

Minutes

Planning Committee

2.00pm, Wednesday 26 February 2020

Present

Councillors Gardiner (Convener), Child (Vice-Convener), Booth, Gordon, Griffiths, Mitchell, Mowat, Munn, Osler and Rose.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee of 22 January 2020 and 29 January 2020 as a correct record.

2. Business Bulletin

The Committee's Business Bulletin for 26 February 2020 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the Business Bulletin.
- 2) To agree to report to Committee on the results of the Scottish Government external customer satisfaction survey on Building Standards Performance on a yearly basis.
- 3) To thank officers for their endeavors in terms of improving the performance within building standards.
- 4) To thank officers for improvements made within the enforcement service.

(Reference – Business Bulletin, submitted)

3. Edinburgh Local Development Plan: Action Programme

Approval was sought for the adoption, publication and submission to Scottish Ministers of the Edinburgh Local Development Plan (LDP) Action Programme.

Planning Authorities were required to prepare an Action Programme setting out how their Local Development Plan (LDP) would be implemented and to publish an updated Action Programme at least every two years.

Decision

To approve the adoption, publication and submission to Scottish Ministers of the Edinburgh Local Development Plan (LDP) Action Programme appended to the report.

(References – Planning Committee, 23 January 2019 (item 2); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

4. Supplementary Guidance on Developer Contributions and Infrastructure Delivery - Update

Details were provided of the Scottish Ministers' direction to Council not to adopt statutory Supplementary Guidance (SG) that had been submitted by the Council. The first version of the SG had originally been published in December 2016.

The report set out the background to, and analysis of, the implications of the Ministerial decision.

Decision

- 1) To note the Scottish Ministers' direction not to adopt and issue the Council's Supplementary Guidance (SG) on Developer Contributions and Infrastructure Delivery.
- 2) To agree that officers would prepare non-statutory supplementary planning guidance on developer contributions to primary healthcare infrastructure, taking account of the Ministers' decision, with a target to report back to Planning Committee in May 2020.
- 3) To agree that officers reviewed the evidence used for education and transport contribution calculations and assessed what needed to be done to establish an agreed methodology and outputs in collaboration with Scottish Government planners, to inform the Council's response to the Scottish Ministers' decision. This could include for the preparation of new statutory SG on education and transport contributions.

(References – Planning Committee, 27 February 2019 (item 3); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

5. Regional Spatial Strategy, City Region Deal Regional Growth Framework and National Planning Framework 4

Committee considered a report that detailed the Scottish Government's request that planning authorities worked on draft proposals for Regional Spatial Strategies to inform draft National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), scheduled to be published in Quarter 3 of 2020. The Council therefore needed to be part of the proposed joint working considered and noted by SESplan Joint Committee and Planning Committee, continuing with SESplan until permanent and formal governance arrangements were agreed in accordance with secondary legislation and Scottish Government guidance.

Decision

- 1) To note the response of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Executive Board to the proposed South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan (SESplan) Joint Committee proposals to provide a coordinating function and planning input to the preparation of a Regional Growth Framework for the City Region Deal and a Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East Scotland area in respect of the Scottish Government's preparation of a draft National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4).
- 2) To agree that the Council should work with the SESplan authorities to prepare the above documents.
- 3) To note that these working arrangements would be reviewed in relation to outcomes of the Scottish Government's work on NPF4 and provisions for Regional Spatial Strategy working.

(References – Planning Committee, 2 October 2019 (item 3); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

6. Granton Waterfront Development Framework

Approval was sought for the Granton Waterfront Development Framework as non-statutory planning guidance to guide development, service delivery and investment decisions for the regeneration of Granton Waterfront.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Development Framework for Granton Waterfront as non-statutory planning guidance detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To thank officers for the work done to date on the Granton project.

(References – North West Locality Committee, 19 June 2018 (item 12); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

7. Annual Review of Guidance

Committee considered a report that detailed changes to planning guidance in 2019 and sought approval for the programme for the coming year and for minor updates to certain guidelines.

Decision

- 1) To note progress in consolidating and updating guidance for users of the planning service detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To approve the updates to certain guidelines detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

- 3) To approve the programme for work in 2020 as detailed in Section 4 of the report.

(References – Planning Committee, 14 March 2018 (item 5); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

8. Edinburgh Urban Design Panel Annual Report

Information was provided on the findings from the annual review of the Edinburgh Urban Design Panel's work.

Decision

- 1) To note the findings of the Edinburgh Urban Design Panel's annual review.
- 2) To thank the panel members for their voluntary contributions to the design review process.
- 3) To agree that Scottish National Heritage was invited to become part of the core membership of the Panel.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

9. Scottish Government Consultation on Planning Performance and Fees – Proposed Response

Committee considered a report advising that Scottish Ministers had consistently linked increases in planning fees to improved performance. To support authorities that were moving closer to full cost recovery, the Scottish Government were required to recognise the need to increase fees across application types to reflect the level of work involved. In addition, the City of Edinburgh Council supported the provision of a suite of discretionary charges at a national level that the Planning Service could draw upon to resource the services it provided. The consultation response supported this position and would help inform the Scottish Government's amendments to the planning fees.

Approval was sought for the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Planning Performance and Fees 2019.

Decision

- 1) To approve the content of the consultation response detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To agree that this would be sent to Scottish Government as the City of Edinburgh Council's formal response to the Consultation on Planning Performance and Fees 2019.

(References – Planning Committee, 15 May 2019 (item 5); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

10. Legal Review of Council Planning Processes

Approval was sought for a further period, until no later than 5 August 2020, to complete the Independent Review of Council Planning processes and report on the findings and recommendations.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress that had been made on the requested Independent Review and the anticipated timescales for its completion.
- 2) To approve that the completed review be reported to the soonest possible Committee following receipt by the Council's Head of Legal and Risk of the report by the independent solicitor, being no later than the Committee of 5 August 2020.

(References – Act of Council (No.18), 24 October 2019; report by the Executive Director of Resources, submitted)

11. Marchmont, Meadows and Bruntsfield Conservation Area Character Appraisal Review

Details were provided of the revised Marchmont, Meadows and Bruntsfield Conservation Character Appraisal (CACA) which updated the content and brought it into line with other more recent CACAs.

The revised appraisal had been the subject of consultation with Historic Environment Scotland, Marchmont and Sciennes Community Council and the Southside Community Council. No changes were proposed to the Conservation Area boundary.

Decision

To approve the revised Marchmont, Meadows and Bruntsfield Conservation Area Character Appraisal.

(References – Planning Committee, 22 August 2018 (item 12); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)