

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday 1 November 2022

Present

Councillors Day (Convener), Aston (substituting for Councillor Biagi), Beal, Campbell, Davidson (substituting for Councillor Dijkstra-Downie for items 10, 15, 16 and 17) Doggart, Griffiths, Lang, Macinnes, McVey, Meagher, Mowat (substituting for Councillor Doggart from item 14 onwards), Mumford, Parker, Frank Ross, Staniforth, Thornley (substituting for Councillor Dijkstra-Downie), Watt and Whyte.

Also Present

Councillor Cameron (for item 2), Councillor Jenkinson (for item 3), Councillor McFarlane (for item 11)

1. Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update – Quarterly Update

A verbal quarterly update was provided on Police Scotland's Edinburgh City Division city-wide plans, policies and performance.

Decision

To note the update.

(Reference – report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

2. Response to motion by Councillor Cameron – Improving Accessibility and Inclusion for Edinburgh Citizens

A report was submitted in response to a motion approved by the Council on 16 December 2021 on improving accessibility and inclusion for Edinburgh citizens.

In accordance with Standing Order 33.1, the Convener agreed to hear a presentation from Councillor Cameron as a member with special interest in this item. Councillor Cameron made the following key points:

- There was important work undertaken by an All Party Oversight Group in relation to inclusion and accessibility in the last Council term, and similar cross-party oversight could further improve inclusion and accessibility outcomes in the future.

- An update on inclusion and accessibility progress could be provided on an annual basis.
- To further develop the report in the future, it was suggested officers sought the views and input from the Council's Arm's Length External Organisations (ALEOs).
- Through the upcoming Budget considerations, the Council should look to prioritise further improvement of inclusion and accessibility throughout Edinburgh.

Motion

- 1) To note the actions taken by the Council and its agencies to improve accessibility and inclusion in Edinburgh for citizens and visitors.
- 2) To note that the Consultation Advisory Panel (CAP) had been strengthened, as set out in paragraph 4.21.
- 3) To discharge the motion from the Council on 16 December 2021 titled Improving Accessibility and Inclusion for Edinburgh Citizens.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment

- 1) To note the actions taken by the Council and its agencies to improve accessibility and inclusion in Edinburgh for citizens and visitors.
- 2) To note that the Consultation Advisory Panel (CAP) had been strengthened, as set out in paragraph 4.21.
- 3) To agree that Councillors will receive a further briefing from Officers to cover:
 - a. Further information about how the Council promoted inclusion in its own work and with partners, including specific information about how the Council supported all groups with protected characteristics under the Equality Act, and in relation to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED).
 - b. Further information about how the Council engaged with Disabled People's Organisations; how the Council supported disabled people with different types of disabilities and impairments; and the Council's attitude towards the social model of disability and how / whether this informed its work.

- moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12) the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the actions taken by the Council and its agencies to improve accessibility and inclusion in Edinburgh for citizens and visitors.
- 2) To note that the Consultation Advisory Panel (CAP) had been strengthened, as set out in paragraph 4.21.
- 3) To discharge the motion from the Council on 16 December 2021 titled Improving Accessibility and Inclusion for Edinburgh Citizens.
- 4) To agree that Councillors would receive a further briefing from Officers to cover:
 - a. Further information about how the Council promoted inclusion in its own work and with partners, including specific information about how the Council supported all groups with protected characteristics under the Equality Act, and in relation to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED).
 - b. Further information about how the Council engaged with Disabled People's Organisations; how the Council supported disabled people with different types of disabilities and impairments; and the Council's attitude towards the social model of disability and how / whether this informed its work.
- 5) To agree to an annual report.
- 6) To request an officer/member workshop on the wider issues relating to accessibility and a briefing note on the Council's legislative powers in relation to pavement parking.

(References – Act of Council No. 5 of 16 December 2021; Report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

3. Pay Gap Update 2022

a) Deputation – Unite the Union CEC Branch

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Unite the Union City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) Branch in relation to the above item. The deputation made the following key points:

- The key consideration to address the gender pay gap was to have an adequate job evaluation scheme, with the Council's current scheme being outdated and unable to address the gap.
- A modern job evaluation scheme would recognise the social value of labour.
- The Council should protect working time payments.
- The Diversity and Inclusion Focus Group should be reinstated in order to explore in-depth the issues surrounding the disability pay gap and the barriers within the reasonable adjustments process.

b) Report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services

An update was provided on the Council's gender, ethnicity and disability pay gaps. The report detailed the current position as well as the next steps, which included the plan to continue the commitments and outcomes of the Council's Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Plan.

Motion

To review and note the content of the 2022 update on organisation gender, ethnicity and disability pay gaps.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment

- 1) To review and note the content of the 2022 update on organisation gender, ethnicity and disability pay gaps.
- 2) To note the increase in the ethnicity pay gap in the data and recognise the need for further action.
- 3) To note within the data the pay gap was most notable in Caribbean or Black population; that most ethnic minority colleagues were in higher concentration on lower salary brackets; no ethnic minority colleague was in the income bracket of £80,000 or more and no disabled colleague was in the income bracket of £70,000 - reflecting lower diverse recruitment at senior roles.
- 4) To note that the data showed Edinburgh's gender pay gap and ethnicity pay gap was higher than the Scottish average.
- 5) To encourage completion of workforce profile for Ethnicity and Disability across the organisation to gain a better understanding of these issues and encourage the Chief Executive to continue to work with senior management to positively encourage staff to share this data.

- Moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

In accordance with Standing Order (22)12, the amendment was and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To review and note the content of the 2022 update on organisation gender, ethnicity and disability pay gaps.
- 2) To note an increase in the ethnicity pay gap in the data and recognise the need for further action.
- 3) To note within the data the pay gap was most notable in Caribbean or Black population; that most ethnic minority colleagues were in higher concentration on lower salary brackets; no ethnic minority colleague was in the income bracket of

£80,000 or more and no disabled colleague was in the income bracket of £70,000 - reflecting lower diverse recruitment at senior roles.

- 4) To note that the data showed Edinburgh's gender pay gap and ethnicity pay gap was higher than the Scottish average.
- 5) To encourage completion of workforce profile for Ethnicity and Disability across the organisation to gain a better understanding of these issues and encourage the Chief Executive to continue to work with senior management to positively encourage staff to share this data.

(Reference – Report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

4. Response to composite motion – Warm and Welcoming Spaces and Cost of Energy Crisis

a) Deputation – Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council (EVOOC) in relation to the above item. The deputation made the following key points:

- The deputation praised the Council for taking the lead in the provision of warm and welcoming spaces and not relying on voluntary sector.
- Efforts should be made to ensure warm banks did not become normalised in the long-term, like food banks had previously.
- The Council should continue down a cash-first route.
- The Council should work in partnership with the voluntary sector to enable warm and welcoming spaces to become activating spaces, where activities and networking would be offered.
- Partnership working was also essential in ensuring those who are physically unable or do not want to attend warm spaces were considered.
- Citizens should be reminded of the £400 Energy Bill Support Scheme and how those on pre-payment meters could claim this grant.

b) Report by the Executive Director of Place

A report was presented in response to a motion agreed by Council on 25 August 2022 on how the Council would work with partners to promote access to warm and welcoming public spaces throughout the winter.

In accordance with Standing Order 33.1, the Convener agreed to hear a presentation from Councillor Jenkinson as a member with special interest in this item. Councillor Jenkinson made the following key points:

- The need for the service had to be of a temporary nature and could not be included in future revenue budgets that were already stretched.
- Warm and welcoming spaces were an opportunity to reintroduce communities to public buildings, such as libraries and community centres, where engagement and footfall had been reduced as a legacy of the pandemic.

Motion

To note the draft action plan to promote “Warm and Welcoming” public spaces where citizens could keep warm and comfortable in the coming winter months and where they could receive support and advice to help alleviate food and fuel poverty.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the draft action plan to promote “Warm and Welcoming” public spaces where citizens could keep warm and comfortable in the coming winter months and where they could receive support and advice to help alleviate food and fuel poverty.
- 2) To request a further report to Council in December, giving an update on progress against the action plan, including any required further resources needed to execute the plan for approval by Councillors.
- 3) To request a briefing on winter preparedness before December Council of scenario planning undertaken if there were gas supply interruptions or further fluctuations in prices to ensure residents were as supported as possible.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Campbell

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the draft action plan to promote “Warm and Welcoming” public spaces where citizens could keep warm and comfortable in the coming winter months and where they could receive support and advice to help alleviate food and fuel poverty.
- 2) To request that officers provide a briefing paper to all members by December 15th which listed the provision and locations of all premises providing warm spaces.

- moved by Councillor Beal, seconded by Councillor Lang

Amendment 3

- 1) To note the draft action plan to promote “Warm and Welcoming” public spaces where citizens could keep warm and comfortable in the coming winter months and where they could receive support and advice to help alleviate food and fuel poverty.

- 2) Further, to recognise that disabled people or households with a disabled child or member with additional health needs were especially at risk this Winter given that the additional cost of disability had increased at an alarming rate – for example, increased costs to power powerchairs, hoists, ventilators and push pad doors.
- 3) Therefore, to request that detail be added to the Action Plan to ensure that provision was made for accessible “Warm and Welcoming” venues to host charging points for people to use; and for information about the accessibility of venues to be made available alongside other information as part of the communications plan.
- 4) Additionally to request consideration of a summit between third sector and community organisations, council officers and other interested parties to discuss longer-term solutions to food and fuel poverty and ensure that all of our citizens could keep warm and comfortable beyond the immediate crisis of the 2022/23 winter months.

- moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Mumford

In accordance with Standing Order (22)12, paragraph 3 of amendment 1, amendment 2 and amendment 3 were accepted as addendums to the motion, and amendment 2 and amendment 3 were accepted as addendums to amendment 1.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted) - 9

For Amendment 1 (as adjusted) - 8

(For the Motion: Councillors Day, Beal, Doggart, Griffiths, Lang, Meagher, Thornley, Watt and Whyte

For Amendment 1: Councillors Aston, Campbell, Macinnes, McVey, Mumford, Parker, Frank Ross and Staniforth)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the draft action plan to promote “Warm and Welcoming” public spaces where citizens could keep warm and comfortable in the coming winter months and where they could receive support and advice to help alleviate food and fuel poverty.
- 2) To request a briefing on winter preparedness before December Council of scenario planning undertaken if there were gas supply interruptions or further fluctuations in prices to ensure residents were as supported as possible.

- 3) To request that officers provide a briefing paper to all members by December 15th which listed the provision and locations of all premises providing warm spaces.
- 4) Further, to recognise that disabled people or households with a disabled child or member with additional health needs were especially at risk this Winter given that the additional cost of disability had increased at an alarming rate – for example, increased costs to power powerchairs, hoists, ventilators and push pad doors.
- 5) Therefore, to request that detail be added to the Action Plan to ensure that provision was made for accessible “Warm and Welcoming” venues to host charging points for people to use; and for information about the accessibility of venues to be made available alongside other information as part of the communications plan.
- 6) Additionally to request consideration of a summit between third sector and community organisations, council officers and other interested parties to discuss longer-term solutions to food and fuel poverty and ensure that all of our citizens could keep warm and comfortable beyond the immediate crisis of the 2022/23 winter months.

(Reference – Act of Council No. 18 of 25 August 2022 (item 18); Report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Frank Ross made a transparency statement as a trustee of Corstorphine Community Council.

