

Minutes

Finance and Resources Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 30 April 2024

Present

Councillors Watt (Convener), Biagi, Bruce, Dalglish, Doggart, Kumer (substituting for Councillor Macinnes (item 9)), Macinnes, Mumford, Nicolson, Ross, Staniforth and Younie.

1. Deputations

Edinburgh Tourism Action Group (Item 7.6 on the agenda)

The deputation were in support of the request for funding to provide a dedicated Convention Bureau function for Edinburgh. They believed that there was a very clear need, and strong business case, for ensuring that the current 'guardianship model' evolved into a more formalised, longer term structure with the resources required to ensure that Edinburgh could deliver the convention bureau services required in order for the city to effectively compete in the highly competitive, global MICE market, also referred to as Business Events, and deliver the ambitions of the Edinburgh 2030 Tourism Strategy.

The deputation stressed that business events were integral to the successful delivery of the Edinburgh Tourism Strategy 2030, contributing to the five strategic outcomes that the strategy aimed to achieve and that by leveraging business events, Edinburgh could attract high-value visitors, boost sustainable economic growth, and position itself as a leading global destination.

(see item 11 below)

2. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Finance and Resources Committee of 14 March 2024 as a correct record.

3. Work Programme

The Finance and Resources Committee Work Programme for April 2024 was presented.

Decision

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Work Programme of 14 March 2024, submitted.)

4. Rolling Actions Log

The Finance and Resources Committee Rolling Actions Log for April 2024 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To agree to close the following actions:
 - Action 1** - Rolling Actions Log (Bridges and Investment in Craiglockhart and Colinton Dells)
 - Action 9** – Health and Social Care Contract Extension Report
 - Action 11** – RAAC in the Council Estate – Motion by Councillor Day
 - Action 12** – By Councillor Arthur - City Chambers Quadrangle Operations
- 2) To ask that updates be provided on Actions 5 (Business Bulletin – War Memorial) and 7 (South Bridge Resource Centre, 6 Infirmary Street, Edinburgh – Future Strategy.)
- 3) To otherwise note the Rolling Actions Log.
(Reference – Rolling Actions Log of 14 March 2024, submitted.)

5. Business Bulletin

The Finance and Resources Committee Business Bulletin for April 2024 was presented.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin of 30 April 2024, submitted.)

6. Annual Report – Debt Write Off

The report provided a summary of income deemed uncollectable and written off during 2022/23.

Decision

- 1) To note the sums due to the Council that had been written off during 2022/23 and the low value (0.18%) this represented compared to the overall level of income.
 - 2) To note that while a debt was written off for accounting purposes, cases would be reviewed, and payment appropriately pursued if there was a material change
- (Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

7. Health and Social Care Contract Extension Report

Details were provided on the current Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) commissioning activity and how these impacted on contractual arrangements including the requirement to waive the requirement of Contract Standing Orders to allow contracts to be extended at the expiry of the current contract duration. All the services

covered in the report were commissioned by Edinburgh Integration Joint Board and procured by the Council.

Motion

To approve the extension of the Health and Social Care contracts outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Dalgleish

Amendment

- 1) To approve the extension of the Health and Social Care contracts outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 2) Despite noting the difficulties attached to the content of this report, eg a cyber attack on one supplier, Committee regrets the need for further contract extensions and requests that significant effort is applied to avoiding this situation in future.

- moved by Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Biagi

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Watt:

- 1) To approve the extension of the Health and Social Care contracts outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 2) Despite noting the difficulties attached to the content of the report, eg a cyber attack on one supplier, to regret the need for further contract extensions and request that significant effort be applied to avoiding this situation in future.

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

8. Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) – Contract Real Living Wage Uplift

An update was provided on the level of funding to be made available to councils as part of the 2024/25 Local Government Finance Settlement. Given the content of the approved budget motion and assurances provided to the Chief Officer of the EIJB, members' approval was sought, subject to onward ratification by Council, to implement wage uplifts in adult social care commissioned settings and allocate corresponding funding accordingly.

