

Minutes

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am, Thursday 23 July 2020

Present

Councillors McVey (Convener), Day (Vice-Convener, items 1 - 19), Aldridge, Burgess (substituting for Councillor Staniforth, items 1 - 8), Kate Campbell, Cook, Gardiner, Gloyer (items 1 – 7, 9 – 11), Hutchison, Johnston (substituting for Councillor Webber, item 9), Lang (substituting for Councillor Gloyer, item 12 onwards), Macinnes, Main, McLellan, McNeese-Mechan (substituting for Councillor Rankin), Perry, Staniforth (item 9 onwards), Watt (substituting for Councillor Day, item 20), Webber (items 1 – 8, 10 onwards), Whyte, Wilson and Young (substituting for Councillor Gloyer, item 8).

Added Members for Education items:

Parent Representative

Alexander Ramage

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 9 July 2020 as a correct record.

2. Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme

The Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme for 23 July 2020 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To agree to include the City Mobility Plan in the work programme with the date that it would come to committee.
- 2) To otherwise note the work programme.

(Reference – Work Programme 23 July 2020, submitted.)

3. Policy and Sustainability Committee Rolling Actions Log

Details were provided of the outstanding actions arising from decisions taken by the Committee.

Decision

- 1) To agree to close the following actions:
 - **Action 20(1)** – Decisions Taken under Delegated Power and Operational Decision Making - Covid-19
 - **Action 24(1)** – Tourism and Hospitality Sector Recovery Plan
 - **Action 29** – Public Lavatories- motion by Councillor Laidlaw
 - **Action 31(3)** – Schools Re-opening
 - **Action 37** - City of Edinburgh Council – Motion by Councillor Burgess – New School Session 2020-21
- 2) To agree to check the additional Scottish Government guidelines regarding access to community centres and consider options for providing access according to this guidance.
- 3) To otherwise note the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

4. Adaptation and Renewal Programme Update

On 28 May 2020 it was agreed that the Adaptation and Renewal Programme would provide regular updates to the Policy and Sustainability Committee. This update was the third report to Committee on progress and covered decisions taken in period 15 June to 15 July 2020, the latest COVID-19 Dashboard and a general programme update.

Decision

- 1) To note the COVID-19 Response Dashboard outlined at Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2) To note the decisions taken to date under urgency provisions from 15 June 2020 to 15 July 2020 outlined at Appendix 2 of the report.
- 3) To note the overall programme update.
- 4) To agree to provide a short briefing note on the transport figures for Morningside Station.
- 5) To agree to provide an update to the Adaptation and Renewal APOG on discussions with the tourism sector and how this work would commit to a sustainability and fair work approach.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee, 28 May 2020 (item 4); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

5. Engagement Through Adaptation and Renewal

The Council's approach to engagement and consultation through the Covid-19 adaptation and renewal period was summarised, including the council climate engagement plan which was due to continue, subject to the agreement of committee, with the launch of the Edinburgh Talks Climate Dialogue site on 27 July.

Motion

- 1) To agree the three phases of engagement activity on lessons learned from Covid-19, ensuring alignment of our renewal programme with the City Vision, and effectively implementing change (including engagement on budget). These were subject to funding being secured from partners and other external sources.
 - 2) To agree that officers considered the resumption of non-essential consultation activity as part of the Adaptation and Renewal programme and provided an update to committee on next steps in September.
 - 3) To note the Council was committed to an ongoing conversation and engagement with citizens on climate action and as such continued to develop its wider climate engagement plans.
 - 4) To agree the launch of the Edinburgh Talks Climate Dialogue site on 27 July 2020.
 - 5) To note the first engagement event with civic society was due to take place in March 2020 but would take place in August 2020 while outputs from the Climate Survey and the first Edinburgh Youth Summit on Climate would be circulated to elected members through the business bulletin.
 - 6) To note the options appraisal on deliberative engagement including citizens assemblies provided in the annex.
 - 7) To agree that the Council would continue with its current plans to deliver multiple city wide opportunities for citizen consultation and engagement, but would reconsider the proposals for further engagement infrastructure once the Poverty Commission published its final recommendations.
 - 8) To note that in the meantime, there was significant learning from national and other climate assemblies which would inform Council thinking.
- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 1

- 1) To agree the three phases of engagement activity on lessons learned from Covid-19, ensuring alignment of our renewal programme with the City Vision, and effectively implementing change. In addition, a separate consultation to help to inform the budget process for 2021/22, given the unprecedented financial

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

circumstances currently facing the Council. These would all be subject to funding being secured from partners and other external sources.

