

# Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Thursday 12 November 2020

## Appointments to Working Groups 2020/2021

Executive/routine Wards Council Commitments	Executive All
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### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 To appoint the membership of the Working Groups for 2020/21 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report with the exception of the Tram All Party Oversight Group.
- 1.2 To consider the membership of the Tram All Party Oversight Group described at paragraph 4.4.

**Andrew Kerr**

Chief Executive

Contact: Veronica MacMillan, Committee Officer

Email: [veronica.macmillan@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:veronica.macmillan@edinburgh.gov.uk) | Tel: 0131 529 4283

## Appointments to Working Groups 2020/2021

### 2. Executive Summary

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- 2.1 The Transport and Environment Committee is required to annually re-appoint the membership of its working groups. The proposed membership structures of each are detailed in appendix 1 of this report.

### 3. Background

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- 3.1 Working Groups remain a popular vehicle for policy development and wider discussion with partners and stakeholders. The Council currently has 34 working groups that vary from short life working groups and long-standing groups such as the Joint Consultative Group. A very small number of working groups have met during the Covid-19 emergency period to discuss immediate matters but working groups in general exerts pressure on both officer and elected member time and resource.
- 3.2 Given the impact of the Covid-19 emergency and resource pressures that remain, it is recommended that working groups only meet during this period if:
- there is officer capacity and resource available;
  - it is required for specific actions to progress;
  - they take place virtually.
- 3.3 The number and nature of working groups, including proposals around the use of working groups going forward will be considered as part of the review of political management arrangements in December 2020.

### 4. Main report

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- 4.1 The Committee is required to appoint the membership of its working groups for 2020/21.
- 4.2 While there is no requirement for the membership of working groups to be proportionate to that of the Council, it is suggested that this is good practice.
- 4.3 The proposed membership has therefore been adjusted to reflect the overall political balance on the Council. It is, however, open to the Committee to alter the membership where it feels this is warranted.

- 4.4 It has been raised by members that the Tram All Party Oversight Group does not reflect the Council proportionality. The Council currently has 15 SNP Group members, 17 Conservative Group members, 11 Labour Group members, 8 Green Group members, 6 Liberal Democrat Group members, 3 Edinburgh Party of Independent Councillor Group members and 2 Independent Group members. On the Tram All Party Oversight Group there are currently 3 SNP Group members, 2 Labour Group members, 2 Green Group members, 2 Liberal Democrat members and 1 Conservative Group member. To make the membership more proportionate to the political balance of the Council, the membership would consist of 2 SNP Group members, 3 Conservative Group members, 2 Labour Group members, 1 Green Group member, 1 Liberal Democrat Group member and 1 Edinburgh Party of Independent Councillors (EPIC). Whilst there is no requirement for the membership of working groups to be proportionate to that of the Council, it is suggested that this is good practice and committee is asked to consider the make-up of membership it feels appropriate.
- 4.5 The current membership structures are set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

## **5. Next Steps**

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- 5.1 Not applicable.

## **6. Financial impact**

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- 6.1 Not applicable.

## **7. Stakeholder/Community Impact**

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- 7.1 Not applicable.

## **8. Background reading/external references**

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- 8.1 [Review of Political Management Arrangements 2019](#) – report by the Chief Executive
- 8.2 [Council Minutes - 30 May 2019](#)
- 8.3 [Policy and Sustainability Minutes - 6 August 2020](#)

## **9. Appendices**

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Appendix 1 – Working Groups of the Transport and Environment Committee

## Working Groups

<b>Active Travel Forum</b> 1 Member (Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee)	
Councillor Macinnes (Convener)	
<b>Local Access Forum</b> 1 member – Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee.	
Councillor Macinnes (Convener)	
<b>Central Edinburgh Development Working Group</b> 9 members – Convener and Vice-Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee, Convener and Vice-Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee, Convener of the Planning Committee, 2 Conservative, 1 Green and 1 SLD.	
Councillor Macinnes Councillor Kate Campbell Councillor Gardiner Councillor Webber Councillor Lang	Councillor Doran Councillor Mowat Councillor Miller Councillor Watt
<b>Tram All Party Oversight Group</b> 10 members – Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, Convener and Vice-Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee, Opposition Group Leaders, Opposition Transport Spokespersons.	
Councillor McVey Councillor Day Councillor Macinnes Councillor Doran Councillor Cook	Councillor Aldridge Councillor Corbett Councillor Gloyer Councillor Miller Councillor Kate Campbell

<b>Transport Forum</b> 5 members – 1 SNP, 1 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 Green, 1 SLD	
Councillor Macinnes Councillor Doran Councillor Lang	Councillor Booth Councillor Webber
<b>Single Use Plastics Working Group</b> 5 members – 1 SNP, 1 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 Green, 1 SLD	
Councillor Bird Councillor Burgess Councillor Webber	Councillor Doran Councillor Lang
<b>Cammo Estate Advisory Committee</b> 2 local ward members	
Councillor Hutchison	Councillor Work