Item 4.1 - Minutes

Finance and Resources Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 24 September 2015 Present

Councillors Rankin (Convener), Bill Cook (Vice-Convener), Corbett, Donaldson (Items 19 to 28), Edie, Godzik, Griffiths, Bill Henderson, Ricky Henderson (Items 1 to 18), Howat, Jackson, McVey, Walker, Whyte and Work (substituting for Councillor Dixon).

1(a) Deputation: Bridgend Inspiring Growth - Bridgend Farmhouse and Steadings: Update

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Will Golding, Anna Danby, Brendan Hill and Sandra MacAskill of Bridgend inspiring Growth (BIG).

The main points raised by the deputation were:

- The transfer of Bridgend Farmhouse and Steadings to BIG at nil cost would assist with their application for £1million of Lottery funding for renovation of the building and the delivery of services.
- This was considered at the Economy Committee in April 2014 where it was agreed to transfer ownership of Bridgend Farmhouse and Steadings at nil cost pending successful application for stage 2 lottery funding.
- The decision to request transfer Bridgend Farmhouse and Steadings to BIG at nil
 cost was a result of 5 years of research, planning and public consultation to ensure
 the best use of funding and longevity of the project. BIG had already obtained
 planning permission for alterations to the building.
- There was recognition of the Council's current financial difficulties from BIG, but BIG was a well developed, well managed project that would bring value to Edinburgh. BIG calculated that their project would create a social return on investment of £6 for every £1 invested.

The Convener thanked the Deputation for their presentation and invited them to remain for the Committee's consideration of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.

1(b) Bridgend Farmhouse and Steadings: Update

Approval was sought to sell Bridgend Farmhouse and Steadings to Bridgend Inspiring Growth (BIG) on the main terms set out in the report. BIG had applied for lottery funding for the redevelopment of Bridgend Farmhouse and Steadings.



- To instruct the transfer of the property to Bridgend Inspiring Growth (BIG) at nil value subject to full development funding being approved by the BIG Lottery Fund

 – Investing in Communities.
- 2) In order to protect the Council's financial commitment, to instruct the Acting Director of Services for Communities to impose Economic Development Burdens on the transfer that restricted the use of the property for the purposes of a Learning, Eating and Exercise Centre and relevant ancillary uses.
- 3) To request that the Chief Executive work with BIG to ensure that optimum social capital could be derived, for the local and wider community, through association with the project and Bridgend Farmhouse.
- 4) To instruct that a report be brought to the Finance and Resources Committee which detailed progress on all aspects of the project including the cost/benefits contributed to the collaboration by July 2016.
 - (References Finance and Resources Committee 7 May 2015, (Item 15); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

2(a) Deputation: Unison - Transformation Programme: Property and Asset Management Strategy, 2016/20 Revenue and Capital Budget Framework, Managing Workforce Change

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Amanda Kerr and Gerry Stovin of Unison.

The main points raised by the deputation were:

- 1) There was widespread confusion and uncertainty amongst staff with no information on the proposed structure of organisation below Head of Service level.
- 2) If the proposed reduction in FTE head count was approved, remaining staff would be under extreme pressure to deliver services.
- 3) The Integrated Property and Facilities Management (iPFM) improvement programme was blocked and did not get the opportunity to make any real savings.

The Convener thanked the Deputation for their presentation and invited them to remain for the Committee's consideration of the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities.

2(b) Transformation Programme: Property and Asset Management Strategy

Details were provided on the business case for property and asset management to maximise value and deliver the proposed £9million recurring annual savings as part of the Transformation Programme. Approval was sought for the recommendations set out in the Deloitte business case detailed in the report.

Motion

- To speed up the consolidation of property related budgets and associated resources into Corporate Property in line with the assumptions underpinning the business case and to strengthen the property management control function by no later than 31 December 2015.
- 2) To continue to incorporate changes to the financial baseline through the change control process and to re-profile the current revenue savings from iPFM to the new Asset Management Strategy (AMS).
- 3) To proceed with the planned investment strategy outlined in Section 4 of the business case, including consolidation of the investment portfolio and reinvesting the sale proceeds into the acquisition of income generating assets.
- 4) To recognise the requirement to remediate the revenue backlog maintenance. The prioritisation of addressing the backlog should be based on a proper risk assessment, which could result in a requirement for additional capital expenditure in maintenance projects.
- 5) To develop a revised Service Level Agreement (SLA) for FM services with estate users that reflects the proposed service delivery model.
- 6) To proceed with all of the Estate Rationalisation opportunities outlined in Section 3 of the business case through engagement with users of the estate. Furthermore, allocate resources to develop detailed implementation plans for these opportunities.
- 7) To allocate resources to reassess the core portfolio of operational assets (including libraries, museums and community centres) ensuring stakeholder engagement and exit planning where appropriate.
- 8) To immediately review the current arrangement of transferring assets to EDI as the preferred option.
- Property function would transfer to Corporate Operations (previously Corporate Governance) and would be led by a Head of Service. Given the ongoing significant financial pressures (currently £9 million per annum and increasing in future years) set out in the report, emergency transitional arrangements would be put in place to support and reorganise the function prior to appointing the permanent Head of Service. There would also be a requirement to agree the reconciliation of the respective budgets within the new Corporate Operations and Place directorates prior to any transfer occurring. All roles within the Council's Corporate Property function would consolidate within Corporate Operations.
- 10) To note that Phase 1 of AMS Transformation Contract with Deloitte had been completed, and agree that the Deputy Chief Executive approved implementation of the Phase 2 of the Transformation Contract in line with the conditions contained therein.
- 11) To explicitly reject the outsourcing of Council services envisaged within Plan A and reaffirm the Capital Coalition's presumption against outsourcing.

- 12) To recognise the need for significant change to property and related services within the Council to establish an affordable and fit-for-purpose estate within three core work-streams:
 - i. Investment portfolio optimisation
 - ii. Estate rationalisation
 - iii. Facilities management (FM) service delivery optimisation
- 13) To note the officer recommendations including the proposal to outsource Council FM services (Plan A), together with the alternative proposal for delivery of facilities management (Plan B).
- 14) To agree the alternative proposal for delivery of facilities management (Plan B).
- To note that a review of the wider property portfolio, including the position of EDI Group Limited ("EDI") was being recommended, and thus called for a report within two cycles on how best to manage the delivery of Plan B utilising the potential benefits of such delivery though a Council subsidiary.
- Moved by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cook.

Amendment

- 1) To approve the recommendations set out in the Deloitte business case as follows:
 - 1.1.1 To speed up the consolidation of property related budgets and associated resources into Corporate Property in line with the assumptions underpinning the business case and to strengthen the property management control function by no later than 31 December 2015.
 - 1.1.2 To continue to incorporate changes to the financial baseline through the change control process and to re-profile the current revenue savings from iPFM to the new Asset Management Strategy (AMS).
 - 1.1.3 To proceed with the planned investment strategy outlined in Section 4 of the business case, including consolidation of the investment portfolio and reinvesting the sale proceeds into the acquisition of income generating assets.
 - 1.1.4 To approve the adoption of the Enterprise Wide Strategic Partner model and to proceed with planning for the procurement of an Enterprise Wide Strategic Partner. This planning should include soft market testing to confirm market appetite, validation of indicative cost savings outlined in the business case and further work to confirm the scope of the Partner arrangement;
 - 1.1.5 To recognise the requirement to remediate the revenue backlog maintenance. The prioritisation of addressing the backlog should be based on a proper risk assessment, which could result in a requirement for additional capital expenditure in maintenance projects.
 - 1.1.6 To develop a revised Service Level Agreement (SLA) for FM services with estate users that reflected the proposed service delivery model.

- 1.1.7 To proceed with all of the Estate Rationalisation opportunities outlined in Section 3 of the business case through engagement with users of the estate. Furthermore, allocate resources to develop detailed implementation plans for these opportunities.
- 1.1.8 To allocate resources to reassess the core portfolio of operational assets (including libraries, museums and community centres) ensuring stakeholder engagement and exit planning where appropriate.
- 1.1.9 To immediately review the current arrangement of transferring assets to EDI as the preferred option.
- 2) To note that the transformation blueprint assumed the Council's Corporate Property function would transfer to Corporate Operations (previously Corporate Governance) and would be led by a Head of Service. Given the ongoing significant financial pressures (currently £9 million per annum and increasing in future years) set out in the report, emergency transitional arrangements would be put in place to support and reorganise the function prior to appointing the permanent Head of Service. There would also be a requirement to agree the reconciliation of the respective budgets within the new Corporate Operations and Place directorates prior to any transfer occurring. All roles within the Council's Corporate Property function would consolidate within Corporate Operations.
- 3) To note that Phase 1 of AMS Transformation Contract with Deloitte had been completed, and agree that the Deputy Chief Executive approved implementation of the Phase 2 of the Transformation Contract in line with the conditions contained therein.
 - Moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Jackson.

Voting

- For the motion 11
- For the amendment 3

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Rankin.

(References – Act of Council (No 3), 25 June 2015; report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

3. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Finance and Resources Committee of 27 August 2015 as a correct record.

4. Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Finance and Resources Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan from 24 September to 29 October 2015 was presented.

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan from 24 September to 29 October 2015.

(Reference – Finance and Resources Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan, 24 September to 29 October 2015, submitted.)

5. Rolling Actions Log

The Finance and Resources Committee Rolling Actions Log for 29 August 2013 to 27 August 2015 was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note that Item 16 on the Rolling Actions Log had been closed.
- 2) To request that the Rolling Actions Log was reviewed to ensure that the actions listed had been carried out by officers.

(Reference - Rolling Actions Log, 29 August 2013 to 27 August 2015, submitted.)

6. 2016/20 Revenue Budget and Capital Framework

Committee considered a report which provided proposals of the budget framework to form the basis of public engagement. The framework was an integrated plan which comprised of savings from both transformation and service prioritisation programmes.

Decision

- 1) To note the contents of the report in the context of considering the Council's revenue and capital budget framework.
- 2) To note that the total value of the officer proposals set out in this report provided the potential for a balanced revenue budget to be set.
- 3) To approve the issuing for public engagement of the proposals listed in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 4) To note the potential additional capital receipts of £7.9 million that might be realised over the period of 2015/20 Capital Investment Programme and the proposal that these be split equally between (i) supplementing planned repairs and maintenance spend through use of the Capital Fund and (ii) providing additional capital investment for priority areas.
- 5) To authorise Executive Directors to take forward detailed planning and development of the savings proposals contained within the budget framework including, where relevant to a savings proposal, planning, development and consultation in accordance with the Council's Organisational Review procedure.
- 6) To note that additional details of the officer proposals to address the savings requirements for the Business and Support Services (BSS) and Citizens and Localities (C&L) workstreams would be brought back to the Committee during the public engagement period.
- 7) To recognise that the budget framework included a number of proposals that were efficiency-related or not otherwise considered material decisions requiring to be the

subject of public engagement and thus refer the report to Council on 22 October to approve the savings set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 27 August 2015 (item 4); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

7. Managing Workforce Change

Committee considered a report on the proposed organisational re-design which was based upon a locality model focussed on the creation of a more lean and agile council.

Decision

- 1) To note that it was intended to enter into further dialogue with the Trade Unions over the next 4 weeks, ensuring that they and their members were fully aware of the Council's financial and strategic outlook and thereafter to bring a further report to the meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on Thursday 29 October 2015 that would:-
 - 1.1.1 provide an update on the further dialogue with the Trade Unions.
 - 1.1.2 provide an update on the targeted approach to staff under the current 'Voluntary Early Release Arrangements (VERA)'.
 - 1.1.3 seek a decision from Committee to allow redundancies on a compulsory basis as a last resort, in line with the procedures set out in the Council's current Redundancy Procedure (2010).

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

8. Property Conservation – Programme Momentum Progress Report

An update was provided on the progress of the property conservation programme momentum.

Decision

- 1) To note the management information dashboard reports in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To note the settlement sums authorised to complainants and other affected owners under delegated authority.
- 3) To note the progress of debt recovery work.
- 4) To note that the pilot of the Edinburgh Shared Repairs Service launched in September 2015.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 27 August 2015 (item 36); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

9. Consultant Costs 2014/15

Committee considered details of the expenditure on consultants during 2014/15.

