

Minutes

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday 7 November 2023

Present:

Councillors Griffiths (Convener), Burgess, Cowdy, Davidson, Flannery (Substituting for Davidson for Item 9) Graham, Glasgow, Hyslop, Jones, Kumar, McKenzie (Item 19) O'Neill, Young

Added Members for Education Items

Religious Representatives

Fiona Beveridge, Angela Campbell and Dr Ruhy Parris (non-voting)

Secondary Sector Parent/Carer Representative

Alexander Ramage (non-voting)

Primary Sector Parent/Carer Representative

Louise Collingwood (non-voting)

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee of 5 September 2023 as a correct record.

2. Work Programme

The Committee's work programme updated to November 2023 was presented.

Decision:

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Work Programme, 7 November 2023, submitted)

3. Rolling Actions Log

The rolling actions log updated to November 2023 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To agree to close the following actions:
 - **Action 1** – Review Cuts to English as an Additional Language Provision for Daly Primary Schools.

- **Action 6** – Third Party Revenue Grants Programme Extension
 - **Action 9** – Motion by Councillor Burgess – Learning for Sustainability
 - **Action 10** – Voting rights for Religious Representatives
 - **Action 13** – Quality Improvement and Scrutiny Update
 - **Action 15** – Response to Motion by Councillor Kumar – Protected Characteristics – Care Experienced
 - **Action 16** – Response to Motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron – Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Adults at Risk
 - **Action 21** – Childrens Social Care
 - **Action 24** – Food Pantries, supporting access to affordable food.
 - **Action 27** – Quality Improvement and Scrutiny Update
 - **Action 31** – Free food provision in schools
 - **Action 40.2** – RAAC Breifing
 - **Action 41** – Connected Communities Edinburgh Grant Programme
- 2) To note that religious and parent/carer representatives should be invited to workshops concerning Education items.
 - 3) To note that if required a review of the Connected Communities Grants Process will be organised after Decembers additional committee meeting.
 - 4) Item 25 – Internet Safety Business Bulletin item to be added to January Committee
 - 5) Item 27 – Positive Destinations – Information about the number of young people that make up the 3.9% that are not in a positive destination to be shared with members.
 - 6) Demographic information about Community Payback participants to be shared with members. Community Payback Projects and further information about the service to be shared with members through a workshop.
 - 7) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, 7 November 2023, submitted)

4. Business Bulletin

The Business Bulletin for 7 November 2023 was presented.

Decision:

- 1) To note the updates in the Business Bulletin.
- 2) To request a briefing note on Early Years' Change Programme

- 3) To note that a timetable of meetings will be put in place for the Gaelic Implementation Steering Group meetings.
- 4) To note that a briefing note will be circulated on the Holiday Hub Provision.
- 5) To provide members with an update on maintenance costs associated with defibrillators in schools.

(Reference – Business Bulletin, 7 November 2023, submitted)

6. Outdoor Learning – Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres

Lagganlia outdoor centres. The Council continues to be committed to owning and operating Benmore and Lagganlia. These are widely used and provide safe, relevant and innovative experiences and outcomes. They are highly valued by families and schools and play an important part in Edinburgh pupils' education.

Decision

- 1) To Support the ongoing rationale and benefits of the Council operating its own residential outdoor centres. The Centres provide Council Schools with access to consistently safe, sector-leading and good value outdoor learning experiences.
- 2) To Continue to recognise the importance of safe high-quality residential visits which are embedded into the school curriculum.
- 3) To Note the collaborative working between families, schools, third sector, the Outdoor Learning and Adventure Education Team and wider Council staff.
- 4) To Note the significant experiences, outcomes and other achievements associated with the Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres

(Reference –report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

7. Quality Improvement and Scrutiny Update

This report covered a range of Education Scotland scrutiny and local authority reviews undertaken by the Quality Improvement Service. Our relentless focus on improving the quality of learning, teaching and assessment has shown strong signs of success, through increased consistency and greater understanding of the pace of change in schools. Almost all schools have made good use of the high quality supports available such as the Edinburgh Learns Teachers' Charter, Leadership for Equity and other aspects of the professional learning offered.

