

Minutes

The City of Edinburgh Council

Edinburgh, Thursday 12 March 2020

Present:-

LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable Frank Ross

COUNCILLORS

Robert C Aldridge
Scott Arthur
Gavin Barrie
Eleanor Bird
Chas Booth
Claire Bridgman
Mark A Brown
Graeme Bruce
Steve Burgess
Lezley Marion Cameron
Jim Campbell
Kate Campbell
Mary Campbell
Maureen M Child
Nick Cook
Gavin Corbett
Cammy Day
Alison Dickie
Denis C Dixon
Phil Duggart
Karen Doran
Scott Douglas
Catherine Fullerton
Neil Gardiner
Gillian Gloyer
George Gordon
Ashley Graczyk
Joan Griffiths
Ricky Henderson
Derek Howie

Graham J Hutchison
Andrew Johnston
David Key
Callum Laidlaw
Kevin Lang
Lesley Macinnes
Melanie Main
John McLellan
Amy McNeese-Mechan
Adam McVey
Claire Miller
Max Mitchell
Joanna Mowat
Rob Munn
Gordon J Munro
Hal Osler
Ian Perry
Alasdair Rankin
Cameron Rose
Neil Ross
Jason Rust
Stephanie Smith
Alex Staniforth
Mandy Watt
Susan Webber
Iain Whyte
Donald Wilson
Norman J Work
Louise Young

1 International Women's Day - Motion by Councillor Watt

a) Deputation – Edinburgh Womens Aid

The deputation thanked the Council for the opportunity to mark International Women's Day. They outlined the support services that they provided for survivors of any form of violence and the key challenges they faced. In the past year they had provided support for 500 new new referrals and there were many waiting to access support.

b) Motion by Councillor Watt

The following motion by Councillor Watt was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“This Council:

Continues to support International Women's Day as a day to celebrate women's achievements and give focus to campaigns for women's rights.

Recognises that gender-based violence is a major public health and human rights issue; that gender inequality is a root cause of this violence; and that such violence is devastating to all of the individuals involved and detrimental to society as a whole.

Requests a report in three cycles to the Policy and Sustainability Committee summarising the specific policies that have been put in place by the City of Edinburgh Council, during the year to 31 March 2020, that seek to prevent gender inequalities and improve our support for survivors of gender-based violence.”

Motion

To approve the motion by Councillor Watt.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor McNeese-Mechan

Amendment 1

To add after 'summarising the specific policies...', 'and equality impact assessments'.

- moved by Councillor Main, seconded by Councillor Miller

Amendment 2

To replace the third paragraph with:

“Agrees that the equalities working group should:

- a) review the specific policies which the Council has put in place to prevent gender inequalities and improve support for survivors of gender-based violence;
- b) consider how these policies can be further developed; and
- c) make any recommendations for change to the Policy and Sustainability Committee within three cycles.”

- moved by Councillor Young Seconded by Councillor Gloyer

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the motion and Amendment 2 as an amendment to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Watt:

To continue to support International Women’s Day as a day to celebrate women’s achievements and give focus to campaigns for women’s rights.

To recognise that gender-based violence was a major public health and human rights issue; that gender inequality was a root cause of this violence; and that such violence was devastating to all of the individuals involved and detrimental to society as a whole.

To agree that the equalities working group should:

- a) review the specific policies and equality impact assessments which the Council had put in place to prevent gender inequalities and improve support for survivors of gender-based violence;
- b) consider how these policies could be further developed; and
- c) make any recommendations for change to the Policy and Sustainability Committee within three cycles.

2 Minutes

Decision

- a) To approve the minute of the Council of 6 February 2020 as a correct record.
- b) To approve the minute of the Council of 20 February 2020 as a correct record

3 Questions

The questions put by members to this meeting, written answers and supplementary questions and answers are contained in Appendix 1 to this minute.

4 Leader's Report

The Leader presented his report to the Council. He commented on:

- Current Budget Position
- Coronavirus

The following questions/comments were made:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Councillor Whyte | - Coronavirus |
| | - Central Government – additional devolved funding |
| Councillor Staniforth | - Bus service alterations and cuts |
| Councillor Aldridge | - Coronavirus – partnership working |
| | - Budget – additional funding |
| Councillor Day | - Youth summit on the climate crisis |
| Councillor McNeese-Mechan | - Scottish Film Studio in Leith |
| Councillor Rust | - Marketing Edinburgh Staff - contracts |
| Councillor Main | - International Women's Day – Waiting lists for refugees in Edinburgh |
| Councillor Lang | - Council funding – education budget cuts |
| Councillor Munro | - Council funding – available resources |
| Councillor Gordon | - Consultation on Food Growing Strategy |

Councillor McLellan	- Supported bus services
Councillor Booth	- Coronavirus – Council preparedness – support for those with potential lack of income
Councillor Laidlaw	- Coronaviras – small business tax relief
Councillor Barrie	- Major events – use of public spaces – Edinburgh Filmhouse
Councillor Johnston	- Council Tax increases
Councillor Rankin	- Ringfencing £2m of reserves for Covid-19 provisions
Councillor Webber	- Marketing Edinburgh – finances – emergency cash injection
Councillor Mowat	- Subsidised bus services – 6 and 69 bus services
Councillor Doggart	- EIJB cuts

5 Committee and Outside Body Appointments

Details were provided on vacancies which had been created by the resignation of Councillor Ian Campbell.

Motion

Council:

Agrees to replace Councillor Karen Doran on the Edinburgh Community Solar Co-Operative with Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron.

Agrees not to appoint an additional member to the Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival and not to appoint to the Local Authority South Africa National Steering Committee.

Agrees to appoint Councillor Catherine Fullerton to the Culture & Communities Committee.

- moved by Councillor Fullerton, seconded by Councillor Doran

Amendment

Council notes the use of the term ‘political balance of the council,’ in relation to committee membership in this report and accepts that as the result of the vote by the SNP, Labour and Green Groups on City of Edinburgh Council on 21st November 2019, to reject the Chief Executives report on Appointments to Committees and

Outside Organisations, the previously cross party agreed terms of reference that saw committee membership allocated on the basis that is 'proportionate to the elected representation of political parties' no longer appear to apply.

On this basis each position on all committees shall be determined by a vote of members at Full Council.

Council further agrees that the City of Edinburgh Council representative on the Local Authority Action for Southern Africa will be a matter for the Council AGM on 20th May 2020.

- moved by Councillor Bridgman, seconded by Councillor Barrie

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	27 votes
For the amendment	-	8 votes

(For the motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Griffiths, Henderson, Howie, Key, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rankin, Watt, Wilson and Work.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Gloyer, Lang, Osler, Neil Ross and Young.

Abstentions: Councillors Booth, Brown, Bruce, Burgess, Jim Campbell, Mary Campbell, Cook, Corbett, Daggart, Douglas, Graczyk, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Main, Miller, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Staniforth, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Fullerton.

(Reference - report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

5 Elected Members Oversight Sub-Committee

Details were provided on a cross-regional Elected Members' Oversight Sub-Committee which was being formed to scrutinise the new Regional Growth Framework for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region. The Council were invited to appoint two members to represent the City of Edinburgh Council on the Committee.

Motion

To appoint Councillors McVey and Day to the Elected Members Oversight Committee.

- moved by Councillor Fullerton, seconded by Councillor Doran

Amendment

To appoint Councillor Iain Whyte to the Elected Members' Oversight Sub Committee.

- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Rust

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	27 votes
For the amendment	-	25 votes

(For the motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Griffiths, Henderson, Howie, Key, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rankin, Watt, Wilson and Work.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Lang, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Osler, Rose, Neil Ross, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte Young.

Abstentions: Councillors Booth, Burgess, Mary Campbell, Corbett, Graczyk, Main, Miller, and Staniforth.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Fullerton.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

6 Outcome of the Statutory Consultation Process on the Proposal to Establish a New NonDenominational Primary School and Implement Catchment Changes to Address School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in West Edinburgh

Details were provided on the outcome of the statutory consultation process undertaken on the proposal to establish a new non-denominational primary school in West Edinburgh, with associated changes to the catchment areas of existing primary and secondary schools.

Motion

- 1) To approve that the proposal to establish a new non-denominational primary school in West Edinburgh is progressed and the school catchment changes outlined in the statutory consultation paper are implemented in the November prior to the new school opening.
- 2) To approve that a P1 place at Corstorphine Primary School be guaranteed (if they wish to take it) for six years after the new school opens for children who:
 - live within the catchment area of the new primary school; and • are in a residence that existed in March 2020; and
 - will have an older sibling in Corstorphine Primary School at the time they would attend the school.

- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

Council notes the report and agrees recommendation 1 in the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.

Council recognises that a limit of 6 years on a sibling guarantee may not accommodate families with more than 2 children, therefore amends recommendation 2 as follows:

Approve that a P1 place at Corstorphine Primary School be guaranteed (if they wish to take it) for children who:

- Live within the catchment area of the new primary school; and
- whose parent(s) or guardian were resident in the catchment area of the new primary school in March 2020; and

- will have an older sibling in Corstorphine Primary School at the time they would attend the school.

- moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Lang

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was accepted as an amendment to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Perry:

- 1) To agree that the proposal to establish a new non-denominational primary school in West Edinburgh be progressed and the school catchment changes outlined in the statutory consultation paper implemented in the November prior to the new school opening.
- 2) To recognise that a limit of 6 years on a sibling guarantee may not accommodate families with more than 2 children, therefore to agree that a P1 place at Corstorphine Primary School be guaranteed (if they wish to take it) for children who:
 - Lived within the catchment area of the new primary school; and
 - whose parent(s) or guardian were resident in the catchment area of the new primary school in March 2020; and
 - would have an older sibling in Corstorphine Primary School at the time they would attend the school.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted.)

7 Outcomes of the Statutory Consultation Proposal to relocate Newcraighall Primary School to a new building in the New Brunstane Development

Details were provided on the outcome of the statutory consultation process undertaken on the proposal to relocate Newcraighall Primary School to a new building in the New Brunstane housing development area.

Decision

To agree that the proposal to relocate Newcraighall Primary School to a new building in the New Brunstane development be progressed.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

8 Outcomes of the Statutory Consultation Proposing to Realign the Catchment Areas of Clovenstone Primary School, Sighthill Primary School and Wester Hailes Education Centre to Accommodate the Proposed Edinburgh Park and Curriemuirend Development Sites.

Details were provided on the outcome of the statutory consultation process undertaken on the proposal to realign the catchment areas of Clovenstone Primary School, Sighthill Primary School and Wester Hailes Education Centre to accommodate the proposed Edinburgh Park and Curriemuirend development sites.

Decision

To agree that the catchment boundaries of Currie Primary School, Gylemuir Primary School, Broomhouse Primary School, Sighthill Primary School, Juniper Green Primary School, Clovenstone Primary School, Forrester High School, Wester Hailes Education Centre and Currie High School be realigned as per those set out in the consultation paper.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted.)

9 City Strategic Investment Fund – Powderhall Stables – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

The Policy and Sustainability Committee had referred a report on the proposed allocation of up to £790,000 from the City Strategic Investment Fund to the Powderhall Stables project from 1 April 2020, subject to it securing a grant of £1.21m from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) to the Council for approval.

Decision

To approve allocation of up to £790,000 from the City Strategic Investment Fund to the Powderhall Stables project from 1 April 2020, subject to it securing a grant of £1.21m from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF).

(References - Policy and Sustainability Committee 25 February 2020 (item 15); referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee, submitted.)

10 Capital Strategy 2020-2030 – Annual Report – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report which set out the proposed Capital Strategy for 2020-2030 to the Council for approval.

The Strategy provided a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contributed to the infrastructure and provision of services for the benefit of Edinburgh communities and citizens.

Decision

To approve the Capital Strategy 2020-2030 – Annual Report.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee 5 March 2020 (item 20); referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

11 Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21 – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for the Council for 2020/21, which comprised of an Annual Investment Strategy and a Debt Management Strategy to the Council for approval.

There was a statutory requirement for Council to approve this in advance of the new financial year.

Decision

- 1) To note the Annual Treasury Strategy 2020/21.
- 2) To refer the report to the Governance Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee 5 March 2020 (item 15); referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

12 Edinburgh Living LLPs- Acquisition of Homes – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on the transfer of homes from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to Edinburgh Living LLPs to the Council for approval.

Decision

To agree:

- 1) to lend to the mid-market rent and market rent LLPs to enable them to purchase the 173 homes;
- 2) to revise the lending by up to £2m for homes already approved for purchase by the LLPs;
- 3) to provide corresponding capital advances from the Loans Fund based on a repayment profile using the funding/income method, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee 5 March 2020 (item 16); referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Kate Campbell declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Director of Edinburgh Living.

13 EICC Hotel and Hotel School – Business Case – referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report setting out the business case for the Council entering into a 25-year head lease on a hotel that was being developed at The Haymarket Edinburgh by Quartermile Developments Limited to the Council for for a decision on proceeding with the EICC hotel and hotel school project.

The Council had agreed to consider the content of the appendix in private due to it containing commercially sensitive information.

Motion

- 1) To note the proposed Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) hotel and hotel school project as set out in the report by the Executive Director of Place and the business case.
- 2) To note that there was no new call on Council capital or revenue budgets.
- 3) To note that the project was forecast to generate sufficient income to meet all EICC Ltd capital replacement requirements as well as surpluses for redistribution to the Council in later years.

- 4) To note that delegated authority would be granted to the Chief Executive (or any such other officer as they shall sub-delegate to) to proceed with the Agreement for Head Lease, the Agreement for Sub Lease, and any other agreements and actions required to commence the project.
- 5) To note that the Strategic Delivery Agreement which would be entered into between the Council and Edinburgh International Conference Centre Limited (as referenced in the business case) would be presented to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee for approval.
- 6) To agree that the Council support the proposed Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) hotel and hotel school project as set out in the report and the Business Case.
- 7) To welcome EICC's long standing commitment to the Real Living Wage and agree that the relevant agreement between the Council and EICC include Real Living Wage, and inclusion of the Fair Hospitality Charter.

- moved by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the proposed Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) hotel and hotel school project as set out in the report by the Executive Director of Place and the business case.
- 2) To note that there was no new call on Council capital or revenue budgets.
- 3) To note that the project was forecast to generate sufficient income to meet all EICC Ltd capital replacement requirements as well as surpluses for redistribution to the Council in later years.
- 4) To note that delegated authority would be granted to the Chief Executive (or any such other officer as they shall sub-delegate to) to proceed with the Agreement for Head Lease, the Agreement for Sub Lease, and any other agreements and actions required to commence the project.
- 5) To note that the Strategic Delivery Agreement which would be entered into between the Council and Edinburgh International Conference Centre Limited (as referenced in the business case) would be presented to the Policy and Sustainability Committee for approval.

- moved by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor McLellan

Amendment 2

- 1) To thank officers for their hard work but agree to reject the hotel business case on the grounds that it committed the council to a 25-year lease of a very large hotel, without break clause, over a period in which there was a high risk that prevailing market assumptions about the scale and nature of tourism, and specifically business tourism, would no longer apply in light of the climate crisis and the council's own net zero carbon commitment.
- 2) To therefore instruct officers to work with EICC to develop alternative ways of funding capital investment in the conference centre and developing a hotel school with Edinburgh College and other operators, based on a business model which was consistent with the city's zero carbon commitment.

