

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday, 14 June 2016

Present

Councillors Burns (Convener), Ross (Vice-Convener), Barrie, Burgess, Child, Day (substituting for Councillor Hinds), Edie, Godzik, Ricky Henderson, Lewis, Main, Mowat, Rankin, Rose and Rust.

1. Business Case for the Management Transfer of Secondary School Sport Facilities to Edinburgh Leisure

a) SwimEasy and Aquatic Learning – Deputation

The deputation expressed concern that they may in future not be able to maintain the letting times they had normally been allocated. They urged the Council not to disadvantage the private sector by increasing the letting prices and indicated that there had been no information on the development of a business plan on which they could make any judgement on whether or not there would be value for money.

The deputation stressed that they felt that they were being discriminated against and that the existing pool times available for let would drop. They asked that they be involved in the consideration and decision taking process and be given early sight of the full Business Plan in order for them, and others, to determine 'Best Value' for the Edinburgh rate payers.

b) City of Edinburgh Gymnastics Club – Deputation

The deputation indicated that they were one of the largest gymnastic clubs in Edinburgh and were concerned that if the school estate was monopolised by Edinburgh Leisure, they would be unable to run recreational gymnastic classes at private sites and they were not allowed the use of current Edinburgh Leisure sites.

The deputation felt that as there would be a lack of security of tenure of rent, they would be unable to plan for competitions in the long term and that rental charges for the use of the facilities would increase.

c) Report by the Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families

An update was provided on the progress of the business case which had been developed by Edinburgh Leisure (EL) in consultation with Council officers for the management transfer of secondary school sports facilities to EL.

Decision

- 1) To note that the Joint Implementation Group was working in partnership to review detailed operational requirements for each school to ensure any risks posed to both the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) and Edinburgh Leisure (EL) were recognised and managed.
- 2) To note that Council priorities must be included as part of any 'conditions of transfer,' including:
 - a) Ensuring flexibility within the revised arrangements where school requirements for the use of these facilities was prioritised and continued to be met, up to and in some instances beyond 6pm, from Monday to Friday and at weekends;
 - b) Maintaining and supporting the development of a range of Active Schools programmes and activities;
 - c) Supporting the provision and future development of school based Community Sports hubs and ensuring the delivery of the Council's commitment to delivering a mixed economy of sporting provision, including swimming lessons, across the city.
- 3) To note that priority would be given to identifying how the achievement of £500k savings from the integration of sports services could be accelerated through the ongoing work being undertaken by Council officers and Edinburgh Leisure staff. This would include revising current staffing and pricing arrangements in some facilities and identifying new income streams from all new and existing school sports facilities.
- 4) To note that implementation of the revised arrangements would result in EL supporting the Council to achieve the identified savings target of £500k.
- 5) To note that a change programme would be developed to ensure the range of current arrangements in place in schools (for example, external funding agreements for sport and related activity and the continuation of a 'mixed economy' of provision) were clarified and continued to be supported under the new management arrangements.
- 6) To agree that the transfer of the management of school sports facilities to EL, outwith core school hours, would commence from August 2016 with the transfer of school sports facilities in three new Council high schools: James Gillespie's High School, Portobello High School, and Boroughmuir High School from when each was open.
- 7) To note that at the time of preparing the business case for the proposal, EL were advised that sports facilities in the primary and special schools were not deemed to be in scope. It was intended to examine the feasibility of including these facilities in the new arrangements after the successful transfer of secondary school facilities to EL.

If this was progressed it would ultimately ensure a single point of access to all school sports facilities.

- 8) To note the progress made by officers and Edinburgh Leisure in creating a joint detailed specification and business case as soon as finalised, as per the recommendations of the Committee on 28 September 2015, and agree that these and details of the change programme would be reported to Committee by Autumn 2016.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 17 May 2016 (item 2); report by the Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families, submitted)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Lewis declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a member of Edinburgh Leisure.

2. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee of 17 May 2016 as a correct record.

3. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan August to October 2016

The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan for August to October 2016 was presented.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for August to October 2016.

(Reference – Key Decisions Forward Plan August to October 2016, submitted.)

4. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee Rolling Actions Log

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

Decision

- 1) To agree to close the following actions:
 - Action 9 - Citywide Review of Council Owned Sports Facilities and Services (17 May 2016)
 - Action 14 - Workplace Policy on Alcohol, Drug and Substance Misuse
 - Action 17 - Edinburgh Schools
- 2) To ask for an update/completion date for the following actions:
 - Action 3 - Follow-up Report 2014 Edinburgh People Survey
 - Action 5 Part 2 - Safecall CEC114 – Update Report on Management Action

3) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

5. Edinburgh Schools – Independent Inquiry

The Committee had called for an update report with terms of reference for and timescale of the inquiry into the recent school closures affected by structural issues, within one cycle.

Details were provided of the draft terms of reference, taking into account comments expressed by Group Leaders. Final terms of reference would require to be agreed by the Chair of the Inquiry.

Decision

To note the report by the Chief Executive.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 12 April 2016 (item 15) and 17 May 2016 (item 6); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

6. Appointments to the Welfare Reform Working Group 2016-2017

The Committee was invited to appoint the membership of the Welfare Reform Working Group for 2016/17.

Decision

To appoint Councillors Aldridge, Burgess, Day, Ricky Henderson, Howat, Rose and Work to the Welfare Reform Working Group for 2016/17.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 1 September 2015 (item 4); report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

7. Response to the Consultation on the Draft Regulations of the Community Empowerment Act

Details were provided on the Council's proposed response on the draft regulations for the implementation of the Community Empowerment Act.

Decision

- 1) To approve the response to the Scottish Government consultation on the draft regulations for the Community Empowerment Act.
- 2) To ask officers to review and clarify the answers to Question 1 in respect of Statutory Forms being required in the regulations prior to the response being submitted.

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

8 Locality Working – Progress Report

Details were provided on the progress of the implementation of locality working which included a range of new opportunities for elected members, citizens and communities to engage, support and scrutinise localities working.

Decision

- 1) To note the good progress with regard to locality working, and the enhanced opportunities for elected members and citizens to engage with, support and scrutinise locality working through Neighbourhood Partnerships, the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee and the Edinburgh Partnership Board.
- 2) To note the establishment of the Locality Leadership Teams and their role in providing better strategic support to local partnership activity.
- 3) To note the legal requirement, under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, to define localities and develop Locality Improvement Plans, and the role of neighbourhood partnerships and elected members in developing and approving these plans.
- 4) To agree to further engagement events on locality working with elected members, partner agencies, and community and third sector groups to discuss the development of Locality Improvement Plans.
- 5) To note the key challenges and dependencies identified for the next 12 months, and the work underway to address these.
- 6) To refer the report in full to the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee for information.
- 7) To call for a report back to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee at the appropriate time in consultation with Councillor Main and other elected members on the locality working governance issues raised.

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

9 Gaelic Language Plan 2012-17 – Statutory Monitoring Report

Approval was sought for the Council's Gaelic Language Plan 2012/17 Statutory Monitoring Report for the period November 2013 to May 2016.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Monitoring Report as set out in Appendix 1 of the report by the Chief Executive for submission to Bòrd Na Gàidhlig (the Bòrd) for their comment and approval.
- 2) To note the commitments for further developments, specifically, the commitments (i) to establish a Co-production Group, under the auspices of the Gaelic Implementation Steering Group, to develop the Council's second Gaelic Language Plan, (ii) to develop a Gaelic Medium Education (GME) strategy for 0-18 year olds as part of the Council's second Gaelic language Plan, and (iii) to engage with the Bòrd on the development of the Council's second Gaelic Language Plan.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 5 November 2013 (item 9); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

10 Workplace Policy on Alcohol, Drug and Substance Misuse

The Committee had previously approved the revised and updated Workplace Policy on Alcohol, Drug and Substance Misuse.

Details were provided on advice produced for managers which outlined the action they could take when dealing with employees who were found under the influence of drugs, alcohol or other substances at the workplace.

Decision

- 1) To approve the new guidance for managers.
- 2) To note the report by the Acting Executive Director of Resources.

(References – report by the Acting Executive Director of Resources, submitted.)