

Planning Committee

10.00 am, Thursday, 25 February 2016

Present

Councillors Perry (Convener), Dixon (Vice-Convener), Bagshaw, Balfour, Blacklock, Cairns, Child, Gardner (substitute for Councillor Milligan), Howat, Keil, Lunn (substitute for Councillor Ritchie), McVey, Mowat, and Robson.

1. Minutes

Decision

- 1) To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee of 3 December 2015 as a correct record.
- 2) To note the verbal update on performance.
- 3) To note that information on enforcement targets and performance would be circulated to members.

2. Edinburgh Planning Guidance Student Housing- Finalised Guidance

Committee had, in August 2015, approved a draft revised guideline on student housing for consultation purposes.

Prior to consideration of the matter it was agreed that a vote be taken on a proposal to continue the item until the next meeting without discussion.

Motion

To continue the item until the next meeting of the Planning Committee to allow further consideration of the responses received.

- Moved by Councillor Dixon, seconded by Councillor Howat

Amendment

To consider the report at this meeting

- Moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Mowat

Voting

For the motion – 5

For the amendment – 9

Decision 1

To consider the report at this meeting

Details were provided of the comments received during the consultation period that had been taken into account when preparing the finalised revised non-statutory guidance.

Decision 2

- 1) To note the findings of the consultation on the Draft Revised Student Housing Planning Guidance and approves the Finalised Student Housing Planning Guidance, subject to an additional reference that there would no sub-division of sites in order to circumvent the policy.
- 2) To agree to receive a review report in one year's time.

(References – Planning Committee 4 December 2014 (item 4); Planning Committee 6 August 2015 (item 4); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

3. Annual Review of Guidance

Committee was advised of changes in planning guidance in 2015 and those intended for the coming year. Approval was also sought for minor updates to certain guidelines.

Decision

- 1) To note progress in consolidating and updating guidance for users of the planning service.
- 2) To approve the updates to guidelines specified in appendix 2 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To agree the priorities for work in 2016.
- 4) The Executive Director of Place to submit a report on the inclusion of play when reviewing guidance.
- 5) The Executive Director of Place to submit a report on control of satellite dishes and fibre/cabling on walls outwith Conservation Areas after discussions with the Scottish Government on the possibility of introducing Article 4 directions in these areas.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

4. Development Management Procedures for Major Applications

Following a workshop held for members in November 2015, Committee considered proposed changes to the procedures for determining major applications.

Motion

To approve the changes in procedures for determining major planning applications as described in paragraph 3.3 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, with the

addition that the Convener have discretion to vary the speaking timescales for principal stakeholders if required.

- Moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dixon

Amendment

To approve the changes in procedures for determining major planning applications as described in paragraph 3.3 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, subject to deletion of point 7 concerning the revised time allocation for Community Councils and presentation order for ward Councillors.

- Moved by Councillor Bagshaw, seconded by Councillor Balfour

Voting

For the motion – 11

For the amendment – 3

Decision

To approve the changes in procedures for determining major planning applications as described in paragraph 3.3 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, with the addition that the Convener have discretion to vary speaking timescales for principal stakeholders if required.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

5. SESPlan: Governance Review and 2016/17 Operating Budget

Committee was asked to support amendments to SESPlan's governance framework and refer them to Council for ratification. Approval was also sought for SESPlan's 2016/17 operating budget, and the payment of £46550 as the City of Edinburgh Council's contribution.

Decision

- 1) To agree to support the proposed changes to SESPlan's governance framework and refer them to Council for ratification.
- 2) To ratify SESplan's 2016/17 operating budget and approve payment of £46550 as the Council's contribution.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

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

An update was given on world heritage site issues in the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh, together with information regarding the roles and responsibilities of the various organisations involved in preserving the World Heritage Site.

Decision

- 1) To note the content of this report in the context of the hierarchy of roles and responsibilities of the parties involved in the management and protection of the World Heritage Site.
- 2) To note that a further report on the Management Plan would be brought to Committee in Summer 2016.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

7. Edinburgh Urban Design Panel: Sixth Progress Report

A summary of the findings from the annual review of the Edinburgh Urban Design Panel's work was presented.

Decision

- 1) To agree the recommendations from the annual review of the Edinburgh Urban Design Panel.
- 2) To record Committee's appreciation of the voluntary contribution made by existing Panel members to the design review process.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

8. Grants to Third Sector Organisations 2016/17

Approval was sought for the award of grants to Edinburgh World Heritage and the Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust. The Committee was also requested to note the allocation of small grants to a number of organisations.

Decision

- 1) To approve a grant of £46,300 to Edinburgh World Heritage and £25,800 to Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust.
- 2) To note the grant awards to the National Trust for Scotland, the Scottish Civic Trust, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland (AHSS), the Access Panel and Archaeology Scotland.
- 3) To implement the savings previously agreed under the BOLD programme for the period 2015/16 to 2017/18.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

Declarations of Interest

Councillors Dixon and Perry declared a non-financial interest in the foregoing item as Directors of Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT).

9. Scottish Government – Draft Planning Delivery Advice

The Convener ruled that the following item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, should be considered as a matter of urgency in order that the Council could submit its response to the Scottish Government within the allocated consultation period which ended on 31 March 2016.

The Scottish Government had produced draft planning advice on housing and infrastructure delivery for consultation. Committee was asked to approve a response on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council as Planning authority. Once finalised, this would replace the current advice on housing land audits and provide new advice on infrastructure delivery.

Decision

To approve the response set out at appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place as the Council's response to the Scottish Government draft planning delivery advice on housing and infrastructure.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)