Decision

- 1) To note the strengths and areas for improvement identified through Education Scotland and the Quality Improvement Service scrutiny activity.
- 2) To note the Quality Improvement Service would continue to undertake the planned calendar of activity related to Inspection follow-through and

supported self-evaluation visits which will be reported to Education, Children & Families Committee each cycle.

- 3) To note the Quality Improvement Service would continue to respond to learning from ongoing inspection and internal review processes providing universal, targeted and intensive levels of support. Learning themes would be shared with all Head Teachers to inform improvement.
- 4) To note the Quality Improvement Service would review the Capacity and Risk Register to ensure accuracy of information and to inform proportionate levels of support and to plan future review activity to ensure Equity and Excellence.
- 5) To note The Quality Improvement Service will ensure that all actions for improvement are implemented by schools within agreed timescales.
- 6) To note the Quality Improvement Service would be implement and evaluate the refreshed approach to pre-inspection support for schools.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

9. Commissioning and Contract Management Update

This report provided an overview of the current commissioning and contract management activity in the Children, Education and Justice Services Directorate, including the need to streamline the monitoring of the spend and forecast to support budget process and service planning.

Motion

- 1) Note the work done to date, including the additional resources allocated to the Commissioning Team to ensure best value in the commissioning processes for Children, Education and Justice Services directorate.
- 2) To note the Scottish Government direction towards an integrated partnership approach to commissioning for outcomes, supported by the provision of additional funding.
- 3) To note the need for in-sourcing where the risk associated with outsourcing cannot be safely managed by Council officers.
- 4) To Note the volume of the contracts across the Directorate that have not been monitored to the appropriate level of scrutiny due to lack of resources.
- 5) To note the plan to consider all contracts coming to an end with the view to:
 - (i) To not retender where the requirement, policy and/or practice have changed, ended, or been commissioned via other means.
 - (ii) To re-tender with a more focussed city-wide poverty lens, prioritising the voice of children and young people.

- (iii) To reinvest the budget to support service reviews which included in-sourcing.
 - (iiii) To save where the requirement has been fulfilled and the contract is no longer appropriate to continue.
- Moved by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Graham

Amendment

- 1) Note the work done to date, including the additional resources allocated to the Commissioning Team to ensure best value in the commissioning processes for Children, Education and Justice Services directorate.
- 2) To note the Scottish Government direction towards an integrated partnership approach to commissioning for outcomes, supported by the provision of additional funding.
- 3) To note the need for in-sourcing where the risk associated with outsourcing cannot be safely managed by Council officers.
- 4) To Note the volume of the contracts across the Directorate that have not been monitored to the appropriate level of scrutiny due to lack of resources.
- 5) To note the plan to consider all contracts coming to an end with the view to:
 - (i) To not retender where the requirement, policy and/or practice have changed, ended, or been commissioned via other means.
 - (ii) To re-tender with a more focussed city-wide poverty lens, prioritising the voice of children and young people.
 - (iii) To reinvest the budget to support service reviews which included in-sourcing.
 - (iiii) To save where the requirement has been fulfilled and the contract is no longer appropriate to continue.
- 6) To agree to bring an updated Appendix 1 Extract of the contract register (Children, Education and Justice Services Directorate) with report to Education, Children, and Families Committee following consideration of contracts in 5 for approval.
- 7) To agree that an IIA will be produced and reported to ECF committee before a recommendation is made to end any contract.

- Moved by Councillor Kumar, seconded by Councillor Hyslop.

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

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Griffiths:

