenzhen for reinforced cooperation, as outlined in the report for a further five years.

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

15. West Edinburgh and Edinburgh Waterfront – All Party Oversight Groups

It was proposed to establish two new All-Party Oversight Groups (APOGs) to strengthen the governance of the development of West Edinburgh and the Edinburgh Waterfront.

Motion

- 1) To approve the membership, scope and remit of the proposed APOG for West Edinburgh.
 - 2) To approve the membership, scope and remit of the proposed APOG for Edinburgh's Waterfront.
- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Amendment

To continue consideration for a further report on the scope for the membership of both APOGs to more effectively reflect the political balance on the Council.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Mowat

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	8 votes
For the amendment	-	3 votes

(For the motion – Councillors Aldridge, Booth, Mary Campbell, Griffiths, Macinnes, McVey, Perry and Rankin.

For the amendment - Councillors Jim Campbell, McLellan and Mowat.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

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

16. Scotland's Charter for a Tobacco-Free Generation

Proposals to ensure the Council helped protect children from tobacco, reduced the harm caused by tobacco and encouraged others to do the same were submitted. Actions undertaken to date and options for further action were presented.

Decision

- 1) To note that the Council recognised that, to succeed in creating a tobacco-free generation, commitment to a sustained approach and focus over the very long-term was required and that plans be brought forward setting out how this could be done.
- 2) To note that the Council's Smoking Policy had been reviewed and that no changes were recommended at present; the Policy was to continue to be kept under review to ensure it reflected any changes in legislation etc.
- 3) To note the contribution of the Council in relation to the work of the Lothian Tobacco Prevention Working Group and the Scottish Government's Tobacco Control Strategy.
- 4) To note that a number of Edinburgh schools and youth clubs had already signed up to the Charter for a Tobacco-Free Generation.

- 5) To note the range of actions already underway in schools and that all primary schools should be encouraged to participate in the NHS Lothian primary schools tobacco education project.
- 6) To approve the further actions proposed at paragraph 3.17 of the report by the Chief Executive and to note that by pledging up to three new practical steps, the Council met the requirements to sign up to the Charter for a Tobacco-Free Generation.

(References – Act of Council No 10 of 31 May 2018; report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

17. Charter Against Modern Slavery

The Council had approved an adjusted motion by Councillor Day noting the Co-operative Party's Charter Against Modern Slavery and with the inclusion of two further action points. Details on its implementation were presented, focusing on legislation and current Council practice.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Modern Slavery Commitments.
- 2) To note the report setting out the Council's approach to implementing the requirements of the Council motion.

(References – Act of Council No 32 of 28 June 2018; report by the Executive Director of Resources, submitted)