

Committee Minutes

The City of Edinburgh Council

Year 2007/2008

Meeting 9 – Thursday 20 December 2007

Edinburgh, 20 December 2007 - At a meeting of The City of Edinburgh Council.

Present:-

LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable George Grubb

COUNCILLORS

Elaine Aitken
Ewan Aitken
Robert C Aldridge
Jeremy R Balfour
Eric Barry
David Beckett
Angela Blacklock
Mike Bridgman
Deidre Brock
Gordon Buchan
Tom Buchanan
Steve Burgess
Andrew Burns
Ronald Cairns
Steve Cardownie
Maggie Chapman
Maureen M Child
Jennifer A Dawe
Charles Dundas
Paul G Edie
Nick Elliott-Cannon
Paul Godzik
Norma Hart
Stephen Hawkins
Lesley Hinds
Allan G Jackson
Alison Johnstone
Colin Keir

Louise Lang
Jim Lowrie
Gordon Mackenzie
Kate MacKenzie
Marilyne A MacLaren
Elizabeth Maginnis
Mark McInnes
Stuart Roy McIvor
Tim McKay
Eric Milligan
Elaine Morris
Joanna Mowat
Rob Munn
Gordon J Munro
Ian Murray
Alastair Paisley
Gary Peacock
Ian Perry
Cameron Rose
Jason G Rust
Conor Snowden
Marjorie Thomas
Joanna Toomey
Stefan Tymkewycz
Phil Wheeler
Iain Whyte
Donald Wilson
Norrie Work

1 Presentation of National Music Council Award

The Council had been awarded a Diploma of Merit in the National Music Council UK Awards to Local Education Authorities in recognition of the city's outstanding commitment to music provision in 2007. The Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee accepted the award on behalf of the Council.

The Council heard Christmas Carols by the Gaelic Choir from Tollcross Primary School.

2 Deputations

(a) Eden Springs Water Contract – Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign (see item 3 below)

(i) Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign

Mick Napier said the report on the agenda on the Council's contract with Eden Springs fudged the issue of who owned the company. It was not in doubt that it was a 100% Israeli-owned company. The issue was not the sourcing of water in Scotland but whether the parent company actively promoted war crimes.

Mick Napier urged the Council to take a moral and ethical decision in support of human rights and to stand up for the people of Palestine by cancelling the contract with Eden Springs.

(Reference – e-mail dated 12 December 2007, submitted.)

(ii) UNISON

Duncan Smith spoke in support of cancelling the Council's contract with Eden Springs. UNISON had passed motions at both local and national levels for a campaign, similar to the economic boycott of South Africa during the apartheid era, to put pressure on Israel to end its illegal occupation of Palestinian land. The occupation was contrary to international law. The Council should not deal with a company which committed grave misconduct by taking property from illegally occupied territory.

(Reference – e-mail dated 19 December 2007, submitted.)

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(iii) Scottish Jews for a Just Peace

Maurice Naftalin spoke about the difficulties in countering accusations of anti-semitism when arguing against Israeli government policies. Scottish Jews for a Just Peace believed the occupation was wrong and contravened international law, a view supported by many in Israel. As an occupying power, Israel had an obligation to heed international law. A humanitarian catastrophe was occurring in the occupied territories and ending the contract with Eden Springs would send a clear message that it was “wrong to reward wrongdoers for the wrongs they have committed”.

(Reference – e-mail dated 19 December 2007, submitted.)

(b) National and Regional Sports Facilities – Progress Report (see item 4 below)

(i) Save Meadowbank Campaign

Graham Lamont expressed concern about the loss of this facility in East Edinburgh. Meadowbank was a welcome oasis in a built up area which contributed to the city’s health and well-being and should be retained and upgraded for the benefit of the whole city. The report on today’s Council agenda proposed a downgrading of Meadowbank to pay for the upgrade of the Commonwealth Pool. The deputation opposed the sale of any part of the Meadowbank site and urged the Council to look at other budgets to fund the refurbishment.

The deputation handed over 911 cards signed by members of the public in support of the refurbishment of Meadowbank. This was in addition to 1,136 cards already sent.

(Reference – e-mail dated 18 December 2007, submitted.)

(ii) Trinity Community Council

Alyson Cameron said that Glasgow’s bid for the Commonwealth Games stated that the Scottish Government would meet the £28m cost of upgrading the Royal Commonwealth Pool. Therefore, she found it unacceptable that the Council would consider selling Meadowbank to fund this project. She asked that the whole Meadowbank site be reserved for sport.

