

Motions and Amendments

City of Edinburgh Council

10.00 am Thursday, 15th October, 2020

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

Motions and Amendments

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Addendum by the Green Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 8.3 – Lothian Pension Fund Audited Annual Report (and Financial Statements)

Adds to recommendations;

1. Notes the content of this Lothian Pension Fund (LPF) Annual Report 2019/20 relating to Environmental and Social Governance (ESG) and particularly Climate Change;
2. Notes the decision of this Council to declare a Climate Emergency and to seek to reduce the City's contribution to climate-changing pollution to net zero by 2030 and that the current policy of LPF to continue to invest in fossil fuel companies is not compatible with this aim;
3. Notes that across the world hundreds of institutions with trillions of investments have already committed to divest from fossil fuels;
4. Notes that pension funds in the UK local government scheme including the Environmental Protection Agency, Haringey, Hackney, Waltham Forest, Southwark, South Yorkshire and Cardiff have already committed to cut their fossil fuel investments and that two of the the UK's largest pension funds the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) and Aviva are actively divesting;
5. Recognises the 'fiduciary duty' of the LPF to make returns for its members and notes that there are financial and reputational risks to the fund as a result of continuing with investments in fossil fuels, including the possibility of having stranded assets;
6. Notes yesterday's Pensions & Lifetime Savings Annual (PLSA) conference keynote session on 'Investing for Good - Climate change poses a systemic risk to nearly all businesses and sectors. It will impact the value of scheme investments and, ultimately, that of individuals retirement savings';
7. Notes the recent negative oil price and low value of shares in fossil fuel companies and the expectation that as global agreements to reduce climate-changing pollution continue to take effect, investment in fossil fuel companies is likely to become increasingly unprofitable and risky and the Financial Times recent report on scaling back of oil exploration by the industry;

8. Notes the massive growing market in renewable energy and energy efficiency services and the opportunity for pension funds such as LPF to make secure and profitable investments in these clean energy companies;
9. Believes that many individual members of the LPF would not wish to see their investments continuing to contribute to the global Climate Emergency and that continued fossil fuel investment poses a risk to members and their savings;
10. Welcomes the recent decision by LPF in its 'Statement of Responsible Principles' not to make any new investments in companies deemed not to be aligned with the goals of the 2015 Paris UN agreement on Climate Change. However, notes that this policy allows LPF to expand its existing investments in such companies;
11. Notes that LPF intends to be measuring the carbon intensity of 100% of its assets by the end-2022 reporting cycle and believes that this would provide a basis on which to implement a fossil fuel divestment strategy;
12. Notes the Short-Window Improvement Plan approved by this Council on 25 October 2019 on those actions that can be taken by the Council with immediate effect to improve the organisation's approach to sustainability, included working with LPF 'to seek a wholesale shift away from investment in hydrocarbons' as a way of reducing emissions;
13. Therefore this Council believes that the Lothian Pension Fund should divest from companies whose business is the extraction and trading in fossil fuels and requests that it produces a report as to how this will be achieved.

Moved by Councillor Claire Miller

Seconded by Councillor

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 8.5 – Spaces for People – East Craigs Low Traffic Neighbourhood – referral from the Transport and Environment Committee

Deletes 1.1 and notes that the report was examined in full, with detailed officer responses, at the Transport and Environment Committee on Oct 1, 2020 where it was agreed by the Committee, before being referred to Full Council for further consideration under the relevant standing orders.

Notes that questions emerged from some residents over the legal basis of the LTN proposal and that this was detailed in a deputation to TEC received immediately prior to the meeting.

Requests officers provide a summary of legal advice provided to members prior to the next Transport and Environment Committee meeting on Nov 12 to allow full scrutiny of this matter by elected members.

Agrees that, if necessary, options for further compliant revised designs should be brought forward to that Nov 12 meeting which would address any issues resulting from legal advice and ensure the safety of the public and better conditions for walking, cycling and wheeling on a temporary basis during the public health crisis.

Notes the agreement of P&S Committee on 14 May to a composite motion proposed by Cllr McVey, seconded by Cllr Day, to move forward as early as possible, and that the report included a proposal to “Close selected roads to enable local trips to be made safely, especially to parks etc and schools” in the East Craigs area.