- 2) To agree that officers considered the resumption of non-essential consultation activity as part of the Adaptation and Renewal programme and provided an update to committee on next steps in September.
 - 3) To note the Council was committed to an ongoing conversation and engagement with citizens on climate action and as such continued to develop its wider climate engagement plans.
 - 4) To agree the launch of the Edinburgh Talks Climate Dialogue site on 27 July 2020.
 - 5) To note the first engagement event with civic society was due to take place in March 2020 but would take place in August 2020 while outputs from the Climate Survey and the first Edinburgh Youth Summit on Climate would be circulated to elected members through the business bulletin.
 - 6) To note the options appraisal on deliberative engagement including citizens assemblies provided in the annex.
 - 7) To agree that the Council would continue with its current plans to deliver multiple city-wide opportunities for citizen consultation and engagement and to await the final recommendations from the Poverty Commission before considering the overall programme again in the context of the Council's circumstances in relation to available finance and personnel at that time.
- moved by Councillor Hutchison, seconded by Councillor Whyte

Amendment 2

- 1) To agree the three phases of engagement activity on lessons learned from Covid-19, ensuring alignment of our renewal programme with the City Vision, and effectively implementing change (including engagement on budget). These were subject to funding being secured from partners and other external sources.
- 2) To agree that officers considered the resumption of non-essential consultation activity as part of the Adaptation and Renewal programme and provided an update to committee on next steps in September.
- 3) To note the Council was committed to an ongoing conversation and engagement with citizens on climate action and as such continued to develop its wider climate engagement plans.
- 4) To agree the launch of the Edinburgh Talks Climate Dialogue site on 27 July 2020.
- 5) To note the first engagement event with civic society was due to take place in March 2020 but would take place in August 2020 while outputs from the Climate Survey and the first Edinburgh Youth Summit on Climate would be circulated to elected members through the business bulletin.

- 6) To note the options appraisal on deliberative engagement including citizens assemblies provided in the annex.
 - 7) To agree that the Council would continue with its current plans to deliver multiple city wide opportunities for citizen consultation and engagement, but would reconsider the proposals for further engagement infrastructure once the Poverty Commission published its final recommendations.
 - 8) To note that in the meantime, there was significant learning from national and other climate assemblies which would inform Council thinking.
 - 9) To note that a web-based dialogue site such as 'Edinburgh Talks Climate' was likely to engage a self-selecting group of citizens and therefore could not be a substitute for a citizens' assembly comprised of randomly selected residents.
 - 10) However, to further note that because of the Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing requirement for social distancing and other public health measures, that it would not be appropriate or practical for the Council to take forward a citizen's assembly on the Climate Emergency at this particular time.
 - 11) To therefore agree that the establishment of an Edinburgh Citizens' Assembly on the Climate Emergency and other approaches to deliberative engagement with citizens would be reconsidered in future and once conditions are more favourable.
- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Main

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	10 votes
For the amendment	-	7 votes

(For the motion (as adjusted): Councillors Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Cook, Gloyer, Hutchison, McLellan, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

- 1) To agree the three phases of engagement activity on lessons learned from Covid-19, ensuring alignment of our renewal programme with the City Vision, and effectively implementing change (including engagement on budget). These were subject to funding being secured from partners and other external sources.

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

- 2) To agree that officers considered the resumption of non-essential consultation activity as part of the Adaptation and Renewal programme and provided an update to committee on next steps in September.
- 3) To note the Council was committed to an ongoing conversation and engagement with citizens on climate action and as such continued to develop its wider climate engagement plans.
- 4) To agree the launch of the Edinburgh Talks Climate Dialogue site on 27 July 2020.
- 5) To note the first engagement event with civic society was due to take place in March 2020 but would take place in August 2020 while outputs from the Climate Survey and the first Edinburgh Youth Summit on Climate would be circulated to elected members through the business bulletin.
- 6) To note the options appraisal on deliberative engagement including citizens assemblies provided in the annex.
- 7) To agree that the Council would continue with its current plans to deliver multiple city wide opportunities for citizen consultation and engagement, but would reconsider the proposals for further engagement infrastructure once the Poverty Commission published its final recommendations.
- 8) To note that in the meantime, there was significant learning from national and other climate assemblies which would inform Council thinking.
- 9) To note that a web-based dialogue site such as 'Edinburgh Talks Climate' was likely to engage a self-selecting group of citizens and therefore could not be a substitute for a citizens' assembly comprised of randomly selected residents.
- 10) However, to further note that because of the Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing requirement for social distancing and other public health measures, that it would not be appropriate or practical for the Council to take forward a citizen's assembly on the Climate Emergency at this particular time.
- 11) To therefore agree that the establishment of an Edinburgh Citizens' Assembly on the Climate Emergency and other approaches to deliberative engagement with citizens would be reconsidered in future and once conditions are more favourable.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

6. Council Response to Edinburgh Climate Commission and Sustainability Programme Update

The Council's recent commitment to achieve net zero carbon by 2030 and declaration of a Climate Emergency had placed sustainability and climate change at the centre of strategic and policy discussions. This had also raised the profile of Edinburgh as one of the most ambitious cities seeking to tackle climate change to deliver a more sustainable and inclusive city. As a result of the pandemic the Council was now planning for its

renewal and recovery and was required to consider how this would be achieved while prioritising sustainability and anti-poverty outcomes.