- moved by Councillor Corbett, seconded by Councillor Booth

Voting

First Vote

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion	-	28 votes
For Amendment 1	-	25 votes
For Amendment 2	-	7 votes

(For the Motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Howie, Key, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rankin, Watt, Wilson and Work.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Duggart, Douglas, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Lang, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Osler, Rose, Neil Ross, Rust, Smith, Webber, Whyte and Young.

For Amendment 2: Councillors Booth, Burgess, Mary Campbell, Corbett, Main, Miller and Staniforth.)

There being no overall majority, Amendment 2 fell and a second vote was taken between the Motion and Amendment 1.

Second Vote

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion	-	28 votes
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For Amendment 1 - 25 votes

(For the Motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Howie, Key, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rankin, Watt, Wilson and Work.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Lang, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Osler, Rose, Neil Ross, Rust, Smith, Webber, Whyte and Young.

Abstentions: Councillors Booth, Burgess, Mary Campbell, Corbett, Main, Miller and Staniforth.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Rankin.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee 5 March 2020 (item 41); referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

Declaration of Interest

Councillors Cameron, Gordon and Smith declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of the Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

14 SailGP – Motion by Councillor Jim Campbell

The following motion by Councillor Jim Campbell was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council:

- 1) SailGP is an exciting international sailing series established by Larry Ellison and Sir Russell Coutts in 2018. The racing is fast, and close to shore, attracting considerable interest when held in other cities such as Sydney, San Francisco, New York, Marseille, Cowes and Copenhagen.
- 2) An opportunity exists to bring this to Edinburgh and the Granton Waterfront in 2021.

Council is asked to voice its support to the efforts of Edinburgh Marina to attract this spectacle.”

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Laidlaw

Amendment

To delete the last line of the motion by Councillor Jim Campbell and add:

Council welcomes the opportunity to receive a proposal on SailGP and report to Culture & Communities Committee.

- moved by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor McNeese-Mechan

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was accepted as an amendment to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Jim Campbell:

- 1) To note that SailGP was an exciting international sailing series established by Larry Ellison and Sir Russell Coutts in 2018. The racing was fast, and close to shore, attracting considerable interest when held in other cities such as Sydney, San Francisco, New York, Marseille, Cowes and Copenhagen.
- 2) An opportunity existed to bring this to Edinburgh and the Granton Waterfront in 2021.
- 3) To welcome the opportunity to receive a proposal on SailGP and report to Culture and Communities Committee.

15 Reported Service Failures Maps - Motion by Councillor Jim Campbell

The following motion by Councillor Jim Campbell was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council:

Instructs the Chief Executive to produce a report for the Policy & Sustainability Committee in one cycle, setting out how and when Councillors and their Office support teams, will be given access to real time online mapping, displaying historic and live reports made by constituents of service failures, and the ability to report service failures in real time through the same interface.”

Motion

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Jim Campbell:

Council:

Instructs the Chief Executive to add to the regular IT update report to the Finance and Resources Committee, information, setting out how and when Councillors and their Office support teams, will be given access to real time online mapping, displaying historic and live reports made by constituents of service failures, and the ability to report service failures in real time through the same interface.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Mowat

Decision

To approve the adjusted motion by Councillor Jim Campbell

16 Policy on China - Motion by Councillor Staniforth

The following motion by Councillor Staniforth was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council:

Notes that in August 2019 the Policy and Sustainability Committee approved a report on Edinburgh’s International Activity that included twin city status with Xi’an and a memorandum of understanding with Shenzhen.

Notes that the same report gave tackling inequality as one of three key strategic themes for international activity.

Notes that since August 2019 reports of human rights in China have grown increasingly concerning. Since that time the extent of the imprisonment of the minority Uighur population has become clear and during that time the attempt to suppress democracy in Hong Kong was global news.

Resolves that in light of these concerns Edinburgh’s relationship with Chinese cities should be reviewed with an emphasis on how those relationships can best serve the city’s aim of tackling inequality and how our city’s position on the world stage can be used to promote the value of human rights.

Resolves that a report covering the above review should come before Policy and Sustainability Committee within two cycles.”

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Burgess

Amendment 1

To delete last paragraph of the motion by Councillor Staniforth and replace with:

“Notes the issues in the motion will be considered within the Edinburgh International Activity Strategy’s Annual Review in two cycles”.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 2

To delete paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of the motion by Councillor Staniforth and replace with:

- 1) Notes reports of human rights and freedom of expression restrictions have become a source of increasing international concern, including
 - a) the extent of imprisonment and other restrictions on the Uighur population;
 - b) repeated reports of the persecution of adherents to the Falun Gong way of life;
 - c) continued restrictions or persecution of the substantial Christian community in China;
 - d) attempts to suppress democracy in Hong Kong.
- 2) Notes the significant Chinese community in Edinburgh, including the large number of students (estimated over 3000).
- 3) Notes the presence of a flagship Confucius Institute embedded in Edinburgh University, one of at least 29 such institutions in the UK.
- 4) Notes concerns which have been raised that Confucius Institutes may be a means of soft power and propaganda, limiting freedom of expression and academic opinion here.
- 5) Notes the August 2019 report’s five principles to guide and prioritise future international engagement of agreed at Policy and Sustainability in August 2019, namely:
 - a) Supports an identified key theme that benefits the city;
 - b) Supports identified challenges and opportunities for the city;
 - c) Leads to improving investment, economic growth and improved knowledge and learning exchange;

- d) Is delivered in partnership to ensure high impact and value for money;
 - e) Is aligned to the international priority work of key partners.
- 6) Notes international engagement should support at least one of three strategic themes, namely:
- a) Sustainability/transition to a low carbon economy;
 - b) Tackling inequality;
 - c) Promoting Edinburgh or Scotland on the world stage.
- 7) Notes the view expressed in the August 2019 report that the Council's approach to international relations needs to be refreshed to ensure it remains fit for purpose.
- 8) Resolves, that in the light of the concerns listed above, that a review of the Council's engagement with Chinese state and other organisations be conducted to ensure such engagement remains appropriate and fit for purpose.

- moved by Councillor Rose, seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as amendments to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Staniforth:

- 1) To note that in August 2019 the Policy and Sustainability Committee approved a report on Edinburgh's International Activity that included twin city status with Xi'an and a memorandum of understanding with Shenzhen.
- 2) To note that reports of human rights and freedom of expression restrictions had become a source of increasing international concern, including
 - a) the extent of imprisonment and other restrictions on the Uighur population;
 - b) repeated reports of the persecution of adherents to the Falun Gong way of life;
 - c) continued restrictions or persecution of the substantial Christian community in China;
 - d) attempts to suppress democracy in Hong Kong.

- 3) To note the significant Chinese community in Edinburgh, including the large number of students (estimated over 3000).
- 4) To note the presence of a flagship Confucius Institute embedded in Edinburgh University, one of at least 29 such institutions in the UK.
- 5) To note the concerns which had been raised that Confucius Institutes may be a means of soft power and propaganda, limiting freedom of expression and academic opinion here.
- 6) To note the August 2019 report's five principles to guide and prioritise future international engagement of agreed at Policy and Sustainability in August 2019, namely :
 - a) Supports an identified key theme that benefits the city;
 - b) Supports identified challenges and opportunities for the city;
 - c) Leads to improving investment, economic growth and improved knowledge and learning exchange;
 - d) Is delivered in partnership to ensure high impact and value for money;
 - e) Is aligned to the international priority work of key partners.
- 7) To note that international engagement should support at least one of three strategic themes, namely:
 - a) Sustainability/transition to a low carbon economy;
 - b) Tackling inequality;
 - c) Promoting Edinburgh or Scotland on the world stage.
- 8) To note the view expressed in the August 2019 report that the Council's approach to international relations needed to be refreshed to ensure it remained fit for purpose.
- 9) To resolve, that in the light of the concerns listed above, that a review of the Council's engagement with Chinese state and other organisations be conducted to ensure such engagement remained appropriate and fit for purpose.
- 10) To note the issues in the motion would be considered within the Edinburgh International Activity Strategy's Annual Review in two cycles.

17 20th Anniversary of the Edinburgh BioDiversity Partnership - Motion by the Lord Provost

The following motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council notes that:

- a) In order to improve collective action across to protect the City’s natural environment across our localities, in 2000, the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership (EBP) was formed and produced Edinburgh’s inaugural joint Biodiversity Action Plan.
- b) The Partnership, comprises input from 40 partners across the City, including voluntary groups, volunteer groups, and friends of greenspace groups.
- c) The work of EBP is coordinated and facilitated by the Council’s Planning Service located in the Place Directorate.
- d) In 2016, the EBP produced the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-2018. In 2016 and 2017, the Partnership produced annual progress reports, detailing substantial progress achieved in delivering outcomes.
- e) In celebration of twenty years of continuing operation, the Partnership plan a series of events throughout 2020. In acknowledging the positive sustainability impacts of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership, Council requests that the Lord Provost, marks the 20th Anniversary in an appropriate way.”

- moved by the Lord Provost, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Decision

To approve the motion by the Lord Provost

18 20th Anniversary of the International Womens Club Edinburgh - Motion by the Lord Provost

The following motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council notes that:

- a) The International Women's Club Edinburgh (IWCE) was founded on 11th April 2000.

- b) IWCE runs a programme of social, cultural and welfare activities in Edinburgh and the surrounding regions. The Club is open to women of international background and experience, or who have an interest in international issues.
- c) The mission of the Club is to expand upon the rich tapestry of nationalities and cultures of its members, and in doing so, promote cultural awareness, social networking, philanthropic endeavours, women's issues, and to assist those new to the City (and to the Club) in their appreciation of Scotland.
- d) Membership is open to all women, including those out-with Scotland, and those who are interested in the objectives of the International Women's Club Edinburgh, and are willing to contribute time and effort to its activities.
- e) Reflecting Edinburgh's multicultural community, IWCE currently has around 170 members comprising over 21 different nationalities.
- f) The Club gathers on a monthly basis, with a number of supplementary tours and activities throughout the year. In acknowledging the work of the Club in supporting the international profile of the City and in welcoming a broad range of women of diverse heritage to the City, Council requests that the Lord Provost, marks the contribution of the Club in an appropriate way."

- moved by the Lord Provost, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Decision

To approve the motion by the Lord Provost

19 Commercial Sponsorship of Civic Reception - Motion by Councillor Neil Ross

The following motion by Councillor Neil Ross was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

““Council:

Notes the value of civic receptions as an appropriate way to recognise the achievements of local community organisations and to welcome visiting groups to our city.

Appreciates the dedication and personal commitment of the Lord and Lady Provost and City Officers to ensuring that civic receptions run smoothly and reflect well on the city within a very limited budget.

Recognises that commercial sponsors have occasionally played a role in the success of civic receptions.

Recognises that some local businesses have existing relationships with community groups and may wish to participate in marking special events. Similarly, local businesses may have an interest in supporting the city's welcome to visiting groups.

Instructs officers to investigate the potential for commercial sponsorship of some civic receptions, taking into account previous policy decisions on the suitability of sponsors, and to propose an approach to facilitate this for consideration by the Policy and Sustainability Committee."

Decision

To note that Councillor Neil Ross had withdrawn his motion.

20 Fire at Liberton Primary School - Motion by Councillor Cameron

The following motion by Councillor Cameron was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

"Council formally express its gratitude to everyone who responded so swiftly to the Liberton Primary School Fire; all parties involved in drawing up and implementing arrangements to ensure that the disruption to Liberton Primary School pupils' learning is minimised; and to pupils, parents and staff for their forbearance and cooperation with these interim arrangements.

Council welcomes John Swinney, Cabinet Secretary for Education, comments expressing his concern about the recent fire at Liberton Primary School; and pledging Scottish Government support to the City of Edinburgh Council.

Council requests that the Convener of Education, Children and Families write to the Cabinet Secretary to welcome and follow-up this offer of support."

- moved by Councillor Cameron, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Cameron.

Appendix 1

(As referred to in Act of Council No 3 of 12 March 2020)

QUESTION NO 1

By Councillor Miller for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

- Question** (1) Could the Convener please list the streets where road maintenance was carried out during
- a) 2018,
 - b) 2019, and
 - c) 2020 to date
- Answer** (1) Please see tables 1 and 2 below with details of capital renewals in 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- Question** (2) Could the Convenor identify from this list:
- a) streets which already had pavement widths in line with Street Design Guidance
 - b) streets which had their pavements generally widened as part of this maintenance in order to meet the minimum widths specified on the Council's Street Design Guidance
 - c) streets with pavements which remain below the minimum widths specified by the Street Design Guidance

Answer

- (2)** (a) The designers consider the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance (ESDG) as part of every scheme and will always attempt to incorporate elements within their projects. However, footway widths form only one part of the wider remit of the ESDG and are not currently recorded separately.
- (b) In general, the ESDG will only be applied in a small number of cases for locations that have been identified for surface enhancement using surface treatments, such as slurry sealing and surface dressing.
- (c) The current GIS records do not contain accurate records of the pavements which do not meet the minimum width as set out in the ESDG.

It is intended to capture footway widths as part of the footway network condition surveys in future.

Table 1: 2018/19 Capital Renewals

Location	Type	Method
Burgess Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
A7 Bridges Corridor	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Lanark Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Boswall Loan	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Ferniehill Place	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Dreghorn Drive	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Oxgangs Farm Avenue	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Albert Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Willowbrae Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Rosebery Avenue	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Craigentenny Road/Wakefield Avenue	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Gorgie Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Queen Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Marionville Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Chrichton Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Gorgie Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Station Terrace	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Duddingston Crescent	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Craigleith Junction (Queensferry Road)	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Newliston Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Brighton Place (Phases 1A to 4)	Carriageway	Setts Renewal
Broughton Road	Carriageway	Strengthening
Wester Hill	Carriageway	Strengthening
A702 Home Street to Bruntsfield Place	Carriageway	Strengthening
Bankhead Avenue	Carriageway	Strengthening
Lothian Road	Carriageway	Strengthening
East Barnton Avenue	Carriageway	Strengthening
Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Echline Terrace	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Gogarloch Syke	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Gordon Loan	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Forthview Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Granton Park Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Pirniefield Place	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Northfield Circus	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Hay Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Mortonhall Park Drive	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Pentland View	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Colmestone Gate	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Camus Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Caiystane Terrace	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Caiystane Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
East Caiystane Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing

Location	Type	Method
Fairmile Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Pentland Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Kirkgate	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Kingsknowe Terrace	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Caiyside	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Auchingane	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Caiystane Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Fishwives Causeway	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Caiyside	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Auchingane	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Leadervale Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Clackmae Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Mounthooly Loan	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Caiystane Crescent	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Pentland Avenue	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Baberton Mains Loan	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Dumbryden Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Broomhouse Avenue	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
New Mart Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Caledonian Crescent	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Pentland Avenue Remedial Work	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Kingsknowe Terrace	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Bankhead Drive	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Orchard Place	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Columba Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Silverknowes Drive	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Society Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Leven Terrace	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Kings Haugh	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Paisley Crescent	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Cambusnethan Street	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Restalrig Square	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Hillwood Rise	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Russell Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Murrayfield Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Pleasance	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Mountcastle Drive South	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Duddingston Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Northfield Broadway	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Restalrig Road S	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Bankhead Broadway	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Harrison Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Broomhouse Bank	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Mansfield Rd	Carriageway	Retread

