

Item 6.1 - Business bulletin

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 4 December 2018

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Adam McVey</p>  <p>Vice Convener: Councillor Cammy Day</p> 	<p>Councillor Adam McVey (Convener)</p> <p>Councillor Cammy Day (Vice-Convener)</p> <p>Councillor Robert Aldridge</p> <p>Councillor Chas Booth</p> <p>Councillor Mary Campbell</p> <p>Councillor Jim Campbell</p> <p>Councillor Phil Daggart</p> <p>Councillor Lesley Macinnes</p> <p>Councillor Ian Perry</p> <p>Councillor Alasdair Rankin</p> <p>Councillor Iain Whyte</p>	<p>Allan McCartney, Committee Manager</p> <p>Louise Williamson, Assistant Committee Officer</p>

Recent news	Background
<p>Council Asbestos Policy</p> <p>No changes are proposed to the Council Asbestos Policy. Consultation has taken place with the Trades Unions.</p> <p>Council Fire Safety Policy</p> <p>No changes are proposed to the Council Fire Safety Policy. Consultation has taken place with the Trades Unions. Note that no decision has been made by the Scottish Government on whether they will implement recommendations following the Grenfell tragedy. The Policy will be kept under review.</p>	<p>Susan Tannahill, Senior Manager - Health and Safety</p>
<p>Common Good</p> <p>The 2017/18 Common Good Annual Performance report was considered at Finance and Resources Committee on 27</p>	

September 2018 and it was agreed that the [consultation](#) on the Common Good Asset Register would be issued. The closing date is 31 December 2018 and a report will be brought back to Committee in February 2019.

[Craig Lamont](#) / [Liam MacDonald](#)

Visit to Shenzhen and Putian

Feedback from the Lord Provosts' visit to Shenzhen and Putian is attached to this Business Bulletin.

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee agreed this visit on [2 October 2018](#)

Brexit Working Group

In August 2018 the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee agreed a report to note actions underway to manage transition to Brexit in Edinburgh. The report recommended that the Brexit Working Group meet to consider future options to provide support for Non-UK EU nationals within the Council workforce and the wider city population.

The working group met during September and November 2018, to review planned activity to support Council colleagues, and forward planning for potential impacts on council workforce in key sectors such as education, and health and social care. In line with guidance published by Audit Scotland in November 2018, the group further agreed a forward programme of sessions to consider and plan for likely impacts of Brexit on:

- Key sectors of the Edinburgh Economy – December 2018
- Council procurement and the delivery of key contracts – January 2019
- Finance and EU Successor Funding – March 2019

The publication by UK Government of the draft withdrawal agreement on 14 November marked an important milestone towards the UK's planned withdrawal from the European Union. Issues and potential risks for the council arising from the draft agreement, and parallel government advice on planning for a potential no-deal scenario form an important part of the groups discussions throughout the sessions planned over the next four months.

[Paula McLeay](#) / [Chris Adams](#),

Edinburgh Poverty Commission

On 2 October, the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee approved the appointment of Dr Jim McCormick as independent chair of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, with the Deputy Leader of the Council as vice chair. Committee

[Paula McLeay](#) / [Chris Adams](#)

further approved that recruitment and appointment of other commissioners should be led by and undertaken by the commission chairs. A full briefing on the final commission membership was provided to members of the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee in November 2018.

Following this recruitment process, the inception meeting of Edinburgh Poverty Commission took place on 27th November. At this meeting, commissioners agreed a forward work programme which incorporated:

- Four full commission meetings to be held during, February, May, September, and December 2019
- A thematic approach to using these sessions to gather and consider evidence on the experience and impact of poverty in Edinburgh
- The commissioning of two elements of engagement activity to support the work of the commission and ensure that citizens with direct experience of poverty have their voices heard by the commission, and
- A commitment to production of a commission report and recommendations by December 2019.

Full costs of commissioned engagement activity outlined in the work plan are covered by funding provided for the project by the Scottish Government. All running and operating costs for the commission, are covered by funding provided for the project by the Edinburgh Partnership Board.

A full briefing session for elected members providing more detail on the Commission Work programme will be held in December 2018.

Forthcoming activities:

CONFERENCE/CIVIC VISIT FEEDBACK FORM

Report by the Lord Provost	
Event name and location: Delegation to Shenzhen to open Merchiston International School and to Putian to inaugurate Edinburgh International Hospital. Also to report on meetings with Shenzhen Vice Mayor and City Government Officials; Schenzhen based investor groups; Putian Mayor and City Government Officials and investors in Hong Kong.	
Authorising Committee: Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee, 2 October 2018	
Event organisers: Merchiston International School University of Edinburgh / Edinburgh International Investments Edinburgh Shenzhen Investment Group (incubator F518) Enterprise and Innovation / Investment and International Relations teams, Economic Development	
Nature of event e.g. conference /seminar, civic event. Shenzhen: Welcome Dinner The Lord Provost attended a welcome dinner with representatives from Shenzhen Government, Shenzhen Creative Investment Group / F518, investors and governors of Merchiston Castle School. Shenzhen Senior Vice Mayor The Lord Provost, City Officer and Economic Development Service Manager, accompanied by The Scottish First Secretary, met with Shenzhen Senior Vice Mayor Lui Quinsheng and a number of senior Shenzhen Government Officials.	Date(s) of attendance: 11 October 12 October

Discussion took place regarding the next steps to extend and reinforce cooperation between Edinburgh and Shenzhen following the success of links established through the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2013.

The Lord Provost and Senior Vice Mayor agreed that officers from each city would produce a new bi-lateral agreement which will be signed in May 2019. The new agreement will:

- continue the collaboration in the creative and tech industries (as outlined by the 2013 MOU);
- continue to provide soft landing facilities and business support services with partners;
- strengthen and build upon the excellent work to date which has linked trade and investment opportunities with Shenzhen;
- encourage wider links to build collaboration, partnership and investment opportunities in the creative, tech and design sectors;
- deepen exchanges in life sciences and ICT (robotics, artificial intelligence, data driven innovation);
- and further education links (student exchanges, university collaboration, establishment of international schools); and
- further potential flight route development.

The new agreement will be reviewed in 2023.

China Merchants Group

The Lord Provost attended a meeting with the China Merchants Group, hosted by Group President Mr Fu Gangfeng and attended by senior executives from the group's divisions.

China Merchants Group are co-investors in Edinburgh International Hospital, Putian, alongside the University of Edinburgh's Edinburgh International Investments Ltd.

China Merchants group, established in 1872, is a state-owned enterprise with assets in excess of US \$1 trillion which invests internationally in 6 industry ecosystems:

- Ports, Shipping and related services
- Intelligent transportation
- Innovative finance
- Smart communities, data innovation
- Bio-medical, pharma and healthcare

Discussion took place around a number of investment opportunities in Edinburgh and further collaboration and

12 October

co-investment with the University of Edinburgh. As a result, Group President Mr Fu will lead a delegation to Edinburgh in December 2018.

Merchiston International School

The Lord Provost accepted an invitation to attend the opening of Merchiston Castle School's new Merchiston International School in Shenzhen.

The opening event took place on Saturday 13 October, attended by around 1,000 staff, pupils, parents, investors and dignitaries. Representatives from Scottish Development International were also in attendance as was the Andrew Ould, UK Deputy Consul General for Guangzhou.

The Lord Provost delivered a speech and unveiled a plaque to mark the opening of the school which will have a capacity for 1200 pupils.

Putian, (Fujian Provence)

The delegation travelled by rail, north to Putian, in Fujian Provence.

Mazu International Health City Tour

The Lord Provost was met by the Mayor of Putian Mr Zhang Guosheng and toured Mazu International Health City, an area of 8.21 sq km, £5.6 billion under development which will provide primary healthcare, specialist hospitals, R&D and Medical Education.

Edinburgh International Hospital inauguration

The University of Edinburgh's Edinburgh International Investment joint venture Edinburgh International Hospital was officially inaugurated by the Lord Provost and Julian Taylor, Executive Director Asia Pacific, Scottish Development International. The hospital is due to open by summer 2019.

The event was attended by around 150 people including investors, and medical professionals.

In honour of the partnership with the University of Edinburgh and with the city, Putian has named the road on which the Edinburgh International Hospital stands

13 October

14 October

Key areas which you found particularly useful:

Opening of two major co-investments by Edinburgh-based institutions – Merchiston School and the University of Edinburgh – key outcomes of the collaboration between Edinburgh and Shenzhen. The unveiling of an Edinburgh named street, symbolically recognising Edinburgh’s presence and profile in South East China.

Benefits of attendance for the Council, including relevance to key Council priorities and Pledges:

Meetings with key investors have significantly increased the opportunities of securing new investment into Edinburgh, supporting the Council’s aim to deliver a thriving economy. As a direct result of the visit, three inward delegations to Edinburgh from China are scheduled. These include senior executives who will sign a further Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Edinburgh to take forward co-investment in China.

The discussions with the Shenzhen Government will lead to a strengthening of bilateral business and investment arrangements between the two cities, as agreed by the Corporate Strategy and Policy Committee on 2 October 2018.

The Council’s support and partnership with the University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh International Investments will enable further investment, increase further core business opportunities in research and development and education collaboration, which is a significant boost for Edinburgh life sciences and medical education sectors.

Additional comments: