

Questions and Answers

City of Edinburgh Council

10.00 am Thursday, 31st August, 2023

Main Council Chamber - City Chambers

Questions and Answers

Contacts

Email: gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tel: 0131 529 4239

Nick Smith

Service Director, Legal and Assurance

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Agenda Annex

Item no 10.1

QUESTION NO 1

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

In March 2023, ward councillors were told the works to install the new junction at Craigs Road and Maybury Road would start in "late May / early June". No works have yet commenced.

When is the reconfiguration of the Craig's Road / Maybury Road junction now expected to commence?

Answer

Designs have been prepared for the new junction which will allow buses to access the West Craigs sites from Maybury Road. Discussions have been ongoing with the housing developer for the neighbouring site regarding it. These discussions are expected to conclude soon. Once these are completed, works on the junction are expected to commence.

Item no 10.2

QUESTION NO 2

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Further to his answer at 10.13 at the 4 May 2023 Council meeting:

- Question** (1) When will the traffic orders for the Davidson's Mains roundabout be formally advertised?
- Answer** (1) It is expected that the advertising of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order and Redetermination Order will commence by the end of September 2023. The orders advertisement will run for a period of 3 weeks.
- Question** (2) What issues are holding up the formal advertisement of the orders?
- Answer** (2) Officers are preparing a revised plan and documents to reflect the necessary redetermination as this needs to be revised to reflect the removal of the pedestrian refuge islands. Unfortunately, this was omitted from the original plans.
- Question** (3) How many individuals and organisations responded to the first stage consultation on the traffic orders in May 2023
- Answer** (3) Representation was received from four individuals or organisations.

Item no 10.3

QUESTION NO 3

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

At the February 2023 meeting of the Transport & Environment Committee, report 7.7 on the Queensferry Town Centre Project stated the traffic regulation orders and redetermination orders would be promoted from March 2023. However, this has yet to happen.

Question (1) When will the necessary orders be formally advertised?

Answer (1) Unfortunately, the development of the required documentation has been delayed. A timeline is currently being finalised, but it is anticipated that the necessary orders will be advertised by the end of this calendar year. Local ward Councillors will be kept updated once the documentation is completed.

Question (2) What are the current funding arrangements for the project, especially in light of construction inflation?

Answer (2) When fully completed, the overall project cost is currently expected to be approximately £3m.

£1.05m has been allocated from the Place Based Improvement Fund over 2023/24 and 2024/25. However, further funding will need to be confirmed in order to deliver the proposed Town Centre project in full.

Item no 10.4

QUESTION NO 4

By Councillor Thornley for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Can the Convener please confirm:

- Question** (1) How many 'Wee Forests' have been planted in the last 12 months?
- Answer** (1) There were two Wee Forests planted in the last 12 months in West Granton Crescent Park and Redbraes Park.
- Question** (2) How many are planned for the coming 12 months?
- Answer** (2) There is one planned.
- Question** (3) In what locations are they planned?
- Answer** (3) Gyle Park.
- Question** (4) What engagement has taken place with 'Friends of' groups, local schools and other relevant organisations regarding planting?
- Answer** (4) Granton Primary School were engaged and involved in the planting at West Granton Crescent Park. A community flyer was produced for social media and there was also a press release.

At Redbraes Park, Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust had a community planting day engaging the Gaelic School, Pilrig Park Special School and Broughton Primary School.

Item no 10.5

QUESTION NO 5

By Councillor Kumar for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

In relation to the withdrawal of services for after school support for pupils with additional support needs:

- Question** (1) When was the first contract awarded and what was the contract management agreement? (Including KPIs)
- Answer** (1) We cannot respond to this in public. A confidential briefing note will be sent to members.
- Question** (2) There are approximately 4600 pupils who attend out of school clubs. How many pupils have additional support needs?
- Answer** (2) As above.
- Question** (3) What conversations have taken place between council officers and contract provider prior to 31st March 2022 to performance manage and monitor contract?
- Answer** (3) As above.
- Question** (4) When was the contract provider first made aware of officer's concerns around performance and what support was given to help improve this
- Answer** (4) As above.
- Question** (5) Breakdown of number of pupils supported by contract provider per annum since start of contract.
- Answer** (5) As above.
- Question** (6) Did senior management agree that this would deliver an in-year budget saving? If so, by how much?
- Answer** (6) As above.

Item no 10.6

QUESTION NO 6

**By Councillor McFarlane for answer
by the Convener of the Culture and
Communities Committee at a
meeting of the Council on 31 August
2023**

Question

Can she respond to reports that Lifelong Learning Staff based at the Southbridge Resource Centre found out about the preliminary plans to long-lease the building in the press instead of being briefed ahead of the reports publication as was promised at a meeting of stakeholders?

Answer

In advance of a report to Finance and Resources Committee on 25 April 2023 and following a hybrid meeting with all ward councillors, Council officers and members of the Fringe Society on 28 March:

On 19 April 2023 an email was issued to the Lifelong Learning colleagues who are based in South Bridge Resource Centre and whose programmes run from the building. This email provided an update on the note of interest received from the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society and confirmed that a report would be presented to Finance and Resources Committee on 25 April 2023. The email explained that Committee would be asked to approve entering into formal discussions with the Society. The email sought to reassure colleagues that the discussions did not affect current or upcoming programmes, that the report to Committee did not seek a decision on the future of South Bridge Resource Centre and that the Council was committed to maintaining its extremely successful Adult Education. This email was sent with high importance to staff, for cascading to tutors and participants.

The importance of communication and coordinating this with the Fringe Society was emphasised at the meeting. A Fringe Society press release was embargoed until 19 April, with both the email and press release scheduled for release on the same day.

A further email was circulated on 28 June 2023 to confirm that the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society would be carrying out surveys in early July as part of their feasibility assessment on the potential of the building.

Item no 10.7

QUESTION NO 7

By Councillor Aston for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

Can the Transport and Environment Convener detail what measurable progress has been made in the last year in reducing car usage in Edinburgh towards the target of a 30% reduction car kilometres by 2030?

Answer

Your attendance as a member of the Transport and Environment Committee has been commendable, so I am sure you will recall the progress which has been made in terms of policy.

Reduction in car kilometres is measured as part of the City Mobility Plan (CMP) Key Performances Indicators (KPIs). Progress against all the KPIs will be reported to Transport and Environment Committee in February 2024 as part of the CMP review process.

Since the baseline year (2019) up until August 2022 there has been a 7% reduction in car kilometres in Edinburgh. Information is provided by the Department for Transport's traffic count data annually and the next update is expected in summer 2024.

Item no 10.8

QUESTION NO 8

By Councillor Beal for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

Please indicate the numbers of over-hanging foliage cases reported to the Council that:-

- Are solved without further intervention from the Council
- Required minimal intervention from the Council to be cut back
- Required lengthy intervention from the Council to reach resolution
- Required a cut back by the Council and charged to the dwelling
- Are still outstanding

Please could this be broken down by Ward and month over the last 2 years?

Please also provide an average length of cases in each category above.

Answer

It has not been possible to provide all of the information requested within the timeframe for preparing this response. However, please find below a table, by ward and by month of the total number of trees and foliage enquiries received since August 2021.

In addition, a further table summarises the number of enquiries by ward and the number outstanding.

You may also want to refer Question 5 from the June 2023 full Council.