- 1) Note the work done to date, including the additional resources allocated to the Commissioning Team to ensure best value in the commissioning processes for Children, Education and Justice Services directorate.
- 2) To note the Scottish Government direction towards an integrated partnership approach to commissioning for outcomes, supported by the provision of additional funding.
- 3) To note the need for in-sourcing where the risk associated with outsourcing cannot be safely managed by Council officers.
- 4) To Note the volume of the contracts across the Directorate that have not been monitored to the appropriate level of scrutiny due to lack of resources.
- 5) To note the plan to consider all contracts coming to an end with the view to:
 - (i) To not retender where the requirement, policy and/or practice have changed, ended, or been commissioned via other means.
 - (ii) To re-tender with a more focussed city-wide poverty lens, prioritising the voice of children and young people.
 - (iii) To reinvest the budget to support service reviews which included in-sourcing.
 - (iiii) To save where the requirement has been fulfilled and the contract is no longer appropriate to continue.
- 6) To agree to bring an updated Appendix 1 Extract of the contract register (Children, Education and Justice Services Directorate) with report to Education, Children, and Families Committee following consideration of contracts in 5 for approval.
- 7) To agree that an IIA will be produced and reported to ECF committee before a recommendation is made to end any contract.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Davidson is on the board of the Dean and Cauvin Trust and did not attend for this item.

Councillor Hyslop made a transparency statement as he was previously employed by the Dean and Cauvin Trust.

8. Revenue Monitoring 2023/34 – Month Five Report

The reports set out the projected month five revenue monitoring position for Children, Education and Justice Services, based on review of expenditure and income to end of August 2023, and projections for the remainder of the year.

Decision

- 1) To note members of the Education, Children and Families Committee are asked to note the estimated net residual budget pressure of £5.5m at month five.
- 2) To note a further update report will be provided to Committee later in the year on the month eight position, including progress in mitigating pressures to achieve a balanced position for the 2024/25 revenue budget.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

9. Senior Phase Attainment Report

This report provided the members of the Education, Children and Families committee with a summary of the key outcomes in relation to attainment in the City of Edinburgh Council secondary schools for the Senior Phase (S4 to S6) for the academic session 2022-23.

The Annual Participation Measure demonstrated that our positive destination results were the best on record and that the gap in this measure between the most and least deprived is the narrowest on record.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress and areas for improvement in educational attainment in the Senior Phase in City of Edinburgh secondary schools, during session 2022-23
- 2) To Note the continued hard work of young people, staff, parents and carers to support the successful delivery of qualifications in session 2022-23.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

10. Inclusion Review

The publication of the Additional Support for Learning Action Plan (Morgan Review) prompted a review of how learners were included in the city's schools. To provide baseline information, a Collaborative Improvement Review was set up, involving colleagues from other local authorities (Association of Directors of Education Scotland) and Education Scotland. This provided the rationale for the review. Three main workstreams are currently in process considering leadership, workforce, GIRFEC planning and learning environments. These are addressed themes of Attendance, Support for Pupils and Specialist Services.

Motion

- 1) To Note the conclusions of the ADES/Education Scotland Collaborative Improvement Review.
- 2) To note the progress of the ongoing Inclusion Review

- Moved by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Graham

Amendment

- 1) To Note the conclusions of the ADES/Education Scotland Collaborative Improvement Review.
- 2) To note the progress of the ongoing Inclusion Review
- 3) To note the conclusions of the ADES/Education Scotland Collaborative Improvement Review
- 4) To note the progress of the ongoing Inclusion Review

- Moved by Councillor Kumar, seconded by Councillor Hyslop

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 Griffiths:

- 1) To Note the conclusions of the ADES/Education Scotland Collaborative Improvement Review.
- 2) To note the progress of the ongoing Inclusion Review
- 3) To note the conclusions of the ADES/Education Scotland Collaborative Improvement Review
- 4) To note the progress of the ongoing Inclusion Review

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

11. Response to motion by Councillor Mowat – School Admissions and Appeals Planning

Although the previous audit actions were closed, further issues with the management of school appeals emerged last session. This was highly regrettable and attributable mainly due to lack of resource to manage the process. New process, including use of a digital solution aligned with placing requests, is proposed.

Motion

To note the findings in this Report on the School Admissions and Appeals Planning Process - Motion by Councillor Mowat at Full Council 31 August 2023.

Amendment

- 1) To note the findings in this Report on the School Admissions and Appeals Planning Process - Motion by Councillor Mowat at Full Council 31 August 2023.

- 2) To agree the convener write to the head of Committee Services and request that dedicated resource be provided during the peak period for School Placing Appeals.
- 3) Alongside a business bulletin, committee agrees to set up a Short Life Working Group with a named Lead Officer, Chair, parent and council officer representative to look at a new process and ensure that the timetable is adhered to and that a recruitment campaign is prioritised.

