

Council Questions and Answers

City of Edinburgh Council

10.00 am Thursday, 6th February, 2020

Main Council Chamber - City Chambers

Questions and Answers

Contacts

Email: gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tel: 0131 529 4239

Laurence Rockey

Head of Strategy and Communications

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Annex

Item no 5.1

QUESTION NO 1

By Councillor Miller for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question (1) Could the Convener please identify which demographics, communities, or groups of residents are most likely to be negatively affected by ungritted footways and cycle ways, and advise how the city's gritting strategy addresses these inequalities?

Answer (1) The Council's gritting strategy is designed to ensure that residents are not negatively affected during periods of inclement weather. Strategic carriageways and footway networks are prioritised along with public transport routes and areas near schools, care homes and hospitals.

Officers are currently reviewing maintenance plans for the off road cycle network to ensure that active travel routes are also sustained effectively.

Question (2) Could the Convener provide information to quantify the proportion of footways and cycle ways which are gritted, within areas currently classified as 1st and 2nd decile in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation?

Answer (2) This information will take some time to collate. However, I have asked officers to produce this information and provide it as a members' briefing as soon as possible.

Question (3) Could the Convener provide a list of any footways and cycle ways on the quiet routes network which are not gritted?

Answer (3) This information is not readily available. However, I have asked officers to produce this information and provide it as a members' briefing as soon as possible.

Item no 5.2

QUESTION NO 2

By Councillor Miller for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question

Could the Convener please provide a map of the area of works around Picardy Place and Leith Street, with outlines of the previous layout and new layout, and an overlay which highlights in distinct shading or colouring which areas require redetermination for use as:

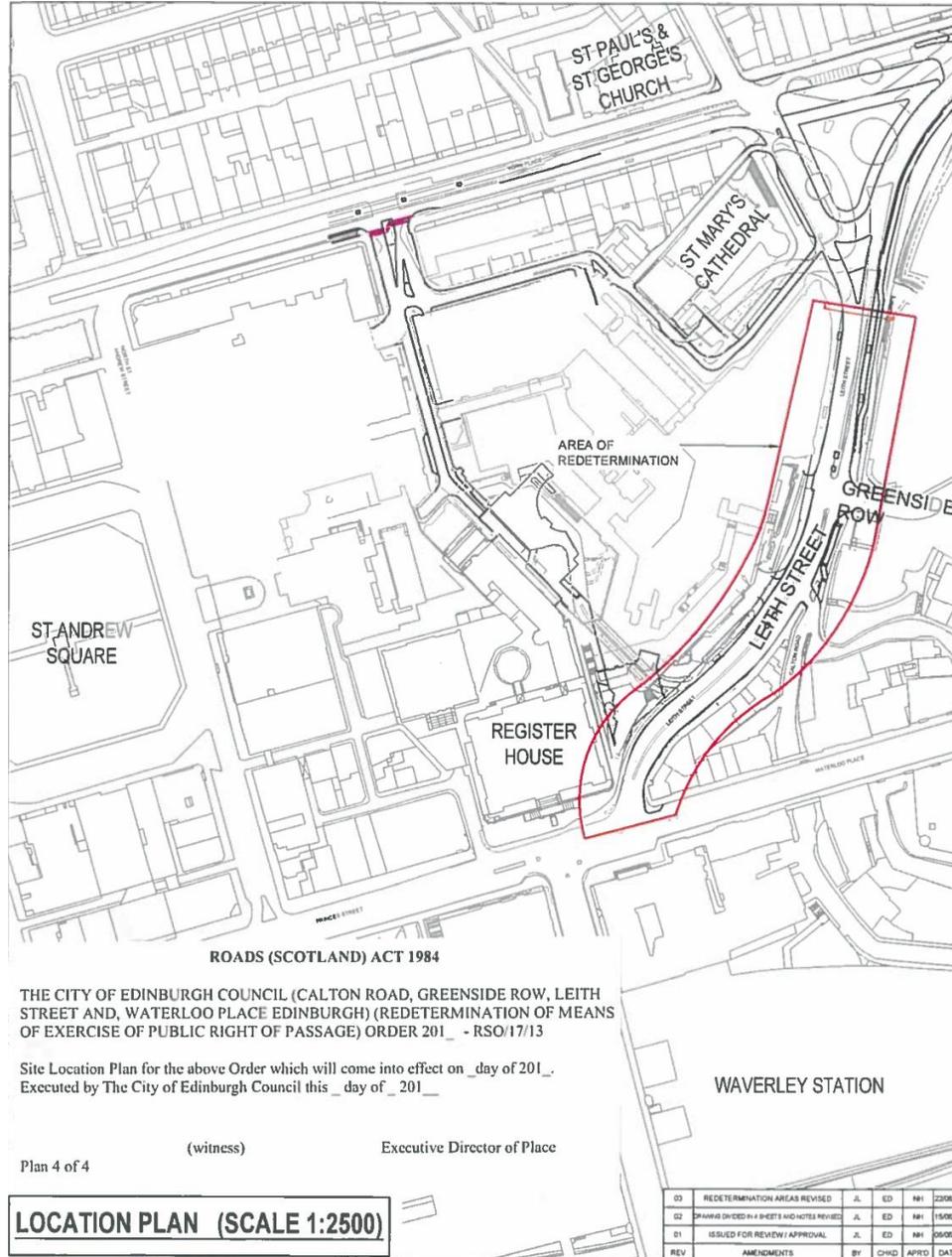
- a) footway
- b) shared space
- c) cycle path
- d) vehicular traffic lane?

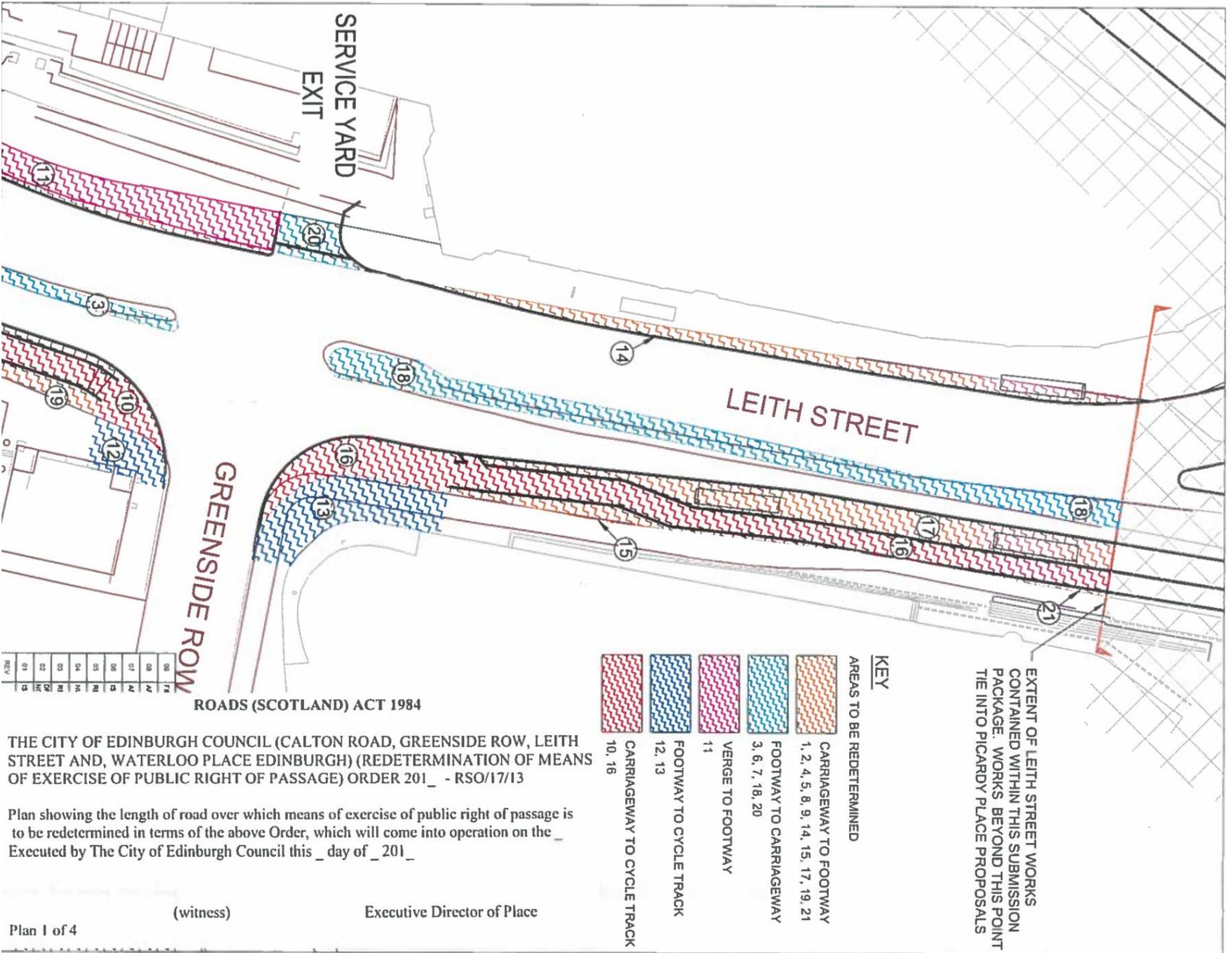
Answer

The marked plans for both Leith Street and Picardy Place are attached. These redetermination orders were advertised from 21 November to 19 December 2017 and 26 November to 17 December 2018 respectively and the objections were reported to Transport and Environment Committee.

**Leith Street Redesign
RSO/17/13**

The following drawings show the extent of the redesignation of roads, footways and cycleways.





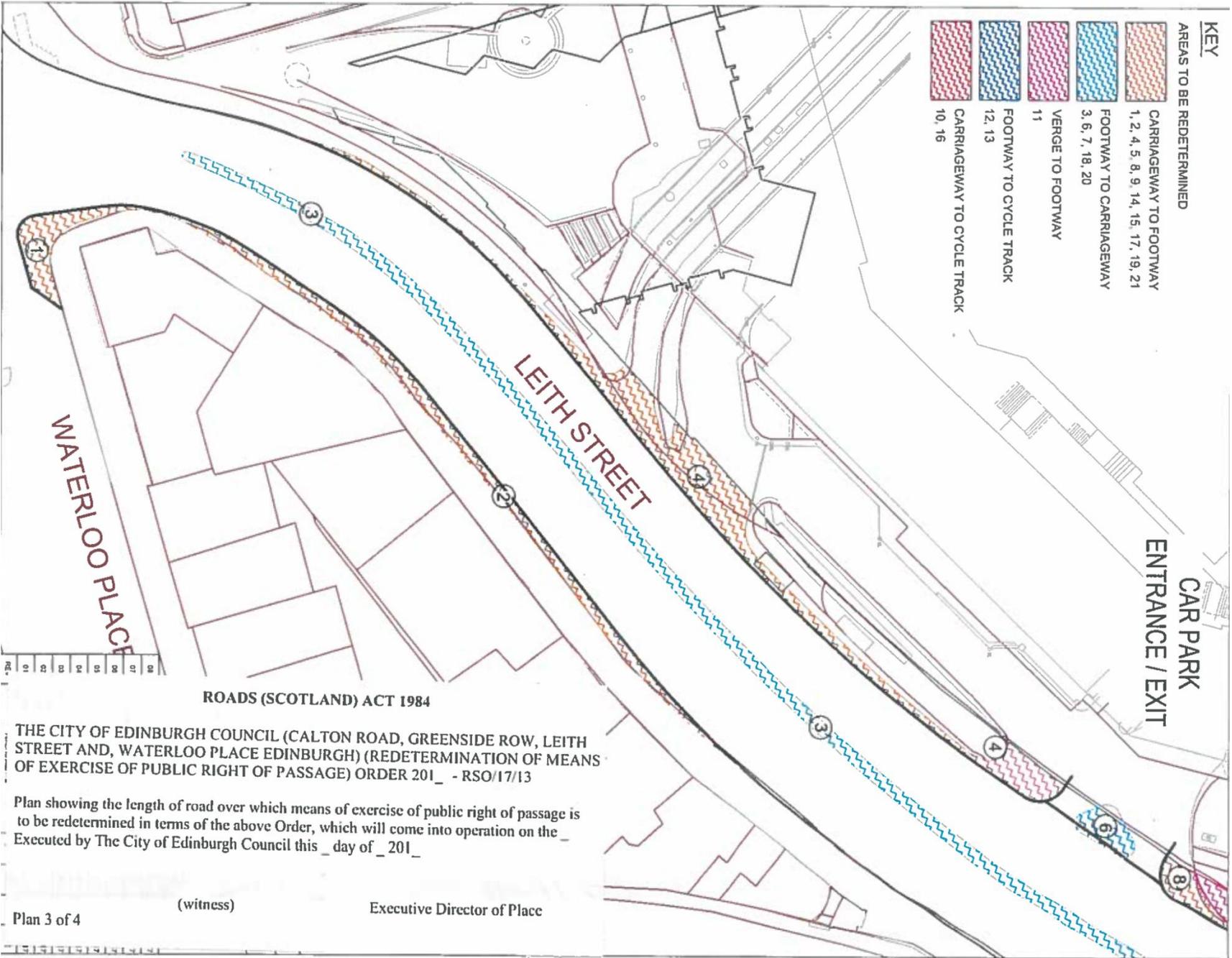
ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL (CALTON ROAD, GREENSIDE ROW, LEITH STREET AND, WATERLOO PLACE EDINBURGH) (REDETERMINATION OF MEANS OF EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF PASSAGE) ORDER 201_ - RSO/17/13

Plan showing the length of road over which means of exercise of public right of passage is to be redetermined in terms of the above Order, which will come into operation on the _ day of _ 201_ Executed by The City of Edinburgh Council this _ day of _ 201_

(witness) Executive Director of Place

Plan 1 of 4



KEY
AREAS TO BE REDETERMINED

- CARRIAGEWAY TO FOOTWAY
1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21
- FOOTWAY TO CARRIAGEWAY
3, 6, 7, 18, 20
- VERGE TO FOOTWAY
11
- FOOTWAY TO CYCLE TRACK
12, 13
- CARRIAGEWAY TO CYCLE TRACK
10, 16

ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL (CALTON ROAD, GREENSIDE ROW, LEITH STREET AND, WATERLOO PLACE EDINBURGH) (REDETERMINATION OF MEANS OF EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF PASSAGE) ORDER 201_ - RSO/17/13

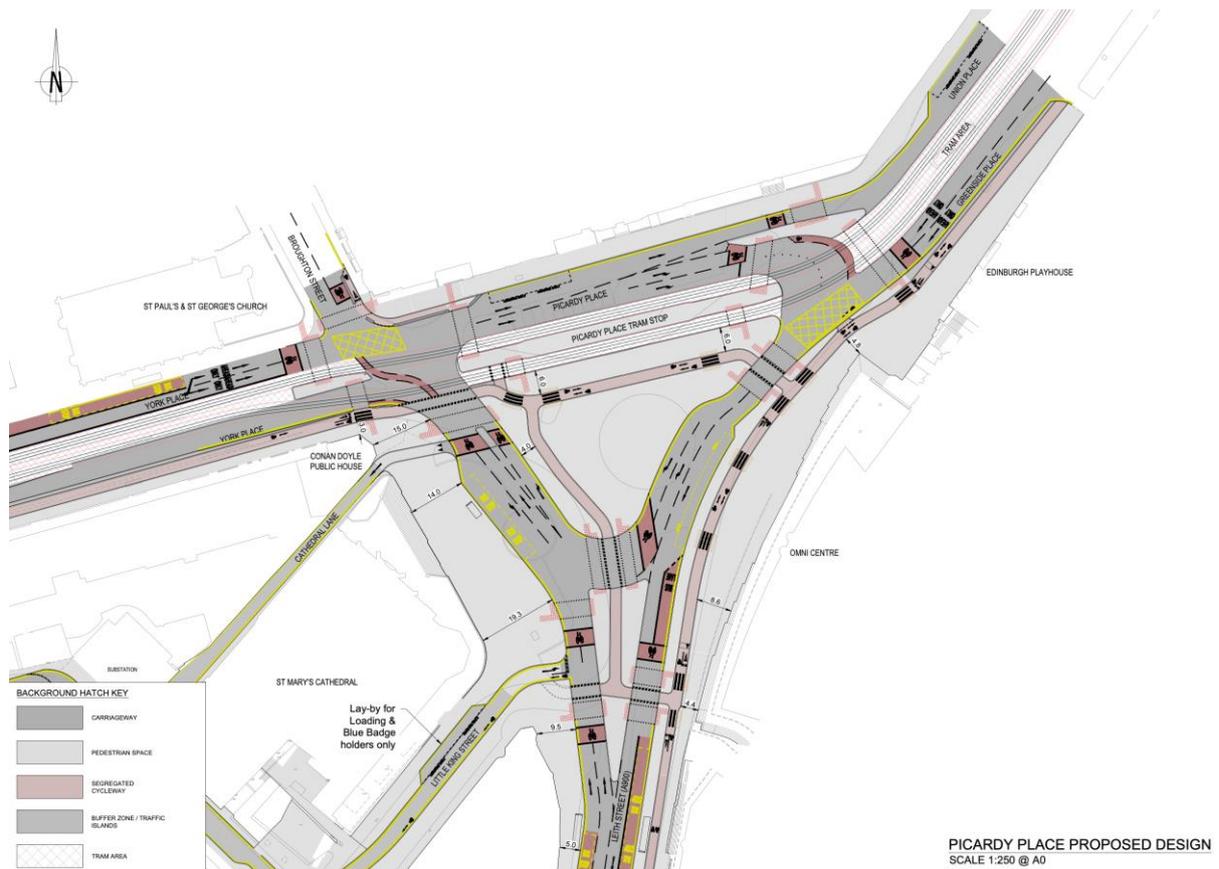
Plan showing the length of road over which means of exercise of public right of passage is to be redetermined in terms of the above Order, which will come into operation on the _ day of _ 201_ Executed by The City of Edinburgh Council this _ day of _ 201_