Ward	Enquiry Closed	Enquiry Outstanding	Total
1	435	53	488
2	290	41	331
3	218	34	252
4	354	44	398
5	293	44	337
6	331	24	355
7	349	48	397
8	346	45	391
9	224	22	246
10	202	45	247
11	163	20	183
12	188	37	225
13	133	15	148
14	386	43	429
15	215	43	258
16	375	170	545
17	283	74	357
			5,587

TOTAL NO. OF TREES & FOLIAGE ENQUIRIES RECEIVED (BY MONTH & WARD)

Ward	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Total	
1	43	41	21	9	5	9	8	7	13	24	27	35	37	20	17	15	5	12	10	3	4	19	50	54	488	
2	35	7	12	10	6	2	16	9	7	14	18	19	11	15	25	10	3	5	2	5	3	18	35	44	331	
3	25	17	8	6	9	7	9	7	4	10	20	13	12	10	4	10	3	4	6	6	8	11	18	25	252	
4	31	22	16	6	4	7	2	11	9	15	25	24	19	24	17	13	6	3	5	4	10	22	51	52	398	
5	37	25	18	9	8	11	14	8	9	15	24	19	8	7	6	8	4	6	7	3	12	13	49	17	337	
6	32	26	6	9	6	2	3	11	8	23	32	22	17	15	13	11	1	5	5	6	11	20	31	40	355	
7	31	28	8	8	2	5	3	7	14	22	29	21	30	11	13	10	8	4	6	8	3	21	43	62	397	
8	27	17	18	17	4	3	4	7	6	10	37	18	15	17	36	7	4	7	7	6	6	12	32	74	391	
9	23	20	8	5	2	3	3	4	2	8	22	22	9	8	12	7	2	4	6	4	3	12	31	26	246	
10	34	17	10	6	6	5	7	3	4	10	11	8	14	13	14	6	0	8	4	6	4	6	18	33	247	
11	13	15	9	5	4	7	4	3	2	11	13	8	2	10	6	6	5	2	9	3	2	11	18	15	183	
12	23	11	5	6	4	4	3	3	5	9	19	17	9	7	5	10	2	4	6	4	8	12	25	24	225	
13	5	3	5	1	0	3	5	5	1	12	10	10	6	7	5	2	1	2	2	2	6	8	16	31	148	
14	28	23	11	14	1	5	6	16	18	24	43	32	22	12	26	8	3	4	5	5	5	24	38	56	429	
15	27	13	10	42	1	2	2	6	5	5	7	11	15	7	4	10	4	8	7	8	6	19	14	25	258	
16	55	37	19	39	7	13	7	13	19	31	39	30	19	15	22	10	6	2	5	6	11	27	70	43	545	
17	28	13	12	15	5	5	8	9	8	17	30	22	17	12	10	13	6	4	4	4	10	16	44	45	357	
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Item no 10.9

QUESTION NO 9

By Councillor Thornley for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

A new pedestrian crossing has been installed at the foot of Clermiston Road North. The reduced size of the pedestrian island, and placement of pedestrian crossing lights, means access by wheelchair and for prams is nearly impossible.

Therefore, to ask the Convener;

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Question | (1) What assessment has been made of the accessibility of the new pedestrian crossing island at the foot of Clermiston Road North?. |
| Answer | (1) The alteration to the junction was required to accommodate the introduction of a Toucan crossing on Queensferry Road. Council officers agreed the final layout taking account of the different and, sometimes conflicting, requirements. The island itself has not been reduced in size but the layout has been altered to reflect current guidelines on where traffic signal apparatus has to be located. |
| Question | (2) Is work planned to resolve this issue and if so, when is it expected to be completed? |
| Answer | (2) Officers are currently looking at the feasibility of re-locating the signal pole within the current guidelines. If feasible, the pole will be moved as soon as possible (depending on contractor availability). |
| Question | (3) If not, why not? |
| Answer | (3) See above. |

Item no 10.10

QUESTION NO 10

By Councillor Thornley for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Original plans for the West Craigs development talked of a bus gate on Turnhouse Road, beyond the existing West Craigs housing. This would mean all traffic having to go via the Craigs Road/Maybury Road junction.

In answer to my question in February this year, the Convener stated that “a bus gate may be necessary” and was being investigated.

Therefore, to ask the Convener;

Question (1) Have investigations into the possibility of a bus gate concluded? If not, when does he expect they will conclude?

Answer (1) No decision has been made on the bus gate.

Initial feasibility indicated the potential for the introduction of a bus gate on Turnhouse Road. Further evaluation is now being taken forward as part of the wider review of the Maybury Junction. Consultants have recently been appointed to do this and Transport and Environment Committee will be updated when the project has been developed.

The implementation of any bus gate would require a traffic regulation order and a formal consultation process which would provide opportunities for the public to provide comment on any proposal.

Question (2) If so, will a bus gate be installed on Turnhouse Road?

Answer (2) See answer 1.

Question (3) If so, when is the bus gate expected to be installed?

Answer (3) See answer 1.

QUESTION NO 11

**By Councillor Campbell for answer
by the Convener of the Culture and
Communities Committee at a
meeting of the Council on 31 August
2023**

Question

- (1) There are still a number of concerns that councillors have raised about the lifelong learning review which have not been fully resolved.

Councillors were initially told that no saving would be delivered through the Lifelong Learning Review yet a saving was made.

Can the convener please confirm:

- On what date was the decision made to delete vacant posts resulting in a £170k saving?
- Which officers (Job title, not individuals) were involved in signing off this decision?
- Which objectives in the business plan were considered when this decision was made?
- Was an equalities impact assessment undertaken?
- Was the convener consulted on this decision?
- Were any other councillors informed or consulted on the budget cut to lifelong learning?
- What was the formal governance process around this decision and was there advice sought at any point on whether, due to political sensitivity, this should be decided by committee or council?

Answer

(1) In response to the questions above:

- On what date was the decision made to delete vacant posts resulting in a £170k saving?

On 12 December 2022, the final structure following the Lifelong Learning Review was communicated to officers in scope of the review.

On 13 December 2022, Culture and Communities Committee received an update on the review which confirmed that a saving was anticipated from the review.

- Which officers (Job title, not individuals) were involved in signing off this decision?

The Senior Responsible Officers for the review were the Executive Directors of Place and (now) Children, Education and Justice Services.

- Which objectives in the business plan were considered when this decision was made?

The vision for the review included focusing service delivery on activities which support the three core business plan priorities.

- Was an equalities impact assessment undertaken?

An integrated impact assessment was prepared in advance of the organisational review commencing and was updated through engagement with Trade Union colleagues during the review process.

- Was the convener consulted on this decision?

I was not consulted on the outcome of the review, but I was kept updated on the progress of the review.

- Were any other councillors informed or consulted on the budget cut to lifelong learning?

As noted above, a report to Culture and Communities Committee in December 2022 highlighted that a saving was anticipated.

- What was the formal governance process around this decision and was there advice sought at any point on whether, due to political sensitivity, this should be decided by committee or council?

The Lifelong Learning Review followed the Council's Managing Change policy. As noted in response to Councillor Campbell's question in September 2022, organisational reviews are always taken forward by officers.

Question

(2) Concerns have also been raised about the HR processes and the conflicting information provided to councillors. Can the convener please confirm:

- Why were three posts deleted after the review because there was no member of staff matched, yet staff were moved onto redeployment following the review?
- Councillors have been told that the cut to the lifelong learning budget was made because it did not impact on staff, does she agree with this assessment?
- Were all processes followed correctly in terms of the information that staff were given about applying for posts while on redeployment?
- Were any posts advertised externally?
- What is the HR process for when posts are advertised externally following a review, and was the correct process followed in this case?

Answer

(2) In response to the questions above:

- Why were three posts deleted after the review because there was no member of staff matched, yet staff were moved onto redeployment following the review?

There have been no posts deleted from the structure following the review. As noted in a briefing note for Councillors in June 2023, following matching and assignment there were four individuals within the scope of the review who were unsuccessful in being matched into positions within the new service areas.

- Councillors have been told that the cut to the lifelong learning budget was made because it did not impact on staff, does she agree with this assessment?

There was 69.67 FTE (excluding vacancies) in scope of the review and the final structure has positions equivalent to a total FTE of 74.5. The saving achieved through the review is as a result of there being unfilled vacancies in the original lifelong learning structure.

- Were all processes followed correctly in terms of the information that staff were given about applying for posts while on redeployment?

Yes, the processes were followed. However, I asked officers to consider if the approach to redeployment was appropriate in the circumstances and, as a result, the individuals affected were invited to note interest in the unfilled roles.

- Were any posts advertised externally?

Yes, the unfilled posts were advertised concurrently to redeployment, internally and externally due to the number of positions available. Any redeployees who noted interest in these positions were seen prior to any other candidates.

- What is the HR process for when posts are advertised externally following a review, and was the correct process followed in this case?

There is no specific process for advertising vacancies externally following an organisational review. The process followed is outlined above.

Item no 10.12

QUESTION NO 12

By Councillor Nicolson for answer by the Council Leader at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

Following the SNP motion at Full Council which agreed unanimously that a Stolperstein will be installed at St Stephen's Church, Stockbridge, to recognise the heroic work of Jane Haining, please can you update us on progress towards the Stolperstein installation and a ceremony in January 2024 to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day?

Answer

To date, approximately 95,000 Stolperstein have been installed across Europe.

Council officers have investigated the criteria on Stolperstein, which is a project initiated by German artist Gunter Demnig. The artist himself must install all of the Stolperstein, with production costs of 132 euros for each stone (which measure 10cm x 10cm). The cost of travel and accommodation for the artist will also need to be met.

The Stolperstein should be placed outside 'their last address of choice' therefore evidence would need to be provided that this was Jane Haining's address of choice. In addition, there is a requirement to contact any living relatives to ensure the correct placement and to organise permissions and media ahead of any unveiling.

Officers understand that there is a long waiting list for Stolperstein, with production of around 440 per month. They will continue to progress this and to identify any potential funding partners but unfortunately it is unlikely that an installation ceremony will be possible in January 2024.

QUESTION NO 13

**By Councillor McKenzie for answer
by the Convener of the Education,
Children and Families Committee at a
meeting of the Council on 31 August
2023**

Under section 1(1C) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, education authorities are empowered to provide discretionary early learning and childcare, over and above the statutory entitlement. This can be used to widen local eligibility criteria.

Question (1) When was the Convener informed of changes to eligibility criteria for discretionary early learning and childcare?

Answer (1) There has been no change to the criteria for discretionary early learning and childcare. Discretionary for 2 year olds are allocated using the following criteria.

- Children in temporary accommodation or homeless.
- Children who have been supported through the Family Nurse Partnership.

Referrals for children under 2 years old are still made using the Getting it Right for Every Child SHANARRI wellbeing indicators and consideration is given to children who require additional support to enable them to reach their full potential (Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004), or who meet the eligibility criteria as identified in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Examples are

- Safe - Children on the child protection register
- Healthy - Multi-agency child planning (GIRFEC pathways 3 & 4 planning)

Question (2) Can the Convener share details of the changes that have been made to the eligibility criteria?

- Answer** (2) As stated, no changes have been made to the eligibility criteria. Members of the Children’s Partnership (NHS, Education and Social Work) agreed to review the process for allocation to ensure children who have the greatest level of need are able to access a place as soon as possible.
- Question** (3) Can the Convener explain how the decision to change the eligibility criteria was reached, including details of any discussions with stakeholders and elected members?
- Answer** (3) The criteria has not changed.
- Question** (4) Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed in relation to changes to the eligibility criteria?
- Answer** (4) N/A
- Question** (5) How many referrals for discretionary early learning and childcare have been accepted as of 22nd August 2023 in comparison with 22nd August 2022 from each of the following sources:
- a) Self-referrals
 - b) Health Visitor referrals
 - c) Social Work referrals
 - d) Third Sector referrals
- Answer** (5) Local authority early years settings have 124 registered places for children under the age of 2 years old.
- August 2022 – 51 children under the age of 2 had a discretionary place. We do not hold accurate data for the process prior to August 2023 because the process in place at the time was inconsistent with early years settings taking different approaches to recording whether children had been referred or were actually eligible for funded ELC.

August 2023 - 77 children under the age of 2 have a discretionary place. 41 places have been allocated through the referral process.

- a) Self-referrals = 0
- b) Health Visitor referrals = 30
- c) Social Work referrals = 3
- d) Third Sector referrals = 0
- e) Family Nurse Partnership = 7
- f) Community Nursery Nurse = 1

Question (6) Can the Convener share the advice that is being given in response to unsuccessful referrals?

Answer (6) The advice will vary depending on the information provided in the referral.

Item no 10.14

QUESTION NO 14

By Councillor Biagi for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

In how many schools were fewer than one place per class kept aside this academic year for P1 pupils who moved into catchment after the December cut-off date for enrolment, and which schools are they?

Answer

Bonaly – two late catchment – 1 granted on appeal so now 1.

Broughton – 2 late catchment – 1 being offered.

Brunstane – 3 late catchment – 1 allocated – 3 appeals were granted so this has reduced the possibility of allocating to late catchment.

Corstorphine – 2 late catchment – 1 non-catchment granted on appeal, so this has reduced the possibility of allocating to late catchment.

Cramond – 1 late catchment now allocated.

Forthview – 4 late catchment – all now allocated.

Leith – 1 late catchment – now allocated.

Lorne – 1 late catchment – now allocated.

Newcraighall – 2 late catchment – now allocated.

Sciennes – 2 late catchment – 1 allocated

The class organisations in our primary schools are reviewed annually in January taking into account expected pupil numbers for the coming school session. Our priority is to accommodate catchment pupils, with out of catchment places offered where available. Edinburgh is experiencing a falling pupil roll across our primary schools with many schools experiencing a drop in pupil intake limits and classes.

The Council aims to provide places for P1 and S1 pupils at one of their catchment schools, if they apply and provide satisfactory proof of residence in the catchment area by 24 December in the year before they begin primary or secondary school and are still living at the same address at the start of session.

Item no 10.15

QUESTION NO 15

By Councillor Mowat for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

- Question** (1) How many fines have been issued to tourist coaches parking overnight on areas covered by signs saying “No Parking at Any Time”?
- Answer** (1) Over the past year, nine parking tickets have been issued to coaches parking on yellow lines out with the operating times of the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ), with the latest issue time being 20:31.
- Question** (2) Who issues these fines?
- Answer** (2) Parking tickets in Edinburgh are issued by parking attendants who are employed by NSL on behalf of the Council.

QUESTION NO 16

By Councillor Whyte for answer by the Convener of the Regulatory Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

The cost of a Short Term Let License is intended to recover the costs to the Council of the work involved.

The cost of a license for a four person/two bed property in East Lothian for a three-year period is £390. In Edinburgh, the equivalent cost is £1440.

Question (1) Can the Convener explain why the costs vary so much?

Answer (1) The fees chargeable in Edinburgh were approved by the Regulatory Committee and reflect the work expected in terms of inspecting properties, dealing with complaints and ensuring that Licensed Short Term Let (STL) operators behave responsibly. I understand the fee for East Lothian is a flat fee irrespective of size or type of STL.

Question (2) How can this be justifiable when the work involved in administering the scheme will be the same? Indeed, it could be argued that there are economies of scale in administering the scheme for larger local authorities in Edinburgh

Answer (2) The fee is not simply for administration. A comparison could only be made if the approach to enforcement and monitoring the STL sector during the lifetime of the 3 year licence is identical. The Council has agreed a proactive monitoring approach and the costs have been set based on previous experience (of the real cost of monitoring and enforcement of other licence types). The Council will publish a full breakdown of the income and expenditure associated with STL to allow scrutiny by the Regulatory Committee on an ongoing basis.

Item no 10.17

QUESTION NO 17

By Councillor Whyte for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

At the most recent Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee a deputation suggested that there was proportionally a much higher number of void and long-term void Council homes in Lochend/Craigentenny/Restalrig than in other areas of the city.

Can the Convener please provide the following information in a tabular format to clarify the situation, City wide and for the areas of Lochend, Craigentenny and Restalrig

Question (1) The total number of Council HRA homes

Answer (1) The table below shows the total number of Council homes across the city, with a breakdown of the three areas listed.

As of 21 Aug 23	City wide	Craigentenny	Lochend	Restalrig	Total	Area % of city
CEC Homes	20,224	417	706	387	1,510	7.47%
Total voids*	1,435	8	66	59	133	9.27%
Voids over 18 months	478	1	36	31	68	14.23%

*includes 260 voids unable to be let due to decants, disposal, demolition, new build, management transfer etc

Question (2) The total number of voids, and the proportion of properties void in percentage terms.

Answer (2) See response to Q1 above

Question (3) The number of long-term voids, and the proportion of properties long-term void in percentage terms.

Answer (3) See response to Q1 above

Question (4) A breakdown of the main reasons that properties are long-term void

Answer (4) The table below provides a breakdown of the main reasons for the long term void properties in the three areas noted above:

As of 21 August 23	
Undergoing repairs	45
Repairs complete and returned to be let	20
Void Properties unable to be let*	3
Total	68

* Voids unable to be let due to being used as decants (2) or being transferred to temporary accommodation (1).

Question (5) The average turnover rate

Answer (5) The average length of time to re-let properties in 2022/23 was 108 days.

Question (6) The average length of tenancy

Answer (6) The average length of tenancy as of 22 August 2023 was 4,171 days.

Item no 10.18

QUESTION NO 18

By Councillor Bruce for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question (1) What meetings have taken place with the landowners to deliver the fully signalised Dalmahoy Junction and what were the outcomes?

Answer (1) Initial contact was made with the landowners around September 2018. A meeting with the landowners took place in December 2019 and thereafter Council officers have been engaging with the landowners by correspondence.

Question (2) When is this part of the project expected to be concluded?

Answer (2) Terms are currently being discussed with each of the three landowners. Once terms are agreed with the landowners, the legal paperwork can be finalised and issued for agreement. It is not yet possible to provide a date for when these terms will be concluded.

Item no 10.19

QUESTION NO 19

By Councillor Bruce for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

You mentioned back in the May Full Council that a direct and frequent bus service from Ratho to the city centre was not affordable within the current supported bus services budget. Will you write to the Transport Convenor at the Scottish Government before the end of September 2023 to ask for extra emergency funding to make sure Ratho has a direct city centre bus service it so desperately needs?

Answer

Whilst much of the CEC area is provided with an excellent service via Lothian Buses, the Council supporting services elsewhere is an incredibly expensive undertaking within the context of the Scottish Government's squeeze on local government spending. This was only exacerbated when the proposal in the 2023/24 CEC budget process to provide additional funding to supported bus services was blocked.

I'm due to meet Fiona Hyslop MSP, the Scottish Government's Minister for Transport, in the coming weeks to discuss transport in Edinburgh and I will be sure to mention the challenges in rural west Edinburgh.

QUESTION NO 20

By Councillor Osler for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

In December 2017 I asked the then Convener of Transport and Environment - what number of pedestrian crossings within the City of Edinburgh have been fitted with a pedestrian signalling box with working rotating cones underneath, which enable partially sighted individuals to know when it is safe to cross? Answer - There are currently **596 traffic signal** installations in the city. **409 have rotating tactile cones** for use by partially sighted pedestrians. Five and half years on:

Question (1) What number of pedestrian crossings within the City of Edinburgh have been fitted with a pedestrian signalling box with working rotating cones underneath, which enable partially sighted individuals to know when it is safe to cross?

Answer (1) There are currently 642 sets of traffic signals in Edinburgh. Out of the 642 sets of signals there are two different types of facilities for visually impaired users, tactile rotating cones & audio beeper units. These are broken down to, 319 with both rotating tactile cones and audio units, 209 with tactile rotating cones only and 72 with audio units only.

Question (2) What number of signalised crossing have no pedestrian signalling box?

Answer (2) Where there are junctions that have missing push buttons, the data isn't available for those crossings that still have a signalised red and green man. All standalone crossings have no missing push buttons, out of our 277 junctions there are 66 signal-controlled junctions that have partial pedestrian facilities. This is where 1 or more arms of the junction has a missing controlled crossing.

Question (3) In the cases where a pedestrian signalling box has been installed how many do not have working rotating cones?

Answer (3) There are a total of 29 traffic signals that have no facilities for visually impaired users where there are push buttons installed.

QUESTION NO 21

By Councillor Osler for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question (1) According to a report that went to the Transport and Environment Committee in May of this year *the present contractor has agreed to undertake an on going sweeping program of all sites laid with micro-asphalt from the 2022/23 program.*

How is this being monitored?

Answer (1) The contractor agreed to undertake a regular sweep of sites between February 2023 and July 2023 (this time period corresponds with the date the material was identified as defective by the contractor, to the date the remedial works were completed).

After a sweep in late February 2023, it was agreed between the Council and the contractor that further sweeps would be undertaken as and when necessary, based on site inspections and resident feedback.

Council officers have carried-out ad-hoc inspections. However, due to the wholesale stone loss soon after laying (October 2022), the majority of the loose material had already been cleared (as a result of previous sweeping operations) therefore further sweeps have not been necessary as there was negligible loose material during the period from early March 2023 to July 2023.

Question (2) Given the unsatisfactory implementation and the lack of action to address the issues last year.

What improvements have been made this year?

Answer

- (2) The issues experienced during the 2022/23 programme can be attributed to defective material associated with the micro-asphalt programme (the surface dressing program was largely unaffected). Unfortunately, the issue with the material was only identified at the end of the programme, and was therefore too late to prevent wholesale failures at some sites. An extensive investigation was undertaken by the contractor and their findings were presented to the Council in February 2023.

As a result of the issues last year and further discussions with the contractor, their procedures were amended for the 2023/24 programme. The most notable change was the instigation of additional testing by the aggregate supplier on each batch prior to use by the contractor on-street. It was also decided to bring forward the 2023/24 programme by 2 – 3 months (starting in May and completing in July/early August), thus ensuring better climatic conditions for this type of operation.

The 2023/24 micro asphalt and surface dressing laying programme has now completed and material failures have not been identified.

QUESTION NO 22

By Councillor Flannery for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

The Council website states: *Edinburgh's city centre LEZ is here. Are you ready?* It points to boundary, standards, penalty charges, support funding and exemptions of impending LEZ, but there is no support or approved list of outlets for residents wanting to convert their vehicles to be LEZ-ready. Does the Convenor agree that -

- Question** **(1)** To encourage this transition information should be readily available on Council Websites?

Answer

- (1) The Clean Vehicle Retrofit Accreditation Scheme (CVRAS) is only applicable to buses, coaches, heavy goods vehicles, mini-buses, taxis and certain vans (subject to conditions and feasibility being met).

More information on the [Clean Vehicle Retrofit Accreditation Scheme \(CVRAS\)](#) and [approved suppliers for eligible businesses and vehicle types](#) are available on the Energy Savings Trust website. The Council's [LEZ business support webpage](#) has been updated to reflect this information.