Location	Type	Method
Glenbrook Road	Carriageway	Retread
Haughead Rd	Carriageway	Retread
Buteland Rd	Carriageway	Retread
Boswall Terrace	Footway	Resurfacing
Learmonth Avenue	Footway	Resurfacing
Gorgie Road	Footway	Resurfacing
Ryehill Terrace	Footway	Resurfacing
Hermitage Place and Vanburgh Place	Footway	Resurfacing
Wardlaw Place	Footway	Resurfacing
Main Street, Ratho	Footway	Resurfacing
Reid Terrace	Footway	Resurfacing
George Square	Footway	Flags

Table 2: 2019/20 Capital Renewals

Location	Type	Method
Southfield Place	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Craigentiny Road	Carriageway	Strengthening
Wakefield Avenue	Carriageway	Strengthening
Duddingston Crescent	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Oswald Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Lower Granton Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Orchard Brae Gardens	Carriageway	Resurfacing
East Crosscauseway	Carriageway	Strengthening
Bryce Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Brighton Place	Carriageway	Carriageway Setts
Rose Street (40%)	Carriageway	Carriageway Setts
Alemoor Crescent	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Auchingane	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Broomhouse Place North	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Broomhouse Street South	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Brunstane Bank	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Brunstane Crescent	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Caiyside	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Carlowrie Castle Access	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Chesser Loan	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Corbiehill Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Dumbeg Park	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Gilmerton Dykes Drive	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Gilmerton Dykes Grove	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Glenogle Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Gordon Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Lennox Row	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Mountcastle Bank	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Niddrie Marischal Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Prospect Bank Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Ravelston House Park	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Restalrig Circus	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Robb's Loan	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Saughton Mains Drive	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Saughton Park	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Silverknowes Gardens	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Silverknowes Grove	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Southhouse Avenue	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Southhouse Loan	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
South Scotstoun	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Stenhouse Gardens	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
Stenhouse Gardens North	Carriageway	Surface Dressing
West Caiystane Road	Carriageway	Surface Dressing

Location	Type	Method
Allan Park Gardens	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Almond Grove	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Bonaly Brae	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Braepark Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Braid Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Buckstone Loan East	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Craigentinny Avenue	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Cumnor Crescent	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Echline Park	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Inchkeith Avenue	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Kaimes Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Leadervale Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Clackmae Grove	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Main Street	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Manse Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Orchard Terrace	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Ochil Court	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Primrose Gardens	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Queens Bay Crescent	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Redford Bank	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Redford Neuk	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Redford Place	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Restalrig Square	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Silverknowes Road East	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Silverknowes Southway	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Silverknowes View	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Southhouse Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
South Morton Street	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Stewart Clark Avenue	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Strachan Road	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Swanston View	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Sydney Park	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Winton Drive	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
Zetland Place	Carriageway	Micro-Asphalt
West Craigie Farm Road	Carriageway	Retread
Kirkgate	Carriageway	Retread
Kirkgate	Carriageway	Retread
Cockburnhill Road	Carriageway	Retread
Harlaw Road	Carriageway	Retread
Abercromby Place	Carriageway	Resurfacing
North Leith Sands	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Albany Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Ocean Drive	Carriageway	Resurfacing
East London Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing

Location	Type	Method
Annandale Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Great Junction Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Dalmeny Street	Carriageway	Sett Overlay
Hopetoun Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Gordon Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
McDonald Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Pilrig Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Duncan Place	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Broughton Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Bonnington Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Easter Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Newhaven Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Broughton Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
East Hermitage Place Junction	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Portland Place/Lindsay Road	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Links Place	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Commercial Street	Carriageway	Resurfacing
Academy Street	Carriageway	Sett Overlay
Duddingston Crescent	Footway	Resurfacing
East Crosscauseway	Footway	Resurfacing
Orchard Brae Gardens	Footway	Resurfacing
Dalgety Avenue	Footway	Resurfacing
Waverley Park	Footway	Resurfacing
Rose Street (40%)	Footway	Flags
Gogar Station Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Dudley Avenue	Footway	Slurry Seal
Dudley Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Dudley Grove	Footway	Slurry Seal
Dudley Terrace	Footway	Slurry Seal
Dudley Gardens	Footway	Slurry Seal
Riversdale Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Riversdale Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Morningside Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Braid Farm Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Braid Hills Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Northfield Grove	Footway	Slurry Seal
Northfield Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Glenallan Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Marmion Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Hazeldean Terrace	Footway	Slurry Seal
Durward Grove	Footway	Slurry Seal
Milton Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Milton Gardens North	Footway	Slurry Seal
Milton Gardens South	Footway	Slurry Seal

Location	Type	Method
Magdalene Avenue	Footway	Slurry Seal
Magdalene Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Milton Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Craigmillar Castle Gardens	Footway	Slurry Seal
Castleview Avenue	Footway	Slurry Seal
Murieston Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Murieston Terrace	Footway	Slurry Seal
Murieston Place	Footway	Slurry Seal
Murieston Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Murieston Lane	Footway	Slurry Seal
Caledonian Place	Footway	Slurry Seal
Caledonian Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Caledonian Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Orwell Terrace	Footway	Slurry Seal
Orwell Place	Footway	Slurry Seal
Craigmount Terrace	Footway	Slurry Seal
Craigs Gardens	Footway	Slurry Seal
Craigs Loan	Footway	Slurry Seal
Craigs Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Craigs Avenue	Footway	Slurry Seal
Craigs Grove	Footway	Slurry Seal
Clermiston Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Drum Brae Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Parkgrove Terrace	Footway	Slurry Seal
Traquair Park East	Footway	Slurry Seal
Traquair Park West	Footway	Slurry Seal
Pinkhill	Footway	Slurry Seal
Sighthill Loan	Footway	Slurry Seal
Broomhouse Court	Footway	Slurry Seal
Whitson Road	Footway	Slurry Seal
Comiston View	Footway	Slurry Seal
Comiston Grove	Footway	Slurry Seal
Comiston Springs Avenue	Footway	Slurry Seal
Parkhead Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Parkhead Crescent	Footway	Slurry Seal
Sighthill Drive	Footway	Slurry Seal
Murrayburn Approach	Footway	Slurry Seal

QUESTION NO 2

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Finance and
Resources Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 12 March 2020**

Question **(1)** Pentland View Close Support Unit/ Comiston Farmhouse was closed in January 2015 and “for sale” boards were subsequently put up that year. As of today’s date the property remains in Council ownership. What is the status of the “current sale”?

Answer **(1)** The property remains under offer, subject to planning permission being received for the proposed residential development. The developer decided to withdraw the initial application and has submitted revised proposals to reflect feedback from Planning Officers.

Question **(2)** Please detail costs incurred by the Council to date since the closure and initial marketing in 2015, including:

- (a) officer time in Estates, Planning, Housing (HRA) and other service areas;
- (b) all legal fees;
- (c) all estate agency/marketing fees;
- (d) buildings insurance;
- (e) securing the building and grounds;
- (f) any other internal or external upkeep costs;
- (g) third party costs met; and
- (h) any other costs.

Answer

- (2) a) The disposal forms part of normal business for officers in Estates, Planning and Housing and therefore a specific time/cost allocation has not been recorded.
- b) This matter was largely dealt with by internal Council Solicitors. External legal support in relation to a review of the sale process cost £8044.00.
- c) Estates agency fees for disposal are £15,000 for the current disposal. As the property was marketed as a residential property, external agents were used to ensure maximum exposure e.g. through ESPC.
- d) As the property is vacant, it forms part of the overall Council cover on vacant buildings.
- e) £15,700.
- f) £300 (on ground maintenance).
- g) None.
- h) None.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for the answer. In relation to answer one and the submission of the revised proposals, if that is the case could he please advise when they were submitted and when they will appear on the Planning Portal because as of yesterday evening residents said nothing had appeared, thank you.

