

Fairer Scotland Fund – Forth Ward

City of Edinburgh Council

18 December 2008

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To submit recommendations, in terms of Standing Order 53, following consideration of a motion on Fairer Scotland Fund allocations in Forth Ward.

2 Background

- 2.1 On 2 December 2008, the Policy and Strategy Committee considered the following motion by Councillor Burns submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

- “a) Committee notes with concern the recent decisions of the Forth Neighbourhood Partnership regarding allocation of Fairer Scotland Fund monies and the effects this will now have on local service provision and local jobs.
- b) These recent decisions (of Monday 17 November 2008) clearly mark ‘a material change of circumstances’ on the issue of Fairer Scotland Funding within the Forth Ward.
- c) Committee therefore agrees that the Council Leader arrange an urgent meeting between all Forth Ward elected members, and relevant Council officers, to:
- investigate alternative funding sources for the affected organisations
 - investigate the longer-term possibility of ‘mainstreaming’ the services provided by the affected organisations;

the outcomes of this meeting to be reported to the next meeting of the Forth Neighbourhood Partnership.”

3 Deputation

- 3.1 The Committee heard a deputation from the Forth Voluntary Sector Forum, Malcolm Chisholm, MSP and Mark Lazarowicz, MP who were concerned about the effect of the new Fairer Scotland funding arrangements on voluntary sector organisations which provided a range of essential services to some of the most vulnerable members of the community in the Forth Ward.
- 3.2 The deputation urged the Committee to look again at the funding allocations and to consider other sources of funding which would enable projects in the area to continue.

4 Division

4.1 Motion

To approve the motion.

- moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Murray.

4.2 Amendment 1

- a) To note that Forth Neighbourhood Partnership has allocated its share, based on the Edinburgh Index, of Fairer Scotland Fund monies to reflect local need and to accord with the community planning partnership's agreed three priorities of tackling poverty through early intervention, addressing health inequalities and improving employability.
- b) To note that the Edinburgh Partnership Board's distribution of Fairer Scotland Funds targets poverty more accurately. This process has involved extensive discussions with a wide range of stakeholders. It has inevitably resulted in a realignment of funding to some local organisations.
- c) To note that the Council Leader has agreed to meet the Convener of Forth Neighbourhood Partnership, as requested by that Partnership on 25 November 2008.

- moved by Councillor Dawe, seconded by Councillor Buchanan.

4.3 Amendment 2

To approve paragraphs a) and b) of amendment 1 and paragraph c) of the motion as follows:

- a) To note that Forth Neighbourhood Partnership has allocated its share, based on the Edinburgh Index, of Fairer Scotland Fund monies to reflect local need and to accord with the community planning partnership's agreed three priorities of tackling poverty

through early intervention, addressing health inequalities and improving employability.

- b) To note that the Edinburgh Partnership Board's distribution of Fairer Scotland Funds targets poverty more accurately. This process has involved extensive discussions with a wide range of stakeholders. It has inevitably resulted in a realignment of funding to some local organisations.
- c) Committee therefore agrees that the Council Leader arrange an urgent meeting between all Forth Ward elected members, and relevant Council officers, to:
 - investigate alternative funding sources for the affected organisations
 - investigate the longer-term possibility of 'mainstreaming' the services provided by the affected organisations;

the outcomes of this meeting to be reported to the next meeting of the Forth Neighbourhood Partnership."

- moved by Councillor Jackson, seconded by Councillor McInnes.

5 Voting

5.1 The mover of the motion, with the consent of his seconder and the mover and seconder of amendment 2, agreed that amendment 2 should replace his motion.

5.2 The voting was as follows:

For the adjusted motion (amendment 2)	-	6 votes
For amendment 1	-	8 votes

6 Decision

6.1 To approve amendment 1 by Councillor Dawe.

6.2 **In terms of Standing Order 53, the requisite number of members required that the decision be referred to the Council as a recommendation.**



John Sturt
Council Secretary

8.12.08

Appendix	None.
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Wards affected	4 – Forth
Background Papers	Minute of Policy and Strategy Committee 2 December 2008