If you are a low-income household living within 20 kilometres (12 miles) of the LEZ, you may be eligible to apply for a grant of up to £3,000. Support includes:

- £2,000 for disposing of vehicles which do not comply with the low emissions standards; and
- £500 Travel Better vouchers per adult, up to £1,000 per household to buy bikes, e-bikes, cargo bikes and public transport tickets.

Other support is also available including for:

- e-bikes
- family cargo bikes
- adapted cycles; and
- electric vehicles and chargers

Further information on funding support for individuals and households is detailed on the [LEZ Individuals and Households support webpage](#).

Question

- (2) That officers who have had to check with Transport Scotland to find out approved CVRAS outlets, should be provided with this information, also?

Answer

- (2) See response to Question 1.

Question

- (3) Given this, is he aware that -

Some garages seem equally unclear as to what conversion entails, which garages will carry this out, and by when.

Answer (3) See response to Question 1.

Question (4) Given that the 1 June 2024 is the introduction date for the City Centre LEZ, would he agree that as a council we need to have this information available as a matter of priority for residents.

Answer (4) See response to Question 1.

QUESTION NO 23

By Councillor Caldwell for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

On the 2nd of May, 2023, a number of trees were fell on Pilrig Street and multiple cherry blossom trees on Cambridge Gardens were cut back by contractors working on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council. These trees are within the Pilrig Conservation Area, which has a 2013 character appraisal stating "*the significance of mature trees*" as part of the essential character.

Question (1) Why did these proposed works not go through the Planning system given the trees' status were known about for at least a month, as well as the consideration of the above significance of the conservation area, which private local residents rightly get permission when felling a tree, and allow residents to be aware of works?

Answer (1) Following an inspection of the trees within the Pilrig Conservation area, an urgent decision was taken to take action on a small number of trees due to their condition. Two trees were felled, and the remainder had minor pruning works carried out to improve sightlines and to address conflicts with low hanging branches along the public highway.

Emergency works are exempt from planning approval, and Council officers in Neighbourhood Environmental Services and Planning work closely to ensure that any emergency works are clearly documented so that they could be investigated at a later date if required.

Question (2) What liaison was done with residents of the properties these trees were on before and after the works, and what steps are being taken to replace the tree loss?

Answer (2) During the inspection, local residents engaged with the inspector on site in respect of the action being taken. As the trees are located on HRA land, the works were approved by Council officers in Neighbourhood Environmental Services and Housing.

There are plans to replace the two trees which were felled as part of a future planting programme. The date for this planting is yet to be confirmed.

Question (3) Why was the emergency tree number not staffed at 11am in the morning in question when residents suspected illegal tree felling?

Answer (3) The Council Emergency Contact Number is used for reporting all issues with trees. This is a 24-hour service, 365 days per year. However, it may be that residents contacted officers directly but were unable to reach them as the office is not always staffed. A dedicated mailbox is also in place and is monitored throughout office hours. Emails received are prioritised and responded to in order of priority.

Question (4) How are trees that have to be removed for safety on Council land recorded with the Planning service to ensure the Council are replacing our stock in order to meet the “one million tree city” target.

Answer (4) Where protected trees are removed, the Planning service will usually specify that replacements are planted (unless there is a good reason not to). A long-standing commitment to replace trees where they are lost is written into the ‘Trees in the City’ policy. Culture and Communities Committee are kept updated on this on an annual basis. This is achieved through the Council’s annual tree planting programme and the Edinburgh Million Tree Project (via external partners).

QUESTION NO 24

By Councillor Caldwell for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question (1) What is the Council's position on street furniture actively being installed in 2023 to 2015 Edinburgh Street Design Guidance specifications, rather than 2022 Guidance?

Answer (1) When street schemes are designed, they accord with guidance current at that time. This means that where guidance is updated prior to construction, situations can arise where the installed scheme does not meet the parameters of current guidance. Each must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis as updating design parameters to current guidance would, in normal circumstances, be a contract change which would need to be managed through each project's change management process.

Question (2) What is the Council's policy in responding to serious accessibility and safety concerns raised by residents on infrastructure such as benches (*C1-5-a in 2015 into F2 in 2022*), pavement width (*C1-1-a and C1-1-b in 2015 into P2 in 2022*) or cycle racks (*C2-4 in 2015 into C7 in 2022*) that don't meet 2022 Guidance?

Answer (2) The Council does not immediately review all existing infrastructure when guidance is updated and therefore there is no immediate action to replace anything that no longer complies to the most up to date guidance. When designing new infrastructure, the designs developed aim to comply with current guidance at the point of design.

Officers will also investigate issues of accessibility and safety if these are raised with residents and consider if there is any action which can be taken to address this.

Question (3) What steps generally across Edinburgh are the Administration taking to ensure infrastructure that doesn't meet the 2022 Guidance (but meets 2015) is replaced with infrastructure that does?

Answer (3) As above.

Question (4) What steps, specifically on the Trams to Newhaven Project and handover, are the Administration taking to ensure infrastructure that doesn't meet the 2022 Guidance (but meets 2015) is replaced with infrastructure that does?

Answer (4) Any steps would be taken in line with the parameters above and funding would have to be made available.

QUESTION NO 25

**By Councillor Davidson for answer
by the Vice-Chair of the Edinburgh
Integration Joint Board at a meeting
of the Council on 31 August 2023**

Question (1) What assessment has been made as to the uptake of the online order service of sexual health testing kits provided by the EHSCP?

Answer (1) It is clear that uptake, in terms of demand, greatly exceeds capacity. Lothian Sexual & Reproductive Health Services (LSRHS) piloted the new software that supports online ordering of testing kits as part of a national pilot. We are still working with the developers and our data team to get further reporting capabilities set up. We are in the process of gathering data to write a report on the roll-out of the pilot in Lothian.

Question (2) Has an assessment to the accessibility of the current system taken place?

Answer (2) Accessibility testing was done as part of the project's software design phase by the team that created the pathway and is part of the national pilot project specification. Further accessibility testing has not taken place within Lothian Sexual and Reproductive Health Services.

Question (3) Is there an estimate as to the number of patients who have been unable to access kits due to limited accessibility to the online kits?

Answer (3) Initial reports from the electronic patient record developers who host the online ordering platform (Excelicare) identified that 11-13% of requests were being met. This is likely in part to reflect the same citizens making multiple attempts to order the kits, but we know that only a minority of requests are met. The service has advertised the time we make kits available on our FAQs on our website.

Based on the low percentage of people able to access testing kits online and the need to offer alternative routes to testing, we have re-introduced our face-to-face express

testing service for those without symptoms. We have not yet quantified the impact this has had on success at getting an online order as the service need to go via the developer for this information at present.

For context, it is important to note that this project was initiated in Lothian as a local solution during COVID restrictions, within the existing funding envelope. As other services have resumed and expanded, it constitutes an additional resource pressure. It has progressed as part of a national pilot which finishes in August 2023. Discussions are underway between the Project Board, Scottish Government and Public Health Scotland regarding the national roll out of the pilot, including nationally co-ordinated laboratory solutions and resource implications. We continue to work closely with the online ordering developers and programme board with the aim of supporting a national solution to make it more accessible and easier to access a testing kit for more people. In the meantime, we continue to work on solutions to improve capacity locally within existing resources.

Item no 10.26

QUESTION NO 26

By Councillor Dobbin for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question (1) Given the dependence of many residents on the Garden Aid Service and the failure of the Contractor to meet their responsibilities, how many residents have complained about missed appointments

Answer (1) In the period April to August 2023, there were 173 complaints about missed service from across the city from a total customer base of 2,592 (6.67%). It is important to note that the Garden Aid service is a basic grass and hedge-cutting service and does not operate on an appointment basis.