Plan 3 of 4 (witness) Executive Director of Place

Picardy Place – Design General Layout

The drawing below demonstrates the preliminary layout of the new carriageways and footways overlaid on the previous junction. The design concept endorsed by the T&E Committee on the 25 January 2018 and the detailed design published on 17 April 2018 was implemented under the 'Tram Powers'.

Consequently, no SRO drawings were prepared as was necessary for Leith Street.



Item no 5.3

QUESTION NO 3

By Councillor Barrie for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Original Edinburgh - Old Town Business Improvement District Ballot.

Question (1) How many votes did the Council have in the ballot process?

Answer (1) The Council had 17 votes in the ballot.

Question (2) Who decided how the Council voted and what process took place to identify who would decide?

Answer (2) The Council's decision on how to vote was made by the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Convener and Vice Convener of Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work, the Convener and Vice Convener of Finance and Resources and the local ward Councillors.

Question (3) How did the Council vote?

Answer (3) The Council voted in favour of the Old Town Business Improvement District.

Item no 5.4

QUESTION NO 4

By Councillor Corbett for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question

In January Audit Scotland issued a report on City Region / Growth Deals in Scotland which highlighted weaknesses in measuring success in such deals. Given the £1.33 billion package agreed for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Deal, is the leader confident that the investment programme and the aims of the Deal represent the best fit for the long-term social, economic and environmental needs of the city region?

Answer

Yes and the City Deal Joint Committee is overseeing the delivery of the investment secured to maximise the benefits for the City region. I welcome the Audit Scotland report which clearly highlighted the positive effect that City Region Deals are having including the strengthened relationships between councils, government, business, the third sector, colleges and universities.

Audit Scotland's report provides an early assessment of City Region and Growth Deals in Scotland, rather than the performance of individual Deals. Audit Scotland's review scoping was undertaken in December 2018 and the interviews that informed their report took place in January 2019. This was early in the Edinburgh City Region Deal as only two meetings of the Joint Committee had taken place at the time of Audit Scotland's review and there was therefore no recommendations specific to our Deal. Audit Scotland's report does, however, note that *"The Edinburgh and South East Scotland deal is the only signed deal to formally involve charities and voluntary organisations"* and that *"In Edinburgh and South East Scotland, the region's higher and further education institutions, as a consortium, are a dedicated partner and signatory to the deal. They played a central role in developing the deal and will lead on the Data Driven Innovation projects."*

A report will be brought to Governance and Best Value Committee in March 2020 detailing the findings of the Audit

Scotland report and how these are being addressed within our Deal.

Deal partners are working closely with the Scottish and UK Governments to finalise the monitoring and evaluation framework for the Deal, which will be considered for approval by the Joint Committee. This framework will set targets and measure outcomes across all the Deal projects and themes - capturing the economic, inclusive and environmental impacts of the Deal.

Item no 5.5

QUESTION NO 5

**By Councillor Hutchison for answer
by the Convener of the Education,
Children and Families Committee at a
meeting of the Council on 6 February
2020**

The Royal High School Parent Council have raised urgent and serious concerns about the increasing pupil numbers at the Royal High School. This is having an increasingly negative effect on the pupils' health, safety, and education.

In numerical terms;

- the current notional capacity of the school is 1200
- the current School roll is 1268
- the roll for next year will be 1340
- based on current known populations in the feeder primary schools the school roll will rise to around 1600 in 2027.

Can the Convener please confirm:

- Question** (1) If he was aware of the issue of rising rolls at the Royal High School prior to receiving this question?
- Answer** (1) Yes.
- Question** (2) What actions have been taken to date to address the issue?
- Answer** (2) The Council's Learning Estate Team and the PPP team are working with the school to implement dining and science solutions for August 2020 and provide further new accommodation for August 2021.
- Question** (3) What actions are now proposed to address these concerns as the problem is predicted to become more acute?
- Answer** (3) The actions proposed will provide enough additional capacity to accommodate the projected school roll.
- Question** (4) What actions have been taken to ensure the safety and well-being of students at the school given that it is already operating over its notional capacity?

- Answer** (4) Health and Safety is the top priority in every school and will never be compromised. The school have been involved in the development of the solutions to be implemented to ensure the meet all health and safety and pupil well being requirements.
- Question** (5) What actions have been taken to ensure the high standard of education delivered at the Royal High School is maintained given the fact the school is operating over its notional capacity?
- Answer** (5) The school is ably supported by a Quality Improvement Education Officer who reports to the Quality Improvement Manager. The QIEO monitors the standards and quality of education through scrutiny of the reports and self-assessment gradings produced by the school. Where appropriate, the QIEO offers support and/or challenge in aspects of education. Overall performance is agreed on the Capacity and Risk Register maintained by QICS. At this time, the school is ranked as requiring low-support due to measures such as the levels of attainment at all stages of the school. The Headteacher is also part of a Leadership Learning Partnership in which peer Headteachers support and challenge various aspects of education delivery. The Headteacher can also ask for additional support at any time from QIEOs or from the Edinburgh Learns Development Officers.
- Question** (6) What strategic plans the administration has to address the issue of rising school rolls in the area?
- Answer** (6) A new high school is required in the West of Edinburgh and funding for this was indicated in the Capital Budget Strategy 2020-2030 report which went to Finance and Resources Committee in October 2019.

Item no 5.6

QUESTION NO 6

**By Councillor Neil Ross for answer
by the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 6 February 2020**

Answers to questions 1 to 4 to be analysed per domestic bin type please

Question (1) How many domestic waste and recycling bins were replaced in the past twelve months?

Answer (1) In the past twelve months, the following replacement bins have been provided:

- 4,484 domestic residual waste bins; and
- 26,764 recycling bins/boxes/food bins/food caddies/garden bins.

Question (2) What is the cost of each domestic waste and recycling bin?

Answer (2) The unit cost of each bin is provided in the attached table.

Question (3) What is the net cost to the Council in the past twelve months of replacing domestic bins?

Answer (3) The total cost of replacing domestic bins in the past twelve months was £324,513.84. A breakdown is provided in the attached table.

Question (4) What percentage of waste bin replacements were required because the bin lid had been lost or damaged?

Answer (4) 9% of residual bins and 2% of recycling bins/ boxes/ food bins / food caddies / garden bins have been replaced due to lost or damaged bin lids.

Question (5) Roughly what proportions of damaged bins are a) repaired and re-issued to residents, b) returned to the supplier or c) recycled?

Answer

- (5)** This information is not held as kerbside waste and recycling customers request a replacement bin as opposed to a repair. Whilst bins are generally not returned to the supplier, Council retains returned bins that cannot be repaired and then carries out a mini-tender when there is sufficient tonnage to recycle the bins.

