

Addendum by the Conservative Group

City of Edinburgh Council

22 February 2024

Item 4.1 – Revenue Budget 2024/25 and Sustainable Capital Budget Strategy 2024-34

Council makes the following additions to the administration motion:

1. Approves £0.892m of additional expenditure for a programme of recurring investment in cleansing services, known as “Scrub our Streets” whereby residents can request the cleaning of their street. Such a programme will encourage residents to engage with Council in requesting spending of resources, while at the same time providing Council with a greater awareness of the underlying cleansing problem in the city.
2. Ensuring there is continuous improvement in performance in street cleaning and waste management by achieving improved LEAMS scores, to at least pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2024/25 with the aim of becoming the best urban authority in the UK for city cleanliness.
3. Meeting the KPIs agreed at Policy & Sustainability Committee in relation to increased re-cycling rates and then seeking further improvement.
4. Agrees investment of £0.24m to restore bus services 69 and 20 for Willowbrae/Lady Nairne and Dumbiedykes.
5. Rejects proposals to increase parking permit charges by c.10% and limits increases to 5%.
6. Allocates £0.9m from welfare reform reserves to undertake a Best Value Review of the Homelessness Service, which will deliver savings of £0.5m in 2024/25 and £2.0m in 2025/26.
7. Recognises the history of the city and its importance to attracting permanent employees and visitors to Edinburgh. By doing so, agrees to allocate £0.25m for the Edinburgh 900 project.

8. Notes the disappointing failure to deliver five of the six recommendations in the Accounts Commission Best Value Assurance Audit Report within three years of the publication of the report.
9. Recognises that not all steps have been taken to improve financial stability but expects that the necessary steps will be taken to improve the Council's financial stability.
10. Recognises the importance of implementing a Medium-Term Financial Plan for the Council, but also understands the implications for future spending plans and the consequences for individual service areas.
11. Recognises the significance of the increasing estimated deficits culminating the projected deficit in 2028/29 of £143m.
12. Recognises the current use of all council resources is not optimal, and that the council should embrace new technologies, make use of the rich seams of available data and explore ways to change and improve service delivery. This would contribute to the council achieving sufficient savings to meet the anticipated deficit.
13. Recognises the need for change within the IJB will be an indication of whether the need for internal change mentioned in the previous paragraph will take place.
14. Agrees that any additional resources provided to Scottish local authorities as a result of Barnett consequentials of further spending on for social care by the UK Government should be considered for establishing an Innovation Fund, including a study into the feasibility of establishing a dementia village.
15. Agrees that the consideration of new technologies within available budgets will include the development of a Council App that will allow residents, tenants and business owners to have a personalised log-on to access council services and consultations and allow the wider public to report street issues to the Council.
16. Identifies solutions to the long-running IT problems within the school estate by engaging with Council providers to resolve all issues.
17. Encourages schools to consider how the use of unspent, or additional, DSM monies could drive higher attainment.

Moved by: Cllr Jason Rust

Seconded by: Cllr Joanna Mowat