Motions and Amendments

City of Edinburgh Council

10.00 am Tuesday, 28th July, 2020

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

Contacts

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Laurence Rockey
Head of Strategy and Communications
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City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 7.1 – Appointments to Committees

Add: Agrees that Councillor Claire Miller will replace Councillor Mary Campbell as Green Group representative on COSLA

Moved by: Councillor Alex Staniforth
Seconded by: Councillor Melanie Main
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 8.1 – Supporting Local Businesses in Edinburgh

Council notes:

That a local Champions network will be established with individuals from local businesses, Traders Associations and/or Community Council to enable the Council to consult directly with local businesses on the additional action which they would like the Council to take to provide further support within the Spaces for People and other economic recovery programmes.

Asks that Officers engage immediately with trade bodies and work with the Local Champions network to quickly agree a policy proposal regarding licencing of outdoor spaces for eating, drinking and other similar activities; including exploring deferral of fees and discount for small businesses.

In the event that a policy is proposed which has a financial impact beyond the existing Spaces for People budget, that the proposed policy is brought to the next Policy and Sustainability Committee for consideration.

Moved by: Councillor Kate Campbell
Seconded by: Councillor Mandy Watt
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 8.1 – Supporting Local Businesses in Edinburgh

Council
Addendum after 1.1.1:

A) But expresses concern that feedback from businesses is that the Council is not moving quickly enough to support them or to meaningfully act on their concerns; recognises that the challenges faced by businesses in local high streets are different to those in the city centre and therefore require distinct solutions.

B) Many local high streets have seen encouraging footfall as lockdown has eased, thus far largely trading in an environment safe for staff and customers alike. Therefore, agrees it is essential that Spaces for People (SfP) measures recognise that traders know their client base better than the Council and that SfP measures assist rather than hinder their trading environment.

C) Notes statements by the Transport Convenor on the supposed value of customers travelling to businesses by bicycle rather than vehicle; Considers that this evidence fails to fully take account of Edinburgh’s suburban demographics and unknown changes in consumer behaviour post-Covid.

D) Notes City Centre businesses are suffering from severely reduced footfall because of the absence of both tourists and office workers who amounted to 25 – 30,000 incoming visitors per day and there is currently a reduction of 85 – 90% in footfall; notes that this is unlikely to change until Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance changes but recognises that there is an urgent need to support these businesses in the immediate term, Therefore, and requests that officers further review the speed and costs of licensing outdoor spaces in order to deliver animation to the City Centre to support it through this very difficult trading time.

Moved by Councillor Nick Cook
Seconded by Councillor John McLellan
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 8.1 – Supporting Local Businesses in Edinburgh

Add recommendation

1.1.5 Accepts and endorses the Edinburgh Climate Commission recommendations on a 20-minute walking principle in place-making design and supporting neighbourhood economies; and recognises that applying such principles consistently would provide enormous benefit to local businesses.

Notes that community support for local shops and businesses has an important part to play in adaption and renewal across the city, and therefore requests that local residents be included in the Local Champions Network by including 2 representatives for each town centre drawn from Community Councils, residents associations, parent councils and other relevant local groups.

Moved by: Councillor Melanie Main
Seconded by:
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 8.1 – Supporting Local Businesses in Edinburgh

1.1.5 Agrees that a six month update report on the Council’s support for local businesses should be submitted to the first Policy & Sustainability Committee meeting of 2021.

1.1.6 Agrees that officers responsible for the Edinburgh Economy Watch should consider how the quarterly briefing can be amended to include trends in small business numbers in the city.

Moved by Councillor Kevin Lang
Seconded by Councillor Robert Aldridge
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 8.3 – Revenue Budget 2020/21 Update

Council agrees the recommendations in the report and adds:

Council further requests a report in one cycle detailing:

1. The range of Council employees that have been furloughed and the time frame for which job retention scheme applications were made;

2. The date from which council employees were unable to work due to Covid-19;

3. Any engagement undertaken with Dundee Council, CoSLA or any other Scottish local authorities as to their job retention scheme applications;

4. What consideration has been given to applying for the job retention scheme bonus from February 2021 and the current status of this work;

5. Whether any Council employees have been ‘flexibly’ furloughed since 1st July 2020 and, if so, how many and in which department(s).

