

The City of Edinburgh Council

Edinburgh, Thursday 23 November 2017

Present:-

LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable Frank Ross

COUNCILLORS

Robert C Aldridge
Scott Arthur
Gavin Barrie
Eleanor Bird
Chas Booth
Claire Bridgman
Mark A Brown
Graeme Bruce
Steve Burgess
Lezley Marion Cameron
Ian Campbell
Jim Campbell
Kate Campbell
Mary Campbell
Maureen M Child
Nick Cook
Gavin Corbett
Cammy Day
Alison Dickie
Denis C Dixon
Phil Doggart
Marion Donaldson
Karen Doran
Scott Douglas
Catherine Fullerton
Neil Gardiner
Gillian Gloyer
George Gordon
Ashley Graczyk
Joan Griffiths
Ricky Henderson

Derek Howie
Graham J Hutchison
Andrew Johnston
David Key
Callum Laidlaw
Kevin Lang
Lesley Macinnes
Melanie Main
John McLellan
Amy McNeese-Mechan
Adam McVey
Claire Miller
Max Mitchell
Joanna Mowat
Gordon J Munro
Hal Osler
Ian Perry
Susan Rae
Alasdair Rankin
Cameron Rose
Neil Ross
Jason Rust
Stephanie Smith
Alex Staniforth
Mandy Watt
Susan Webber
Iain Whyte
Donald Wilson
Norman J Work
Louise Young

1 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Council of 26 October 2017 as a correct record.

2. Questions

The questions put by members to this meeting, written answers and supplementary questions and answers are contained in Appendix 1 to this minute.

3 Leader's Report

The Leader presented his report to the Council. The Leader commented on:

- Progress on Edinburgh projects
- Homelessness
- Success of winter events
- Support for Cash for Kids – sponsorship for wearing a tie

The following questions/comments were made:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Councillor Whyte | - | Senior Councillor payments for Locality Committees |
| Councillor Burgess | - | Private Residential Tenancy Launch – 1 December 2017 |
| Councillor Aldridge | - | Edinburgh in care crisis |
| Councillor Day | - | Edinburgh Interfaith Association |
| | - | Commendation to Nick Croft for work done in equalities partnership and engagement |
| Councillor Work | - | Alcohol related admissions to hospital |
| Councillor Jim Campbell | - | Potential sale of Wardie Playing Fields |
| Councillor Bridgman | - | Support for Small Business Saturday on 2 December 2017 |
| Councillor Munro | - | Budget Consultation – representations to Scottish Government and COSLA |
| Councillor Lang | - | Budget Consultation – financial settlement |

Councillor Kate Campbell	-	Tax cut to those buying homes up to the value of £300,000
Councillor Laidlaw	-	City of Edinburgh Music School
Councillor Howie	-	Universal Credit
Councillor Mitchell	-	Accessibility for people with physical and mental disabilities

4 Appointments to Outside Organisations/Committees

The Council had agreed its political management arrangements and made appointments to a range of Committees, Boards, Joint Boards and outside organisations. Details were provided on requests for the Council to appoint members to various Council Committees and outside organisations.

Decision

- 1) To appoint Councillor Gordon as Chair of Edible Edinburgh.
- 2) To appoint Councillors Dixon, Fullerton, Graczyk and Wilson, the four members for the Sighthill/Gorgie ward, to the Gorgie War Memorial Community Centre Management Committee.
- 3) To note the resignation of Councillor Dickie from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee and appoint Councillor Ian Campbell in her place.
- 4) To note that Councillor Ritchie had resigned as Convener of the Planning Committee.
- 5) To note that Councillor Ian Campbell had resigned from the Planning Committee.
- 6) To appoint Councillor Gardiner as a member and also Convener of the Planning Committee and Development Management Sub-Committee.
- 7) To appoint Councillor Ritchie to the Planning Local Review Body (Panel 1).
- 8) To note that Councillor Ritchie had resigned from the SESPlan Joint Committee (South East Scotland Regional Joint Committee) and appoint Councillor Gardiner in his place.

(References – Act of Council No 3 of 22 June 2017; Acts of Council Nos 8 and 9 of 29 June 2017; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

5. Senior Councillor Allowances

The Council had agreed senior Councillor remuneration to Councillor Burgess as co-leader of the Green Group with effect from 22 June 2017. Details were provided on a proposal that this be allocated to Councillor Main to take effect from 23 December 2017.

The Lord Provost ruled in terms of Standing Order 27(1) that this matter should be considered due to a material change in circumstances, namely the re-allocation of responsibilities within the Green Group and the resignation of Councillor Ritchie as Convener of the Planning Committee.

The Lord Provost also ruled in terms of Standing Order 27(1) that an addendum submitted by the Conservative Group which, if accepted, would require a change to Act of Council No 3 of 22 June 2017, should not be considered as in his view there had been no material change in circumstances.

Decision

- 1) To allocate the Green Group Leader senior responsibility allowance to Councillor Main with effect from 23 December 2017.
- 2) To note the resignation of Councillor Ritchie as Convener of the Planning Committee and the appointment of Councillor Gardiner in his place and agree to amend the Council decision of 22 June 2017 in relation to payment of Senior Councillor Remuneration as follows:

Role	Percentage	Salary	Councillor
Planning Convener	62.5%	£31,739	Councillor Gardiner

(References – Act of Council No 3 of 22 June 2017; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

6 Improving Accessibility – Amendment to Procedural Standing Orders

Details were provided on a proposal to amend the Procedural Standing Orders to ensure that the procedures and practice of the City of Edinburgh Council and its committees would allow all members to actively and effectively engage with the Council's democratic process.

Motion

To repeal the existing Standing Orders and agree in their place Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive, such repeal and approval to take effect from 24 November 2017.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Wilson

Amendment 1

Insert a new clause 20.4, and renumber subsequent clauses as required:

20.4

Clause 20.3 will not apply to any agenda items where the final report or reports were not issued alongside the notice of the meeting.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Graczyk

Amendment 2

To add new recommendation 1.2

To report back to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee after 6 months of the revised standing orders being in operation on any further adjustments which might be required to enable better access: the report to include the feasibility of publishing full meeting papers one week in advance of full council meetings and whether any further changes might assist people with dyslexia or people with any sensory impairment.

- moved by Councillor Aldridge, seconded by Councillor Lang

In accordance with Standing Order 20(7), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion:

- 1) To repeal the existing Standing Orders and agree in their place Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive (amended by (3) below), such repeal and approval to take effect from 24 November 2017.
- 2) To report back to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee after 6 months of the revised standing orders being in operation on any further adjustments which might be required to enable better access: the report to include the feasibility of publishing full meeting papers one week in advance

of full council meetings and whether any further changes might assist people with dyslexia or people with any sensory impairment.

- 3) To insert a new clause 20.4, and renumber subsequent clauses as required:

20.4

Clause 20.3 will not apply to any agenda items where the final report or reports were not issued alongside the notice of the meeting.

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

7. Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Council Performance Framework

The Council had approved the Council Business Plan (A Programme for the Capital: The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-22). Details were provided on a new performance framework which had been revised to support the implementation of the Council Business Plan 2017-22.

Motion

- 1) To agree the principles and scheduling set out in paragraph 3.8 of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 2) To approve the proposed measures for the Coalition Commitments in Appendix 1 to the report, within the context of the broader performance framework.
- 3) To note the Council's Performance Framework Strategy Map in Appendix 2 to the report.
- 4) To refer the report to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee for further scrutiny.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 1

- 1) To delete recommendation 1.1.2
- 2) To replace recommendation 1.1.4 wording with the following:

To refer the report to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee to agree specific and assessable performance measures, milestones and actions for all commitments.

- moved by Councillor Doggart, seconded by Councillor Webber

Amendment 2

Council;

Recognises that the commitments and their associated measurements as set out in this report are those of the SNP-Labour council coalition and therefore agrees the recommendations except replacing the existing 1.1.2 with;

1.1.2 **Notes** the proposed measures for the Coalition Commitments in Appendix 1, within the context of the broader performance framework.

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Main

In accordance with Standing Order 20(7), Amendment 1 was adjusted and accepted and Amendment 2 was accepted as addendums to the motion.

Decision

- 1) To note that the commitments and their associated measurements as set out in the report were those of the SNP-Labour council coalition.
- 2) To agree the principles and scheduling set out in paragraph 3.8 of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 3) To note the proposed measures for the Coalition Commitments in Appendix 1 to the report, within the context of the broader performance framework.
- 4) To note the Council's Performance Framework Strategy Map in Appendix 2 to the report.
- 5) To refer the report to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee to agree specific and assessable performance measures, milestones and actions for all commitments by February 2018.

(References – Act of Council No 7 of 24 August 2017; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

8 Establishment of Locality Committees

The Council had agreed that Locality Committees should be established. Details were provided on the proposed membership and remit of the Locality Committees.

Motion

- 1) To agree the membership and remit for the four Locality Committees, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To agree that only Councillors act as voting members on the Locality Committees.
- 3) To note that Locality Committees would be reviewed in June 2018, as part of the review of the Council's governance arrangements and then thereafter annually.
- 4) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive, to make the amendment to Procedural Standing Orders outlined in paragraph 3.16 and any amendments to the Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions as is necessary to implement the decision on this item.
- 5) To agree that Locality Committees should each have their first meeting before the end of 2017.

- moved by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Ian Campbell

Amendment 1

Council:

Appendix 10.2. Delete second sentence: "It will be usual practice for a member to serve for a maximum of one year as convener in each Council term."

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Brown

Amendment 2

Council notes item 3.11 in the report and the role of Neighbourhood Partnerships to oversee and scrutinise the delivery of the Locality Improvement Plans, until the Locality Committees are established.

Council recognises the flexibility for Locality Committees to appoint sub-committees to fulfil an advisory role if desired.

Council therefore inserts at the end of recommendation 1.1:

“subject to the addition of the following under delegated functions:

10.19 - To decide whether Neighbourhood Partnerships of their equivalent should continue within their locality as advisory groups on local issues and spending priorities.”

And amends recommendation 1.5 to read:

"To agree that Locality Committees should each have their first meeting before the end of 2017 or as soon as is practically possible afterwards"

- moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Osler

In accordance with Standing Order 20(7), Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	44 votes
For Amendment 1	-	18 votes

(For the Motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Booth, Bridgman, Burgess, Cameron, Ian Campbell, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Donaldson, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gloyer, Gordon, Griffiths, Henderson, Howie, Key, Lang, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Main, Miller, Munro, Osler, Perry, Rae, Rankin, Neil Ross, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work and Young.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Graczyk, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

- 1) To note item 3.11 in the report by the Executive Director of Place and the role of Neighbourhood Partnerships to oversee and scrutinise the delivery of the Locality Improvement Plans, until the Locality Committees were established.
- 2) To recognise the flexibility for Locality Committees to appoint Sub-committees to fulfil an advisory role if desired.

- 3) To agree the membership and remit for the four locality committees, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report subject to the addition of the following under delegated functions:

10.19 - To decide whether Neighbourhood Partnerships of their equivalent should continue within their locality as advisory groups on local issues and spending priorities.
- 4) To agree that only councillors act as voting members on the Locality Committees.
- 5) To note that Locality Committees would be reviewed in June 2018, as part of the review of the Council's governance arrangements and then thereafter annually.
- 6) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive, to make the amendment to Procedural Standing Orders outlined in paragraph 3.16 and any amendments to the Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions as is necessary to implement the decision on this item.
- 7) To agree that Locality Committees should each have their first meeting before the end of 2017 or as soon as is practically possible afterwards.

(References – Act of Council No 6 of 26 October 2017; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

9. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 – Reappointment of the City of Edinburgh Licensing Forum and Revised Constitution

Details were provided on a proposed revised structure for the City of Edinburgh Licensing Forum and the method for the appointment of members.

Decision

- 1) To agree the revised membership of the City of Edinburgh Licensing Forum as set out at Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To agree to the reappointment of any existing member of the Forum, where appropriate, should they wish to volunteer; and note that the Executive Director of Place had delegated authority to appoint any remaining members.
- 3) To approve the amended City of Edinburgh Licensing Forum Constitution as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

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

Declaration of interest

Councillor Smith declared a non-financial interest in the above item as she was related to the current Convener of the Licensing Forum.

10 Revenue Monitoring 2017/18 – Month Five Position – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on the projected overall position for the Council's revenue expenditure budget for 2017/18 based on analysis of period five data, for ratification of the Spend to Save application in respect of the International Climbing Arena.

