

# Minutes

## Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday 5 October 2021

### Present

Councillors McVey (Convener), Day (Vice-Convener), Aldridge, Arthur (substituting for Councillor Wilson items 13-27), Burgess, Jim Campbell, Kate Campbell, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, Miller, Mitchell (substituting for Councillor Hutchison), Mowat (substituting for Councillor McLellan), Munn, Perry, Rose (substituting for Councillor Cook) and Whyte.

### 1. Minutes

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#### Decision

To approve the minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 3 August 2021 as a correct record.

### 2. Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme

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The Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme for 5 October 2021 was presented.

#### Decision

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Work Programme 5 October 2021, submitted.)

### 3. Policy and Sustainability Committee Rolling Actions Log

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

#### Decision

1) To agree to close the following actions:

**Action 5** – Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Annual Report

**Action 8** – End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan 2020-30

**Action 10** – Best Value – COVID 19 Engagement and Consultation Approach

**Action 11** – Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025

**Action 15** – Motion by Councillor Whyte - Protect Transport for Edinburgh

**Action 16** – Adaptation and Renewal Programme Update – Community Centres

**Action 19** – Motion by Councillor Day – In-house Service Provision

**Action 20(1) and (2)** – Adaptation and Renewal Programme – Vaccination Programme and Transport to Vaccination Centres

**Action 21** – Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Progress Report

**Action 22(1) and (2)** – Edinburgh Response to the Mental Welfare Commissions Report – Authority to Discharge

2) To otherwise note the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

#### **4. Business Bulletin**

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The Policy and Sustainability Committee Business Bulletin for 5 October 2021 was submitted.

##### **Decision**

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin 5 October, submitted.)

#### **5. Police Scotland City of Edinburgh Division - Quarterly Update**

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Chief Superintendent Sean Scott and Superintendents Sam Ainslie and Mark Rennie provided an update for April to June 2021 on Police Scotland's City of Edinburgh Division city-wide plans, policies and performance.

##### **Decision**

To note the update.

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

#### **6. Protect Transport for Edinburgh – Response to Motion**

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In response to a motion by Councillor Whyte, details were provided on antisocial behaviour and transport concerns highlighted by the motion together with detail and context around several topics including local police accountability: partnership working and youth engagement.

## **Motion**

- 1) To note the report by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services.
- 2) To note the contribution of services across the city working to protect transport in Edinburgh through the Transport Community Improvement Partnership.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

## **Amendment**

- 1) To note the report by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services.
- 2) To note the contribution of services across the city working to protect transport in Edinburgh through the Transport Community Improvement Partnership.
- 3) To thank the officers and partner agencies involved.
- 4) To call for a further report to detail the relative levels of local Police officers and crimes/incidents in Edinburgh compared to other Scottish Cities and what steps had and could be taken to lobby Police Scotland and the Scottish Government to ensure Edinburgh gets its fair share of policing resources.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), paragraph 3 of the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

## **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

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

(For the motion (as adjusted): Councillors Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry, and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Jim Campbell, Gloyer, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose and Whyte.)

## **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

- 1) To note the report by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services.

- 2) To note the contribution of services across the city working to protect transport in Edinburgh through the Transport Community Improvement Partnership.
- 3) To thank the officers and partner agencies involved.

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

## **7. End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Report**

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### **a) Deputation – End Poverty Edinburgh**

The deputation indicated that their main goal was to banish poverty in the Capital and also from the whole country. The 3 key aims of their group were:

- To engage with the Council, Edinburgh Partnership and other groups to share experiences;
- To hold those that have power to account in influencing decision making and providing guidance and advice;
- To working with other groups and organisations working to tackle poverty in the city, to lend support.

The deputation welcomed the first annual report on progress towards the delivery of ending poverty in the city and urged the Committee to ensure that any proposals had the flexibility to reach everyone who required support.

### **b) Report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services**

A summary of actions taking by the Council and partners in response to the calls to action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission was provided as the first annual progress report against the Council's End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan.

### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the first annual progress report against the Council's End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan and agree actions for priority delivery during the next 12 months.
- 2) To note that the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services also incorporated and met the Council's statutory duty to publish an annual Local Child Poverty Action Report.
- 3) To agree to refer the report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for further scrutiny on actions relating to child poverty, with particular reference to the actions discussed in section 4.5 of Appendix 1 of the report.