- 1) To note the revenue and capital expenditure for consultants in financial year 2014/15.
- 2) To note the enhanced control framework implemented by Corporate Leadership Group (CLG), which now required all proposed consultancy appointments where the cost exceeded £25,000 to be approved by CLG.

(References – Act of Council (No 8), 5 February 2015; report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

10. Commercial Excellence Programme – Update and Annual Review of the Council's Commercial and Procurement Strategy

An update was provided on the progress of the Commercial Excellence Programme and the delivery of the Commercial and Procurement Strategy.

Decision

To note the progress on the Commercial Excellence Programme, the priorities for 2015/16 and the proposed approach to develop a revised strategy in 2016.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 30 October 2014 (item 12); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.

11. Common Good Annual Performance 2014-15

Details were provided on the final outturn position for the Common Good Fund and the cash investment performance for 2014/15.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 27 August 2015 (item 11); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

12. The City of Edinburgh Council – Report to those charged with Governance on the 2014/15 Audit - referral report from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 23 September 2015 considered a report on the principal findings that arose from the Council's 2014/15 external audit. The report was referred to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval of the annual audit.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Annual Accounts for 2014/15.
- To refer the report to the City of Edinburgh Council for approval to set aside the £0.162 million increase in the in-year underspend within the Council's Priorities Fund.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, 23 September 2015 (item 6); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

13. The City of Edinburgh Council Charitable Trusts – Report to those charged with Governance on the 2014/15 Audit

An update was provided on the External Auditor's view on matters arsing from their audit in compliance with International Standard on Auditing 260.

- 1) To note the Annual report and Accounts fro 2014/15 and these would be submitted to the External Auditor.
- 2) To note any relevant commentary on the Charitable Trusts had been included in the External Auditor's Annual Report on the 2014/15 Audit which was included in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 3) To approve the Annual Report and Accounts for 2014/15 by 30 September 2015. (Reference report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

14. Provision of External Offsite Revenues and Benefits Processing– Award of Contract

Approval was sought for the award of a framework agreement for the provision of external offsite revenues and benefits processing support.

Decision

To approve the award of a Framework Agreement for the provision of an external offsite revenues and benefits processing service to Civica Ltd, Capita Group Plc and Liberata UK Ltd under a ranked Framework Agreement for a period of two years with the option to extend annually for a further two years. The contract would be utilised on an ad-hoc basis with an estimated value of up to £265,000 per annum.

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

15. Contracts Awarded Under Delegated Authority (Waiver Reports) and Procurement Activity

An update was provided on contracts awarded under delegated authority through the Waiver of Standing Orders, as permitted in Section 9 of the Contract Standing Orders.

Decision

To note the contents of the report and the authorisations made under delegated authority.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 13 May 2015 (item 16); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

16. Zero Hour Contracts – External Contractors

Details were provided on the criteria drafted to allow evaluation of the workforce related conditions in relation to procurement activity for external contractors who use zero hours contracts.

Decision

- To agree that the Commercial and Procurement Team would conclude and report on the pilot procurement exercise(s) with regard to quality evaluation on workforce matters.
- To agree that the Council adopted a policy statement in all future tender documentation stating the Council's position concerning the use of zero hour contracts.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 3 February 2015 (item 12); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

17. Review of events in relation to ownership of Parliament House in 2005/6 – referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 18 June 2015 considered a report which set out the sequence of events surrounding the acquisition of the legal title to Parliament House by the Scottish Government, despite it apparently being an asset of the Edinburgh Common Good Fund. The report was referred to the Finance and Resources Committee to consider any further legal action.

Decision

To continue consideration of the report pending legal advice.

(Reference - report by the Chief Internal Auditor, submitted.)

18. Health and Social Care Integration - Update

Committee considered an update on the integration of Council Social Care functions with NHS Lothian health functions.

Decision

- 1) To note the outputs from the Corporate Programme Office (CPO) Programme 'Health Check' and Internal Audit review.
- 2) To note the high level management actions to address the recommendations in the assurance reports
- 3) To note the dependencies with Council transformation projects.

Declaration of Interest

Councillors Ricky Henderson and Paul Edie declared financial interests as a non-Executive Director of NHS Lothian and as Chair of the Care Inspectorate, respectively. (References – Finance and Resources Committee, 27 August 2015 (item 9); report by the Chief Social Work Officer, submitted.)

