

Planning Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 1 October 2015

Present

Councillors Perry (Convener), Dixon (Vice-Convener), Bagshaw, Balfour, Blacklock, Child, Howat, Keil, McVey, Milligan, Mowat, Ritchie, Rose (substituting for Councillor Heslop), and Robson.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee of 6 August 2015 as a correct record.

2. Guidance on Replacement Windows in Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas

Committee was provided with an update to guidance on replacement windows in listed buildings and conservation areas.

Motion

- 1) To note the report and agree to maintain the guidance on Replacement Windows in Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas in its present form.
- 2) To instruct the Acting Head of Planning and Building Standards to write annually to conveyancing agents, surveyors and window replacement firms reminding them of the guidance for replacement window in listed buildings and conservation areas, and to request them to advise customers/clients of the requirements of the guidance.
- 3) To note that a breakdown of enforcement action taken regarding non-confirming windows over the last month would be circulated to committee members.

- Moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Blacklock

Amendment

To continue the matter until such time as the Committee had considered the requested information on enforcement actions taken over the last month regarding non-confirming windows.

- Moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Balfour

Voting

For the motion – 11

For the amendment – 3

Decision

- 1) To note the report and agree to maintain the guidance on Replacement Windows in Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas in its present form.
- 2) To instruct the Acting Head of Planning and Building Standards to write annual to conveyancing agents, surveyors and window replacement firms reminding them of the guidance for replacement window in listed buildings and conservation areas, and to request them to advise customers/clients of the requirements of the guidance.
- 3) To note that a breakdown of enforcement action taken regarding non-confirming windows over the last month would be circulated to committee members.

Declarations of Interest

Councillors Perry and McVey declared non-financial interests in the above item as Chair and Director respectively of Changeworks.

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

3. Development Management Procedures for Major Applications

Details were provided of proposals to review current arrangements for informing the Development Management Sub-Committee of the issues involved in determining major planning applications.

Decision

To agree to hold a workshop to explore options for how the Development Management Sub-Committee is informed of the issues involved in determining major planning applications and to consider any measures for improvement.

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

4. Historic Environment Edinburgh

Details were provided of a reorganisation in national arrangements for heritage management and associated changes in procedures. From 1 October 2015, Historic Environment Scotland (HES) would assume the duties of Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland. The report detailed the statutory implications of the change and proposed that the Council seek to enter a joint working arrangement with HES to restrict the number of applications on which detailed comments would be provided.

Decision

- 1) To note the changes outlined in the report.
- 2) To agree that the Council should seek to enter a joint working arrangement with Historic Environment Scotland to restrict the number of applications on which detailed comments would be provided.

(Reference – Planning Committee 8 August 2013 (item 13): report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

5. Placemaking

The Scottish Government had identified the creation of good places as a key strand of planning policy.

Details were provided of the measures being taken by Planning and Building Standards to develop and deliver a Placemaking Agenda for the Council.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To agree that a committee workshop on Design be organised for members.
- 3) To request a further report be brought to committee containing detail on:-
 - (i) Where placemaking exercises were likely to be implemented in relation to major developments, and
 - (ii) how use of the new assessment tool would impact on areas of development and likely resource implications.

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

6. Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Update

The Committee considered an update on world heritage issues in the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site (WHS).

Decision

1. To note the report in the context of understanding the means of protecting the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site (the Site) through the planning system and the impact of development on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).
2. To agree that a workshop be arranged between the Council, World Heritage Trust, and Historic Environment Scotland to discuss the review of the Management Plan.
3. Information on the number of World Heritage Sites (WHS) that were in existence when Edinburgh was granted WHS status, details of the number of WHS that are considered to be in the at the risk category, and details of decisions to remove WHS status to be circulated to members prior to the workshop.

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

7. Housing Affordability and Supply in Edinburgh – referral from the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee

The Health, Social Care and Housing Committee, at its meeting on 8 September 2015, had considered a report which provided an analysis of the rising housing costs in Edinburgh, along with trends in income levels and the supply of new homes in the City. The report was referred to the Planning Committee for consideration.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Health, Social Care and Housing Committee, 8 September 2015 (item 11); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

8. Edinburgh Street Design Guidance – referral from the Transport and Environment Committee

The Transport and Environment Committee, at its meeting on 25 August 2015, had considered guidance on Edinburgh Street Design, updated following consultation. The guidance would inform the Council's overall approach to street design, including design principles for different types of street. The report had been referred to the Planning Committee for consideration and approval of matters within its remit.

Decision

To note the report and approve those matters within the remit of the Planning Committee.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee, 18 March 2014 (item 9); Transport and Environment Committee, 25 August 2015 (item 18); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)