

Minutes

Culture and Sport Committee

2.00pm, Monday 20 March 2017

Present

Councillors Lewis (Convener), Austin Hart (Vice-Convener), Booth, Cairns, Cardownie, Donaldson, Doran, Fullerton, Heslop, Milligan, Munro, Paterson and Shields.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Culture and Sport Committee of 14 December 2016 as a correct record subject to the following adjustments:

a) **Item 8 – Imagine Festival - Presentation**

Amend paragraph 2 to read “2017 was the 70th anniversary of Edinburgh as Festival City and the opportunity had been taken to rebrand the Festival to become the Edinburgh International Childrens Festival.”

b) **Item 11 – Inverleith House**

Delete paragraph 2 (Approval was sought to establish.....)

2. Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Culture and Sport Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan was presented.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for June 2017.

(Reference – Key Decisions Forward Plan June 2017, submitted.)

3. Rolling Actions Log

The Culture and Sport Committee Rolling Actions Log updated to December 2016 was presented.

Decision

1) To approve the closure of actions 5, 7 and 9.

2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log 20 March 2017, submitted.)

4. Business Bulletin

The Culture and Sport Committee Business Bulletin for March 2017 was presented.

Decision

To note the information set out in the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin 20 March 2017, submitted.)

5. Scottish Chamber Orchestra - Presentation

Gavin Reid, Chief Executive, Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO) provided an overview of the work and activities being undertaken by the Orchestra in Edinburgh including the main concert season, Edinburgh International Festival, SCO Connect, the creative learning programme and SCO Vibe an interactive programme for young people.

The presentation can be viewed via the link below:

http://edinburgh.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/213129

Decision

To thank Gavin Reid for his presentation.

6. Hidden Doors Festival - Presentation

David Martin, Creative Director, Hidden Doors Festival gave a presentation on the work carried out by the Festival. The multi-arts festival was non-profit and 100% volunteer run. This year it was returning for its fourth project in the old Leith Theatre with 10 days and nights of music, theatre, visual art, film and spoken word. The organisers hoped that the festival would provide the initial spark to get the Theatre back up and running as a major Edinburgh arts venue and help transform its empty spaces with the help of some of the best creative talent from Scotland and beyond.

The presentation can be viewed via the link below:

http://edinburgh.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/213129

Decision

To thank David Martin for his presentation.

7. Culture Grants and Service Payments to Organisations 2017-18

The Committee had agreed a proposed approach to a review of third party cultural grants.

Details were provided on the Culture and Sport grant portfolio and proposals for cultural grants in 2017/18. In addition, details of the service payment to Edinburgh Leisure and other programmes were provided.

Decision

- 1) To approve the funding recommendations for 2017/18, as listed in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.

- 2) To note that these recommended grants reflected the approved 3% reduction on 2015/16 levels, and included a further 1% budget allocation to the agreed creation of an Open Fund (New Work) 2017/18.
- 3) To note the previously reported proposed approach to Culture and Sport savings for 2017/18 to 2019/20 as set out in the tables included in paragraph 3.2 of the report.
- 4) To note the allocation of 2016/17 grant funds made under the Scheme of Delegation. This represented the allocation of the balance of resources to the sum of £59,379 following agreement in February 2017 to offer a grant award of £15,000 to Edinburgh Mela Ltd.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 25 October 2016 (item 7); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Booth, Cairns, Doran and Lewis declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of the Edinburgh international Festival Council

8. Hunter's Hall Project

The Committee had previously noted the progress made on the Hunter's Hall Project to develop a cycling hub, synthetic pitches and to upgrade the Jack Kane Sports and Community Education Centre.

An update was provided on the outcome of funding options which had been explored to address the funding gap of £1.7m.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made on the project since 31 May 2016.
- 2) To note that the scope of the project had been reduced in line with available resources, and that the proposed BMX track might now form a later phase of the project.
- 3) To note the cost of the progression of the project to RIBA Stage 4 (Technical Design).
- 4) To refer the report to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval of the cost of the progression of the project to RIBA Stage 4 (Technical Design); at a cost of up to £268,000.
- 5) To approve that Edinburgh Leisure take over the lead role in the project and to request that Council officials work with them to prepare business plans for the new and upgraded facilities.
- 6) To note that Edinburgh Leisure would work with Council officials to develop a funding solution to support the upgrading of the Jack Kane Centre.
- 7) To note that further details of the project governance structure and the procurement proposals would be reported to a future meeting of this Committee and that this report would also detail the approach to further consultation and engagement with stakeholders and community organisations.

8) To refer the report to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee for noting. (References – Culture and Sport Committee of 31 May 2016 (item 10); 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 Vice-Chairman of Edinburgh Leisure.

Councillors Booth, Cairns and Doran declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of Edinburgh Leisure.

9. Kings Theatre Capital Development Project

Details were provided on an overview of the Festival City Theatres Trust's (FCTT) current capital project plans to develop the King's Theatre. An options appraisal commissioned by the Trust had costed the project at £25m.

Decision

- 1) To agree, in principle, to the extension of the King's Theatre lease to the Festival City Theatres Trust (FCTT) for a further 25 years from 2023.
- 2) To agree that a contribution of £5m towards the development project be considered as part of the next review of Council's Capital Investment Programme 2018-23 and that any capital contribution be subject to the achievement of the full project budget of £25m, presentation of a robust business case together with consideration of the Council's future budgetary position and priorities.
- 3) To refer the project to the Finance and Resources Committee for inclusion in the Council's Capital Investment Programme prioritisation process and to include any lease extension agreement process and principles.

(References – Culture and Leisure Committee 26 April 2011 (item 13); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Lewis declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Director of Festival City Theatres Trust.

10. Edinburgh Makar Update and Extension of Term

It was proposed to extend the term of the current Edinburgh Makar, Christine De Luca, until September 2017 whilst live projects were completed and potential candidates to take over from her sought.

Decision

To approve the extension of the current Edinburgh Makar's term of office to September 2017.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee of 27 May 2014 (item 12); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

11. Makar's Court – Proposed Additional Inscriptions

Approval was sought for the addition of two proposed new inscriptions to Makars' Court to commemorate William Soutar, poet and diarist and George Campbell Hay, poet.

Decision

To approve the addition of the proposed new inscriptions to Makars' Court.

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

12. Lauriston Castle Forget Me Not Garden

Details were provided of a proposal to lease the property at Lauriston Castle Gate Lodge to Edinburgh Forget Me Not Garden (FFMNG) for a period of 25 years to enable them to apply for external funding to create a community sensory garden and drop in centre for people with dementia and their carers.

Decision

- 1) To note that legal opinion was being sought for the disposal of the Lauriston Castle Gate Lodge to the Edinburgh Forget Me Not Garden (EFMNG) by way of a 25 year lease.
- 2) To bring a report to a future Committee on the outcome of the legal opinion.

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

13. Service Payment to Edinburgh Leisure 2017-18

Following the decision of the Council to transfer responsibility for developing grant programmes and making grant awards to Executive Committees, details of the service payment to Edinburgh Leisure and other programmes were provided.

Decision

- 1) To note that the adjustment of service payment to Edinburgh Leisure from £8.308M in 2016/17 to £8.075M for 2017/18 was agreed at the Council budget meeting on 9 February 2017.
- 2) To note that a further payment of £0.165M to Edinburgh Leisure towards capital improvement works across the Council's sport and leisure facility estate was agreed at the Council budget meeting on 9 February 2017.
- 3) To request that a future report be provided detailing possible changes to service and funding agreements between the Council and Edinburgh Leisure taking account of the changing environment and emerging opportunities.

(References – Act of Council No 2 of 9 February 2017; 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 Vice-Chairman of Edinburgh Leisure.

Councillors Booth and Cairns declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of Edinburgh Leisure.

14. Citywide Culture Plan Update

An update was provided on the progress and delivery of the Council's Culture Plan.

Decision

To note the progress made to date on the Culture Plan and Council-led Actions delivery.

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

15. Councillor Lewis - Valedictory

As this was the last meeting of the Committee during the current administration, Councillor Lewis paid tribute to members and officers who had supported the work and achievements of the Committee over the last five years.