

Notice of meeting and agenda

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to watch the live webcast on the Council's website.

The law allows the Council to consider some issues in private. Any items under "Private Business" will not be published, although the decisions will be recorded in the minute.

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1. Order of Business

- 1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

3. Deputations

- 3.1 If any

4. Minutes

- 4.1 Minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 9 July 2020 – submitted for approval as a correct record 9 - 34

5. Forward Planning

- 5.1 Policy and Sustainability Committee – Work Programme 35 - 38
- 5.2 Policy and Sustainability Committee - Rolling Actions Log 39 - 86

6. Executive Decisions

- 6.1 Adaptation and Renewal Report – Report by the Chief Executive 87 - 108
- 6.2 Engagement Through Adaptation and Renewal – Report by the Chief Executive 109 - 146

6.3	Council Response to Edinburgh Climate Commission and Sustainability Programme Update – Report by the Chief Executive	147 - 162
6.4	Risk Management: Managing Risk Through Covid-19 – Report by the Executive Director of Resources	163 - 170
6.5	Schools Re-Opening Update – Report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families	171 - 258
6.6	Revenue Budget 2020/21 Update – Report by the Executive Director of Resources	259 - 274
6.7	Response to Motion on Black Lives Matter – Report by the Chief Executive	275 - 310
6.8	Trams to Newhaven: Developed Design and Commencement of Statutory Procedures for Traffic Regulation Orders – Report by the Executive Director of Place	311 - 316
6.9	Regeneration Capital Grant Fund - Update on Pipeline Projects – Report by the Executive Director of Place	317 - 324
6.10	Supporting Local Businesses in Edinburgh – Report by the Executive Director of Place	To Follow
6.11	Spaces for People - Additional Contract Waiver for Material Orders and Contract Services – Report by the Executive Director of Place	325 - 332
6.12	Public Realm CCTV Update – Report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families	333 - 338

7. Routine Decisions

7.1	Broomhouse Workspace - Edinburgh Northwest Foodbank - Lease Restructure – Report by the Executive Director of Resources	339 - 344
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8. Motions

8.1 Motion by the Lord Provost – 20mph Limit Enforcement

“Committee notes:

That the citywide introduction of lower speed limits including 20mph has been generally well accepted and resulted in safer roads.

That during the Coronavirus lockdown there has been a significant and welcome reduction in traffic volumes across the city.

That during this period the quieter City roads have encouraged some drivers to exceed these speed limits.

The Council have introduced and are continuing to introduce measures to improve space for safe physical distancing and pedestrian and cycling safety through the Spaces for People initiative.

There have recently been notable road traffic collisions where excess speed may have been a contributing factor.

Requests that the Council Leader should write to the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, requesting that they increase the enforcement of speed limits, specifically the 20mph limit, across the City”.

8.2 Motion by Councillor Macinnes – Spaces for People Initiative

“Committee:

Welcomes the continued work to deliver the Spaces for People initiative designed to deliver better conditions for safe social distancing as Edinburgh moves towards recovery from the international pandemic, including economic recovery.

Recognises that there is growing concern among some business owners, particularly in our local high streets across the capital, that removal of car parking spaces will have a detrimental impact on the number of customers accessing their businesses.

Acknowledges that there is a growing body of evidence, from UK

and international examples, that implementation of such schemes often meet with great concern but that in practice can lead to better trading conditions for many businesses.

Requests a report, within two cycles, which describes that evidence and indicates its relevance to both the Spaces for People initiative and existing transport policy in the city”.

8.3 Motion by Councillor Watt – Public Works Loan Board Interest

“Committee –

Notes that the Bank of England has purchased £745 billion of government bonds since 2009, effectively giving the UK government interest free finance and that the Bank of England has recently issued Treasury Bonds with negative yields (negative rates of interest);

Further notes that the UK Government could pass on to Councils, some of the benefits of these zero interest rates, by waiving the interest on existing loans from the PWLB (Public Works Loan Board) which Councils have used for essential infrastructure investment. For Edinburgh, this would represent a saving of £32 million each year to the general fund, which could be used to protect services and jobs during these unprecedented times; additionally, there could be a £15 million per year saving to the HRA account, allowing increased investment in Council housing stock which would create jobs and other benefits for the economy and for Edinburgh’s citizens.

Committee therefore asks that:

1. The Council Leader writes to COSLA, emphasising the potential savings for Edinburgh Council from the interest on PWLB loans being waived for at least two years and asks COSLA to pursue a two year waiver with the UK Government;
2. The Council leader writes to the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer to raise this proposal; and that
3. The Chief Financial Officer writes to the Permanent Secretary of HM Treasury, requesting that interest on existing PWLB loans be waived for at least two years.

Laurence Rockey

Head of Strategy and Communications

Committee Members

Councillor Adam McVey (Convener), Councillor Cammy Day (Vice-Convener), Councillor Robert Aldridge, Councillor Kate Campbell, Councillor Nick Cook, Councillor Neil Gardiner, Councillor Gillian Gloyer, Councillor Graham Hutchison, Councillor Lesley Macinnes, Councillor John McLellan, Councillor Melanie Main, Councillor Ian Perry, Councillor Alasdair Rankin, Councillor Alex Staniforth, Councillor Susan Webber, Councillor Donald Wilson and Councillor Iain Whyte

Information about the Policy and Sustainability Committee

The Policy and Sustainability Committee consists of 17 Councillors and is appointed by the City of Edinburgh Council. The meeting will be held by Microsoft Teams and will be webcast live for viewing by members of the public.

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Veronica MacMillan, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2.1, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG, Tel 0131 529 4283 / 0131 529 3009, email veronica.macmillan@edinburgh.gov.uk / sarah.stirling@edinburgh.gov.uk.

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