- Moved by Councillor Kumar, seconded by Councillor Young

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 Griffiths:

- 1) To note the findings in this Report on the School Admissions and Appeals Planning Process - Motion by Councillor Mowat at Full Council 31 August 2023.
- 2) To agree the convener write to the head of Committee Services and request that dedicated resource be provided during the peak period for School Placing Appeals.
- 3) Alongside a business bulletin, committee agrees to set up a Short Life Working Group with a named Lead Officer, Chair, parent and council officer representative to look at a new process and ensure that the timetable is adhered to and that a recruitment campaign is prioritised.

Declaration of Interests

Alex Ramage made a transparency statement as he is a parent that sits on the School Admissions and Appeals Panel.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

12. Afterschool Care Provider – Additional Support Needs Support

At the meeting of full council on 31 August 2023, elected members requested a report into the management of the council's contract with the Third Party that had been contracted to provide support for children attending after school provision. This report set out the management of the contract, the lessons learned regarding this which are as follows:

- (i) To ensure appropriate contract monitoring is in place that those managing contracts are trained.
- (ii) To ensure appropriate handover of all aspects of officers' remits' when they leave the council or move to another role.

- (iii) To establish quarterly updates for senior officers on the impact of the contract to allow any issues or concerns to be addressed timeously to ensure best value for the council.

The internal audit process will review our action plan and lessons learned from this process.

Motion

- 1) To Note the findings of this report and the lessons learned.
- 2) To agree the implementation of the next steps outlined in section 5 of this report.
- 3) To note the findings of this report will also be reported to the Governance, Risk and Best Value committee on 28 November 2023.

- Moved by Councillor Griffiths, Seconded by Councillor Graham

Amendment 1

- 1) To Note the SNP Motion on Childcare 4 All approved at the meeting of the Full Council of 31 August 2023.
- 2) To Note the findings of this report and the lessons learned.
- 3) To note the findings of this report will also be reported to the Governance, Risk and Best Value committee on 28 November 2023.
- 4) To note the findings of this report will also be reported to the Governance, Risk and Best Value committee on 28 November 2023.
- 5) To agree to provide answers to ‘What assurances have parents, carers, and families received around continuity of support and alternative arrangements’
- 6) To agree to include an update report with a copy of equalities impact assessment to ECF committee when available.
- 7) To agree to produce clear guidance for parents, carers, and families to help families navigate this service including if and how it may impact on their 1140 hours ELC allocation.

- Moved by Councillor Kumar, seconded by Councillor Hyslop

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

Amendment 2

- 1) To Note the findings of this report and the lessons learned.
- 2) To agree the implementation of the next steps outlined in section 5 of this report.
- 3) To note that If relevant following Council Budget Setting for 2024/25, a Business Bulletin update to Committee twice a year to ensure transparency

around how many young people are being supported, how staff and providers are trained, how Council officers are supported in their roles, and include updates on the next steps mentioned in section 5, and any further areas of concern that Councillors should be aware of.

- 4) To note the findings of this report will also be reported to the Governance, Risk and Best Value committee on 28 November 2023.

- Moved by Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Burgess

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

Decision

- 1) To Note the SNP Motion on Childcare 4 All approved at the meeting of the Full Council of 31 August 2023.
- 2) To Note the findings of this report and the lessons learned.
- 3) To note that If relevant following Council Budget Setting for 2024/25, a Business Bulletin update to Committee twice a year to ensure transparency around how many young people are being supported, how staff and providers are trained, how Council officers are supported in their roles, and include updates on the next steps mentioned in section 5, and any further areas of concern that Councillors should be aware of.
- 4) To agree the implementation of the next steps outlined in section 5 of this report.
- 5) To note the findings of this report will also be reported to the Governance, Risk and Best Value committee on 28 November 2023.
- 6) To agree to provide answers to "What assurances have parents, carers, and families received around continuity of support and alternative arrangements"
- 7) To agree to include an update report with a copy of equalities impact assessment to ECF committee when available.
- 8) To agree to produce clear guidance for parents, carers, and families to help families navigate this service including if and how it may impact on their 1140 hours ELC allocation.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

12. Response to motion by Councillor McKenzie – Early Years

The motion was presented by Councillor McKenzie at full council committee on 28 September 2023 was agreed. This report was a response to the motion details of which are provided in appendix 1 of this report.

