

Planning Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 3 December 2015

Present

Councillors Perry (Convener), Dixon (Vice-Convener), Bagshaw, Balfour, Blacklock, Cairns, Child, Heslop, Keil, McVey, Mowat, Ritchie, and Robson.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee of 1 October 2015 as a correct record.

2. Housing Land Audit 2015

Details were given of Edinburgh's completed 2015 Housing Land Audit, used as a monitoring tool to assess the performance of Strategic Development Plan housing land policies and targets.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To agree to refer it to the SESPlan Joint Committee with the invitation to adopt the two-part reporting format for a future consolidated regionwide Audit.
- 3) To agree to refer the report to the Health, Social Care and Housing, and Economy Committees for consideration.
- 4) To agree to forward the report as a background paper to the evidence to be submitted to the review of the Scottish Planning System.

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

3. Developer Contributions and Affordable Housing Guidance – finalised version

Committee had previously approved draft guidance on Developer Contributions and Affordable Housing for consultation purposes. Following public engagement, the document had been revised and Committee was asked to approve the finalised version of the guidance for use in determining planning applications.

Decision

To approve the finalised Guidance on Developer Contributions and Affordable Housing for use in determining planning applications.

(References – Planning Committee 6 August 2015 (item 3); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

4. Supplementary Guidance: Bruntsfield/Morningside and Leith Town Centres- drafts for consultation

Committee was asked to approve draft Supplementary Guidance for Bruntsfield/Morningside Town Centre and Leith Town Centre for consultation. Once finalised and adopted, the guidance would be used to determine planning applications for the change of use of shop units to non-shop uses and help deliver the wider placemaking agenda.

Decision

- 1) To approve the draft Supplementary Guidance for Bruntsfield/Morningside Town Centre for consultation.
- 2) To approve the draft Supplementary Guidance for Leith Town Centre for consultation.

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

5. Policies – Assurance Statement

To ensure that Council policies remain current and relevant, all directorates were required to review their policies on an annual basis. Details were given of the policies and guidance currently in place which were subject to approval by the Planning Committee.

Decision

To note that the Council policies detailed in the report had been reviewed and were considered current, relevant and fit for purpose.

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

6. Planning and Building Standards Customer Engagement Strategy and Service Charter

Approval was sought for the Planning and Building Standards Customer Engagement Strategy and Service Charter, which set out how the Planning and Building Standards Service would communicate and consult with customers, and the level of service that it would provide. The documents had been revised following consultation.

Decision

To approve both the Customer Engagement Strategy and the Customer Service Charter.

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

7. Planning Enforcement Charter – Statutory Review

The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 requires that local authorities review their planning enforcement charters every two years. Approval was sought for Edinburgh's revised Planning Enforcement Charter.

Decision

To approve the revised Planning Enforcement Charter.

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

8. Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Monitoring Report

Committee was advised of the results of the sixth Monitoring Report for the Edinburgh World Heritage Site aligned with the priorities set out in the 2011 – 2016 Management and Action Plans.

Decision

To note the report.

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

9. Leith Conservation Area Character Appraisal Final Version

Following a period of engagement with local community groups and individuals, the Leith Conservation Area Character Appraisal had been revised. Committee was asked to approve the finalised version.

Decision

To approve the final version of the Leith Conservation Area Character Appraisal and the proposed amendment to the boundary line of the Conservation Area.

(References – Planning Committee 15 June 2015 (item 10); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

10. Inverleith Conservation Area Character Appraisal Final Version

Following a period of engagement with local community groups and individuals, the Inverleith Conservation Area Character Appraisal had been revised to reflect changing circumstances and community concerns. Committee was asked to approve the finalised version.

Decision

To approve the final version of the Inverleith Conservation Area Character Appraisal and the proposed amendments to the boundary line of the Conservation Area.

(References – Planning Committee 26 February 2015 (item 8); report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

11. Scottish Government – Review of Planning System

The Scottish Government had recently set up a panel to consider evidence from stakeholders to inform a review of the planning system. Committee approval was sought for the Council's written submission, and for the Convener of the Planning Committee to provide oral evidence if appropriate.

Decision

- 1) To approve the appendix to the report by the Acting Director of Services for Communities as the Council's written evidence in relation to the Scottish Government Review of Planning.
- 2) To agree that the Convener of the Planning Committee provides oral evidence on behalf of the Council in relation to any hearing sessions, if appropriate.

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

12. Corporate Performance Framework: Performance to September 2015

Details were given of Planning and Building Standards performance against strategic outcomes and targets. The report also set out the Scottish Government response to the Council's Planning Performance Framework report for 2014 -15, as well as an overview of performance to September 2015.

Decision

- 1) To note the performance for the period to September 2015.
- 2) To note the Planning Performance Framework feedback from the Scottish Government.
- 3) To note that a verbal update would be provided to each Planning Committee on performance.

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

13. Appointments to Outside Bodies: Edinburgh World Heritage

Working with the Council and Historic Environment Scotland, Edinburgh World Heritage, a charitable trust, supported and promoted the Old and New Towns World Heritage Site. The Council had two director places on the Board, both of which were currently vacant, and Committee was asked to appoint a member to the Board until 2017.

Decision

To appoint Councillors Mowat and Robson.

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