- 4) To note that the report would be further referred for discussion by the Edinburgh Partnership and related groups.

(References: Policy and Sustainability Committee of 1 December 2020 (item 8): report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

## **8. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - City of Edinburgh Area Update**

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Area Commander Kenny Rogers and Station Commander Keith Langley provided an update from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on the prevention, protection and operational response activities within the City of Edinburgh area during the period 1 April to 30 September 2021.

### **Decision**

To note the update.

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

## **9. Best Value Assurance Audit Response – October Update**

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An update was provided on the progress made to respond to the Best Value Assurance Audit recommendations.

### **Motion**

- 1) To note the progress made to date to respond to the Best Value Assurance Audit Report recommendations.
- 2) To note the Council's external auditors (Azets) would review the Council's progress on the Best Value Assurance Report's findings as part of their 2020/21 Annual Audit Report to the Council.
- 3) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services to the Governance Risk and Best Value Committee for its consideration.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

### **Amendment**

- 1) To note the progress made to date to respond to the Best Value Assurance Audit Report recommendations.
- 2) To note the Council's external auditors (Azets) would review the Council's progress on the Best Value Assurance Report's findings as part of their 2020/21 Annual Audit Report to the Council.
- 3) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services to the Governance Risk and Best Value Committee for its consideration.

- 4) To further agree to restart work on detailed medium and long-term financial plans and a detailed workforce plan immediately with the results to be presented to Council and available to political groups ahead of the 2022 budget setting process; recognising that these documents provided more than a route to maintain financial stability but were core to the delivery of any strategy to reshape Council services.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Mowat

### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

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

(For the motion: Councillors Aldridge, Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Jim Campbell, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose and Whyte.)

### **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

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

## **10. In-house Service Provision – Response to a motion by Councillor Day**

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In response to a motion by Councillor Day, details were provided on the provision of services by the City of Edinburgh Council which had to take into account a complex range of factors, not least financial and legal, to ensure that the Council was not only able to provide over 700 public services, but also to ensure that it achieved Best Value.

### **Motion**

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To endorse the development of a longer-term, resourced programme of work to consider the most appropriate options for future service delivery, subject to the Council's Business and Budget Planning decisions and Sustainable Procurement Strategy, for the 2023/24 financial year focussing on the needs of residents and service users.

- 3) To note the work being undertaken by officers and request a further update in 3 cycles to look at opportunities to bring services in house from the hard FM contract during 2021/22 financial year.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

### **Amendment 1**

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To endorse the development of a longer-term, resourced programme of work to consider the most appropriate options for future service delivery, subject to the Council's Business and Budget Planning decisions and Sustainable Procurement Strategy, for the 2023/24 financial year.
- 3) To note that Best Value was a statutory requirement, enacted by the then Labour led Scottish Executive, and thus compliance ranked higher than with an internal Council "Coalition Commitment" especially given the Council's approved Risk Appetite.
- 4) To further note that the decisions recorded in Paragraph 4.9 in the report on "Alternative Business Models" and Property and asset Management services were demonstrably not Best Value.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Rose

### **Amendment 2**

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To endorse the development of a longer-term, resourced programme of work to consider the most appropriate options for future service delivery, subject to the Council's Business and Budget Planning decisions and Sustainable Procurement Strategy, for the 2023/24 financial year.

- moved by Councillor Aldridge, seconded by Councillor Gloyer

### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion	-	10 votes
For Amendment 1	-	5 votes
For Amendment 2	-	2 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry and Wilson.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Jim Campbell, Mitchell, Mowat Rose and Whyte.

For Amendment 2: Councillors Aldridge and Gloyer.)

### **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(References – Act of Council No 21 of 24 June 2021; report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

## **11. Accounts Commission: Local Government in Scotland Overview 2021**

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Details were provided on a recent report by the Accounts Commission looking at Local Government in Scotland in the context of the Covid pandemic including the evolving and long-term impact of Covid. This was the first in a series of reports which in future would look closer at the lessons learned and assess the progress made in 2022.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of corporate Services.
- 2) To refer the report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee as part of its work programme.

