

Business Bulletin

Finance and Resources Committee

10.00 a.m., Thursday, 29 October 2020

Via Microsoft Teams

Finance and Resources Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener Councillor Rob Munn</p>  <p>Vice-Convener Councillor Joan Griffiths</p> 	<p>Councillor Chas Booth Councillor Graeme Bruce Councillor Gavin Corbett Councillor George Gordon Councillor Graham Hutchison Councillor Andrew Johnston Councillor Alasdair Rankin Councillor Neil Ross Councillor Mandy Watt</p>	<p>Rachel Gentleman Committee Services rachel.gentleman@edinburgh.gov.uk 0131 529 4107</p> <p>Sarah Stirling Committee Services sarah.stirling@edinburgh.gov.uk 0131 529 3009</p>

Recent News	Background	Contact
<p><u>Community Asset Transfers – Annual Report Update</u></p> <p>Under Section 95 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, the Council must publish an annual return by 30 June, specifying certain Community Asset Transfer (CAT) activity and the steps taken to promote CAT with community bodies from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. The report has been published on the Council website and can be found at: https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/commercial-property-sale-let/community-asset-transfer/1</p> <p>The report only includes requests that have been considered by a Stage 2 panel (sustainable business case). In addition to the request formally reported, we also dealt with the following during the reporting period: 21 initial enquiries – most requests requiring research and informal meetings with potential applicants.</p> <p>Two Stage 1 panels – convened to assess expressions of interest and to allow successful requests to proceed towards Stage 2</p> <p>Eleven live cases are currently being considered, with the majority preparing their sustainable business cases for a Stage 2 panel submission</p> <p>As noted in the report, a range of activities to promote and support CAT by community bodies have been undertaken and have been well received. We continue to provide support and guidance to community groups, council officials and elected members.</p> <p>Since the end of the reporting period, there has been considerable activity, with four CAT requests being approved by Committee. These will be formally reported in next year’s submission.</p>		<p>Lindsay Glasgow, Strategic Asset Management Senior Manager,</p> <p>lindsay.glasgow@edinburgh.gov.uk</p> <p>Tel: 0131 469 3312</p>

<p>The annual review of the current Community Asset Transfer Policy confirms that as it remains in line with current legislation, there is no need for it to be amended at this time.</p>		
<p><u>Contract Awards and Procurement Programme</u></p> <p>At the September meeting of Committee officers were asked to consider the practicality of reporting on which of the approved contracts listed in the Contract Awards and Procurement Programme Report had been spent. This has now been fully explored and unfortunately found not to be practical as the Council's current financial systems do not link general ledger expenditure to specific contracts. Therefore, to report on this would require data to be extracted on a contract by contract basis. Also given that a number of the contracts listed were over a period of time, and not all are expired, it would only allow a snapshot of the spend against these to be reported.</p> <p>Finance also provide regular budget monitoring reports to the Finance and Resources Committee and other parent executive committees, and if there are any queries relating to specific contracts, or performance against budget, then they can be raised at the time of these reports, or directly with the relevant Executive Director should questions arise on specific contracts.</p>		<p>Iain Strachan, Chief Procurement Officer</p> <p>iain.strachan@edinburgh.gov.uk</p> <p>Tel: 0131 538 2232</p>

Forthcoming activities:
