

Addendum by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.1 – End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Progress Report

Adds:

1.1.5 Notes the concerning fall in those being supported through the Council's advice services during a cost of living crisis which is exacerbating poverty in the City.

1.1.5 therefore agrees to request the commission examine the impact of the extreme service reduction to residents and invites the Commission to produce recommendations to address the issues and ensure people in Edinburgh can access financial advice services when needed.

Moved by: Councillor Adam Nols-McVey

Seconded by: Councillor Lesley Macinnes

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.1 – End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Progress Report

Adds:

2. Welcomes the acknowledgements in the report that “there is enough determination in the city to embrace the twin challenges of solving poverty and reducing carbon emissions over the next decade.” and of the “higher risk of poverty among women, families with children, minority ethnic groups, and disabled families in the city.”;

2.1 Notes that employment and employability initiatives are key to progressing one of the four key themes identified, and recognises that, for these initiatives to be sustainable, green and low-carbon jobs should be central to them;

2.2 Further notes that the Capital City Partnership will be increasing its focus on green skills and the green economy in response to a decision at Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee earlier this month;

2.3 Therefore, in recognition of this and in order to ensure further joined up thinking across key Council priorities, requests that the planned workshops to be progressed during 2024 include

2.3.1 Exploration of how commitments to a just transition can help poverty reduction in Edinburgh, particularly looking at entry-level green jobs and jobs in low-carbon industries like care work;

2.3.2 Exploration of the varying impact of poverty on different groups of people, particularly those with protected characteristics, and how our response to poverty in Edinburgh can be understood through an intersectional lens

2.3.3 Exploration of how other Council strategies relating to climate mitigation, climate adaptation and health and social care interrelate with actions under the End Poverty in Edinburgh strategy, including how these can also be understood through an intersectional lens

2.4 And that invitees to those workshops include:

2.4.1 Organisations focussing on groups of people with protected characteristics including Scottish Women's Budget Group, the Muslim Women's Resource Centre and One Parent Families Scotland, Inclusion Scotland and People First

2.4.2 Trade Unions and Tenant / Community Unions including Living Rent

3. Finally, notes with specific concern issues around digital inclusion, recognising that groups more likely to experience poverty can be disproportionately affected by this, and agrees that, as part of wider work looking at access and inclusion across Council services, this issue is given particular consideration.

Moved by: Cllr Alys Mumford

Seconded by: Cllr Ben Parker

Addendum by the Conservative Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.1 – End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Progress Report

Add at the end of 1.1.1

subject to action plans being provided as part of the “Progress and Priorities” section to:

- Improve pupil attendance rates at school which has worsened since the end of the pandemic, especially for secondary school pupils;
- Restore advice services to an appropriate capacity within six months (at least 2019/20 levels) using Council Advice Shop and any new partnership actions with a new KPI introduced that measures the implementation of the overall advice strategy. This to be reported to Committee at an appropriate point to provide assurance of progress and to include a report on the outcome of the commissioned review of welfare rights and debt advice services which is apparently complete but no projected impact, indication of additional improvement/change or resolution of the single advice brand discussion is provided within this annual progress report.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte
Seconded by: Councillor Phil Doggart

Amendment by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.2 – Council Emissions Reduction Plan – Annual Progress Report

Replaces point 1.1.2 with:

Agrees to change targets in relation to fleet proposed in paragraph 4.28 and retains the existing recycling target.

Moved by: Councillor Adam Nols-McVey

Seconded by: Councillor Danny Aston

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.2 – Council Emissions Reduction Plan – Annual Progress Report

Adds to 1.1.3:

Agrees that, where appropriate, this report will also include new actions to eradicate or significantly reduce the emissions gap to net zero which currently exists in the CERP, and that the report will be supplemented with a clear strategy to finance these actions, including a commitment to resourcing this strategy at a corporate level.

Also agrees that, where appropriate, this prioritisation exercise will also overlay considerations of other relevant climate, nature, poverty and health strategies to ensure joined up thinking, and be in line with a climate justice approach.

Finally, agrees that, in advance of the report being published, all of this should be discussed at the Sustainability and Climate & Nature Emergencies APOG, including more regular reviews of progress against actions sitting under the CERP.

Moved by: Cllr Ben Parker

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.2 – Council Emissions Reduction Plan – Annual Progress Report

Committee agrees the recommendations subject to rewording paragraph 1.1.2 to read:

Agrees the change in target at paragraph 4.28, but agrees to maintain a target for increasing recycling rates (with a SMART target to be reported to Committee within one cycle) and that a report be provided to the Transport and Environment Committee, detailing how lessons about increased recycling rates can be gathered and implemented from practice in other UK urban areas with much better rates such as Newport (Wales), Cardiff, Bath, Chester and Kingston-upon-Hull.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte
Seconded by: Councillor Phil Doggart

Addendum by the Green group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.3 – Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2022/23

Adds:

1.4 Notes that the annual Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting to the Scottish Government requires the Council to explain how spending plans and use of resources is aligned to emissions targets

1.5 Notes that, last year, groups were encouraged to complete a climate impact assessment of their proposed budgets and to include an accompanying statement to their budget motions which set out how their proposed spending plans align – or misalign – to the Council's climate strategies, though regrets that only one budget motion did this last year.

1.6 Notes that a guidance document and template to support groups to do this was circulated last year, and that a lessons learned exercise was completed this year about the budget process, including consideration of this guidance and template.

1.7 Requests that the climate impact statement guidance and template document is recirculated amongst groups – with any tweaks made following feedback from last year – and recommends that all budget motions include an accompanying statement which sets out how spending plans align with the Council's climate strategies, including this as an appendix.

Moved by: Cllr Ben Parker

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.4 – Adult Support and Protection and Social Work & Social Care Inspections Improvement Plan: Progress Report

Add the following under recommendation 1.2:

1.2.1 Noting the format and content of this first update report, requests officers prepare future update reports to include the following:

- a) Delivery timelines for tangible changes showing current position
- b) Recommendations if required to bring progress from Red / Amber to Green
- c) Challenges or issues which require committee scrutiny or attention

Add the following under recommendation 1.3:

1.3.1 Notes that multiple committees will receive update reports on the improvement plan but that different committees / bodies have different remits. Therefore, if the same report is to be submitted to each committee / body, requests that a short clarifying covering note is included to assist committee members and officers when preparing and scrutinising reports to enable each committee to deliver its role in the overall governance

Moved by: Cllr Claire Miller

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Administration

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.5 – Forth Green Freeport – Outline Business Case

Include after recommendation 1.1.4

“Requests that the interim governance board should have a place for the trade unions.”

Moved by: Councillor Cammy Day
Seconded by: Councillor Mandy Watt

Amendment by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.5 – Forth Green Freeport – Outline Business Case

Deletes all and replaces with:

1.1 Notes that at the meeting of the Freeport Sounding Board it was requested by two parties, and appeared to be agreed, that the full outline business case should be available to members, either through a b agenda or a data room, ahead of approval at committee.

1.2 Notes that a number of concerns were raised including:

- Governance
- Levers available to the council, and penalties that could be imposed, if investors do not meet fair work or sustainability objectives
- Lack of clarity on how those objectives will be defined and delivered

1.3 Thanks officers for the confirmation at 4.9 that Trade Union representative or employee representative will join the board but agrees this should be expanded to include both.

1.4 Agrees that it is not possible for councillors to agree an outline business case that they have not seen in full, therefore defers this report for one cycle to enable a data room or b agenda item to be circulated in good time, ahead of any decision being taken.