Decision

- 1) To agree the Spend to Save application in respect of the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena.
- 2) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Resources to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee as part of its work programme.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee 7 November 2017 (item 6): referral report from the Finance and Resources Committee)

11 Treasury Management: Mid-term Report 2017/18 – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report which provided an update on Treasury Management Activity in 2017/18, to the Council, for approval of the Treasury Management Strategy.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Treasury Management Strategy.
- 2) To refer the report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee 7 November 2017 (item 10): referral report from the Finance and Resources Committee)

12 Fireworks/Bonfire Night - Motions by Councillors Day, Lang and Brown

The Lord Provost ruled that the following motions, which had been submitted in terms of Standing Order 16, be considered together:

Motion 1 - By Councillor Day:

“Council:

Notes with great concern the recent incident in north Edinburgh where police officers were targeted with fireworks, leading to serious injury to police officers, and the substantial damage caused to property in east Edinburgh as a result of fireworks.

Notes that across the city over 250 calls regarding dangerous fireworks and anti-social behaviour were received requiring emergency service attendance.

Calls for the Chief Executive to report to the February meeting of the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee on:

- working with the Scottish and Westminster Governments to consider options for better control of the sale of fireworks to individuals; and
- encouraging organised and licensed community firework and bonfire events.”

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Fullerton

Motion 2 – By Councillor Lang

“Council;

1. recognises that the vast majority of Edinburgh residents enjoy fireworks responsibly as part of the annual Guy Fawkes night celebrations,
2. commends those working in Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and other agencies for their commitment, bravery and professionalism in seeking to protect our local communities from harm,
3. condemns the reported acts of violence which took place in some parts of Edinburgh around 5 November, including fireworks being thrown at emergency service staff, and expresses its sympathy and support to those who suffered injury,
4. acknowledges motion S5M-08695 which was recently tabled to the Scottish Parliament and which has received cross party support, calling on (i) the UK Government to review the rules governing the sale of fireworks, and (ii) the

Scottish Government and its partner agencies to investigate and address the antisocial use of unlicensed fireworks,

5. agrees for the Leader of the Council to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation & Skills to express the Council's support for both reviews so new measures can be considered and, where possible, implemented [before 5 November 2018](#)."

- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Osler

Motion 3 - By Councillor Brown

"Council

- Commends the resilience and bravery of emergency service personnel in respect of the much-reported and unprecedented levels of unruly and shameful behaviour on 'Bonfire Night' at a number of locations City-wide.
- Extends its gratitude to the female Police Officer hit by a firework deliberately thrown at her and wishes her a full and speedy recovery. No-one should expect to leave their home to attend their place of work and be subject to such a premeditated and despicable attack.
- Condemns the outrageous behaviour that resulted in not only the injuries to said officer but the damage to police vehicles.
- Agrees to work in conjunction with our emergency services colleagues to assist where practical in helping to identify those responsible in respect of behaviour unbecoming of this fine capital city.
- Agrees to work in conjunction with emergency services ahead of next year to assist where practical to prevent a repeat of a plethora of incidents that caused damage to personal property of local residents and left a series of public parks with scorched areas together with debris from unsolicited bonfires."

- moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor McLellan

Amendment

To amend Motion 3 by Councillor Brown to read

Council:

Recognises that community bonfires can be a valuable neighbourhood bonding experience.

Commends the police and fire services in regard to the antisocial and dangerous behaviour they were faced with on Nov 5th at a number of locations.

Recognises the need for and right of residents to feel safe both in and outside their homes.

Agrees to work with the emergency services ahead of next years Bonfire Night to prevent incidents which cause injury to people and/or damage to property.

Recognises that though restricting fireworks further may prevent these exact incidents happening in future there is a wider need to address the antisocial behaviour that lies behind these incidents.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Burgess

In accordance with Standing Order 20(7), the amendment was accepted in place of Motion 3.

Decision

- 1) To approve Motion 1 by Councillor Day.
- 2) To approve Motion 2 by Councillor Lang.
- 3) To approve Motion 3, as adjusted by Councillor Brown.

13 Prison Community Integration Working Group - Motion by Councillor Graczyk

The following motion by Councillor Graczyk was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council:

Recognises that services to prisoners at the front end after release are patchy and inconsistent and aims to create a collaborative working group to review and bring forward innovative ideas which provides advice, guidance and assistance to prisoners and their families before and after release.

1. Calls for a report in three cycles to improve help for prisoners' reintegration into local communities and reduce the risk of further offending by giving them support, such as benefit, housing, employment, healthcare and befriender services which starts inside and seamlessly continues after their release. To improve communications between Council and relevant stakeholders including, prison specialist agencies, NHS Lothian, Edinburgh Partnership and relevant Third Sector organisations.

2. Requests that said report includes, but is not limited to:
- (a) Exploring the establishment of a joint initiative of relevant groups between the Council, prison specialist agencies, NHS Lothian, relevant stakeholders including Third Sector organisations, and cross-party elected members;
 - (b) themes of co-production and early prevention to address the root causes of reoffending and homelessness;
 - (c) investigating the creation of an appropriate mechanism or body to assist any improvements in the effective implementation of service;
 - (d) improving or implementing a City-wide information sharing network for advice and knowledge so all relevant stakeholders can be more informed;
 - (e) investigating how housing and other relevant advice could be best delivered to all relevant stakeholders and prisoners to ensure the best support is provided for prisoners and their families;
 - (f) considering best practice as operated by other local Councils and other external bodies representative of prison specialist agencies and relevant stakeholders;
 - (g) the level of civic and budgetary support required by the Council;
 - (h) contributing to the development of a common understanding on the implementation of framework and guidelines for all relevant stakeholders.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Graczyk.

14 Motion Security Barriers - Motion by Councillor Jim Campbell

The following motion by Councillor Jim Campbell was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council

Holds dear our liberal democracy and regrets the need to install National Barrier Assets on the High Street at George IV Bridge and Cockburn Street and on St Giles Street.

Understands the imperative for keeping residents and visitors safe on our High Street prior to the Edinburgh Festival this year, an area of dense pedestrian activity.

Thanks Officers, Police Scotland and others for reacting swiftly to Home Office advice on vehicle borne security threats, which the National Barrier Assets are designed to counter.

Accepting this, Council requests a report to the Transport and Environment Committee in three cycles to:

- 1) Consider the likely duration of the need to protect pedestrians in the High Street with the likes of the National Barrier Assets.
- 2) Assess the impact the barriers had on pedestrian flows on the High Street during the peak summer period.
- 3) Model whether the National Barrier Assets could be re-positioned to improve pedestrian flows round their immediate vicinity, without compromising their primary purpose.
- 4) Develop and cost design proposals that would achieve the same security goal, but be in greater harmony with the historic streetscape and public realm and additionally control the access of service vehicles to the High Street.”

Motion

To approve the motion by Councillor Jim Campbell.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Mowat

Amendment

Council;

Values the safety and security of all residents and visitors, understands the need to install National Barrier Assets (NBA) and thanks Officers, Police Scotland and others for reacting swiftly to Home Office advice on vehicle borne security threats, which the NBAs are designed to counter;

Notes that the Centre for Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) is currently producing a report including recommendations for long term solutions to provide protection from moving vehicle threats in Edinburgh;

Agrees that the Convener of Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee requests that CPNI recommendations are scrutinised by the committee.

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Main

In accordance with Standing Order 20(7), the amendment was accepted in place of the motion.

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Jim Campbell, as adjusted.

15 Statutory Duties of the Council - Motion by Councillor Hutchison

The following motion by Councillor Hutchison was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council

Instructs the Head of Finance within two cycles to report on the feasibility of Department Heads reporting their Department’s expenditure from financial year 2018/19 in such a way as to make clear what the Council is spending on non-statutory services that do not have any external or dedicated funding stream to offset the cost, that Council can better understand costs and statutory obligations.

Asks the Head of Finance to report back to the Finance and Resources Committee within one cycle all non-statutory expenditure in the last 12 months of single payments, or payments to the same recipient, of £50,000 or over.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Hutchison subject to the detailed report back to the Finance and Resources Committee being within 3 cycles.

16 Budget Meeting - Motion by Councillor Whyte

The following motion by Councillor Whyte was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council

Notes that the proposed budget meeting originally in the Council diary for Thursday 8 February 2018 has been cancelled without any explanation being provided to elected members through Group Leaders.

Expresses concern that, with the meeting scheduled for 22 February 2018 now being designated the Budget Meeting, there will be no opportunity for other Council business or questions to the Administration to be raised for a three-month period between 14 December and 15 March.

Therefore, agrees that the Chief Executive undertake forward agenda planning to consider what business might be required to be conducted in this period prior to consulting Group Leaders on a way forward as to how this long gap in business and scrutiny can be resolved.”

Decision

- 1) To note that Councillor Whyte had withdrawn his motion.
- 2) To note that a meeting of the Council had been arranged for Thursday 1 February 2018.

17 Councillors Complaints Procedures - Motion by Councillor Main

The following motion by Councillor Main was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council notes that there are formal procedures in place to allow staff and public to make complaints about inappropriate behaviour of councillors: the complaints procedures and the externally commissioned whistle-blowing service.

Council also notes that Councillors cannot complain about fellow councillors through the whistle blowing service and there is no formal Council procedure for councillors who might wish to make a complaint about inappropriate behaviour of other Councillors.

Therefore asks that each political group to nominate one member to meet with the Chief Executive to ensure that the appropriate Council provision is made as soon as possible, in addition to the Standard Commission’s provisions of the Councillors’ Code of Conduct, and a report will be brought to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee within two cycles.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Main.

Appendix 1

(As referred to in Act of Council No 2 of 23 November 2017)

QUESTION NO 1

By Councillor Rae for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

Question

What discussions have taken place between the council and Network Rail, with a view to construction of a walking/cycling path on the former Powderhall rail line?

Answer

There have been no recent discussions with Network Rail regarding re purposing of this rail line. However, it is safeguarded for use as a cycleway footpath in the Edinburgh Local Development Plan. Furthermore, it is included in the city's proposed 'QuietRoutes' network as shown in the 2016 refresh of the Council's Active Travel Action Plan. It is intended to bring forward proposals for the future use of the route in association with the redevelopments of the Powderhall waste transfer station and land at Meadowbank, sites which the line connects.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Convener. I would like to ask if the Convener can commit to a meeting with Network Rail in the future to look at Powderhall rail as a walking and cycling path at a future period.

Supplementary Answer

Thank you Councillor Rae. I'd be happy to commit to meeting with Network Rail but I should perhaps give you a little bit more background. There were initial discussions with Network Rail about a year ago and more formal discussions are likely to start quite soon but they may take some time not least because of the procedures that Network Rail need to go through to close a railway. Powderhall is expected to be a broadly residential development there and planning permission is going to take some time partly due to the problems of land clearance on that particular site, but yes I'd be very happy to commit to that meeting, thank you.

QUESTION NO 2

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

Question

On 30 May 2017, Councillor Young and I submitted a petition to officials calling for action to address the parking issues in Newbridge. This was signed by the majority of the residents in the village.

What action has been taken since this date, particularly in the period since [10 August](#) when the Transport and Environment Committee approved the new Parking Action Plan?

Answer

The Council established a monitoring regime in August 2017 and have committed to visiting the area each month to collect details on the available number and location of parking spaces and to help identify any other relevant issues.

The monitoring will continue over the next three to six months to determine if the area meets all of the criteria as outlined in the Controlled Parking and Priority Parking Protocol, in particular:

- There must be indications of parking pressures generated by non-residential vehicles.
- Most properties within the area being considered should have no access to off street parking.
- Parking controls will only be considered in instances where the parking problems are either long-standing or established and reflect a permanent situation.

Initial reviews ascertained that alternative measures may also help to improve conditions for residents and these include; a review of restrictions in the vicinity of Newbridge village, removal of 'no parking' cones being used to keep

kerbside space clear, introducing enforceable disabled bays for residents in the area and considering the introduction of yellow lines around junctions to improve sight-lines and enhance road safety.

Once the monitoring period concludes the Council will consider if the area meets all of the criteria within the Controlled Parking and Priority Parking Protocol. Should this be the case then we will engage further with ward members and residents to consult upon the design of any parking schemes.

**Supplementary
Question**

I thank the Convener for her answer. As a follow up can I ask her if she would be able to make arrangements for me, for the officials to write to me with the dates and the times of the monitoring that has been carried out over the last few months.

**Supplementary
Answer**

In anticipation of your question Councillor Lang I had in actual fact asked the officials, unfortunately due some absence I haven't been able to provide you with the exact information attached to it but I will probably be able to get that for you tomorrow.

QUESTION NO 3

**By Councillor Lang for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question

What action is being taken to tackle excessive vehicle speeds on rural roads in the Almond ward, particularly in areas close to small groups of residential housing?

Answer

The Council undertakes an annual collision investigation into all streets within the city, using details of all collisions that involve personal injury.

Two locations on rural roads in Almond Ward have been identified through this process for road safety interventions aimed at reducing vehicle speeds.

