

Motion by the Administration

Policy and Sustainability Committee

Tuesday 30 August 2022

Item 7.2 – Petition for Consideration: Twinning Edinburgh with Gaza City

Notes that, as set out in the report, the Council agreed in 2019 the principle that no new twinning should take place.

Committee therefore agrees to ask the Edinburgh Partnership to consider whether there are any activities or projects which may be mutually beneficial and its members would wish to work with the people of Gaza on.

Moved by: Councillor Cammy Day

Seconded by: Councillor Mandy Watt

Motion by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.2 – Petition for Consideration: Twinning Edinburgh with Gaza City

Committee notes the positive relationships between Edinburgh and other Cities around the world in sharing knowledge and collaborating on issues to support organisations within Edinburgh develop further.

Committee agrees to request that the Edinburgh Partnership discuss this matter, including establishing if any partner could take a lead role in any relationship and set out what any relationship based on humanitarian support could entail.

Committee notes a report would come back to committee once those discussions have concluded and agrees the petitioner and the organisation listed on the petition are not involved in any future processes, instead engaging with organisations like trade unions and established inclusive organisations such as the Scottish Parliament's Cross-Party Group on Palestine and the Westminster All-party Parliamentary Group in Westminster.

Moved by Councillor Adam McVey

Seconded by Councillor

Motion by the Liberal Democrat Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.2 – Petition for Consideration: Twinning Edinburgh with Gaza City

Committee:

1. notes the petition and thanks the petitioners for submitting it to the committee.
2. notes that the agreed 2021 Edinburgh International Framework focused on maintaining existing twinning arrangements rather than forming new twinning partnerships.
3. recognises the importance, particularly post Brexit, of Edinburgh strengthening its economic, social and cultural ties with other cities internationally, and notes that it is almost 30 years since Edinburgh entered into any new twinning arrangement.
4. equally recognises the resource implications of servicing existing twinning arrangements and from entering into any new agreements.
5. therefore agrees that the review of the international framework in this term of the Council should include a) a holistic review of the opportunities, risks and cost implications from Edinburgh twinning with additional cities, b) a strategic analysis of where Edinburgh would benefit most from new twinning arrangements and c) consultation with city partners and stakeholders.
6. agrees that the question of whether Edinburgh should twin with any new cities should be considered as part of this wider and comprehensive work.

Moved by: Councillor Kevin Lang

Seconded by: Councillor Sanne Dijkstra-Downie

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.2 – Petition for Consideration: Twinning Edinburgh with Gaza City

Adds:

1.2 notes that the ongoing occupation of Gaza and Palestine is unacceptable, with Palestinians living in what is effectively an apartheid state and Gaza under a siege which killed 44 Palestinians, 16 of them children, only this month.

1.3 notes that criticism of the Israeli government's actions should not be seen as criticism of the Israeli people.

1.4 notes that formal solidarity with the Palestinian people contributes to international recognition of Palestine which will be crucial in advancing peace in the region.

1.5 notes that LGBT+ rights should be considered in any twinning or similar and that Edinburgh council should use any such position to encourage the advancement of LGBT+ rights in Gaza and Palestine more generally.

1.6 notes that while 'twinning' has been suspended, solidarity with Palestine is a special case for the reasons given above.

1.7 therefore calls for a report within three cycles detailing how Edinburgh might twin with Gaza, or another similar arrangement might be concluded, with emphasis on solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine and the promotion of Human Rights within Palestine.

Moved by: Councillor Alex Staniforth

Seconded by: Councillor Alys Mumford

Motion by the Conservative Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.2 – Petition for Consideration: Twinning Edinburgh with Gaza City

Notes that the Council agreed in 2019 that no new twinning activity should take place.

Committee therefore agrees that the issues raised do not merit further action.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte
Seconded by: Councillor Phil Doggart

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.3 – Council Budget 2022-23 - Poverty reduction and climate emergency measures

Add

"1.1.5 requests that officers create a dedicated 'cost of living' section on the Council website, which is accessible from the homepage, providing details on the help available directly from the Council, and signposting to other useful information, support and services."

Moved by: Councillor Kevin Lang

Seconded by: Councillor Alan Beal

Addendum by the Conservative Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.3 – Council Budget 2022/23 – Poverty reduction and climate emergency measures

Adds at end:

1.1.5 notes with concern that increased energy costs will impact across all sectors this coming Winter and that the Council should play its part in reducing its own energy use and encouraging reductions by others as reduced demand helps limit cost increases and reduces emissions.

