

Supplementary Questions and Answers

City of Edinburgh Council

10.00 am Thursday, 14th December, 2023

Main Council Chamber - City Chambers

Supplementary 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 10.3

QUESTION NO 3

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 14 December 2023.

Question (1) Further to his answer to question 10.3 at the August 2023 meeting of the council, is it still the intention that the traffic orders will be advertised before the end of the year?

Answer (1) Unfortunately, it will not be possible to advertise these orders before the end of the calendar year. It is anticipated the necessary Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process will commence in Spring 2024.

Supplementary Question Why?

Supplementary Answer The delay in progressing these orders has been due to:

- Changes in the project design requiring amendments to the traffic orders; and
- The project lead is also now responsible for leading the development and implementation for the Council's Road Safety delivery plan, which was agreed by Transport and Environment Committee in October 2023.

To address this, a new project lead has now been identified and the handover of responsibilities will begin early in the new year.

Item no 10.4

QUESTION NO 4

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 14 December 2023.

As part of the developer legal agreement for planning permission 18/01755/FUL at Cammo, £560,000 was to be paid to the Council so a new bridge could be built over the Bughtlin Burn.

Question (1) How much of this money has been paid to the Council?

Answer (1) The total contribution received was £621,381.38.

The contribution was paid on 3 March 2023 and is therefore available for use before 2 March 2033.

Question (2) What progress is being made to erect the new bridge?

Answer (2) A Stage 0 to 2 design contract has been awarded and Stage 0 *Strategic Definition* and Stage 1 *Preparation and Brief* reports and accompanying studies have been completed. This includes a feasibility study for a new bridge structure and preliminary ecological and historic environment assessments of the area. Work will continue on this package of work in 2024.

Supplementary Question On the basis of the current work programme, when would a new bridge most likely be in place?"

Supplementary Answer The April 2023 update of the [Local Development Plan Action Programme](#) identifies an estimated delivery date of 2026/27. However, as land purchase/access agreements will be required, these may impact on delivery. Ward Councillors and stakeholders will be kept updated as design development continues.

Item no 10.5

QUESTION NO 5

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 14 December 2023.

In his answer to question 10.2 at the August 2023 meeting of the council, the Convener said the traffic orders for the changes to the Davidson's Mains roundabout would be advertised by the end of September?

- Question** (1) Why were the orders not advertised by the end of September as suggested?
- Answer** (1) Unfortunately, corrections and revisions were required to the drawing relating to the proposed redetermination and as a result the public advertising for the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) has also been delayed.
- Question** (2) When will the orders be advertised?
- Answer** (2) It is expected that the Traffic Regulation and Redetermination Orders will now be advertised in February 2024.
- Supplementary Question** Given his answer, and those he provided at the 16 March 2023, 4 May 2023, and 31 August 2023 meetings of Council, what confidence does he have that this latest timetable will be met?
- Supplementary Answer** I have asked officers to prioritise the advertising of these orders, recognising however that there are a number of high-profile traffic orders to be advertised in early 2024. Officers have confirmed that every effort will be made to meet the February 2024 timescale.

Item no 10.7

QUESTION NO 7

By Councillor Dobbin for answer by the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Convener at a meeting of the Council on 14 December 2023

Question (1) How many Council owned homes are unoccupied and void as of 1st December 2023?

Answer (1) 1,351 – this includes new builds not yet ready for let, voids being used as decants, properties earmarked for disposal or demolition or are currently used for the Whole House Retrofit project and are unable to be let.

Question (2) How many Council owned homes have been unoccupied for six months or more?

Answer (2) 895 – as per Q1, this figure also includes voids that are unable to be let for a number of reasons set out above.

Question (3) How many Council owned homes have been unoccupied for a year or more?

Answer (3) 620 – as per Q1, this figure also includes voids that are unable to be let for a variety of reasons set out above.

Question (4) How many Council owned homes have been unoccupied for 18 months or more?

Answer (4) 422 – as per Q1, this figure also includes voids that are unable to be let for a variety of reasons set out of above.

Supplementary Question How many of the 1,351 Voids are:

- new builds, not ready to let
- Used as decants
- Earmarked for disposal or demolition
- In the Whole House retrofit project

**Supplementary
Answer**

233 voids are unable to be let. The total breakdown is set out below:

Void Reason	Sum
Decant	58
Demolition	21
Disposal	82
Legal	3
Management Transfer/Decision	9
MMR	2
New Build	11
Police Scotland	2
Special Let	6
Transfer to Temp	6
Whole House Retrofit	33
TOTAL	233

Item no 10.14

QUESTION NO 14

By Councillor Caldwell for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 14 December 2023.

Question (1) Can the Convener please confirm to date the amount of location reviews requested from residents (may include site visits) broken down by Phase? (see appendix 1)

Answer (1) This information is not held in a way which allows this question to be easily answered for Phases 1, 2 and A.

The [outcome](#) of the reviews of Phases 3 and 4 was reported to Transport and Environment Committee in November 2023 (Appendix 3 and 4).

Further reviews continue to be undertaken as enquiries are received from residents.

Question (2) Can the Convener please confirm any indicative wider review dates for Phases 1 and 2 which didn't benefit from the adjusted Review Process applicable to later phases?

Answer (2) A full review of all the locations installed as part of Phases 1 and 2 will be undertaken in January 2024.

Question (3) Can the Convener please provide an update on the status on any outstanding TROs for adjustments in Phase 1, such as South Sloan Street and Easter Road?

Answer (3) Changes from all the phases will be brought together under one Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). It is anticipated that this will be advertised in Spring 2024, with a view to implementing changes on streets, should it be agreed to proceed, from late Summer 2024.

Supplementary Question

In regards to answer 1, if the requested data for Phases 1, 2, A (and the outcome from 3 and 4 linked does not include 'review requests') is not available and how are ward councillors able to scrutinise and adapt the policy appropriately? I've received and liaised with the CBR team on at least eight Phase 2 review requests and six Phase 1 review requests in Leith Walk alone relating to mental health, property impact, noise and other issues, with mixed results which signals significant concern from our communities.

Supplementary Answer

The waste and cleansing policies are reviewed every year by the Transport and Environment Committee, most recently in May 2023. As part of the next review a summary of the topics raised by residents during the implementation of the communal bin project will be provided.

Appendix 1

	# Reviews requested	# Moves initiated	# Ongoing review	# Moves not possible	# Total locations in phase
Phase 1					
Phase 2					
Phase A					
Phase 3					
Phase 4					

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