The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 30 June 2022

Motion by Councillor Mumford – Embedding Gender Budget Analysis – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. For Decision/Action

1.1 A decision of the Finance and Resources Committee to take no action on a motion is referred to Council for consideration.

Richard Carr

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Referral Report

Motion by Councillor Mumford – Embedding Gender Budget Analysis – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

2. Terms of Referral

2.1 On 16 June 2022, the Finance and Resources Committee considered a motion by Councillor Mumford in relation to Embedding Gender Budget Analysis as follows:

2.1.1 "Committee:

- Notes that gender budgeting is an internationally recognised tool to expose the gendered impact of public spending and ensures consideration of spending decisions through this lens;
- Recognises that the First Minister's National Advisory Council on Women and Girls recommended that local authorities integrate intersectional gender budget analysis into their budget setting procedures;
- Recognises that the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Scottish Specific elements of the Public Sector Equality Duty responded to this recommendation stating that "gender budget analysis would be a positive step forward and perfectly feasible at the present time", while disagreeing with the need for a statutory duty;
- Notes that the Scottish Women's Budget Group's project 'Gender Budgeting from Theory to Action' aims to support greater use of gender budgeting tools in local decision making in Scotland to reduce inequalities;
- 5. Therefore requests a report to this committee within 2 cycles into measures that the Council can take to introduce, embed or improve intersectional gender budgeting including but not limited to:
 - a. A strategy for resource allocation to achieve equality;
 - b. Greater intersectional data gathering;
 - c. An equalities budget statement alongside all submitted budget motions;

- d. Strengthening IIAs for spending decisions and ensuring greater opportunities for scrutiny by elected members and the public;
- e. Investing in gender competence of officers and elected members;
- f. Mechanisms and structures to improve gender budgeting such as working groups, taskforces and champions;
- 6. And further requests that officers engage with the Scottish Women's Budget Group within the next cycle to explore the possibility of Edinburgh Council undertaking a pilot gender budget analysis project with them."
- 2.2 An amendment was proposed to take no action. The Finance and Resources Committee agreed to take no action on the motion with the voting as follows:
 - 2.2.1 For the motion 5 votes

 For the amendment 6 votes

(For the motion – Councillors Biagi, Hyslop, Mumford, Nicolson and Staniforth.

For the amendment – Councillors Watt, Bruce, Doggart, Griffiths, Neil Ross and Younie.)

2.3 In terms of Standing Order 31.1, the required number of members requested that the decision be referred to Council as a recommendation. Council is therefore asked to consider the decision.

3. Background Reading

- 3.1 Finance and Resources Committee 16 June 2022 Agenda
- 3.2 Minute of the Finance and Resources Committee 16 June 2022
- 4. Appendices

None.