(Reference – e-mail dated 19 December 2007, submitted.)

(iii) East of Scotland Cycling Association

David Hoy and Allister Watson were disappointed that cycling had not been addressed in the report to today's Council meeting. Cycling was a major sport at Meadowbank which provided every day training facilities for young cyclists and contributed to the development of world-class cyclists. The planned velodrome in Glasgow at a cost of £20-25m would benefit all of Scotland but, if Edinburgh's track were to close, over 40 years experience and knowledge in the sport and a valuable facility used by kids clubs in the city would be lost. The deputation urged the Council to think about the implications of their decision and to consider the retention of a training velodrome in Edinburgh at a modest estimated cost of £5m.

(Reference – letter dated 18 December 2007, submitted.)

(iv) Edinburgh Athletic Club

Donald Gorrie, President of the Edinburgh Athletic Club, and Douglas Flett argued that the upgrading of the Royal Commonwealth Pool should not be linked with plans for Meadowbank. The condition of Meadowbank was not as bad as portrayed in the Chief Executive's report. It was quite satisfactory for some sports. The deputation asked the Council to examine funding more imaginatively and to consider developing a Sports Strategy which would address the requirement for facilities for both recreational use and specialist sports training across the city.

(Reference – e-mail dated 18 December 2007, submitted.)

(c) Non-Domestic Rates Relief (see item 33 below)

(i) The Melting Pot

Claire Carpenter, Director and Development Manager, The Melting Pot, spoke in support of Councillor Chapman's motion on the Council agenda on non-domestic rates relief for social enterprises.

Social enterprises were businesses set up to address social or environmental needs. The Melting Pot was a not-for-profit company which supported Scotland's social enterprise community. It offered affordable, accessible and attractive work and meeting spaces in the centre of Edinburgh. It filled a gap not met through public or charitable funding and at least 90% of its clients came from community groups, charities and like-minded organisations. The fact that the Melting Pot and other Social Enterprises were not eligible for rates relief had a critical bearing on their ability to expand and deliver

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services as rates payments accounted for at least 10% of their turnover.

She therefore asked the Council to support the motion by Councillor Chapman later on the agenda.

Reference – e-mail dated 19 December 2007, submitted.)

3 Eden Springs Water Contract

Details were provided of the Council's contract with Eden Springs (UK) Limited (Eden Springs) for the supply of bottled water to Council buildings. The likely consequences of cancelling the contract before the end of April 2009 were outlined

The Council had heard a number deputations on the matter (see item 2(a) above).

Motion

- 1) To agree that the annexation of the Golan and other 'occupied territories' was in breach of international law and one of many breaches which needed to be resolved for a lasting peaceful settlement in the region.
- 2) To recognise also that, since 1988, UK law had prohibited the termination of a contract on the basis of 'non-commercial' grounds and that EU procurement regulations prohibited the rejection of tenders on ethical grounds.
- 3) To note:
 - a) that the current contract, with Eden Springs UK, was entered into on 1 May 2006 and would run until 30 April 2009.
 - b) that, if the Council was to cancel the contract, there could be a claim for damages by the contractor because of a breach of contract by the Council.
 - c) that it was acknowledged by all parties that the water provided for use in Council premises was sourced in Scotland and bottled in Blantyre.
 - d) the letter from Tom McCabe MSP in that regard and that there was general agreement no water sourced from the Golan was or had been used by Eden Springs UK.

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- 4) To instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for implementation of UK legislation in this sphere and Scotland's MSPs and MEPs to request a review of both the 1988 UK legislation and relevant European regulations to take into account the concerns that had been expressed with regard to the violations of international law which the parent companies of organisations trading in the UK and European Union had been party to.
- 5) To agree that there appeared to be no reasonable grounds in law at this time to terminate the contract.
- 6) To instruct the Chief Executive to review the need for bottled water in advance of any decision to re-tender the contract when it was due for renewal given the good quality of tap water available as well as the cost and environmental impact of providing bottled water to Council offices.

- moved by Councillor Gordon Mackenzie, seconded by Councillor Cardownie.

