

Addendum by the Green Group

Finance and Resources Committee

14 March 2024

Item 7.1 - Treasury Strategy

Committee:

1. Notes that that Treasury Code states that “it is not implied that the organisation’s ESG policy will currently include ESG scoring or other real time ESG criteria at individual investment level” but welcomes the inclusion at Appendix 10 of additional considerations for environmental and social governance that the council may wish to explore;
2. Believes that Edinburgh Council should be leaders in upholding ethical financial standards;
3. Therefore requests that a report is produced within three cycles exploring those schemes listed in the appendix, how they align with the council’s business plan, and how their adoption might impact positively and adversely on both the Council’s budget strategies and climate and equality aspirations;

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Green Group

Finance and Resources Committee

14 March 2024

Item 7.2 - Capital Strategy Annual Report

Committee:

1. Notes that in January, Policy & Sustainability “notes with concern that 40% of the Council’s capital budget for 2024-2034 is considered as neutral or unfavourable to its climate ambitions;”
2. Notes with concern that the revised figures for this updated report show that 46% of the capital budget from 2024-2034 is now neutral or unfavourable;
3. Agrees that the recommended “Ways to improve this assessment” in appendix 2 are taken forward by the relevant directorates and reported on in the business bulletins of relevant committees, as well as being included in the capital strategy review, with the aim of transferrin the neutral and unfavourable spends into favourable spends;
4. Further agrees that for the 7% unfavourable spend, measures are investigated such as additional biodiversity measures in new-build schools to mitigate for soil sealing;
5. Additionally, notes that Council has asked that “the processes around capital budgeting and capital strategy for health & social care be documented in the appropriate workstreams” within the Integration Joint Board;
6. Therefore asks that a similar measure be undertaken for Council workstreams and consideration given to a capital strategy for health and social care within the review being carried out as part of the 2025-6 budget process.

Moved by: Cllr Alys Mumford

Seconded by:

Addendum by the SNP Group

Finance and Resources Committee

14 March 2024

Item 8.5 - Cables Wynd and Linksvie House, Design and Development Commission for Full Block Upgrade and Improvement – Contract Variation

Adds:

- 1.1.4 Recognises the significant scale of this project and the proposed spend and therefore requests regular reporting back to Finance & Resources Committee every two cycles to keep Elected Members fully informed of progress and to allow early scrutiny of any potential cost implications while that progress is made.

Moved by: Councillor Lesley Macinnes

Seconded by: Councillor Marco Biagi

Amendment by the SNP Group

Finance and Resources Committee

14 March 2024

Item 8.6 – South Bridge Resource Centre, 6 Infirmary Street, Edinburgh – Proposed Lease

Deletes 1.1.3 and adds:

- 1.1.3 Regrets that an ultimatum decision has been put before committee without a comprehensive plan for the relocation of the services, which should have been built over the last year through active engagement and consultation with the learning community and other users of the South Bridge Resource Centre and notes that this has meant councillors are having to make a decision without full understanding of the implications and impact on the learning community at South Bridge.
- 1.1.4 Further regrets the level of communication and lack of updates to elected members despite the scale of these proposals and number of staff and residents potentially affected. This has caused a degree of stress and confusion for residents and staff and has potentially exposed all parties involved to reputational risk.
- 1.1.5 Notes the identified risk in the report that not all existing users of the building will be found suitable accommodation and agrees that this is unacceptable.
- 1.1.6 Nonetheless agrees that the EFFS proposal, its aims and values in relation to the Citywide Culture Strategy, the capital investment into accessibility and climate adaption in the building and potential partnership benefits for Canongate Youth, Totally Sound and Reel Youth Media are worthy of support and, noting the risk of any further delay to securing their funding, therefore approves the long lease to Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society on the terms and conditions set out in the report and subject to the below assurances that The City of Edinburgh Council will:
- i) Successfully establish a pottery studio to replace the SBRC facility, with associated costs included in the overall project costs to ensure the continuation (and possible expansion) of the popular Wider Achievement and Lifelong Learning classes in and the Pottery Users Group (via memorandum of understanding or lease) to enable them to continue their complimentary relationship with these classes and charitable activities.
 - ii) Ensure and plan for an orderly end to activities in the SBRC with no organisation, group or class being asked to vacate the premises prior to the scheduled end of term in summer 2024 as minimum and that no organisation, group or class will be asked to stop using the South Bridge Resource Centre until there is a suitable alternative

space available to them unless under exceptional circumstance in which case a report should be brought to Education Children and Families detailing the reasons why.

- iii) In the event that Totally Sound and Reel Youth Media do not form part of the final agreement to remain at SBRC the above shall also be applicable and expected for these organisations.

1.1.7 Further agrees that council officers should seek to support Canongate Youth (and other organisations who may be included in the sub-lease) with finding a temporary home for the duration of the construction works until they can return to the Southbridge Resource Centre.

Moved by: Councillor Lesley Macinnes
Seconded by: Councillor Vicky Nicolson

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14 March 2024

Item 8.6 - South Bridge Resource Centre

Adds:

2. Notes that the council's costs of £176,000 maintenance per year will no longer apply if this transfer is concluded;
- 2.1. Additionally notes that building users may face additional travel and care costs if classes are relocated further away from their homes;
- 2.2 Therefore requests that consideration is given to providing expenses and support for existing users who continue to access classes in the new venue for a set period following the transfer;
3. Notes that the report states that “there is a risk that all existing users of the building will not be found suitable alternative accommodation.”
- 3.1 Therefore agrees that no final lease will be signed until Committee are satisfied that all groups have been offered appropriate alternative accommodation;
- 3.2 Additionally welcomes that there will be continued engagement with tenants and users, and requests business bulletin updates to every F&R Committee Meeting on this engagement and other aspects covered in the integrated impact assessment, until finalisation of transfer;
5. Finally, welcomes that the Fringe Society will have a permanent base in the city centre, and hopes that this venue stability will lead to additional capacity within the Society to focus on workers’ pay and conditions and ensuring that the Fringe remains accessible to everyone.

Moved by: Alys Mumford

Seconded by: