

Culture and Communities Committee

2.00pm, Tuesday 20 March 2018

Present

Councillors Wilson (Convener), McNeese-Mechan (Vice-Convener), Brown, Ian Campbell, Doran, Graczyk, Howie, Miller, Mitchell, Osler and Staniforth.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Culture and Communities Committee of 30 January 2018 as a correct record.

2. Key Decisions Forward Plan

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

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan.

(Reference – Key Decisions Forward Plan, submitted.)

3. Rolling Actions Log

The Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log was presented.

Decision

- 1) To approve the closure of Items 3, 7 and 10.
- 2) To agree that Action 8 – Ross Bandstand – should remain open as the Outline Business Case was still outstanding.
- 3) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

4. Business Bulletin

The Culture and Communities Committee Business Bulletin was presented.

Decision

To note the information set out in the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Culture and Communities Committee Business Bulletin, submitted)

5. Pilmeny Development – Presentation

Anne Munro, Pilmeny Development Project (PDP) Manager, Claire O'Brien (PDP Youth Development Worker) and Melinda Maiworm (Student, Edinburgh University) provided an overview of the Pilmeny Development Project's intergenerational work with younger and older people in Leith.

Decision

To thank Anne Munro, Claire O'Brien and Melinda Maiworm for their presentation.

6. Culture Service Third Party Grants Funding 2018/19

Details were provided of a cultural revenue grant awards programme for 2018/19. The proposals had been developed to ensure support for the city's Festivals, as well as the year-round programme of cultural activity and infrastructure in line with the Culture Plan, Thundering Hooves 2.0 and the Council's Commitments.

Decision

- 1) To approve the funding recommendations for 2018/19, as listed at Appendix 1 in the report.
- 2) To note that the recommended grants programme reflected the approved 3% budget reduction for 2018/19 as previously agreed by the Council in 2014.
- 3) To note the previously reported approach to the cultural grants budget savings for 2016/17 to 2019/20 as set out in the tables included in paragraph 3.2 of the report.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Ian Campbell declared a non-financial interest in this item as a board member of the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival and the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Councillor McNeese-Mechan declared a non-financial interest in this item as a board member of the Edinburgh International Festival, Edinburgh International Science Festival and Capital Theatres Trust.

Councillor Mitchell declared a non-financial interest in this item as a board member of the Capital Theatres Trust.

Councillor Osler declared a non-financial interest in this item as her husband was involved in the Working Group that worked on the programme.

Councillor Wilson declared a non-financial interest in this item as a board member of the following organisations:

- Centre for Moving Image
- Dance Base
- Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society
- Edinburgh International Festival
- Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival
- Edinburgh International Science Festival
- Queen's Hall
- Scottish Chamber Orchestra
- Scottish Indian Arts Forum

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 21 October 2014 (item 9), 20 October 2015 (item 13), 25 October 2016 (item 7); Culture and Communities Committee 14 November 2017 (item 12); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

7. Festival and Events Programme 2018/19

An update was provided on the recommended core programme of festivals and events for 2018/19. The programme was aligned with the Council's Events Strategy which was approved in May 2016 and was designed to provide a positive mix of new and well established cultural and sporting events which promoted Edinburgh as a vibrant, contemporary, international city.

Decision

- 1) To approve the proposed expenditure contained within the report.
- 2) To note the 2018/19 events calendar listed at Appendix 2 of the report.
- 3) To approve in principle the following allocations from the Events budget:
 - i) £200,000 towards the World Sprint Orienteering Championships in 2022, split equally over financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23.
 - ii) £18,000 towards the British Diving Championships from the 2019/20 financial year.
 - iii) £10,000 towards the Edinburgh International Swim Meet from the 2018/19 financial year.
 - iv) £10,000 towards PROCESSIONS from the 2018/19 financial year.
 - v) £30,000 towards the HSBC UK City Ride from the 2018/19 financial year.
- 4) To note the continued commitment to the following events from the Events budget:
 - i) £15,000 towards Armed Forces Day from the 2018/19 financial year.
 - ii) £10,000 towards the Edinburgh Award.

