

Minutes

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday 22 August 2023

Present

Councillors Day (Convener), Aston, Beal, Bennett, Biagi, Campbell, Dijkstra-Downie, Doggart, Lang, Macinnes, Meagher, Miller, Nols-McVey, Parker, Staniforth (substituting for Councillor Mumford), Watt and Whyte.

1. Deputations

A written deputation was submitted by Comann nam Pàrant (Dùn Èideann is Lodainn) in respect of Item 7.12 on the agenda – The City of Edinburgh Council Gaelic Language Plan 2023-28 – Revised Draft).

The deputation thanked the City of Edinburgh Council for sharing the latest draft of the Gaelic Language Plan, 2023-2028. They were pleased to see that one of the aims for the next phase was ‘Continuing to develop high quality Gaelic Language Education for 0-18 years’.

However, they noted that no budgets were allocated in the Council’s Capital Investment Programme for either a GME a primary or secondary school in Edinburgh and therefore no work on development of this project was currently being progressed.

The deputation expressed concerns about how Gaelic Medium Education would continue to be developed if there was no financial planning for its development or expansion.

They sought assurances from the Council that it would work to find a solution so that primary provision and secondary provision could continue to develop and thrive.

(See item 17 below)

2. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 23 May 2023 as a correct record.

3. Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme

The Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme for 23 May 2023 was presented.

Decision

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Work Programme 22 August 2023, submitted.)

4. Policy and Sustainability Committee Rolling Actions Log

Details were provided of the outstanding actions arising from decisions taken by the Committee.

Decision

- 1) To agree to close the following actions:
 - **Action 1** – Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy Update
 - **Action 5** – Covid- 19: Service Resumption – Response to Motion by Councillor Lang
 - **Action 12** – Edinburgh and Taiwan Partnership Links
 - **Action 13** – Declaring a Nature emergency – Motion by Councillor Parker
 - **Action 18** - Internal Audit: Swift System - Application Technology Controls Internal Audit Report
 - **Action 20** – Carbon Impact of International Travel
 - **Action 22** - Policy for the Transition from Children to Adult Support
 - **Action 23** - Re-deployment – Motion by Councillor Day
 - **Action 24** - Edinburgh Community Climate Fund – Motion by Councillor Mumford
 - **Action 25** - Four Seasons Healthcare – North Merchiston and Castlegreen Care Homes – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee
 - **Action 28** - Care Inspection Reports – Motion by Councillor Miller
 - **Action 31** – Business Bulletin
 - **Action 33** - Impact of poverty on women and girls
 - **Action 38** - Driving for the Council – Telematics Policy
 - **Action 39** - Driving for the Council – Telematics Policy, 2-4 recommended for closure.
 - **Action 47** - Water Scarcity – Emergency Motion by Councillor Parker
- 2) To otherwise note the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

5. Business Bulletin

The Policy and Sustainability Committee Business Bulletin for 22 August 2023 was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the Business Bulletin.

- 2) To request details of any acknowledgment received from Ministers to the letter sent by the Council Leader.
- 3) To request details of feedback from the Sustainability and Climate APOG in relation to Supporting Community Climate Action.
- 4) To request that future updates on the Local Government Benchmarking Framework be submitted as full reports.

(Reference – Business Bulletin 22 August 2023, submitted.)

6. A Visitor Levy for Edinburgh: Progress Update and Draft Proposal

Details were provided of the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill and the proposed response to the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee and Finance and Public Administration Committees calls for views on the Bill. A draft proposal of the parameters of a Visitor Levy Scheme in Edinburgh was also provided.

Motion

- 1) To note that the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill was laid in the Scottish Parliament on 24 May 2023, and calls for views on the Bill and its Financial Memorandum were issued on 26 and 30 June 2023, with submissions due by 15 and 1 September 2023 respectively.
- 2) To note the current timeline for implementation of a Visitor Levy in Edinburgh.
- 3) To note that the report by the Executive Director of Place would be used as starting point for further stakeholder engagement.
- 4) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.
- 5) To approve the considerations around the proposed charge level and remit of the scheme, as set out in paragraphs 4.14 - 4.41 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 6) To approve the possible use of the net proceeds, as set out in paragraphs 4.42 - 4.54 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 7) To approve the proposed governance structure, as set out in paragraphs 4.55 - 4.60 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 8) To approve informal engagement with stakeholders around these parameters, and the proposed response to the Scottish Parliament's calls for views, as set out in Appendices 8 and 9 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, for submission by 15 and 1 September 2023.
- 9) To approve the proposed response to the Scottish Parliament's calls for views, as set out in Appendices 8 and 9 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, for submission by 15 and 1 September 2023.
- 10) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note that the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill was laid in the Scottish Parliament on 24 May 2023, and calls for views on the Bill and its Financial Memorandum were issued on 26 and 30 June 2023, with submissions due by 15 and 1 September 2023 respectively.
- 2) To note the current timeline for implementation of a Visitor Levy in Edinburgh.
- 3) To note that the report by the Executive Director of Place would be used as starting point for further stakeholder engagement.
- 4) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.
- 5) To approve the considerations around the proposed charge level and remit of the scheme, as set out in paragraphs 4.14 - 4.41 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 6) To approve the possible use of the net proceeds, as set out in paragraphs 4.42 - 4.54 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, which had been based on the current requirements of the Bill, and note how these may change if the Bill was amended during the parliamentary process; and agree that officers should progress elected member workshops to develop a consensus where possible on the detail of how the proceeds of the visitor levy should be spent.
- 7) To approve the proposed governance structure, as set out in paragraphs 4.55 - 4.60 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 8) To approve informal engagement with stakeholders around these parameters, and the proposed response to the Scottish Parliament's calls for views, as set out in Appendices 8 and 9 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, for submission by 15 and 1 September 2023.
- 9) To approve the proposed response to the Scottish Parliament's calls for views, as set out in Appendices 8 and 9 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, for submission by 15 and 1 September 2023.
- 10) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.

- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Dijkstra-Downie

Amendment 2

- 1) To note that the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill was laid in the Scottish Parliament on 24 May 2023, and calls for views on the Bill and its Financial Memorandum were issued on 26 and 30 June 2023, with submissions due by 15 and 1 September 2023 respectively.
- 2) To note the current timeline for implementation of a Visitor Levy in Edinburgh.

- 3) To note that the report by the Executive Director of Place would be used as starting point for further stakeholder engagement.
- 4) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.
- 5) To approve the considerations around the proposed charge level and remit of the scheme as set out in paragraphs 4.14-4.15.2 and 4.15.4-4.41 (but not at 4.15.3) of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 6) To approve the possible use of the net proceeds, as set out in paragraphs 4.42-4.46.1 and 4.46.3-4.54 (but not at 4.46.2) of the report by the Executive Director of Place.

- 7) Additionally, to specify:

At 4.45 about “Sustainability and Net Zero”:

- To agree that the climate, nature and sustainability impacts of Council activity should be embedded and accounted for in all Council work such that 100% of spending contributes to sustainability and net zero targets, thus mainstreaming sustainability and net zero instead of specifying that just c.25% of spend was prioritised for these initiatives.

At 4.46.3 about the “Culture, heritage and festivals” portfolio:

- To agree that the key focus of this portfolio should be for small festivals and events which happen across the city, particularly at a grassroots community level, and that funds allocated through this portfolio should support activity to democratise the festival and cultural offer by and for residents, for example through the provision of free tickets for local people, as well as looking to only support events / activities which can demonstrate fair work practices and positive actions to minimise their environmental impact during operation.

At 4.46.5 about “Industry growth and resilience” portfolio:

- To delete the word “growth” in recognition that the focus of this portfolio should be on job security, terms, wages, and quality of employment, seeking to achieve sustainable community benefits

At 4.49 about “Participatory budgeting”:

- To welcome the suggestion that part of the TVL spend could be allocated through participatory budgeting and agree that this could be best explored through the “Culture, heritage and festivals” portfolio.
- Nevertheless, to recognise that the target to meet 1% of the Council’s budget spend through participatory budgeting should still be pursued through all spending and requests that officers account for all of the above in further drafts of the scheme.

- 8) To agree the proposed governance structure, as set out in paragraphs 4.55-4.60 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, with the addition of Trade Union representation on the proposed Edinburgh VL Advisory Group.
- 9) To agree informal engagement with stakeholders around these parameters.
- 10) To agree the proposed response to the Scottish Parliament's calls for views, as set out in Appendices 8 and 9 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, for submission by 15 and 1 September 2023, subject to any revisions required to reflect the position of Committee, given amendments submitted and accepted.
- 11) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.
- 12) To agree that the levy should be pitched at a similar level to other European cities but note that a decision on this specific detail should come at a later date.
- 13) To agree that this further report would also include scoping of additional charges possible within the remit of the scheme in line with the principles of the Amsterdam model where holiday rentals and short term lets paid 10% of turnover, either to be progressed concurrently with the general TVL scheme, or to be supplemented later.
- 14) To welcome the push back in the draft consultation response against the bill's 18-month implementation timescale and agrees that this should be communicated to the Scottish Government in the strongest possible terms.-
moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

Amendment 3

- 1) To note with concern:
 - a) the issues raised in paragraphs 4.23 and 4.24 about cost and competitiveness of the Edinburgh tourism sector, the soaring prices for accommodation in Edinburgh this summer, the likely increases in accommodation prices from the predicted 80% reduction in all types of self-catering accommodation noted in Appendix 2, and the impact of increased accommodation costs on the Fringe and other Festivals at peak times in Edinburgh.
 - b) the failure to provide a use on net proceeds in paragraph 4.26 that relates to improvements to basic, universal services for all local citizens.
- 2) Therefore, to agree to proceed no further with costly work to implement a Transient Visitor Levy and to respond to the consultation by informing the Scottish Government of the damaging impacts such an imposition would have on the vital Tourism and hospitality economy in Edinburgh.
- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Doggart

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion and Amendment 2 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	12 votes
For Amendment 2	-	3 votes
For Amendment 3	-	2 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Aston, Beal, Bennett, Biagi, Campbell, Day, Dijkstra-Downie, Lang, Macinnes, Meagher, Nols-McVey and Watt.

For Amendment 2: Councillors Miller, Parker and Staniforth.

For Amendment 3: Councillors Doggart and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note that the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill was laid in the Scottish Parliament on 24 May 2023, and calls for views on the Bill and its Financial Memorandum were issued on 26 and 30 June 2023, with submissions due by 15 and 1 September 2023 respectively.
- 2) To note the current timeline for implementation of a Visitor Levy in Edinburgh.
- 3) To note that the report by the Executive Director of Place would be used as starting point for further stakeholder engagement.
- 4) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.
- 5) To approve the considerations around the proposed charge level and remit of the scheme as set out in paragraphs 4.14-4.15.2 and 4.15.4-4.41 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 6) To approve the possible use of the net proceeds, as set out in paragraphs 4.42-4.46.1 and 4.46.3-4.54 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, which had been based on the current requirements of the Bill, and note how these may change if the Bill was amended during the parliamentary process; and agree that officers should progress elected member workshops to develop a consensus where possible on the detail of how the proceeds of the visitor levy should be spent.
- 7) Additionally, to specify:
At 4.45 about “Sustainability and Net Zero”:
 - To agree that the climate, nature and sustainability impacts of Council activity should be embedded and accounted for in all Council work such that 100% of spending contributes to sustainability and net zero targets, thus mainstreaming

sustainability and net zero instead of specifying that just c.25% of spend was prioritised for these initiatives.

At 4.46.3 about the “Culture, heritage and festivals” portfolio:

- To agree that the key focus of this portfolio should be for small festivals and events which happen across the city, particularly at a grassroots community level, and that funds allocated through this portfolio should support activity to democratise the festival and cultural offer by and for residents, for example through the provision of free tickets for local people, as well as looking to only support events / activities which can demonstrate fair work practices and positive actions to minimise their environmental impact during operation.

At 4.46.5 about “Industry growth and resilience” portfolio:

- To add the word “responsible” before “industry growth” in recognition that the focus of this portfolio should be on job security, terms, wages, and quality of employment, seeking to achieve sustainable community benefits

At 4.49 about “Participatory budgeting”:

- To welcome the suggestion that part of the TVL spend could be allocated through participatory budgeting and agree that this could be best explored through the “Culture, heritage and festivals” portfolio.
 - Nevertheless, to recognise that the target to meet 1% of the Council’s budget spend through participatory budgeting should still be pursued through all spending and requests that officers account for all of the above in further drafts of the scheme.
- 8) To agree the proposed governance structure, as set out in paragraphs 4.55-4.60 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, with the addition of Trade Union representation on the proposed Edinburgh VL Advisory Group.
 - 9) To agree informal engagement with stakeholders around these parameters.
 - 10) To agree the proposed response to the Scottish Parliament’s calls for views, as set out in Appendices 8 and 9 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, for submission by 15 and 1 September 2023, subject to any revisions required to reflect the position of Committee, given amendments submitted and accepted.
 - 11) To note that a further report, setting out the proposed final scheme for formal consultation, would be presented to Committee in early 2024, if the Bill passed through Parliament as currently expected.
 - 12) To agree that the levy should be pitched at a similar level to other European cities but note that a decision on this specific detail should come at a later date.
 - 13) To agree that this further report would also include scoping of additional charges possible within the remit of the scheme in line with the principles of the Amsterdam model where holiday rentals and short term lets paid 10% of

turnover, either to be progressed concurrently with the general TVL scheme, or to be supplemented later.

- 14) To welcome the push back in the draft consultation response against the bill's 18-month implementation timescale and agrees that this should be communicated to the Scottish Government in the strongest possible terms.

(References – Act of Council No. 6 of 31 May 2018; Act of Council No. 1 of 7 February 2019; Policy and Sustainability Committee of 1 November 2022 (item 12); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

7. Redeployment Update

Following the decision as part of the Council's 2023/24 budget approved in February 2023 that a £0.6M saving should be achieved from the Council's spend on redeployment, details were provided of current redeployment arrangements, the application of the Managing Change Policy and measures to ensure that this was being applied effectively.

Motion

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To approve the extension of the enhanced voluntary redundancy package to colleagues who had been on the redeployment register for over 3 years (9 colleagues) as outlined in the financial implications section of the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 3) To support the joint trade union pledge to continue to support the council commitment to no compulsory redundancies and support for in-housing of council services as agreed in the Council Business Plan in December 2022.
- 4) To support the commitment to argue for fair funding for the capital city from both the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 5) To request that the Leader continued to highlight Edinburgh as the lowest funded council in Scotland and argue for fair funding for the capital city.
- 6) To note that there would be continued engagement with trade unions.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To approve the extension of the enhanced voluntary redundancy package to colleagues who had been on the redeployment register for over 3 years (9 colleagues) as outlined in the financial implications section of the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 3) To support the joint trade union pledge to continue to support the council commitment to no compulsory redundancies and support for in-housing of council services as agreed in the Council Business Plan in December 2022.

- 4) To support the commitment to argue for fair funding for the capital city from both the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 5) To request that the Leader continue to highlight Edinburgh as the lowest funded council in Scotland and argue for fair funding for the capital city.
- 6) To note that there would be continued engagement with trade unions.
- 7) To welcome the reinstatement of the commitment to no compulsory redundancies and reassurance that this would give to staff in the redeployment pool, many of whom were carrying out important work within the council in temporary roles which would now be considered for transition to permanent posts.
- 8) To note the Council's budget was now carrying a deficit of £600,000. To further note the "best value service review" would show in-housing waste services was the most cost-effective and efficient method of waste collections delivering the best service for residents. This would add a further £500,000 deficit to the budget that would therefore mean a £1.1m additional gap was being funded through other actions either at the corporate or departmental level.
- 9) To note actions that seemed to be creating in-year revenue budget savings, which appeared to have been progressed by the administration without democratic oversight and approval of councillors, such as:
 - cancelling support which enables young people with additional support needs to access after school clubs.
 - a loss of lifelong learning posts and cuts to the ad hoc lifelong learning budget, delivered through the lifelong learning review.
- 10) To agree to receive a further report on the 23/24 budget within 2 cycles. To agree this report would include:
 - A full options appraisal of all additional actions now being taken to create in-year savings to fund the budget gaps from policies which had been reversed.
 - Equalities impact assessments for each of these actions.
 - An explanation of the governance around the budget process, and the standing orders which applied to actions now being taken to reverse budget decisions and how all parties are able, equally, to utilise these.
 - A departmental breakdown of headroom within staff budgets.

- moved by Councillor Nols-McVey, seconded by Councillor Campbell

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To approve the extension of the enhanced voluntary redundancy package to colleagues who had been on the redeployment register for over 3 years (9 colleagues) as outlined in the financial implications section of the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

- 3) To support the joint trade union pledge to continue to support the council commitment to no compulsory redundancies and support for in-housing of council services as agreed in the Council Business Plan in December 2022.
- 4) To support the commitment to argue for fair funding for the capital city from both the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 5) To request that the Leader continue to highlight Edinburgh as the lowest funded council in Scotland and argue for fair funding for the capital city.
- 6) To note that there would be continued engagement with trade unions.
- 7) To reaffirm that the council policy remained one of no compulsory redundancies and to regret any uncertainty felt by staff about this following the approval of the Liberal Democrat budget in February which proposed “saving” £600k by changing this.
- 8) To note that redeployment was of benefit to the council, preserving talent and expertise and of benefit to those in the redeployment pool.
- 9) To resolve that redeployment should always be conducted with employee welfare as the primary concern.
- 10) To note the £600k deficit in the Council’s budget now arising from the non-delivery of this “saving”.
- 11) To request that the next revenue monitoring report at the Finance and Resources Committee would explicitly outline how this £600k saving would be delivered instead, and what democratic oversight Councillors would have or have had in relation to this to date.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Parker

Amendment 3

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To approve the extension of the enhanced voluntary redundancy package to colleagues who had been on the redeployment register for over 3 years (9 colleagues) as outlined in the financial implications section of the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services³ To support the commitment to argue for fair funding for the capital city from both the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 4) To request that the Leader continued to highlight Edinburgh as the lowest funded council in Scotland and argue for fair funding for the capital city.

- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Dijkstra-Downie

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), Amendment 1 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the Motion and Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted) - 11 votes

For Amendment 1 - 6 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Aston, Biagi, Campbell, Day, Meagher, Macinnes, Miller, Nols-McVey, Parker, Staniforth and Watt.)

For Amendment 1: Councillors Beal, Bennett, Dijkstra-Downie, Doggart, Lang and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To approve the extension of the enhanced voluntary redundancy package to colleagues who had been on the redeployment register for over 3 years (9 colleagues) as outlined in the financial implications section of the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 3) To support the joint trade union pledge to continue to support the council commitment to no compulsory redundancies and support for in-housing of council services as agreed in the Council Business Plan in December 2022.
- 4) To support the commitment to argue for fair funding for the capital city from both the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 5) To request that the Leader continued to highlight Edinburgh as the lowest funded council in Scotland and argue for fair funding for the capital city.
- 6) To note that there would be continued engagement with trade unions.
- 7) To welcome the reinstatement of the commitment to no compulsory redundancies and reassurance that this would give to staff in the redeployment pool, many of whom were carrying out important work within the council in temporary roles which would now be considered for transition to permanent posts.
- 8) To note the Council's budget was now carrying a deficit of £600,000. To further note the "best value service review" would show in-housing waste services was the most cost-effective and efficient method of waste collections delivering the best service for residents. This would add a further £500,000 deficit to the budget that would therefore mean a £1.1m additional gap was being funded through other actions either at the corporate or departmental level.
- 10) To agree to receive a further report on the 23/24 budget within 2 cycles. To agree this report would include:
 - A full options appraisal of all additional actions now being taken to create in-year savings to fund the budget gaps from policies which had been reversed.
 - Equalities impact assessments for each of these actions.

- An explanation of the governance around the budget process, and the standing orders which applied to actions now being taken to reverse budget decisions and how all parties were able, equally, to utilise these.
 - A departmental breakdown of headroom within staff budgets.
- 11) To reaffirm that the council policy remained one of no compulsory redundancies and to regret any uncertainty felt by staff about this following the approval of the Liberal Democrat budget in February which proposed “saving” £600k by changing this.
 - 12) To note that redeployment was of benefit to the council, preserving talent and expertise and of benefit to those in the redeployment pool.
 - 13) To resolve that redeployment should always be conducted with employee welfare as the primary concern.
 - 14) To note the £600k deficit in the Council’s budget now arising from the non-delivery of this “saving”.
 - 15) To request that the next revenue monitoring report at the Finance and Resources Committee would explicitly outline how this £600k saving would be delivered instead, and what democratic oversight Councillors would have or have had in relation to this to date.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 21 March 2023 (item 28); report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

8. Corporate Property Strategy

The proposed Corporate Property Strategy was submitted for approval.

Motion

- 1) To approve the proposed Corporate Property Strategy.
- 2) To note that the proposed Corporate Property Strategy Board would bring forward business cases for programmes and projects, as set out in the report by the Executive Director of Place, to the appropriate Executive Committee for approval.
- 3) To request that an update be included in the business bulletin on any options to accelerate the use of renewables in both Council and Public Sector properties.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To approve the proposed Corporate Property Strategy.
- 2) To agree work be prioritised on community-based district heating networks. This should fully utilise public buildings and facilities like swimming pools and look to Energy for Edinburgh to delivery short- and medium-term projects.
- 3) To agree that community centres were a critical resource for our communities which had only grown in importance during the cost of living crisis and that the

strategy must have, as a starting point, protecting and continuing the use of these buildings by communities as the primary objective.

- 4) To agree to receive a report in two cycles which set out the condition of each community centre building, as the report to the Finance and Resources Committee in March 2020 did, but which would also include additional information about each building in terms of ability to retrofit to improve energy efficiency and costs required to meet accessibility standards.
- 5) To agree this report would include an update on the detailed profiles of individual community centres that officers were developing, and how this approach would be utilised to identify best practice and share insights across all management committees, improving services and increasing capacity.
- 6) To agree that, where any buildings were considered to be underutilised, that the approach would be to support increased activity, not use any information gathered through this profiling to justify closures of buildings.
- 7) To note that the proposed Corporate Property Strategy Board would bring forward business cases for programmes and projects, as set out in the report by the Executive Director of Place, to the appropriate Executive Committee for approval.

- moved by Councillor Nols-McVey, seconded by Councillor Campbell

Amendment 2

- 1) To approve the proposed Corporate Property Strategy.
- 2) To agree work be prioritised on community-based district heating networks. This should fully utilise public buildings and facilities like swimming pools and look to Energy for Edinburgh to delivery short- and medium-term projects.
- 3) To request an annual update report on the property strategy outlining via suitable indicators:
 - Running costs (energy, water, rates, maintenance)
 - Carbon expended
 - Electricity use
 - Estimate of any embedded carbon required
- 4) To note that suitable summaries of the above should include as a minimum:
 - Totals across the whole estate;
 - The 10 most costly buildings to run in categories above;
 - The 10 most costly buildings per square metre of gross internal area.

- moved by Councillor Beal, seconded by Councillor Bennett

Amendment 3

- 1) To thank officers for developing the proposed Corporate Property Strategy, welcome the strategic approach to the whole estate, and support the three themes of Live Well Locally, Our Future Work and Net Zero Properties.
- 2) To note the Strategy would mean possible disposals or replacement of council buildings, and note communities would be concerned by the possible changes to local facilities such as community centres or libraries.
- 3) To agree to a further update in two cycles and call on officers to:
 - Provide a high-level overview of the programme which would be developed if the Strategy is agreed, including an indicative list of buildings which are expected to require a project business case.
 - Either develop a fourth strategic theme of access and inclusion, or clearly show access and inclusion mainstreamed throughout the Strategy, acknowledging that the council's estate is currently not fully accessible, the systemic and unacceptable exclusion this causes, and committing the Council to prioritising actions to address this through this work.
 - Further develop the Net Zero Properties strategic theme to consider the overall impact of disposals or demolition for the city, and not just for the Council's own portfolio.

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Parker

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), Amendment 1 was adjusted and approved as an addendum to the Motion, Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion and Amendment 3 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To approve the proposed Corporate Property Strategy.
- 2) To agree work be prioritised on community-based district heating networks. This should fully utilise public buildings and facilities like swimming pools and look to Energy for Edinburgh to delivery short- and medium-term projects.
- 3) To agree that community centres were a critical resource for our communities which had only grown in importance during the cost of living crisis and that the strategy must have, as a starting point, protecting and continuing the use of these buildings by communities as the primary objective.
- 4) To note that a report is coming to the Culture and Communities Committee which would set out the condition of each community centre building, as the report to the Finance and Resources Committee in March 2020 did, but which would also include additional information about each building in terms of ability to retrofit to improve energy efficiency and costs required to meet accessibility standards.
- 5) To agree this report would include an update on the detailed profiles of individual community centres that officers were developing, and how this approach would

be utilised to identify best practice and share insights across all management committees, improving services and increasing capacity.

- 6) To agree that, where any buildings were considered to be underutilised, that the approach would be to support increased activity, not use any information gathered through this profiling to justify closures of buildings.
- 7) To note that the proposed Corporate Property Strategy Board would bring forward business cases for programmes and projects, as set out in the report by the Executive Director of Place, to the appropriate Executive Committee for approval.
- 8) To request an annual update report on the property strategy outlining via suitable indicators:
 - Running costs (energy, water, rates, maintenance)
 - Carbon expended
 - Electricity use
 - Estimate of any embedded carbon required
- 9) To note that suitable summaries of the above should include as a minimum:
 - Totals across the whole estate;
 - The 10 most costly buildings to run in categories above;
 - The 10 most costly buildings per square metre of gross internal area.
- 10) To thank officers for developing the proposed Corporate Property Strategy, welcome the strategic approach to the whole estate, and support the three themes of Live Well Locally, Our Future Work and Net Zero Properties.
- 11) To note the Strategy would mean possible disposals or replacement of council buildings, and note communities would be concerned by the possible changes to local facilities such as community centres or libraries.
- 12) To agree to a further update in two cycles and call on officers to:
 - Provide a high-level overview of the programme which would be developed if the Strategy is agreed, including an indicative list of buildings which are expected to require a project business case.
 - Either develop a fourth strategic theme of access and inclusion, or clearly show access and inclusion mainstreamed throughout the Strategy, acknowledging that the council's estate is currently not fully accessible, the systemic and unacceptable exclusion this causes, and committing the Council to prioritising actions to address this through this work.
 - Further develop the Net Zero Properties strategic theme to consider the overall impact of disposals or demolition for the city, and not just for the Council's own portfolio.

(Reference –report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

9. Energy for Edinburgh – options appraisal

An update was provided on the Council-owned energy services company (ESCo) Energy for Edinburgh Limited (EFE), which was incorporated in 2016 but, to date, had not carried out any activity. An appraisal on future options for EFE found that there was currently no clear role for EFE but that it could be used to progress heat network projects subject to further, more detailed, assessment.

Motion

- 1) To note the option appraisal for Energy for Edinburgh.
- 2) To agree to continue to develop the business case for local heat networks and consider whether there is a role for Energy for Edinburgh, once that work was further advanced, later in the year.
- 3) To agree to continue the report pending consideration of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy by the Policy and Sustainability Committee in December 2023.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the option appraisal for Energy for Edinburgh.
- 2) To consider that the business case should be developed to reflect options 4.1.3, 4.1.5 and 4.1.6 as compatible and deliverable options to meet the objectives of the company and help meet Edinburgh's climate objectives.
- 3) To acknowledge the significant opportunities in the medium- and long-term of Energy for Edinburgh's involvement in delivering heat networks and support involvement in major projects like bioquarter and Granton as outlined in paragraphs 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 4) To agree the need for more immediate delivery and therefore agree the proposed final business case would be presented to committee in no later than 4 cycles, centering on a joint venture approach (9.18.2 in the report by the Executive Director of Place) to deliver a low-carbon heat energy production and/or distribution project within the city.

- moved by Councillor Nols-McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the option appraisal for Energy for Edinburgh.
- 2) To agree to continue to develop the business case for local heat networks and consider whether there is a role for Energy for Edinburgh, once that work was further advanced, later in the year.
- 3) To recommend that the Board explore the options for Heat Networks in more depth, including practical steps that can be taken. This could include dialogue

with possible industry partners and similar organisations; also cost estimates and direct savings to the Council's energy costs should be considered.

- 4) To suggest that the Board procure a secondment to EfE to develop the strategy in more depth.
- 5) To suggest that the Board relieve the Council of the company secretariat role and enables access to appropriate legal assistance.
- 6) To ask the Board to exercise fiscal prudence by ensuring that outgoing costs match the company activity – such as audit costs.

- moved by Councillor Beal, seconded by Councillor Bennett

Amendment 3

- 1) To welcome the options appraisal and thank officers for their work conducting it.
- 2) To believe there is a key role for Energy for Edinburgh (EfE) in helping the Council to develop and deliver heat networks across the city.
- 3) To recognise that the Council's LHEES strategy and associated work to outline possible heat network zones would be critical to ensure successful delivery of heat network projects across the city, and to inform how best EfE could support with this.
- 4) To acknowledge the need to rapidly accelerate delivery of heat network projects in order to meet climate targets and to ensure the Council was well placed to realise and benefit from the growing opportunities in this space.
- 5) To agree that immediately following the publishing of the Council's LHEES strategy, officers would prioritise the development of a business case for Energy for Edinburgh to deliver heat network projects as soon as is feasible, both for existing developments and new projects.
- 6) To further agree that as part of the development of this business case, officers would explore options for how co-operative principles and community wealth building could be embedded into the company.

- moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

Amendment 4

- 1) To note the option appraisal for Energy for Edinburgh.
- 2) To agree to wind up Energy for Edinburgh and use any savings made to continue to develop the business case for local heat networks inhouse.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Doggart

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), Amendment 1 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the Motion, and Amendments 2 and 3 were accepted as addendums to the Motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted) - 15 votes

For Amendment 4 - 2 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Aston, Bennett, Biagi, Campbell, Day, Dijkstra-Downie, Lang, Meagher, Macinnes, Miller, Nols-McVey, Parker, Staniforth and Watt.

For Amendment 4: Councillors Doggart and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the option appraisal for Energy for Edinburgh.
- 2) To agree to continue to develop the business case for local heat networks and consider whether there is a role for Energy for Edinburgh, once that work was further advanced, later in the year.
- 3) To agree to continue the report pending consideration of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy by the Policy and Sustainability Committee in December 2023.
- 4) To acknowledge the significant opportunities in the medium- and long-term of Energy for Edinburgh's involvement in delivering heat networks and support involvement in major projects like bioquarter and Granton as outlined in paragraphs 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 5) To agree the need for more immediate delivery and therefore agree the proposed final business case would be presented to committee in no later than 4 cycles, centering on a joint venture approach (9.18.2 in the report by the Executive Director of Place) to deliver a low-carbon heat energy production and/or distribution project within the city.
- 6) To recommend that the Board explore the options for Heat Networks in more depth, including practical steps that can be taken. This could include dialogue with possible industry partners and similar organisations; also cost estimates and direct savings to the Council's energy costs should be considered.
- 7) To suggest that the Board procure a secondment to EfE to develop the strategy in more depth.
- 8) To suggest that the Board relieve the Council of the company secretariat role and enables access to appropriate legal assistance.
- 9) To ask the Board to exercise fiscal prudence by ensuring that outgoing costs match the company activity – such as audit costs.
- 10) To welcome the options appraisal and thank officers for their work conducting it.
- 11) To believe there is a key role for Energy for Edinburgh (EfE) in helping the Council to develop and deliver heat networks across the city.
- 12) To recognise that the Council's LHEES strategy and associated work to outline possible heat network zones would be critical to ensure successful delivery of

heat network projects across the city, and to inform how best EfE could support with this.

- 13) To acknowledge the need to rapidly accelerate delivery of heat network projects in order to meet climate targets and to ensure the Council was well placed to realise and benefit from the growing opportunities in this space.
- 14) To agree that immediately following the publishing of the Council's LHEES strategy, officers would prioritise the development of a business case for Energy for Edinburgh to deliver heat network projects as soon as is feasible, both for existing developments and new projects.
- 15) To further agree that as part of the development of this business case, officers would explore options for how co-operative principles and community wealth building could be embedded into the company.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 17 November 2022 (item 7) and 17 January 2023 (item 16); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

10. Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Savings and Recovery Programme 2022/23 Closure Report

An update was provided on the end of year position for the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board's (EIJB) 2022/23 Savings and Recovery Programme, focusing on the City of Edinburgh Council's (the Council) elements of the programme.

Decision

To note the end of year position with the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board's 2022/23 Savings and Recovery Programme as it impacted City of Edinburgh Council services.

(References – Edinburgh Integration Joint Board of 22 March 2022 (item 3); report by the Chief Finance Officer, Edinburgh Integration Joint Board, submitted.)

11. Interim Chief Officer Update – Edinburgh Integration Joint Board/Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

An update was provided on the work of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (IJB) and progress made within the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP). This included details of areas of priority/significance as well as any issues for escalation.

Motion

- 1) To note the content and structure of the report by the Interim Chief Officer.
- 2) To agree that this format of the report would be used for future updates to the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 3) To agree that the report would encompass any system pressures reporting rather than receive a separate report on these issues.
- 4) To agree to a detailed 6 monthly update report on the improvement plan within one cycle.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the content and structure of the report by the Interim Chief Officer.
- 2) To agree that this format of the report would be used for future updates to the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 3) To agree that the report would encompass any system pressures reporting rather than receive a separate report on these issues.
- 4) To agree to a detailed 6 monthly update report on the improvement plan within one cycle.
- 5) To agree that the key areas of performance to be reported to the committee, as set out in Part 2 of the Appendix, should be expanded to include:
 - The number of people waiting for a bed to become available to receive in-patient hospital care.
 - The number of people waiting to be admitted to hospital and are in receipt of a package of care at home.
 - The number of patients currently 'boarding' due to unavailability of a bed in the most suitable ward.

- moved by Councillor Bennett, seconded by Councillor Dijkstra-Downie

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the content and structure of the report by the Interim Chief Officer.
- 2) To agree that this format of the report would be used for future updates to the Policy and Sustainability Committee subject to the following adjustments:
 - The Current Performance section in Part 2 of the update should report performance of services delivered in addition to the information provided on waiting times and waiting lists.
 - The Risks and Escalation section in Part 2 should provide the current risk status alongside the note of how the risks are being governed and managed.
- 3) To agree that the report would encompass any system pressures reporting rather than receive a separate report on these issues.
- 4) To agree to a detailed 6 monthly update report on the improvement plan within one cycle.

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Parker

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), Amendment 1 was adjusted and accepted as addendum to the Motion, and Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the content and structure of the report by the Interim Chief Officer..
- 2) To agree that this format of the report would be used for future updates to the Policy and Sustainability Committee subject to the following adjustments:
 - The Current Performance section in Part 2 of the update should report performance of services delivered in addition to the information provided on waiting times and waiting lists.
 - The Risks and Escalation section in Part 2 should provide the current risk status alongside the note of how the risks are being governed and managed.
- 3) To agree that the report would encompass any system pressures reporting rather than receive a separate report on these issues.
- 4) To agree to a detailed 6-monthly update report on the improvement plan within one cycle.
- 5) To agree the Council Leader would write to NHS Lothian to request:
 - The number of people waiting for a bed to become available to receive in-patient hospital care.
 - The number of people waiting to be admitted to hospital and are in receipt of a package of care at home.
 - The number of patients currently 'boarding' due to unavailability of a bed in the most suitable ward.

(Reference – report by the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

12. Castlegreen and North Merchiston Care Homes – Transfer Update

Details were provided of the current position with the Castlegreen and North Merchiston Care Homes which were transferred from Four Seasons Healthcare (FSHC) to the City of Edinburgh Council on the 22 May 2023, and managed by Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership. An update was provided on the transfer of care, employees and business.

Motion

- 1) To note the report by the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh /health and Social Care Partnership and the latest position of the Castlegreen and North Merchiston Care Homes, which were transferred from Four Seasons Healthcare to the City of Edinburgh Council on 22 May 2023, and were being managed through the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 2) To note the update associated with the request to highlight any challenges associated with the presumption of the care homes being maintained internally.

- 3) To note the progress made on pursuing funding associated with dilapidations, under and overpayment.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the report by the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership and the latest position of the Castlegreen and North Merchiston Care Homes, which were transferred from Four Seasons Healthcare to the City of Edinburgh Council on 22 May 2023, and were being managed through the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 2) To note the update associated with the request to highlight any challenges associated with the presumption of the care homes being maintained internally.
- 3) To note the progress made on pursuing funding associated with dilapidations, under and overpayment and request that the upcoming report to the Finance and Resources Committee would include a detailed explanation of the difference between the overpayment amount reported to members in previous reports and briefings versus £87k which had been agreed and paid to the Council.

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Parker

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the report by the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership and the latest position of the Castlegreen and North Merchiston Care Homes, which were transferred from Four Seasons Healthcare to the City of Edinburgh Council on 22 May 2023, and were being managed through the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 2) To note the update associated with the request to highlight any challenges associated with the presumption of the care homes being maintained internally.
- 3) To note the progress made on pursuing funding associated with dilapidations, under and overpayment.
- 4) To note with concern the information in Paragraph 4.14 of the report that a decision was made on 26 July 2023 by the Council Corporate Leadership Team to proceed with the Red and Amber aspects of Urgent Capital Work given that:
 - a) not all Group Leaders assented to this proposal;
 - b) it potentially breached an act of Council as the suggested source of the funding was the 2022/23 Council underspend which the Council had specifically agreed should not be allocated until a comprehensive report on its use was presented to the Finance and Resources Committee in September;
 - c) an alternative method of resolving the urgency was suggested by the Conservative Group of presenting a report to the 31 August full Council meeting in order that the issues could be addressed, scrutinised, and determined in public.

5) To agree that a review is undertaken of urgency procedures to determine a formal process as to how decisions could be made when Group Leaders (and the Lord Provost) were consulted but there was no agreement on a way forward with a report on the review presented by the Chief Executive to the next meeting of the Policy and Sustainability Committee. The report should outline any necessary changes to the Scheme of Delegation and Standing Orders required to bring its recommendations into effect.

- moved by Councillor Doggart, seconded by Councillor Whyte.

At this point in the meeting the following Amendment 3 was proposed:

Amendment 3

To refer the report to Council without decision.

- moved by Councillor Nols-McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion and Amendment 2 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)	-	8 votes
For Amendment 3	-	9 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Day, Doggart, Meagher, Miller, Parker, Staniforth, Watt, and Whyte.

For Amendment 3: Councillors Aston, Beal, Bennett, Biagi, Campbell, Dijkstra-Downie, Lang, Macinnes and Nols-McVey.)

Decision

To approve Amendment 3 by Councillor Nols-McVey.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 21 March 2021 (item 33); report by the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

13. Annual Performance Report, 2022/23

An update was provided on council performance in 2022/23 against the three priorities and fifteen outcomes in the Council's previous Business Plan: Our Future Council, Our Future City (2021-24).

The Annual Performance Report presented to Policy and Sustainability Committee on 22 August 2023 included revised targets for the two affordable housing measures (approvals and completions). These targets had been revised to align with the figures shown in the latest version of the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) (2023-28), which was reported to Housing Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on 1st December 2022 and agreed.

Motion

- 1) To note the Annual Performance Report (Appendix A) for the 2022/23 financial year.
- 2) To note the Annual Complaints Report 2022/23 (Appendix C)
- 3) To refer the Annual Performance Report to the City of Edinburgh Council on 28 September 2023

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Meagher

Amendment

- 1) To note the Annual Performance Report (Appendix A) for the 2022/23 financial year.
- 2) To note the Annual Complaints Report 2022/23 (Appendix C)
- 3) To note that approvals and completions for affordable homes have both had their targets revised stating in appendix B: Target revised in November 2022 based on year[1]end projections, as detailed in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2023-28.
- 4) To note further that in the SHIP report there is no explicit mention of revising targets in the annual performance report and that the only reference is when targets are described as the 'original target' in 3.2 and 4.12:

"3.2 Around 800 new affordable homes could be approved for site start in Edinburgh this financial year (2022/23) and based on current delivery programmes, an additional 1,246 affordable homes could be completed. Approvals for this year are below the original target of 1,170 homes as house builders and development partners are delaying procuring new contracts due to cost inflation."

"4.12 Approvals for this year are below the original target of 1,170 homes as many development partners are delaying procuring new contracts due to cost inflation."
- 5) To agree that without explicit reference to revision of targets this cannot be considered to have been approved by councillors and must have been an officer decision, approved without democratic oversight.
- 6) To regret that on this important metric the administration are setting targets based on delivery projections, and agree that this in no way constitutes a robust approach to performance scrutiny, rendering the setting of targets irrelevant.
- 7) To agree that the report is referred to Full Council on 28th September 2023 with the amendment that the original targets of 1,170 for approvals and 1,290 for completions are reinstated.

- moved by Councillor Nols-McVey, seconded by Councillor Campbell

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the Annual Performance Report (Appendix A) for the 2022/23 financial year.
- 2) To note the Annual Complaints Report 2022/23 (Appendix C)
- 3) To note that approvals and completions for affordable homes have both had their targets revised stating in appendix B: Target revised in November 2022 based on year[1]end projections, as detailed in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2023-28.
- 4) To note further that in the SHIP report there was no explicit mention of revising targets in the annual performance report and that the only reference was when targets were described as the 'original target' in 3.2 and 4.12:

“3.2 Around 800 new affordable homes could be approved for site start in Edinburgh this financial year (2022/23) and based on current delivery programmes, an additional 1,246 affordable homes could be completed. Approvals for this year are below the original target of 1,170 homes as house builders and development partners are delaying procuring new contracts due to cost inflation.”

“4.12 Approvals for this year are below the original target of 1,170 homes as many development partners are delaying procuring new contracts due to cost inflation.”
- 5) To agree that without explicit reference to revision of targets this could not be considered to have been approved by councillors and must have been an officer decision, approved without democratic oversight.
- 6) To regret that on this important metric the administration were setting targets based on delivery projections, and agree that this in no way constituted a robust approach to performance scrutiny, rendering the setting of targets irrelevant.
- 7) To refer the report to Full Council on 28th September 2023 with the amendment that the original targets of 1,170 for approvals and 1,290 for completions are reinstated.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 17 November 2023 (item 10); Act of Council No. 7 of 16 March 2023; report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

14. People Strategy 2021-2024 and 2024-2027 Update

Details were provided of progress against the current People Strategy Action Plan. Consultation and engagement proposals for the review and refresh of the People Strategy for 2024-2027 were presented.

Decision

To approve the refresh of the People Strategy for 2024-2027 and the proposed consultation and engagement arrangements.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

15. International Travel and Member Guidance

Details were provided of the processes required to approve International and Elected Member Travel, along with clearer guidelines to support feedback from any trips undertaken or conferences attended.

Motion

- 1) To note the updated information on Travel contained within the Guidance for Elected Members.
- 2) To note the revised form addressing international and Elected Member travel approval and post event feedback requirements.
- 3) To note the post event feedback provided by Officers after the recent Eurocities event.
- 4) To approve the Elected Member conference attendance request.

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the updated information on Travel contained within the Guidance for Elected Members.
- 2) To note the revised form addressing international and Elected Member travel approval and post event feedback requirements and agree that paragraph 9.1 would be deleted, and paragraph 10.7 would be adjusted to include, at the end: “In all instances the subsequent Committee should be explicitly informed when elected members fail to attend a conference, use international travel approved and/or booked or any other event with a cost the Council and what proportion of public funding was recovered.”.
- 3) To note the post event feedback provided by Officers after the recent Eurocities event.
- 4) To approve the Elected Member conference attendance request.

- moved by Councillor Nols-McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the updated information on Travel contained within the Guidance for Elected Members.
- 2) To note the revised form addressing international and Elected Member travel approval and post event feedback requirements and agree the form should be adjusted to include ferry travel as a listed travel mode, with CO2e emissions/km for foot passengers at 0.0187kg.
- 3) To note the post event feedback provided by Officers after the recent Eurocities event.
- 4) To approve the Elected Member conference attendance request.

- moved by Councillor Dijkstra-Downie, seconded by Councillor Lang

Amendment 3

- 1) To note the updated information on Travel contained within the Guidance for Elected Members.
- 2) To note the revised form addressing international and Elected Member travel approval and post event feedback requirements.
- 3) To note the post event feedback provided by Officers after the recent Eurocities event.
- 4) To approve the Elected Member conference attendance request.
- 5) To note that there was no reason for internal flights, given the environmental damage internal flights cause when compared with public transport such as trains and buses.
- 6) Therefore to amend Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director of Place such that domestic flights will not be allowed under any circumstances.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Miller

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to the Motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to the Amendment 3.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)	-	9 votes
For Amendment 3 (as adjusted)	-	8 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Beal, Bennett, Day, Dijkstra-Downie, Doggart, Lang, Meagher, Watt and Whyte.

For Amendment 3 (as adjusted): Councillors Aston, Biagi, Campbell, Macinnes, Miller, Nols-McVey, Parker and Staniforth)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the updated information on Travel contained within the Guidance for Elected Members.
- 2) To note the revised form addressing international and Elected Member travel approval and post event feedback requirements; to agree that paragraph 9.1 would be deleted, and paragraph 10.7 would be adjusted to include, at the end: "In all instances the subsequent Committee should be explicitly informed when elected members fail to attend a conference, use international travel approved

and/or booked or any other event with a cost the Council and what proportion of public funding was recovered”; to agree the form should be adjusted to include ferry travel as a listed travel mode, with CO2e emissions/km for foot passengers at 0.0187kg.

- 3) To note the post event feedback provided by Officers after the recent Eurocities event.
- 4) To approve the Elected Member conference attendance request.
- 5) To approve the following nominations for attendance at the COSLA Conference, in addition to Councillor Day: Councillor Mattos-Coelho (SNP), Councillor Lang (Liberal Democrat), Councillor Mumford (Green) and Councillor Whyte (Conservative).

(References – Act of Council No. 18 of 9 February 2023; Policy and Sustainability Committee, 21 March 2023 (item 16); report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

16. Edinburgh and Taiwan Visit Report and Activity

A summary of the March 2023 visit to Taiwan was provided in response to the Council Leader’s motion at Full Council in February 2023 which celebrated the city’s positive relations with Taiwan and requested that the Chief Executive brings back a report on the tangible benefits of the visit. The City of Edinburgh Council partnered with the University of Edinburgh’s Climate Change Institute and Data Driven Innovation departments for the duration of the visit.

Decision

- 1) To note the detail provided on and impacts arising from the Council Leader’s March 2023 visit to Taiwan.
- 2) To note that the visit was supported by University of Edinburgh partners with expertise in the fields of Net Zero and Data Driven Innovation.
- 3) To note the Council Leaders’ presentation showcasing Edinburgh’s Smart City/NetZero ambitions to a global audience at the Smart City Expo in Kaohsiung and Taipei City in Taiwan.
- 4) To agree that development of cultural, festival, sustainability, digital innovation, trade and investment links should provide the focus for the next steps in strengthening Edinburgh and Taiwan relationships.
- 5) To agree that the City of Edinburgh Council would work in partnership with Edinburgh International Festival, University of Edinburgh, Taiwanese officials and other stakeholders to develop a future programme of activity.

- 6) To thank the Taipei Representative Office of Taiwan in Edinburgh and all partners in Taiwan who provided a detailed programme and warm welcome to the Council Leader and University of Edinburgh partners throughout the visit.
- 7) To agree to work towards a memorandum of understanding between Taiwan and the appropriate city partners as referenced in the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

(References – Act of Council No. 18 of 9 February 2023; report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

17. The City of Edinburgh Council Gaelic Language Plan 2023-28 – Revised Draft

A draft was presented of the Council's third Gaelic Language Plan, covering the period 2023-28, which has been revised following public consultation for consideration by Committee prior to submission to Bord na Gaidhlig, in accordance with the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005.

Motion

To approve the draft Gaelic Language Plan for 2023-28 which had been revised following public consultation, for submission to Bord na Gaidhlig for its consideration and approval.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Meagher

Amendment 1

- 1) To approve the draft Gaelic Language Plan for 2023-28 which had been revised following public consultation, for submission to Bord na Gaidhlig for its consideration and approval.
- 2) To note to date Gaelic signage had been installed at Meadowbank Sports Centre, Castlebrae Community Campus, Greyfriars graveyard, the Central Library and the Darroch Annexe, James Gillespie's High School and further note installation at Trinity Academy and Bangholm Outdoor Centre was also pending.
- 3) To request an additional report within 3 cycles progressing an action list of Gaelic signage in the city including place names, city transport infrastructure, schools and within and outside other Council buildings.

