

# Business bulletin

## Policy and Sustainability Committee

**10.00am, Tuesday, 25 February 2020**

Dean of Guild Courtroom, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

# Policy and Sustainability Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Adam McVey</p>  <p>Vice Convener: Councillor Cammy Day</p> 	<p>Councillor Adam McVey (Convener)</p> <p>Councillor Cammy Day (Vice-Convener)</p> <p>Councillor Robert Aldridge</p> <p>Councillor Jim Campbell</p> <p>Councillor Kate Campbell</p> <p>Councillor Neil Gardiner</p> <p>Councillor Gillian Gloyer</p> <p>Councillor Graham Hutchison</p> <p>Councillor Lesley Macinnes</p> <p>Councillor John McLellan</p> <p>Councillor Melanie Main</p> <p>Councillor Ian Perry</p> <p>Councillor Alasdair Rankin</p> <p>Councillor Alex Staniforth</p> <p>Councillor Susan Webber</p> <p>Councillor Donald Wilson</p> <p>Councillor Iain Whyte</p>	<p><a href="#">Jamie Macrae</a>, Committee Officer</p> <p><a href="#">Louise Williamson</a>, Assistant Committee Officer</p>

Recent news	Background
<p><b>Citizen’s Basic Income</b></p> <p>Following a motion to Council in August 2017, officers have been working with colleagues in Fife, North Ayrshire, and Glasgow City Councils, NHS Health Scotland and the Improvement Service to explore the feasibility of a Scottish Citizens Basic Income (CBI) pilot.</p> <p>Using funding provided by the Scottish Government, the group are assessing the feasibility of a pilot project to test the contribution of CBI to reducing poverty and inequality.</p> <p>In November 2019 Committee received an update on interim findings from the project, outlining plans for publication of final recommendations by March 2020.</p> <p>Following feedback from Scottish Government on the interim report, however, timescales for completion of the project have been revised with final publication now expected by end June 2020. This delay is due to requests from Scottish Government to undertake additional assessment of pilot design elements as part of commissioned economic modelling research currently being undertaken by the Fraser of Allander Institute. This additional work is being undertaken for no additional costs but will cause a delay to the reporting of the commissioned research. Overall project timescales have therefore been revised to accommodate this activity. No additional City of Edinburgh Council resource requirements are associated with this timescale revision.</p> <p>Ahead of final publication, a further report on the project will be brought to the Policy and Sustainability Committee in June 2020. This report will consider and make recommendations on any future Council activity, including resources required, following completion of the current feasibility stage of the project. Further information on the Citizen’s Basic Income Pilot project is available at – <a href="http://www.basicincome.scot">www.basicincome.scot</a>.</p>	
<p><b>EUROCITIES AGM</b></p> <p>The EUROCITIES annual conference and AGM provides a forum for city networking and political debate between European city leaders. EUROCITIES 2019 took place in</p>	

Prague over on 20-22 November 2019 and was attended by city mayors, political leaders, city, government & EU representatives, public, private and third sector organisations from over 100 cities.

The theme of the meeting was 'Cities at Crossroads' with cities exchanging ideas and experiences in managing tourism, creating sustainable cities, empowering citizens and increasing digital access

The Lord Provost, Frank Ross and Chief Executive, Andrew Kerr and an officer within the Culture team were the City of Edinburgh Council's nominated representatives.

The Lord Provost was a panellist covering the topic of managing tourism, discussing

- The main challenges facing cities in relation to tourism, sharing challenges for all cities as well as those specific to Edinburgh, and
- actions cities are taking, solutions and examples of success from other cities

Our Culture representative and CEO also had meetings with Leeuwarden (Holland) on the city's cultural/festival links, and with Vienna to discuss their approaches to social housing.

Other sessions from the conference including how cities have learned from projects that were overly challenging. Conference papers are available on request.

The next Eurocities conference in November 2020 will be held in Leipzig.

### **Climate Change Adaptation: current impacts and future risk**

Climate change adaptation is about building resilience to the unavoidable consequences of a changing climate, through identifying impacts, minimising the negative effects and responding appropriately. The effects of a changing climate on Edinburgh will vary depending on the severity of global warming but even when only relatively modest increases in temperature are assumed, the impacts are likely to be significant.

Adaptation to climate change is a statutory requirement for public bodies under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act. The Council reports what it is doing to meet this duty as part of

its annual Climate Change Public Bodies Duties report. This includes individual actions that the Council is taking to adapt and actions it is taking in partnership. The Council is a lead member of the Edinburgh Adapts Steering Group, whose five year climate change adaptation action plan for the city runs until the end of 2020. The action plan brings adaptation activity across the city together, interlinking natural environment and greenspace, the built environment and infrastructure, flood prevention, communities and economic actions

The Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 sets out Scotland's approach to flood risk management. The Act aims to reduce the adverse consequences of flooding on communities, the environment, transport, cultural heritage and economic activity. The City of Edinburgh Council works in partnership with neighbouring local authorities, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Scottish Water on flood prevention. A Local Flood Risk Management for the Forth Estuary was published in June 2016. This outlines strategies and identifies areas vulnerable to flooding from all sources and potential mitigation measures and actions.

The Council's new approach to sustainability includes actions on adaptation. Land use planning plays a central role in preparing Edinburgh for a changing climate. Edinburgh's City Plan 2030 Choices document proposes measures to address the impacts of climate change. A climate change risk register of our building estate is being developed, a green infrastructure working group and a new Edinburgh Drainage partnership will identify and develop actions to tackle flooding and other climate related impacts.

In the longer term, the Council has commissioned Adaptation Scotland to develop a business case for taking adaptation forward over the next five to ten years. Once completed, the business case will set out the options for the what approach should be taken and at what scale, whether at city level or regional. A new adaptation action plan will be developed, and this will be taken to committee for approval.

## **Policy updates**

**Latest Policy and Insight update** for January 2020 can be found at the link below -

[here](#)

**Council monthly policy and engagements updates** can be found here -

[https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/11220/council\\_monthly\\_policy\\_and\\_engagement\\_updates](https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/11220/council_monthly_policy_and_engagement_updates)

**Forthcoming activities:**

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