Business bulletin

Item No 6.1

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10am, Tuesday, 22 January 2013

Dean of Guild Courtroom, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh



Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

Convener:

Councillor Andrew Burns



Vice Convener:

Councillor Steve Cardownie



Members:

Councillors: Burns (Convener), Cardownie (Deputy Convener), Buchanan, Burgess, Chapman, Child, Nick Cook, Edie, Godzik, Ricky Henderson, Hinds, Lewis, Mowat, Rankin, Rose

Contact:

Kirsty-Louise

Campbell
Governance Manager
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Recent news Background

Council Culture and Values

The Council's values are being developed to:

- drive behaviour to deliver culture change and service outcomes;
- respond to audit inspections and stakeholder feedback; and
- improve performance and reputation.

The need to review our existing values to make them fit for purpose and meaningful to staff was highlighted in the Investors in People Audit (December 2011) and the Assurance Improvement Plan (Best Value Audit, November 2012).

Over the past couple of months, staff, residents, partners and Elected Members have been consulted on what the Council's values should be. Based on their priorities, a set of shared Davina Fereday,
Research and
Development Manager,
Policy and Public Affairs

values has been developed and approved by Corporate Management Team. The proposed values will be tested by a new Staff Sounding Board and the trade unions, followed by a report to Committee for approval.

The values are aligned with the Council's Performance Framework and vision, approved by Council on 25th October.

This consultation highlighted the need to have a more meaningful set of values that say what we stand for and strive to be, as well as being customer-focused and led by staff. The top themes were around: customer focus (listening, engaging and being a caring organisation); integrity (being honest, transparent and accountable); efficiency (working together, providing value for money and demonstrating this); and being a forward thinking organisation.

Best Value Audit

The Council's Best Value Audit is underway with the first two weeks of the onsite visit completed. This has involved a series of interviews, focus groups, observations and documentary reviews. The audit will continue into the new year with more meetings arranged for January.

The Corporate Management Team will receive feedback from Audit Scotland at the end of January 2013. They will then work with us to develop the Best Value report which will be finalised in March 2013 and published in May 2013. Elected Members will be kept fully appraised of developments and next steps.

Sarah Mackenzie,
Business Intelligence
Manager, Policy and
Public Affairs

Edinburgh People Survey 2012

The Edinburgh People Survey was completed this Autumn, involving 5000 face-to-face interviews with residents. This is the sixth such survey to be carried out.

The survey is a representative sample of Edinburgh residents, providing good coverage of postcodes across the city. Topline results show a positive upward trend in satisfaction with the delivery of local services and perceptions of the Council.

The results will be analysed by neighbourhood partnership area and reported to Policy and Strategy Committee in February 2013. The survey is embedded in the Council's Performance Framework and local and strategic service planning.

Davina Fereday,
Research and
Development Manager,
Policy and Public Affairs

Edinburgh Tram Byelaws Consultation

The Edinburgh Tram Acts of 2006 set out a legal framework for the construction and operation of the tram network. The Act also empowered the Council to make byelaws to regulate matters around the operation and the protection of the tram assets.

Chris Highcock,
Corporate Projects
Manager - Governance,
Legal, Risk and
Compliance

On 22 November 2012 the City of Edinburgh Council agreed a set of draft byelaws and authorised a statutory procedure to have them confirmed by the Minister. This includes advertising that the byelaws have been made and facilitating a period of public consultation. Any representations are made direct to the Scottish Ministers, not to the Council. We are merely facilitating the process by making and publicising the byelaws along with advising of the process for commenting on them.

The Tram Stakeholder / Enquiries Team have taken the following actions:

- A public notice was drafted and agreed with Transport Scotland and the Tram Project. This explained the purpose of the byelaws, how a copy can be obtained and stated how comments could be made to the Ministers.
 - This notice will be published in the Scotsman and Evening News today, 17 December.
 - The notice and a copy of the byelaws have been deposited at reception in the City Chambers and at Waverley Court.
 - The notice has been placed on the Council and Tram websites with a note of how to download the draft byelaws.
 - A copy of the notice and a copy of the byelaws have been circulated to all of the City of Edinburgh Council libraries.
 - Copies of the byelaws can also be requested from the Tram helpline or through the enquiries team email address

The consultation period lasts for 28 days. At the end of that period, the Council formally submits the byelaws to the Scottish Government for confirmation by the Minister. The Minister will take any representations into account and then either confirm them as made, confirm them with modifications, or refuse to confirm them.

Cooperative Capital

On 25 October 2012 the Council agreed a 'Framework to Advance a Cooperative Capital 12/17' and announced the establishment of the Cooperative Development Unit (CDU).

The CDU sits within Policy and Public Affairs Division and is tasked with coordinating delivery across the five themes of the Framework. Critical to this work is the commitment to providing opportunities and support to expand service delivery through cooperatives. In this regard an initial audit

Nick Croft, Corporate
Policy and Strategy
Development Manager,
Policy and Public Affairs

has been completed to identify existing cooperatives in the city and these organisations have been gathered together to discuss development needs.

In addition, there have been a number of seminars to explore the possibilities of expanding cooperative provision in housing, energy, child care and social care.

The CDU has also secured expert advice for cooperative development through Cooperative Development Scotland, as part of the new Business Gateway service at Waverley Court.

Forthcoming activities: