



Transport and Environment Committee

10:00 am, Tuesday, 27 August 2013

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Transport and Environment Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contacts
<p data-bbox="172 389 416 465">Convener Cllr Lesley Hinds</p>  <p data-bbox="172 875 395 952">Vice- Convener Cllr Jim Orr</p> 	<ul data-bbox="595 376 983 1702" style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Robert Aldridge• Cllr Nigel Bagshaw• Cllr Gavin Barrie• Cllr Chas Booth• Councillor Deidre Brock• Cllr Karen Doran• Cllr Nick Gardner• Cllr Bill Henderson• Cllr Allan Jackson• Cllr Karen Keil• Cllr Mark McInnes• Cllr Joanna Mowat• Cllr Ian Perry• Cllr Andrew Burns (ex officio)• Cllr Steve Cardownie (ex officio)	<p data-bbox="1080 376 1350 443">Louise Wood ☎ 0131 469 5583</p> <p data-bbox="1080 483 1350 551">Marie Craig ☎ 0131 529 7739</p>

Recent news

Scottish Government Consultation: The Legislative Framework Governing Allotments

On 15 April 2013 the Scottish Government sought consultation responses to proposals to change the legislative framework governing allotments. This arose from feedback received from the earlier consultation on the Community Empowerment and renewal Bill.

The consultation exercise ran until 24 May 2013, seeking specific feedback on how allotments should be legally defined, what current duties and powers should be changed, whether the provision of an allotment should be time-bound, whether provision should reflect local authority population numbers, and should there be a requirement for a food growing strategic plan at local authority level.

Because the period of consultation did not allow for a report for Committee consideration the views of the Convenor and Vice Convenor of the Transport & Environment Committee were elicited, and formed the basis of the Council's response to the Scottish Government.

The consultation paper can be found at:
www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/04/5940/0

The City of Edinburgh Council response to the consultation can be found at:

<http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/10861/response-to-scottish-government-consultation-on-legislation-governing-allotments>

Background

The principal legislation governing allotments is the Allotments (Scotland) Act 1892 as amended by the Land Settlement (Scotland) Act 1919 and the Allotment (Scotland) Acts of 1922 and 1950. These collectively place a duty on Local Authorities to provide land for allotments and powers to purchase or lease suitable land to enable them to provide sufficient allotments to service demand. They also have powers to manage allotments effectively and promote and improve well-being.

The City of Edinburgh currently manages 1387 allotment plots across 24 allotment sites. The plot waiting list presently numbers 2756. Four new allotment sites have been created over the first three years of the current Allotment Strategy, and a further one should be completed at Kirkliston by August 2013.

Scottish Government Litter Strategy Consultations

The Scottish Government is consulting on two strategies aimed at tackling the problems caused by litter on land and at sea.

“Towards a Litter Free Scotland” is a national strategy aimed at creating cleaner, safer communities through a package of measures which seek to challenge people who litter and fly-tip, support those who already dispose of their waste responsibly and encourage more recycling. The consultation outlines support for practitioners and stakeholders through to 2020, with a focus on influencing individuals to take more responsibility. Actions are set out under three strategic directions:

- Information: communication, education and support for business
- Infrastructure: providing/servicing bins, product design, guidance and future funding
- Enforcement: improving the effectiveness of legislation and training

The Scottish Government has also produced a draft Marine Litter Strategy which aims to address the levels of litter present in Scotland’s marine and coastal environment

The closing date for both consultations is 27th September 2013 and work is underway to prepare a response. Elected Members wishing to contribute can send their comments to julie.fahey@edinburgh.gov.uk (tel: 529 7153). The response will be reported to the October meeting of the Transport and Environment Executive Committee.

The National Litter Strategy can be found at:

[Towards a Litter-Free Scotland: Consultation on a strategy to tackle and prevent litter and flytipping](#)

The Marine Litter Strategy can be found at:

[Draft Scottish Marine Litter Strategy Consultation](#)

Play Strategy

"The Play Area Action Plan was approved in June 2012 and sets out a 5 year plan for raising the standard of the City's play areas. Completed actions in 2012-13 are listed below.

Upgraded play areas were installed at:

- St Margaret's Park (Corstorphine)
- Admiralty Street (Leith)
- Craigievar Square (Craigmount)
- Marytree House (Craigour) (WREN co-funded)
- Straiton Place (Portobello).

A brand new play area was installed at Gracemount, funded through the 21st Century Homes project. A new ball court was installed at Rosefield Park, co funded by Waste, Recycling and Environment (WREN) a funding partner specialising in the distribution of landfill tax. The former play area at Brown Street was removed after consultation with the South Neighbourhood.

The project list for 2013-14 has yet to be finalised.

Forthcoming activities:

The Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee will meet on 23 September 2013. Papers for this meeting will be available online from 17 September 2013.

The next meeting of the Transport and Environment Committee will be at 10 am on 29 October 2013 in the Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh. Papers for this meeting will be available online from 23 October 2013.