Design work is ongoing for the provision of a vehicle activated warning sign on Maybury Road, on the approach to its junction with Cammo Gardens.

It is also intended to commence the statutory process to lower the speed limit on the section of Burnshot Road between the A90 and Kirkliston in January 2018.

Responsibility for the enforcement of moving traffic offences, including speeding, lies with Police Scotland.

The provision, maintenance and operation of safety cameras (both speed and red light cameras) in Scotland is undertaken by the Scottish Safety Camera Programme, which is part of Police Scotland.

The Safety Camera Programme undertakes an annual review, in partnership with Local Authorities, to identify sites that meet its national criteria for the installation of safety cameras. This year's review of the Council's area did not identify any potential camera sites on rural roads in Almond Ward.

**Supplementary
Question**

There is a real risk that people think this is somehow choreographed. Lord Provost, I thank the Convener for this answer. Some time ago I received a wonderful letter from three of my constituents, Merryn Gunderson, Aiden Forest and Gemma Mowbray, and what made this letter different and special was that all three of them were 10 years old or younger and they wrote to me because of their concern over the speed of cars that are going past their homes at Lennie Muir which is a small area of housing just to the east of the cargo area at Edinburgh airport. Now when I approached officials about possible speed reduction measures I was told that nothing could be done until the full review that is to follow after the final phase of the 20 mile an hour roll out and that could of course be two to three years away.

So can I ask the Convener if she will be prepared to meet with myself, Merryn, Aidan and Gemma or at least make arrangements for officials to meet with them so that they can hear first hand why we really need action here sooner rather than later.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Councillor Lang. I'd be happy to meet with your constituents, perhaps to bring them into the City Chambers so they can see democracy in action. I would be very delighted to meet with them but I can't promise anything particular on the content of the rest of your question.

QUESTION NO 4

**By Councillor Lang for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question (1) What statutory responsibility exists on the Council to ensure there is adequate lighting of the cycle path network?

Answer (1) There is no statutory requirement on local authorities in Scotland to provide public lighting.

Question (2) What percentage of the cycle path network in the City of Edinburgh is covered by lighting?

Answer (2) Precise information on percentages is not readily available. However, it is estimated that around 45% of the paths available to cycle on in Edinburgh are lit. Within the city bypass, the figure is estimated to be around 65%.

This estimate includes:

- the tarmac surfaced off-road path network, the large majority of which is lit, with exceptions mostly being in parks and on the waterfront promenade;
- non-tarmac surfaced paths, most of which are unlit, for example most of the Water of Leith Path; and
- paths adjacent to rural main roads, such as the A90 and A8, some of which are lit and others unlit.

Question (3) What plans exist to install additional lighting on the National Cycle Route 1 between Queensferry and Dalmeny?

Answer (3) The Council is undertaking an extensive programme of Active Travel improvements at locations throughout the City. However, there are no current proposals to install additional lighting on the National Cycle Route 1 between Queensferry and Dalmeny.

**Supplementary
Question**

Again I thank the Convener for the answer. As the community of Queensferry gets bigger, we obviously want to encourage active travel wherever we can particularly to try and avoid private car use, however pedestrians and cyclists are telling me just how dangerous it is to walk or cycle on the NCR1 route next to Queensferry and Dalmeny especially at this time of year because of just how dark it is.

So can I ask the Convener if you could advise me how best can I pursue this and how best can I try and get new path lights here made more of a priority.

**Supplementary
Answer**

As Councillor Lang will appreciate, we have a number of priorities sitting around active travel projects across the city and we're making quite large strides towards achieving those. I would suggest that we hold a meeting between officials, myself and Councillor Lang to explore that particular issue.

QUESTION NO 5

**By Councillor Lang for answer by the
Convener of the Finance and
Resources Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Janitorial Review

Question

At the 26 October Council meeting and in response to my second supplementary question on Item 5.8, the Convener said he would "look into the question in more detail and see if there are any issues that can be resolved".

When does he expect to provide me with follow up information?

Answer

The provision of facilities management support to community centres forms one part of the wider review of janitorial services provided across the Council estate which is currently underway. This review also incorporates the provision of service to those buildings run under the Communities and Families directorate, such as schools and nurseries.

The review process is aligned to the Council's Asset Management Strategy 2015-19 and has involved formal legal consultation with the affected staff and their trade unions, in accordance with the Council's organisational review procedure and processes. It has also involved direct engagement and consultation with Communities and Families over the levels of provision they require across the education and learning estate.

Part of the review process has equally involved engagement with users of the estate. In the case of community centres this has involved opportunities for management committees to meet directly with the project team to discuss the proposed arrangements for future janitorial hours that are able to be provided and how that can be delivered in a way that appropriately supports the activities that are run in community centres across the City. The majority of the community centre management committees have met with

the project team and local councillors have also been present at a number of these meetings by invitation of the management committee.

Given that the formal consultation process with the staff and trade unions has not yet concluded, no final confirmation of the hours and shift patterns are able to be confirmed in the public domain. The formal consultation with the janitorial staff is due to close on 24 November and after that date that a finalised structure for janitorial support across the Council estate will be determined. This is planned to complete in December.

Following the conclusion of the consultation and the confirmation of a final service model, I have instructed the Head of Property and Facilities Management to provide a briefing to all Councillors on the outcomes of the Janitorial review. I would expect this briefing process to take place in December, subject to the conclusion of the consultation process. This will also be formally reported to the Finance and Resources Committee in January 2018, as part of the wider Asset Management Strategy update reporting process.

**Supplementary
Question**

I thank the Convener for this answer although I have to say I'm sorry that I had to table another written question in order to get it. I appreciate the sensitivities around individual members of staff and the union negotiations which have been ongoing, however, as I did say to the Convener last month, Community Centres have already been given the information, they have already been told the janitorial cover that they will get from next year, changes which I fear that in some parts of my ward risk making Community Centres financially unviable. I'm still trying to understand Lord Provost, why that information, not individual janitorial contracts, but the overall levels of cover for community centres, information that has already been handed out and described as final, why can that information not be provided now.

**Supplementary
Answer**

I thank Councillor Lang for his question. I'm inclined to say that whatever information may have been provided to this point to Community Centre Management Committees cannot possibly be final until the consultation is complete and the outcome of that consultation has been fully considered, so I will be interested to know why those assurances have been given, and if they have, I cannot understand that they would have any real validity given where we are in the process.

QUESTION NO 6

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

Question (1) What discussions has the council had with the Scottish Government regarding the possibility of allowing Scottish councils to use CCTV cameras for parking enforcement?

Answer (1) The use of CCTV cameras for parking enforcement is not currently permitted in Scotland. In England and Wales, the Traffic Management Act (TMA) allows the use of CCTV enforcement, for instance around schools.

As part of the Council's recent response to the Scottish Government's consultation on *Improving Parking in Scotland* it was suggested that allowing the use of CCTV cameras in Scotland could help improve parking enforcement. The Council also raised this point at Transport Scotland's recent *Parking in Scotland* event, where a number of Local Authorities and stakeholders came together to discuss themes arising from the consultation responses.

Question (2) What discussions has the council had with the Scottish Government regarding the possibility of decriminalising school streets enforcement?

Answer (2) Non-compliance with school streets restrictions is a criminal offence and must be enforced by Police Scotland. The Council does not have powers to enforce such offences and there have been no discussions with the Scottish Government regarding decriminalising this restriction.

Question (3) What discussions has the council had with the Scottish Government and other Scottish local authorities regarding the possible introduction of graduated parking ticket charges?

Answer (3) As part of the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on *Improving Parking in Scotland* it was suggested that allowing differential parking ticket charges could enhance compliance with parking regulations and improve road safety.

Question (4) What is the URL for members of the public to download the council's enforcement protocol; controlled parking zone and priority parking protocol; and private roads protocol, as approved by Transport and Environment Committee on 10 August 2017?

Answer (4) The Council's Protocols on:

- Parking Enforcement
- Controlled Parking and Priority Parking; and
- Private Roads

Can currently be found using the following URL:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/54363/item_72_-_delivering_the_local_transport_strategy_2014-2019_parking_action_plan.

We are currently reviewing the parking web pages and it is intended to provide these documents online, in an easy to find location, once this review is concluded.

Supplementary Question Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for her response. I'm sure she will share with me the frustration and real anger many of my constituents and I'm sure many constituents of Councillors around the room at illegal and irresponsible parking in particular pavement parking and parking on double yellows and there's a general perception out there that we need to get better as a Council at enforcement. I'm sure it also won't have skipped her attention that the 3 first parts of my question were all identified as action points in the Parking Action Plan which was signed off more than a year ago and it's disappointing

therefore that in her response she has said that the only action the Council has taken on this is to respond to a Scottish Government consultation.

Will she agree specifically to write to the Transport Minister Humza Yousaf to raise these three points and will she agree to put this on the agenda for the next meeting of the next time she meets with the Transport Minister to ensure that we get real action on parking enforcement?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Councillor Booth. I do agree with you, I think the question of selfish parking habits across the city are quite deplorable they cause incredible amounts of difficulty around active travel issues as well as general inconvenience to other drivers and for the safe transit of public transport networks throughout the city. You'll also be well aware of the fact that our powers are somewhat limited in this, we are constantly looking to national legislation to allow us to take more action attached to it, and yes I would be very happy to write to the minister and in one of my frequent meetings with him I will raise that, thank you.

QUESTION NO 7

**By Councillor Miller for answer by
the Convener of the Planning
Committee at a meeting of the
Council on 23 November 2017**

Question (1) What systems are in place to track onward sales or uses of designated “affordable housing” whether provided through section 75 planning agreements; public subsidy or other financial mechanisms?

Answer (1) Most affordable homes, including those delivered by Section 75 planning agreements, are delivered by the Council or housing associations with Scottish Government grant funding. Grant funded homes cannot be disposed of without the consent of Scottish Government.

Affordable homes are also delivered through the Scottish Government’s National Housing Trust (NHT) programme. Homes must be retained in mid rent for a minimum of 5 years after which tenants can be offered the option of buying their home. There have been no disposals of NHT homes to date.

The remainder of affordable homes are for low cost home ownership and are delivered by private developers without grant subsidy. Scottish Government processes are in place for tracking onward sale of shared equity homes. The Council has a process for monitoring onward sale of low cost home ownership that are delivered through Golden Share.

Question (2) What policies and procedures are in place to ensure that “affordable homes” as defined above are kept in perpetuity within the reach of people who cannot afford market prices to rent or buy?

Answer (2) For grant funded homes the terms of the grant offer requires the affordable housing provider to restrict rents to affordable levels.

All homes delivered through the National Housing Trust are required to be let at mid-rent levels (within Local Housing Allowance) for a minimum of 5 years.

In the instance of Golden Share homes, title deeds restrict the sale of homes to 80% of the market price in perpetuity.

Question (3) How many designated “affordable homes” as defined above are now in use as short term holiday lets?

Answer (3) Permission is normally required to sublet in Council and housing association tenancies to ensure homes are occupied by tenants as permanent residences. No Council tenancies have been granted permission to sublet on this basis in the last 12 months. One case of unauthorised subletting as a short term holiday let was reported with action taken to repossess the tenancy and re-let it as an affordable home.

Supplementary Question Thank you Lord Provost. The question that I had asked was of the Planning Convener so I wondered was it possible to ask a supplementary at the minute? I wanted to thank the Convener for the answer that I was given, however, the answer didn't really get to the heart of the question that I had asked which was what is the Council doing to ensure that the money that we're ploughing gratefully into affordable housing is not lost to other purposes while we still have a housing crisis on our hands. The partial answer that the Convener has given is welcomed but there is nothing in the answer that assures me that we're doing enough to track what is happening to affordable housing which is being built and ensure that its being retained. I wondered if we could have a further answer on that on the process we would be looking to have in order to track that, thank you very much.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you very much for your question and your supplementary. We do track it as described in the answers. I am quite happy to try to get more information to you, perhaps a meeting might be better, for instance I can say for Golden Share housing, we actually know there's been five resales of Golden Share homes approved in the last two years and that's actually less than three percent of Golden Share homes delivered in the last three years, and of course Golden Share homes are sold at 80 percent of market value this is written in the title deeds so these are completely traceable and we can guarantee we are not losing an amount of houses under the Golden Share process. Of course the affordable houses generally speaking are within control of the housing associations or the Council so there will be numbers available. Perhaps this will be more difficult from Housing Associations but certainly our social housing that we own I'm pretty sure we can come up with these numbers for you if that's what you require.

QUESTION NO 8

**By Councillor Mary Campbell for
answer by the Convener of the
Education, Children and Families
Committee at a meeting of the
Council on 23 November 2017**

- Question** (1) How many young people in City of Edinburgh Council Schools are eligible for the education maintenance allowance (EMA)?
- Answer** (1) The EMA is means tested and requires application, therefore eligibility can only be determined for those who apply.
- Question** (2) How many young people in City of Edinburgh Council Schools are receiving the EMA?
- Answer** (2) 1,080 have received an EMA payment for the 2017/18 academic year however applications are received up to the end of March 2018 therefore, this figure will increase.
- Supplementary Question** (1) Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for his answer. As I am sure the Convener is aware, nationally the uptake of the educational maintenance allowance is down by 4 percent and I would like to know what the Council is doing to encourage our young people from low income families to apply for the educational maintenance allowance
- Supplementary Answer** (1) I was aware of that fact and I do know that at least two primary schools, certainly one but I think two primary schools have actually used the PEF funding to invite a benefits adviser into the school to work with the parents and families to make sure everyone is achieving the benefits they require. If that is successful and I understand it is producing some good results and we would want to try and promote that to other primary schools and secondary schools as well.

Supplementary Question (2) Sorry, I would just like to clarify that educational maintenance allowance is for low income young people aged 15 to 19 and I know forms are available in libraries but it's not very well promoted and I would be interested in, could we as a Council do more to promote this very specific fund that people can access?

Supplementary Answer (2) The answer is yes using the PEF funding as well.

QUESTION NO 9

By Councillor Brown for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

Question

Further to my question in relation to Road Surfacing Works to the meeting of the Council on 24th August 2017, can the Convener supply a list of all locations where the contractor has yet to return to make good the road surfaces, a note of said works highlighted and dates when the respective remedial works will be undertaken?

Answer

I have attached the current Defects Register. The items highlighted in Green have been completed. A meeting was arranged with the contractor on Tuesday 21 November to review their proposals to rectify the remaining defects. Rectification dates will be requested from the contractor at this meeting.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost. I'd like to thank the Convener for her response, a copy of the defects register and note within her commentary that there was a meeting held just two days ago with the contractor which I hope was a constructive one. If I may I have got a supplementary question of three parts or three questions if you want to put it that way.

I note that the Convener's response in August that the contractor will return to these locations before the end of the surface dressing period to complete the works. Can the Convener advise what has changed significantly enough that the contractor is now scheduled to reinstate during the next surface dressing window? Following on from said meeting will the Convener publish a note of these rectification dates for public consumption in terms of openness and transparency to reassure residents in affected streets that plans are in place for a return by the contractor and finally as much as I enjoy a monthly correspondence on a number of matters what reassurance can the Convener offer a more robust system is in place to ensure the contract will get things right first time?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Councillor Brown. I should highlight perhaps that in this last year we have put over 20km into resurfacing across the city. I think is a relatively short list of defects which are currently sitting at this point. In terms of the end of August commitment, that would imply that I sat in on every meeting that every official ever had around the work that they are doing, despite the fact I'd like to stretch my day just even further, that's proved an impossibility, I'll come back to you separately. In terms of public information, I see no reason why we can't do that I will talk to officials about how we get that under way and at what timing is appropriate. What was in your third question I'm sorry it was so long I've forgotten the last part, and so it would appear you have too.

**Councillor
Brown**

Sorry, I was blown away by your response I completely forgot what my third question was, so, are you sitting comfortably.

As much as I enjoy our monthly correspondence on a number of matters even having to ask them twice, what reassurances can the Convener offer a more robust system is in place to ensure the contractor gets things right first time, thank you.

**Councillor
Macinnes**

Thank you for the re-iteration of the question and I think as you'll have known from previous answers that this is quite complex and a lot of it sits on whether or not we can actually get people to comply with the no parking at the time that the road surface is undertaken. Road surfacing is by necessity quite a quick process and if we can't get the cars removed it's actually quite difficult to achieve that so I been talking to officials about this and if you want to we can sit down and have a meeting to reassure you that all is being done at the moment, thank you.

Defect Number	Details	Location	Issued To	Date issued by CEC	Action	Date Closed Out
DN001	Areas not patched edge of carriageway	East Fettes Avenue	BB	29/8/17	CP005	17/10/17
DN002	Toby covered surface dressing	no16 Braid Farm Road	Kiely	29/8/17	CP004	
	Toby cover missing	Braid Hills Avenue	BB	29/8/17	Toby replaced and reinstatement around cover.Works completed by Kiely	27/9/17
	Damage to Surface Dressing	Gardiner Road @ Jeffrey avenue junction	Kiely	29/8/17	CP001	
	Manhole to be uncovered	Gardiner Road @ Jeffrey avenue junction	Kiely	29/8/17	CP004	
DN003	Low ironwork Orchard Road south	Ravelston Dykes	BB	1/9/17	CP002	20/10/17
	Missing cover on toby frame	Ravelston Dykes	BB	1/9/17	CP002	20/10/17
	Loose chippings footway	Blackford Avenue	Kiely	1/9/17	Footways cleared and channels swept again	21/9/17
	Area of surface dressing missing @ South oswald road	Blackford Avenue	Kiely	1/9/17	CP003	
	Carriageway defect at Bus stop South oswald road	Blackford Avenue	BB	1/9/17	CP005	20/10/17
	Carriageway defect at South oswald road junction	Blackford Avenue	BB	1/9/17	CP005	20/10/17
	SD defects at South oswald road junction	Blackford Avenue	Kiely	1/9/17	CP001	

	Carriageway defects From Junction of Grange Terrace down to just before St Albans road	Blackford Avenue	BB	1/9/17	CP005	20/10/17
	Outside EFI furniture store, iron-work covered	Blackford Avenue	Kiely	1/9/17	CP004	
DN004	Micro Asphalt laid too high removing upstand from driveway kerb	Dundas Place (12, 19, 23, 24, 29, 55)	Kiely	26/9/17	Areas profile planed prior to works. Kiely to provide proposal to defect. Micro-asphalt re-profiled to provide a small kerb check at 19, 23, 24, 29 and 55. Re-profiling not possible at no.12 due to existing kerb levels/damage. BB will need to lift/replace kerbs. BB to reset kerbs at No 29 and No55	
	Toby cover filled micro material	Dundas Place (14)	Kiely	26/9/17	Cover replaced.	27/9/17
	Covers missing from 3no toby frames	Dundas Place	Kiely	26/9/17	Covers replaced.	27/9/17
DN005	Poor quality of micro asphlat material. Possibly laid in wet weather. Excess loose chippings	Burnbrae	Kiely	2/10/17	Kiely to provide proposal for solution. Burnbrae swept again and surface inspected by G Duncan/J Stalker on 5/10/17. Surface was found to be acceptable and is continuing to bed in. No remedial works are required.	11/10/17
	Two small areas of micro material missing.	Burnbrae	Kiely	2/10/17	Two areas removed and reinstated.	22/9/17
DN006	MA laid too high removing upstand from driveway kerb	Craigeith Hill Avenue	Kiely	3/10/17	CP006	

DN007	MA laid too high removing upstand from driveway kerb	Coilesdene Crescent	Kiely	4/10/17	CP007	
DN008	Potholes in surface dressing	Braid Crescent	Kiely	31/10/17	Repair to surface dressing	
DN009	Raised MA/Line markings burned on	Craigcrook Road		30/10/17	No action with raised MA there is not a significant dip in road. Line markings were burned to dry out and install markings no noticable damage to MA.	15.11.17
DN010	Potholes in surface dressing	East Fettes Avenue	Kiely/BB	10/11/17	Repair to surface dressing / reinstate surfacing	

Defect Number	Details	Location	Issued To	Date issued by CEC	Action	Date Closed Out
CP001	Several areas of surface dressing push up	Saughton Road North	Kiely	4/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	SD materail not taken to kerb leaving gap	Midmar Drive (No 10 to 30)	Kiely	4/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Several areas of surface dressing push up	Midmar Drive @ Cluny Drive Junction	Kiely	4/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Damage to Surface Dressing	Gardiner Road @ Jeffrey avenue junction	Kiely	29/8/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	SD material exposed	Davidson Road no 23	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Hole in SD to be surveyed	Davidson Road no 25	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Several potholes in surface dressing	Braid Crescent	Kiely	31/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
CP002	3no Toby covers to raise	Midmar Drive @ Cluny Drive Junction	BB	4/10/17	BB/Kiely to raise	23/10/17
	3no Toby covers to raise	Glenogle Road	BB	1/10/17	BB/Kiely to raise	23/10/17
	Low ironwork Orchard Road south, Missing cover toby	Ravelston Dykes	BB	1/9/17	BB/Kiely to raise	23/10/17
	2no toby covers to raise	No 29 Barnton Gardens	BB	4/10/17	BB/Kiely to raise	23/10/17
CP003	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	Braid Crescent 24m2 + 12m2	Kiely	4/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	27 Greenbank Crescent 12m2	Kiely	4/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	1A House O Hill Avenue 24m2	Kiely	4/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	Davidson Road (opp no3 14m2)	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	Glenogle Road(Swim centre 44m2,	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	

		Gabriels road 20m2, Teviotdale Place 16m2, Opp standard life 10m2)				
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	Keith Row (Craigcrook Place) no7 24m2	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	Albion road (no13 12m2)	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	East Fettes Avenue (Fettes college @ inverleith place 170m2, stewarts melville college 72m2)	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
	Areas missed due to parked vehicles	Blackford Avenue (No8 24m2, Grange Terrace 80m2, Ashfield Grange 60m2)	Kiely	11/10/17	Kiely to reinstate during next SD window	
CP004	Gas toby covered in SD material	Midmar Drive No30	Kiely	4/10/17	Cover to be cleaned	
	SV toby covered in SD material	House O Hill Avenue	Kiely	4/10/17	Cover to be cleaned	
	Manhole to be uncovered	Gardiner Road @ Jeffrey avenue junction	Kiely	29/8/17	Tape to be removed from MH	
	Toby covered surface dressing	no16 Braid Farm Road	Kiely	29/8/17	Toby to be uncovered	
	Ironwork covered SD material at EFI store	Blackford Avenue	Kiely	4/10/17	Cover to be cleaned	
CP005	Carriageway defects	Craigcrook Road/ Keith Row	BB	11-Oct	Remedial works by BB	18-Oct
	Carriageway defects	Midmar Avenue	BB	11-Oct	Remedial works by BB	18-Oct
	Carriageway defects	Blackford Avenue	BB	11-Oct	Remedial works by BB	20-Oct
	Carriageway defects	East Fettes Avenue	BB	11-Oct	Remedial works by BB	17-Oct
CP006	Micro Asphalt laid too thick removing kerb upstand and causing water to flow over kerb	Craigleith Hill Avenue	Kiely	31-Oct	Proposals by kiely. Site meeting required.	

CP007	Micro Asphalt laid too thick removing kerb upstand and causing water to flow over kerb	Coillesdene Crescent	Kiely	31-Oct	Proposals by kiely. Site meeting required.	
CP008	Profile planing/Kerb adjustment required to give kerb upstand	Dundas Place (13, 15, 19, 29, 55)	BB	1/9/17, 2/11/17	13-MA scrapped to remove excess material leaving upstand, 15-No issue, 19-TBC, 29-Kerbs to be raised, 55-Kerbs to be raised and block paving altered.	

QUESTION NO 10

**By Councillor Bruce for answer by
the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question

Please could the Convener contact the owners of these telecoms junction boxes that line Lanark Road West as you enter Balerno and the junction of Cockburn Crescent & Whitelea Road and encourage them to have the graffiti removed as soon as a possible in order to help restore the area to its original condition?

Answer

I will ask the South West Locality to inspect the apparatus to identify the Public Utility responsible. We will then request that the Public Utility company arranges for the graffiti to be removed.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you. Can I thank the Convener for her answer to my question. Can I ask the Convener to keep me in the loop as to the correspondence with South West locality and the public utility company responsible for the apparatus?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for your question. Since you've asked then yes I can give that commitment although I'm rather surprised that I have to. This is a question that I would have thought could have been dealt with quite easily through direct contact with the officials, but I'd be happy to take that further for you.

QUESTION NO 11

By Councillor Bruce for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

At this time as we approach winter please confirm

- Question** (1) How many grit bins are in serviceable condition?
- Answer** (1) There are approximately 2,250 salt bins positioned throughout the City of Edinburgh and these are checked, replaced if necessary and refilled on a cyclical basis.
- Question** (2) What is the turnaround time to replace or repair unserviceable grit bins?
- Answer** (2) They are checked and replaced if necessary, on a cyclical basis. During normal mild conditions in the winter, a reported unserviceable salt bin will be attended to within five working days. During periods of freezing weather they will be attended to per answer four below.
- Question** (3) Are all the serviceable grit bins fully stocked?
- Answer** (3) Grit (salt) bins are checked, and refilled on a cyclical basis during the winter months.
- Question** (4) What is the anticipated turnaround time from the moment of notification of empty grit bin to it being fully restocked?
- Answer** (4) For efficiency and to enable resources to be directed effectively, salt bins are checked and refilled on a cyclical basis. Areas that have had more frequent lower temperatures, usually the South West of the City, will be checked and refilled more frequently.
- Question** (5) Does the council have enough resources to act upon empty grit bins?

