

Deputations

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am Thursday, 22nd August, 2024

Dean of Guild Court Room - City Chambers

Deputations

Contacts

Email: jamie.macrae@edinburgh.gov.uk / jacqueline.boyle@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tel: 0131 529 4264

Nick Smith

Service Director, Legal and Assurance

This page is intentionally left blank

CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL
POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Item No 3

22 AUGUST 2024

DEPUTATION REQUESTS

Subject	Deputation
3.1 In relation to Item 7.9 – A Visitor Levy for Edinburgh – Draft Scheme	Creative Community Hubs Network (written – attached) Edinburgh World Heritage (verbal) Living Rent Edinburgh (verbal)
3.2 In relation to Item 7.13 – Relationship with the City of Kaohsiung	Director General Ding, Taipei Representative Office in the U.K. Edinburgh Office (verbal)

Information or statements contained in any deputation to the City of Edinburgh Council represent the views and opinions of those submitting the deputation. The reference to, or publication of, any information or statements included within a deputation, including on the City of Edinburgh Council's website, does not constitute an endorsement by the City of Edinburgh Council of any such information or statement and should not be construed as representing the views or position of the Council. The Council accepts no responsibility for comments or views expressed by individuals or groups as part of their deputations.

This page is intentionally left blank

Creative Community Hubs Network statement on proposals for a Visitor Levy for Edinburgh:

The Creative Community Hubs Network (currently comprising WHALE Arts, North Edinburgh Arts, Lyra, Craigmillar Now, granton:hub, Out of the Blueprint, Duncan Place Community Hub and The Crannie Community Hub) welcomes a proposed Visitor Levy for Edinburgh and a percentage of proceeds dedicated to the objective of sustaining, supporting and developing:

“Edinburgh’s culture, heritage and festivals provision to ensure it remains world-leading and competitively attractive to visitors as well as residents.”

For the Network, which is made up of community-embedded organisations (often located in or adjacent to areas of high multiple deprivation), the reference to residents in relation to culture here is key. Community-embedded organisations (like the ones that make up the Network) provide access to culture on people’s doorsteps around the city, all year round. We therefore welcome the new community fund as one of the investment areas proposed from the Visitor Levy.

However, we would like to remind the Committee that some community-based organisations are located in and providing a service for areas of multiple deprivation within the city centre, alongside the recognised drawbacks of funders choosing to focus on supporting new work as opposed to existing work that is proven to be already making a positive impact on our communities. As one of our respondents is quoted in the *Funding Communities Better* report launched in June 2024: “We talk about this a lot [as a challenge], but not funding existing work that’s been proven to be effective, not seeing the value in something that’s meant to be long term. The thing we do best is now under threat.” (p15, *Funding Communities Better*, Cunningham & Muir 2024)

We hope that the Committee takes on board these reflections from the Network, and that the resulting community fund is subsequently developed in collaboration with community-based organisations, in order to be most effective and impactful in our communities who are resident in Edinburgh all year round.

This page is intentionally left blank