

# Finance and Resources Committee

3.00pm, Tuesday, 4 December 2018

## Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress update

Item number	7.1
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	
Council Commitments	

### Executive Summary

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The Council Business Plan (A Programme for the Capital: The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-22) was approved by the Council in August 2017. The plan has been built around 52 commitments the Council Administration have pledged to deliver over the next five years. This report sets out the progress against the three coalition commitments where Finance and Resources Committee has responsibility.

## Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress update

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 It is recommended that Finance and Resources Committee:
  - 1.1.1 note the progress against three coalition commitments; and
  - 1.1.2 note that the coalition commitments form part of the wider Council Performance Framework, which includes corporate performance indicators covering corporate performance and council service delivery.

### 2. Background

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- 2.1 The Council Business Plan (A Programme for the Capital: The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-22) was approved at City of Edinburgh Council in August 2017. The plan sets out the administration's priorities and what will be achieved over the five-year period.
- 2.2 Given the importance of holding ourselves to account on delivery of commitments, a Performance Framework has been developed to support their implementation. The framework was approved by City of Edinburgh Council on 23 November 2017 and referred to Corporate Policy & Strategy Committee for further scrutiny.
- 2.3 As described in the Performance Framework report, Executive Committees will scrutinise performance relevant to their remit on a six-monthly basis.
- 2.3 A refined set of all commitment measures and actions was presented to Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee on 27 February 2018. These were agreed, on the understanding that a final set of indicators would be submitted to the relevant Executive Committees for scrutiny and approval.
- 2.4 Finance and Resources Committee considered the final set of commitments actions and measures on 12 June 2018.

### 3. Main report

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- 3.1 Since the Business Plan was agreed in August 2017, work has begun to ensure that plans are in place to deliver on the commitments, a number of which are longer term and are planned to be delivered over the course of the administration.

- 3.2 The first 6 monthly progress update will be presented to the relevant Executive Committees in December 2018 and January 2019.
- 3.3 Finance and Resources Committee has responsibility for three commitments:
- Commitment 47 - Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.
  - Commitment 49 - Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.
  - Commitment 50 - Continue a policy of no compulsory redundancies and keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision.
- 3.4 Appendix 1 of this report provides a detailed update on the 6 monthly progress against delivery of these three commitments. All commitments are 'on track' with relevant actions and measures in place to monitor progress.

#### **4. Measures of success**

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- 4.1 A suite of performance measures and actions has been developed to assess progress towards commitments. The monitoring of commitment progress forms part of the Council's performance framework.

#### **5. Financial impact**

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- 5.1 The financial impact is set out within the individual commitments and the Council Business Plan.

#### **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact is integrated within the commitments and the Council Business Plan.

#### **7. Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 Equalities impact is integrated within the commitments and the Council Business Plan.

#### **8. Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 Sustainability impact is integrated within the commitments and the Council Business Plan.

## 9. Consultation and engagement

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- 9.1 The commitments actions and measures have been developed and updated in collaboration with Elected Members, Senior and Service Managers.

## 10. Background reading/external references

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- 10.1 [Programme for the Capital: City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-22](#)
- 10.2 [Implementing in Programme for the Capital – Council Performance Framework 2017-22](#)
- 10.3 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Council Performance Framework 2017-22 – referral from City of Edinburgh Council](#)
- 10.4 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments](#), Finance and Resources Committee 12 June 2018

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### **Stephen S. Moir**

Executive Director of Resources

## 11. Appendices

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1. Coalition Commitments progress update to December 2018



# *Coalition Commitments Progress Update December 2018*

The Council Business Plan (A Programme for the Capital: The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-22) was approved by the Council in August 2017. The plan has been built around 52 commitments the Council Administration have pledged to deliver over the next five years. The commitments have been made to ensure that we continue to provide services to a high standard and quality, while still responding to the wider environment in which we operate.