5. Women’s Safety in Public Places Community Improvement Partnership Progress

a) Deputation – Street Assist Edinburgh

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Street Assist Edinburgh in relation to the above item. The deputation made the following key points:

- Edinburgh could learn from global examples of night safety, for example, the Purple Flag Scheme
- The deputation supported the recommendation to appoint a Night Czar for Edinburgh.
- Street Assist offered to share their call-handling data with the Council which could help identify hot-spots of antisocial behaviour.
- Although the deputation noted that they are funded by the Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership, it was highlighted that they have struggled to work collaboratively with agencies and council departments.

- The challenges of funding of Street Assist Edinburgh were highlighted, with the £20,000 grant received annually not enough to cover the estimated £55,000-£60,000 annual costs.

b) Report by the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services

The progress of the Women's Safety in Public Places Community Improvement Partnership was presented alongside the initial findings of the Women's Safety in Public Places public consultation, undertaken from July – September 2022.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress of the Women's Safety in Public Places Community Improvement Partnership.
- 2) To note the findings of the public consultation on Women's Safety in Public Places (June- September 2022).
- 3) To note the recommendations made in this report and associated Appendix against competing priorities in other areas, particularly Transport and Environment.
- 4) To agree that a report will be brought back in six months, and thereafter annually, by the Women's Safety in Public Places Community Improvement Partnership regarding progress and the implementation of recommendations included in the Appendix of the report by the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services.

(Reference – Policy and Sustainability Committee, 30 November 2021 (item 11); Report by the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, submitted.)

6. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 30 August 2022 as a correct record.

7. Work Programme

The Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme for 1 November 2022 was presented.

Decision

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Work Programme 1 November 2022, submitted.)

8. Rolling Actions Log

Details were provided of the outstanding actions arising from decisions taken by the Committee.

Decision

1) To agree to close the following actions:

- Action 1 – Business Case for the Management Transfer of Secondary School Sports Facilities to Edinburgh Leisure – Progress Report
- Action 2 – Youth Work in Community Centres and Other Locations
- Action 4 – City of Edinburgh Council – Improving Accessibility and Inclusion for Edinburgh Citizens and Visitors – Motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron
- Action 6 – City of Edinburgh Council – Motion by Councillor McFarlane – Prevention of Drug Deaths
- Action 9 – City of Edinburgh Council – Warm and Welcoming Spaces – Motion by Councillor Jenkinson and Cost of Energy Crisis – Motion by Councillor Hyslop
- Action 13 – Rolling Actions Log
- Action 14 – Update on Recycling and Waste Collection in Schools
- Action 15 – City of Edinburgh Council – Transient Visitor Levy – Motion by Councillor Day

2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted)

9. Business Bulletin

The Policy and Sustainability Committee Business Bulletin for 1 November 2022 was submitted.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin 1 November 2022, submitted.)

10. In-house Service Provision (Hard Facilities Management) – Response to motion by Councillor Day

A report was presented in response to a motion agreed by the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 5 October 2021 on the opportunities to bring services in-house from the hard Facilities Management contract during the 2021-22 financial year.

Decision

To agree to continue the report to the January Committee meeting.

(Reference – Finance and Resources Committee of 20 May 2021 (item 1); Report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

11. Assessing the Feasibility of an Edinburgh Drug Consumption Room

The planned approach to secure a feasibility study of an Edinburgh Drug Consumption Room was presented. The plan proposed an external organisation be commissioned to undertake a feasibility study under the direction of a steering group of local partners.

In accordance with Standing Order 33.1, the Convener agreed to hear a presentation from Councillor McFarlane as a member with special interest in this item. Councillor McFarlane made the following key points:

- Committee was encouraged to study global examples of the success of drug consumption rooms, as well as the wide support from sector professionals and drug users alike.
- Councillor McFarlane made a plea to members of the Committee to work alongside national party colleagues to highlight the importance of drug consumption rooms. The most recent drug death figures were referenced alongside the need for a prompt implementation of the rooms.

Motion

To note the planned approach to securing a feasibility study of an Edinburgh Drug Consumption Room and agreed to receive the study when completed.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment

- 1) To note the planned approach to securing a feasibility study of an Edinburgh Drug Consumption Room and agreed to receive the study when completed.
- 2) To note the detailed work and plans outlined in the report and the likely findings from the feasibility study being available by March 2023. Therefore, to agree to receive a further report no later than June 2023 updating committee on this work with recommendations for consideration.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

In accordance with Standing Order (22)12, the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the planned approach to securing a feasibility study of an Edinburgh Drug Consumption Room and agreed to receive the study when completed.
- 2) To note the detailed work and plans outlined in the report and the likely findings from the feasibility study being available by March 2023. Therefore, to agree to receive a further report no later than June 2023 updating committee on this work with recommendations for consideration.

(Reference – Report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

12. Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy Update

An update on the work-to-date on an Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) was presented. The next steps were also presented, which included the proposal to present a refreshed position and scope to the March 2023 Committee.

Motion

- 1) To note that the Scottish Government had confirmed their commitment to resume the introduction of a Local Visitor Levy Bill.
- 2) To note the current Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) position, agreed by the Council in February 2019.
- 3) To note that supporting the introduction of a TVL (Tourist Tax) was again agreed by Council as part of a shared strategic work programme for the next five years on 30 June 2022.
- 4) To agree that Council Officers would work with Scottish Government Officials and COSLA to support the development of the legislation for the Local Visitor Levy Bill.
- 5) To agree the specific terms of engagement (as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place) and the thematic proposals suggested for TVL revenue priorities that would form the basis of discussions with external stakeholders (as set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report).
- 6) To note the letter sent by the Leader to Scottish Government.
- 7) To note that Council Officers would update and develop the proposed scope and would identify supporting proposals for revenue priorities for consideration by Committee at the end of March 2023.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

- 1) To note that the Scottish Government had confirmed their commitment to resume the introduction of a Local Visitor Levy Bill.
- 2) To reaffirm support for the Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) proposal which was agreed by Council in February 2019.
- 3) To note that supporting the introduction of a TVL (Tourist Tax) was again agreed by Council as part of a shared strategic work programme for the next five years on 30 June 2022.
- 4) To agree that Council Officers would work with Scottish Government Officials and COSLA to support the development of the legislation for the Local Visitor Levy Bill in line with the proposals Council agreed in February 2019.

- 5) To agree the specific terms of engagement (as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place), subject to the replacement of paragraph 4.2.5 with: “Reaffirm the need to sustain wider City engagement with the hospitality sector and other key stakeholders like the cultural sector in the shaping of priorities as set out in the previous proposal of February 2019”; and to agree the thematic proposals suggested for TVL revenue priorities that would form the basis of discussions with external stakeholders (as set out in paragraph 4.5), with the addition of “place making” to the list at paragraph 4.5.1.
- 6) To note the letter sent by the Leader to Scottish Government.
- 8) To note that Council Officers would update and develop the proposed scope and would identify supporting proposals for revenue priorities for consideration by Committee at the end of March 2023.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

Amendment 2

- 1) To note that the Scottish Government had confirmed their commitment to resume the introduction of a Local Visitor Levy Bill.
- 2) To note the current Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) position, agreed by the Council in February 2019.
- 3) To note that supporting the introduction of a TVL (Tourist Tax) was again agreed by Council as part of a shared strategic work programme for the next five years on 30 June 2022.
- 4) To agree that Council Officers would work with Scottish Government Officials and COSLA to support the development of the legislation for the Local Visitor Levy Bill.
- 5) To agree the specific terms of engagement (as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place) and the thematic proposals suggested for TVL revenue priorities that would form the basis of discussions with external stakeholders (as set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report), noting that these themes should apply across the whole city and not just with respect to the core city centre.
- 6) To note the letter sent by the Leader to Scottish Government.
- 7) To note that Council Officers would update and develop the proposed scope and would identify supporting proposals for revenue priorities for consideration by Committee at the end of March 2023.

- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Beal

Amendment 3

- 1) To note that the Scottish Government had confirmed their commitment to resume the introduction of a Local Visitor Levy Bill.

- 2) To note the current Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) position, agreed by the Council in February 2019.
- 3) To note that supporting the introduction of a TVL (Tourist Tax) was again agreed by Council as part of a shared strategic work programme for the next five years on 30 June 2022.
- 4) To note the letter sent by the Leader to Scottish Government.
- 5) To note that Council Officers would update and develop the proposed scope and would identify supporting proposals for revenue priorities for consideration by Committee at the end of March 2023.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Doggart

In accordance with Standing Order (22)12, amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the motion, and to amendment 1.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)	–	10
For Amendment 1 (as adjusted)	–	5
For Amendment 3	–	2

(For the Motion: Councillors Day, Beal, Griffiths, Lang, Meagher, Mumford, Parker, Staniforth, Thornley and Watt

For Amendment 1: Councillors Aston, Campbell, Macinnes, McVey and Frank Ross

For Amendment 3: Councillors Doggart and Whyte)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note that the Scottish Government had confirmed their commitment to resume the introduction of a Local Visitor Levy Bill.
- 2) To note the current Edinburgh Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) position, agreed by the Council in February 2019.
- 3) To note that supporting the introduction of a TVL (Tourist Tax) was again agreed by Council as part of a shared strategic work programme for the next five years on 30 June 2022.
- 4) To agree that Council Officers would work with Scottish Government Officials and COSLA to support the development of the legislation for the Local Visitor Levy Bill.
- 5) To agree the specific terms of engagement (as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place) and the thematic proposals suggested for TVL revenue priorities that would form the basis of discussions with external

stakeholders (as set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report), noting that these themes should apply across the whole city and not just with respect to the core city centre.

- 6) To note the letter sent by the Leader to Scottish Government.
- 7) To note that Council Officers would update and develop the proposed scope and would identify supporting proposals for revenue priorities for consideration by Committee at the end of March 2023.

(Reference – Report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

13. Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2022-2027 and Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Consultation

The sixth iteration of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2022-27 was presented for approval. Alongside the Plan was the Council's consultation response to the next Scottish Biodiversity Strategy.

Decision

- 1) To approve the updated Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2022-27 (EBAP).
- 2) To note the contribution of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership and multiple Council's services to the development of the updated EBAP.
- 3) To delegate authority to officers to make final graphic design, layout and minor editorial changes to the EBAP before final publication on the Council's website.
- 4) To note that a response had been submitted to the Scottish Government consultation on the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy. Information on the EBP's response was included in the main report.
- 5) To request that officers circulate information on the Council's current position on the use of pesticides.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 22 February 2022 (item 17); Report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

14. Towards West Edinburgh 2050: A Spatial Strategy for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

The proposed process for consultation on the 'Towards West Edinburgh 2050: A Spatial Strategy for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth' project was presented alongside identified early actions to support development activity.

Motion

- 1) To agree the draft West Edinburgh 2050 Strategy for the purposes of public consultation subject to corrections to the section on West Edinburgh 2022.
- 2) To note that a report would be brought back which detailed the outcome of the consultation, along with a finalised Strategy and delivery plan.

3) To refer the Strategy to the Planning Committee for information.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment

1) To agree the draft West Edinburgh 2050 Strategy for the purposes of public consultation subject to corrections to the section on West Edinburgh 2022, subject to corrections to the section on West Edinburgh 2022.

2) To note that a report would be brought back which detailed the outcome of the consultation, along with a finalised Strategy and delivery plan.

3) To refer the Strategy to the Planning Committee for information.

- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Beal

In accordance with Standing Order (22)12, the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

1) To agree the draft West Edinburgh 2050 Strategy for the purposes of public consultation subject to corrections to the section on West Edinburgh 2022, subject to correction to the section on West Edinburgh 2022.

2) To note that a report would be brought back which detailed the outcome of the consultation, along with a finalised Strategy and delivery plan.

3) To refer the Strategy to the Planning Committee for information.

(References – Planning Committee of 12 August 2020 (Item 2); Report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

15. Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Annual Report 2021/22

A summary of the key findings from the City Region Deal Annual Report for 2021/22 was presented. The report updated members on the performance management arrangements for the Deal along with the specific Council-led projects within the Deal.

Motion

To note the summary findings of the fourth annual report for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal for 2021/22.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment 1

1) To note the summary findings of the fourth annual report for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal for 2021/22.

- 2) To further note the very slow pace of the two Transport projects within the Deal (A720 Sheriffhall, and West Edinburgh transport) with both remaining at “Define” stage four years after the deal was signed and, notwithstanding the green RAG status of both projects, and call for a further report reviewing methods for speeding up delivery of these projects and comparing current timescales with those proposed at the point the Deal was concluded.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Doggart

Amendment 2

To note the summary findings of the fourth annual report for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal for 2021/22.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Parker

In accordance with Standing Order (22)12, amendment 1 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows

For the Motion (as adjusted) – 14

For Amendment 2 – 3

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Day, Aston, Beal, Campbell, Griffiths, Lang, Macinnes, McVey, Meagher, Mowat, Frank Ross, Thornley, Watt and Whyte

For Amendment 2: Councillors Mumford, Parker and Staniforth)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the summary findings of the fourth annual report for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal for 2021/22.
- 2) To further note the very slow pace of the two Transport projects within the Deal (A720 Sheriffhall, and West Edinburgh transport) with both remaining at “Define” stage four years after the deal was signed and, notwithstanding the green RAG status of both projects, and call for a further briefing note reviewing methods for speeding up delivery of these projects and comparing current timescales with those proposed at the point the Deal was concluded.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 5 October 2021 (item 17); Report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

16. Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Progress Report

An update was provided on the work of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB).

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note that the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board continued to receive regular reporting at its Board meetings and undertook appropriate scrutiny of the items contained within the report.

(Reference – Report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Integration Joint Board, submitted.)

17. Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership – System Pressures Update

An update on system pressures within the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) was presented. The actions that had been undertaken to ensure citizens were still supported and cared for were also presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the current pressures on the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) and the mitigating actions taken.
- 2) To note the support provided to the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership through the Edinburgh Assistance Programme which addressed some of the pressures and that updates are reported to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board.
- 3) To request an update on progress of the Edinburgh Assistance Programme to the Policy and Sustainability Committee within 1 cycle.

(Reference – Report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

18. National Care Service Bill – Request for Evidence

A summary of the Council's response to the Scottish Parliament's request for evidence on the National Care Service Bill was presented.

Motion

To note the response to the Scottish Parliament's request for evidence on the National Care Service Bill, approved by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader under urgency provisions set out in A4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions so as to meet the consultation deadline.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment

- 1) To note the response was submitted due to the deadline passing and regrets that this didn't come to the Policy and Sustainability Committee on August 30th, which was after the first elected member engagement session had taken place.

- 2) To note the response did not reflect all the input gathered at the elected member workshop sessions.
- 3) To agree that the Chief Executive would write to the Convenor of The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee to make clear that the Council would support the Bill if the aims of the Bill could be realised through the detailed co-design process which needed to begin as soon as possible. To further agree to highlight the Council's wider aspiration to improve public ownership and control over these lifeline services to ensure profit is not a feature of services to vulnerable people and services are run in the public good.
- 4) To further agree to highlight in this letter that Point 12 on the Council response is not accurate, due to the demand-side pressure of IJB services in Edinburgh and the enormous constraint that BREXIT had caused Edinburgh's employment market, the nationalisation of these services would actually have had a stabilising effect on the Council's finances due to the additional need for resources being met nationally and the Government being able to plan national staff resources to try and deal with acute shortages in Edinburgh.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion – 12

For the Amendment – 5

(For the Motion: Councillors Day, Beal, Davidson, Griffiths, Lang, Meagher, Mowat, Mumford, Parker, Staniforth, Watt and Whyte

For the Amendment: Councillors Aston, Campbell, Macinnes, McVey and Frank Ross)

Decision

To approve the Motion by Councillor Day.

