



# Business Bulletin

## Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

**10.00am, Thursday, 29 August 2019**

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, Edinburgh

# Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener Councillor Kate Campbell</p>  <p>Vice Convener Councillor Mandy Watt</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cllr Chas Booth</li><li>• Cllr Jim Campbell</li><li>• Cllr David Key</li><li>• Cllr Kevin Lang</li><li>• Cllr John McLellan</li><li>• Cllr Claire Miller</li><li>• Cllr Gordon Munro</li><li>• Cllr Iain Whyte</li><li>• Cllr Norman Work</li></ul>	<p>Jamie Macrae Committee Officer Tel: 0131 553 8242</p> <p>Sarah Stirling Assistant Committee Officer Tel: 0131 529 3009</p> <p>Lisa Mallon Housing Operations Manager Tel: 0131 529 6291</p>

## Recent News

### Salitre Housing Design Awards 2019

The Council's house building programme continues to be recognised for its design and quality, receiving a commendation at the Saltire Housing Design Awards 2019 for the second phase of the regeneration programme at Pennywell.

The awards were hosted at the Scottish Parliament on the 25 June 2019. These awards recognise the design quality of the affordable homes that have been delivered in the area.

### Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Update

#### Housing

On 29 May 2019 the Regional Housing Board met for the second time. Discussion focused on regional affordable housing delivery in the year 2018/19; updates on the seven strategic sites; and priorities for a future series of workshops to develop the regional housing work programme.

On 14 and 21 June 2019, the workshops took place with over 70 attendees across the two days. The first day focused on infrastructure, land and strategic sites and second day on affordable housing, innovation and skills. Regional partners are currently in the process of capturing feedback and input received across the workshops with a view of producing a short report outlining a future regional work programme, to be reported at the next meeting of the Regional Housing Board.

#### Fair Work

On 7 June 2019 the City Region Deal Joint Committee [approved](#) the final four Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme project propositions:

- Integrated knowledge systems

## Background

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Recent News	Background
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labour market analysis and evaluation</li> <li>• Integrated employer engagement</li> <li>• Workforce mobility</li> </ul> <p>The seven key projects which underpin the £25 million IRES programme have all gained Joint Committee approval and are now progressing towards implementation.</p>	
<p><b>West Edinburgh and Airport Relief Road</b></p> <p>Further progress is being made in relation to West Edinburgh. Council officers have continued to meet with Edinburgh Airport in relation to the Airport Relief Road. Scoping work is now underway on the design of the road in order to allow a planning application to be submitted in due course. It is anticipated that this will be early next calendar year.</p> <p>Work is also progressing on the scoping work to identify the priority West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal (WETA) measures to be delivered through the City Region Deal funding that is available for this purpose. Council Officers have been liaising with Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal partners to develop a high level Project Delivery Plan (PDP). This PDP will be presented to the next CRD Transport Appraisal Board (26 August 2019) and will set out the next steps of the project with a recommendation to procure multiple disciplinary consultancy support to assist in the progression of the programme and develop an investment package of strategic transport infrastructure for West Edinburgh.</p> <p>The consultant teams in relation to both of the above pieces of work will be tasked with working together to ensure a coordinated approach. The proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and Edinburgh Airport will continue to be developed. It is likely that this will not be signed until the scoping work is complete and there is a clearer understanding of works to be delivered and associated costs.</p> <p>The land owned by New Ingliston Ltd which comprises Phase 2 of the International Business Gateway is now</p>	<p><b>Contact:</b></p> <p>David Cooper,  <a href="mailto:david.cooper@edinburgh.gov.uk">david.cooper@edinburgh.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk">uk</a>  0131 529 6233</p>

## Recent News

## Background

been marketed for sale. Officers will track this process and seek early engagement with any new owner.

The procurement of a multi-disciplinary team to undertake a study on the inclusive growth potential of West Edinburgh is underway. This project is being taken forward in partnership with Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise and the Scottish Futures Trust. It is envisaged that selection of the team will take place shortly and an appointment made in September 2019.

The remit for this work area have been moved from the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee to the Policy and Sustainability Committee. A report will be provided to that Committee on 1 October 2019. Business bulletin updates will continue to be provided to Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee.

### **Town Centre Fund and Strategic Statement**

On 6 June 2019 the Housing and Economy Committee agreed allocations for the £2.613m of funding that Council received from the Scottish Government as part of the 2019/20 budget settlement. A number of projects were put forward for consideration and progress is now being made on those that received funding allocations.

A detailed design and construction pack has been prepared for South Queensferry and procurement is underway with a contractor expected to be in place by the end of 2019. A contractor is being appointed to remove asbestos from Granton Station and work is underway to move materials from the grounds, with further works being agreed within the project team. On Westside Plaza, detailed designs are being prepared by Harrison Stevens. On the Pennywell Cultural and Learning Hub, work is ongoing with North Edinburgh Arts to progress the development. A monitoring regime is being developed to assess the impact of each project.

In considering this matter the Committee asked that updates be provided on each of the projects that were allocated funding and also asked that officers prepared a Town Centre Strategic Statement to assist in the allocation process should funding be made available in

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Recent News	Background
<p>future years. This work is underway and a report will be brought to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work in January for consideration.</p>	
<p><b>Marketing Edinburgh Update</b></p> <p>Since the Housing and Economy Committee on <a href="#">6 June 2019</a> Marketing Edinburgh has made significant progress on developing an approach for its future.</p> <p>The company commissioned external support to undertake an options appraisal and Council officers have been involved in these detailed discussions. This work is due to conclude in late Summer 2019 and is exploring a number of options for transforming the business.</p> <p>A report on the next steps for Marketing Edinburgh will be presented to Committee in October 2019.</p>	<p><b>Contact:</b></p> <p>Paul Lawrence 0131 529 7325 <a href="mailto:paul.lawrence@edinburgh.gov.uk">paul.lawrence@edinburgh.gov.uk</a></p>
<p><b>CivTech 4.0 Challenge Submission</b></p> <p>CivTech is part of the Scottish Government’s Digital Directorate which aims to solve public sector challenges by bringing together public sector expertise and private sector creativity. CivTech has been operating since 2016 with significant benefits to both the Challenge Sponsor organisations and the businesses who bid to propose potential solutions.</p> <p>Colleagues from Edinburgh Shared Repairs Service and the Housing Service collaborated to successfully apply to the latest round of <a href="#">CivTech 4.0</a> with the challenge ‘How can we use technology to manage the property condition of communal areas in privately owned tenements?’. This is the first time the City of Edinburgh Council has had a challenge accepted onto CivTech. All challenges are released on Public Contracts Scotland for a four week application window (Monday 15 July 2019 to Friday 9 August 2019) before shortlisting and selection takes place during August 2019. CivTech manages the procurement process. Three companies are ultimately selected to proceed to the Exploration Stage, where ideas are worked up and pitched for further development. One company per challenge is</p>	<p><b>Contact:</b></p> <p>Martin Macaulay martin.macaulay@edinburgh.gov.uk 0131 529 7393</p>

## Recent News

## Background

selected to proceed to an accelerator stage where solutions are demonstrated at a Demo Day.

The Council's challenge supports the objectives and aims of Edinburgh Shared repairs Service and Housing's Mixed Tenure Improvement Strategy and is an opportunity to trial innovative approaches to property maintenance. The initial outlay from exploration to accelerator stage is £29k plus VAT. The challenge sponsor and successful team have the opportunity to extend their relationship following completion of the accelerator stage, subject to further negotiation. CivTech have provided a list of [FAQs](#) for challenge sponsors.

### **Business Loan Scotland**

Business Loan Scotland (BSL) Ltd is a company set up by all 32 Scottish Local Authorities in 2015 to offer loan finance to small businesses up to £100,000.

The Council approved membership of Business Loans Scotland on 30 April 2015. This followed reports to the Economy Committee ([18 December 2014](#)) and the Finance and Resources Committee ([19 March 2015](#)).

Core funding provided by Local Authorities was matched by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), effectively doubling the original investment.