Bin Type	Grand Total	Cost (£)	Unit cost (£)
Food Caddy	8,988	43,412.04	4.83
Blue Box	8,560	27,905.60	3.26
Grey Bin (Residual Waste)	4,830	128,043.30	26.51
Kitchen Food Caddy	3,809	4,837.43	1.27
Green Bin (Mixed Recycling)	2,253	63,579.66	28.22
Brown Bin (Garden Waste)	1,825	51,501.50	28.22
Red Box	518	1,688.68	3.26
Replacement Box Set	284	1,851.68	6.52
Food and Kitchen Kit	181	1,102.29	6.09
Grand Total	31,248	324,513.84	
Residual (Domestic Waste)	4,484		
Recycling (Total - Residual)	26,764		

Item no 5.7

QUESTION NO 7

By Councillor Neil Ross for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Changes were recently made to the playground and to access arrangements at South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank Annex in Canaan Lane on account of the demolition and construction works taking place immediately adjacent to the school. These changes were communicated to parents the day before the school went back after the Christmas holiday and caused wide-spread concerns, now being addressed, amongst the school and parent community.

- Question** (1) Is the Convener aware that major disruption, particularly when poorly communicated, can cause considerable anxiety to pupils who have additional support needs (ASN) and, in this case, has resulted in one pupil being withdrawn from school?
- Answer** (1) Yes, the Convener is aware. The school has confirmed that no pupil has been withdrawn from school. The school are working in close partnership with parents to enable parents to be fully informed of any significant changes that might impact on the children.
- Question** (2) What process does the Council normally follow to reduce the impact that major changes at schools can have on their ASN pupils?
- Answer** (2) The school works in partnership with the LA and contractors to recognise the potential impact of any significant change for pupils with additional support needs and plan to take account of this.
- Question** (3) Does this process place a high priority on effective and timely communications with the school and its Parent Council?

Answer

- (3)** Regular meetings have been arranged which include representation from the Parent Council, contractors, the school and the local authority. Information on significant changes and next steps in the build process will be discussed and then shared with the parent forum. Furthermore, the local authority will ensure that timely communication is shared with parents if and when required regarding any significant change.

The school will work with children in Dean Bank to keep them updated about progress to the construction of the newbuild and any changes or impact on their daily routines.

Item no 5.8

QUESTION NO 8

**By Councillor Johnston for answer
by the Leader of the Council at a
meeting of the Council on 6 February
2020**

Question

Will the Council Leader abide by Coalition Commitment 49
'Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021?'

Answer

The Administration will publish our budget proposals in full on Monday 10th of February. This would have already been published had the UK Government published a budget on November 6th, 2019 as they advised they would, or if they had provided the certainty required for the Scottish Government's budget at any point since. The failure of the UK Government to do so has meant budgets in the Scottish Parliament and those of Scottish Councils being set with an unhelpful element of uncertainty. This is entirely caused by the UK Government's failure to present a budget in advance of deadlines to set tax rates and approve other spending plans.

Item no 5.9

QUESTION NO 9

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question (1) How many road and pavement defects have been reported to the Council in each month between January 2018 and January 2020.

Answer (1) The attached spreadsheet details the number of defects that have been recorded as a result of reports from members of the public.

In the case of wards 12 and 13 there has been a data error which does not allow the number of defects associated specifically with reports from members of the public. As such, the data for wards 12 and 13 shows the total number of reports received in these areas as opposed to the number of defects.

Whilst the data error cannot be reversed, the issue has now been resolved and the number of defects in these wards will be reported going forward.

Question (2) How many Road and pavements defects were reported to the Council in each ward in (a) 2018 and (b) 2019.

Answer (2) This is also set out in the attached spreadsheet. Please note, the same data quality issues exist for wards 12 and 13 as is noted in the answer to question 1.

Question (3) When a resident uses the new online reporting system and registers for an update on a particular road or pavement defect already reported on the system, does this still count as a complaint?

Answer

(3) Roads defects are logged as enquiries and not complaints on the Council’s Asset Management system, as they do not always result in a specific or actionable defect being recorded. Where members of the public wish to complain that an enquiry has not been actioned, this will be logged as a corporate complaint in line with the Council’s complaints procedure.

Where there are multiple reports of the same defect by members of the public, the first report is recorded in the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system and all other reports are marked as an interested party for the original enquiry. All interested parties are notified when the enquiry has been resolved.

Defects by Ward 2018-2019

	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Total
01 - Almond	243	151	286	214	68	33	31	20	24	47	27	64	1208
02-Pentland Hills	188	116	108	59	27	21	17	4	30	8	47	18	643
03-Drum Brae/Gyle	48	46	41	92	21	12	26	12	13	22	37	14	384
04-Forth	20	27	26	46	22	8	12	6	7	2	24	16	216
05-Inverleith	53	36	38	88	16	33	19	51	14	12	37	41	438
06-Corstorphine/Murrayfield	65	57	56	50	38	22	15	33	33	19	12	15	415
07-Sighthill/Gorgie	51	113	57	80	26	26	22	15	19	34	30	31	504
08-Colinton/Fairmilehead	73	84	91	31	22	33	24	49	35	25	31	41	539
09-Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	34	105	21	33	9	9	4	35	35	15	54	12	366
10-Meadows/Morningside	190	130	112	144	68	48	19	25	19	24	32	43	854
11-City Centre	99	231	105	104	71	46	44	49	46	50	20	44	909
12-Leith Walk*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	256
13-Leith*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	345
14-Craigentiny/Duddingston	62	25	58	43	26	12	6	8	11	13	8	19	291
15-Southside/Newington	119	197	94	226	96	51	82	79	34	52	30	75	1135
16-Liberton/Gilmerton	69	100	111	108	68	48	28	35	13	36	46	34	696
17-Portobello/Craigmillar	55	35	32	45	6	8	0	5	14	20	10	14	244
													9443

	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Total
01 - Almond	79	107	70	92	163	58	71	85	64	50	43	103	985
02-Pentland Hills	36	79	59	48	74	150	94	69	22	76	39	134	880
03-Drum Brae/Gyle	12	45	48	32	19	37	45	46	45	34	48	73	484
04-Forth	4	26	18	33	8	6	9	13	15	24	33	27	216
05-Inverleith	23	27	24	36	24	20	35	22	15	14	34	22	296
06-Corstorphine/Murrayfield	47	20	26	34	26	42	45	29	34	57	50	43	453
07-Sighthill/Gorgie	69	40	99	54	38	31	62	10	22	9	44	49	527
08-Colinton/Fairmilehead	29	45	129	56	26	57	43	73	38	29	37	41	603
09-Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	5	22	13	12	24	11	22	33	4	11	7	53	217
10-Meadows/Morningside	21	14	37	53	41	13	35	47	60	23	42	72	458
11-City Centre	44	11	34	22	34	37	25	159	23	27	36	33	485
12-Leith Walk*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240
13-Leith*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	307
14-Craigentiny/Duddingston	13	21	21	20	14	28	20	14	30	17	15	13	226
15-Southside/Newington	60	19	48	41	33	44	53	55	23	38	81	52	547
16-Liberton/Gilmerton	36	50	90	77	44	34	33	38	37	35	62	37	573
17-Portobello/Craigmillar	16	9	24	29	11	111	26	12	15	11	16	18	298
													7795

QUESTION NO 10

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question

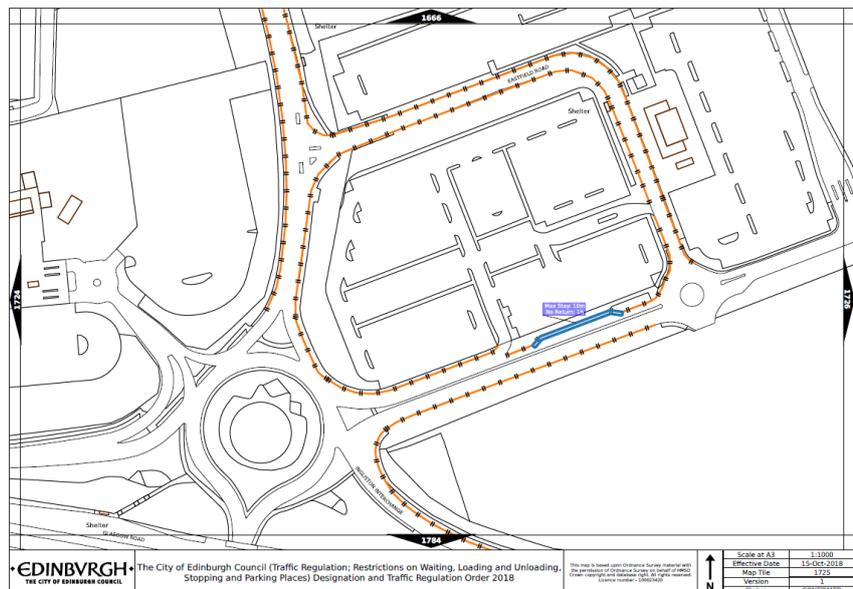
On 31 May 2018 and in response to my question 5.9, the Convener said

“The process of implementing a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to allow enforcement of double yellow lines at Ingliston Park and Ride has begun. The plan is to advertise proposals for consultation in August 2018 in line with statutory requirements of the TRO process. Any objections would be subject to a further report.”