Question (2) When were officers aware of the issues and why were Councillors not briefed?

Answer (2) Much of the issues caused have been related to resourcing on the part of the contractor. It was anticipated these issues would have been resolved by now.

Officers recognise that when it became apparent that the issues were going to persist Members should have been notified. A Members Brief will be circulated as soon as possible.

Question (3) Will residents who have had failure of service receive compensation?

Answer (3) If paying customers have not received a hedge-cut this season they will be offered the chance to cancel the service and receive compensation and if they have only received one hedge cut, then they will be offered proportionate compensation.

Item no 10.27

QUESTION NO 27

By Councillor Dobbin for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question (1) Given many residents have now been waiting over a year to have windows replaced, and with the winter rapidly approaching, can the Convener explain in detail why the tendering process has taken so long to appoint a new contractor.

Answer (1) There are two live contracts in place to deliver the window replacement programme across the city. A procurement process is in progress now to address the backlog which has resulted from the difficulties experienced in procurement for this work. Officers anticipate that it will take 12 months from now to clear the backlog.

An update on the procurement process was provided in response to a previous question by Councillor Dobbin. There have been delays in awarding the live contracts as a result of a challenge to the decision of the procurement process which prevented the award of contracts until the dispute had been resolved.

Question (2) Given the failure of the process, why have Councillors not been briefed on the inordinate delays affecting constituents.

Answer (2) Ward members are regularly briefed on investment priorities and plans for each financial year and officers respond to individual questions from Elected Members and tenants on specific cases. This has been the case with regards to contract delays and window replacement, with a number of updates provided to councillors over a period of months.

QUESTION NO 28

By Councillor Whyte for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Despite the increased budget of £2.74 million for Street Cleansing, concerns have been raised that the standard has not been improved at all. With regards our Statutory Duties under the Code of Practice can the Convener please provide a response to the following questions -

Question (1) Does he accept that the department has a legal obligation to cleanse streets to the standard set out in the Code?

Answer (1) Streets should, as far as possible, be cleansed to a Grade A standard and where they fall below this should be recovered to this standard within the timescales in the Code.

Question (2) Does he accept that the only way to cleanse streets to those standards is by a brush and barrow operative as litter picking does not achieve the standard when there are parked cars, and neither will the new equipment?

Answer (2) This is dependent on the cleanliness of the street when a crew or barrow person attends. A street may only be required to be brought up to standard by some litter removal.

Question (3) The department has always stated they have a yearly blitz on street cleansing, as this is now August when is this due to start?

Answer (3) The service was funded in 2022/23 for a city-wide deep clean and also funded for a City Centre deep clean. The latter programme is in the final stages. Blitzes are routinely carried out by crews, and these are undertaken on a street-by-street basis.

Question (4) When is the weeding due to start?

Answer (4) Weed treatment has already started but, as with every other year, is dependant on weather and resources. Based on the budget available it is not possible to maintain weed free streets city wide.

Question (5) Why are abandoned items like traffic cones, signage, sandbags etc not removed in line with the NRSW Act which states they must be removed "promptly"?

Answer (5) The NRSW Act states that the company which has erected the traffic management should remove them, not the Council.

However, where abandoned items related to road works have been noted or reported to the Council, officers will take steps to identify the company responsible to arrange their removal. Where this is not possible, they will be removed as having been dumped or abandoned.

Question (6) Does the Convener accept that by failing to adhere to either the Code of Practice and the NRSW Act the council are leaving themselves open to court action?

Answer (6) The Council would only not be adhering to the NRSW Act where the traffic management relates to a Council road works or construction scheme. Any abandoned traffic management equipment left by statutory undertakers or private companies is not the duty of the Council.

Item no 10.29

QUESTION NO 29

By Councillor Jones for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Please can you provide information on the following:

- Question** (1) the standardised attainment results for 2022/2023 for all primary schools and secondary school in Edinburgh - P1, P4, P7 and S3
- Answer** (1) In Scotland National Standardised Assessments (NSA) data is used for diagnostic purposes only and is not used as a key performance indicator of pupil progress in learning, teacher, school or Local Authority performance. There is no correlation between ACEL scores and NSA scores, as these are all taken at different times, at the direction of class teachers, based on pupil readiness. They are considered as part of a range of assessment tools at teachers' disposal to be used diagnostically. This is the approach taken by Scottish Government: to use anonymised national level data to identify trends, National Policy and areas for improvement and support.
- Question** (2) the standardised attainment results for S 3 for all secondary schools for
2019/2020,
2020/2021 and
2021/22
- Answer** (2) As above

QUESTION NO 30

By Councillor Jones for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

Please could you provide the following information:

A breakdown school by school of the total percentage of children in SIMD 1 and SIMD 2.

Answer

This was last produced in December 2022. The next time this will be produced will be after the Pupil Census for the current session has concluded and this will be towards the end of November/early December of this year.

Please see overleaf the breakdowns:

SIMD 2020 Profile - Primary Schools

% of Pupils attending school on Census day (14/09/22) by SIMD Decile

School	SIMD Decile										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Abbeyhill Primary School	1%	4%	5%	24%	19%	20%	11%	2%	15%	1%	100%
Balgreen Primary School	1%	5%	32%	15%	8%	17%	3%	9%	9%	3%	100%
Blackhall Primary School	0%	0%	2%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	11%	81%	100%
Bonaly Primary School	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	16%	79%	100%
Broomhouse Primary School	6%	38%	18%	12%	1%	19%	5%	0%	1%	1%	100%
Broughton Primary School	2%	5%	3%	24%	3%	1%	5%	12%	21%	23%	100%
Brunstane Primary School	40%	22%	9%	2%	6%	1%	11%	5%	3%	0%	100%
Bruntsfield Primary School	0%	0%	1%	0%	3%	2%	11%	6%	12%	64%	100%
Buckstone Primary School	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	5%	1%	11%	80%	100%
Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce (Parkside Primary)	2%	7%	7%	10%	8%	7%	19%	8%	12%	19%	100%
Canaan Lane Primary School	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	8%	20%	63%	100%
Canal View Primary School	70%	10%	3%	1%	11%	1%	0%	0%	4%	0%	100%
Carrick Knowe Primary School	0%	7%	1%	5%	2%	25%	27%	1%	13%	19%	100%
Castleview Primary School	40%	49%	0%	1%	1%	4%	4%	0%	1%	0%	100%
Clermiston Primary School	0%	9%	6%	26%	18%	0%	16%	12%	10%	2%	100%
Clovenstone Primary School	40%	30%	20%	0%	7%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	100%
Colinton Primary School	2%	2%	3%	0%	6%	21%	4%	38%	12%	11%	100%
Corstorphine Primary School	0%	1%	0%	2%	7%	1%	13%	2%	8%	65%	100%
Craigentenny Primary School	20%	20%	25%	6%	10%	2%	1%	9%	0%	8%	100%
Craiglockhart Primary School	0%	1%	1%	2%	5%	6%	3%	5%	4%	74%	100%
Craigour Park Primary School	10%	32%	26%	9%	10%	9%	4%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Craigroyston Primary School	37%	38%	9%	6%	8%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	100%

