

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00 am, Friday, 23 November 2012

Present

Councillors Hinds (Convener), Orr (Vice-Convener), Aldridge, Bagshaw, Booth, Brock, Doran, Gardner, Bill Henderson, Heslop (substituting for Councillor McInnes), Jackson, Alex Lunn, McVey (substituting for Councillor Barrie), Mowat and Munro (substituting for Councillor Perry).

1. Transport and Environment Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Transport and Environment Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan for November 2012 to February 2013 was presented.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for November 2012 to February 2013.

(Reference – Transport and Environment Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan November 2012 to February 2013, submitted.)

2. Transport and Environment Committee Business Bulletin – 23 November 2012

The Transport and Environment Committee Business Bulletin for 23 November 2012 was presented.

The Committee received presentations on Summer Blitz, the summer streetscape improvement programme, and the Eco-Schools programme, an international initiative managed in Scotland by Keep Scotland Beautiful.

Decision

- 1) To note the Business Bulletin and the presentations.

- 2) To invite all members of the Committee to the next Eco-Schools event.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee Business Bulletin 23 November 2012; [Summer Blitz Action Programme presentation](#); and [Eco-Schools presentation](#), submitted.)

3. Transport and Environment Committee Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee Work Programme

Approval was sought for the Transport and Environment Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee Work Programme.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee Work Programme and refer it to the Sub-Committee for detailed consideration.
- 2) To refer the work programme to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee.

(Reference – Transport and Environment Committee Policy Development and Review Work Programme, submitted.)

4. Road and Footway Investment – Capital Programme for 2013/2014

The Road and Footway Capital Investment Programme for 2013/14, including street lighting investment, was detailed. Allocations of funding across five different work-streams were proposed. Clarification was sought on the resource allocations for works at Leith Walk and Constitution Street.

Decision

- 1) To approve the allocation of the capital budget for 2013/14.
- 2) To approve the programme of proposed works for 2013/14 as detailed in the report by the Director of Services for Communities.
- 3) To clarify the resource allocations for works at Leith Walk and Constitution Street by replacing paragraph 2.8 of the Director’s report with:

“2.8 A contribution of £0.5M is being allocated from the roads capital programme in 2012/13. It is proposed to allocate a further £0.35M from the roads capital programme in 2013/14. This allocation forms part of the overall £5.5m estimated schemes cost. It is not an additional contribution.”
- 4) To include in the programme a supplementary programme of city centre footway repairs following on from tram works.

- 5) To set up a working group comprising one member from each party group and chaired by Councillor Bill Henderson to examine the revenue and capital points system of allocations to Neighbourhood Partnership areas.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 29 November 2011 (item 21); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

5. Progress on Priority Parking – Various Areas, Edinburgh

An update was given on the progress of investigations into the introduction of priority parking schemes in various areas around Edinburgh. Recommendations were made based on the result of the investigations.

Decision

- 1) To note the contents of the report.
- 2) To approve the scaling back of the proposed Blackford/Nether Liberton Priority Parking scheme to areas where there was a need for controls and where there was community support for them.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 2 August 2011 (item 21); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

6. Pedestrian Crossing Prioritisation – Construction List

An update was provided on the results of consultation carried out on locations proposed for pedestrian crossing improvements. Proposed dates for construction, together with cost estimates, were also detailed.

Decision

- 1) To approve the construction programme for locations as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report by the Director of Services for Communities subject to noting that Lindsay Road was within the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership area and to approve this crossing subject to the outcome of consultation with stakeholders.
- 2) To approve the removal of Hillhouse Road from the construction list due to the lack of community support for the scheme.
- 3) To include in a future report a review of the prioritisation of existing traffic lights without a pedestrian crossing sequence and associated funding implications.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 18 June 2012 (item 8); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

7. Traffic Issues in Northumberland Street – Motion by Councillor Mowat

In response to a motion by Councillor Mowat, consideration had been given to safety measures which might be taken to improve road safety in Northumberland Street.

Decision

- 1) To note the collision history, the average speed and the traffic volume on Northumberland Street.
- 2) To note that a traffic island had been recommended at the Northumberland Street/Howe Street junction.
- 3) To note that the issues residents had on Northumberland Street were similar to many streets in the New Town and as such should be considered at a local level through the Neighbourhood Partnership.
- 4) To discharge the motion from Councillor Mowat.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 18 June 2012 (item 3.8); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

8. Speeding Traffic on Braid Road – Notice of Motion by Councillor McInnes

In response to a motion by Councillor McInnes, work and investigations carried out on Braid Road to improve road safety and reduce vehicle speeds were detailed. Plans to introduce mobile Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) signs as part of a rolling programme of sites in the city were also detailed.

Decision

- 1) To discharge Councillor McInnes' motion from 18 June 2012.
- 2) To note that a pair of mobile VAS signs would be put in place on Braid Road as part of a rolling programme of sites throughout the city.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 18 June 2012 (item 3.2); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

9. Network Route Utilisation Strategy (RUS) Alternative Solutions – Network Rail Consultation

Approval was sought for the Council's response to Network Rail's consultation on its Network Route Utilisation Strategy (RUS) Alternative Solutions. The consultation would close on 28 November 2012.

Decision

To approve the response to the Network Route Utilisation Strategy (RUS) Alternative Solutions at Appendix 1 to the report by the Director of Services for Communities.

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

10. Borders Railway – Transfer of Authorised Undertaker Role from Scottish Ministers to Network Rail

An update was provided on the Borders Railway project. Responsibility for the project's delivery had transferred recently from Scottish Ministers to Network Rail and a Minute of Agreement had been signed between Scottish Ministers and the City of Edinburgh, Midlothian and Scottish Borders Councils in relation to its implementation.

Decision

- 1) To note that the role of Authorised Undertaker for the project had recently transferred from Scottish Ministers to Network Rail.
- 2) To note that an amended and restated Minute of Agreement (MoA) between Scottish Ministers and the three Councils in relation to the implementation of the project had been signed.
- 3) To note that the amended and restated MoA did not impose any significant additional obligations on the Council and that the Council's total financial contribution to the project remained unchanged.

(References – Act of Council No 14 of 20 November 2008; report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

11. Winter Weather Preparations

Preparations and arrangements to deal with any severe winter weather event had arisen from a comprehensive review of winter weather preparedness following the severe winters of 2009/10 and 2010/11. A summary was given of the key measures which had been put in place for this winter.

Decision

- 1) To note and endorse the action taken as detailed in the report by the Director of Services for Communities.
- 2) To approve the changes to the categorisation of Roads Priorities as set out in paragraph 2.4 of the Director's report.

- 3) To extend priority 1 pavement routes set out in paragraph 2.6 of the Director's report and to keep the list of priority 1 pavement routes under review with a view to expanding them should this prove necessary.

(References – Policy and Strategy Committee 8 November 2011 (item 4); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

12. Modernisation of Refuse Collection – Progress Report

A further update was provided on the impact of the implementation of changes to waste collection and the actions being taken to address outstanding issues.

Decision

- 1) To endorse the actions being taken to address the outstanding issues with refuse collection.
- 2) To thank the public and apologise for issues which had arisen with the refuse collection service.
- 3) To thank Pippa Milne and her staff for dealing with complaints from the public.
- 4) To thank members of the Committee for the constructive discussion on this issue.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 11 October 2012 (item 5); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

13. Seafield Waste Water Treatment Works – Monitoring of Scottish Water Odour Improvement Plan

The outcome of the Odour Monitoring and Assessment Programme carried out during the period 1 June 2011 to 31 August 2012 was reported, together with the key findings of the Seafield Odour Public Consultation Report which had been carried out on behalf of the Council between 9 July and 10 August 2012. An update was also given on initial discussions with Scottish Water to identify solutions and further measures to reduce odour emissions from Seafield Waste Water Treatment Works.

Decision

- 1) To note that the construction works undertaken by Scottish Water as part of the Seafield Odour Improvement Plan had improved odour emissions from the Treatment Works, but data collection during the monitoring programme and the outcome of consultations had established that the frequency and unpleasant nature of the odour emissions continued to be offensive to the local community and interfered with local people's enjoyment of the amenities within the community.

- 2) To make representations to Scottish Water to undertake an independent emissions inventory of the Treatment Works to assist in identifying further odour reduction measures and to deal with foreseeable non-routine events; subsequently, to develop an incremental plan, in accordance with the Code of Practice, including appropriate investment requirements to address these measures.
- 3) To note that a number of significant odour emissions had been due to foreseeable events and demonstrated inadequate operational management controls; and to request Scottish Water to advise the Council of the measures which would be taken to address operational management, risk planning and staff training relating to the future operation of the Treatment Works.
- 4) To indicate to Scottish Water that operation of the storm tanks was a significant source of odour release that required further action to address the problem.
- 5) To approve the continuation of the odour monitoring programme.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 13 September 2012 (item 8); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

14 Transport and Environment Performance Report – June/July and August/September 2012

Performance management information for Services for Communities for June to July and August to September 2012 was given.

Decision

To note Services for Communities performance for the periods June to July and August to September 2012.

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

15 Cleanliness of the City

The outcome of the Cleanliness Index Monitoring System (CIMS) assessment of Edinburgh's streets, which had been undertaken by Keep Scotland Beautiful in September 2012, was detailed.

Decision

- 1) To note the content of the report.

- 2) To agree to receive a further progress report within two cycles once work around the zero-based budget had been completed setting out the measures that were being taken to ensure that all wards met the CIMS national cleanliness target.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 13 September 2012 (item 4); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

16. Air Quality Progress Report 2012

An update was provided on the outcomes of monitoring and assessment of local air quality in Edinburgh during 2011 as required by the Environment Act 1995, the UK National Air Quality Strategy and Scottish Air Quality Regulations.

Reference was made to an unavoidable delay in completing the city-wide assessment for PM₁₀ due to technical issues with monitoring instrumentation; this had implications for the Council's Interim Planning Guidance (IPG) Use of Biomass up to 50MW (e) in Edinburgh.

Decision

- 1) To note the positive trends in improving air quality in the city, but that further actions were required in order that Air Quality Standards were achieved by the due date of 2015.
- 2) To note and endorse the actions and initiatives being undertaken to improve air quality in Appendix 1 to the report by the Director of Services for Communities.
- 3) To note that, based on monitoring in 2010 and 2011, the current Air Quality Management Areas must be extended by legal Order to include the locations indicated in paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 of the Director's report.
- 4) To note that the city-wide Air Quality Action Plan would be reviewed and updated and that local Air Quality Action Plans should be developed to improve air quality in the Air Quality Management Areas outwith the city centre.
- 5) To recommend to Planning Committee that the current Interim Planning Guidance on biomass installations be continued until the Detailed Assessment of PM₁₀ was completed and reported and that this detailed assessment of PM₁₀ be carried out and reported back to this Committee after summer 2013.
- 6) To agree to receive a report on the options around low emission zones (LEZ) in the city in up to two cycles.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 29 November 2011 (item 12); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

17. Services for Communities Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012-2013 – Month 5 Position

Details were provided of the month 5 revenue monitoring position for Services for Communities. At this stage a balanced position on both the general fund and the Housing Revenue account was forecasted for the year end.

Decision

To note the content of the report.

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

18. Objections to Arboretum/Kinnear Priority Parking Area – Traffic Regulation Order

Information was given on objections received during the public consultation period on the introduction of a priority parking area in the Arboretum/Kinnear area.

Decision

To repel the five objections and proceed to make the Traffic Regulation Order for Priority Parking in the Arboretum/Kinnear area as advertised.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 23 November 2010 (item 37); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

19. Prohibition of Turning, Mayfield Road/West Mains Road

Information was given on an objection received to a Variation Order to the Traffic Regulation Order governing the George IV Bridge to Kings Buildings Quality Bike Corridor.

Decision

To repel the objection and give approval to make Variation Order TRO/12/29 to the Traffic Regulation Order governing the Quality Bike Corridor as advertised.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 29 November 2011 (item 32); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

20. Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Myreside Court

Approval was sought to withdraw the proposed Traffic Regulation Order to introduce waiting and loading restrictions at Myreside Court as disabled access was no longer required at this location.

Decision

To withdraw the proposed waiting restrictions from the Traffic Regulation Order.

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

21. Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Buckstone Loan East

Information was given on objections received during the public consultation period on the introduction of waiting restrictions at Buckstone Loan East. As a result of the objections, the extent of the proposed restrictions had been reduced.

Decision

To set aside the objections and make the amended Order taking into account the revised hours of operation.

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

22. Proposed Waiting Restrictions – New Mart Road

Information was given on objections received during the public consultation period on the introduction waiting restrictions at New Mart Road.

Decision

To set aside the objections and make the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

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

23. Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Craiglockhart Terrace and The Wickets

Information was given on objections received during the public consultation period on the introduction waiting restrictions at Craiglockhart Terrace and the Wickets. Approval was sought to withdraw the proposed waiting restrictions from the Traffic Regulation Order.

Decision

To withdraw the proposed waiting restrictions from the TRO.

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

24. Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Oxgangs Avenue

Information was given on objections received during the public consultation period on the introduction waiting restrictions in Oxgangs Avenue.

Decision

To set aside the objections and make the Order as advertised.

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

25. Inaugural Fields in Trust Awards

Decision

To approve the attendance of Councillor Orr at the Inaugural Fields in Trust Awards 2012 in London on 29 November 2012.

(Reference – report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)