1.1.6 notes that the German Government aims to cut energy use by 20% this winter through several energy-saving measures that will come into force from 1 September including:

- Public buildings heated to a maximum 19C
- No heating in corridors in public buildings
- No illumination of monuments and public buildings
- Shop doors cannot be permanently open
- No lighting in shop windows or on billboards after 10pm

1.1.7 agrees that the Council should begin a similar energy saving programme in its own buildings taking advice as necessary from its contacts with the German Consul, Eurocities partners and others on how best to implement such a plan. Further that the Council use its local partnerships with business, public and the third sector to encourage energy saving as a useful measure to reduce costs and emissions within the City through an energy use Summit.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte
Seconded by: Councillor Phil Doggart

Addendum by the Conservative Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.4 – Annual Performance Report, 2021/22 and Item 7.5 – Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2020/21 - Edinburgh Overview

Add at end:

That the service performance implications outlined in these reports be considered in full in relation to the ongoing work to construct a new Council Business Plan

That examples of good practice elsewhere highlighted in the LGBF be used to consider future policy actions for service improvement (e.g. Glasgow's consistently better performance on attainment of pupils from Level 5 SIMD) and that these be taken account of relative to performance differences with other large Councils and not just the three major cities in Scotland.

Moved by: Councillor Phil Doggart

Seconded by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.7 – Sustainable Food Update

At Recommendations, also adds:

- 1.5 Notes that plant-based foods have a significant role to play in tackling climate change and as part of a sustainable food system
- 1.6 Notes that, worldwide, 18 cities have signed up to the [Plant Based Treaty](#) which aims to halt the widespread degradation of critical ecosystems caused by animal agriculture and to promote a shift to sustainable plant-based diets, as well as many other organisations and politicians from all Parties across the UK
- 1.7 Notes that [Council passed a motion in March 2022 \(8.8\)](#) for a report on the implications for the council if it were to endorse this treaty, and further notes that this report is currently being developed for completion in Autumn 2022
- 1.8 Agrees that learnings from that report around plant-based food systems should help to inform the Council's Growing Locally strategy, with a renewed focus being given to plant-based food systems therein
- 1.9 Further agrees that the Council should encourage greater detail and consideration of plant-based food systems to be included as part of the second Sustainable Food City plan, working with partners to achieve this
- 1.10 Agrees that specific detail about the above is included in all reports about the strategies going forward

Moved by: Councillor Ben Parker

Seconded by: Councillor

Amendment by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.10 – Update on Recycling and Waste Collection in Schools

Deletes all recommendations and replaces with:

Committee:

- 1.1 Notes the improvements which have been made to the infrastructure and communications to enhance recycling provision in schools
- 1.2 Notes the lack of detail in the report and guidance for schools around measures they can take to prevent, re-use and reduce waste in the first instance, in line with the waste hierarchy
- 1.3 Agrees that detail about the waste hierarchy should be added into the “Guidance for Schools and Facilities Teams” document, and as part of the wider support communications for the project
- 1.4 Notes that a Waste Compositional Analysis has been undertaken to monitor current recycling rates and will be repeated in the Autumn to measure the impact of the changes introduced in May 2022
- 1.5 Requests an update to the first Committee after the Waste Compositional Analysis has been undertaken in Autumn to report on the impact of changes made, including detail about the steps taken to embed the waste hierarchy into the project, as described in 1.3

Moved by: Councillor Ben Parker

Seconded by: Councillor

Amendment by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.12 – EnerPHit Tranche 1 Programme

Committee welcomes the report and planned works as part of the EnerPHit Tranche 1 Programme.

Committee reaffirms commitment to the Council’s 2030 climate strategy which itself includes a commitment to a Just Transition (p11, 2030 Climate Strategy).

Therefore, Committee regrets that the “Building Selection Best Value Matrix” and methodology used to select the buildings for Tranche 1 of the programme fails to include consideration about how choice of buildings contributes to a Just Transition in the city (4.5.5, p24 and 10.4 Appendix D, p66).

Consequently, committee requests that consideration of this is added to the “Building Selection Best Value Matrix” for Tranche 2 of the programme, with specific detail about this consideration included in future reports about the programme to the committee.

Moved by: Councillor Ben Parker

Seconded by: Councillor

Amendment by the Administration

Policy and Sustainability Committee

30 August 2022

Item 7.15 – Conference - Next Steps for the Children's Care System in Scotland and Implementing The Promise

1.1 To agree that Councillor Joan Griffiths as Education, Children and Families Convener attends the Next Steps for the Children's Care System in Scotland and Implementing The Promise Conference on 26 October 2022.

Moved by: Councillor Joan Griffiths

Seconded by: Councillor Cammy Day