- 5) To note the awards under delegated powers of sums of £5,000 and under for the following events in financial year 2018/19:
 - i) £5,000 towards the Edinburgh International Culture Summit.
 - ii) £5,000 towards the International Netball Competition.
 - iii) £3,000 towards the European Junior Beach Volleyball Tournament.
 - iv) £4,500 towards the Scottish Short Course Championships.
 - v) £4,500 towards the Scottish Diving Championships.
 - vi) £5,000 towards the Remembrance Day Service.
- 6) To request a report by the Executive Director of Place on the funded Localities Fund projects and Local Festivals and Events in due course.
- 7) To note that a report on funding recommendations for the 2019/20 events programme would be submitted by the Executive Director of Place no later than the January 2019 Committee meeting.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 31 May 2016 (item 8); Culture and Communities Committee 14 November 2017 (item 11); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

8. Museums and Galleries – Alternative Opening Hours

A proposal to extend the opening hours of Edinburgh's museums and galleries was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To approve the extension of the Museums and Galleries opening hours from five days a week to seven days a week, 10.00am – 5.00pm throughout the year from 1 June 2018 for a one year pilot.
- 2) To note that a progress report would be submitted to committee for review after six months of operation.

(References – Culture and Communities Committee 30 January 2018 (item 8); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

9. Tourism and Communities Working Group

Details were provided of a proposal for a Tourism and Communities Working Group to be established to ensure that communities' and residents' considerations were taken into account in the development of Edinburgh's Tourism Strategy.

Decision

- 1) To approve the establishment of a Tourism and Communities Working Group, comprising Elected Members and officers.

- 2) To appoint the membership of the Working Group as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 3) To request regular updates on progress during the tourism strategy development process.
- 4) To refer this report to the Housing and Economy Committee and the Transport and Environment Committee to nominate representatives for the Working Group.
- 5) To amend the proposed membership of the working group to offer invitations to all City Centre members and to ensure cross-party representation.

Declarations of interest

Councillor Staniforth declared a financial interest in this item as he worked in tourism.

(References – Culture and Communities 30 January 2018 (item 1); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

10. West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand Project Update

Proposals to revise the current working agreement between the Council and the Ross Development Trust (RDT) were submitted. It was intended these would allow fundraising, provide greater clarity on future operations, and progress redevelopment, including the replacement Ross Bandstand.

The report recommended that the committee:

- 1) Noted the excellent progress made to date by the RDT in terms of the refurbishment of the fountain and gardener's cottage, as well as completing the design competition for the replacement bandstand.
- 2) Noted that the current development agreement required to be supplemented with a new mechanism to protect the legacy of investment.
- 3) Noted the proposal to form a new Arm's Length External Organisation (ALEO) to take forward the activity outlined in paragraph 3.4 of the report.
- 4) Referred the report to Council on 3 May 2018 for approval to progress the arrangements associated with the creation of an ALEO.
- 5) Noted that, assuming the approval of Council, officers would undertake appropriate due diligence on the proposed ALEO, further work with RDT on the business case, and development of a comprehensive management plan before a detailed report would be presented to Committee for final approval.
- 6) Noted that ownership of the Gardens and the new Pavilion would remain with the Council.

Decision

- 1) To agree that West Princes Street Gardens were a loved and valuable asset held in common good for the public in Edinburgh, and should remain accessible and welcoming to everyone in the city in perpetuity.

- 2) To note the excellent progress made to date by the Ross Development Trust in terms of the refurbishment of the fountain and gardener's cottage, as well as completing the design competition for the replacement bandstand.
- 3) To note that options had been explored with regard to new mechanisms to protect the legacy of investment.
- 4) To note that the business case was under development.
- 5) To note that ownership of the Gardens and the new Pavilion would remain with the Council.
- 6) To note that the business case should be scrutinised alongside the recommendations on the future structure and legacy of West Princes Street Gardens.
- 7) Therefore requests that this report be deferred and brought back with the business case to this committee, with the intention of referring it in full to Council for final sign off.
- 8) To agree that this future report should include the following:
 - i) An exploration of how public access can be maintained or extended.
 - ii) Details of the January 2018 workshops' objectives and analysis of the options considered.
 - iii) Anticipated maintenance requirements of all the renovated assets in West Princes Street Gardens, including costs.
 - iv) The remit of a proposed ALEO (or alternative structure) and why that structure is best suited to meet its objectives.
 - v) An analysis on the taxation position and likelihood that Non-Domestic Rates relief will not apply to a potential ALEO, and the impact on any business case.
 - vi) Clarity on representation on any body created, including the make-up of the board and selection of independent representatives.
 - vii) An update on progress towards a private bill to be brought before the Scottish Parliament to amend the City of Edinburgh District Council Order Confirmation Act 1991, and court consent for any lease of a new bandstand, under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 12 April 2016 (item 8); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

11. Code of Practice on the Use of Volunteers at Festivals and Events – Update Report

An update was provided on progress with the development of a code of best practice on the use of volunteers at events, which was requested by Committee in January 2018.