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

## **12. Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025 – Further Information**

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The Committee had called for a further report on demonstrating how aspects of the Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025 would be addressed through a suitable action plan or existing work plans.

Details were provided on how the concerns raised by the Edinburgh Access Panel and other groups about accessibility and citizen involvement in decision making would be addressed through a suitable action plan or existing work plans together with information on the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process, a summary of the Council's approach to consultation and engagement and how the effective use of these would address the issues raised.

### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the actions described in response to the concerns raised by the Edinburgh Access Panel and other groups at its April 2021 meeting as detailed in the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.



- 2) To note the Council's response to the Scottish Government's questionnaire as part of the second stage of its review into the effectiveness of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) in Scotland. The questionnaire provided public bodies with the opportunity to shape the way ahead. The deadline for submission had fallen outwith the Council's Committee timeframe and so had been submitted with approval by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 20 April 2021 (item 13): report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

### 13. 2030 Climate Strategy

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Details were provide on the latest wave of the strategy development process and, included the views of around 920 residents and other stakeholders who took part in the Council's online survey, submitted a letter, or participated in one of the virtual focus groups held over the summer on the draft Climate Strategy. The Strategy consultation had closed on 12 September and significant numbers of responses had been received right up to the closing date.

#### **Motion**

- 1) To note the summary of consultation hub and engagement insights in appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To note that further detailed feedback – particularly in relation to implementation actions and commitments - was received from a number of key partners towards the end of the consultation and agree that appropriate time be taken to reflect on, and take account of, these contributions within the final strategy documents.
- 3) To agree the high-level priorities for the Draft Strategy as outlined in the report and the priority council actions identified in paragraph 4.16 of the report to; support community capacity building and citizen engagement, private owner occupier retrofit, community energy generation and business transition.
- 4) To agree a budget allocation of £50,000 as seed funding for the Edinburgh CAN B 'Business for Good' support programme and network and £50,000 for the development of a Community Climate Forum to support community and citizen climate engagement and activity.
- 5) To agree the approach to governance outlined in the report and note that this would be recommended to the Edinburgh Partnership Board at their next meeting.
- 6) To note that the draft Climate Strategy would take account of the outcomes reached during COP26 and would be published after consideration by the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 30 November 2021.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

## **Amendment**

- 1) To note the summary of consultation hub and engagement insights in appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To note that further detailed feedback – particularly in relation to implementation actions and commitments - was received from a number of key partners towards the end of the consultation and agree that appropriate time be taken to reflect on, and take account of, these contributions within the final strategy documents.
- 3) To note concerns raised in the responses that the Council’s decision to aim for Net Carbon Zero by 2030 conflicted with the UK or Scottish Government’s aims for Scotland to be Net Zero by 2045 and was concerned that this lack of alignment would mean the city could not take advantage of funding and policy initiatives from the UK and Scottish Government; to agree to align with the Governmental target of 2045; chosen because funding streams that the City needed to bid into would only emerge from Government over that longer time period and because national changes to reduce emissions would be implemented in the same timescale; that to have a policy unit producing plans for a city region rather than aligning with a population of 5,500,000 was an inefficient use of resources through duplication of effort.
- 4) To not approve release of any monies until such time as a detailed and funded implementation programme was presented to Committee.

- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Whyte

## **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

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

(For the motion: Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn and Perry.)

For the amendment: Councillors Jim Campbell, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose and Whyte.)

## **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

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

## **14. Pay Gap Report**

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An update was provided on the organisation’s gender pay gap, gender pay gap by age and part-time gender pay gap which this year the Council had expanded reporting to

include pay gap analysis for additional protected characteristics including disability (and long-term health conditions) and race/ethnicity.

### **Decision**

To note the outcomes of the 2021 annual pay gap report (for gender, race/ethnicity and disability pay gaps), which would be published later in October 2021.

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

## **15. BioQuarter Outline Business Case**

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Details were provided on the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the procurement of a Private Sector Partner (PSP) for BioQuarter project which built upon the Strategic Business Case (SBC).

### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the Outline Business Case (OBC) as provided in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To agree to the Council being a party to EBQ3 Ltd for the purposes of running the Private Sector Partner (PSP) procurement process and ensuring that the 'primary purpose' of the BioQuarter was preserved.
- 3) To refer the report to Council seeking agreement to enter into EBQ3 Ltd on the terms outlined in the paper.
- 4) To agree to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to nominate officers to the EBQ3 Ltd Board for the purposes of running the procurement process.
- 5) To note that EBQ3 Ltd would take the final decision on appointment of a development partner and that an update report would be brought back to Committee in late 2022 advising of the outcome of the procurement process and outlining next steps.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 25 February 2020 (item 14); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

## **16. Granton Waterfront Regeneration – Outline Business Case**

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Details were provided on the Granton Waterfront would set the standard for sustainable economic growth in Edinburgh with an ambitious approach to low carbon living in an environment that was climate resilient, inclusive and well connected would support prosperity and wellbeing, locally, and across the city region. A progress update on Early Action Projects was also provided.

Approval was sought for the Outline Business Case (OBC) and to progress with stage 3 activities.

## **Motion**

- 1) To approve the findings and recommendations set out within the Outline Business Case (OBC).
- 2) To agree to undertake stage 3 activities, as outlined in section 5 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, to produce a Final Business Case (FBC) for Phase 1 'Heart of Granton', which would include procurement of a development partner and progression of the business case stages for a low carbon district heat network.
- 3) To note progress with delivering Early Action Projects within the Programme.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

## **Amendment**

- 1) To approve the findings and recommendations set out within the Outline Business Case (OBC).
- 2) To agree to undertake stage 3 activities, as outlined in section 5 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, to produce a Final Business Case (FBC) for Phase 1 'Heart of Granton', which would include procurement of a development partner and progression of the business case stages for a low carbon district heat network.
- 3) To note progress with delivering Early Action Projects within the Programme.
- 4) Agrees to retain all possible funding and partnership options with the private sector for consideration through to Final Business Case stage in order to explore options to close the funding gap and thus make possible, or even accelerate the provision of high-quality housing and employment development in the area in line with other Council policies.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Whyte

## **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	9 votes
For the amendment	-	7 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Arthur, Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, McVey, Miller, Munn and Perry.)

For Amendment 1: Councillors Aldridge, Jim Campbell, Gloyer, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose and Whyte.)

## **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey:

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

### **17. Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Annual Report 2020/21**

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A summary was provided of the key findings from the City Region Deal Annual Report for 2020/21 which had been published on 30 August 2021 and approved by the City Region Deal Joint Committee on 3 September 2021.

## **Decision**

To note the summary findings of the third annual report for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal for 2020/21.

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

### **18. Edinburgh and South East Scotland – Regional Prosperity Framework**

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An update was provided on the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) consultation process; key feedback received from the consultation; and the proposed final version of the Framework together with an outline of the expected timetable for developing the action and implementation plan. Formal ratification was sought by the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region (ESESCR) Deal partners of the RPF by the City of Edinburgh Council.

## **Decision**

- 1) To note that the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region (ESESCR) Deal Joint Committee had formally approved the Regional Prosperity Framework on 3 September 2021.
- 2) To formally ratify the Regional Prosperity Framework (Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director of Place).

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

### **19. Scottish Government Consultation: Scottish Building Regulations**

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Details were provided on a proposed response to the Scottish Government Consultation on Scottish Building Regulations which consultation related to a range of different building regulations including heat and energy in buildings, ventilation and avoiding the risk of overheating, construction and design standards and proposals for

Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers to be installed in new and existing premises with a certain number of parking spaces.

### **Motion**

- 1) To agree the consultation response to the Scottish Government Consultation for Scottish Building Regulations: Proposed changes to Energy Standards and associated topics, including Ventilation, Overheating and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.
- 2) To note that the consultation on Scottish Building Regulations closed on the 29 October 2021.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

### **Amendment 1**

- 1) To agree the consultation response to the Scottish Government Consultation for Scottish Building Regulations: Proposed changes to Energy Standards and associated topics, including Ventilation, Overheating and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, subject to the following minor amendments:
  - a) To amend the answer to questions 2 and 3 to call for the introduction of net zero carbon new domestic and non-domestic buildings, in line with the recently approved Proposed City Plan 2030;
  - b) To amend the answer to question 24 to call for significantly bolder proposals for consequential improvements to existing buildings, considering that less than 1% of the building stock each year is new build;
  - c) To amend the answers to questions 61-64 to call for robust action to ensure as built compliance with section 6 regulations, including but not limited to consideration of independent Scotland-wide research into on-site as built compliance with section 6 and a review of the resources & training available to Buildings Standards Officers to deal with as built section 6 compliance;
  - d) To amend the answer to question 65 to urge the Scottish Government to introduce changes to section 7 (sustainability) to set high universal standards for the storage within buildings of bicycles and other human-powered vehicles, particularly non-standard bikes such as adapted bikes for disabled people, tandems, hand cycles and cargo bikes; it is likely that separate standards would be required for domestic and non-domestic buildings, in line with the recently approved Proposed City Plan 2030.

- 2) To note that the consultation on Scottish Building Regulations closed on the 29 October 2021.

- moved by Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Miller

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was accepted as an amendment to the motion.

### **Amendment 2**

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey as originally proposed.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Mowat

### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	12 votes
For Amendment 2	-	5 votes

(For the motion (as adjusted): Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Burgess, Kate Campbell, Day, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn and Perry.)

For Amendment 2: Councillors Jim Campbell, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose and Whyte.)

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

- 1) To agree the consultation response to the Scottish Government Consultation for Scottish Building Regulations: Proposed changes to Energy Standards and associated topics, including Ventilation, Overheating and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, subject to the following minor amendments:
  - a) To amend the answer to questions 2 and 3 to call for the introduction of net zero carbon new domestic and non-domestic buildings, in line with the recently approved Proposed City Plan 2030;
  - b) To amend the answer to question 24 to call for significantly bolder proposals for consequential improvements to existing buildings, considering that less than 1% of the building stock each year is new build;
  - c) To amend the answers to questions 61-64 to call for robust action to ensure as built compliance with section 6 regulations, including but not limited to consideration of independent Scotland-wide research into on-site as built compliance with section 6 and a review of the resources & training available to Buildings Standards Officers to deal with as built section 6 compliance;

- d) To amend the answer to question 65 to urge the Scottish Government to introduce changes to section 7 (sustainability) to set high universal standards for the storage within buildings of bicycles and other human-powered vehicles, particularly non-standard bikes such as adapted bikes for disabled people, tandems, hand cycles and cargo bikes; it is likely that separate standards would be required for domestic and non-domestic buildings, in line with the recently approved Proposed City Plan 2030.
- 2) To note that the consultation on Scottish Building Regulations closed on the 29 October 2021.

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

## **20. Mental Welfare Commission – Authority to discharge report - Edinburgh improvement plan**

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On 5 May 2021, the Mental Welfare Commission (MWC) for Scotland had published a report titled 'Authority to discharge' which contained a series of improvement actions for Health Boards and Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs), eight of which related to Health and Social Care Partnerships.

A summary of EHSCP plan to implement the recommended actions was provided.

### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) improvement plan, prepared in response to the Mental Welfare Commission (MWC) report – Authority to Discharge.
- 2) To outline and note the improvements made in terms of EHSCP plan for implementing the MWC's reports recommendations and agree the work that was in progress.
- 3) To agree that updated reports would come forward to the Policy and Sustainability Committee as the work progressed.

(Reference – report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

## **21. System Pressures – Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership**

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Details were provided on the significant pressures being experienced in relation to social care in Edinburgh and the increasing levels of unmet need and risk to people relating to this. The pressures had arisen both from an increasing level of need and demand in the community, alongside a decreasing availability of care due to vacancies in the care sector.



## **Decision**

- 1) To note the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership relating to both the increasing demand for services as well as the decrease in available care capacity.
- 2) To note the escalations which had taken place and the increasing risk rating in relation to support to vulnerable people.
- 3) To endorse the actions being taken to mitigate the increasing risk to people.
- 4) To endorse escalation within the appropriate resilience arrangements locally, regionally and nationally as necessary.
- 5) To agree that HSCP officers communicate the extent of the pressures directly to people that used services and that officers communicate the potential need to adjust packages of care and support where this was considered appropriate within professional judgement.

(Reference – report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

## **22. Internal Audit Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 11 August 2021 – referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee**

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The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee had referred a report on the outcome of the Internal Audit Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 11 August 2021.