Moved by: Councillor Lesley Macinnes

Seconded by: Councillor Karen Doran

Amendment by the Conservative Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 8.5 – Spaces for People – East Craigs Low Traffic Neighbourhood – referral from the Transport and Environment Committee

Council:

Deletes all and replaces with:

- 1.1 Agrees that until legal counsel has been received and made available, Members are not in a position to approve this report.
- 1.2 Agrees that in absence of same, Council will refer this back to Full Council next month for further scrutiny.
- 1.3 Irrespective of the outcome of 1.1, agrees no part of the programme will be progressed unless or until a redesign is in place that gains local support and therefore requests a full, comprehensive consultation with the local community.
- 1.4 Agrees that this will include a. road safety audits b. equalities impact assessments c. plans for significant improvements to current path network in East Craigs. d. prioritises the views of residents living within the proposed area.
- 1.5 Notes with concern that the West Edinburgh Link Consultation is being used as evidence of wide-spread approval for this scheme.
- 1.6 Agrees to implement an immediate and ongoing programme of works to strip back the overgrown vegetation on pavements on both sides of Maybury Road in order to reclaim the full pavement area as space for people.
- 1.7 Agrees to a full review of the East Craigs Path Network to make it safe underfoot to make it enjoyable for all residents to use in line with social distancing guidelines under Spaces for People.

Moved by Councillor Susan Webber

Seconded by Councillor Mark Brown

Amendment by the Scottish Liberal Democrat Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 8.5 – Spaces for People – East Craigs Low Traffic Neighbourhood

1. notes the substantial opposition expressed by residents in East Craigs, North Gyle and Craigmount; local ward councillors and the local community council to the original Low Traffic Neighbourhood proposals for this area.
2. acknowledges the considerable concerns that remain around the revised scheme and that a number of issues raised in regards to the original plans have still not been addressed.
3. notes the external legal opinion presented to the Transport & Committee which questions the legality of pursuing a scheme of this scale through emergency TTRO powers, and that no alternative opinion was provided to councillors in time for proper consideration before the Council meeting.
4. therefore agrees not to proceed with implementing the East Craigs Low Traffic Neighbourhood scheme until (a) a full public consultation has been carried out and a report presented to the Transport and Environment Committee on the consultation findings and (b) clarity is provided by the Council's inhouse legal team on the issues around the process for implementing a LTN through TTRO powers.
5. further agrees that other LTN and Quiet Route proposals should be subject to the same level of public consultation and committee scrutiny before being introduced.

Moved by Councillor Robert Aldridge

Seconded by Councillor Kevin Lang

Cross Party Amendment

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 8.9 – Response to Council Motion on Whistleblowing Culture – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

Deletes recommendations and replaces with:

1.1 Council notes:

A) that the Chief Executive has commissioned Pinsent Masons to undertake an independent review into certain specific matters and this is currently expected to complete its work in the Spring next year. Group Leaders have been consulted on the remit of this review, it is now underway as set out in paragraph 4.7 of the report, and that an independent Chair will join this work when appointed;

B) that Pinsent Masons have already recommended names of potential independent Chairs for this and a wider inquiry into Council culture and an approach has been made to the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates seeking suggestions for additional candidates;

1.2 Building on the decision made at Council on 17 September 2020 Council agrees that:

- A. a further independent inquiry into organisational culture and relevant processes will be undertaken as outlined in paragraphs 4.17-4.22 as called for in the motion in Appendix 1;
- B. the appointment of an independent Chair will be undertaken through a selection process by Group Leaders following meetings with suitable available candidates identified through the process at 1.1 B above;
- C. the remit of the investigation into organisational culture will be determined by the independent chair after consultation with Group Leaders as set out in paragraph 4.18.
- D. regular updates will be provided to Group Leaders as set out in paragraph 5.1 and requests that these meetings be clerked to ensure formal minuting of this reporting structure.

Moved by: Councillor Adam McVey

Seconded by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

**Item 9.5 – By Councillor Staniforth – University
Response to Covid Crisis**

Delete para 5 replace with “Notes the work that has been done with the city’s universities and colleges in relation to student welfare and agrees that CEC will remain in close contact with these organisations with a view to continuing support.”

Moved by: Councillor Adam McVey

Seconded by: Councillor Cammy Day

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.6 – By Councillor Laidlaw – Community Factoring

“Council:

- 1) Recognises the contribution to the regeneration of Craigmillar by the Neighbourhood Alliance and the valuable local knowledge they possess. Recognises further that organisations rooted in their communities have a contribution to make to the ongoing enhancement of the area.
- 2) Therefore, instructs officers to engage with partner organisations; including the Neighbourhood Alliance and Registered Social Landlords, co-operatives and social enterprises to discuss opportunities for community factoring in new developments.
- 3) Agrees that officers report back to the Housing Homelessness and Fair Work committee in two cycles on the outcomes of these discussions, what the next steps could be, and how they could support other local groups with similar aims.”