Decision

- 1) To note the Direction from the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) to increase contractual hourly pay rates in commissioned adult care settings to at least £12 with effect from 1 April 2024.
- 2) To approve the uplift of contracts in accordance with this Direction.
- 3) To note that, due to the generic needs basis used to allocate available funding, the EIJB had reflected an estimated £5.3m cost pressure arising from implementation of this uplift within its overall 2024/25 revenue budget gap.
- 4) To note further that, in this context, the Service Director: Finance and Procurement had issued a letter of comfort to the EIJB Chief Officer, referencing the anticipated receipt of £5.0m of additional recurring Scottish Government funding and Council's previous agreement to pass this on in full to the EIJB, subject to requesting a match-funded contribution from NHS Lothian.
- 5) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services to the Council for ratification of this decision and the additional Council financial contribution.

(References – Act of Council No 1 of 22 February 2024; report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

9. Children, Education and Justice Services Contracts Extension

An overview of the current commissioning and contract management activity in the Children, Education and Justice Services Directorate was provided which included the actions taken to streamline the monitoring of the spend and forecast to support budget process and service planning.

Motion

- 1) To note the ongoing work being undertaken by Children, Education and Justice Services Directorate to review all third party spend.
- 2) To approve the extension to three contracts coming to an end between April and December 2024 for which there was active contract planning.
- 3) To approve the extension to two waivers for requirements currently at market engagement stage.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Dalgleish

Amendment

- 1) To note the ongoing work being undertaken by Children, Education and Justice Services Directorate to review all third party spend.
- 2) To approve the extension to three contracts coming to an end between April and December 2024 for which there was active contract planning.
- 3) Committee expresses concern about being asked to commit to contract extensions and waivers of such a scale and size.

- 4) Committee requests that a report is brought to Committee as quickly as possible which examines why this has occurred, what can be done to avoid similar situations in future and whether the rules on waivers and contract extensions have to be re-drafted
- 5) To approve the extension to two waivers for requirements currently at market engagement stage.

In accordance with Standing Order 22(3), the amendment was accepted as an amendment to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Watt:

- 1) To note the ongoing work being undertaken by Children, Education and Justice Services Directorate to review all third party spend.
- 2) To approve the extension to three contracts coming to an end between April and December 2024 for which there was active contract planning.
- 3) To express concern about being asked to commit to contract extensions and waivers of such a scale and size.
- 4) To request that a report be brought to Committee as quickly as possible which examined why this had occurred, what could be done to avoid similar situations in future and whether the rules on waivers and contract extensions had to be re-drafted.
- 5) To approve the extension to two waivers for requirements currently at market engagement stage.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services, submitted.)

10. Award of Contract for Edinburgh's Winter Festivals

Approval was sought for the award of a Contract for Winter Festivals to Unique Assembly Limited as lead organisation of a consortium with Assembly Festival Limited and Unique Events Limited, to commence on 27 May 2024 for an initial period of three years, with two further optional 12 month extensions, at a total estimated value ranging between a minimum of £405,000 and £1,507,500 of income over the course of the Contract term, subject to planning permission, licensing and site availability.

At this point in the proceedings, the Committee, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting during consideration of this item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Motion

- 1) To approve the award of a Contract for Edinburgh Winter Festivals to Unique Assembly Limited, the lead for a consortium which included Assembly Festival Limited and Unique Events Limited.
- 2) To note the estimated rental income would range between a minimum of £405,000 and £1,507,500 over the course of the Contract term, subject to planning permission, licensing and site availability.
- 3) To approve the commencement of the Contract on 27 May 2024 to service the 2024/25 requirement for Edinburgh's Christmas and 2025/26 requirement for a combined Edinburgh's Christmas and Edinburgh's Hogmanay. The Contract term would be for an initial period of three years (i.e. 2024/25 to 2026/27) with two optional 12-month extensions undertaken at the sole discretion of the Council.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Dalgleish

Amendment

- 1) To approve the award of a Contract for Edinburgh Winter Festivals to Unique Assembly Limited, the lead for a consortium which included Assembly Festival Limited and Unique Events Limited.
- 2) To note the estimated rental income would range between a minimum of £405,000 and £1,507,500 over the course of the Contract term, subject to planning permission, licensing and site availability.
- 3) To approve the commencement of the Contract on 27 May 2024 to service the 2024/25 requirement for Edinburgh's Christmas and 2025/26 requirement for a combined Edinburgh's Christmas and Edinburgh's Hogmanay. The Contract term would be for an initial period of three years (i.e. 2024/25 to 2026/27) with two optional 12-month extensions undertaken at the sole discretion of the Council.
- 4) Refers this report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny, with a particular focus on the timeline of procurement and any public announcements and due diligence undertaken on financial aspects of the bids received.

- moved by Councillor Mumford, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Watt:

- 1) To approve the award of a Contract for Edinburgh Winter Festivals to Unique Assembly Limited, the lead for a consortium which included Assembly Festival Limited and Unique Events Limited.

- 2) To note the estimated rental income would range between a minimum of £405,000 and £1,507,500 over the course of the Contract term, subject to planning permission, licensing and site availability.
- 3) To approve the commencement of the Contract on 27 May 2024 to service the 2024/25 requirement for Edinburgh's Christmas and 2025/26 requirement for a combined Edinburgh's Christmas and Edinburgh's Hogmanay. The Contract term would be for an initial period of three years (i.e. 2024/25 to 2026/27) with two optional 12-month extensions undertaken at the sole discretion of the Council.
- 4) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Place to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny, with a particular focus on the timeline of procurement and any public announcements and due diligence undertaken on financial aspects of the bids received.

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

11. Edinburgh International Conference Centre – Convention Bureau Funding

Details were provided on a proposal from Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) to take forward the development of a Convention Bureau (CB) for Edinburgh, building on the guardianship arrangement which was in place on an interim basis until December 2023. Alternative options were also outlined with the potential of a more incremental approach and Committee was asked to consider the proposal and the source of the funding.

The Committee had considered a written deputation on this issue (see item 1 above).

Motion

- 1) To note the role of business tourism in Edinburgh's visitor and wider economy, and the importance of a Convention Bureau to co-ordinate and promote business tourism activities for the city.
- 2) To note the results delivered by Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) in their capacity as 'guardian' of the Convention Bureau in Edinburgh.
- 3) To note the proposal from EICC to manage a Convention Bureau for Edinburgh on an ongoing basis.
- 4) To not support the proposal at 1.1.4 of the recommendations by the Executive Director of Place with regard to writing off of loan stock.
- 5) Notes at 4.20 of the report that the funding pressure is approximately £150,000 per annum.
- 6) Therefore agrees to fund continuation of the current arrangement, for one year, to a maximum of £150,000 in addition to the resource that the Council currently contributes. Funding should be from any related provisions or relevant reserves that can be released for this purpose.

7) To refer the report to Council to formally approve the revenue allocation.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Dalgleish.

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the role of business tourism in Edinburgh's visitor and wider economy, and the importance of a Convention Bureau to co-ordinate and promote business tourism activities for the city.
- 2) To note the results delivered by Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) in their capacity as 'guardian' of the Convention Bureau in Edinburgh.
- 3) To note the proposal from EICC to manage a Convention Bureau for Edinburgh on an ongoing basis.
- 4) Notes the costs to date of securing that business, including the annual costs of a full time member provided by CEC and the associated business expenses incurred by CEC of £55k per annum.
- 5) Notes the request for a further CEC funding provision of £300k per annum until 2026.
- 6) Notes that this is not covered by any existing budget provision, despite the guardianship arrangement only being extended to Dec 2023.
- 7) Notes that this would be a recurring annual commitment.
- 8) Notes that the requested commitment of public funds from CEC far outweighs the funding levels from the local tourism-related business sector.
- 9) Notes that agreeing to such a funding mechanism would pre-judge next year's budget and would inevitably result in reducing funding elsewhere.
- 10) Notes that London only employs 11 people in their equivalent convention bureau, despite the size of and opportunities in that city, but that the proposal in Edinburgh is eventually to employ 10 people for the same function.
- 11) Does not agree to either the £300k per annum funding request, not the additional capital investment request for £50k.
- 12) Requests a further report ahead of the budget decision making process for 25/26 which provides, among other information, more detail on how further funding could be sought or generated outside of CEC funding, and what impact there would be of reducing resource commitment to that covered by existing CEC funding levels and membership contributions.

- moved by Councillor Macinnes, seconded by Councillor Biagi

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the role of business tourism in Edinburgh's visitor and wider economy, and the importance of a Convention Bureau to co-ordinate and promote business tourism activities for the city.
- 2) To note the results delivered by Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) in their capacity as 'guardian' of the Convention Bureau in Edinburgh.

- 3) To note the proposal from EICC to manage a Convention Bureau for Edinburgh on an ongoing basis.
- 4) To note that the Board of C.E.C. Holdings was supportive of EICC continuing its guardianship role and for the cost to be met by EICC from their existing reserves, and that the equivalent amount would be written off from the loan stock due to C.E.C. Holdings Limited in 2026.
- 5) Agrees to continue supporting the EICC to run the ECB on the current arrangement – support from the council in terms of one Full Time team member, website, domain and CMS costs, and funding ‘destination marketing’ membership – if acceptable to EICC, with a request that focus is given to leveraging funding from membership fees and external funding.
- 6) Requests that the ALEO review is followed by a review into the loan stock and other assets relating to ALEOs, in order that the council can have a holistic and consistent strategy relating to these monies.

- moved by Councillor Mumford, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendments 1 and 2 were adjusted and accepted as addendums to the Motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to Amendment 1.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)	-	6 votes
For Amendment 1 (as adjusted)	-	5 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Bruce, Dalgleish, Doggart, Ross, Watt and Younie.

For Amendment 1 (as adjusted): Councillors Biagi, Macinnes, Mumford, Nicolson and Staniforth.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Watt:

- 1) To note the role of business tourism in Edinburgh’s visitor and wider economy, and the importance of a Convention Bureau to co-ordinate and promote business tourism activities for the city.
- 2) To note the results delivered by Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) in their capacity as ‘guardian’ of the Convention Bureau in Edinburgh.
- 3) To note the proposal from EICC to manage a Convention Bureau for Edinburgh on an ongoing basis.
- 4) To not support the proposal at 1.1.4 of the recommendations by the Executive Director of Place with regard to writing off of loan stock.

- 5) To note at 4.20 of the report that the funding pressure was approximately £150,000 per annum.
- 6) To therefore agree to fund continuation of the current arrangement, for one year, to a maximum of £150,000 in addition to the resource that the Council currently contributed. Funding should be from any related provisions or relevant reserves that could be released for this purpose.
- 7) To request a further report ahead of the budget decision making process for 25/26 which provided, among other information, more detail on how further funding could be sought or generated outside of CEC funding, and what impact there would be of reducing resource commitment to that covered by existing CEC funding levels and membership contributions.
- 8) To request that the ALEO review be followed by a review into the loan stock and other assets relating to ALEOs, in order that the council could have a holistic and consistent strategy relating to these monies.
- 9) To refer the report to Council to formally approve the revenue allocation.

(Reference – joint report by the Executive Directors of Corporate Services and Place, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Doggart made a transparency statement in respect of the above item as a Director of CEC Holdings Ltd.

Councillor Mumford made a transparency statement in respect of the above item as a Board Member of the EICC.

12. Passenger Transport Framework Agreement

The Committee were asked to consider delegating authority to the Executive Director of Place to award a Framework Agreement for Passenger Transport services following the conclusion of a current procurement process. In order to ensure delays and associated costs were minimised, approval was sought to proceed with award of a Framework in a time period that would facilitate the allocation of routing for school transportation in the 2024/25 school year.

Motion

- 1) To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with Finance and Resources Committee Spokespeople, to award a Framework Agreement for Passenger Transport Services.
- 2) To note the expected commencement of the contract as May 2024 for a period of two years with an option to extend for two further 12 month periods (12 months +12 months) with an estimated value of circa £15,000,000 per year. A level of contingency is included within the overall value.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Dalgleish

Amendment

- 1) To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with Finance and Resources Committee Spokespeople, to award a Framework Agreement for Passenger Transport Services.
- 2) To note the expected commencement of the contract as May 2024 for a period of two years with an option to extend for two further 12 month periods (12 months +12 months) with an estimated value of circa £15,000,000 per year. A level of contingency is included within the overall value.
- 3) Regrets that we are being asked to agree delegated authority of such a scale without full scrutiny of elected members.
- 4) Notes the serious implications for service users if this is not agreed today.
- 5) Requests regular updating to this Committee on the progress of this Framework Agreement to reassure elected members that service delivery and financial considerations are being fulfilled correctly.

- moved by Councillor Mumford, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Watt:

- 1) To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with Finance and Resources Committee Spokespeople, to award a Framework Agreement for Passenger Transport Services.
- 2) To note the expected commencement of the contract as May 2024 for a period of two years with an option to extend for two further 12 month periods (12 months +12 months) with an estimated value of circa £15,000,000 per year. A level of contingency is included within the overall value.
- 3) To regret that the Committee were being asked to agree delegated authority of such a scale without full scrutiny of elected members.
- 4) To note the serious implications for service users if this was not agreed today.
- 5) To request regular updating to the Committee on the progress of the Framework Agreement to reassure elected members that service delivery and financial considerations were being fulfilled correctly.

In accordance with Standing Order 31.1, the decision was referred to Council for approval.

(References – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

13. City Chambers Quadrangle Operations

In response to a motion by Councillor Arthur, details were provided on options to improve pedestrian safety and cycling parking at the City Chambers and surrounding area.

Motion

- 1) To note the update by the Executive Director of Place in response to the motion approved by the Council in September 2023 on the operation of the City Chambers Quadrangle.
 - 2) To approve the proposed operating procedure (Appendix 1 to the report).
- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Dalgleish

Amendment

Committee

- 1) Notes that in September 2023 a motion from Cllr Arthur that was passed saying Council: *“believes that the Council should lead by example by restricting access of motor vehicles to the City Chambers quadrangle, including the Lord Provost’s car or civic cars waiting to collect the Lord Provost or elected members.”* and reaffirms this belief
- 2) Therefore agrees the proposed operating procedure with the following changes:
 - a) Replace *‘The Lord Provost’s car or civic cars on official business; and Official vehicles to support the Lord Lieutenant, including vehicles for visiting dignitaries;’* from the *‘permitted vehicles’* with:
 - ‘- The Lord Provost’s car or civic cars on official business where required for accessibility reasons or insurance purposes;*
 - Official vehicles to support the Lord Lieutenant, including vehicles for visiting dignitaries, where entrance via Cockburn street or drop-off outside the quadrangle is deemed to be too great a security risk’*
 - b) Removes *‘the Council’s civic cars’* from the operating procedure, meaning that written permission should be sought for these cars using the quadrangle;
 - c) Notes that *“There may be an increased health and safety and/or insurance cost if access to the City Chambers through the Quadrangle for the Lord Provost, the Deputy Provost or Bailies are not permitted access (due to the value of the Civic Regalia).”* and therefore requests that officers determine what these increased costs may be, if any, and report back to Committee via the Business Bulletin in 1 cycle;
 - d) Additionally notes that *“Officers are currently reviewing the potential to make more cycle parking stands/hangers available around the City Chambers, and in particular investigating the potential to use carriageway space on Cockburn Street to create additional cycle parking capacity”* and

requests an update on this via the business bulletin in 3 cycles, or when available.

- moved by Councillor Mumford, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 4 votes

For the amendment - 7 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Bruce, Dalgleish, Doggart and Watt.

For the Amendment: Councillors Biagi, Macinnes, Mumford, Nicolson, Ross, Staniforth and Younie.)

Decision

To approve the amendment by Councillor Mumford:

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

14 Workforce Dashboard

Details were provided on the Council's Workforce Data for the period October to December 2023 (Quarter 3).

Decision

To note the information contained in the Workforce Dashboard for the period October to December 2023.

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

15. Land at Former Torphin Quarry, Edinburgh – Proposed Lease

Approval was sought for the lease of 1.506 hectares of land at Torphin Quarry, Edinburgh to Tiphereth on the terms set out in report the by Executive Director of Place.

Decision

To approve the lease of 1.506 hectares of land at Torphin Quarry, Edinburgh to Tiphereth on the terms set out in the report and on such other terms and conditions to be agreed by Executive Director of Place.

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

16 Land at Jock's Lodge, Edinburgh - Proposed Disposal

Approval was sought to progress the disposal of 2.64 sq m of land at Jocks's Lodge to Alumno Student (Jock's Lodge) Limited who had obtained planning permission for a student accommodation led mixed use development at Jock's Lodge on the terms and conditions outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

Motion

To approve the disposal of 2.64 sq m of land at Jock's Lodge, Edinburgh to Alumno Student (Jock's Lodge) Limited on the terms set out in the report and on such other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Dalgleish

Amendment

To take no action on the matter.

- moved by Councillor Macinnes, seconded by Councillor Nicolson

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 6 votes

For the amendment - 5 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Bruce, Dalgleish, Doggart, Ross, Watt and Younie

For the amendment: Councillors Macinnes, Mumford, Nicolson and Staniforth.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Watt.

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

17 Procurement Delivery Plan 2024/2025 - April Update

Details were provided on expiring contracts and planned procurement exercises which allowed time for elected members to ask questions about the procurement strategy at an early stage.

Decision

To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services and the update to current procurement exercises in Appendix 1 to the report and expiring contracts detailed in Appendix 2.

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

18. The City of Edinburgh Council Charitable Trusts and The City of Edinburgh Council Charitable Funds - Annual Audit Plan 2023/24

Decision

To continue consideration of the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services to the next meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee.

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

19 Procurement of the Decriminalised Parking Enforcement Contract

Details were provided on the Council's current contract for the provision of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) services which was due to end on 30 September 2024. The Transport and Environment Committee had considered a report on potential alternative delivery models for DPE services and agreed a preferred contract model however, the timescale for progressing the procurement for this meant that an extension of the current contract by up to 12 months might be required as a new contract could not be procured before the current contract ended.

Decision

To approve an extension to the current contract for DPE services for a period of up to 12 months to allow for the most effective and efficient service to be procured.

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

20. Joint Consultative Group (JCG): Amendment of Constitution

Details were provided of proposed changes to the constitution for the Joint Consultative Group.

Decision

To approve the revised constitution of the City of Edinburgh Council Joint Consultative Group.

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

21. Units C&D Newkirkgate Shopping Centre, Edinburgh – Proposed Lease Extension to the City of Edinburgh Council

Approval was sought for a five year lease extension to grant a new 25-year lease to Willow Women's Justice Service in respect of an office unit at Newkirkgate Shopping Centre on the terms and conditions outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

Decision

To approve a five year lease extension for the provision of Willow Women's Justice Service at Units C&D Newkirkgate Shopping Centre, Edinburgh, on the terms outlined in the report and on other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place

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

22. Unit 7 – 10 Clocktower, Flassches Yard, Edinburgh - Proposed New Lease

Approval was sought to grant a new lease from 27 August 2024 until 27 October 2035 to Pulsant Limited in respect of the industrial premises at Unit 7-10 Clocktower which

were due to become vacant on 26 August 2024 on the terms and conditions outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

Decision

To approve a new lease from 27 August 2024 until 27 October 2035 to Pulsant Limited of Unit 7-10 Clocktower, Edinburgh on the terms outlined in the report and on other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place.

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

23. 133 Lauriston Place, Edinburgh - Proposed New Lease

Approval was sought to grant a new 10-year lease to Hidden Door of the premises at 133 Lauriston Place, Edinburgh on the terms and conditions outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

Decision

To approve a new 10-year lease to Hidden Door in respect of the premises at 133 Lauriston Place, Edinburgh under the terms and conditions outlined in the report and on other terms to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place.

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

24. 43 Leith Street and 2-6 Calton Road, Edinburgh - Proposed New Lease

Approval was sought to grant a new 20-year lease to The Mother Black Cat Limited for the two public house premises at 43 Leith Street and 2-6 Calton Road, Edinburgh, on the terms outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

Decision

To approve a new 20-year lease to The Mother Black Cat Limited for the two public house premises at 43 Leith Street and 2-6 Calton Road, Edinburgh on the terms outlined in the report and on other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place.

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

25. Land at 18 Thornybauk, Tollcross, Edinburgh – Proposed Disposal

Approval was sought to dispose of land at 18 Thornybauk, Tollcross, Edinburgh extending to approximately 131.06sq m to Silvermills Estates and Land Limited on the terms and conditions outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

Decision

To approve the disposal of 131.06 sq m of land at 18 Thornybauk, Tollcross, Edinburgh to Silvermills Estates and Land Limited on the terms outlined in the report and on other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place.

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

26. 13 Lochrin Place, Edinburgh - Proposed Disposal

Approval was sought to dispose of the retail premises at 13 Lochrin Place to Majid Valiani on the terms and conditions outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place

Decision

To approve the disposal of the retail premises extending at 13 Lochrin Place, Edinburgh to Majid Valiani on the terms set out in the report and on such other terms and conditions to be agreed by Executive Director of Place.

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

27. Retaining Visitor Information Services on the Royal Mile – Motion by Councillor Mumford

The following motion by Councillor Mumford was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17 and verbally adjusted in terms of Standing Order 22(6):

“Committee:

- 1) Notes the announcement in March that Visit Scotland will be closing all information centres by 2026, including the centre currently located at 249 High Street in Edinburgh;
- 2) Believes there is a strong case to be made for the retention of an in-person visitor information centre in Edinburgh to welcome people to Scotland’s capital city and provide assistance to visitors less able to book online;
- 3) Further recognises that there may be scope to view this news as an opportunity for the city to advance other aspects of our sustainable tourism strategy and council values, for example through extended opening hours to support a safe nighttime economy for residents and visitors, providing facilities for independent tour guides, and promoting the work of the third sector and independent retailers;
- 4) Therefore requests the Executive Director of Corporate Services to present an options appraisal within 3 cycles for future use of the property at 249 High Street as a visitor centre, including through providing a service ourselves and working collaboratively with partner organisations.”

- moved by Councillor Mumford, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Mumford.

28. Proposed Acquisition of Completed Homes Across Edinburgh

The Committee, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Approval was sought to acquire 30 new homes at various locations in Edinburgh upon completion on the terms and conditions outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made with the purchase of new build homes following the Committee on 25 January 2024.
- 2) To approve the purchase of 30 new build homes at various locations in Edinburgh, subject to completing due diligence and on the terms and conditions outlined in this report.
- 3) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Place to Council for approval of the funding package

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

29. Miscellaneous Debts – Write-Off

The Committee, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

A summary was provided on current miscellaneous debt that was outstanding and deemed uncollectable and was therefore recommended for write off.

Decision

As detailed in the Confidential Schedule, signed by the Convener, with reference to this minute.

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

30. Wester Hailes High School Replacement Phase 2 – Contract Award

The Committee, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

An update on the outcome of negotiations with the preferred Contractor for construction of phase 2 of the Wester Hailes High School replacement project was provided and approval sought to award the contract.

Decision

As detailed in the Confidential Schedule, signed by the Convener, with reference to this minute.

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