Motion

- 1) To note the information in the report, in response to Councillor McKenzie's approved motion at the Full Council Meeting on the 28 September 2023
- 2) To note that a full report on Early Years, covering the wide range of service and provisions for children and families across Edinburgh, will be coming to committee in January 2024.

- Moved by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Graham

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the information in the report, in response to Councillor McKenzie's approved motion at the Full Council Meeting on the 28 September 2023
- 2) To note that a full report on Early Years, covering the wide range of services and provisions for children and families across Edinburgh, will be coming to committee in January 2024. The report will include an Integrated Impact Assessment on changes to the process for allocating discretionary Early Years places along with details of how future impacts will be assessed and reported.
- 3) A briefing note will be sent to all councillors by 30 November 2023 which clearly explains the process of transition to a fully needs-based allocation methodology for Early Years, including details of when this funding change was communicated to the Council, and why it has appeared as an in-year pressure rather than being included in the Revenue Budget Framework 2023/24.

- Moved by Councillor Kumar, seconded by Councillor Burgess

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

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the information in the report, in response to Councillor McKenzie's approved motion at the Full Council Meeting on the 28 September 2023
- 2) To note that a full report on Early Years, covering the wide range of services and provisions for children and families across Edinburgh, will be coming to committee in January 2024.
- 3) Acknowledge that Private, Voluntary, and Independent (PVI) settings make up approximately 40% of all Early Years spaces and are essential partners in delivering parents/carers with flexible options for the delivery of their child's funded hours and provide access to additional ELC that is accessible and affordable.
- 4) Agree that full engagement with PVI settings is vital and that Officers should meet regularly with industry representatives including National Day Nurseries

Association (NDNA) and Scottish Private Nurseries Association (SPNA) to consult and plan on the delivery of early learning and childcare.

- Moved by Councillor Jones, seconded by Councillor Cowdy

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

Decision

- 1) To note the information in the report, in response to Councillor McKenzie's approved motion at the Full Council Meeting on the 28 September 2023
- 2) To note that a full report on Early Years, covering the wide range of services and provisions for children and families across Edinburgh, will be coming to committee in January 2024. The report will include an Integrated Impact Assessment on changes to the process for allocating discretionary Early Years places along with details of how future impacts will be assessed and reported.
- 3) A briefing note will be sent to all councillors by 30 November 2023 which clearly explains the process of transition to a fully needs-based allocation methodology for Early Years, including details of when this funding change was communicated to the Council, and why it has appeared as an in-year pressure rather than being included in the Revenue Budget Framework 2023/24.
- 4) Acknowledge that Private, Voluntary, and Independent (PVI) settings make up approximately 40% of all Early Years spaces and are essential partners in delivering parents/carers with flexible options for the delivery of their child's funded hours and provide access to additional ELC that is accessible and affordable.
- 5) Agree that full engagement with PVI settings is vital and that Officers should meet regularly with industry representatives including National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) and Scottish Private Nurseries Association (SPNA) to consult and plan on the delivery of early learning and childcare.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Hyslop made a transparency statement as his child attend a private nursery in Edinburgh and he had a personal relationship with the CEO of the Scottish Private Nurseries Association.

13. Early Years Capital Programme Update

This report provided an update on the delivery of the Council's Early Years 1140 Capital Programme by setting out the status of projects within the programme, the

financial pressures that remained in the delivery of the last phases of the programme and the ways in which these pressures were being addressed.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

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

15. Cameron House Nursery Closure Proposal

Cameron House Nursery School was registered as 'inactive' in 2019 as there were only four children due to attend. The four children moved to nearby Prestonfield Nursery and Cameron House has remained 'inactive' since. With capacity available at Prestonfield Nursery, Cameron House is now no longer required. The significant maintenance investment required for the Cameron House nursery building does not offer best value for the Council. No other Council service has expressed an interest in using the Cameron House nursery building.

