

Leadership Advisory Panel

10am, Thursday, 23 April 2020

Consultation Planning Report

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Agree that all current and planned consultation deadlines are extended by at least two months, where that hasn't already happened, unless otherwise agreed.
- 1.2 Agree to pause all new consultation and engagement exercises that do not have statutory or COVID related requirements until further notice.
- 1.3 Agree to follow recent Scottish Government guidance and emergency legislation for determining progress of both Planning and Transport consultations and processes as outlined in appendix 2.
- 1.4 Note that a further report will be provided setting out the forward plan for consultations in due course.

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Report

Covid-19 – Consultation planning report

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides details of all open and planned consultations and surveys and proposes processes to manage consultation and engagement activity.
- 2.2 The public and most key stakeholders are focused on dealing with and responding to the current circumstances surrounding Covid-19. Any consultation and engagement activity taking place needs to be sensitive to the crisis context we are in.
- 2.3 In addition, any consultation currently happening or taken forward in this context must be aware that this risks the consultation being more vulnerable to challenge. This is because it would be difficult to demonstrate that all people had an equal opportunity to take part in a consultation during a national emergency consisting of a lockdown and social isolation policy.
- 2.4 As such, it is proposed that the Council extends the deadline for all consultations currently live by two months.
- 2.5 It is also proposed to suspend all planned consultation and engagement activity, except:
 - those required by Statute or
 - those which are related to COVID-19 or
 - following recent guidance and emergency legislation for Planning, a review is currently underway on how these changes could be implemented to allow Planning consultations to be continued. This guidance may also apply to Transport. The Council's proposed approach to these is outlined in appendix 2.

3. Current consultation activity

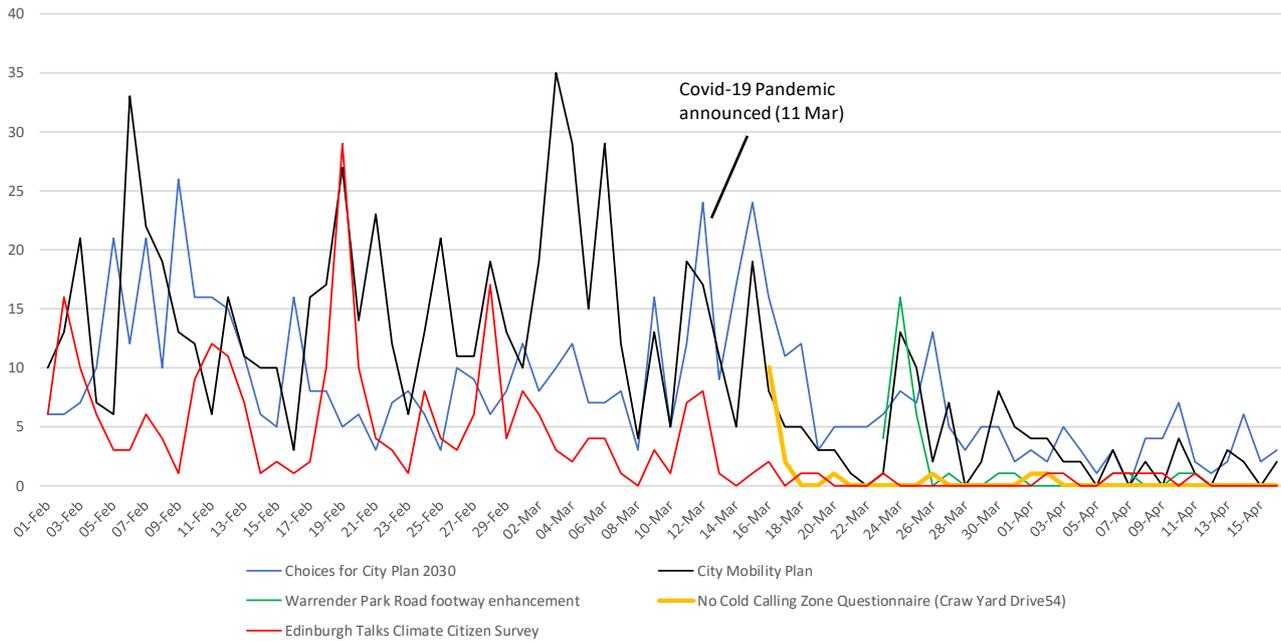
- 3.1 There are currently 17 consultations/surveys which are open to the public on the Council's Consultation Hub. Eight of these are open fully to the public while nine are private consultations which have an invited distribution list.

- 3.2 Of the 17 open public consultations/surveys, one is to fulfil a statutory requirement, “Choices for City Plan 2030” (deadline 20/04/2020). This consultation is running alongside the City Mobility Plan and has already been extended by a month to take into account Covid-19. It is proposed that these consultations should continue but that the timescale for the Choices for City Plan 2030 should not be extended any further.
- 3.3 There are currently four open consultations which the service areas would like to complete, but which are not statutory, including:
- Warrender Park Road footway enhancement.
 - Duddingston Road Safety Improvements.
 - Clermiston Primary School - Road Safety Improvements.
 - Leith Walk / Halmyre Street Draft Place Brief Consultation (this could be suspended, pending the implementation of the changes in Planning consultations as set out in appendix 2).
- 3.4 Additionally, there are 11 consultations/surveys that are open and not classed as essential. It is proposed that these should be suspended until further notice.
- 3.5 Appendix 1, lists 1 and 2, provides full details and deadlines.

Level of engagement on open consultations:

- 3.6 Following an analysis of responses to a number of consultations/surveys that are currently running on the Hub, it is clear that the level of response has dropped considerably since COVID-19 was declared a pandemic on 11 March. However, it should be noted, that the level of promoting these consultations would also have dropped while focus was provided elsewhere.
- 3.7 Chart 1 below provides a timeline of five open consultations on the Hub since the start of February as an example of the drop in level of response.

Chart 1: Number of responses for a selection of open consultations/surveys



4. Planned consultations

- 4.1 In addition to current consultations on the Hub, there are also a number of planned consultations/surveys which are preparing to launch (a list of these are provided in appendix 1 (list 3 and 4) and appendix 2.
- 4.2 The planned statutory consultations which we recommend should continue are (see appendix 1, list 3):
- Powderhall – New Nursery with Housing (Deadline – May 2020)
 - Edinburgh's Draft Food Growing Strategy Consultation (April/May 2020 (on hold))
 - Community Payback Orders (Deadline - 31/08/2020)
- 4.3 There are six planned consultations which we recommend suspending until further notice (see appendix 1, list 4):
- Winter Festivals Consultation (Culture and Communities Committee on 28 January 2020 noted the intention to carry out a consultation on Edinburgh's Winter Festival programme. It is intended to pause commencement of this consultation until the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and Council Committee meetings are reintroduced.)
 - Thriving Green Spaces Project Consultation (on hold)
 - Care at home support services for older adults
 - Market Facilitation Strategy
 - Housing Service Improvement Plan Survey
 - Pre-application advice service – customer survey

- 4.4 Appendix 2 provides a list of five planning consultations and 23 traffic regulation and redetermination orders which are also planned to be launched. It is recommended that the Council take into account recently published guidance from the Scottish Government to determine how to progress with these.

5. Next steps

- 5.1 A full review of planned consultation will be undertaken and considered as part of the wider Covid-19 recovery considerations and brought back to Committee once parameters regarding Covid-19 and the cities recovery are clearer.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1: Open / Planned consultation activity

Appendix 2: Planning and transport arrangements and proposed approach

Appendix 1: Open / Planned consultation activity

1. Open consultations/surveys proposed to continue

Title	Status*	Visibility	Directorate	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Choices for City Plan 2030	Open	Public	Place	31/01/2020	30/04/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19
City Mobility Plan	Open	Public	Place	31/01/2020	30/04/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19
Warrender Park Road footway enhancement	Open	Public	Place	20/03/2020	17/05/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19
Duddingston Road Safety Improvements	Open	Public	Place	23/03/2020	17/05/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19
Clermiston Primary School - Road Safety Improvements	Open	Public	Place	23/03/2020	17/05/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19
Leith Walk / Halmyre Street Draft Place Brief Consultation	Open	Public	Place	10/03/2020	01/05/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19

2. Open consultations/surveys proposed to be suspended until further notice

Title	Status*	Visibility	Directorate	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Little France Park Management Plan	Open	Public	Place	27/03/2020	01/05/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19
Edinburgh Talks Climate Citizen Survey	Open	Public	Chief Executive	20/11/2019	31/05/2020	
No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (South Gyle Broadway57)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	
No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (Haystock Park5)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	

No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (Craw Yard Place6)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	
No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (Craw Yard Drive54)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	
No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (Burne Cruick26)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	
No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (Barnyard Park Rigg17)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	
No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (Barnyard Park Loan19)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	
No Cold Calling Zone Questionnaire (Barnyard Park Crescent 14)	Open	Private	Place	09/03/2020	20/04/2020	
WP02-028 Semple Street, Ponton Street, Lauriston Street and Fountainbridge	Open	Private	Place	16/03/2020	15/06/2020	

3. Planned consultations/surveys proposed to be released on the Hub

Title	Status*	Visibility	Directorate	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Powderhall – New Nursery with Housing	Planned	Public	Communities and Families	May 2020	May 2020	Submission of Planning Application for nursery with housing proposed for May. An information event was due to be held immediately prior to submission – online alternative being explored.

Edinburgh's Draft Food Growing Strategy Consultation	Planned	Public	Chief Executive	20/03/2020	26/04/2020	On hold.
Community Payback Orders	Planned	Public	Safer and Stronger	03/08/2020	31/08/2020	Annual consultation.

4. Planned consultations/surveys proposed to be suspended until further notice

Title	Status*	Visibility	Directorate	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Winter Festivals Consultation	Planned	Public	Place	TBC	TBC	On hold (subject to Leadership Advisory Panel agreement).
Thriving Green Spaces Project Consultation	Planned	Public	Place	From May 20	Tbc	On hold.
Care at home support services for older adults	Planned	Service providers, users / carers	EHSCP	Early May 2020	6-8 weeks from opening	Current contract expires at the beginning of October 2021.
Market Facilitation Strategy	Planned	Public	EHSCP	30/03/2020	31/05/2020	Internal Audit action requires this strategy to be published, as well as an action from the Care Inspectorate improvement plan.
Housing Service Improvement Plan Survey	Planned	Public	Place	TBC	TBC	On hold
Pre-application advice service – customer survey	Planned	Public	Place	TBC	TBC	On hold.

Appendix 2: Planning and Transport Arrangements

The Scottish Government has recently published guidance on the Development Management process for Planning. This will be taken into account when determining how to progress with Development Management process within the Council, including consultation at pre-Planning stage. There are currently five Council projects which are shortly expected to begin consultation:

Title	Status*	Visibility	Directorate	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Western Villages, new build affordable housing. First phase of Granton Waterfront Regeneration.	Planned	Public	Place	06/05/2020	22/05/2020	Statutory consultees already notified as part of the PAN process. Public Event was planned for 06/05/20 – discussions ongoing on how to move this to entirely digital.
Dumbryden Phase 3 New Build Housing	Planned	Public	Place	TBC	TBC	Planning application expected Summer 2020
Silverlea New Build Housing	Planned	Public	Place	TBC	TBC	Potentially late Summer 2020; would expect to run one statutory PAN consultation as part of planning process (Major Application).
Davidson's Mains Park - Phase 2	Planned	Public	Place	01/04/2020	30/05/2020	
Moredunvale Development	Planned	Public	Place	04/11/2019	31/05/2020	
Leith Walk / Halmyre Street Draft Place Brief Consultation	See note above about suspension	Public	Place	10/03/2020	01/05/2020	Already extended by 1 month due to COVID-19. Proposed to suspend until the new guidance is clear.