Can the Convener provide an update as to when the parking restrictions will be made legally enforceable?

Answer

There is a TRO in place for the double yellow lines on the road that runs through Ingliston Park and Ride. Please see an extract of the relevant TRO map tile below showing the enforceable restrictions:



Legislation only permits yellow line restrictions to be introduced on roads, meaning that a new off-street TRO is required to control parking within the car park itself (outside of the extents of the road that runs through the park and ride).

The Ingliston site is being progressed as part of a single consolidated TRO for all Council-owned off-street public car parks across the city. The combined TRO is a significant piece of work but it is hoped that it will be ready to be advertised in Summer 2020.

Item no 5.11

QUESTION NO 11

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question

What protocol or contingency plans exist to assist vulnerable residents in circumstances where Council initiated works result in the prolonged diversion of public transport?

Answer

Prolonged diversions are not something that the Council takes lightly. Often these works are necessary for continued security of, for example, utility services but are stringently planned to ensure minimum disruption for as short a period as necessary.

There is no specific protocol for vulnerable residents, as each unique traffic management plan is reviewed individually as locations around the city differ. Larger strategic projects use communications such as letter drops or workshops to ensure local communities are fully aware of proposed diversions or temporary closures prior to any works commencing.

Measures can include relocating bus stops temporarily, using shuttle buses or the 'dial a taxi' scheme. Officers also work closely with Lothian Buses to ensure that route changes are advertised prior to diversions taking place.

Item no 5.12

QUESTION NO 12

By Councillor Doggart for answer by the Depute Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question

Noting that an Edinburgh Constituency Labour Party voted overwhelmingly to back calls for Labour to break its coalition with the SNP, does the Depute Leader agree with Councillor Arthur that,

"There is a real concern that we [Labour] are being associated with the SNP's inability to stand up for Edinburgh"?

<https://twitter.com/CllrScottArthur/status/1220757402653483013>

Answer

It is the role of every elected member to stand up for fair funding of our Capital City.

Item no 5.13

QUESTION NO 13

By Councillor Rust for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question (1) To which Council Committee will the outcome of the internal inquiry/investigation in respect of the burning of memorial benches by the Council be reported?

Answer (1) There is an internal investigation being undertaken in line with the Council's disciplinary procedure which is an operational matter and would be inappropriate to report to committee or make public. However any findings of that investigation relevant in terms of the presentation seat policy will be reported to the relevant committee. That reporting will include information required to provide assurance to elected members and public that this, or similar, will not be repeated. Our expectation is that this would be part of the public agenda.

Question (2) If not as part of an A Agenda Committee item how will the findings of any report be made available for public scrutiny?

Answer (2) See answer 1.

Question (3) What is the scope/remit of the investigation/inquiry?

Answer (3) The scope of the investigation covers a number of key questions:

1. Was the presentation seat policy followed properly throughout, up until the point of the benches being burned, which was clearly not in line with policy?
2. Why were the benches burned as opposed to being properly dismantled with parts being reused where appropriate and any obsolete wood sent for recycling?
3. Whether there was a management instruction given to burn the benches? If so, why was this the case and what, if any, internal escalation process was followed?

- Question** (4) What is the timescale for reporting?
- Answer** (4) Given the need to ensure a thorough and impartial investigation, it is not felt to be prudent to give a timescale for a conclusion. However, the investigation will be concluded as soon as possible.
- Question** (5) What contact has been made with relatives or organisations associated with memorialised benches regarding the investigation/inquiry?
- Answer** (5) As a matter of course, all donors are contacted by letter when the bench which they have donated is due to be de-commissioned. This allows them to consider paying for refurbishment of the bench, donating a new bench, or to request the return of the memorial plaque. The letter also sets out that memorial plaques are kept in storage by the Council to allow for relatives to collect them in the future if they wish.

There has been no contact made with donors in relation to this investigation to date. If the investigation identifies that there has been a breach of Council policy which gives reason to do so, then contact will be made with those affected.

Item no 5.14

QUESTION NO 14

**By Councillor Jim Campbell for
answer by the Leader of the Council
at a meeting of the Council on 6
February 2020**

Question

Does Scotland's recent five place fall in Social & Economic Wellbeing within the OECD, as ranked by Scottish Trends, carry long term risks to Edinburgh's international civic status?

Answer

The analysis published by Scottish Trends provides no assessment of Edinburgh's international status or recent social and economic progress. The report cited in the question covers an extremely narrow range of datasets with only 4 measured components (GDP per capita, school attainment at 15 only, life expectancy and employment rate) of national level data only. This compares poorly to the OECD Better Life Index (which uses 11 components, with around 30 measurable factors) and the European Quality of Life Survey, which is published every four years by the European Union and tracks 262 factors. Even within the small level of data input cited in the question, there is no analysis of Edinburgh's performance against these metrics – which is in most cases substantially higher than that of the Scottish average.

As highlighted above, the index cited is only one of number of published analyses that are available to assess and compare wellbeing and economic performance, many of which provide a positive view on Edinburgh's position and progress in relation to other cities. In recent months, Edinburgh has been rated among the top ten cities in the UK to live and work in, according to the latest Demos-PwC Good Growth for Cities index, and ranked as the most liveable city in the world, putting it ahead of competitors including Frankfurt, London, New York, Paris, Singapore and Zurich in the latest edition of Arcadis' Sustainable Cities Index.

QUESTION NO 15

By Councillor Jim Campbell for answer by the Vice- Chair of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question

Please provide a list of all City of Edinburgh facilities that have been rated with a “weak” finding by the Care Inspectorate in 2019 or 2020.

Answer

Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) operates 61 individual, registered, in-house services, delegated to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

Inspection regimens for these services vary between care at home services, support at home services and care homes but all graded within a framework comprising a suite of national standards. These categories are

- How well do we support people’s wellbeing
- How good is our leadership
- How good is our staff team
- How good is our setting
- How well care and support planned

Results will be graded as:

- 1 - unsatisfactory
- 2 - weak
- 3 – adequate
- 4 - good
- 5 - very good
- 6 - excellent

Currently, across all 61 services and within the most up to date formal inspection reports, two Care Homes (Drumbrae and Royston) sit with a grading of 2 “weak” in one or more

category

Royston Care Home has one area identified, “how well care and support is planned” as weak (2). The other four areas were graded as 3 and 4. Work is ongoing to ensure that care and support planning is improved within Royston Care Home

Drumbrae Care Home has three categories identified as weak under:

- care and support
- staffing and management;
- leadership

The Care Inspectorate carried out an unannounced inspection on the 23 December and issued an improvement notice. Measurable improvements were needed in several areas and an action plan is in place to deliver the necessary improvements.

The Partnership have until the 28th February to put in place improvements to resolve the concerns raised in the Improvement notice, therefore the current gradings remain.

The frequency of inspection varies to take account of the type of service and performance of a service.

Key to grades: 1 – unsatisfactory, 2 – weak, 3 – adequate, 4 – good, 5 – very good, 6 –excellent					
Service	No of Services	Freq of Inspections	Lowest Grade	Highest Grade	% with grades good or above
Adult Placements	2	Yearly	5	5	100%
Care Home Services – Older People	9	Yearly	2 (2 Care Homes)	5	77%
Care Home Services – Adults	2	Yearly	4	5	100%
Offender Accommodation	1	Yearly	5	5	100%
Support Services – care at home	18	Yearly	3	5	100%
Support Services – other than care at home	6	Every 3 years	4	5	100%
Housing Support	23	Yearly	3	5	100%

Item no 5.16

QUESTION NO 16

By Councillor Brown for answer by the Vice-Chair of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question

On 23 December 2019 the Care Inspectorate served a Section 62 Improvement Notice on the City of Edinburgh Council in respect of Drumbrae Care Home.

