

# Business Bulletin

## Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 1 December 2022

# Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener: Councillor Jane Meagher</p> 	<p>Councillor Graeme Bruce Councillor Jack Caldwell Councillor Kate Campbell Councillor Stuart Dobbin Councillor Pauline Flannery Councillor Simita Kumar Councillor Ben Parker Councillor Susan Rae Councillor Mandy Watt Councillor Iain Whyte</p>	<p><a href="#">Jamie Macrae</a> Committee Officer Tel: 0131 553 8242</p>

## Recent News

## Background

### **Edinburgh Living purchases homes at Fruitmarket**

On 8 September 2022, Finance and Resources Committee approved Edinburgh Living's purchase of 80 homes from the Fruitmarket National Housing Trust LLP. At the time of writing, with the exception of three homes being marketed for re-let, the homes are currently all tenanted. All homes purchased by Edinburgh Living will continue be let at mid-market rents to existing tenants. The purchase delivers a positive outcome for tenants, providing them with the security of a long-term rental option at affordable rents. Following the purchase, homes that become available would be let by Edinburgh Living to tenants on low to moderate incomes in accordance with Edinburgh Living's lettings policy. Finance and Resources Committee also agreed to the transfer of an additional fourteen homes constructed at Dumbryden as part of the Council's housebuilding programme. Once these acquisitions are complete, Edinburgh Living will own 594 homes.

On 6 October 2022 the Scottish Parliament approved The Cost of Living (Tenant Protection)(Scotland) Act which gives Ministers the power to cap rent increases for both private and social tenants. The legislation is in force until at least 31 March 2023. The full impact of the national rent freeze on Edinburgh Living will be assessed at the financial year end (December 2022) along with the implications of rents being frozen or capped in 2023. This will be reported as part of the Edinburgh Living Annual Report to be presented to Committee in March 2023.

### **Contact:**

[Hazel Ferguson](#), Senior Construction Project Manager

### **Gig Economy Task Force**

In March 2022 Committee agreed the findings of the Gig Economy Task Force with an agreement to consider a report on progress in Autumn 2022.

Progress towards implementing Gig Economy Task Force findings has been slower than expected in recent months, with officer time prioritised towards development of responses to the cost of living crisis amongst other commitments.

### **Contact:**

[Chris Adams](#), Strategy Manager

## Recent News

## Background

As next steps, planned actions for first quarter 2023 include:

- Convening a meeting of union representatives from the Gig Economy Taskforce, and colleagues involved in the Trades Unions in the Community project to take forward actions relating to promotion of workers' rights;
- Convening a joint meeting of Conveners of the Finance and Resources, Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee, and the Licensing Board to agree the scope of actions needed to promote workers rights and fair work through relevant Council policies; and
- Work with Edinburgh Guarantee, Edinburgh Living Wage Action Group, and other stakeholders to scope a programme of work needed to develop a fair work charter in Edinburgh.

Further actions needed to fully implement the findings of the Gig Economy Task Force will be developed alongside these next steps, with full details on progress reported to Committee within two cycles.