Supplementary Answer

Thank you Councillor Rust for the question. I'm afraid I don't have that information to hand but I will be happy to provide it after the meeting.

QUESTION NO 3

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 12 March 2020**

Question (1) How many complaints / concerns have been received by the Council in respect of the installation and operation of new LED street lighting?

Answer (1) 206 complaints have been received.

Question (2) How many of these complaints/ concerns have been in connection with household alarm/intruder/safety/lighting systems?

Answer (2) 43 complaints have been in relation to security alarms.

Question (3) What checks were undertaken or experience gathered from other local authorities prior to award of contract/successful tendering in connection with such systems?

Answer (3) The Council worked with CGI to prepare all of the required tendering information. As part of the scoring of tenders, site visits were made to other local authorities where similar projects were nearing completion or were complete. Once a preferred bidder was selected, the system was tested to ensure that it work, was compatible with the Council's ICT systems and provided an appropriate level of security.

Question (4) What is the contractual position where householders have experienced costs in endeavouring to rectify issues with system conflict?

Answer (4) The street lighting central management system (CMS) is operating within permitted free-to-air bandwidths, and in accordance with the rules of doing so. Therefore, the Council and the Contractor do not consider there to be a systems conflict. However, the CMS provider is currently working with local alarm companies to investigate the root cause of alarm events.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for her answers. In relation to answer 3, just to clarify, was disruption to households specifically investigated and knowledge acquired taken into account in that assessment which was made?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Councillor Rust for your supplementary. I can't give you a precise answer at the moment, I will investigate it and come back to you.

QUESTION NO 4

**By Councillor Jim Campbell for
answer by the Convener of the
Housing, Homelessness and Fair
Work Committee at a meeting of the
Council on 12 March 2020**

Question

The Convener will be aware that the previous Directors of Marketing Edinburgh explicitly pointed out that Marketing Edinburgh had sufficient funds to meet all obligations on their resignation.

Can the Convener confirm Marketing Edinburgh has continuously been able to cover all its obligations, including any cost associated with an orderly decision to cease trading, since the previous board resigned en-masse?

Answer

The Board of Marketing Edinburgh has undertaken a comprehensive review of the financial position of Marketing Edinburgh both in year and for future years. A report on this was considered in private by Finance and Resources Committee on 5 March 2020. The Board have developed a proposition for future service delivery in 2020/21 and a detailed report on this will be presented to Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee later in the year.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for her answer. Can the Convener explain why, given that the Board of Marketing Edinburgh on 31 October 2019 had a cash flow statement commissioned comprising looking at the cash flow position outlook invoices, paybacks, debtors and recoverable

Lord Provost

Excuse me Councillor Campbell, your supplementary has to be in relation to the answer given by the Convener, I think you're going to new ground there.

**Supplementary
Question**

Okay, so can the Convener confirm if Marketing Edinburgh remains financially viable?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you very much for your question Councillor Campbell. As stated in the answer, there was a report so Finance and Resources Committee last week, it was on the B agenda which is where it was appropriate to be and councillors were able to ask questions. If Councillor Campbell would like some further information, I'm sure a briefing can be arranged for him. There will be a report to the Housing Homelessness and Fair Work Committee in due course and also Councillor Campbell did have the opportunity to be on the board as did any member of the Conservative Group but they chose not to take that opportunity.

QUESTION NO 5

By Councillor Mowat for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

Question (1) What is the current process followed for moving or removing a bus stop?

Answer (1) Bus stops can be moved or removed for a number of reasons, including to facilitate new developments, installation of new road infrastructure or due to safety or accessibility concerns. Normally works that require a new road layout that impacts bus stop positioning will include details of this on drawings and this will be included in any associated consultation. It is also normal practise to attach information in a shelter or to a bus stop pole in advance advising of the plan to remove, the date when it is expected to happen and the location of the replacement, or nearest alternative.

Currently a Bus Stop Working Party, comprising representatives from Police Scotland, Lothian Buses, and the Council's transport team carry out, where required, site visits to consider requests for removals or relocations.

Although there is no statutory requirement to consult, if the bus stop is to be moved, the property owner/occupier adjacent to the new location will be informed. This is often objected to and if the objection cannot be removed through discussion, or alternative location agreed, a Committee report will be presented.

A proposal to pilot a new methodology for reviewing bus stop provision will be presented to Transport and Environment Committee on 20 March 2020.

Question (2) Could the Convener provide a table of the number of bus stops moved or removed in each ward over the past year and the rationale for this

Answer

- (2) The table below shows the location of bus stops which have been moved or removed over the past year, with the reason for doing so.

Stop Location/ Ward	Date relocated/remov ed	Reason
Lower Granton Road / Forth Ward	July 2019	To facilitate installation of Toucan crossing
Bingham Avenue / Portobello & Craigmillar Ward	June 2019	To improve disabled access
York Place / City Centre Ward	June 2019 and February 2020	As a result of the redesign of public realm / road layout
Bankhead Avenue / Sighthill & Gorgie Ward	April 2019	New road infrastructure

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for her answer. Could she confirm that the report proposing the new methodology will be presented to the Committee on 20th March and if this is not the case, what plans are there to review what consultation is carried out when changing a bus stop.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for the supplementary. I can confirm that I am going to pull the report from the March 20th special Transport and Environment Committee session because I feel that there is a need for a greater degree of understanding around the consultation process. We've already put in place some expanded consultation around accessibility issues and I want to come back to Committee with a much fuller understanding of what we're actually asking of the City. It should be remembered that the

proposal in that report is actually for a pilot project, an evidence gathering pilot project, I still think however that it's important we get it right at the very beginning, hence the reason for the delay and our desire to work more closely with officers to ensure that that consultation process is correct when we do bring it forward.

QUESTION NO 6

By Councillor Mowat for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

Question

What monitoring is being carried out of the new road layout at Picardy Place to ensure that it is performing as expected and that congestion isn't being created by the new layout and that traffic is not choosing to avoid it?

Answer

As with all junctions across the city, this junction is monitored on an ongoing basis from the Traffic Control Centre, which is co-located in the Lothian Buses Control Room at their Annandale Street depot.

The junction also has good coverage on the Council's Public Space CCTV system and this is used to monitor traffic conditions, while direct feedback on any delays to public transport is received from Lothian Buses.

Since commissioning, adjustments have been made to traffic signal timings to manage traffic flows. This has helped conditions on Leith Street during the morning peak travel period.

There is no specific monitoring of traffic avoiding the junction. However, monitoring of traffic signals on alternative routes have not shown increases in demand (which would suggest significant re-routing to avoid Picardy Place is not occurring).

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost, I thank the Convener for her response. Could you confirm whether there's any storage of the real time data that is being captured during the monitoring and whether comparison of the model junction performance and actual real life performance has or will be undertaken, thank you.

Comments by Councillor Macinnes

I have to apologise but I actually missed the second half of that question because I couldn't hear it, if I could ask you to repeat it please, my apologies.

**Councillor
Mowat**

Can you confirm whether there's any storage of the real time data that is being captured during the monitoring and whether a comparison of the modelled junction performance and actual real life performance has or will be undertaken?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for your supplementary. I cannot confirm that directly myself at this point, but I will do so, thank you.

QUESTION NO 7

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Leader of the Council at a meeting of
the Council on 12 March 2020**

Question

What steps are taken, and by whom, to check the content of webcasts of Council and Committee meetings prior to their uploading on to the online webcast library on the council website to ensure that they are a complete and accurate record of the meeting which took place?