Answer (5) The Council has sufficient resources to check and refill salt bins on a cyclical basis. In 2016/17, 2 staff were deployed on average for two to three days per week for part of the winter. This was sufficient and a similar resource is deployed for 2017/18.

Supplementary Question Thank you Councillor Macinnes for her answer to my question again. Are you aware of burnt out grit bins and do you have any idea on this scope of grit bins in the City of Edinburgh, thank you?

Supplementary Answer Oddly enough I don't really have time to go and examine every particular grit bin around the city since I think we're looking at a total of two thousand two hundred and fifty grit bins, I'm glad that you're suggesting that I might find the time to do so.

On the question of burnt out grit bins I will ask the officials specifically about this question but I think it speaks to a wider issue which is how we service the grit bins across the city for a variety of reasons and I think the answer that I gave, written answer was reasonably comprehensive thank you.

QUESTION NO 12

**By Councillor Jim Campbell for
answer by the Convener of the
Planning Committee at a meeting of
the Council on 23 November 2017**

Developer Contributions

- Question** (1) Of all Developer Contributions that have been agreed, what is the total sum:
- a) outstanding due to the site works not yet being at a stage that would trigger payment?
 - b) outstanding, where the site is completed or where works have progressed beyond a trigger point?
 - c) paid, but held in escrow pending the Council completing its contractual obligations?
 - d) paid to the Council?
 - e) returned to developers?

- Answer** (1) a) £63.392m since 2007 recorded through the monitoring system.
- b) None. There are no outstanding payments overdue at the present time.
 - c) As at 31 March 2017 the Council held £22.357m.
 - d) £26.724m since 2007 recorded through the monitoring system.
 - e) As repayments to developers have not been monitored in this way in the past, calculating the total amount returned will involve an audit of payments over a period of time. The intention is to report this figure in the next report to Housing and Economy Committee on the LDP Action Programme.

From 1 April 2018/19 repayments to developers, along with other aspects of S75 payments will be reported annually as part of the performance management of the LDP Action Programme.

- Question** (2) Where is this information publicly available?
- Answer** (2) Information regarding planning legal agreements is publicly held on the Council's Planning and Building Standards Portal. This is on an individual case basis.
- Supplementary Question** Can I thank the Convener for his answer. This is an issue that's been raised by local community groups with me on a number of occasions following concern that the headline amounts in Section 75 payments haven't flown through to the communities that were expecting some improvements and given from his answer there are very substantial sums involved up to eighty five million that has yet to be spent by the Council that has been committed to through developer contributions, I would like to welcome the additional reporting that's coming to Housing and Economy and I'd like to ask if he expects that reporting will include the headline figures as well as the contributions that have been paid, the contributions that are held in Escrow and any contributions that have had to be returned.
- Supplementary Answer** Thank you very much for your question. Obviously it will be for officers to decide exactly what's reported and what's available, I would certainly hope that all of the figures that you're suggesting should be in there, will be in there and if they're not I'd be happy to explain to you why that's perhaps not available but I would certainly hope they would be available.

QUESTION NO 13

**By Councillor Jim Campbell for
answer by the Convener of the
Housing and Economy Committee at
a meeting of the Council on 23
November 2017**

Question What additional resources will the Council need to provide to maintain the assets that will transfer from EDI to the City of Edinburgh?

Answer There are no immediate plans to change the current contract arrangements for the maintenance of assets currently held by EDI. These will continue. Longer term maintenance arrangements will form part of the development plans for each site.

Supplementary Question Can I thank the Convener for his answer again, this is a local ward issue also. The Convener may not be aware that there are already some adopted streets in my ward that are still being maintained by EDI and I just wonder what sums have been included in the revenue budget for next year to cover the costs of that maintenance either on an ongoing basis with the existing contractors or through the Councils own teams.

Supplementary Answer Thank you for your question your supplementary. I'm unaware of any sums on the revenue budget. What I would say is EDI as of today and going forward for immediate future is a fully operating company so until such times it's not, there's not going to be any transfer of responsibility to the Council. Where there's a timetable for that I'm absolutely sure that we will take all steps necessary to make sure the requisite funding to maintain what EDI was doing is continued to be done once that transfer takes place.

QUESTION NO 14

**By Councillor Cook for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question (1) What preparations have been undertaken to ensure that the Council can effectively respond to incidences of severe winter weather, not only in the city centre and main thoroughfares but in primarily suburban areas of the city?

Answer (1) We closely monitor the weather situation based on detailed forecasts, data from our roadside weather monitoring stations and in communication with the Met Office, and have a number of gritting teams on standby ready to respond to severe winter weather.

We have night shifts on patrol overnight when necessary. Our gritting fleet have snow ploughs that are attached when snow is forecast and to deal with snow that drifts onto the roads in high winds.

Road closures are ready to be put in place where necessary.

Our salt stock levels are at around 80% of that used in 2010/11 and we can restock within three weeks if required. We have arrangements with contractors to help us treat the roads and clear snow and many staff across the Council with skills and experience to deal with situations like this.

We have 96 Edinburgh Roads Services staff to treat roads and 60 volunteer staff from across many departments in the Council to treat pavements and cycleways. They are rostered on three shifts (in addition to their normal work) and are on standby and available to come out over a three-week cycle for one week of days, one week of nights and then one week off.

This year, the service will benefit from new tracking technology enabling more efficient management of

resources. Following a trial in 2016/17, telematics devices have been fitted to the entire winter weather fleet, allowing lorries and tractors to transmit their location and gritting operation, meaning teams can respond more quickly to the public. In addition, the temperature of the city's road network will be digitally logged throughout winter to create a thermal map, allowing for better gritter route planning in years to come.

Question (2) Does the Convener have full confidence that preparations undertaken thus far will be sufficient to comprehensively meet the challenges posed by winter weather, including in suburban areas?

Answer (2) Yes, in accordance with the Council's priority based treatment. Preparations undertaken are sufficient to deal with average freezing/snow conditions and periods of more severe weather. Preparations have been made in discussion with the Met Office but forecasting is not an exact science and we are not able to accurately predict all unusual weather events.

Supplementary Question Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for her detailed answer. We haven't had a severe winter for quite a number of years but the last time we did, there were a number of quite significant issues with the Council's response and again I would just seek further clarity from the Convener, if we are to have a severe winter weather this administration will take cognizance of where previous ones may have failed. That includes ensuring that residential areas in suburban areas are cleared of snow and our services as well as where main thoroughfares are as residents can't get out of their houses, they can't travel to work so it doesn't really matter if the main road's clear or not this would just ensure that due significance is attached to residential suburban areas when it comes to clearing winter weather.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for your supplementary Councillor Cook. As you'll have seen from the written answer, preparations have been carefully managed this year. I had the great pleasure of going out to visit the salt stocks and I can assure everybody in this Chamber that they are there. Clearly we're as prepared as we possibly can be. I was a little concerned when I saw question 2, whether or not you were attempting to trip me up in case we had some unknown act that was going to dump us with a lot of snow as in previous years. Clearly we are attempting to be as prepared as we can as mentioned here the priority based treatment and that includes a priority of streets across the city. So no I cannot promise you that every single street in the city will be treated, that would be an impossible task and I doubt any council anywhere would give such an undertaking, but what I can do is say to you that having looked at the preparations out at Bankhead, having discussed it with the team, they are as ready as they possibly can be. I know that in the last one, I think I was wasn't living in the country at the time, but I think 2011 was a bad winter, it even provided council officials out driving people from their homes into their work so I think we can assume that the Council will be ready to take any required action.

QUESTION NO 15

By Councillor Doggart for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

- Question** (1) Could the Convener inform council how many artificial sports pitches are operated by Edinburgh Leisure?
- Question** (2) Could the Convener provide a breakdown of how many of those pitches are available for football, hockey and rugby?
- Question** (3) Could the Convener inform Council which of those pitches are floodlit, broken down by sport?
- Question** (4) Could the Convener provide an analysis of the proportion of available bookings that are utilised?
- Question** (5) Could the Convener indicate any ways in which Edinburgh Leisure is looking to increase the utilisation of each pitch?

Answers 1-5 **included in attached report**

Supplementary Question Lord Provost thank you to the Convener for the detailed response. I just wonder if the Convener has any ideas how the usage of some of these expensive artificial pitches can be increased, particularly some of the hockey pitches where for example Craighroyston the take up during the time specified is precisely zero. That seems to be an extraordinary waste of money. So is the Convener looking at alternative ways of making sure that pitches are available at reasonable cost to clubs and to schools and also can the Convener make sure that the situation doesn't arise with new facilities such as that faced by the junior section of Edinburgh United football club in my ward who have access to new pitches but unfortunately they don't have goalposts which is a bit of an essential requirement for sports pitches, thank you.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Well thank you for the question n. To take the last one first I was unaware of the lack of goal posts so I will certainly look into that one.

On the subject of uptake you'll notice that the uptake ranges very widely and there's a particular gap between hockey and rugby and football and with uptakes for rugby and football being up near 90 percent in many cases. So certainly Edinburgh Leisure's booking system which is concentrating on the website and Apps and through clubs has been quite a successful approach I think and we would look to mimic that for Council venues that are not operated through Edinburgh Leisure so that would be something that we would be looking to develop in the future to try to uptake that. I think there's particular issues with what the pitches are being used for and promoting the sport in general and that's of course a whole different issue although there are things that we can do to promote that as well but I agree these are expensive facilities and we need to maximise their use.

QUESTION 15: By Councillor Doggart to the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee

Introduction

The artificial pitches operated or managed by Edinburgh Leisure form various models of delivery. These include Edinburgh Leisure facilities, School facilities that have transferred to Edinburgh Leisure for operation of the sports facilities out with curriculum time and school facilities let by Edinburgh Leisure's School Team but have not as yet transferred to be fully operated and managed by EL out with curriculum time. There are also pitches that are also currently still operated and booked via CEC. The tables below detail the different operating models and answer the questions being asked.

Using the various models detailed above, Edinburgh Leisure and CEC currently operate:

- 12 Full size 3G football/rugby pitches
- 2 Seven a side 3G football pitches
- 13 Hockey 2G pitches
- 7 artificial cricket wickets

ARTIFICIAL PITCHES – EDINBURGH LEISURE VENUES

	Venue	Football/ Rugby	Floodlights	Uptake	Hockey	Floodlight	Uptake
1	Bangholm				1 x 2G	Yes	5.5%
2	Meadowbank	1 x 3G	Yes	86%			
3	Meggetland SC	1 x 3G	Yes	71%	1 x 2G	Yes	64%
4	Saughton SC	1 x 3G	Yes	68%			

- Saughton, Meggetland & Bangholm close 6pm Saturday & Sunday

There is also a 7 a side artificial pitch at Saughton which attracts **75%** use each week.

Meadowbank Sports Complex closes on 3 December 2017 for redevelopment and will reopen in the summer of 2020. Some regular let holders have already transferred to other facilities in preparation for the closure. These clubs and individuals have been supported by Edinburgh Leisure to secure appropriate facilities for them to continue to play.

ARTIFICIAL PITCHES – SCHOOLS

School facilities 'operated' by Edinburgh Leisure in community time:

	School	Date of Transfer	Football/ Rugby	Floodlights	Uptake	Hockey	Floodlight	Uptake
1	Gracemount	21/08/17				1 x 2G	Yes	68%
2	Firrhill	28/08/17	1 x 3G	Yes	47%			
3	Portobello	07/11/16	2 x 3G	Yes	81%			
4	Holy Rood	01/05/17				1 x 2G	Yes	12%
5	Drummond	04/09/17				1 x 2G	Yes	23%
6	Broughton	11/09/17	1 x 3G	Yes	81%	1 x 2G	Yes	33%

7	Tynecastle	18/09/17				1 x 2G	Yes	36%
8	Royal High	14/08/17	1 x 3G	Yes	75%			
9	Craigroyston	30/10/17				1 x 2G	Yes	0%
10	Craigmount	14/08/17				1 x 2G	Yes	94%
11 /12	Forrester & St Augustine's (joint campus)	11/09/17	2 x 3G	Yes	90%	1 x 2G	Yes	54%

School facilities – bookings only through Edinburgh Leisure:

	School	Football/ Rugby	Floodlights	Uptake	Hockey	Floodlight	Uptake
13	Leith Academy				1 x 2G	Yes	26%
14	Currie				1 x 2G	Yes	21%
15	Balerno	1 x 3G	Yes	98%			

School facilities – bookings and operations still with CEC:

	School	Football/ Rugby	Floodlights	Uptake	Hockey	Floodlight	Uptake
16	Braidburn	1 x 3G 7s	Yes	Unknown			
17	Castlebrae	1 x 3G	Yes	Unknown			

There are also artificial cricket wickets at:

Bangholm Park (1)	Duddingston (2)	Gyle Park (2)	Inverleith Park (1)	Meggetland (1)
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These are operated during the summer for approximately 18 weeks for cricket matches.

The above uptake details are a 'snapshot' of a typical week at peak operating times. These are Monday to Friday 6.00pm to 10.00pm and 9.00am to 6.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays. For the school facilities, Wednesdays and Fridays are the least popular days, as well as, last slots after 8.30pm. Edinburgh Leisure have only recently been responsible for community time bookings (from August 2017).

Edinburgh Leisure are looking to maximise the use of all artificial pitches and promote these through clubs, via the Edinburgh Leisure web site and via the Edinburgh Leisure Booking app for Edinburgh Leisure venues. The artificial pitches are used for a variety of sports and all are supported by appropriate changing facilities. Pitches can be booked at any time for a regular weekly slot, club training sessions or occasional play. The Edinburgh Leisure artificial pitches are maintained on a regular basis to ensure the high quality of the playing surface.

QUESTION NO 16

**By Councillor Hutchison for answer
by the Convener of the Housing and
Economy Committee at a meeting of
the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question (1) Can the Convener provide confirmation that all tower blocks in Muirhouse have been inspected to confirm that all building materials, doors and windows conform to current fire safety regulations?

Answer (1) Yes. Following the tragic fire at Grenfell Towers all Council managed tower blocks were inspected by a joint team from the Council and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). These inspections were in addition to regular fire safety inspections by both the Council and (SFRS).

A detailed report was considered at Housing and Economy committee on 7 September 2017.

Question (2) Can the Convener provide a timetable for planned improvement works for the tower blocks in Muirhouse?

Answer (2) See Table 1.

Question (3) Does the Convener acknowledge that the lack of gas central heating in the Muirhouse tower blocks contributes to significantly higher energy costs for residents and as such leads to additional financial pressure on low income households?

Answer (3) The heating systems in these blocks have been replaced in the last two years with modern energy efficient SMART storage systems. Efficient heating systems are one of a range of measures, alongside insulation, energy supplier switching and controls, the Council takes when considering improvement measures to reduce energy costs for tenants. Other factors taken into account such as the availability of existing infrastructure and health and safety. These factors include the capital costs of different heating systems as these costs are ultimately borne by tenants through the rent charge. When installing new heating systems include health

and safety, capital costs of installation, existing infrastructure in buildings.

A research project, managed by Changeworks – an independent environmental charity - is underway to evaluate the effectiveness of these heating systems. This will include energy cost and usability. It will report later in 2018.

This is part of broader programme of research being managed with Changeworks, to ensure Council keeps pace with innovation in energy and insulation systems.

Question (4) Can the Convener confirm if there any future plans to install gas central heating in the Muirhouse tower blocks?

Answer (4) There are no plans to install gas central heating in these tower blocks.

Question (5) Can the Convener provide details of the Council's service level agreement for carrying out repairs to the fabric of council housing property and more specifically how this is impacted where hazardous materials e.g. asbestos are involved?

Answer (5) Repairs, maintenance and improvements are carried out by the Council's in house repairs or maintenance service or by contractors procured in accordance with the Council's approved Standing Orders. All contractors are required to have an asbestos management policy in place.

All works carried out follow the Council's Asbestos Policy.

Supplementary Question I thank the Convener for his response. I'd like to highlight in my follow up question one particular instance of a resident in Birnies Court, Muirhouse who suffered 21 months ago from the collapse of a ceiling in his property. After reporting it to the Council and having nobody visit the property, entering the room every week to Hoover and dust for a subsequent 14 months, 7 months ago he was then told there was

potentially asbestos in the ceiling material which he'd been diligently hoovering for the last 14 months.

7 months later nobody has entered this resident's property to check if there is indeed asbestos or not and no works have been completed within the resident's property to restore the room to a useable state.

In the answer to Part 5 of my question I was referred to the Council's Asbestos Policy which we just implemented on the 1st November and under 4.2 which talks about asbestos in Council housing properties bears no reference to any emergency occurrences and under 4.9 which does refer to emergencies it says the procedures are established.

Can the Convener please tell me what these procedures are, what the response time is and confirm that whatever the stated response time is when he finds it, it is certainly not being met in this case and would he agree to meet with me to discuss this case to ensure it's resolved promptly, thank you.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for your question.

I can't tell you under asbestos because quite clearly we don't have that in the document. If it needs to be in the document it should be in the document but what I can say if you seriously believe there's a life threatening situation in that flat due to asbestos why are you asking it here, why didn't you write to me when you been contacting officials? This is not in my eyes a question for full Council questions, this is an immediate thing which has to be dealt with immediately. Had you contacted me last week, 10 weeks ago, whatever, I would have dealt with that but to wait to here. I'll quite happily meet with you and try and get this sorted out but in all honesty if it's a life threatening situation please, I'd beg all of you, don't wait until Council questions.

**Councillor
Hutchison**

Sorry, if I can quickly respond to that if I may. I been working on this for five weeks with officers escalating up the chain trying to get a response and this is where it's got to because that's not been responded to.

Appendix

Table One – Outline Lifecycle Programme of work for Muirhouse Tower Blocks

Location	Tower Block	K&B	Heating	Windows	Doors	External Fabric	Roof	Lift upgrade
Muirhouse	Birnies Court	2029/30	2026/27	2025/26	2025/26	2040/41	2037/38	2025/26
Muirhouse	Fidra Court	2029/30	2026/27	2025/26	2025/26	2039/40	2020/21	2025/26
Muirhouse	Gunnet Court	2030/31	2026/27	2026/27	2028/29	2035/36	2021/22	2022/23
Muirhouse	Inchcolm Court	2028/29	2027/28	2018/19	2025/26	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22
Muirhouse	Inchgarvie Court	2028/29	2027/28	2018/19	2025/26	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22
Muirhouse	Inchmickery Court	2033/24	2026/27	2026/27	2031/32	2023/24	2021/22	2022/23
Muirhouse	May Court	2030/31	2026/27	2026/27	2028/29	2035/36	2021/22	2022/23
Muirhouse	Northview Court	2030/31	2027/28	2028/29	2026/27	2038/39	2023/24	2018/19
Muirhouse	Oxcars Court	2036/37	2026/27	2027/28	2031/32	2023/24	2022/23	2022/23

QUESTION NO 17

**By Councillor Hutchison for answer
by the Convener of the Planning
Committee at a meeting of the
Council on 23 November 2017**

- Question** (1) Can the Convener please provide the number of breaches of planning control which have been identified in the year to date?
- Answer** (1) Between April and October 2017, 443 new cases have been opened for enforcement investigation. 294 cases have been closed as either there has been no breach, the breach has been resolved or it is not in the public interest to take enforcement action. 142 cases are still pending consideration, two cases have led to planning applications being submitted and a further two cases are being registered. The remaining three cases have had enforcement notices served.
- Questions** (2) Of the breaches identified in the answer to question 1, how many have led to planning enforcement action?
- Answers** (2) Of the 443 cases identified above, three enforcement notices have been served. These numbers are annually reported within the Planning Performance Framework and publically available.
- Supplementary Question** I would like to thank whichever planning Conveners provided the answer for the response. As a follow up I'd like to ask what the cost of a Council of enforcement investigation has been and whether in light of the fact that only 3 cases out of 443 have led to enforcement being carried out, does the Convener consider the residents of Edinburgh are receiving value for money from this service?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you again for your supplementary.

Prosecution is not always the answer. I think quite clearly there's been a number of issues brought to officials' attention and the idea should be to resolve these issues as quickly as possible. Now if we go to enforcement that will come at a greater cost to the Department - more time, more effort. If we can manage these situations through without going to enforcement I would hope the Members would agree that's the right way to do it. I'm absolutely sure our officials will go to enforcement as and when they have to. I am content that that's the best value for money for the Council taxpayers and residents of our city.

QUESTION NO 18

**By Councillor Johnston for answer
by the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question

Will the Convener commit to weekend monitoring of road works in areas that experience higher volume of traffic on a Saturday and Sunday?

Answer

The Council has a statutory responsibility to co-ordinate roadworks and to ensure that wherever possible roadworks are carried out overnight, when traffic is least disrupted. However the duty to monitor road works lies with the utility company (to comply with the conditions placed on them by the Council as roads authority) or developers (to comply with permit conditions).

For major road works, the Council's City Wide Traffic Management Group review proposals in the context of other planned works and knowledge of existing traffic flow data to minimise disruption.

As a result of concerns regarding the perceived lack of activity on some road work sites, utility providers have recently been asked to improve performance by increasing activity on site, including weekends where required.

**Supplementary
Question**

I want to thank the Convener for the answer. The Convener may be aware that there have been extensive road works at Chesser Avenue and New Mart junction on Saturday 4 November with temporary traffic lights which were there to help with the roadworks that were going on. They failed and there was extreme disruption for shoppers. At one large supermarket, it took more than two hours to enter and exit the car park. The supermarket estimates on that day alone profits were down by £170,000. Now I know not everyone has sympathy regarding the profits of large companies but there's a human element as well because the Christmas bonuses of the staff that are stacking the shelves and are scanning of the food is directly related to the sales.

It wasn't just large supermarkets that were affected but small businesses were as well and the Police had to be called to control the traffic. Can I suggest that in future when there are roadworks of this scale and temporary traffic lights are involved the situation is monitored over the weekend to avoid situations like this are rising again

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for your supplementary question. I am genuinely sorry to hear that people were inconvenienced to that degree and indeed the subsequent effects on shop workers is most regrettable. I think we can agree that over, particularly road works of that size that there should be some degree of monitoring. I'll meet with officials to discuss exactly how we take that forward. I'd just like to elaborate a little bit on the road authority duty to minimise the delay and disruption where possible. Clearly we can direct when the start date can actually take place and so on, we can direct the period of time during the day and which works can actually take place but when they're extensive and they're large inevitably there has to be some degree of relaxation around that. We've got a couple of different embargos around road works but essentially a lot of it is down to utilities. It can sometimes be a difficult relationship between the utility companies and our role to act to control what happens but we try to monitor as carefully as we can, thank you.

QUESTION NO 19

By Councillor Laidlaw for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

Question (1) Can the Convener confirm whether schools are taking into account the teacher shortage in certain subjects when planning their course offerings for the next academic year?

Answer (1) A survey of secondary headteachers has revealed that, while schools are not yet at the stage of detailed planning for course choice options for session 2018-19, a number are reporting that they will be looking at potential national teacher shortages when deciding on specific subjects for inclusion. Of those who responded thus, the likely areas in which there might be restrictions on option choices were Computing/IT, Business Education and Home Economics.

A working group made up of Communities & Families and HR-related staff has been set up to initiate a more strategic approach to teacher recruitment campaign planning. The group tasked will now meet weekly until Christmas. A timeline has been produced in terms of co-ordinating recruitment campaigning with standard procedures around staffing returns, placing of surplus staff, identification of placements for probationers, etc. Elements of centralised recruitment, already practised in the primary sector, will be investigated for the secondary sector. Primary HTs will be consulted at their meeting on 28th November and secondary HTs at theirs on 29th November 2017.

Question (2) Is the Council aware of any current courses where pupils are not being taught by subject specialist teachers due to an inability to fill vacancies?

Answer

- (2) Subjects involved are Mathematics, Home Economics, Craft, Design and Technology, Business Education, English/Drama, Science and Music. Immediate steps taken in those schools where staffing shortage issues have led to a situation where not all lessons can be taught by subject specialists include increasing class sizes (still within agreed national limits), cross-setting, rotational arrangements and occasional recourse to Senior Leadership Team and Pupil Support staff. Certificate classes where pupils are aiming for National Qualifications have been prioritised in these approaches.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost, I thank the Convener for a comprehensive answer and I am pleased to see that the recruitment challenges now at mainstream schools appear to be being addressed.

As a supplementary I'd like to ask the Convener if he is aware of the significant challenges our special schools, particularly their senior management teams, are facing with regard to recruitment. I've heard that a number of special schools have been without head teachers or deputy head teachers for up to six months and it appears particularly unsatisfactory when there's six months notice given by head teachers and advertisements for those positions only go out a few weeks before those teachers leave as was the case at Prospect Bank. It also appears to be a lack of parental engagement at those special schools. There was a city wide special schools meeting in September which should have been attended by Council officers and I understand from the special schools parent Council that no officers attended that meeting.

So can I ask the Convener to urgently address this situation and agree it is unacceptable that our special schools are not receiving the attention they so richly deserve, thank you.

Supplementary Answer

I can inform you that we appointed a head teacher at Prospect Bank yesterday so that place is now filled and I am aware of some of the issues you have raised and I will deal with them accordingly.

QUESTION NO 20

**By Councillor Rose for answer by the
Convener of the Finance and
Resources Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question (1) How much has Edinburgh Council spent on pension costs in each of the last 10 years?

Answer (1)

Financial year	Non-Teaching staff	Teaching staff	Total
	£000	£000	£000
2016/17	66,158	21,798	87,956
2015/16	71,420	20,212	91,632
2014/15	61,838	18,846	80,684
2013/14	62,235	18,493	80,728
2012/13	61,617	18,478	80,095
2011/12	65,162	18,670	83,832
2010/11	61,781	19,078	80,859
2009/10	57,806	19,073	76,879
2008/09	53,319	17,242	70,561
2007/08	52,038	17,022	69,060

Questions (2) What is the breakdown of:

- a) employer contributions and
- b) redundancy, efficiency retirements and other “strain” costs?

Answers**(2)**

	Non-teaching staff		
Financial Year	Employer contributions	Pension strain, added years and ex-gratia payments	Total
	£000	£000	£000
2016/17	52,689	13,469	66,158
2015/16	55,446	15,974	71,420
2014/15	54,843	6,995	61,838
2013/14	53,537	8,698	62,235
2012/13	51,427	10,190	61,617
2011/12	52,052	13,110	65,162
2010/11	51,310	10,471	61,781
2009/10	49,343	8,463	57,806
2008/09	46,117	7,202	53,319
2007/08	45,044	6,994	52,038

	Teaching staff		
Financial Year	Employer contributions	Pension strain, added years and ex-gratia payments	Total
	£000	£000	£000
2016/17	21,315	483	21,798
2015/16	19,715	497	20,212
2014/15	18,335	511	18,846
2013/14	18,002	491	18,493
2012/13	18,002	476	18,478
2011/12	18,223	447	18,670
2010/11	18,640	438	19,078
2009/10	18,635	438	19,073
2008/09	16,823	419	17,242
2007/08	16,673	349	17,022

Questions**(3)** How does the increase in contribution rates relate to:

- a) the rate of inflation and
- b) the number of employees for each of the last 10 years?

Answers

(3)

Financial Year	Teaching staff		Year-on-year change in FTE numbers
	Year-on-year change in employer contribution rates	RPI rate as of December in each year	
	£000	£000	£000
2016/17	0.0%	1.8%	0.9%
2015/16*	15.4%	0.5%	1.1%
2014/15	0.0%	0.7%	-0.3%
2013/14	0.0%	1.9%	0.1%
2012/13	0.0%	2.4%	-0.2%
2011/12	0.0%	3.7%	-0.5%
2010/11	0.0%	3.1%	-5.5%
2009/10	10.4%	2.1%	-1.4%
2008/09	1.5%	3.0%	-1.0%
2007/08	6.4%	2.3%	0.4%
Cumulative change	37.6%	23.6%	-6.4%

* Note: the employer's contribution rate for teaching staff increased from 14.9% to 17.2% in September 2015.

Financial Year	Non-teaching staff		Year-on-year change in FTE numbers
	Year-on-year change in employer contribution rates	RPI rate as of December in each year	
	£000	£000	£000
2016/17	0.0%	1.8%	-8.9%
2015/16	0.0%	0.5%	-3.5%
2014/15	0.0%	0.7%	1.6%
2013/14	0.0%	1.9%	3.0%
2012/13	0.0%	2.4%	-0.3%
2011/12	3.4%	3.7%	-4.3%
2010/11	3.0%	3.1%	-5.2%
2009/10	3.1%	2.1%	-1.1%
2008/09	2.1%	3.0%	-3.0%
2007/08	1.6%	2.3%	-1.1%
Cumulative change	13.9%	23.6%	-21.0%

Questions

- (4)** What are the figures in relation to:
- a) Lothian Pension Fund Members and
 - b) teachers?

Answers

- (4)** The analyses are presented by individual scheme in the tables above

QUESTION NO 21

By Councillor Rose for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

In 2017 Cabinet Secretary for Education announced Pupil Equity Funding allocation. The funding (£1200 per qualifying pupil) is to be spent at the discretion of Headteachers working in partnership with each other and their local authority.

Scottish Government guidance indicates (among other things):

- Headteachers must have access to the full amount of the allocated Pupil Equity Funding
- Headteachers can work at an individual school and local community level or collegiately in wider school clusters and beyond at local authority level to address common interests
- The Headteacher will be accountable to their local authority for the use of Pupil Equity Funding within their school
- To ensure transparency, schools will be expected to incorporate details of their Pupil Equity Funding plans into existing reporting processes to their Parent Council and Forum. These reports should be publicly available so that parents can understand what is happening at their school.

Question (1) Have there been any cases where the decision of the headteacher, or group of headteachers, to allocate the Pupil Equity Fund has been overruled or in any way diluted by the Director of Children and Families or his staff?

Answer (1) No, however there may have been cases where a delay in accessing requested provision has been necessitated owing to the need to abide by procurement regulations. Where this has been the case schools have been advised to apply for a waiver as an interim measure and asked to encourage the provider to apply to become part of the PEF Framework

list which has been established by the Council in order to facilitate access to a wide range of provision.

The Open Framework will be re-opened for all new providers at the end of November. This opportunity will be advertised via Public Contracts Scotland to give all new providers the same opportunity to join the Framework. The PEF Open Framework allows teachers the choice to decide which providers and services meet their school's requirements.

The criteria for joining the PEF Open Framework are based on the providers' meeting financial and business probity checks, clear and transparent pricing and also a quality evaluation based on the following criteria:

- the service provision – how and what they will deliver, how they will engage pupils and a case study including resulting outcomes (50%);
- how the service will close the attainment gap, ie a method statement detailing how the service will lead to improvements in pupils in literacy, numeracy and/or health and wellbeing (30%);
- details on how the provider will communicate with the school(s) (20%).

The Open Framework allows for new providers to be added twice yearly therefore it can grow to meet demand.

Further details of the process can be gleaned from the Pupil Equity Fund Open Framework, Finance and Resource Committee Report which was approved on 7 November 2017:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/4268/finance_and_resources_committee.

Question (2) If so, please list the cases and schools.

Answer (2) N/A

Question (3) If so please clarify what justification has been used.

Answer (3) N/A

QUESTION NO 22

**By Councillor Rose for answer by the
Leader of the Council at a meeting of
the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question

Please list instances where, in relation to Edinburgh Council, there has been a

- a) Finding of maladministration
- b) Breaches of data protection legislation or Freedom of Information (Scotland) rules noted or recorded by the Information Commissioner (including directions to the City of Edinburgh Council) overturning decisions already taken by the Council
- c) Adverse findings by the Ombudsman over each of the last 10 years.

Answer

- a) Four findings of maladministration have been made:

2015	1 - Reported to Council in November 2015
2016	1 - Reported to Council in June 2016
2017	2 – One reported to Council in June 2017 and one will be reported to Council in December 2017

b) Compliance with data protection legislation was centralised within the Information Governance Unit in 2014 so statistics are only available from that date. The following breaches have since been referred to the UK Information Commissioner:

2014	2
2015	3
2016	4
2017	3

One case, in 2016, overturned a decision taken by the Council.

The following decisions have been made against the Council by the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) in relation to freedom of information requests. As an indication, in the last three years, these cases represent less than 0.01% of the total number of requests dealt with by the Council under this legislation.

2007	2
2008	5
2009	3
2010	5
2011	7
2012	14
2013	10
2014	8
2015	5
2016	6
2017	2

(Note: These figures do not include decisions made against the Council for failing to respond to a request within the statutory 20 working days.)

c) Information relating to decisions made by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO) is held by financial year. The following cases have been determined in favour of the applicant either wholly or in part for the period requested.

2007/08	17
2008/09	4
2009/10	5
2010/11	7
2011/12	10
2012/13	11
2013/14	10
2014/15	9
2015/16	15
2016/17	21

As an indication, in the last three years, these cases represent less than 0.001% of the total number of complaints received by the Council.

QUESTION NO 23

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

- Question** (1) How many broken streetlights/columns are waiting for the required maintenance?
- Answer** (1) There are currently 4,218 street lighting faults (including 123 Scottish Power faults).
- Question** (2) If there is a backlog, what are the reasons for this?
- Answer** (2) There are two main factors which have caused the backlog. There are currently five vacancies for Street Lighting Electricians which we are in the process of recruiting for. Our agency partner has been able to supply two staff and we are progressing a framework service contract to supply Street Lighting Electricians on a labour-only basis, as well as exploring the use of a contractor to assist us dealing with the current faults.
- In addition, we discovered a fault with a lighting unit that meant we then inspected 1,100 units and have programmed follow-up work identified during those inspections. This is additional unplanned work which has had to be accommodated on top of routine repair works.
- Question** (3) What is the average waiting time for a repair?
- Answer** (3) The average time taken to repair a street lighting fault in October 2017 is 18 days.
- Question** (4) What is the date of the oldest outstanding repair?
- Answer** (4) The oldest fault is for a street lighting column that needs replaced in Boswall Gardens dated 29 April 2014. Light is still working.
- Question** (5) How are repairs being prioritised?
- Answer** (5) Repairs are prioritised by risk and then by age of fault.

- Question** (6) Does the (Lighting) Department have sufficient staff to service unlit light issues as winter approaches?
- Answer** (6) Once recruitment at full staffing establishment, and with the use of agency and framework contractor labour (where required), there will be sufficient resource.
- Supplementary Question** Thank you Lord Provost and thank you to the Convener for her answer. I did appreciate the answer and also the fact that members received a briefing. What does concern me is my former colleague Councillor Elaine Aitken asked these same questions in December 2016 and at that point there were 1,581 requiring maintenance, which was the answer then and was stated would be in line with historic levels. Notwithstanding the issues around vacancies at the lighting unit, given that the dark nights etc at what time does the Convener anticipate this situation getting back to at the very least the historic levels given this is a fundamental service and as of yesterday no timescales could be given to me for report across my ward from Oxfords, Colinton Mains and Bonaly, thank you.
- Supplementary Answer** Thank you Councillor Rust for your supplementary question. In terms of the number of faults that we have running on a regular basis, the fault level that we would normally have would be about 1,400 per month which obviously gets dealt with. I understand that with the remedial action that has been taking place is that we should be able to achieve this within the next 8 to 10 weeks. Clearly there's some reasons behind the current situation and as mentioned in the written answer we have got a current shortage of street lighting electricians, that's something that is a structural issue attached to that particular part of industry and we're working hard to try and find our way around that. Can I just indicate though to you quite clearly that this is a problem which I hope will eventually evolve out of existence because we have the new LED lighting system going in.
- At the moment we rely on the community reporting faults and we appreciate that this can cause some degree of distress and concern for those people who are reporting them particularly when we are facing a difficult situation as it

stands at the moment. However as we go forward into the LED street lighting project will essentially evolving out that requirement for the public to be in contact with us about street lighting because there will be a centralised control management system which will allow those lights to automatically be notified to us. I hope that that will take some of the heat out of this topic both at full Council level and for those poor people who are having to engage with us to make those reports.

The current time to repair the faults has fallen slightly I think since the briefing note was issued to Councillors from 20 days to 18 so you can see that it is on a downward trajectory, although clearly it's not ideal. I've actually asked the Head of Place Management to urgently progress an action plan to improve that situation and I hope to be able to report back on that at some juncture, thank you.

QUESTION NO 24

By Councillor Rose for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

Question

- 1 In July the bus stops were repainted with yellow paint.
- 2 Around August the relevant section of Blackford Avenue was resurfaced – missing out areas where there were parked cars and covering the recently painted yellow lines.
- 3 Subsequently, yellow lines were again painted (repainted).
- 4 On or around 20th October more resurfacing work was done – covering areas where yellow lines had been recently repainted.
- 5 Markings have recently appeared in the areas of resurfaced roadway suggesting further post resurfacing repairs are about to be done.

Does the Convener consider the lack of sequencing and co-ordination is good value?

Answer

- 1 No bus stops within the site extents were marked prior to the surface dressing works. One bus stop marking to the south of the surface dressing site on Blackford Avenue was re-marked and three bus stops on Grange Loan to the north were re-marked.
- 2 Some areas were missed due to the presence of parked cars. NSL (our vehicle recovery contractor) were otherwise engaged moving cars within the city centre and were unable to attend Blackford Avenue before the contractor had completed the available area. Significant waiting time charges would have been incurred if the contractor was instructed to wait for the cars to be moved, as the issue was outwith the contractor's control. The surface dressing

contractor was booked to undertake works for another Council immediately after the works in Edinburgh were complete, so were unable to finish off the missed areas. These locations have been recorded and will be completed during next year's surface dressing programme.

- 3 As stated in answer one the road markings within the surface dressing area were re-marked for the first time at this point.
- 4 A number of defects were recorded by the contractor and our Clerk of Works. These were repaired around 20 October. Some short sections of road markings were removed by these repairs
- 5 Following reports of issues for cyclists, our Clerk of Works recorded some additional defects which will be able to be completed during week commencing 20 November. On completion of all the repairs, the missing road markings will be reinstated.

There will be no additional cost to the Council from rectifying these defects and reinstating the road markings.

QUESTION NO 25

**By Councillor Whyte for answer by
the Convener of the Education,
Children and Families Committee at a
meeting of the Council on 23
November 2017**

Question

In order to prepare for and to seek improvements in education within our schools in line with the Education Scotland Inspection regime it is helpful for Headteachers to be able to seek evidence of best practice through visits and engagement with their peers. On occasion, the very best practice may not be evident in schools in Edinburgh or in our surrounding collaborative authorities through Regional Boards.

What options for learning visits or collaborations for Headteachers are in place to “best in Scotland” schools and how can these be extended, especially when our schools are seeking to make tangible improvements for their pupils at the higher levels of inspection grading (e.g. from good to very good)?

Answer

All schools in Edinburgh are using Self-Evaluation to inform, compare and improve their practice in line with the national expectations set out in Education Scotland’s *How Good is our School? 4* and *How Good is Our Early learning and Childcare*. This requires looking *inwards* and evaluating their own practice, looking *outwards* to learn from elsewhere and using this to *look forward* to plan for improvement. Effective collaboration between schools is also recognised as an essential part of school improvement.

In Edinburgh, a wide number strategies are in place to enable groups of schools and HTs to learn from each other and share best practice. For example, HTs meet in small Joint Practice groups across the year to learn from each other and improve practice. This self-improving approach, where schools collaborate, support and challenge each other is backed by research evidence and recognised as

best practice. Most recently, HTs have worked in small groups to challenge and learn from each other's practice in raising attainment supported and challenged by the QIEO team.

There are currently schools in Edinburgh identified by HMle with excellent or very good practice and the QIEO team also works with these schools to share their best practice with all colleagues across Edinburgh schools – for example at the sector HT or cluster school meetings that are held regularly throughout the year, by or through specific sharing practice visits to a school.

Several QIEOs and HTs are also Associate Assessors with HMle and as a result bring innovative practice and understanding of standards nationally from the training they receive and from the schools they have inspected across Scotland back to share at these meetings. For example, at the most recent secondary HT meeting, one school shared their innovative work on middle leadership development and the rest of the session focussed on developing leaders' understanding of the national standards assessed by inspectors under the heading Leadership of Change in *How Good is Our School? (4)*. Associate Assessors' expertise is also used to support and challenge schools prior to and following inspection. They are also able to moderate how well our schools are improving in Edinburgh with schools across Scotland.

Leadership of Change is also a key focus for all QIEOs working across all establishments and is a key driver in the National Improvement Framework and all Edinburgh School Improvement Plans. Also looking outwards to drive improvement, we seek to learn about best practice in other local authorities, for example officers will soon make a visit to Fife and East Renfrewshire to look at how they track and monitor attainment across the authority. Officers and schools also look outwards to compare the progress of our children and young people at national, authority and school level to identify practice that is effective and can be used to inform improvement locally.

School leaders and officers also participate in – and contribute to - Education Scotland conferences, where best practice across the country is shared, most recently a national conference for Scottish Attainment Challenge Schools. This is then disseminated to colleagues across the city. There are many other organisations that offer similar opportunities to hear about innovative educational practice that are open to school leaders and other practitioners. Last week for example, several secondary school leaders visited Larbert High School, which received the highest inspection evaluations for a secondary school in Scotland last session, to learn about a whole range of practice and this has since been shared with all secondary HTs.

The primary sector is further developing the self-Improving school system to enable the sharing of practices across schools. As part of Leadership improvement, all head Teachers were offered the opportunity to attend Columba 1140. On retirement, one of our HT colleagues, having received the recent Scottish Award for Leadership, will be further supporting colleagues develop Leadership skills in this respect.

Opportunities are also available for schools to visit and collaborate with establishments internationally. For example, European Union Comenius funding has been successfully sought by Castlebrae HS to establish a partnership with a high school in a deprived area of Paris while schools in the James Gillespie's and Boroughmuir cluster have externally funded partnerships with schools in China. Gracemount PS has a partnership with Finland and Dean Park with Japan.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost. The Convener's given me a very comprehensive answer about how we look at improvements in education. Perhaps, for helping me understand how the system works in practice he could tell me whether it's his understanding that the Quality Improvement Officers should be attempting to assist head teachers in finding best practice and do everything they can to let them visit and seek that best practice wherever it is in Scotland or sometimes wider including seeking to help them find funds

or find ways of making a practical rather than perhaps restricting where Head teachers meet those visits by limiting them to the City of Edinburgh only.

**Supplementary
Answer**

I'm not sure of the detail of what you are saying Iain but I'll certainly ask the Director to answer that question and I'll get back to you.

QUESTION NO 26

**By Councillor Young for answer by
the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question (1) How many visits by environmental wardens has there been to the communities of Queensferry, Dalmeny Kirkliston and Ratho Station, for the purposes of monitoring responsible dog ownership in public places? Please provide figures broken down by month since 1st January 2017 to 31st October 2017.

Answer (1) We do not have a recording system that holds this type of information. Our system holds information relating to complaints and enquiries received and not for ad hoc daily/additional patrols carried out in the area.

I can inform you that the Environmental Wardens visit the Queensferry area at least 3 - 4 times per week, not only for dog fouling but other environmental complaints/enquiries received. Breakdown of complaints/enquiries:

Enquiries

South Queensferry

- 1 x Open Space Dog Fouling
- 1 x Idle Engine Enforcement
- 1 x Domestic Waste
- 1 x Accumulations/Rubbish

Dalmeny

- 1 x Flytipping

Complaints

South Queensferry

1 x Not in our remit
2 x Animal and Birds
10 x Vehicles Abandoned
3 x Open Space Dog Fouling
4 x Littering
4 x Flytipping
1 x Trade Waste
2 x Open Space Accumulations
1 x Idle Engine Enforcement
1 x Tables and Chairs, Street Furniture
3 x Domestic Waste

Dalmeny

2 x Flytipping

Ratho Station

1 x Other Public Health Nuisance
2 x Vehicles Abandoned
1 x Open Space Dog Fouling
1 x Flytipping

Kirkliston

13 x Vehicles Abandoned
1 x Open Space Dog Fouling
1 x Common Land Dog Fouling
6 x Flytipping
1 x Open Space Accumulations
1 x Idle Engine Enforcement
2 x Domestic Waste
1 x Control of Dogs

Question (2) To detail (again split by community and by month) how many warnings or fines, have been made since 1st January to 31st October 2017

Answer (2) Kirkliston – 1 x Dog fouling FPN.

QUESTION NO 27

By Councillor Young for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 23 November 2017

Question

What statutory duty sits with the Council to ensure footbridges are compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 2005?

Answer

Much of this information is available online and I have provided a link to a Government Publication for your information

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-sector-quick-start-guide-to-the-public-sector-equality-duty>).

The Equalities Act 2010 replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act and this includes the Disability Discrimination Act 2005.

It is Bridge Design Guide 29/17 which details the design criteria for footbridges and this has due regard for the disabled and those of reduced mobility. When providing a new bridge, the Council fully complies with this guidance.

However, there are many existing bridges that do not comply with the guidance. Typically, the bridges have inadequate width and do not have solely ramped access. When maintenance work on such bridges is to be undertaken consideration is given to making appropriate improvements where practicable.

Supplementary Question

This one I do. I wanted to thank the Convener very much for her response. What I wanted to ask was in relation to existing bridges which is alluded to in the answer. I want to know what alternatives are put in place where an existing bridge is not compliant with the Equalities Act and specifically in relation to the bridge at Ratho Station, what action is going to be taken to provide access to the other side of the road for those who are unable to use the stairs? You must actually cross this in order to be able to access the public transport on the other side because unless they want to make a mad dash across a rather busy road and a very broad road then they don't have an option to get over there, thank you.

Supplementary Answer

Thank you Councillor Young. I must apologise, I actually missed part of your supplementary question, which bridge in particular were you referring to?

Councillor Young

There is a footbridge at Ratho Station so the A90 just down from the airport, A 80 sorry

Supplementary Answer cont'd

I understand for that particular bridge there are quite a lot of problems attached to trying to make it DDA compliant, not least the area of land that we would have to take at the bottom of the bridge to allow us to change the ramping system that's in it at the moment is not available to us, it does leave us rather stuck. I also believe that it's a relatively low level of foot traffic that goes across that bridge across the Dee and clearly it's something that we may be able to look at again in more detail.

Councillor Young

Thank you, I believe that part of the problem of the low usage is because people are having to get a bus further down the road order to cross the street.

QUESTION NO 28

**By Councillor Young for answer by
the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question (1) TRO/15/48 seeks to install parking restrictions on Barnton Avenue West, near to Cargilfield School. Of the 27 objections received, please provide (where known) the breakdown of numbers from:

Residents on Barnton Ave West

Residents on surrounding streets

School staff

Parents of school pupils

Answer (1) 47 Objections have been received following the public advertisement of the proposal.

Analysis of the responses has not been carried out yet, however, it is anticipated a review of valid objections will be carried out by 30 November 2017. Once complete the North West Roads team will consider whether to continue with the proposal, revise the suggested waiting restrictions or withdraw the scheme. Should the proposal continue the North West Roads team will make contact with each objector and prepare a report for the Transport and Environment Committee if appropriate.

Question (2) What is the current status of implementing this TRO and when is it due to be considered by the Transport Committee?

Answer (2) The proposed Traffic Regulation Order has recently completed the public advertising stage.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you again for your answer to the question. Pleased to, well pleased is not the right word, interesting to see that the volume of complaints which has been received in relation to this TRO has indeed increased since the last update I had from officials. All I would ask is that the breakdown I asked for is the first part of my question, could that be provided as soon as possible after 30th of November once that analysis has been completed and just before the end of the year?

**Supplementary
Answer**

I'll certainly undertake to have that transmitted to you as quickly as possible but I can't give a particular deadline on it. Perhaps I could expand a little bit, the initial analysis of the response indicates that they come broadly from residents, parents, staff at the school, and a small group of unknown sources, the main part is coming from parents.

Due to the volume and the nature of objections the North West Area locality Team have considered reducing the scope of the proposed waiting restrictions to the turning area only at the east end of the road adjacent to the school exit. So we're looking into that in particular and will be contacting all of the individuals who have submitted objections, thank you.

QUESTION NO 29

**By Councillor Neil Ross for answer
by the Convener of the Finance and
Resources Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

- Question** (1) Three recent changes on employment matters have implications for the Council
- Employment Tribunals no longer charge fees for bringing claims.
 - Following a recent ruling at the Employment Appeals Tribunal, employers are required to include all earnings when calculating holiday pay.
 - Gender pay gap reporting came into effect on 6 April 2017.

Since these changes, has the Council seen an increase in the number of claims made against it on employment matters?

- Answer** (1) The Council has not seen a material increase in the number of claims made against it on employment matters arising from the 3 changes outlined.

- Question** (2) Has any action been taken to reduce the likelihood of claims being made and, if so, what

- Answer** (2) The Council wishes to resolve employment disputes at the earliest possible opportunity to maintain a positive employee relations climate.

By applying our Council employment policies and procedures consistently and fairly, as well as providing assurance upon the operation of these, we ensure the effective management and mitigation of such claims. Additionally, by working in partnership with the recognised trade unions representing both teaching and non-teaching staff, we also seek to address such issues effectively.

QUESTION NO 30

**By Councillor Neil Ross for answer
by the Convener of the Finance and
Resources Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 23 November 2017**

Question

At the Finance and Resources Committee on 7 November, you accepted an addendum from me to insert the word 'Administration's' into the 2018/19 budget report recommendations in order to tie the budget proposals to the administration. I was assured at the meeting that the public consultation materials would also reflect this. What specific changes were made to give effect to this?

Answer

Following the decision of the Committee, the consultation documents and promotional materials were reviewed and references to 'Council proposals' were removed.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost. Thank you again Convener for your answer which seems to indicate that a descriptive error has been avoided as the budget proposals of course were not made by the full Council. So by way of supplementary can the Convener explain why he was unable to go one step further and described the proposals as made by the Administration.

**Supplementary
Answer**

I thank Councillor Ross for his question. I think in fact we have done, at the very least by implication, by describing these as Administration proposals. I fail to see how there's any lack of clarity there.