Moved by Councillor Andrew Johnston
Seconded by Councillor Iain Whyte
Addendum by the Green Group

City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020

Item 8.3 – Revenue Budget 2020/21 Update

Add to recommendations

To note that, notwithstanding significant pressures on the core revenue budget, there remain opportunities to allocate funds which are earmarked for energy efficiency and spend to save initiatives which could be used to facilitate a Green Recovery and that a briefing note shall be provided to all groups on the resources available and conditions of use within two cycles.

Moved by: Councillor Gavin Corbett
Seconded by: Councillor
City of Edinburgh Council  
28 July 2020  
Item 9.1 – By Councillor Burgess – Edinburgh Climate Commission First Report

Council

1) changes “welcomes” in clauses 1 to 2 to “notes”

2) adds to clause 3, the following paragraph

“Instructs the Executive Director of Place to produce a report to the next Policy & Sustainability Committee highlighting:

A) the powers the Council has available to deliver on the Commission’s proposals
B) the areas where work could only be undertaken alongside partners
C) areas where there are gaps in the Council’s powers to act
D) the discussions that the Council has undertaken with the financial sector to help influence delivery of these ambitions and the results of this work to date
E) the changes that would be required to the Council’s objectives in order to implement the Commission’s proposals.

Moved by Councillor Phil Doggart
Seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 9.2 – By Councillor Staniforth - Commercial Short-Term Lets in Edinburgh

Recognises the ongoing work of officers within the cross service short term let team to tackle antisocial behaviour, using existing legislative powers across various council service areas including planning, licensing, environmental health, trading standards and housing and family support focusing on using planning enforcement and has successfully defended actions at appeal.

Notes the decisions of the Policy and Sustainability Committee, based on the work of the Short Term Lets Working group, to make the case to the Scottish Government for a licensing regime that gives the council additional powers to control short term lets.

Welcomes that the Scottish Government has restarted work on bringing forward the legislation required following a pause caused by Covid -19.

Agrees that the STLWG and council officers will continue to work together to respond to the Scottish Government consultation, and help shape legislation that comes forward, so that it delivers the full powers that we need in Edinburgh to properly protect homes and communities.

Moved by: Councillor Kate Campbell
Seconded by: Councillor Mandy Watt
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 9.7 – By the Lord Provost – Commonwealth Games – Edinburgh 1970, 50th Anniversary

In acknowledging the continued positive impact of the 1970 games upon the City of Edinburgh, Council requests that the Lord Provost fund an online exhibition of people’s memories of the games, including photographs from the former City Councillor Sir Peter Heatly.

Moved by: Lord Provost
Seconded by: Depute Convener
Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 9.10 - By Councillor Webber - Taxi Rank Spaces

Insert “non-eligible” before vehicles in point 3 and remove text in point 3 after “vehicles”.

Moved by: Councillor Catherine Fullerton
Seconded by: Councillor Karen Doran
City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 9.10 – By Councillor Webber – Taxi Rank
Spaces

Add at end:

7) Welcomes the reallocation of road space as part of Spaces for People, outlined in 1. above, while recognising that taxis form part of a strategy to help people move around the city without recourse to a private car; and that therefore there is a legitimate expectation of taxi-drivers to have access to earmarked space which is convenient for passengers to be picked up and dropped off; and further therefore, to agree that review of taxi rank spaces should include options for reallocating space currently provided for on-street parking of private cars to taxi ranks.

Moved by: Councillor Alex Staniforth
Seconded by:
Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 9.11 - By Councillor Laidlaw – 1140 Hours
Provision of Early Learning and Childcare

Insert new para 3 and renumbering of all the paras that follow.

Acknowledges that prior to Covid-19 the council were on track to deliver its early years commitment by August 2020.

The announcement of the delay to statutory entitlement does not affect the commitment to expand the council’s early years provision but enables the council to manage the delay to the building programme and workforce recruitment caused by the pandemic.

Add an additional bullet point in last para.

the new timetable for the delivery of the new early year’s facilities planned for August 2020 but delayed by the pandemic.

Moved by: Councillor Ian Perry
Seconded by: Councillor Alison Dickie
Addendum by the Green Group

City of Edinburgh Council
28 July 2020
Item 9.11 - By Councillor Laidlaw – 1140 Hours
Provision of Early Learning and Childcare

Add at end;

This report to include how the use of outdoor spaces particularly forest kindergartens can be maximised for early learning and childcare as part of the 1140 hours provision.

Moved by Councillor Steve Burgess
Seconded by Councillor Mary Campbell