Moved by: Councillor Kate Campbell

Seconded by: Councillor Mandy Watt

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.7 – By Councillor Jim Campbell – Emissions Profile of Scotrail's Inter7City Fleet

Deletes all and replaces with: “Request the Transport Convenor write to Scotrail to seek their direct commitment to Edinburgh’s 2030 net-zero carbon target and get assurance that their investment plans will reflect this aim.”

Moved by: Councillor Lesley Macinnes

Seconded by: Councillor Karen Doran

Addendum by the Green Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.9 – By Councillor Webber – Pavements Clear of Signs

Insert the following additional text into paragraph 3 of motion to read:

“Therefore, instructs the Executive Director of Place to seek to explore the barriers to displaying these signs at a high level, making use of lampposts or other Council infrastructure, so that messages are clear to drivers but do not restrict the pavement or the roadway, while removing all redundant poles and street clutter, and placing signs by default on the road and never on the pavement or a cycle track. This should include sounding out disability groups and charities, other Local Roads Authorities, Local Government associations, levels of Government and Government Agencies.”

Moved by: Councillor Claire Miller

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.10 – By Councillor Webber – Seasonal Maintenance – Spaces for People

Accept Paragraphs 1 & 2

Replace paragraph 3 with:

Notes that there are existing, well-developed operational measures and plans for winter maintenance and preparedness including but not limited to street sweeping, gully cleaning and road and footpath maintenance. This includes, for example, recent winter maintenance operational plans which include use of advanced technology to direct where operational activity is most effectively deployed.

Notes that any likely financial impact of changes to those operational activities as a result of Spaces for People road space reallocation will be treated as a project-related cost and will be recovered from the Scottish Government funding provided for Spaces for People.

Requests a Business Bulletin item to November's Transport and Environment Committee which illustrates any additional activity required and likely impact of Spaces for People projects.

Moved by: Councillor Lesley Macinnes

Seconded by: Councillor Karen Doran

Amendment by the Green Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.10 – By Councillor Webber – Seasonal Maintenance – Spaces for People

Delete paragraph 3 and insert

3. Notes that overhanging branches can also reduce the safety of paths if they are not sufficiently trimmed back, by creating hazards at head height and blocking light from street lamps;

4. Notes that access to roads and paths for gritting, gully-cleaning, leaf-sweeping or maintenance is very often difficult due to parked vehicles, and notes that Spaces for People projects help in this regard;

5. Commends the Sustrans “Traffic-free routes and greenways design guide”, particularly section 11 on management and maintenance.

5. Therefore agrees that council officers will consult with key stakeholders such as Lothian Buses, the Edinburgh Access Panel, Sustrans, Spokes and Living Streets and will present a draft maintenance plan for the council’s footpaths, off-road paths and on-street cycle lanes to Transport and Environment Committee within two cycles; this plan to include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a) an inspection regime for routes and all physical assets associated with them, including structures, drainage, signage, interpretation panels, benches, access barriers and any artwork, and including any trees or other vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the path;
- b) a timetable for proactive winter gritting and autumn leaf sweeping;
- c) a timetable for proactive vegetation management, including verges and any overhanging vegetation.

Moved by: Councillor Gavin Corbett

Seconded by: Councillor Chas Booth

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.11 – By Councillor Jim Campbell – Leadership Pure and Simple?

Deletes past paragraph and replaces with “Notes the positive impact of the Aberdeen City deal in helping drive this change and the similar work ongoing in the Capital to drive forward inclusive growth through the Edinburgh City Region deal, as well as world-leading developments like Granton Waterfront and Bio-quarter.”

Moved by: Councillor Adam McVey
Seconded by: Councillor Cammy Day

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.12 – By Councillor Mowat – Re-Prioritise within the Spaces for People Programme

Replaces all with:

Notes that the COVID pandemic and resulting public health emergency has required local authorities to adjust normal procedures, including expected levels of public consultation and scrutiny, to permit a more flexible, responsive approach to alleviating the pressures of the pandemic on residents, the local economy and the provision of services.

Notes, however, that this Council agreed new structures of decision-making early in the pandemic period to allow progress to be made in a timely way.