### **Motion**

To note the report by the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

### **Amendment**

- 1) To note the report by the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.
- 2) To instruct the Chief Executive to provide a detailed report on the actions overdue by more than a year, within the purview of this Committee, for review regarding future timescale for sign off and adequacy of actions taken.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

## **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

- 1) To note the report by the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.
- 2) To instruct the Chief Executive to provide a detailed report on the actions overdue by more than a year, within the purview of this Committee, for review regarding future timescale for sign off and adequacy of actions taken.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, 21 September 2021 (item 4); referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, submitted.)

## **23. Adaptation and Renewal Programme Update**

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An update was provided on the Adaptation and Renewal Programme which covered decisions taken in period 23 July to 24 September 2021 together with an update on the reopening of Community Centres and continuing and new pressures on services which were directly and indirectly impacted by Covid-19.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the Council's latest Covid-19 position following the statement from the First Minister on Tuesday, 14 September 2021 and associated Scottish Government guidance.
- 2) To note the Covid-19 Response Dashboard at Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 3) To note the decisions taken to date under urgency provisions from 23 July to 24 September 2021 at Appendix 2 to the report.
- 4) To note the closure summary for the Adaptation and Renewal Programme.

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

## **24. Our Future Work Strategy**

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Details were provided on work that had been carried out to consider options for changes to working practices and what that might mean for the future use of the operational estate, aligned to other Council strategies including the proposed Our Future Work Strategy.

### **Motion**

- 1) To approve the proposed Our Future Work Strategy, delegating authority to the Executive Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader to make any final adjustments to the strategy, particularly in

- respect of presentation and the inclusion of further case studies, prior to publication.
- 2) To note that the scope of the strategy was to set out a vision and approach to flexible and hybrid working for the Council in the future, alongside a proposal for three trials of new ways of working in Waverley Court, City Chambers and a locality.
  - 3) To note that the content of the strategy reflected engagement with both employees and elected members over the past 18 months.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

### **Amendment**

- 1) To approve the proposed Our Future Work Strategy, delegating authority to the Executive Director of Corporate Services to make any final adjustments to the strategy, particularly in respect of presentation and the inclusion of further case studies, prior to publication and that the finalised strategy be reported to Committee.
- 2) To note that the scope of the strategy was to set out a vision and approach to flexible and hybrid working for the Council in the future, alongside a proposal for three trials of new ways of working in Waverley Court, City Chambers and a locality.
- 3) To note that the content of the strategy reflected engagement with both employees and elected members over the past 18 months.

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Main

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

- 1) To approve the proposed Our Future Work Strategy, delegating authority to the Executive Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader to make any final adjustments to the strategy, particularly in respect of presentation and the inclusion of further case studies, prior to publication and that an update report on implementation of the strategy be reported to Committee in 6 months.
- 2) To note that the scope of the strategy was to set out a vision and approach to flexible and hybrid working for the Council in the future, alongside a proposal for three trials of new ways of working in Waverley Court, City Chambers and a locality.

- 3) To note that the content of the strategy reflected engagement with both employees and elected members over the past 18 months

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

## **25. Diversity and Inclusion Strategy Update**

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An update was provided on the progress made with the Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan, for the Council as an employer, first approved by this Committee on 1 October 2019.

### **Decision**

To note the progress being made in relation to the Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan, for the Council as an employer, since it was approved on 1 October 2019.

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

## **26. Digital and Smart City Strategy - Update**

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An update was provided on the Council's Digital and Smart City Strategy together with the Implementation Plan for this. Updates on key programmes being delivered as part of the Strategy were also provided.

### **Decision**

To note the progress to date of the Digital and Smart City Strategy Implementation Plan in delivery against the principles of the Strategy.

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

## **27. Council Asbestos Policy 2021-24**

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Details were provided on the Council's Asbestos Policy which reconfirmed the position of the Council with regards regulatory compliance with the management of asbestos in council operated/managed buildings, both domestic and non-domestic together with clarification on the requirement for relevant service areas to construct, implement, monitor and review asbestos management systems and procedures appropriate to service area activity, including the provision of emergency arrangements. The Policy replaced the existing Corporate Policy for Managing Asbestos, dated 3 October 2017.

### **Decision**

To approve the Council Asbestos Safety Policy 2021-24.

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