

# Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 23 May 2023

## Response to motion by Councillor Staniforth – Night Time Coordinator

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Executive/Routine<br>Wards<br>Council Commitments | Executive<br>All |
|---|------------------|

### 1. Recommendations

---

- 1.1 Policy and Sustainability Committee is asked to:
  - 1.1.1 Note that officers are researching the role of the Night-Time Advisers in the City of London, Greater Manchester and Bristol Council's to better understand the benefits, opportunities and current successes of these roles and impact on the Night-time economy;
  - 1.1.2 Agree to consult with the Night-Time Economy workforce and to carry out further analysis of the activities carried out by Night-Time Advisers in other cities; and
  - 1.1.3 Note that a detailed proposal for the role and remit of a Night-Time Coordinator for Edinburgh will be developed following conclusion of the research and consultation and will be reported to Committee on 12 March 2024.

#### Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Simon Porteous, Family and Household Support Service Manager – Community Safety

E-mail: [simon.porteous@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:simon.porteous@edinburgh.gov.uk) | Tel: 0131 529 7589

## Response to motion by Councillor Staniforth - Night Time Coordinator

### 2. Executive Summary

---

- 2.1 This report responds to the motion by Councillor Staniforth, which was approved by the Council on [24 November 2022](#) on the potential to introduce a Night Time Coordinator for the city and provides an update on the information gathered so far and on the next steps.

### 3. Background

---

- 3.1 On 24 November 2022, the Council approved the following adjusted motion by Councillor Staniforth:
- 3.1.1 To note that last term council agreed for the Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership to investigate the appointment and funding of a night time coordinator, working with local night time businesses;
  - 3.1.2 To note that the above never happened owing to COVID changing the priorities of the Community Safety partnership;
  - 3.1.3 To note that a night time coordinator should be about more than just safety and would also facilitate the night-time economy so as to better serve its businesses, employees and customers;
  - 3.1.4 To agree that officers should consult with local night time businesses, services, service users, workers and the voluntary support sector including (but not exclusive too), Street Assist to discuss the idea of a night time coordinator, its remit and funding;
  - 3.1.5 To agree that the role should also support the aims of the Get Me Home Safely campaign as well as how licensing and transport could be best utilised to improve the safety and resilience of the night time economy; and
  - 3.1.6 To agree that a report on a potential night time coordinator, describing potential remit and funding for such a post, come to Policy and Sustainability Committee within three cycles

## 4. Main report

---

### **Night-time Economy Advisers**

- 4.1 To date, night-time economy advisers have been appointed in the City of London (in 2017), Greater Manchester (in June 2018) and in Bristol (in April 2021). The West Midlands Regional Authority has also recently advertised (February 2023) for a Night Time Adviser. There has been no appointed night-time economy specific advisers in any Scottish Local Authority.
- 4.2 The [Night-Time Industries Association](#) (NTIA) which is the leading association for businesses operating within the night-time economy launched a campaign last year to establish night-time economy advisers in every major city in the UK.
- 4.3 The NTIA CEO has stated that the current night-time economy advisers are “substantiating the importance of the industry, not only for the physical, mental and social well-being of the consumers through regeneration and recovery, but also through keeping the industry on the agenda”.
- 4.4 The Night-Time Economy (NTE) covers a wide range of activity in town and city centres across the UK, taking place between the hours of 18:00 – 06:00. The sectors which facilitate the NTE include retail, culture and leisure, transport and accommodation, as well as activities that support these sectors (such as security and supply chains).
- 4.5 In addition, there are a number of sectors operating on a 24-hour basis such as health and social care, logistics and manufacturing and therefore form part of the wider NTE.

### **Edinburgh’s Night-Time Economy**

- 4.6 The Council recognises the critical importance of the NTE to the prosperity of the city and also the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the city’s NTE, which has seen a reduction the number of people in Edinburgh working in the NTE from 131,872 people in 2019 compared to 129,098 people in 2022.

### **Role of a Night-Time Co-ordinator**

- 4.7 In addition to supporting the Get Me Home Safely campaign, if introduced, it is anticipated that a Night-Time Coordinator would work closely with colleagues within the Council and with external partners (such as VisitScotland, Essential Edinburgh and other key partners) to deliver positive outcomes for the night-time industry.
- 4.8 A Co-ordinator could also be responsible for:
  - 4.8.1 Developing and delivering a night-time economy strategy, which aligns/compliments the tourism and economy strategies for the city;
  - 4.8.2 Acting as a strategic advisor to the Edinburgh Community Safety and Justice Partnership and other stakeholders on the strategy required to create a prosperous and safe night-time economy, that supports the city’s growth ambitions and works collaboratively to develop innovative solutions to overcome barriers to delivery; and

4.8.3 Engaging with stakeholders to understand the issues and opportunities in this sector and how they can be tackled to support sustainable growth, and seeking support from colleagues to implement change (in areas such as licensing and transportation).

### **Potential to create a Night-Time Economy Forum**

4.9 In addition to the potential to create a Night-Time Co-ordination role, the Council could also consider creating a forum for those working in the NTE to share experiences and ideas for improvement within the sector.

## **5. Next Steps**

---

- 5.1 In order to further progress the actions agreed by the Council in November 2022, it is proposed to:
- 5.1.1 Carry out a survey of NTE workforces and stakeholders. This will include, but may not be limited to, local night time businesses, services, service users, workers and the voluntary support sector including Street Assist, as requested in the original motion; and
  - 5.1.2 Further investigate the role of the Night-time Advisers in other cities to better understand the benefits, opportunities and current successes of these roles and impact on the Night-time economy.
- 5.2 The outcome of this will be reported back to Committee on 12 March 2024, together with a detailed outline of the proposed role and responsibilities for a Co-ordinator and with details of how this post (and any associated activity) could be funded.

## **6. Financial impact**

---

6.1 There are no financial impacts arising from this report. However, in bringing forward a strategy for how the NTE could be supported in Edinburgh, any financial implications will be set out at that time.

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

---

- 7.1 As noted in the next steps, it is proposed to carry out a survey with NTE workers, businesses, voluntary sector organisations and other stakeholders.
- 7.2 An integrated impact assessment will be completed in advance of the final report to Committee on 12 March 2024

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

---

- 8.1 [Overview of the Night-Time Economy Workforce](#)
- 8.2 [Edinburgh Economy Strategy](#)
- 8.3 [Tourism Strategy 2030](#)

## 9. Appendices

---

9.1 None.