

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

West Edinburgh and Edinburgh Waterfront – All Party Oversight Groups

Item number	7.11
Report number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All
Council Commitments	16, 18, 19, and 27

Executive Summary

The regeneration and development of West Edinburgh and the Edinburgh Waterfront areas will play a transformative role in the future shape of the city. West Edinburgh presents significant opportunities for development, given its strategic importance to the city and its proximity to the airport. Edinburgh's Waterfront provides a major opportunity to build many of the homes, commercial and community spaces that the city needs. The report proposes establishing two new All Party Oversight Groups (APOGs) to strengthen the governance of these two major programmes.

Report

West Edinburgh and Edinburgh's Waterfront Transformation – All Party Oversight Groups (APOG)

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that Committee:
 - 1.1.1 approves the membership, scope and remit of the proposed APOG for West Edinburgh; and
 - 1.1.2 approves the membership, scope and remit of the proposed APOG for Edinburgh's Waterfront.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Local Development Plan and the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Deal identifies West Edinburgh and the Waterfront as key strategic priorities for development in the region.
- 2.2 The City Region Deal includes provision for significant investment in public transport infrastructure in the west of the city as set out in the West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal.
- 2.3 Over the last year the Council has consolidated its land ownership in Granton through the purchase of the National Grid site and the winding up of EDI in 2018.
- 2.4 On [22 March 2018](#), the Housing and Economy Committee agreed broad objectives for the regeneration of Granton after considering a wide-ranging report on the strategy for developing the area. The report set out how the development of an overall masterplan, infrastructure options, engagement with the local community and housing projects were being taken forward.
- 2.5 Existing governance for both major programmes requires strengthening to ensure a comprehensive approach across policy areas is addressed.

3. Main report

West Edinburgh APOG

Scope

- 3.1 West Edinburgh encompasses the area from Edinburgh Airport through Newbridge and Ratho, Gogar, Edinburgh Park, South Gyle to East Craigs and

Corstorphine. South Queensferry and Kirkliston are also important in the wider area, as are links to neighbouring Council areas such as West Lothian.

- 3.2 The APOG would oversee the development of the strategic vision for West Edinburgh, and advise on major policy issues like inclusive growth, development mix, transport infrastructure, schools provision, and wider social, economic and spatial issues.

Governance and Decision Making

- 3.3 The successful transformation of West Edinburgh will require effective coordination of policy and decision making across a number of Council committees including Housing and Economy, Transport and Environment, Planning and Education, Children and Families. Other Committees, and Council itself, will have a role in the delivery of such a major programme.
- 3.4 This coordination can be best achieved by the establishment of a cross party oversight group to work closely with officers and partners. Although not decision-making bodies, APOGs have been established, and proved effective, for other key strategic projects including Central Edinburgh Transformation and Tram Extension. Given the multi-disciplinary approach required in such a major programme, a similar approach is recommended.
- 3.5 Discussions with key partners across West Edinburgh on future strategy are currently taking place. These partners include Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Future Trust, Edinburgh International Airport, Heriot Watt University, and major landowners.

Membership

- 3.6 It is proposed that members of the West Edinburgh Development Group would be drawn from the convenorships of a number of Council committees and chaired by the Depute Leader. These would include:
- Convener or Vice Convener of Housing and Economy;
 - Convener or Vice Convener of Transport and Environment;
 - Convener or Vice Convener of Planning;
 - Convener or Vice Convener of Education, Children and Families;
 - Convener or Vice Convener of South West Locality;
 - Convener or Vice Convener of North West Locality; and
 - A representative from the Conservative, Green and Liberal Democrat Groups (if not included in the representation outlined above).
- 3.7 Executive decision making would remain with the appropriate Committee of the Council, and the role of the Locality Committees in facilitating community engagement would be sustained.

- 3.8 The group will meet as and when necessary and the remit would be to act as an informal working group to:
- 3.8.1 provide a forum for cross party political leadership for West Edinburgh;
 - 3.8.2 discuss significant issues and projects arising in the area;
 - 3.8.3 provide advice and guidance to officers on the implementation of decisions; and
 - 3.8.4 monitor progress.