In 2018 ERDF match funding was replaced with Scottish Government direct funding. The new direct funding does not require match from Local Authorities. As a result, a special resolution proposes a change to the articles of association to enable the option for un-matched funds to be returned to member Local Authorities. This differs from the original articles which specified the assets could only be held in an evergreen fund or reinvested in like-minded organisations upon dissolution. The resolution requires the support of 75% or more members to be carried.

The City of Edinburgh Council's direct investment in BLS totals £213,216. As at 31 March 2019, the Council's balance (comprising money invested, match allocation and money out on loan) totals £521,926. Of this,

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Recent News	Background
<p>£136,800 is un-matched against ERDF and could, under the revised Articles of Association, be returned to the Council in due course.</p> <p>The Convener and Vice Convener instructed officers to notify BLS that the Council is minded to support the special resolution. Should the resolution be carried, a further report will be prepared for the Finance and Resources Committee setting out options and recommendations in more detail.</p>	
<p><b>Original Edinburgh (previously known as Old Town BID)</b></p> <p>As reported in previous business bulletins, a group of businesses propose a Business Improvement District (BID) in the Old Town (rebranded in May 2019 as <a href="#">Original Edinburgh</a>).</p> <p>The <a href="#">Business Improvement Districts (Scotland) Regulations</a> (2007) cover how BIDs are formed and operate. Local Government and Scottish Government, including its agency the Scottish Towns Partnership, have a role in oversight of the development process of any BID.</p> <p>The Original Edinburgh BID steering group wrote to the Executive Director of Place on 13 June 2019 to give the Council notice of their intention to hold a ballot on 28 November 2019.</p> <p>This formal notice triggered a schedule, under BID legislation, which requires the group to produce a detailed BID Proposal by 22 August 2019. This proposal requires to be assessed by the Scottish Government and the Council, and a decision reached to either allow the ballot to proceed, or to exercise the Council's power of veto. An additional meeting of the committee has been called on 13 September 2019 for this purpose.</p>	<p><b>Contact:</b></p> <p>Jim Galloway  <a href="mailto:jim.galloway@edinburgh.gov.uk">jim.galloway@edinburgh.gov.uk</a>  <a href="#">k</a>  0131 529 3211</p>
<p><b>Homelessness Presentations 2018/19</b></p> <p>Against a projected national increase in homeless presentation, overall there has been a 2.7% reduction in homeless presentations (as at 3 April 2019) between</p>	<p><b>Contact:</b></p> <p>Nicky Brown  <a href="mailto:nicky.brown@edinburgh.gov.uk">nicky.brown@edinburgh.gov.uk</a>  <a href="#">k</a></p>



## Recent News

2018/19 and 2017/18 and a 20.6% reduction over the five year period 2014/15 to 2018/19.

The data for the last five years is as follows:

Year	Total
2018/19	3188
2017/18	3277
2016/17	3376
2015/16	3645
2014/15	4016

## Background

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### **Parks and Cemeteries Homeless Evictions**

Committee will recall the Emergency Motion on Parks and Cemeteries Homeless Evictions and subsequent discussion at our meeting on 6 June 2019. A briefing note has been prepared for members to outline the issues and the next steps in ensuring appropriate arrangements and support are in place for people rough sleeping in our parks and cemeteries.

In addition, Councillor Kate Campbell, Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Convenor, meet with Chief Inspector David Robertson, Local Area Commander: South East Edinburgh - Police Scotland, on 6 August 2019 to discuss the safety and welfare of some of Edinburgh's most vulnerable citizens who are rough sleeping. Concerns regarding the recent eviction of those rough sleeping from public spaces were addressed and they discussed ways that the Council and Police Scotland can work more closely to make sure that similar misguided action is not repeated.

Police Scotland confirmed their commitment to provide support and to continue to work with the Council to ensure the appropriate support is in place. Police Scotland also attended the reconvened Homelessness

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**Recent News****Background**

Task Force, with a focus on bringing together key partners to develop a joined up approach to help those people who are sleeping rough.