Answer

Council officers are responsible for recording and uploading video files to the online webcast library from the encoder based at the City Chambers.

The Council records over 350 hours of committee meetings per annum and to comprehensively check the accuracy of webcasts would require an officer to physically watch all 350 hours. In addition, the Council does not have the capability to make changes to video files during or after the recording process.

In order to edit or amend the content must be sent to the external provider for processing.

In a very limited number of cases videos suffer disruption when being uploaded, source files are retained on the encoder so they can be uploaded again. As a result, and with consideration of the use of staff resources and the small risk of error, the Council does not check the webcasts of its meetings.

QUESTION NO 8

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

In August 2018, there was an in-principle decision to install a new speed table on Rosshill Terrace near Dalmeny Station. This followed the deputation of the Dalmeny Station Residents' Association to the Transport & Environment Committee in October 2017.

Council officials initially offered to carry out the work "in the first weeks" of the 2019 school summer holidays. This was then delayed until autumn 2019 and then to spring 2020.

Question

Can the Convener of Transport and Environment provide clarity on when the speed table will be installed?

Answer

The timetable for installation of a raised table near the Dalmeny Station as an addition to the existing traffic calming features is provided below.

Project update:

Phase	Update Nov 19	Update March 20
Detailed design	January 2020	March 2020
Tender/Works package	February 2020	April 2020
Road Closure Notification	TBA	Mid April 2020 (3 Months notice)
Installation	Spring 2020	Summer 2020

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you very much and thank you to the Convener for the answer, this is information that some of us have been chasing for some time so it's good to get clarity on the timetable going forward. I am conscious that the initial promise to the community here was that the speed table would be put in place in the first few weeks of the 2019 school summer holidays, has the Convener been given any explanation on that basis as to why the detailed design work is only happening now?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for your supplementary. My apologies I was distracted by something at that particular point when I rose to answer your question. I don't have a specific reason for you at the moment but again I'll bring it back to you when I can. I would note however, that while I recognise the fact that you are saying that you have had difficulty in getting the answers on that particular question from officers, this is a highly specific ward issue related here and I would have suggested that perhaps you could have come directly to me before bringing it to full Council in order for me to try and effect that answer for you, I think that would have been quite helpful and indeed my door remains open to anybody who has any ward specific issues that they're not finding it easy to resolve, I'm more than happy to help with them before they turn up at full Council, thank you.

QUESTION NO 9

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

In May 2019, the then Almond Neighbourhood Partnership agree to allocate NEP funding from 2018/19 and 2019/20 for a new pedestrian crossing on Bo'ness Road in Queensferry.

Question

Can the Convener of Transport and Environment clarify when the new crossing will be installed?

Answer

The timetable for installation is provided below. The installation has been timed to coincide with the summer school holidays:

Phase	Update March 2020
Detailed design completion	April 2020
Tender/Works package	May 2020
Installation	Summer School Holiday 2020

Comments by Councillor Lang

Thank you again for the information that's been provided. The power of the Council question Lord Provost is of course that you get an answer within just a few days of tabling it, I have no supplementary, thank you.

Comment by the Lord Provost

Whilst I accept that point Councillor Lang, I think the point the Convener was making was that the best use of officer time might be to go to the Convener first and if you don't get a suitable answer then I would agree, full Council, but I would encourage all members to use Conveners and Vice-Conveners to try and assist in Ward issues because the offer is there from all Conveners and Vice Conveners to do so.

QUESTION NO 10

By Councillor Whyte for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

Social and Affordable Homes Project - 1 Linksvie House, 26 Tolbooth Wynd and associated areas at Kirkgate, Giles Street and Coatfield Lane, Leith

Question (1) Can the Convener explain, given coalition Commitment 1 to “Deliver a programme to build at least 10,000 social and affordable homes over the next 5 years” why the above project has stalled with a number of Council properties lying empty for a number of years?

Answer (1) In January 2016 the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee approved demolition and commencement of the rehousing process for 21 homes which would allow new homes to be delivered as the “Coatfield Lane” project. The rehousing process included buying back of five privately owned homes. A Business Bulletin update to Housing & Economy Committee in November 2017 advised that “subject to conclusion of all buy backs and the required statutory consents and approvals, this project should commence on site in 2019”.

Buyback of homes has taken longer than originally anticipated with the final purchase concluded in summer 2019. Following a procurement process, a company has been awarded the contract for the demolition of empty flats with works expected to commence on site in early Spring.

Archaeological investigation will take place after the demolition is complete and, as the findings may have an impact on the final design and layout of the new development, the Housing Service via their agent has requested that the Planning application be placed on hold. Local members received an updated briefing on the project in February and we will be engaging with local residents throughout the next stages of the regeneration.

Question

- (2) What impact does this failure to deliver by the Council on a site in its ownership and control have on the Commitment and on the Council's ability to provide tenancies to reduce homelessness through a Housing First approach or other means?

The following information may assist the Convener in assessing progress to date on this matter:

- A project team was formed to consider the options for the area and undertake consultation in 2014;
- Twelve of the Council owned properties have been empty since at least late 2015;
- Approval to redevelop and end tenancies and garage leases was agreed at her Committee's predecessor Committee in January 2016;
- The business bulletin to Committee on 2 November 2017 expected commencement on site in 2019;
- A planning application was lodged by the Council's agents on 28 September 2018 with an expected determination date of 27 November 2018 but this remains outstanding seventeen months later;
- The properties remain empty, are deteriorating and rather than improving the area leave it blighted with what resembles an abandoned site.

Answer

- (2) The status of the Coatfield Lane project (32 new homes) is not impacting on the overall pace and delivery of the Council led affordable housing programme. The Council currently has 700 new affordable homes under construction as part of mixed tenure developments with over 2,000 affordable homes in design and development.

The Council is on track to approve 10,000 new affordable homes through it's own housing building programme, RSLs and developers, with 1900 homes complete or currently under construction. It is anticipated that more than 1,700 new affordable homes will be approved for site start by the end of the current financial year. This is the highest number of affordable homes ever approved for site start in Edinburgh.

The status of the Coatfield Lane project is not impacting on the delivery of the Council's homeless strategy. Around 70% of available Council homes are let to homeless households as permanent housing (the highest of any local authority). The Council has also increased the provision of temporary accommodation. As of 4 February 2020, forty new Housing First tenancies have been created, with a further fifty-one service users identified and receiving support to access housing. Work is ongoing with RSLs and support providers to meet the 275 tenancies target by 31 March 2021.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost. The rather blasé answers from the Convener seem to show little care for the people living around the area of Coatfield Lane given that we're talking about process of development here that started some six years ago and remains without planning permission or a shovel in the ground. So can the Convener perhaps tell us Lord Provost, why she is in denial that this impacts on homelessness and her targets when many of the sites and a plan to meet her targets are small sites like this one, and the failure to deliver in six years on 32 homes hardly gives us confidence that she's going to deliver 10,000 homes in five years which she says is on target but actually there's only 1,900 in process to be built in three years so 10,000 and five years seems rather a stretch.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you very much for your question Councillor Whyte. So, the reason that this site is particularly complex is of course because the Council had to buy back the homes, that's homes that were sold under right to buy, a disastrous Conservative policy that has been incredibly damaging and has seen the number of social homes in this city absolutely plummet, so thank you very much for raising that. I would assume that Councillor Whyte would join me in welcoming the move by the SNP Scottish Government to end right to buy and therefore protect affordable housing and social homes for the future and also we want to thank him for raising concerns around blockages to the delivery of affordable homes, but I would say, you know the one of the potentially worse blockages would have been the Conservative manifesto commitment to axe the 25% affordable housing policy on brownfield sites, and would he also join me in welcoming the fact that the coalition is consulting on increasing that to 35% through the City Plan.