19. Health and Social Care 2015/16 Revenue Budget – Action Plan Update

Details were provided on the projected month 4 revenue monitoring position for Health and Social Care and the progress of the budget action plan which aimed to achieve a balanced budget by the year end.

Decision

- 1) To note the 2015/16 budget position for Health and Social Care as set out in the report, which showed a reduction in the projected overspend from £1.4 million at month three to £1.0 million at month 4, after mitigation actions.
- 2) To note the updated Health and Social Care Action Plan, detailed at Appendix 1 of the report, describing actions taken and in hand.
- To note that the Budget Action Plan sat within a wider strategic work/transformation programme in Health and Social Care intended to underpin financial sustainability going forward.
- 4) To agree to refer the report to the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee for information.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Paul Edie declared a financial interest as Chair of the Care Inspectorate.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 27 August 2015 (item 10); report by the Chief Social Work Officer, submitted.)

20. Review of Tenant Participation Services Procurement Options - referral from the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee

The Health, Social Care and Housing Committee on 8 September 2015 considered a report which set out proposals for the future provision of tenant participation related services. The report was referred to the Finance and Resources Committee to note the approach to commissioning and agree an extension of the service level agreements with ETF and NA for a period of up to 12 months.

Decision

- 1) To note the approach to commissioning and agree that the ETF and NA service level agreements were extended for a period of up to 12 months, from 1 April 2016, to allow this process to be completed.
- 2) To note that all procurement options would be explored to achieve best value in the delivery of tenant participation services, including the potential for a single provider to deliver these services and a report detailing these options would be brought back to the Finance and Resources Committee in January 2016.

(References – Health, Social Care and Housing Committee, 21 April 2015 (item 8); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

21. Mental Health and Wellbeing Consultation Feedback and Proposed Commissioning Plan 2016-2017 - referral from the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee

The Health, Social Care and Housing Committee on 8 September 2015 considered a report from the Chief Social Work Officer that presented feedback from the Mental Health and Well being Consultation. The report described how the consultation exercise would influence a collaborative approach to commissioning mental health and wellbeing services in conjunction with NHS Lothian and other key stakeholders. The report was referred to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval of the extension of contracts for mental health and wellbeing services to 30 September 2016.

Decision

To continue consideration of the report to a future meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee.

22. Community Transport – Development of a Public Social Partnership

Committee approval was sought to develop a Public Social Partnership to provide community and accessible transport from the Third Sector. Details were also provided on the development of a framework for this provision.

Decision

- To approve the development of a Public Social Partnership with Community Transport providers for the provision of accessible transport on behalf of the Council.
- 2) To note the intention to bring back a further report seeking approval to formally enter into a Public Social Partnership.

(Reference – report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted).

23. Construction Professional Services Framework Agreement – Award of Contract

Approval was sought to award a multi-lot framework of 9 lots for construction professional services to support Council in delivering its construction, maintenance and repair programmes.

Decision

- To approve the award of Lot 1 Project Management Services to Doig and Smith Ltd, Sweett (UK) Ltd and Thomas and Adamson Ltd at an estimated contract value of £1,000,000 per annum.
- 2) To approve the award of Lot 2 Building Surveying Services to Faithful and Gould, Hardies and Summers Inman at an estimated contract value of £1,000,000 per annum.