Recognises that Council agreed, within the Spaces for People initiative, that feedback on proposed schemes would be sought from elected ward members, and key stakeholder groups including Community Councils and special interest groups and that this has led to changes to proposed schemes, where applicable.

Recognises that an ongoing review of schemes was built into the Spaces for People initiative from the start and welcomes that this will be reported to the Transport and Environment Committee in November, for full scrutiny and agreement by elected members.

Notes that the work themes and prioritisation within Spaces for People were brought forward and agreed in May by the Policy and Sustainability Committee.

Welcomes continued input from local groups on specific projects and will continue to work with residents to ensure that the Spaces for People initiative is both effective and understood.

Moved by: Councillor Lesley Macinnes

Seconded by: Councillor Karen Doran

Amendment by the Green Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.12 – By Councillor Mowat – Re-Prioritise within the Spaces for People Programme

“Council:

Notes the finite amount of funding awarded to implement Spaces for People and the difficult work which has been carried out to prioritise measures;

Calls on Scottish Government to provide complete funding for the full suite of measures that are required across the whole of Edinburgh, and to work collaboratively with the Government to continue to encourage everyone who can to travel by walking, wheeling and by bike.”

Moved by: Councillor Claire Miller

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Scottish Liberal Democrat Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.12 – By Councillor Mowat – Re-Prioritise within the Spaces for People Programme

In paragraph 3, after “implementation of”, insert: “parts of”

In paragraph 5, delete “to immediately re-prioritise the Spaces for People programme in this Council towards” and insert: “to ensure the Spaces for People report coming to [the 12 November](#) meeting of the Transport and Environment Committee covers the following”.

In 4), insert at end: “and unnecessary barriers located on footpaths which force cyclists and pedestrians to come in close proximity to one another”.

Moved by Councillor Kevin Lang

Seconded by Councillor Robert Aldridge

Amendment by the Coalition

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Item 9.13 – By Councillor Rust – Bonaly Scout Centre - Possible Provision of Outdoor Adventure Days for Edinburgh's School Children, Spring 2021

Before Paragraph 1, insert new paragraph:

Notes that since 1931 Bonaly Scout Centre has welcomed young people from the local, national and international Scouting movement. These children have benefited from the outdoor setting and learnt skills that will last a lifetime.

After Paragraph 2, insert 2 new paragraphs:

Recognises the work Annette Mackenzie, Barbara Murray and others in the local community have undertaken recently to raise substantial funds for the Centre.

Notes the work Council staff have undertaken to ensure Bonaly Scout Centre pays the correct rate of Council Tax.

In the original Paragraph 4, replace “notes” with welcomes.

In the original Paragraph 5, replace “commits” with asks.

inserts after “2021” “subject to public health guidance”.

Moved by: Councillor Scott Arthur

Seconded by: Councillor Neil Gardiner

Emergency Motion by the Conservative Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Public Health Emergency Measures

Council:

1. Notes the measures implemented on 9 October to deal with the increase in Covid-19 cases across NHS Lothian.
2. Requests a briefing in one cycle to the Policy & Sustainability Committee from the Chief Executive setting out the Council's participation in discussion with the Scottish Government and NHS Lothian in relation to the revised measures.
3. Regrets the briefing promised in the Administration amendment of 25 August to Cllr Jim Campbell's motion has not been provided and instructs that this is expedited.

Moved by Councillor Phil Duggart

Seconded by Councillor Iain Whyte

Emergency Motion by the Conservative Group

City of Edinburgh Council

15 October 2020

Granton Marina

1) Council notes that:

1. On or around October 7, 2020 a “blight notice” was served on CEC’s Chief Executive on behalf of Granton Central Developments Ltd (GCDL).
2. GCDL believes its land is under an informal threat of compulsory purchase and this is known to a third party.
3. The notice alleges that a third party funder was advised by a council representative that on acquiring the GCDL land through compulsory purchase the funder could participate in a joint venture with CEC to develop the property.
4. It is further alleged CEC advised it was willing to acquire the GCDL property to facilitate delivery of regeneration of the entire Granton Waterfront site at as low a price as possible under the statutory compensation code.

2) Council therefore requests a report on these allegations to be submitted to the next Policy & Sustainability Committee. The report should include:

1. The full background and circumstances of any discussions held with third parties in relation to land owned by GCDL.
2. A full explanation of the council’s policies towards GCDL and the development of the entire Waterfront site.
3. Full explanation of the implications of the Council’s position on the blight notice.

Moved by Councillor Jim Campbell

Seconded by Councillor John McLellan

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