This evidently required the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership to put in place new management to take over responsibility for the Care Home on Boxing Day.

The Care Inspectorate made two further unannounced inspection visits on the 26 December & 3 January 2020.

Is the Vice-Chair satisfied the appropriate oversight actions were taken following the earlier “weak” ratings recorded by the Care Inspectorate on 6 December 2017 & 12 July 2018, given the events over Christmas?

Answer

The previous action plan to deliver on the improvement actions identified in 2017 and 2018, did not deliver sustained improvement with no improvement in grades being seen in this home between 2017 and 2018.

The oversight in place to alert the Partnership of any deterioration in service within Drumbrae was clearly not robust enough in this case, despite ongoing work to make improvements and meet the recommendations of previous inspections. However the Vice Chair is assured that there is now a robust improvement plan in place to deliver and embed the sustained improvement needed within Drumbrae.

A full report on Drumbrae will come to Policy and Sustainability Committee on 02 June 2020 to allow for feedback to take place with the Care Inspectorate on the 28 February 2020.

Item no 5.17

QUESTION NO 17

**By Councillor Jim Campbell for
answer by the Leader of the Council
at a meeting of the Council on 6
February 2020**

Question

What recent progress has been made on the 2050 City Vision in financial and practical terms?

Answer

The public consultation on the 2050 Edinburgh City Vision produced over 54,000 visions from over 21,000 citizens. This level of response is higher than any achieved by any previous engagement activity conducted by the City of Edinburgh Council.

The Steering Group overseeing the development of the 2050 Edinburgh City Vision has given sustained and proper consideration to the responses and the 2050 Edinburgh City Vision is close to finalisation.

There are no additional financial impacts to report.

Item no 5.18

QUESTION NO 18

By Councillor Jim Campbell for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question (1) Noting the aspiration in the Cityplan 2030 Choices to build all new homes and conversions to a Scottish Building Regulations zero carbon / Platinum standard, and given the well-known funding gap in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP), can the Council Leader give the best estimate of the building of the 20,000 affordable houses before 2027, to each of Silver, Gold or Platinum standards, by year?

Answer (1) The 20,000 affordable homes are being delivered by the Council, Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and private developers. The Council and RSLs currently build to silver active standard and are trialling different approaches to delivering even more energy efficient, sustainable homes to support delivery of the Councils net zero carbon target.

At present it is not possible to estimate how many of the 20,000 affordable homes will be built to gold or platinum standards by 2027. However, the Council is currently piloting a house building project which includes aspects of the Gold standard, while organisations are also piloting aspects of Gold standard. Any change of standard will also be informed by the next set of building standards and supporting guidance. At present only one out of eight aspects of achieving Platinum has been defined. It is anticipated that the next set of standards and supporting guidance will be introduced in October 2021, with the changes being published one year in advance.

Question (2) As Platinum building cost estimates are developed, can the Leader outline when and where the business case implications of such costs will be reported, to best inform Council regarding the Choices it faces?

Answer

- (2) The Council will shortly be consulting on the Choices for City Plan 2030. This includes an option for all new buildings and conversions to meet the zero carbon/Platinum standards as set out in the current Scottish Building Regulations. There will also be three other alternative options that will be consulted on which would include all new buildings meeting either Gold, Silver or the current minimum standard Bronze as set out in the current Scottish Building Regulations.

Council officers have started to identify the costs of achieving net zero carbon into business cases. On 20 January 2020, Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee noted that the known costs of achieving this ambitious target has been built into the 30 year Housing Revenue Account (HRA) business plan. The assumptions that feed into this plan and the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) are reviewed annually and reported to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee, with individual business cases considered by Finance and Resources.

Item no 5.19

QUESTION NO 19

**By Councillor Iain Whyte for answer
by the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 6 February 2020**

Question (1) Can the Convener please advise when and why has the Council stopped accepting “hard plastic” as a recycling stream?

Answer (1) There are significant challenges with recycling hard plastics and the Council has been unable to find a reprocessing contractor willing to accept these materials. The hard plastic containers which had been located at Seafield and Bankhead Recycling Centres were removed over the course of December 2019 to January 2020. The hard-plastic container at Craigmillar Recycling Centre will be removed shortly.

This issue is not unique to Edinburgh and other local authorities have made similar changes as a result of the difficulties in reprocessing hard plastics.

Question (2) What implication does this have for plastic recycling for kerb side and communal bin collections?

Answer (2) None. Whilst the council has in place various collection systems which directly collect materials for recycling or which otherwise divert materials, it is not always directly involved in selling to end use markets. Hard plastics are not collected as part of the kerbside or communal waste collection service. Until recently, hard plastics could only be recycled at the Household Waste Recycling Centres, where it would then go on to a reprocessor contractor who would clean and shred to sell as raw material. Hard plastics can still be put into general waste and will be converted into energy at our Millerhill Site.

Question (3) What steps are being taken to increase the possibilities for plastic recycling for the Edinburgh public?

Answer

(3) Markets for plastics are ever changing. Council currently uses a contract which covers dry mixed materials and we encourage plastics recycling such as bottles or milk cartons. The Council will continue to monitor the demand for all plastics and will reintroduce containers in Household Waste Recycling Centres if there is demand for hard plastics and options for reprocessing become available.

In addition:

- a Council officer will attend a meeting in February on an innovative scheme for recycling hard plastic materials, based in Perthshire. At present, there is no guarantee that this scheme will progress to market or that an outlet will be secured but progress will continue to be monitored;
- A procurement exercise is currently underway to secure a new supplier for dry mix recycling (i.e. plastics that are disposed of in green bins). The successful tenderer will be expected to maximise recycling all dry mixed recycling materials; and
- A campaign to improve the quality of the plastics which can be recycled (e.g. reducing the plastic materials which are deposited for recycling, but which are contaminated by food) is planned.

Item no 5.20

QUESTION NO 20

**By Councillor Staniforth for answer
by the Lord Provost at a meeting of
the Council on 6 February 2020**

Question

When representing the city in China, in particular to our partner cities of Xi'an and Shenzhen, to what extent did the Lord Provost raise human rights concerns with the Chinese authorities?

Answer

On recent visits by the Lord Provost, meetings with government were held with regional officials and therefore it was not appropriate to raise human rights issues on these occasions. It should be noted that on both recent occasions there were national government both Scottish and UK representatives present any national issues would have been covered at that level.

It should also be noted that these trips were approved by committee/council and at no time has this topic been raised by any member.

Item no 5.21

QUESTION NO 21

By Councillor Young for answer by the Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

With the large number of substantial developments being built in the rural area of the Almond ward over the past 10years, please provide the following information relating to section 75 contributions (for any developments over 20 households in size):

Question (1) Listed by development, what section 75 financial contributions were paid by developers in the last 10 years (where a development started more that 10years ago but concluded <10years, then include entire contribution for that development)?

Answer (1) The table below includes the information available from our records. When received, all section 75 developer contributions are put on temporary investment in an interest-bearing account. Therefore, the total outstanding also includes the interest accrued so could exceed the amount received.

Planning Reference and Activity	Total Received	Total Received and Unused	Total Used (negative reflects accrued interest)	Location	Development
01/01855/FUL & 08/01455/FUL	118,789	60,396	58,394	Kirkliston Distillery	120 Houses
Education Contribution	59,289	-	59,289		
Pedestrian crossing	28,000	28,421	- 421		
Safer Routes to School	10,000	10,151	- 151		
Traffic Signals	20,000	20,301	- 301		
TRO	1,500	1,523	- 23		
03/00399/full	60,000	656	59,344	Main Street, West Kirkliston	93 dwellings
Traffic Signals	60,000	656	59,344		
04/01440/ful	25,000	25,337	- 337	Avon Road	29 Houses
			-		

Improvements to Whitehouse Road	25,000	25,337	337		
06/05149/out	5,304,534	122,659	5,181,875		
Kirkliston Primary	5,184,534	-	5,184,534	Queensferry Road, Kirkliston	610 units
Maintenance of signalised junction on Queensferry Road	10,000	10,221	-221		
Traffic Calming	110,000	112,437	-2,434		
11/00995/PPP	643,108	50,759	592,349		
City Car Club	17,000	-	17,000	Agilent Site	450 dwellings
Education Contribution	503,608	-	503,608		
Safer Routes to School	20,000	20,304	-304		
Sports facility contribution	70,000	-	70,000		
Traffic Calming	30,000	30,456	-456		
TRO	2,500	-	2,500		
11/00995/PPP	1,833,866	516,728	1,317,138		
Education	1,833,866	516,728	1,317,138		
11/01856/FUL	5,000	5,076	-76	Agilent Site	450 dwellings
Bus Infrastructure improvements	5,000	5,076	-76		
11/01857/FUL	173,129	145,310	27,819	Queensferry Road, Kirkliston	Increase to total units on site
Commuted Sum	143,129	145,310	-2,181		
Education	30,000	-	30,000		
12/00095/ful	56,007	-	56,007	Queensferry Road, Kirkliston	9 Houses
Commuted Sum	56,007	-	56,007		
13/01606/ful	7,500	7,649	-149	Station Road	32 dwellings
Safer Routes to School	5,000	5,099	-99		
TRO	2,500	2,550	-50		
13/02527/ful	420,000	172,160	247,840	Craigpark Quarry	112 dwellings
A71(Dalmahoy) Junction Imps	40,000	40,456	-456		
Public transport	30,000	30,342	-342		

Safer Routes to School	10,000	0	10,000		
Union Canal Bridge - Cycling & Pedestrian bridges	100,000	101,362	- 1,362		
Transport	240,000	-	240,000		
13/03310/AMC	45,900	46,015	- 115	Agilent Site	450 dwellings
Commuted Sum	45,900	46,015	- 115		
13/03310/AMC / 11/00995/PPP	46,000	46,058	- 58	Agilent site	450 dwellings
Commuted Sum	46,000	46,058	- 58		
14/01283/PPP	259,850	182,560	77,290	Queensferry Road, Kirkliston	Increase to total units on site
Commuted Sum	180,467	182,560	- 2,093		
Education Contribution	79,383	-	79,383		
14/04172/FUL	375,116	375,581	- 465	Ferry muir, South Queensferry	143 dwellings
Education	375,116	375,581	- 465		
16/06280/FUL	348,848	348,848	-	South Scotstoun	339 Dwelling
Education	151,049	151,049	-		
Bus Infrastructure	106,806	106,806	-		
Cycling	37,710	37,710	-		
Healthcare Infrastructure	18,010	18,010	-		
Queensferry Transport	1,165	1,165	-		
Road Furniture Link	10,060	10,060	-		
Traffic Calming	24,048	24,048	-		
Grand Total	9,722,647	2,105,791	7,616,856		

Question (2) For each of these developments, what was the financial contribution originally intended to fund, and what has it actually been spent on/committed to?

Answer (2) Per table above, all contributions received are allocated for the purpose which they were intended to fund and where allocations have not been spent, they remain held for the allocated purpose.

Question (3) For each of these developments, how much has been spent, how much is committed but not spent, and how much remains unallocated?

Answer (3) The table included above shows allocation and spend per development. All that remains outstanding has been allocated to the purpose for which it was received.

Item no 5.22

QUESTION NO 22

By Councillor Young for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Question (1) Which CEC secondary schools currently (2019/20) offer young people the option to study eight NAT 5s in S4 (please list names)?

Answer (1) Boroughmuir High School, James Gillespie's High School, Currie CHS, Holy Rood RC High School

Pupils can study up to 8 options in S4 (this could include a range of qualifications, such as National Progression Awards, alongside Nat 5s)

Question (2) Of all other CEC secondary schools, please provide the total number of schools in each case, offering fewer than eight NAT 5s in S4 (e.g. 7 schools offer 5, 4 schools offer 6 etc)?

Answer (2) 11 schools offer 7 options

8 schools offer 6 options

(this could include a range of qualifications, such as National Progression Awards, alongside Nat 5s)

Question (3) Which CEC secondary schools offered young people the option to study fewer NAT 5 subject in S4 in 2019/20 than in any of the previous 3 academic years (see table)? Schools which offer the same or more do not need to be listed

Answer (3)

N° of options offered at S4 (where current year is lower than other years listed) (Options include National 5, alongside other qualifications offered)					
Name of school	Current year 2019/20 N° offered	2018/19 N° offered	2017/18 N° offered	2016/17 N° offered	Planned changes for 2020/21
1. Balerno High School	7	7	7	7	
2. Boroughmuir HS	8	8	8	8	
3. Broughton	7	7	7	7	
4. Castlebrae Community High School	6	5	5	5	
5. Craigmount HS	7	7	7	6	
6. Craigroyston CHS	6	6	5	5	
7. Currie CHS	8	8	8	8	
8. Drummond CHS	7	7	7	6	
9. Firrhill HS	7	7	7	8	
10. Forrester HS	6	6	6	6	
11. Gracemount HS	7	7	7	7	
12. Holy Rood RC HS	8	8	8	8	
13. James Gillespie's HS	8	8	8	8	
14. Leith Academy	6	6	6	6	
15. Liberton HS *PE can be an optional L5 qualification	6(7*)	6(7*)	6	6	
16. Portobello HS	7	8	8	8	
17. Queensferry CHS	6	6	6	6	
18. Royal HS	7	7	7	7	
19. St Augustine's RC HS	7	7	7	7	
20. St Thomas' RC HS *RE can be an optional National Qualification	7 (8*)	7 (8*)	8 (9*)	8	
21. Trinity Academy	7	6	6	6	
22. Tynecastle HS	6	6	6	6	7
23. Wester Hailes HS	6	6	6	6	

Question **(4)** Please provide the total number of S4 pupils who sat 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 NAT 5 exams in each of the last 3 academic years (ending in 2017, 2018 and 2019)? (see table)

	COUNT OF PUPILS		
Nº of NAT 5s exams sat	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

Answer **(4)**

	COUNT OF PUPILS		
Nº of NAT 5s exams (awards)	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
4	249	266	237
5	268	281	260
6	455	403	472
7	553	493	372
8	436	369	480

(Source: Insight, SG Sep 2019)

Note that the 2018/19 figures do not take into account changes arising from successful applications to SQA's Post-Results Service. The figures for these are not available until March 2020.

Note also that the table show the number of awards (ie grades A to D) rather than the number of exams sat. Insight does not contain details of the number of fails.

Item no 5.23

QUESTION NO 23

By Councillor Young for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

For council primary schools please provide the following information relating to swimming lessons offered to pupils:

Question (1) What is the Edinburgh Council policy or guidance on entitlement to swimming lessons for primary school pupils - age/primary year, number of classes, total pool time etc?

Answer (1) The Council's position on provision of curricula swimming lessons is to provide opportunities for P4 and P5 pupils access to taught swimming classes. Schools with higher percentages of children in SIMD1 and 2 are prioritised. Lessons are typically 40-50 minutes and in 2018/19 2135 swimming classes were taught to 6366 primary age pupils.

Question (2) Do all schools offer the same amount of swimming lessons/time to pupils? If not please provide a breakdown of number of schools offering each different amount of lessons/hours.

Answer (2) Not all schools offer the same amount of swimming in their curriculum. Generally, schools offer swimming lessons over a two-year period. Schools with relatively high percentage of SIMD 1 and 2 tend to offer more swimming opportunities. The number of schools offer different amounts of swimming in 2018/19 (latest data) is attached.

Question (3) If any primary schools are offering below the council's policy/guidance, please provide a list of school names.