- 3) To approve the award of Lot 3 Quantity Surveying Services to Doig & Smith Ltd, Gardiner & Theobald Ltd and Sweett (UK) Ltd at an estimated contract value of £1,000,000 per annum.
- 4) To approve the award of Lot 4 Architectural Services to Anderson Bell Christie Ltd, Collective Architecture and Holmes Miller Ltd at an estimated contract value of £1,000,000 per annum.
- 5) To approve the award of Lot 5 Structural Engineering Services to Aecom Ltd, David Narro Associates and Will Rudd Davidson Ltd at an estimated contract value of £1,250,000 per annum.
- 6) To approve the award of Lot 6 Mechanical & Electrical Engineering Services to Blackwood Partnership Ltd, Cundall Johnston and RSP Consulting at an estimated contract value of £750,000 per annum.
- 7) To approve the award of Lot 7 Fire Engineering Services to Aecom Ltd and Ramboll Ltd at an estimated contract value of £300,000 per annum.
- 8) To approve the award of Lot 8 Interior Design, Space Planning and Move Management Services to Holmes Miller Ltd, Smith Scott Mullan Architects Ltd and Space Solutions Ltd at an estimated contract value of £300,000 per annum.
- 9) To approve the award of Lot 9 Multi-Discipline Design Team Services to AHR Architects, Capita Property and Infrastructure Ltd and Gardiner & Theobald at an estimated contract value of £1,500,000 per annum.
- 10)To note the contract values above was reflective of historical spend on these services over the previous three financial years, and that the scope of works might fluctuate subject to budget allocation and funding approvals.
- 11)To note that the Framework Agreement was a collaborative arrangement to be used predominantly by Corporate Property and Housing Asset Management. The Finance and Resources Committee 24 September 2015 Page 3 Framework Agreements were also available to other Council Departments and may be utilised by West Lothian Council, Midlothian Council and Council's Arms Length Organisations.

(Reference – report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted).

24. Receipt and Processing of Recyclable Materials form Kerbside and Communal Collections

Committee considered a report which sought approval to award the contract for the receipt and processing of dry recyclable materials from kerbside and communal recycling collections following a competitive tendering process.

Decision

To approve the appointment of William Tracey Group as contractor for the Receipt and Processing of Dry Recyclable Materials from Kerbside and Communal Collections for a period of three years with the option to extend by two x 12 month periods.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee, 27 August 2013 (item 20); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

25. Supply and Delivery of Kerbside Recycling Refuse Collection Vehicles

Approval was sought to award a contract for the supply and delivery of 10 refuse collection vehicles for a period of six years with an overall value of £1.57million.

Decision

- 1) To approve the appointment of Dennis Eagle Limited and FAUN Zoeller (UK) Ltd. to supply and deliver refuse collection vehicles (RCVs).
- 2) The breakdown of the Contract award was listed below:
 - 26 Tonne RCV Chassis Dennis Eagle Limited
 - 26 Tonne RCV Body Dennis Eagle Limited
 - 26 Tonne RCV Bin Lift FAUN Zoeller (UK) Ltd
 - 18 Tonne RCV Chassis Dennis Eagle Limited
 - 18 Tonne RCV Body Dennis Eagle Limited
 - 18 Tonne RCV Bin Lift FAUN Zoeller (UK) Ltd

(Reference – report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

26. Liberton High School Extension – Award of Contract

Committee were asked to approve the award of the contract for the construction of the extension to Liberton High School sports hall to Ashwood Scotland Limited following a competitive process.

Decision

To approve the award of the contract for the construction of the extension to Liberton High School sports hall to Ashwood Scotland Limited for the contract sum of £2,157,068.58.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee, 30 September 2014 (item 6); report by the Executive Director of Communities and Families, submitted.)

27. Resolution to consider in private

The Committee, under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

28. Review of events in relation to Ownership of Parliament House in 2005/6

A verbal update was provided on the review of events in relation to the ownership of Parliament House in 2005/6 item by the Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance.

Decision

To continue consideration of the item pending legal advice.

(Reference – verbal update by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

29. Property Conservation – Irrecoverable Sum, Debt Recovery and Settlements

An update was provided on irrecoverable sums approved under delegated authority and the current provision for impairment and settlements.

Decision

- 1) To note the settlement sums authorised to complainants and other affected owners under delegated authority in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To note the provision for Impairments and Settlements in Appendix 2 of the report.
- 3) To note the analysis of costs incurred to date in Appendix 3 of the report and note that a detailed project cost report would be submitted to the October 2015 Finance and Resources Committee.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee, 27 August 2015 (item 45); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

30. Miscellaneous Debts – Write Off

Committee approval was sought to write off outstanding miscellaneous debt which was deemed uncollectable.

Decision

- 1) To agree the write-off of miscellaneous debt of £122,395.08.
- 2) To note the position on the use of registered inhibitions as part of the debt recovery process.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee, 9 June 2015 (item 14); report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)