Edinburgh's Waterfront APOG

Scope

- 3.9 Edinburgh's Waterfront stretches from the three Forth Bridges in the West to Portobello in the East. It includes significant stretches of largely hidden and inaccessible coastline and communities with strong and historic identities of their own. They include Cramond, Granton, Newhaven, Leith and Portobello.
- 3.10 The Waterfront also includes three significant areas of regeneration; Granton; Western Harbour and Leith Docks and Seafield. Granton and Western Harbour are primarily residential, commercial and community place based led development areas. The Leith Docks and Seafield area also provides some potential for light and manufacturing industry in the future.

Governance and Decision Making

- 3.11 As at 3.3 above, the successful transformation of the Waterfront will require effective coordination of policy and decision making across a number of Council committees including Housing and Economy, Transport and Environment, Planning and Education, Children and Families. Other Committees, and Council itself, will have a role in the delivery of such a major programme.
- 3.12 This coordination can be best achieved by the establishment of a cross party oversight group to work closely with officers and partners. The role of APOGs is described earlier in the report.

Membership

- 3.13 It is proposed that members of the Edinburgh Waterfront Development Group would be drawn from the convenorships of a number of Council committees and chaired by the Depute Leader. These would include:
- Housing and Economy Convener or Vice Convener;
 - Transport and Environment Convener or Vice Convener;
 - Culture and Communities Convener or Vice Convener;
 - Planning Convener or Vice Convener;
 - Education, Children and Families Convener or Vice Convener;

- North East Locality Committee Convener;
 - North West Locality Committee Convener;
 - Granton Regeneration Locality Group; and
 - A representative from the Conservative, Green and Liberal Democrat Groups (if not included in the representation outlined above).
- 3.14 The group will meet as and when necessary and the remit would be to act as an informal working group to:
- 3.14.1 provide a forum for cross party political leadership of the Waterfront regeneration programme;
- 3.14.2 discuss significant issues and projects arising from the development of the Waterfront;
- 3.14.3 provide advice and guidance to officers on the implementation of decisions;
- 3.14.4 monitor progress.
- 3.15 Executive decision making would remain with the appropriate Committee of the Council, and the role of the Locality Committee in facilitating community engagement would be sustained.
- 3.16 In addition, a Granton Programme Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, will bring public sector stakeholders together to ensure investment plans are aligned with the agreed joint vision. It may be appropriate for external partners to be invited to the APOG meeting from time to time.

Chairing Arrangements

- 3.17 The Council Leader and Depute Leader will be members and co-chairs of both Groups.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 Initial measures of success will include:
- 4.1.1 successful stakeholder engagement;
- 4.1.2 publication of a central Edinburgh transformation programme; and
- 4.1.3 added value to current projects and initiatives.

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 No further financial implications for the Council arising from this report. Financial decisions arising from the development of West Edinburgh or

Edinburgh's Waterfront will be a matter for the Finance and Resources Committee and Council itself.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 The plan will be shaped by the contribution of elected members and cross-party governance and leadership will be facilitated.
- 6.2 The West Edinburgh APOG will be supported by senior managers and officers directly involved in delivering infrastructure investments and developments in this area.
- 6.3 The Edinburgh Waterfront APOG will be supported by senior managers and officers directly involved in the development of the Waterfront.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 There is no relationship between the matters described in this scoping report and the public sector general equality duty. Equalities Impact Assessments will form an integral part of existing and emerging priorities in both of these areas and will be taken forward at the appropriate time.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There are no direct impacts raised by this scoping report in relation to the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties. Strategic Environmental Assessments may be required for individual priorities as these are progressed.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Engagement with local communities will form a key part of the activities in both of these areas.

Dialogue will need to engage residents, businesses, partners, landowners, developers and agencies through both mixed and thematic discussion.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 None.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Michael Thain, Head of Place Development

E-mail: michael.thain@edinburgh.gov.uk

11. Appendices

11.1 None.