An initial response was provided to the Edinburgh Climate Commission's recent publication calling for all city leaders and businesses to commit to a green economic recovery. It was recommended that the Council endorsed four of the cross cutting strategic recommendations in the report.

Motion

- 1) To welcome the work of the Commission and the publication of their report 'Faster Forward Together'.
- 2) To agree that planning for a green recovery and the Council net zero by 2030 carbon target would be integrated into the Adaptation and Renewal Programme including all future significant operational or financial proposals that would form the basis of a new council business plan. An update on progress would be provided in October.
- 3) To agree the principle that public stimulus and investment decisions should positively contribute to the city carbon target.
- 4) To agree that the Council would seek out new and innovative funding models and work to overcome any cultural, operational or procedural barriers that existed.
- 5) To agree that the Leader of the Council would write to Scottish Government seeking to ensure that our respective green recovery plans were aligned and that mutual opportunities for progress were identified.
- 6) To note the impact of the pandemic on the risks and opportunities facing the city as it sought to deliver its carbon ambitions and the work underway to map the city's new risk profile.
- 7) To note the seven key areas of Council action which tackle the city's emissions.
- 8) To agree the four 'test of change innovations' which would be the initial focus for the sustainability programme.
- 9) To note the progress on the Carbon Scenario Tool as a means of informing decisions made by the Council alongside the economic business case.
- 10) To note the resource update and the collaboration between financial experts from the Climate Commission, the Climate KIC programme and Council officers to explore new finance models to support delivery of the Council's ambitious net zero carbon target.
- 11) To agree that a summary of the sustainability programme activity and progress towards the carbon target would be provided before the start of the new financial year.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To agree that the Edinburgh Climate Commission recommendations would be set aside until they had been reviewed and scrutinised in detail by the Adaptation and Renewal APOG on 30 July.
- 3) To agree that the additional recommendations pertaining to specific financial proposals would be brought back in the report to Council in October 2020 in order that a detailed Business Plan could be properly scrutinised and agreed by Committee.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Webber

Voting

For the motion - 12 votes
For the amendment - 5 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Aldridge, Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry and Wilson.)

For the amendment: Councillors Cook, Hutchison, McLellan, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey

(References – ‘Forward, Faster, Together: Recommendations for a Green Economic Recovery in Edinburgh’, Edinburgh Climate Commission; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

7. Risk Management: Managing Risk Through Covid-19

An update was provided on the original and current risk assessment profiles associated with the new population of nine strategic risks currently being managed across the Council. The progress with identification, assessment, recording and ongoing management of the Adaptation and Renewal Programme risks was outlined.

Motion

- 1) To note the original and current risk assessment ratings for the Covid-19 strategic for the Council.
- 2) To note that it was not possible to fully mitigate risks in an ongoing resilience situation given the rapidly changing risk environment associated with the ongoing emergency that was being managed.

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

- 3) To note that the full population of original Adaptation and Renewal Programme risks were currently being identified; assessed; and recorded, with appropriate controls and actions being designed to manage and mitigate these risks.
 - 4) To agree to refer the report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.
 - 5) To agree to open up the elected member workshop to members of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee in order to discuss the details of the report before it comes to committee.
- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

- 1) To note the original and current risk assessment ratings for the Covid-19 strategic for the Council.
 - 2) To note that it was not possible to fully mitigate risks in an ongoing resilience situation given the rapidly changing risk environment associated with the ongoing emergency that was being managed.
 - 3) To note that the Adaptation and Renewal Programme had identified, assessed and recorded risks and designed appropriate controls and actions to manage and mitigate these risks.
 - 4) To request the Executive Director of Resources provided a report to the next meeting of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee outlining the sub-risks identified and the controls and actions designed to mitigate and manage the strategic risks.
 - 5) To agree to open up the elected member workshop to members of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee in order to discuss the details of the report before it was brought to committee.
- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Hutchison

Voting

For the motion	-	12 votes
For the amendment	-	5 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Aldridge, Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Cook, Hutchison, McLellan, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

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

8. Schools Re-opening Update

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

The City of Edinburgh Council had developed a Local Authority Delivery Phasing Plan as required by the Scottish Government of all local authorities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the route-map that set out the phased lifting of restrictions.

The update set out the steps the Council had taken since the previous Schools Reopening reports were taken to Committee on the 25th June and 9th July 2020, to reopen schools from 10 August 2020. The report and plan had been amended following the Deputy First Minister's (DFM) briefing on 16th July 2020 and further iterations of this report and plan would be submitted in line with anticipated future guidance.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To agree a further update would be provided for the next committee meeting on 6th August 2020.
- 3) To agree to check and confirm that the parent text notifications were being communicated to all parents.
- 4) To agree to prioritise the Spaces for People schemes to ensure they would be in place before the planned opening of schools on 12 August.
- 5) To agree to provide a briefing note to Pentland Hills ward councillors on the alternative arrangements for Currie Primary School.
- 6) To agree to report back on the plans for the approach to youth work.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 25 June 2020 (item 5); Policy and Sustainability Committee of 9 July 2020 (item 7); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted.)

9. Revenue Budget 2020/21 Update

Following earlier assessments considered by the Leadership Advisory Panel and Policy and Sustainability Committee on 23 April, 28 May and 25 June, an update was provided on the estimated cost and income implications of the coronavirus pandemic on the Council and its Arm's-Length External Organisations' (ALEOs') activities.

Motion

- 1) To note the further update of the estimated expenditure and income impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Council and its ALEOs' activities and the potential sources of funding identified to address them.
- 2) To note the significant remaining projected in-year shortfall and associated risks linked to further service disruption and/or slower-than-assumed recovery.

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

- 3) To note that updates on expenditure and income impacts, and the confirmed and potential means to address them, would continue to be reported to elected members on an at-least monthly basis until greater certainty was obtained in these areas.
 - 4) To note that further representations would be made through COSLA regarding the need for full pass-through of Barnett Consequentials resulting from the provision of relevant additional funding in England.
 - 5) To note, nonetheless, that there remained a significant risk around receiving additional funding sufficient to address the remaining deficit, particularly in the event of any further lockdown, and thus further actions on service prioritisation were urgently required.
 - 6) To approve, subject to onward ratification by Council on 28 July, the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives.
 - 7) To note that the Council Leader would continue to engage with the Scottish Government and COSLA to press Edinburgh Council's case for urgent support and continue to make the case for additional financial flexibilities.
 - 8) To agree to provide a briefing note with a breakdown of the £31m loss relating to Council ALEOs.
- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

- 1) To note the further update of the estimated expenditure and income impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Council and its ALEOs' activities and the potential sources of funding identified to address them.
- 2) To note the significant remaining projected in-year shortfall and associated risks linked to further service disruption and/or slower-than-assumed recovery.
- 3) To note that updates on expenditure and income impacts, and the confirmed and potential means to address them, would continue to be reported to elected members on an at-least monthly basis until greater certainty was obtained in these areas.
- 4) To note that further representations would be made through COSLA regarding the need for full pass-through of Barnett Consequentials resulting from the provision of relevant additional funding in England.
- 5) To note, nonetheless, that there remained a significant risk around receiving additional funding sufficient to address the remaining deficit, particularly in the event of any further lockdown, and thus further actions on service prioritisation were urgently required.
- 6) To approve, subject to onward ratification by Council on 28 July, the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives.

- 7) To request that the Council Leader wrote to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance to press the City of Edinburgh's case for urgent support and to call for the potential funding sources outlined in Paragraph's 4.8 to 4.11 of the report be passed on in full to Local Authorities as soon as available. The Council Leader's letter should also make the case for providing the additional financial flexibilities identified in Paragraph 4.23 of the report.
 - 8) To agree to provide a briefing note with a breakdown of the £31m loss relating to Council ALEOs.
- moved by Councillor Aldridge, seconded by Councillor Gloyer

Voting

For the motion - 10 votes
For the amendment - 7 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry, Staniforth and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Cook, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, McLellan, and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(References – Leadership Advisory Panel of 23 April 2020 (item 9); Policy and Sustainability Committee of 28 May 2020 (item 7); Policy and Sustainability Committee of 25 June 2020 (item 6); report by the Executive Director of Resources, submitted.)

10. Response to Motion – Black Lives Matter

In response to a motion by Councillor Day agreed at Policy and Sustainability Committee on 11 June 2020, action plans on recruitment and employment practices, enhancing diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools and a review of features which commemorate those with links to slavery and colonialism were outlined.

The report detailed the approach being taken to strengthen the Council's approach to equalities and its impact and the commitment to develop a policy on Equalities, Diversity and Human Rights for consideration at a future committee.

Motion

- 1) To note the report in response to the following:
 - i) The action plan to introduce best practice in the council's recruitment and employment practices.
 - ii) The action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
 - iii) The plan to review any features within the council boundary which commemorate those with close links to slavery and colonialism.

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

- 2) To consider the approach underway across the Council and to note that further imbedding equalities would be a key aspect of adaptation and renewal with the aspiration for an ambitious approach to equalities and rights, and that this work would be overseen by the Equalities Working Group.
 - 3) To agree to delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Leaders the appointment of a Chair of an Independent Review Group and invite interested individuals/persons to express an interest.
 - 4) To agree that the Independent Review Group develop parameters and a workplan be presented to Council with support from the Equalities Champion and Equalities Working Group.
 - 5) To agree to include discussions with independent schools in the action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
 - 6) To agree to liaise with Members Services to support councillors to undertake the Unconscious Bias e-learning course.
- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the report in response to the following:
 - i) The action plan to introduce best practice in the council's recruitment and employment practices.
 - ii) The action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
 - iii) The plan to review any features within the council boundary which commemorate those with close links to slavery and colonialism.
- 2) To consider the approach underway across the Council and to note that further imbedding equalities would be a key aspect of adaptation and renewal with the aspiration for an ambitious approach to equalities and rights, and that this work would be overseen by the Equalities Working Group.
- 3) To agree to publicly seek applications for a chair, to be appointed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Leaders, of an independent review group to consider and to make recommendations on features within the Council boundary which commemorate those with close links to slavery.
- 4) To agree that the new chair should make recommendations for membership of the review group, to be approved by the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 5) To agree to include discussions with independent schools in the action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
- 6) To agree to liaise with Members Services to support councillors to undertake the Unconscious Bias e-learning course.

- moved by Councillor McLellan, second by Councillor Webber

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the report in response to the following:
 - i) The action plan to introduce best practice in the council's recruitment and employment practices.
 - ii) The action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
 - iii) The plan to review any features within the council boundary which commemorate those with close links to slavery and colonialism.
- 2) To consider the approach underway across the Council and to note that further imbedding equalities would be a key aspect of adaptation and renewal with the aspiration for an ambitious approach to equalities and rights, and that this work would be overseen by the Equalities Working Group.
- 3) To agree to delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Leaders the appointment of a Chair of an Independent Review Group to consider and make recommendations on features within the Council boundary which commemorate those with close links to slavery.
- 4) To recognise that racial inequality and gender inequality were intersectional and to therefore agree that a position of Co-Chair would be considered in order to ensure that chairing of the Independent Review Group was gender balanced.
- 5) To agree to include discussions with independent schools in the action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
- 6) To agree to liaise with Members Services to support councillors to undertake the Unconscious Bias e-learning course.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Main

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), paragraph 2 of Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the motion. Amendment 2 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	12 votes
For the amendment (as adjusted)	-	5 votes

(For the motion (as adjusted): Councillors Aldridge, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry, Staniforth and Wilson.

For the amendment (as adjusted): Councillors Cook, Hutchison, McLellan, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

- 1) To note the report in response to the following:
 - i) The action plan to introduce best practice in the council's recruitment and employment practices.
 - ii) The action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
 - iii) The plan to review any features within the council boundary which commemorate those with close links to slavery and colonialism.
- 2) To consider the approach underway across the Council and to note that further imbedding equalities would be a key aspect of adaptation and renewal with the aspiration for an ambitious approach to equalities and rights, and that this work would be overseen by the Equalities Working Group.
- 3) To agree to delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Leaders the appointment of a Chair of an Independent Review Group and invite interested individuals/persons to express an interest.
- 4) To agree that the Independent Review Group develop parameters and a workplan be presented to Council with support from the Equalities Champion and Equalities Working Group.
- 5) To agree that the new chair should make recommendations for membership of the review group, to be approved by the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 6) To recognise that racial inequality and gender inequality were intersectional and to therefore agree that a position of Co-Chair would be considered by Group Leaders in order to ensure that chairing of the Independent Review Group was gender balanced.
- 7) To agree to include discussions with independent schools in the action plan to enhance diversity and inclusion in Edinburgh's schools.
- 8) To agree to liaise with Members Services to support councillors to undertake the Unconscious Bias e-learning course.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020 (item 19); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

11. Trams to Newhaven: Developed Design and Commencement of Statutory Procedures for Traffic Regulation Orders

On 14 March 2019 the Council approved the terms of the Final Business Case for the Tram to Newhaven Project. The project would complete the tram line to Newhaven from the existing temporary terminus at York Place.

As part of the development of the Final Business Case detailed final road designs were developed, and an extensive period of consultation was undertaken. Final designs were costed, and both the designs and the costings were used for the basis of the Final Business Case. The Final Business Case noted that the final designs would be subject to Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs).

The key changes were summarised, the Orders' process were outlined and commencing the statutory procedures was recommended.

Motion

- 1) To note the developed design from the Final Business Case in March 2019, for the Trams to Newhaven scheme.
 - 2) To note that the implementation of the TROs was fundamental to both the design of the tram scheme and its operation.
 - 3) To approve the commencement of the statutory procedures for the necessary TROs.
 - 4) To agree to provide further details on TROs to the relevant elected members, including the number of TROs.
 - 5) To agree to consider ways to engage with those who had not expressed interest in the Tram project and to engage with other local elected member offices to ensure the team were fully aware of all communications.
- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

- 1) To note the developed design from the Final Business Case in March 2019, for the Trams to Newhaven scheme.
- 2) To note that the implementation of the TROs was fundamental to both the design of the tram scheme and its operation.
- 3) To note that this report was continued from the previous Committee to allow Councillors to consider the final designs prior to approving the commencement of the TRO process and to ensure Councillors would have the opportunity to fulfil their duty to approve the consultation.
- 4) To call for a continuation, until the final plans pertaining to the traffic orders, showing clearly what changes were proposed to the movement, stopping and loading of vehicles to facilitate the introduction of the tram plans were provided. This was not possible with the landscape plans provided as they did not show the

details of the proposed changes to be enacted by the TRO and, to therefore call for the report to be continued until such time as this information was available.

- 5) To note with concern the consistent inclusion of floating bus stops and in light of recent comments by Living Streets:

“Living Streets Edinburgh Group has never been happy with this design concept which means that bus passengers boarding - and especially alighting from - buses have to cross a cycle way and may therefore unexpectedly encounter a cyclist, possibly travelling at considerable speed. While we recognise the benefits for cyclists, this design can only disadvantage bus users and pedestrians, especially older people and blind people, many of whose representative organisations have objected to the design concept.”

“Living Streets Edinburgh did not object to the first Leith Walk examples, on the understanding that a full monitoring and evaluation was carried out. The Council eventually agreed to this in 2017 but although we understand that this exercise has long been completed, it has never been published. It is wholly inappropriate to use the Covid19 pandemic and ‘spaces for everyone’ programme as the means for the sudden mass installation of these controversial bus stop designs at virtually no notice and with minimal consultation”,

- 6) To call for a risk assessment to take place with alternative options presented and the plans adjusted accordingly. Further, to call for a review of street design guidance to remove the possibility of floating bus stops.
- 7) To agree to provide further details on TROs to the relevant elected members, including the number of TROs.
- 8) To agree to consider ways to engage with those who had not expressed interest in the Tram project and to engage with other local elected member offices to ensure the team were fully aware of all communications.

- moved by Councillor Webber, seconded by Councillor Whyte

Voting

For the motion	-	10 votes
For the amendment	-	7 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry, Staniforth and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Cook, Gloyer, Hutchison, McLellan, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(References – Act of Council No 2 of 14 March 2019; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

12. Regeneration Capital Grant Fund – Update on Pipeline Projects

An update was provided on the progress with the Council's Pennywell Culture and Learning Hub, the E2 Workspace building at Fountainbridge, Portobello Town Hall, and Russell Road industrial estate projects as requested by Committee on 11 June 2020. These projects were not recommended by officers for consideration in the current round of the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) but remained in the pipeline for potential inclusion in future bids to this fund.

Council officers and North Edinburgh Arts had agreed an approach to the delivery of a community and neighbourhood hub to promote culture, arts, work and wellbeing.

Decision

- 1) To note the update provided on the four projects which were not recommended by officers for inclusion in the bids to the 2020/21 Scottish Government RCGF bid.
- 2) To further note the Council's financial position and that it would not be possible to allocate any additional revenue or capital funding for these projects unless a specific source of funding could be identified; but also to note the positive engagement from Officers, with North Edinburgh Arts and others, to maximise additional external resources for projects.
- 3) To note the progress made in developing a partnership with North Edinburgh Arts for the delivery of a community and neighbourhood hub to promote culture, arts, work and well-being.
- 4) To further note that the partnership would work within the ongoing planning application to better integrate North Edinburgh Arts into the Council's transformative regeneration plans for Pennywell; and would help resolve issues such as management and use of shared spaces.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020 (item 14); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted).

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Lang declared a non-financial interest in the above item as his spouse was a board member of North Edinburgh Arts.

13. Supporting Local Businesses in Edinburgh

Decision

To note that the report had been withdrawn by the Executive Director of Place.

14. Spaces for People – Further Contract Waiver for Material Orders and Contract Services

On 11 June 2020, the Policy and Sustainability Committee approved a waiver of the Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) to enable the urgent purchase or hire of traffic management materials up to a value of £1.5m.

Approval was sought to place additional material orders for temporary traffic management infrastructure and installation contract services on a Direct Award basis, via a waiver of CSOs, for the second phase of the Spaces for People programme if it was not possible to utilise existing procurement frameworks. The total value of these Direct Awards was expected to be a maximum of £4.1m, an increase of £2.6m on the original award.

Decision

- 1) To note the purchase arrangements in place to support the installation of measures to create safe spaces for people to walk and cycle in the city, as part of the Spaces for People programme.
- 2) To approve an extension to the Direct Awards via waiver of the Council's CSOs, approved by Committee on 11 June 2020, for the purchase of additional temporary traffic management infrastructure and to appoint installation contract services up to a total value of £4.1m.
- 3) To note that existing arrangements for procurement frameworks would be used where possible however, if Direct Awards via waiver were required, these would be negotiated with current suppliers and framework contractors on a best value basis.
- 4) To note that this temporary traffic management infrastructure would be used in the city centre, town centres, cycle segregation, low traffic neighbourhoods, school routes and spaces for exercise to support urgent economic recovery and would enable the interventions to be delivered in line with the time critical project programme.
- 5) To agree to provide a briefing note for the committee on the price changes of traffic management products.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020 (item 10); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted).

15. Public Realm CCTV Update

An update was provided on the progress made towards developing the Public Realm CCTV service in Edinburgh.

Decision

- 1) To approve the update of the multi-agency project board for the upgrade of the Public Realm CCTV service in Edinburgh.
- 2) To request an update on the Public Realm CCTV upgrade project progress in six months' time.
- 3) To agree to circulate the details of the walkabout in Saughton Park to elected members.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted).

16. Broomhouse Workspace, Edinburgh Northwest Foodbank- Proposed Lease Restructure

Edinburgh Northwest Foodbank currently occupied Unit 12, Broomhouse Workspace on a lease holding over on tacit relocation. The COVID-19 pandemic had increased demand for the foodbank services and the tenant had requested a new lease of their existing unit along with additional space. Approval was sought to grant the new leases to Edinburgh Northwest Foodbank on the terms and conditions outlined in the report.

Decision

To approve new five-year leases on Units 12 and 15 Broomhouse Workspace to Edinburgh Northwest Foodbank on the terms outlined in this report and on other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director of Resources

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

17. Award of Housing Consultancy Framework Agreement

Approval was sought to award the Housing Consultancy Framework Agreement to Arneil Johnston, Indigo House Group and ARK Consultancy Limited, to commence on 1 September 2020 for an initial period of three years with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months (undertaken at the sole discretion of the City of Edinburgh Council), at an estimated total value of £1,140,000.

Decision

- 1) To approve the award of the Housing Consultancy Framework Agreement to three Service Providers; Arneil Johnston, Indigo House Group and ARK Consultancy Limited.
- 2) To approve the commencement of the Framework Agreement on 1 September 2020 for an initial period of three years, with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months (undertaken at the sole discretion of the City of Edinburgh Council), at an estimated total value of £1,140,000.

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

18. Motion by the Lord Provost – 20mph Limit Enforcement

The following non-member motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“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”.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 1

- 1) To note that evaluation of the Council’s 20mph roll-out demonstrated that out of 66 sites surveyed, speeds dropped on average by just 1.34mph with the single biggest speed reduction in an area was recorded at just 2.1mph. To further note that only one in five people believed traffic speeds had actually reduced locally, with 40 percent of residents having seen no information about speed limit changes.
- 2) To note that, in a deputation to the February 2020 Transport and Environment Committee, Police Scotland officers had raised significant concerns at the effects that the Council’s blanket approach had had on their ability to police those roads with genuine speeding issues, as speed limit changes meant they were expected to dedicate resources to roads with no established history of traffic problems.
- 3) To note that during the Coronavirus lockdown there had been a significant and welcome reduction in traffic volumes across the city.

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

- 4) To note that during this period the quieter City roads had encouraged some drivers to exceed these speed limits.
 - 5) To note the Council had introduced and were continuing to introduce measures to improve space for safe physical distancing and pedestrian and cycling safety through the Spaces for People initiative.
 - 6) To note that there had recently been notable road traffic collisions where excess speed could have been a contributing factor.
 - 7) To agree that the Council Leader would write to the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, requesting that they increase enforcement of speed limits, at those areas where information demonstrated there was a problem with excess vehicle speeds, across the city.
- moved by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Webber

Amendment 2

- 1) To note that the citywide introduction of lower speed limits including 20mph had been generally well accepted and resulted in safer roads.
 - 2) To note that during the Coronavirus lockdown there had been a significant and welcome reduction in traffic volumes across the city.
 - 3) To note that during this period the quieter City roads had encouraged some drivers to exceed these speed limits.
 - 4) To note the Council had introduced and were continuing to introduce measures to improve space for safe physical distancing and pedestrian and cycling safety through the Spaces for People initiative.
 - 5) To note that there had recently been notable road traffic collisions where excess speed could have been a contributing factor.
 - 6) To request that the Council Leader should write to the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, requesting that they increased the enforcement of speed limits, specifically the 20mph limit, across the City.
 - 7) To further note that in October 2019 the Transport and Environment Committee agreed further changes to the 20mph scheme and speed limits in the city, which would improve road safety but had yet to be implemented. To therefore request that these would be implemented as soon as possible under Covid Emergency powers if necessary.
- moved by Councillor Main, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

Amendment 3

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

- 1) To note that the citywide introduction of lower speed limits including 20mph had been generally well accepted and resulted in safer roads.
 - 2) To note that during the Coronavirus lockdown there had been a significant and welcome reduction in traffic volumes across the city.
 - 3) To note that during this period the quieter City roads had encouraged some drivers to exceed these speed limits.
 - 4) To note the Council had introduced and were continuing to introduce measures to improve space for safe physical distancing and pedestrian and cycling safety through the Spaces for People initiative.
 - 5) To note that there had recently been notable road traffic collisions where excess speed could have been a contributing factor.
 - 6) To regret the decision of the administration earlier this year to end all Council funding for community policing in Edinburgh; to recognise the concern which existed on the impact that such a move would have on police resourcing levels, particularly outside the city centre; and to recognise that if this funding had been retained, the Council would have been in a stronger position to seek additional focus on 20mph enforcement and other community policing priorities.
 - 6) To nevertheless request that the Council Leader should write to the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, requesting that they increased the enforcement of speed limits, specifically the 20mph limit, across the City.
- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Aldridge

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

For the Motion (as adjusted)	-	10 votes
For Amendment 1	-	5 votes
For Amendment 2	-	2 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry, Staniforth and Wilson.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Cook, Hutchison, McLellan, Webber and Whyte.

For Amendment 2: Councillors Aldridge and Lang.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

Thursday, 23rd July, 2020

- 1) To note that the citywide introduction of lower speed limits including 20mph had been generally well accepted and resulted in safer roads.
- 2) To note that during the Coronavirus lockdown there had been a significant and welcome reduction in traffic volumes across the city.
- 3) To note that during this period the quieter City roads had encouraged some drivers to exceed these speed limits.
- 4) To note the Council had introduced and were continuing to introduce measures to improve space for safe physical distancing and pedestrian and cycling safety through the Spaces for People initiative.
- 5) To note that there had recently been notable road traffic collisions where excess speed could have been a contributing factor.
- 6) To request that the Council Leader should write to the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, requesting that they increased the enforcement of speed limits, specifically the 20mph limit, across the City.
- 7) To further note that in October 2019 the Transport and Environment Committee agreed further changes to the 20mph scheme and speed limits in the city, which would improve road safety but had yet to be implemented. To therefore request that these would be implemented as soon as possible under Covid Emergency powers if necessary.

19. Motion by Councillor Macinnes – Spaces for People Initiative

The following motion by Councillor Macinnes was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“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”.

- moved by Councillor Macinnes, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 1

- 1) To welcome the continued work to deliver the Spaces for People initiative designed to deliver better conditions for safe social distancing as Edinburgh moved towards recovery from the international pandemic, including economic recovery.
 - 2) To recognise that there was growing concern among some business owners, particularly in our local high streets across the capital, that removal of car parking spaces would have a detrimental impact on the number of customers accessing their businesses.
 - 3) To request that an independent report would be commissioned, within two cycles, that would collect and review all empirical evidence and reference the sources that the implementation of the spaces for people schemes had had on businesses and their trading conditions.
- moved by Councillor Webber, seconded by Councillor Whyte

Amendment 2

- 1) To welcome the continued work to deliver the Spaces for People initiative designed to deliver better conditions for safe social distancing as Edinburgh moved towards recovery from the international pandemic, including economic recovery.
 - 2) To recognise the incredibly difficult trading conditions currently being faced by businesses across the city and to reaffirm the Council's commitment to work in partnership with the business community to ensure it took practical action to support their recovery.
 - 3) To recognise that there was growing concern among some business owners, particularly in our local high streets across the capital, that removal of car parking spaces would have a detrimental impact on the number of customers accessing their businesses, particularly in light of government advice which discouraged people from using public transport.
 - 4) To acknowledge that there was a growing body of evidence, from UK and international examples, that implementation of such schemes were often met with great concern but that in practice could lead to better trading conditions for many businesses.
 - 5) To request a report, within two cycles, which described that evidence and indicated its relevance to both the Spaces for People initiative and existing transport policy in the city. To look forward to using that report to continue two-way dialogue and engagement with high street businesses over the coming months.
- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Aldridge

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

For the motion (as adjusted) - 12 votes
For the amendment - 5 votes

(For the motion (as adjusted): Councillors Aldridge, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Lang, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Perry, Staniforth and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Cook, Hutchison, McLellan, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the adjusted motion by the Councillor Macinnes:

- 1) To welcome the continued work to deliver the Spaces for People initiative designed to deliver better conditions for safe social distancing as Edinburgh moved towards recovery from the international pandemic, including economic recovery.
- 2) To recognise the incredibly difficult trading conditions currently being faced by businesses across the city and to reaffirm the Council's commitment to work in partnership with the business community to ensure it took practical action to support their recovery.
- 3) To recognise that there was growing concern among some business owners, particularly in our local high streets across the capital, that removal of car parking spaces would have a detrimental impact on the number of customers accessing their businesses, particularly in light of government advice which discouraged people from using public transport.
- 4) To acknowledge that there was a growing body of evidence, from UK and international examples, that implementation of such schemes were often met with great concern but that in practice could lead to better trading conditions for many businesses.
- 5) To request a report, within two cycles, which described that evidence and indicated its relevance to both the Spaces for People initiative and existing transport policy in the city. To look forward to using that report to continue two-way dialogue and engagement with high street businesses over the coming months.

20. Motion by Councillor Watt – Public Works Loan Board Interest

The following non-member motion by Councillor Watt was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“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."

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor McVey

Decision

- 1) To approve the motion by the Councillor Watt.
- 2) To further note Edinburgh Council's financial position had improved by £4m due to additional support announced by the Scottish Government in July 2020 after the Council Leader wrote to the Finance Secretary in April 2020 highlighting financial pressure due to Council ALEOs and specifically transport companies.