Committee approval was sought to progress a statutory consultation proposing the formal closure of Cameron House Nursery School. The consultation would be conducted according to the requirements set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

Decision

- 1) Undertaking a statutory consultation, according to the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended, proposing the formal closure of Cameron House Nursery School.
- 2) Giving delegated authority to the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services to finalise and publish the draft statutory consultation paper (Appendix 1) proposing the formal closure of Cameron House Nursery School, subject to any changes agreed by this Committee.

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

17. Children's Services Improvement Plan and Edinburgh Residential Services Improvement Plan Update

Progress had been made in all areas of the Children's Services Improvement Plan.

In some areas the progress was not as expected, this primarily related to delays in getting key staff into post.

This report set out the continuous improvements in the Edinburgh Secure and Residential Services Improvement Plan from the last report that went to the Education, Children and Families Committee in September 2023.

Decision

- 1) To note the positive progress made against the Children's Services Improvement Plan, and the Edinburgh Residential Services Improvement Plan.
- 2) To scrutinise those areas where progress is slower than planned and ensure effective mitigations are in place.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

18. Policy for the Transition from Children to Adult Services Update

This policy was approved by Committee on 23 March 2023 with a request of a further report in 2 cycles providing an update to address queries raised by members.

Decision

To note the update from the Policy and Sustainability Committee, 22 August 2023.

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

19. Motion by Councillor McKenzie – Tynecastle High School Community Wing

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

"Committee notes:

- 1) Tynecastle Community Wing has provided valued community space in Gorgie since the opening of the new Tynecastle High School in 2009.
- 2) A decision to stop accepting external lets at the venue was made in August 2023, and regrets that stakeholders were not informed in advance.
- 3) To thank officers for supporting affected organisations to relocate, and for their attendance at the Gorgie Dalry Forum on 4 October 2023, where the reasons behind the decision were discussed and community groups were given an opportunity to express their frustration about the decision and make clear their determination to see the return of external lets at the venue.
- 4) Agrees that external lets should resume at the venue.
- 5) Agrees that a report will come to this Committee within 2 cycles, outlining:
 - a) the factors that led to the decision, including changes in staffing.
 - b) the current barriers to the immediate reinstatement of external lets
 - c) a plan to resume external lets safely at the earliest opportunity."

- Moved by Councillor McKenzie, seconded by Councillor Kumar

Amendment

“Committee notes:

- 1) Tynecastle Community Wing has provided valued community space in Gorgie since the opening of the new Tynecastle High School in 2009.
- 2) A decision to stop accepting external lets at the venue was made in August 2023, and regrets that stakeholders were not informed in advance.
- 3) To thank officers for supporting affected organisations to relocate, and for their attendance at the Gorgie Dalry Forum on 4 October 2023, where the reasons behind the decision were discussed and community groups were given an opportunity to express their frustration about the decision and make clear their determination to see the return of external lets at the venue.
- 4) Agrees to receive a report in January 2024 to enable a decision about if it can be brought back in to use. The report should contain:
 - a. the factors that led to the decision, including changes in staffing.
 - b. the current barriers to the immediate reinstatement of external lets.
 - c. a clear action plan to resume external lets safely at the earliest opportunity.”

- Moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Davidson

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 McKenzie:

“Committee notes:

- 1) Tynecastle Community Wing has provided valued community space in Gorgie since the opening of the new Tynecastle High School in 2009.
- 2) A decision to stop accepting external lets at the venue was made in August 2023, and regrets that stakeholders were not informed in advance.
- 3) To thank officers for supporting affected organisations to relocate, and for their attendance at the Gorgie Dalry Forum on 4 October 2023, where the reasons behind the decision were discussed and community groups were given an opportunity to express their frustration about the decision and make clear their determination to see the return of external lets at the venue.
- 4) Agrees to receive a report in January 2024 to enable a decision about if it can be brought back in to use. The report should contain:
 - a. the factors that led to the decision, including changes in staffing.
 - b. the current barriers to the immediate reinstatement of external lets.
 - c. a clear action plan to resume external lets safely at the earliest opportunity.”