Answer (3)

School	Stage (P3-7)	No of lessons per pupil in 2018-19
Abbeyhill	P5	10
	P5	10
	P4	9
	P4	9
Balgreen	5A	6
	5B	6
	4B	5
	4A	5
Blackhall	5	4
	5	5
Bonaly	P4A	6
	P4B	6
Broomhouse	5	7
	P4/5	7
	4	9
Broughton	P3	8
	P4	10
	P5	6
	P6	5
	P7	5
Brunstane	5	8
	5	8
	4	8
	4	8
Bruntsfield	P4A	8
	P4B	8
	P4C	6
Buckstone	P4a	6
	P4b	6
	P4c	6
Canal View	P4a	14
	P4b	14
Carrick Knowe	4A	6
	4B	6
	5C	8
	5B	6
	5A	8
Castleview	P5b	6
	P5a	5
	P6	5
Clermiston	5b	
	4a	7
	4b	7
	5a	7

Clovenstone	P5	7
Colinton	P4	8
	P5	8
Corstorphine	5B	4
	5C	4
	5A	4
	4A	4
	4B	4
	4C	4
Craigtinny	P5	9
	P5	9
	P4	7
	P4	7
	P4	7
Craiglockhart	P4A	18
	P4B	14
Craigour Park	P5a	8
	P5b	9
Craigroyston	5	10
	4	10
Cramond	5	5
	5	5
Currie	P4	9
	P4	9
	P4	9
Dalmeny	4	7
	P5/6	8
Dalry	3	4
	P3/4	4
	4	6
Davidson's Mains	4a	12
	4b	13
	4c	
Dean Park	P4a	9
	P4b	9
Duddingston	5	11
	5	11
	5	10
East Craigs	5	7
	5	7
	4	9
Echline	6	5
	5	7
	4	6
	P4/5	6

Ferryhill	5A	7
	5B	8
	3B	4
	3A	6
Flora Stevenson	P4a	7
	P4b	7
	P4c	6
Forthview	4A	8
	4B	9
	6A	10
	6B	10
Fox Covert PS	4	8
	5	8
St Andrew's	5	8
Gilmerton	P5a	8
	P5b	7
	P5	7
Gracemount	P5a	7
	P5b	7
	P4/5	8
Granton	5B	9
	5A	9
	4A	9
	4B	9
Gylemuir	4	23
	4	15
	4	17
Hermitage Park	4	13
	4	13
	4	12
	4	12
Hillwood	P4/5	6
	P5/6	5
Holy Cross	P5C	5
	P5H	5
James Gillespie's	P4A	11
	P4B	8
	P4C	12
Juniper Green	P4a	7
	P4b	7
Kirkliston	4A	6
	4B	6
	5A	6
	5B	6
	5C	6

Leith	5	5
	5	5
	5	5
	5	5
	5	5
	5	5
	4	4
	4	4
	4	4
	4	4
Leith Walk	P5	7
	P5	7
	P5	7
	P4	9
	P4	8
Liberton	P5b	7
	P5a	7
Longstone	P4a	10
	P4b	10
Lorne	4	8
	4	8
	3	11
	3	11
Murrayburn	P4a	9
	P4b	9
Nether Currie	P5	9
	P4	9
Newcraighall	P5	9
Niddrie Mill	P5a	8
	P5b	8
Oxgangs	P4	10
	P5	10
Parkside Gaelic School	P5	7
Parsons Green	P5b	6
	P5a	6
Pentland	P4N	10
	P4B	9
Pirniehall	P5	9
Preston St	P4/5	8
	P5	9
Prestonfield		
Queensferry	4BW	5
	5W	5
	5WD	5
	6LY	4

	6LY	4
	4WS	5
Ratho	P4/5	6
	5	6
Roseburn	P4/3	8
	4	3
	6	5
Royal Mile	4	7
	4	7
	3	9
Sciennes	5	8
	5	8
	5	8
	5	8
	5	8
	5	8
	4	3
	4	2
	4	3
	4	2
	4	3
	4	2
	6	5
	6	6
	6	5
	6	6
	6	5
	6	6
Sighthill	5	6
	5	6
South Morningside	P4A	10
	P4B	10
	P4C	10
St. Catherine's RC	P5	9
St. Cuthbert's RC	5	9
	4	7
St. David's RC	4A	11
	4B	10
	5	8
St. Francis RC	P5	7
St. John Vianney RC	P4	24
St. John's RC	5	11
	5	11
	5	10
St. Joseph's RC	4	5

	P5/6	6
	4	5
	5	6
	5	6
St. Margaret's RC	3	7
	P4/5	5
St. Mark's RC	P4	8
	P6	10
St. Mary's RC (Edin)	P6a	5
	P6b	5
	P4a	6
	P4b	6
St. Mary's RC (Leith)	P4	9
	P4	9
	P4	10
	P4	10
St. Ninian's RC	P5	7
	P5	7
	P5	7
	P4	5
	P4	5
	P4	6
St. Peter's RC	P4A	10
	P4B	7
	P6A	9
	P6B	8
Stenhouse	4A	5
	4B	5
	6A	5
	6B	5
	5A	4
	5B	4
Stockbridge	P4	10
	P4	10
The Royal High	P5	9
	P4	10
	P4	10
	P4	10
Tollcross	P5A	5
	P5B	2
	P6	8
Towerbank	4	11
	4	11

	4	11
	4	11
	4	10
	4	10
Trinity	P4M	10
	P4B	9
	P4G	8
Victoria	4	9
	5A	6
	5B	7
Wardie	4M	6
	4C	6
	4B	6
	5BK	6
	5PL	6

Item no 5.24

QUESTION NO 24

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

- Question** (1) How many signs were replaced in the council estate in each of the last three calendar years?
- Answer** (1) There has been no sign replacement programme in the last three years.
- Question** (2) Of the signs identified in answer to part 1) of the question, how many of these signs were bilingual Gaelic & English?
- Answer** (2) The Council's Gaelic Language Plan commits that when signage is due to be replaced across the city, the Council will include Gaelic translations where appropriate. While there has not been a replacement programme during the last three years, considerable progress is being made by the recently appointed Corporate Gaelic Development Officer, who is in discussion to scope and cost signage options across the museums portfolio, at Meadowbank and in the Central Library, to support the expansion of the Gaelic collection (June 2020).

QUESTION NO 25

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Vice-Convenor of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

Regarding consideration of the four options for potential dedicated GME secondary school provision:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Question | (1) How will GME parents input into the building design process? |
| Answer | (1) Throughout any new school build project, several dedicated engagement sessions are arranged for parents so they can have appropriate input and receive relevant information. Engagement is focused around the key stages which are – initial scoping and feasibility; detailed design; planning permission; construction and; transition/operation. |
| Question | (2) How will protection of ‘breathing spaces for minority languages’ be delivered through the design process? |
| Answer | (2) Any new GME secondary provision would have dedicated learning and teaching facilities. All new build secondary school projects include a range of spaces to encourage a variety of learning opportunities such as small group work areas; large group activity areas; debating chambers; tutorial rooms informal break out areas; classrooms etc. GME secondary staff and pupils will be involved in the decision-making process and have a considerable input into the types of spaces to be included in any new facility. |

Item no 5.26

QUESTION NO 26

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 6 February 2020

- Question** (1) What is the percentage of council rent collected as a proportion of rent due, for each of the last 36 months?
- Answer** (1) This performance is reported annually to the Scottish Housing Regulator. In 2017/18 the service collected 99.1% of rent due. In 2018/29 this rose to 99.8%. Performance for 2019/20 will be reported to the regulator later this year.
- Question** (2) Does the council expect rent arrears to rise as a result of the wider roll-out of universal credit?
- Answer** (2) Yes.
- The annual HRA business plan takes account of the increased pressure arising from the move to Universal Credit and wider welfare reforms. The plan is reviewed annually and approved by Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee.
- Question** (3) If so, what contingency plans are being put in place to deal with this?
- Answer** (3) A financial contingency of £3million contingency fund is in place. This will rise to £15million by 2027. Robust processes are also in place to ensure that tenants affected by the changes to Universal Credit receive advice and support.

Item no 5.27

QUESTION NO 27

**By Councillor Neil Ross for answer
by the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 6 February 2020**

Question (1) Parking permits are used to control parking by residents within controlled parking zones and priority parking areas by qualifying vehicles, as defined by the Residents' Parking – Terms and Conditions of Use. The Council makes use of some parking bays within controlled parking zones and priority parking areas for communal bins, the Enterprise Car Club and on-street cycle storage units.

What other uses are permitted?

Answer (1) Certain types of parking places are specified with individual Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) to allow these parking places to be enforced by Parking Attendants. The types of parking places are:

- Pay and display;
- Permit parking;
- Shared use;
- City Car Club;
- Coach;
- Diplomatic;
- Disabled;
- Doctors;
- Motorcycle;
- Pedal Cycle; and
- Police vehicle.

There are other enforceable restrictions which are governed by different legislation, for example bus stop clearway markings.

A single yellow line exists as an underlying restriction throughout our controlled parking zones. Although other road markings (e.g. taxi ranks) are not included in the controlled parking zone TRO (and cannot be enforced by parking attendants), it is the underlying yellow line restriction that determines whether a contravention has occurred and whether enforcement action can then be taken.

Question (2) If unauthorised use is being made of a parking bay, what action can the Council take to resolve the matter?

Answer (2) If vehicles are observed incorrectly parked in parking places, during the hours of enforcement, then a parking ticket can be issued and the vehicle removed to the Car Pound.

This page is intentionally left blank