Decision

- 1) To note the scope of this work.
- 2) To note that a full report on a code of practice for the use of volunteers at Festivals and events would be presented to Committee on 19 June 2018.

(References – Culture and Communities Committee 30 January 2018 (item 12); report by the Executive Director Place, submitted.)

12. The Platforms for Creative Excellence (PLACE) Programme – Design and Outcomes

An update was provided on the Platforms for Creative Excellence (PLACE) co-investment programme, which was agreed in 2017 by the City of Edinburgh Council, Scottish Government and Edinburgh Festivals, and aimed to provide a financial boost to sustain and enhance the positive impacts the festivals brought to Edinburgh and Scotland, and to build the festivals' capacity to continue to widen their engagement with emerging creatives and less engaged communities.

Decision

- 1) To note the detailed three workstreams set out in the report for the Platforms for Creative Excellence (PLACE) programme.
- 2) To note the PLACE programme Outline Evaluation Framework and Programme Management Plan.
- 3) To note that the proposals for this expenditure would be approved by the Culture and Communities Committee. The expenditure and resulting impacts would also be reported during the term of the agreement.

(References – Act of Council No 9 of 24 August 2017 and No 8 of 21 September 2017; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

13. Graffiti Working Group

Details were provided of a proposal to establish an Elected Member and Officer Graffiti Working Group, with recommendations for membership. It was proposed that the group would devise an action plan to reduce the amount of graffiti in the city.

Decision

- 1) To approve the establishment of a joint elected members Graffiti Working Group.
- 2) To appoint the membership of the Working Group as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, subject to the amendment that there would be three, rather than four, Coalition members and three opposition members.
- 3) To request regular updates on progress during the term of the working group.
- 4) To update the Transport and Environment Committee on the establishment and work of this group.

(References – Act of Council No 15 of 21 September 2017; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

14. Service Payment to Edinburgh Leisure – 2018/19

Approval was sought for the service payment to Edinburgh Leisure for 2018/19.

Decision

- 1) To approve the adjustment of service payment to Edinburgh Leisure from £8.075m in 2017/18 to £7.905m for 2018/19.
- 2) To approve a further payment of £0.165m to Edinburgh Leisure towards capital improvement works across the Council's sport and leisure facility estate.
- 3) To request that a future report is provided, that details possible changes to service and funding agreements between the Council and Edinburgh Leisure taking account of the changing environment and emerging opportunities.

Declarations of Interest

Councillors Osler, Staniforth and Wilson declared non-financial interests in this item as board members of Edinburgh Leisure.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 20 March 2017 (item 13); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted.)

15. Makars' Court: Proposed Additional Inscription

Details were provided of a proposed additional inscription at Makars' Court at the Writers' Museum to commemorate the poet W.S. Graham (1918-1986). This was a recommendation of the Makars' Court Committee of the Saltire Society.

Decision

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

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 20 March 2017 (item 11); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

16. Citywide Culture Plan Update 2017/18

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

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made to date on the Culture Plan and Actions delivery.
- 2) To note that a further Culture Plan update report would be presented in March 2019.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 20 March 2017 (item 14); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

17. Museums and Galleries Edinburgh: Collections Development Policy 2018-2022

Details were provided of the Edinburgh Museums and Galleries Collections Development Policy for 2018-2022.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Museums and Galleries Edinburgh: Collections Development Policy 2018-2022.
- 2) To instruct the Executive Director of Place to submit a revised Collections Development Policy for the period 2022-2026 to the first meeting of the Culture and Communities Committee (or its successor) in 2022.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 28 May 2013 (item 8); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

18. Museums and Galleries Edinburgh: Temporary Exhibitions Policy 2018-2022

Details were provided of the Edinburgh Museums and Galleries Temporary Exhibitions Policy for 2018-2022.

Decision

To approve the proposed Museums and Galleries Edinburgh Temporary Exhibitions Policy 2018-2022.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 12 March 2013 (item 7); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

19. Sport – Motion by Councillor Osler

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

“Committee Notes:

- 1) That since the formation of the newly formed Culture and Communities Committee there have been no reports presented to Committee regarding its responsibilities for Sport.

Committee agrees:

- 2) That Sport is a vital component of this Committee’s business that needs to be considered.

Committee therefore resolves:

- 3) To receive a report within two cycles which will:
 - 3.1 explain the Council's current commitments towards sport provision and support within the City, other than provided through schools or Edinburgh Leisure;
 - 3.2 identify the funding provision made by the Council in respect of such commitments;
 - 3.3 provide the information requested under 3.1 and 3.2 above, separately for each of the four localities in our City."

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Osler.