Moved by: Councillor Kate Campbell

Seconded by: Councillor Adam Nols-McVey

Amendment by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.5 – Forth Green Freeport – Outline Business Case

At 1.1.1 deletes “Forth Green Freeport” and replaces with “Forth ‘Green’ Freeport”

Deletes 1.1.3 and replaces with: “Notes that the Outline Business Case (OBC) will be submitted, based on the parameters set out in these recommendations, report and Executive Summary (Appendix 1), and subject to the full OBC being circulated to all Committee members prior to submission to ensure compliance with the terms of this report; and”

Adds 1.1.5:

Does not take a position on the Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) proposals as outlined in this paper and requests a specific paper on these proposals to be brought to the next Finance & Resources Committee on 21st November, and an officer briefing session arranged, to enable this Committee to take a view before submission of the OBC;

Adds 1.1.6:

Agrees that the planned annual update report to GRBV should also be submitted to the cross party elected member sounding board and should include full details of any reported non-compliance against the Investment Principles and any variance in the NDR revenue received against forecast.

Adds 1.1.7:

Agrees that the “Social Impact Key Performance Indicators” due to be set by the Forth ‘Green’ Freeport Board will be shared with Committee via a Business Bulletin update as soon as they are agreed, and that the annual update report to GRBV also includes performance measures against these.

Moved by: Cllr Ben Parker
Seconded by: Cllr Alys Mumford

Addendum by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.6 – Sponsorship of non-UK nationals

Adds:

1.4 agrees in tandem to the recommendations of this report being implemented, that a further report is brought to Policy and Sustainability Committee in 2 cycles outlining support, including signposting, advice and direct support, that can be made available to any Council employee experiencing visa issues who may not qualify for sponsorship.

Moved by: Councillor Adam Nols-McVey

Seconded by: Councillor Marco Biagi

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.7 – Diversity and Inclusion Strategy Update

Add:

Committee

1.3 Notes with concern the large pay gaps associated with part-time work, especially where this concerns women, minority ethnic groups and disabled people.

1.4 Requests a Business Bulletin update in 6 months on the proposals – and any agreed actions – on options to extend part-time or otherwise flexible working to a wide range of posts, and options on how to diversify the workforce at senior levels, as outlined in paragraph 4.4.5 of the report.

Moved by: Cllr Sanne Dijkstra-Downie

Seconded by: Cllr Fiona Bennett

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.7 – Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

Adds:

1.3 Notes that a work programme for the Equalities Working Group is still to be set and a request for a mapping of equalities work in the Council remains outstanding from February 2023. Considers these two pieces of work to be key to Elected Members' understanding of and engagement in a successful diversity and inclusion strategy and therefore requests they are completed and shared as soon as possible.

Moved by: Cllr Alys Mumford

Seconded by:

Amendment by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.10 – Edinburgh Leisure – Real Living Wage

Deletes the recommendations and replaces with:

1.1 Notes that Edinburgh Leisure is a private company limited by guarantee, and a charity, and there is therefore no shareholder agreement with the council. However, also notes that all Edinburgh Leisure buildings and facilities are owned by the council, and that Edinburgh Leisure receives the majority of its external funding from the council to deliver services on behalf of the council.

1.2 Agrees that it is unacceptable for a company delivering services on behalf of the council, operating within council owned assets, not to pay the Real Living Wage.

1.3 Agrees the funding agreement between Edinburgh Leisure and the council must be renewed with exact clarity around the clause at 4.6, ensuring the Real Living Wage is specified and removing the phrase 'to the extent reasonably possible' to ensure that any future funding and use of council assets is contingent on the Real Living Wage being paid to all employees in all circumstances.

1.4 Agrees that no further funding will be agreed for Edinburgh Leisure without these revisions to this clause being in place.

1.5 Agrees that all contracts, procurement documents and legal agreements with the words "living wage" in them must be reviewed to ensure there is absolute clarity on the council's expectations that these refer to the real living wage, and not the legal minimum wage, rebranded as the 'living wage' by George Osborne in 2015.

1.6 Agrees the report on 9th January 2024 should include the detail of the revisions to the clause at 1.3 and an update on point 1.5 above.

Moved by: Cllr Kate Campbell

Seconded by: Cllr Adam Nols-McVey

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.11 – Gender Recognition Reform

Adds:

1.2 Requests that an update on this work is brought to the Policy & Sustainability Committee in one year including signposting to where the 'areas for further work' are being progressed in the programme of work for the Members Equality Working Group or as part of the Council's Equality and Diversity Framework.

1.3 Notes that a work programme for the Equalities Working Group is still to be set and a request for a mapping of equalities work in the Council remains outstanding from February 2023. Considers these two pieces of work to be key to the success of this work, and therefore requests they are completed and shared as soon as possible.

Moved by: Cllr Alys Mumford

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.11 – Gender Recognition Reform

Amend recommendations to read:

1.1 Committee notes the proposed next steps in this report which were developed following a roundtable and series of follow up meetings with participants and agrees that none of the proposed next steps in this report shall proceed without consulting women's rights groups to ensure that all affected stakeholders are agreed on a way forward.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte
Seconded by: Councillor Phil Daggart

Addendum by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.12 – Islamophobia – Update on Engagement

Adds:

1.5 To note that a roundtable discussion has taken place with diverse representatives from Council and charities.

1.6 To note that significant issues were raised around training for teachers and other professionals in schools to be able to effectively deal with racism and discrimination.

1.7 To agree that officers will explore action on 1.6 in discussion with Education services and Members Equalities Working Group.

Moved by: Councillor Adam Nols-McVey

Seconded by: Councillor Kate Campbell

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.12 – Islamophobia – Update on Engagement

Adds:

1.5 Notes that a work programme for the Equalities Working Group is still to be set and a request for a mapping of equalities work in the Council remains outstanding from February 2023. Considers these two pieces of work to be key to Elected Members' understanding of and engagement in a successful action plan for tackling Islamophobia and therefore requests they are completed and shared as soon as possible.

Moved by: Cllr Ben Parker

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 7.13 – Council Risk Appetite

Replace the recommendations with

1. Committee agrees to set the Council's risk appetite and to approve the methodology to manage Risk Appetite to support the management of risk within the City of Edinburgh Council as part of the Council's Risk Management Framework with the following amendments to the report:

Change the following risk appetite range ratings in the table:

R2 Financial and Budget Management Low to Low

R6 Supplier, Contractor, and Partnership Management Low to Moderate

R9 Service Delivery Low to Moderate

R11 Regulatory and Legislative Compliance Minimum Possible to Low

R12 Reputational Risk Low to High (to reflect the reality of recent events)

In addition, the approval of a range of Low to High for risk R3 Programme and Project Delivery is subject to any high-risk project being reported to an appropriate committee for approval with a detailed outline of the risks involved, the proposed mitigating actions and an assessment of the likely success of these actions to deliver the project outcomes on time and on budget.

2. Committee further agrees to refer this report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.

Moved by: Councillor Phil Daggart

Seconded by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Addendum by the SNP Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 8.2 – Preparation for the implementation of Photographic Voter ID at UK Parliamentary Elections

Adds:

Agrees the Convenor will write to the UK Government relevant Ministers to again protest the UK Governments voter exclusion tactics citing the mounting evidence of voters having their voting rights denied due to the policy of voter suppression.

Moved by: Councillor Adam Nols-McVey

Seconded by: Councillor Marco Biagi

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 8.2 – Preparation for the implementation of Photographic Voter ID at UK Parliamentary Elections

Adds:

1.4 Welcomes that the report recognises that “minority groups are under-represented in being registered to vote and/or voting.” but notes with disappointment that:

1.4.1 Despite a paper elsewhere on this agenda (7.11 Gender Recognition Reform) clearly showing that voter ID was an area of concern for trans people in Edinburgh, this is not reflected in this paper explicitly talking about voter ID;

1.4.2 While the ‘next steps’ show commitment to a “particular focus on those groups most likely to be impacted by the photo ID requirements”, this is not clearly evident in the draft communication plans;

1.5 Therefore requests that the next iteration of the communication plan explicitly references which groups are being targeted with each activity and how equality will be mainstreamed throughout general communications, and that this plan is communicated to Committee;

Moved by: Cllr Alys Mumford

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Administration

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 8.6 – Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Annual Report 2022/23

Adds;

“Commends the officer teams for their work in delivering the city region deal programmes and notes the strength of the partnership created between the local authorities, universities and colleges, the private and third sectors in the region.