**Comments by
Councillor
Whyte**

Lord Provost, under Standing Order 21(8), can I correct a factual inaccuracy in something Councillor Kate Campbell has just said.

**Comments by
the Lord
Provost**

I've taken advice from the clerk, we both have the same view that the comments made were against a political party not an individual - 21(8) is specifically against individual Councillors.

QUESTION NO 11

By Councillor McLellan for answer by the Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

Question (1) The total cost of all council consultation and legal advice and representation in the Judicial Review sought by Nuveen Real Estate of planning permission granted to the Dunard Concert Hall.

Answer (1) The total external costs of the judicial review and mediation processes are £27,950.

Question (2) The total cost to date of all council consultation and legal advice and representation in its request for a Judicial Review of the Scottish Government decision to grant planning permission on appeal for the Edinburgh Marina.

Answer (2) The total external costs of the judicial review and appeal work are £26,147.

Question (3) The total cost, over the last five years, of all council consultation and legal advice and representation in the Cameron House case.

Answer (3) The Cameron House Community Centre construction case was dealt with in reports to Education, Children and Families Committee in 2014 and Governance Risk and Best Value Committee in 2015. The key staff involved at the time have now left the Council but it is not understood that any external legal advice was sought in relation to this matter and accordingly external legal spend in relation to this matter was zero.

Question (4) How many live cases the Council is currently pursuing through the courts and tribunals system?

Answer (4) The Council is currently pursuing the following number of cases through the courts and tribunals system:

Childcare – 41

Debt recovery (sequestration) – 12

Debt recovery (Sundry) - 75

Adults with Incapacity – 53

Planning enforcement – 1

ASBOs/evictions/Banning Orders – 13

Total: 195

It should be noted that this number will fluctuate as matters are progressed, commenced and settled.

Question (5) What is the total bill for external legal advice and representation for court hearings and tribunals in each of the past five financial years?

Answer (5) 2014/15 – approximately £697k

2015/16 - approximately £636k

2016/17 - approximately £664k

2017/18 - approximately £452k

2018/19 - approximately £607k

These figures are best estimates as invoices are not always broken down and such work may be subsumed into eg a larger project fee. To fully extrapolate this detail would involve a significant amount of resource.

It should be noted that these figures also include where CEC has been mandated by court to pay third party fees and therefore has no option but to do so. This also includes costs for hearings where only certain persons (eg Advocates) can appear.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thanks very much and thanks for the answer. Just relating to question 3, there is a significant ongoing court process relating to a member of staff and their associate who works at Cameron House, so can the Convener tell the chamber how much in total this has cost to date including the cost of any related consultation and external investigatory work, and if he can't, will he pledge that a full report on the financial impact on the Council from the current proceedings will be brought to his committee?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Lord Provost. What we've done is to answer the question as put and it does not include consideration of the case that you mentioned. If you would like further information on that and I would be happy to provide it, I am not prepared to commit to report at this stage. Once we have provided that information we can take that matter forward.

QUESTION NO 12

By Councillor Main for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

Question (1) What formal processes and procedures are used by officers in the Council to ensure that impact assessments are included as part of the development of change, strategies and policy work and reporting to committees timeously for decision making?

Answer (1) Directors or Heads of Service are responsible for deciding whether an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) is required, and for ensuring they are carried out as appropriate and follow CEC guidance.

- Service areas nominate a staff member/members as an Equality Diversity and Rights Advisor (EDRAs), whose role it is to support the IIA process within their service area.
- Strategy and Communications provide the Council's IIA guidance and design and deliver training for EDRAs; this is done in partnership with NHS Lothian and EIJB to secure consistency of approach.
- Strategy and Communications provide regular IIA training to these advisors on both the Council's IIA process and a range of equality and diversity issues.
- IIA findings and/or recommendations are then reflected within Committee reports as appropriate.

An internal audit of the Council's Policy Management Framework has recently been completed and is scheduled to be reported to GRBV Committee on May 5th 2020. It makes a number of recommendations for improvements to the IIA process, particularly in relation to ensuring web-site content and links are up to date. These are currently being actioned, due for completion by the start of April 2020.

Question (2) In the current projects developing major strategies across the Council, how many impact assessments have been included for each project, and at what stages of the process have these been carried out and when?

Answer (2) A review of the most recent major strategies developed across the Council shows the following:

Council Change Strategy: Planning for Change and Delivering Services 2020/23 – The Council’s Change Strategy and budget proposals were considered by Finance and Resources Committee on 14 February 2020. All budget proposals were subject to an initial relevance and proportionality assessment by the relevant Head of Service and those requiring a formal Integrated Impact Assessment were subject to an IIA. As well as individual IIAs being carried out, a cumulative integrated impact assessment was undertaken, which considers the sum of smaller impacts identified by individual IIAs and assesses their effect when taken together. A cumulative impact assessment report was provided to the Committee along with the Change Strategy and budget proposals.

Choices for City Plan 2030 – A consultation draft was submitted to the Planning Committee on 22 January. The report noted an IIA had been undertaken and published as a background document. This details that an initial IIA workshop was held on 1 February 2019 to consider an early version of Choices, with this being followed by a second workshop on 22 October 2019 to assess the final Choices document. Equalities information will be gathered during consultation and used to inform future developments.

City Mobility Plan – A consultation draft was submitted to the Transport and Environment Committee on 16 January 2020. The report noted that a draft IIA had been prepared and made available as a background paper. The draft IIA will be reviewed and amended as required in light of intelligence gathered through the consultation. Intelligence, including equalities information, gathered through the Choices 2030 consultation will also help inform this process.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Leader for his answer. I am somewhat disappointed that there is not more information in particular about how I'm we comply with our duties in providing impact assessments and making them public but I'm very pleased to see that there is going to be a report going to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on some aspects of impact assessments that we do in the Council. I wonder if I could ask that the Leader would ensure that the formal processes and procedures that we follow are laid out as a briefing note in advance of that so that councillors on the Committee can understand how it is that we currently conduct our impact assessments.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you very much Lord Provost. I am more than happy to ask officers to make sure members briefings are made available both in written form and made directly available to groups if necessary in advance of that report going in May.

QUESTION NO 13

**By Councillor Booth for answer by
the Convener of the Regulatory
Committee at a meeting of the
Council on 12 March 2020**

Question

Please can the Convener identify the number of complaints against:

- a) taxi drivers, and
- b) PHC drivers from cyclists in each of the last 12 quarters?

Answer

The tables below show the complaints recorded where the customer has advised that they are a cyclist.

TAXI											
2017				2018				2019			
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2	4	2	2	3	12	7	10	6	2	0	0

PHC											
2017				2018				2019			
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	4	4	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	2	0

QUESTION NO 14

By Councillor Burgess for answer by the Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee at a meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020

Question

Whether it is possible for Council employees to elect to have their council pension contributions paid into an ethical pension fund of their choice rather than the Council's arms-length fund

Answer

Employees of City of Edinburgh Council, and all other Scottish Local Authorities, are entitled to join the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), a defined benefit pension scheme operating under statute. New employees of the Council are automatically enrolled in the Lothian Pension Fund (LPF) and contributions are paid by their employer to the Fund to meet the cost of the benefits that accrue with the employee's eligible service.

Employees are able to decide to withdraw from the LGPS at any time and both the Council, as their employer, and their own contributions to their pension administered by LPF would then cease to be paid. Individuals choosing to opt out of the LGPS are then free to invest their own contribution component at their discretion, outside of the LGPS and without the involvement of the LPF.

For those employees of the Council that choose to withdraw from the LGPS there is no compensatory benefit for the employer contribution that the Council makes if they continue as a member of the scheme. Therefore, this sum is not able to be redirected by the employee, the LPF or the Council.