(Reference – Report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

19. Forced Marriage Policy Review Report

The completed revision of the Council's Forced Marriage Policy was submitted for approval.

Decision

- 1) To note the content of the City of Edinburgh Council's revised Forced Marriage Policy, which had been broadened to include specific considerations for survivors and people at risk with particular protected characteristics
- 2) To note the links between Forced Marriage and the attached policy to the Equally Safe strategy, as well as child and adult protection policies and procedures

- 3) To approve the content of the revised Forced Marriage Policy which included background information, warning signs, impacts, information on legislation, practice guidance for support and protection and local and national sources for support.

(Reference – Report by the Executive Director of Education and Children’s Services, submitted.)

20. Diversity and Inclusion Strategy Update

An update was provided on the Council’s Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

Motion

- 1) To note the progress made in relation to the Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan since it was approved on 1 October 2019.
- 2) To approve the proposal to reconvene the Diversity and Inclusion Focus Group which had not met since prior to the recent election.

- moved by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Watt

Amendment

- 1) To note the progress made in relation to the Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan since it was approved on 1 October 2019.
- 2) To approve the proposal to reconvene the Diversity and Inclusion Focus Group which had not met since prior to the recent election.
- 3) To recognise the need for promotion of Diversity and Inclusion policies is an iterative and continuous process.
- 4) To recommend expansion of delivery of ‘Active Bystander’ training across staff groups and request Committee be updated on progress being made in the next relevant update.
- 5) To note Scottish Government’s commitment to develop National Anti-racist Infrastructure and agree that the Chief Executive would work with Trade Unions through the Joint Consultative Group and any other appropriate groups within the Council to commit CEC to develop similar anti-racist infrastructure.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Macinnes

In accordance with Standing Order (22)12, the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Day:

- 1) To note the progress made in relation to the Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan since it was approved on 1 October 2019.

- 2) To approve the proposal to reconvene the Diversity and Inclusion Focus Group which had not met since prior to the recent election.
- 3) To recognise the need for promotion of Diversity and Inclusion policies is an iterative and continuous process.
- 4) To recommend expansion of delivery of 'Active Bystander' training across staff groups and request Committee be updated on progress being made in the next relevant update.
- 5) To note Scottish Government's commitment to develop National Anti-racist Infrastructure and agree that the Chief Executive would work with Trade Unions through the Joint Consultative Group and any other appropriate groups within the Council to commit CEC to develop similar anti-racist infrastructure.

(Reference – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 6 October 2020 (item 20); Report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

21. Policies – Assurance Statement – Legal and Assurance

Committee was presented with an Assurance Statement from the Legal and Assurance division. The annual review ensured Council policies within the Division reflected current legislative requirements.

Decision

To note the update in relation to the Council policies detailed in this report and that work was ongoing to update some of the policies to ensure that they reflect current legislative requirements and best practice and were fit for purpose.

(Reference – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee of 3 September 2013 (item 4); Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 22 May 2014 (item 7); Report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

22. Policies – Assurance Statement – Customer Services

Committee was presented with an Assurance Statement from the Customer Services division. The annual review ensured Council policies within the Division reflected current legislative requirements.

Decision

To note that Council policies detailed in this report had been reviewed and were considered to reflect current legislative requirements and best practice therefore remained fit for purpose.

(Reference – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 10 November 2020 (item 12); Policy and Sustainability Committee of 30 November 2021 (item 28); Report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

23. Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2020-21

The Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report for 2020-21 was presented for noting.

Decision

To note the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) Annual Report for 2021-22.

(Reference – Report by the Chief Social Work Officer and Service Director for Children's and Criminal Justice Service, submitted.)