Recognises the significance of the Research, Data and Innovation programme within the Deal and the importance of further harnessing the investment and data capability to maximise the opportunities that it creates to drive economic growth, create high-skilled jobs and improve public services for the benefit of all of our residents and communities. Committee also welcomes that the region has been selected as the hosting site for the UK’s Exascale, next-generation supercomputer, Programme.

Requests that through both the City Region Deal and the Regional Prosperity Framework, extending the impact of Data-Driven Innovation should involve using the region’s Data and Artificial Intelligence capability to deliver improved benefits all across the city region.”

Moved by: Councillor Cammy Day

Seconded by: Councillor Mandy Watt

Addendum by the Green Group

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 9.1 – Annual Policies Update – Strategy & Communication

Adds:

1.5 Notes that in October 2022, following a motion agreed at Full Council, Council “Recognise[d] the contradiction between the Council’s declaration of a Climate Emergency and the continued advertising of environmentally damaging goods and services in Edinburgh”.

1.6 Therefore, welcomes forthcoming changes to the Advertising and Sponsorship policy to strengthen sustainability and low carbon considerations, and notes that this will be brought to committee for approval in January 2024.

1.7 Requests that officers engage with groups in advance of this meeting to explore the scope and ambition of the new policy, including how it compares to versions of ethical advertising and sponsorship policies passed in other Councils.

Moved by: Cllr Ben Parker

Seconded by:

Amendment by the SNP & Green Groups

Policy and Sustainability Committee

24 October 2023

Item 9.2 – Direct Payment Policy, Procedure and Agreement

Deletes all and replaces with:

1.1. Committee notes the contents of the report and thanks officers for the work done to date on the Direct Payment Policy, Procedure and Agreement.

1.2 Committee understands that Social Work Scotland are currently developing a National Model Direct Payment Agreement and requests that further research is carried out into this prior to publication of Edinburgh's procedure as the new national model may be a useful template.

1.3 Committee regrets that this policy, procedure and agreement makes scarce mention of supported decision making, co-production, advocacy (other than during claw back), accountability (other than the DP holder), complaints procedures or human rights.

1.4 Committee agrees that any policy should clearly reference the 4 SDS standards of Participation and Dignity; Involvement; Informed choice and Collaboration, in addition to the 12 SDS Standards – as agreed by COSLA on behalf of all of their Local Authority members.

1.4.1 Committee also believes the Direct Payment Policy should clearly align with the outcomes identified in the national SDS Improvement Plan 2023 – 2027

1.4.2 The updated Direct Payment Policy, Procedure and Agreement should also contain further detail in how practitioners will record roles, responsibilities, timelines, decisions (and who made them), approvals, dates, review dates etc.

1.5 Therefore committee agrees not to proceed with the new policy, procedure, and agreement until the above has been addressed and accommodated and recommends that as part of the redraft there should be engagement with individuals with lived experience of having an assessed need for a service and those who are unpaid carers for an individual with an assessed need.

1.5.1 Agrees that there should be an additional Equalities Impact Assessment carried out which has contributions from individuals who have lived experience of having an assessed need for a service or someone who is an unpaid carer for an individual who lives with an assessed need.

1.6 Notes in relation to 4.1 in the report that there was an update to SDS Statutory Guidance in October 2022.

1.7 Further notes in relation to 4.2 in the report that the document equally sets out the Local Authority responsibilities to DP recipients (eg information regarding who covers the costs of Redundancy for PAs).

Moved by: Councillor Vicky Nicolson
Seconded by: Councillor Claire Miller