In addition, there are a number of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) and Redetermination Orders (RO) which are due for advertisement, mostly relating to Active Travel projects. These Order advertisements give the opportunity for people and organisations to formally object to legal changes (for example new parking and loading restrictions; bans on through traffic; one-way streets etc). The emerging guidance on consultations for planning is currently being reviewed to determine if these new arrangements would also apply to the statutory requirements for TRO and RO advertising. A summary of the upcoming TRO, RO and project consultations is provided below:

Title	Status*	Visibility	Directorate	Start Date	End Date	Notes
City Centre West to East Link (CCWEL) - N St David St Charlotte Sq, St Andrew Sq,	Planned	Public	Place	May/June 2020	June/July 2020	Traffic Regulation Order. Programme. External funding in place.
CCWEL Section 2	Planned	Public	Place	Summer	Autumn	Traffic Regulation Order. Programme. External funding in place.
CCWEL Sections 1 &2	Planned	Public	Place	Summer	Autumn	Traffic Regulation Order/Redetermination Order.
CCWEL Temp layout	Planned	Public	Place	Summer	Autumn	Traffic Regulation Order/Redetermination Order.
Meadows to George Street	Planned	Public	Place	18 May 2020	June 2020	Traffic Regulation Order. Programme. External funding in place.
West Edinburgh Link	Planned	Public	Place	April 2020	May 2020	Traffic Regulation Order. Programme. External funding in place.
Marchmont to King Buildings	Planned	Public	Place	May 2020	May/June 2020	Traffic Regulation Order.
Meadows to Union Canal	Planned	Public	Place	May/June 2020	June/July 2020	Traffic Regulation Order. Programme. External funding in place.
Bioquarter to Dalkeith Road and Mayfield	Planned	Public	Place	Late April 2020	May 2020	Traffic Regulation Order. Programme. External funding in place.

Roseburn Path – Union Canal	Planned	Public	Place	September 2020	October 2020	Traffic Regulation Order. Programme. External funding in place.
QuiteRoute 6 - Grange Road Crossings	Planned	Public	Place	May 2020	Tbc	Traffic Regulation Order.
St. David's and Pirniehall Primary Schools Parent Travel Survey 2020	Planned	Public	Place	TBC	TBC	Community input essential for all our minor improvements
Pennywell Road	Planned	Public	Place	April 2020	October 2020	Project development – there may be programme and funding impacts if delayed.
Morrison Street pedestrian and cycle improvements	Planned	Public	Place	April 2020	May 2020	Project development – there may be programme and funding impacts if delayed.
QuietRoute8 - Roseburn to Gyle	Planned	Public	Place	April 2020	May 2020	Project development – there may be programme and funding impacts if delayed.
QuiteRoute 9 - Costorphine to The Gyle	Planned	Public	Place	April 2020	TBC	Project development – there may be programme and funding impacts if delayed.
QuietRoute 51 - St Leonards to Canongate	Planned	Public	Place	April 2020	TBC	Essential for project development programme and funding issues if deferred
QuietRoute 60 - Clermiston Junction	Planned	Public	Place	May 2020	May 2020	Project development – there may be programme and funding impacts if delayed.
Quiet Route 5 – Holyrood Park	Planned	Public	Place	May 2020	June 2020	Project development – there may be programme and funding impacts if delayed.
A8 Gyle – Newbridge - 2020 works.	Planned	Community Council		April 2020 - underway	Na - informal	At request of local Members and Community Council

		and local Members				
20mph Speed Limit Review	Planned	Public	Place	May 2020	TBC	Consultation approach was agreed at Transport and Environment Committee on 27 Feb 2020.
Council Staff Travel Survey	Planned	Internal staff	Place	31/03/2020	05/05/2020	Postponed due to COVID-19
Active Travel Action Plan 2020-30	Planned	Public	Place	TBC	TBC	Postponed due to COVID-19

Elected Members will be advised on the outcome of the review of the newly published guidance.