The commitments are structured around six themes:

- **Delivering an economy for all** – local jobs, growth, and affordable housing
- **Building for a future Edinburgh** – a planning system that works to protect and develop our city
- **Delivering a sustainable future** – a better environment and transport system that works for all
- **Delivering for our children and families** – improving lives and futures
- **Delivering a healthier city for all ages** – strong and vibrant communities
- **Delivering a Council that works for all** – more empowered, transparent, and improved public services

Council Performance Framework describes the reporting approach with commitments measures progress update presented to Executive Committees every six months and to Council and Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee annually. This report provides Finance and Resources Committee members with progress update to December 2018.

Three commitments out of 52 are within Finance and Resources Committee remit and these are 'on track'.

## Commitments – Finance and Resources Committee

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**Convener:**  
**Councillor Alasdair Rankin**



**Vice-Convener:**  
**Councillor Marion Donaldson**

The Finance and Resources Committee is responsible for: Council's revenue and capital budgets, Council's expenditure and budget policy, Council's Treasury Management policies and practices, Council's long term financial plan, Procurement and contracts, Council debt and debt recovery, Common Good Fund, Human Resources, ICT, Disposal and development of Council owned property and land transactions, All charitable and other trust funds vested by Council

Lead Committee for:

- C47. Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.
- C49. Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.
- C50. Continue a policy of no compulsory redundancies and keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision.

## Commitment 47

***Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.***

Commitment Status

**On track**

### Summary

The Council has agreed the definition of the discretionary budget and allocated the target £7.2m of its expenditure by means of participatory budgeting annually by 2020/21. In 2017/18 five projects, total funding of £0.232m has been allocated, equating to 0.03% of the Council's service revenue budget. Additionally, and as part of the ongoing development process, 38 PB Champions have been trained, comprising Council, Police Scotland, third sector staff and community members. This was funded from a grant from the Scottish Government's Community Choices Fund.

Key actions	Achievements	Status
Agree definition of discretionary budget	The Council will adopt the national definition of the proportion of its budget that should be allocated according to PB principles.	Delivered
Allocate annual participatory budget	Work is underway to identify the elements of expenditure that could contribute towards the target of £7.2m by 2021.	Ongoing
Participatory budgeting set within budget process	The Council will mainstream PB in all appropriate areas of its expenditure by 2021.	Ongoing

Key measures	Current data	Target	Achievements
% of annual discretionary budget allocated through participatory budgeting	0.03%	1%	£0.232m has been allocated to five projects and these were 1. £eith Decides - allocation of Community Grants Fund 2. South Central Neighbourhood Partnership – Neighbourhood Environment Programme 3. Your Choice: Youth Projects (Activity Agreements), led by Economic Development service 4. Local Employability Initiative (including Scottish Government match funding), led by Economic Development service 5. Choose Youth Work, led by Communities and Families service

## Commitment 49

*Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.*

Commitment Status

**On track**

### Summary

The approved budget for 2018/19 included a 3% increase in Council Tax to maximise the level of investment available to support delivery of the Council's priority outcomes. At this stage, the budget framework assumes further annual increases of 3% for the period from 2019/20 to 2022/23 inclusive. The on-going appropriateness of this assumption will be considered as part of the cycle of regular review of the main income and expenditure assumptions contained within the Council's medium-term financial plan.

Key actions	Achievements		Status
Council Tax is set annually. The annual City of Edinburgh Council Budget meeting is the milestone for confirming the Council Tax for the following financial year. This meeting is usually in February.	The <a href="#">approved Council budget for 2018/19</a> included a 3% increase in Council Tax across all bands.		Delivered

  

Key measures	Current Data	Target	Achievements
% Council Tax increase approved by Council	3%	up to 3% a year to 2021	A 3% increase of Council Tax <a href="#">is assumed each year</a> from 2019/20 to 2022/23.



## Commitment 50

*Continue a policy of no compulsory redundancies and keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision.*

Commitment Status

**On track**

### Summary

The Council commitment of no compulsory redundancy remains in place with the current administration.

Key actions and measures	Achievements	Status
Continue the provision of voluntary severance arrangements and redeployment support to mitigate the need for compulsory redundancies	To help achieve business efficiencies and savings the Council continues to offer voluntary severance arrangements and redeployment support.	Delivered
Directorates to keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision	Policy continued and presumption in favour of in-house service provision kept.	Delivered