- moved by Councillor Macinnes, seconded by Councillor Biagi

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, note the revised draft Gaelic Language Plan for 2023-28 and note the feedback received during the consultation.
- 2) To thank officers for their time in preparing the draft plan and consultation process, and thank those members of the Gaelic community and organisations who responded.
- 3) To note that the draft plan stated, "The future shape and location of GME provision in the city has been under consideration for a number of years, [...] in January 2022 [EC&F Committee] decided to pause plans for a statutory consultation on the proposed new GME provision so that officers could undertake further pre-consultation engagement with parents and partners. This activity is underway and will inform timescales for the actions to improve GME...".
- 4) To note that the number of schools across the city offering Gaelic Learners Education (GLE) had dropped significantly in recent years.
- 5) To note that while the progress summary identified Gaelic signage as a key indicator of progress, this was not included in the current draft action plan whereas it was included in the council's previous 2018-2022 Gaelic language plan..
- 6) To approve the draft Gaelic Language Plan 2023-28 for submission to Bord na Gaidhlig for its consideration and approval, subject to the following additions:
 - a) Insert new action 2.1.5, "The council will continue to engage with The Scottish Government, the Gaelic community in Edinburgh and other stakeholders to consider the best way to expand provision of GME at secondary level on the understanding that a GME High School in Edinburgh cannot be delivered without financial support and any available site options from the Scottish Government.
Timescale: dependent on identifying a site, and agreeing a funding package with the Scottish Government.
Lead: CEJS"
 - b) Insert at the end of action 2.2.2, "in order to ensure that Gaelic is offered in a greater number of primary and secondary schools."

c) Insert new action 3.5, "Whenever new signage is installed or existing signage is replaced across the council estate and as part of council operations, the cost of installing Gaelic or bilingual signage will be investigated. Gaelic or bilingual signage will be installed where appropriate, especially where there is high footfall. We will also encourage council ALEOs to adopt this policy.

Timescale: as and when new signage is installed or existing signage replaced
Lead: CS, Place"

- 7) To agree that the Convener would write to the Scottish Education Secretary seeking clarity on what sites and funding the Scottish Government had available to deliver a GME high school in Edinburgh.

- moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Miller

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion and Amendment 2 was accepted as an amendment to the Motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, note the revised draft Gaelic Language Plan for 2023-28 and note the feedback received during the consultation.
- 2) To thank officers for their time in preparing the draft plan and consultation process, and thank those members of the Gaelic community and organisations who responded.
- 3) To note that the draft plan stated, "The future shape and location of GME provision in the city has been under consideration for a number of years, [...] in January 2022 [EC&F Committee] decided to pause plans for a statutory consultation on the proposed new GME provision so that officers could undertake further pre-consultation engagement with parents and partners. This activity is underway and will inform timescales for the actions to improve GME...".
- 4) To note that the number of schools across the city offering Gaelic Learners Education (GLE) had dropped significantly in recent years.

- 5) To note that while the progress summary identified Gaelic signage as a key indicator of progress, this was not included in the current draft action plan whereas it was included in the council's previous 2018-2022 Gaelic language plan..
- 6) To approve the draft Gaelic Language Plan 2023-28 for submission to Bord na Gaidhlig for its consideration and approval, subject to the following additions:
 - a) Insert new action 2.1.5, "The council will continue to engage with The Scottish Government, the Gaelic community in Edinburgh and other stakeholders to consider the best way to expand provision of GME at secondary level on the understanding that a GME High School in Edinburgh cannot be delivered without financial support and any available site options from the Scottish Government.

Timescale: dependent on identifying a site, and agreeing a funding package with the Scottish Government.
Lead: CEJS"
 - b) Insert at the end of action 2.2.2, "in order to ensure that Gaelic is offered in a greater number of primary and secondary schools."
 - c) Insert new action 3.5, "Whenever new signage is installed or existing signage is replaced across the council estate and as part of council operations, the cost of installing Gaelic or bilingual signage will be investigated. Gaelic or bilingual signage will be installed where appropriate, especially where there is high footfall. We will also encourage council ALEOs to adopt this policy.

Timescale: as and when new signage is installed or existing signage replaced
Lead: CS, Place"
- 7) To agree that the Convener would write to the Scottish Education Secretary seeking clarity on what sites and funding the Scottish Government had available to deliver a GME high school in Edinburgh.
- 8) To note to date Gaelic signage had been installed at Meadowbank Sports Centre, Castlebrae Community Campus, Greyfriars graveyard, the Central Library and the Darroch Annexe, James Gillespie's High School and further note installation at Trinity Academy and Bangholm Outdoor Centre was also pending.

- 9) To request an additional report within 3 cycles progressing an action list of Gaelic signage in the city including place names, city transport infrastructure, schools and within and outside other Council buildings.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee, 21 March 2023 (item 10); report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

18. Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Following the launch of the Edinburgh Community Climate Fund (ECCF) in early 2023 and a motion by Councillor Mumford in March 2023, details were provided of the Fund's success along with opportunities for further similar future initiatives.

Motion

To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services discharging the approved motion by Councillor Mumford.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Meagher

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services discharging the approved motion by Councillor Mumford.
- 2) To request a Business Bulletin update in two cycles on the Improvement Plan, addressing in particular plans for an improved registration experience for voters, which was deemed 'poor' by one in three users, and proposed strategies for better inclusion of underrepresented groups in participatory budgeting.

- moved by Councillor Dijkstra-Downie, seconded by Councillor Lang

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the success of the Community Climate Fund in being significantly oversubscribed.
- 2) To note that the Community Climate Fund supported both the council's net zero, climate and nature ambitions as well as moving towards its target for participatory budgeting.
- 3) To recognise that participatory budgeting processes work best when run on a recurring basis as this built long-term support and raised engagement levels.
- 4) Therefore to resolve that identifying recurring funding for the Community Climate Fund would be considered as part of the budget process with the aim of making it a regular annual event, including consideration of expanding the fund going forward.
- 5) To further agree that officers engage with relevant community groups and the Community Climate Hub to redesign aspects of the processes behind the fund, based on feedback gathered this year.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Parker

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion and Amendment 2 was accepted as an amendment to the Motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the success of the Community Climate Fund in being significantly oversubscribed.
- 2) To note that the Community Climate Fund supported both the council's net zero, climate and nature ambitions as well as moving towards its target for participatory budgeting.
- 3) To recognise that participatory budgeting processes work best when run on a recurring basis as this built long-term support and raised engagement levels.
- 4) Therefore to resolve that identifying recurring funding for the Community Climate Fund would be considered as part of the budget process with the aim of making it a regular annual event, including consideration of expanding the fund going forward.
- 5) To further agree that officers engage with relevant community groups and the Community Climate Hub to redesign aspects of the processes behind the fund, based on feedback gathered this year.
- 6) To request a Business Bulletin update in two cycles on the Improvement Plan, addressing in particular plans for an improved registration experience for voters, which was deemed 'poor' by one in three users, and proposed strategies for better inclusion of underrepresented groups in participatory budgeting.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee, 21 March 2023 (item 30); Finance and Resources Committee, 25 April 2023 (item 6); report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

19. Declaring a Nature Emergency

In response to a motion by Councillor Parker on Declaring a Nature Emergency, which was agreed by the Council on 9 February 2023, committee was asked to agree that the Council should progress signing the Berlin Urban Nature Pact.

Motion

- 1) To agree that the Council should progress signing the Berlin Urban Nature Pact.
- 2) To note the information included in the report responded to a motion approved by the Council on 9 February 2023 titled Declaring a Nature Emergency.
- 3) To note the timescale for preparation of a draft Vision for Nature.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To agree that the Council should progress signing the Berlin Urban Nature Pact.
- 2) To note the information included in the report responded to a motion approved by the Council on 9 February 2023 titled Declaring a Nature Emergency.
- 3) To note the timescale for preparation of a draft Vision for Nature.
- 4) To note from the report that, in order to accelerate progress in tackling the Nature Emergency, a priority for the service was to build capacity and training across the workforce
- 5) To recognise that without the sufficient in-house capacity, skills, knowledge and understanding across the Council, progress to tackle the Nature Emergency would falter.
- 6) Therefore in order to support groups in the run up to the budget process, to request a briefing note to outline where particular skill / capacity gaps lay in the Council currently; what specific additional training or posts were required to remedy this; the costs associated with these and details about whether funding for all current key posts for delivering work to tackle the Nature Emergency was permanent or temporary.

- moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

Amendment 2

- 1) To agree that the Council should progress signing the Berlin Urban Nature Pact.
- 2) To note the information included in the report responded to a motion approved by the Council on 9 February 2023 titled Declaring a Nature Emergency.
- 3) To note the timescale for preparation of a draft Vision for Nature.
- 4) To note the potential outcomes outlined in paragraph 4.10 of the report by the Executive Director of Place and agree the following:
 - a. Where proposals were taken forward to expand the areas of parks and open space being naturalised these should be subject to an open consultation process which included the ability for communities to say no or make alternative suggestions.
 - b. That future reports would present a fully costed proposal for any “reduction in chemical use for weed removal, increasing mechanical removal as an alternative treatment” outlining how this could be funded and how it would meet the Council’s statutory requirements to keep areas clean and free of detritus.

c. That any initiatives around the use of the “additional funding has been secured for road verge and cycleway maintenance” should outline how these could be used to begin a full clean-up of these public areas to remove materials hazardous to wildlife (particularly plastics) along with an estimate of any further costs involved.

-moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Doggart

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to the Motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To agree that the Council should progress signing the Berlin Urban Nature Pact.
- 2) To note the information included in the report responded to a motion approved by the Council on 9 February 2023 titled Declaring a Nature Emergency.
- 3) To note the timescale for preparation of a draft Vision for Nature.
- 4) To note from the report that, in order to accelerate progress in tackling the Nature Emergency, a priority for the service was to build capacity and training across the workforce
- 5) To recognise that without the sufficient in-house capacity, skills, knowledge and understanding across the Council, progress to tackle the Nature Emergency would falter.
- 6) Therefore in order to support groups in the run up to the budget process, to request a briefing note to outline where particular skill / capacity gaps lay in the Council currently; what specific additional training or posts were required to remedy this; the costs associated with these and details about whether funding for all current key posts for delivering work to tackle the Nature Emergency was permanent or temporary.
- 7) To note the potential outcomes outlined in paragraph 4.10 of the report by the Executive Director of Place and agree the following:
 - a. Where proposals were taken forward to expand the areas of parks and open space being naturalised these should be subject to an open consultation process which included the ability for communities to say no or make alternative suggestions.
 - b. That future reports would present a fully costed proposal for any “reduction in chemical use for weed removal, increasing mechanical removal as an alternative

treatment” outlining how this could be funded and how it would meet the Council’s statutory requirements to keep areas clean and free of detritus.

c. That any initiatives around the use of the “additional funding has been secured for road verge and cycleway maintenance” should outline how these could be used to begin a full clean-up of these public areas to remove materials hazardous to wildlife (particularly plastics) along with an estimate of any further costs involved.

- 8) To note that officers would come back to committee to clarify details of the pact. (References: Act of Council No. 25 of 9 February 2023; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

20. Internal Audit: Open and Overdue Internal Audit Actions – Performance Dashboard as at 22 June 2023 – referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee had referred a report on 1 August 2023 which provided an overview of the status of the overdue Internal Audit findings. On 22 June 2023, there were a total of 136 open Internal Audit management actions, with 19 of these overdue.

Decision

To note the referral report from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee. (Reference: Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, 1 August 2023 (item 5); referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, submitted.)

21. Heat Networks and Building Assessment Reports

Details were provided of the roles, responsibilities, and powers for the Council stemming from the emerging regulatory regime for heat networks and how the Council was responding to these. Committee was asked to agree that the Council should write to the Scottish Government requesting to be designated the body with authority for consenting heat network developments in Edinburgh.

Motion

- 1) To note the principal roles, responsibilities, and powers of the Council with regards to the emerging regulatory regime for heat networks.
- 2) To note the action currently being taken by the Council.
- 3) To agree that the Council should write to the Scottish Government requesting to be designated the consent authority for Edinburgh, with the timing of the request to be agreed with Scottish Government officials.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the principal roles, responsibilities, and powers of the Council with regards to the emerging regulatory regime for heat networks.
- 2) To note the action currently being taken by the Council.
- 3) To agree that the Council should write to the Scottish Government requesting to be designated the consent authority for Edinburgh, with the timing of the request to be agreed with Scottish Government officials.
- 4) To agree that a report should be produced within 2 cycles to:
 - Develop a Council policy for the consenting of heat networks in Edinburgh - this would include reasons for granting or revoking licences etc.
 - Indicate resource implications as a consent authority.
 - Identify any gaps or uncertainties in the guidance and regulations for heat network developers
 - Show options for dissemination of heat network information to interested parties e.g. BARs
- 5) To note the importance of heat networks as a way of maximising energy efficiency and resource use, and as an important way of moving towards net zero carbon heating.

- moved by Councillor Beal, seconded by Dijkstra-Downie

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the Amendment was accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the principal roles, responsibilities, and powers of the Council with regards to the emerging regulatory regime for heat networks.
- 2) To note the action currently being taken by the Council.
- 3) To agree that the Council should write to the Scottish Government requesting to be designated the consent authority for Edinburgh, with the timing of the request to be agreed with Scottish Government officials.
- 4) To agree that a report should be produced within 2 cycles to:
 - Develop a Council policy for the consenting of heat networks in Edinburgh - this would include reasons for granting or revoking licences etc.
 - Indicate resource implications as a consent authority.
 - Identify any gaps or uncertainties in the guidance and regulations for heat network developers

- Show options for dissemination of heat network information to interested parties e.g. BARs
- 5) To note the importance of heat networks as a way of maximising energy efficiency and resource use, and as an important way of moving towards net zero carbon heating.

(Reference: report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

22. Policy for the Transition from Children to Adult Support – Update

Following approval of the policy by Committee on 21st March 2023, an update was provided to address queries raised by members.

Decision

To note the response to the request previously raised by Committee.

(References: Policy and Sustainability Committee, 21 March 2023 (item 26); report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

23. Policy for Supporting Adult Carers and Caring Relationships

Details were provided of a new policy which had been developed to determine the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership's vision and commitment to supporting adult carers within their caring relationships and improve or maintain their health and well-being through a variety of pro-active and planned supports.

Motion

To approve the Supporting Adult Carers and Caring Relationships Policy.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Meagher

Amendment

- 1) To approve the Supporting Adult Carers and Caring Relationships Policy.
- 2) To agree to ongoing monitoring of this new policy, noting in particular the challenges outlined in the report such as capacity to deliver support for carers and the need for effective communications with carers about support options, to inform the next review of the policy.

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Parker

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the Amendment was accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Supporting Adult Carers and Caring Relationships Policy.
- 2) To agree to ongoing monitoring of this new policy, noting in particular the challenges outlined in the report such as capacity to deliver support for carers

and the need for effective communications with carers about support options, to inform the next review of the policy.

(Reference: report by the Interim Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

24. Grievance Policy

As part of the findings from the Independent Inquiry and Whistleblowing Culture Review in 2021 (“Inquiry and Review”) there was a recommendation to review all conduct related employment policies and, where appropriate, to revise.

The Grievance and Avoidance of Bullying and Harassment policies were considered together with the aim of consolidating them into one new policy to manage all employee complaints. Teaching staff have a separate Grievance Policy in accordance with the Scottish Negotiating Committee for Teachers (SNCT) which has also been reviewed.

The new Grievance Policy for local government employees and teaching staff was submitted for approval.

Decision

- 1) To approve the new Grievance Policies for local government employees and for teaching staff and note the revised Personnel Appeals Committee policy and process.
- 2) To note that both these policies had been reviewed and revised in line with recommendations following the Independent Inquiry and Whistleblowing Culture Review by Susanne Tanner KC, with Pinsent Mason in 2021.

(Reference, Grievance Policy, report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

25. Protecting Colleagues from Unacceptable Behaviours Policy

Following a recommendation as part of the Independent Inquiry and Whistleblowing Culture Review in 2021 to review all conduct related employment policies, a new Protecting Colleagues from Unacceptable Behaviours Policy was submitted for approval.

Decision

- 1) To approve the new Protecting Colleagues from Unacceptable Behaviours Policy.
- 2) To note that this Code had been reviewed and revised to address the recommendations agreed following the Independent Inquiry and Whistleblowing Culture Review by Susanne Tanner KC, with Pinsent Mason in 2021.

(Reference: report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

26. Driving for the Council – Telematics Policy Update

An update was provided on the actions agreed by Committee in May 2023 on the Driving for the Council Telematics Policy.

Decision

To note the update regarding the telematics policy.

(References: Policy and Sustainability Committee, 23 May 2023 (item 14); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

27. Emergency Motion by Councillor Miller – Circumstances surrounding the consultation on the future of care homes and the EIJB strategy

The Convener ruled that the following item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency to allow the Committee to give early consideration to this matter.

The following motion by Councillor Miller was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Committee:

1. Thanks the Chief Executive for his review of the process to consult on the future of our care homes following the request made at Policy and Sustainability committee in May.
2. Welcomes the briefing note on his findings which was circulated to Committee and stakeholders (relevant officers, trade union representatives) on Wed 16/08/23.
3. Acknowledges the errors of governance, process and communication which were identified.
4. Notes that committee members and stakeholders have questions arising from the briefing note, and may wish to instruct additional actions.
5. Calls for a short report to the Integration Joint Board in one cycle, summarising the review and the actions arising.”

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Day

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Miller.