Cramond Primary School	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	3%	5%	31%	58%	100%
Currie Primary School	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	12%	14%	8%	10%	54%	100%
Dalmeny Primary School	0%	1%	0%	0%	3%	1%	5%	63%	24%	3%	100%
Dalry Primary School	2%	7%	7%	13%	23%	4%	28%	2%	9%	5%	100%
Davidson's Mains Primary School	3%	4%	3%	3%	6%	0%	1%	0%	26%	54%	100%
Dean Park Primary School	0%	0%	0%	0%	16%	0%	1%	17%	14%	51%	100%
Duddingston Primary School	3%	3%	12%	1%	2%	3%	21%	1%	6%	47%	100%
East Craigs Primary School	0%	0%	0%	18%	13%	10%	3%	6%	17%	34%	100%
Echline Primary School	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	28%	57%	100%
Ferryhill Primary School	5%	26%	22%	43%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	100%
Flora Stevenson Primary School	1%	3%	7%	4%	0%	0%	4%	11%	3%	66%	100%
Forthview Primary School	5%	47%	34%	9%	3%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Fox Covert ND Primary School	0%	3%	5%	3%	1%	1%	2%	22%	47%	17%	100%
Frogston Primary School	0%	29%	2%	0%	7%	0%	46%	9%	7%	0%	100%
Gilmerton Primary School	11%	19%	9%	9%	10%	0%	36%	1%	4%	0%	100%
Gracemount Primary School	2%	46%	18%	6%	5%	0%	8%	6%	7%	1%	100%
Granton Primary School	32%	23%	19%	5%	4%	1%	10%	5%	0%	1%	100%
Gylemuir Primary School	0%	2%	1%	1%	10%	2%	35%	16%	11%	22%	100%
Hermitage Park Primary School	26%	9%	4%	8%	1%	18%	12%	11%	1%	11%	100%
Hillwood Primary School	0%	1%	6%	0%	3%	82%	1%	3%	3%	0%	100%
Holy Cross Roman Catholic Primary School	4%	12%	13%	4%	3%	7%	19%	9%	13%	17%	100%
James Gillespie's Primary School	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	5%	2%	8%	80%	100%
Juniper Green Primary School	3%	4%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	9%	17%	61%	100%
Kirkliston Primary School	0%	0%	16%	0%	9%	5%	0%	70%	0%	0%	100%
Leith Primary School	11%	11%	15%	21%	18%	6%	5%	8%	4%	0%	100%
Leith Walk Primary School	3%	4%	3%	25%	6%	14%	14%	11%	6%	15%	100%
Liberton Primary School	0%	3%	29%	28%	4%	0%	10%	8%	9%	8%	100%
Longstone Primary School	7%	2%	16%	9%	1%	26%	2%	0%	35%	1%	100%
Lorne Primary School	3%	6%	8%	34%	12%	3%	30%	1%	2%	2%	100%
Murrayburn Primary School	14%	9%	2%	8%	12%	41%	12%	1%	1%	1%	100%

Nether Currie Primary School	1%	3%	0%	0%	4%	2%	2%	15%	55%	17%	100%
Newcraighall Primary School	8%	3%	0%	2%	52%	9%	4%	1%	22%	0%	100%
Niddrie Mill Primary School	52%	33%	2%	1%	1%	7%	3%	1%	0%	0%	100%
Oxgangs Primary School	2%	8%	10%	1%	19%	3%	10%	8%	2%	38%	100%
Parson's Green Primary School	2%	4%	2%	20%	5%	2%	2%	11%	9%	43%	100%
Pentland Primary School	7%	5%	12%	5%	1%	7%	1%	1%	2%	60%	100%
Pirniehall Primary School	19%	35%	19%	16%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Preston Street Primary School	2%	3%	3%	5%	1%	10%	5%	10%	41%	21%	100%
Prestonfield Primary School	18%	30%	4%	20%	1%	3%	3%	1%	8%	13%	100%
Queensferry Primary School	0%	0%	5%	0%	1%	0%	12%	66%	13%	3%	100%
Ratho Primary School	0%	0%	2%	0%	24%	48%	6%	0%	0%	20%	100%
Roseburn Primary School	0%	1%	1%	2%	5%	4%	3%	12%	22%	49%	100%
Royal Mile Primary School	4%	11%	27%	27%	8%	10%	4%	3%	4%	3%	100%
Sciennes Primary School	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	9%	7%	22%	56%	100%
Sighthill Primary School	32%	58%	1%	1%	5%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	100%
South Morningside Primary School	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	8%	7%	75%	100%
St Andrews Fox Covert Roman Catholic Primary School	3%	19%	14%	12%	4%	1%	8%	12%	13%	15%	100%
St Catherine's Roman Catholic Primary School	0%	54%	10%	1%	9%	0%	11%	9%	4%	0%	100%
St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Primary School	3%	2%	6%	11%	19%	39%	1%	1%	14%	5%	100%
St David's Roman Catholic Primary School	20%	37%	24%	7%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
St Francis' Roman Catholic Primary School	44%	42%	1%	4%	1%	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	100%
St John Vianney Roman Catholic Primary School	4%	22%	26%	23%	6%	3%	12%	1%	3%	0%	100%
St John's Roman Catholic Primary School	15%	12%	6%	2%	6%	8%	21%	3%	12%	15%	100%
St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School	19%	36%	10%	8%	7%	9%	7%	1%	2%	0%	100%
St Margaret's Roman Catholic Primary School	1%	0%	6%	2%	2%	1%	4%	70%	9%	5%	100%
St Mark's Roman Catholic Primary School	12%	13%	19%	6%	7%	19%	6%	8%	3%	8%	100%
St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School (Edin.)	1%	3%	2%	10%	4%	6%	4%	17%	16%	38%	100%
St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School (Leith)	5%	11%	12%	30%	11%	6%	15%	7%	4%	0%	100%
St Ninian's Roman Catholic Primary school	22%	27%	10%	5%	8%	12%	3%	9%	2%	3%	100%
St Peter's Roman Catholic Primary School	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	11%	4%	16%	61%	100%

Stenhouse Primary School	3%	23%	21%	38%	7%	3%	2%	1%	2%	0%	100%
Stockbridge Primary School	0%	2%	0%	1%	2%	0%	9%	13%	19%	54%	100%
The Royal High Primary School	2%	3%	8%	1%	22%	4%	11%	8%	15%	26%	100%
Tollcross Primary School	2%	2%	5%	5%	13%	31%	20%	10%	5%	5%	100%
Towerbank Primary School	1%	1%	1%	14%	9%	19%	12%	10%	24%	10%	100%
Trinity Primary School	0%	9%	19%	10%	3%	11%	5%	2%	21%	21%	100%
Victoria Primary School	2%	5%	10%	16%	1%	21%	13%	9%	15%	7%	100%
Wardie Primary School	2%	5%	2%	3%	1%	0%	22%	2%	22%	42%	100%
Total	7%	11%	8%	7%	6%	6%	9%	8%	11%	26%	100%

Source:

ScotXed Pupil Census 2022

Scottish Government - SIMD 2020

SIMD 2020 Profile - Secondary Schools

% of Pupils attending school on Census day (14/09/22) by SIMD Decile

School	SIMD Decile										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Balerno Community High School	2%	2%	2%	1%	14%	12%	11%	14%	14%	29%	100%
Boroughmuir High School	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	7%	7%	11%	71%	100%
Broughton High School	10%	10%	13%	15%	3%	1%	8%	9%	4%	26%	100%
Castlebrae Community High School	38%	32%	1%	4%	5%	6%	8%	3%	3%	0%	100%
Craigmount High School	1%	1%	1%	7%	6%	6%	6%	10%	17%	43%	100%
Craigroyston Community High School	17%	43%	19%	9%	6%	0%	2%	1%	0%	3%	100%
Currie Community High School	3%	6%	2%	1%	3%	6%	8%	10%	19%	43%	100%
Drummond Community High School	4%	6%	8%	20%	10%	8%	8%	8%	12%	15%	100%
Firrhill High School	4%	4%	8%	4%	5%	8%	6%	6%	11%	45%	100%
Forrester High School	7%	14%	4%	7%	8%	22%	15%	4%	7%	11%	100%
Gracemount High School	7%	37%	17%	7%	10%	1%	10%	5%	5%	1%	100%
Holy Rood Roman Catholic High School	21%	27%	11%	7%	6%	6%	10%	3%	4%	4%	100%
James Gillespie's High School	1%	2%	2%	5%	4%	5%	8%	8%	15%	50%	100%
Leith Academy	11%	11%	11%	19%	10%	7%	12%	8%	2%	8%	100%
Liberton High School	8%	18%	22%	16%	7%	2%	14%	5%	6%	3%	100%
Portobello High School	8%	6%	5%	6%	7%	6%	13%	8%	17%	25%	100%
Queensferry Community High School	0%	0%	8%	1%	4%	3%	5%	51%	13%	15%	100%
St Augustine's Roman Catholic High School	19%	26%	12%	9%	10%	8%	5%	4%	4%	3%	100%
St Thomas of Aquin's Roman Catholic High School	4%	8%	7%	8%	6%	8%	8%	8%	12%	31%	100%
The Royal High School	1%	5%	3%	8%	6%	0%	5%	5%	19%	48%	100%
Trinity Academy	2%	9%	7%	7%	3%	10%	11%	3%	22%	25%	100%

Tynecastle High School	6%	10%	14%	15%	11%	9%	6%	3%	7%	20%	100%
Wester Hailes High School	49%	33%	4%	1%	9%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Total	8%	11%	7%	8%	6%	6%	8%	8%	11%	27%	100%

Source:

ScotXed Pupil Census 2022

Scottish Government - SIMD 2020

SIMD 2020 Profile - Special Schools

% of Pupils attending school on Census day (14/09/22) by SIMD Decile

School	SIMD Decile										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Braidburn	16%	14%	7%	6%	11%	4%	12%	9%	4%	16%	100%
Gorgie Mills	8%	37%	10%	14%	10%	2%	8%	4%	0%	6%	100%
Howdenhall and St Katharine's											
Kaimes School	16%	16%	6%	13%	11%	9%	2%	8%	11%	9%	100%
Oaklands School	8%	12%	12%	6%	4%	6%	10%	13%	10%	21%	100%
Pilrig Park School	14%	18%	7%	18%	11%	5%	7%	7%	1%	14%	100%
Prospect Bank School	22%	26%	2%	16%	4%	6%	10%	6%	2%	6%	100%
Redhall	10%	17%	13%	12%	4%	9%	9%	4%	9%	13%	100%
Rowanfield School	26%	19%	5%	17%	10%	0%	2%	10%	5%	7%	100%
St Crispin's School	13%	22%	2%	9%	11%	2%	11%	9%	13%	9%	100%
Woodlands	10%	11%	8%	10%	3%	11%	4%	6%	6%	30%	100%
Total	14%	18%	7%	12%	8%	6%	8%	8%	6%	14%	100%

Source:

ScotXed Pupil Census 2022

Scottish Government - SIMD 2020

QUESTION NO 31

By Councillor Jones for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

Please could you provide the following information:

A breakdown, school by school, of the total number of children entitled to free school meals for primary and secondary schools received 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022 and 2022/2023?

Answer

All of the data being requested is available at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/school-level-summary-statistics/>

The Free School Meal data (for each Scottish school) is in column AC for the 2019 and 2020 spreadsheets and in columns AI to AK for the 21 and 22 spreadsheets. The relevant columns are highlighted in yellow. The school level summary statistics spreadsheet for 2023 has not been published yet.

Free school meal information is collected annually by the Scottish Government via the Healthy Living Survey. Data is collected in February and published around August/September. More information about the healthy living survey is available at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/healthy-living-survey-schools-meals-and-pe-supplementary-data/>

QUESTION NO 32

By Councillor Mumford for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question **(1)** How many official communications were sent to the Management Committees of Community Centres regarding the lifelong learning review and potential changes in staffing support which may arise from this?

Answer **(1)** There has been one official communication to Community Centre Management Committees. In addition, individual meetings have been or are being arranged with Community Centre Management Committees to meet with the Community Engagement and Empowerment Team and to discuss future working arrangements with them. [An update on this was provided to Culture and Communities Committee in August and a briefing for Elected Members was held on 15 August 2023.]

Question **(2)** Specifically, what communications were sent to the Management Committees of Community Centres regarding the timescales of the review particularly relating to the pause and continuation relating to Covid?

Answer **(2)** There were no communications with Community Centre Management Committees on the pause of the organisational review as community centres across the city were closed during the Covid lockdown.

QUESTION NO 33

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

Please will the Convener give the number of schools offering Gaelic Learners Education (GLE) and the number of students learning GLE across the council's educational estate in each of the last ten academic years?

Answer

Where GLE has been part of school curricula, it is as an L3 language, under the 1+2 Approach to Languages Teaching and we hold limited data on this. The information below comes from data held by BnaG which is drawn from the national census and no longer has L3 specific data.

Primary:

Session	Schools	Pupils
13/14	8	no data
14/15	8	no data
15/16	8	no data
16/17	4	no data
17/18	1	152
18/19	2	no data
19/20	no data	no data
20/21	no data	no data
21/22	no data	no data
22/23	0	0

Secondary:

Session	Schools	Pupils
13/14	1	5
14/15	1	5
15/16	0	0
16/17	1	42
17/18	1	70
18/19	0	0
19/20	0	0
20/21	1	<5
21/22	0	0

Item no 10.34

QUESTION NO 34

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 31 August 2023

Question

Further to the answer to my question at full council on 22 June 2023, please will the convener provide an accurate list of the size (in acres / hectares) of each of the CEC's secondary schools, and in each case list whether the size complies with school premises regulations?

Answer

Please see the table below.

High School	Capacity	Main Site/Grounds (HA)	Additional Site (HA)	Additional Site ID	Total Site (HA)	Complies With School Premises Regulations 1967
Balerno Community HS	850	2.33			2.33	Does Not Comply
Boroughmuir HS	1560	0.92			0.92	Does Not Comply
Broughton HS	1200	6.89			6.89	Complies
Castlebrae Community Campus	700	3.48	0.95	Pitch to north	4.43	Does Not Comply
Craigmount HS	1400	6.06			6.06	Does Not Comply
Craigroyston Community HS	600	3.82			3.82	Does Not Comply
Currie Community HS	900	7.31			7.31	Complies
Drummond Community HS	600	1.99			1.99	Does Not Comply
Firrhill HS	1150	2.32	2.57	Pitches, sports hub and Braidburn	4.89	Does Not Comply
Forrester HS	900	8.14			8.14	Complies
Gracemount HS	650	5.59			5.59	Does Not Comply
Holy Rood RC HS	1200	5.18	14.44	Cavalry Park to south	19.62	Complies
James Gillespie's HS	1950	2.74	0.45	Darroch Campus	3.19	Does Not Comply
Leith Academy	950	7.24			7.24	Complies
Liberton HS	1000	7.86			7.86	Complies
Portobello HS	1400	6.21			6.21	Does Not Comply
Queensferry Community HS	1200	5.49	1	Pitch to SW	6.49	Does Not Comply
St Augustine's RC HS	900	8.25			8.25	Complies
St Thomas of Aquin's RC HS	750	0.69			0.69	Does Not Comply
The Royal HS	1350	9.56			9.56	Complies
Trinity Academy	950	1.37	3.31	Bangholm Facility	4.68	Does Not Comply
Tynecastle HS	900	2.26			2.26	Does Not Comply
Wester Hailes HS	750	5.83			5.83	Complies

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