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the report by the Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) However, to note also the following information:
 - (a) Eden Springs UK Ltd was owned by the Israeli company Mayanot Eden
 - (b) Mayanot Eden extracted water from the Salukian spring in the Golan Heights which was illegally occupied by the Israelis in direct contravention of the Fourth Geneva Convention and various UN Resolutions.
 - (c) That Gush Shalom – the Israeli peace group – had been campaigning against this illegal practice for over ten years.
- 3) To agree, therefore, to end the contract with Eden Springs and to ask the Chief Executive to explore how this could be achieved before the end of the contract period.

- moved by Councillor Munro, seconded by Councillor Ewan Aitken (on behalf of the Labour Group).

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Amendment 2

To note the report by the Director of Corporate Services.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Balfour (on behalf of the Conservative Group).

Voting

In a first vote, for or against amendment 1 by Councillor Munro, the voting was as follows:

For amendment 1	-	17 votes
Against amendment 1	-	40 votes

In a second vote, the voting between the motion and amendment 2 was as follows:

For the motion	-	29 votes
For amendment 2	-	11 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Gordon Mackenzie.

(References – Act of Council No 3 of 22 November 2007; report no CEC/121/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

4 National and Regional Sports Facilities

An update was provided on progress on the national and regional sports facilities projects and a proposed way forward was identified.

The Council had heard a number of deputations on the matter (see item 2(b) above).

Motion

- 1) Having taken into regard the views expressed by members of the public, to agree that the subject of national and regional sports facilities was of a strategic nature which would impact on the people of Edinburgh for many years to come. To this end, it should be recognised that the final decision taken on this issue must be made once all the facts and options were known and considered by Councillors.

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- 2) To proceed with the full refurbishment of the Royal Commonwealth Pool as a priority.
- 3) To address the funding gap for the above refurbishment through the Capital Budget for 2008-2011.
- 4) To make a further assessment of the options for facilities at Meadowbank, taking into account all the facilities catered for at present and a range of proposals for those to be recommended for future provision, noting that some land might need to be released for disposal to realise a capital receipt.
- 5) To re-affirm the undertaking of full local consultation on what sports facilities were required in the west of the city.
- 6) To affirm that, if further consultation was to be meaningful, all relevant information must be made available to interested parties, within reason.
- 7) To note that a report on the above work would be made to the Council in March to enable decisions on the options asked for above to be made.

- moved by Councillor Cardownie, seconded by Councillor Dawe.

Amendment 1

- 1) To note the report by the Chief Executive on National and Regional Sports Facilities.
- 2) To note that the Chief Executive's report stated that Meadowbank was "no longer fit for purpose".
- 3) To recognise that all options put forward in the report were stated to be "not achievable within the Council's financial plans" without "a disposal of land at Meadowbank".
- 4) To deplore the lack of innovation and inability to take major strategic decisions by this Administration.
- 5) To agree that the Council should seek to maximise resources to deliver the best possible sports facilities for the city as a whole.
- 6) To call on the Administration to urgently outline, within one cycle, how it would deliver a significant modern sporting facility for our city, as well as an additional report investigating the training needs of cyclists in the East of Scotland.

- moved by Councillor Godzik, seconded by Councillor Hinds (on behalf of the Labour Group).

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Amendment 2

- 1) To note:
 - a) that the Council was not in a position to proceed with all of its ambitious plans for the national and regional sports facilities developments without the realisation of a major capital receipt from the sale of the Meadowbank site.
 - b) that it was possible to proceed now with the refurbishment of the Royal Commonwealth Pool (RCP) complex, including the provision of the diving facility for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, and that this would require an investment of £37.1m.
 - c) that the Administration's lack of a firm decision to progress a proposal for national and regional sports facilities had led to an unnecessary delay in plans for improved sports facilities in Edinburgh and continued to add to the cost to the taxpayer for each additional month of delay.
 - d) that the shortfall in respect of the Council's original plans for national sports facilities, including the RCP and a new complex at Sighthill, was in the region of £16.5m but by reducing the specification of the RCP and Sighthill schemes it would be possible to deliver both within the available funding and that this was the only financially viable scheme open to the Council.
 - e) that the proposals for national and regional sports facilities had been approved by the original Investment Steering Group in March 2004, had subsequently been unanimously approved in principle by the Council on five separate occasions up to February 2007, were supported by sportscotland and were recognised as the best option within available funding in the report by the Independent Chairman of the Working Group set up to review the Council's plans in April 2007.
 - f) that any refurbishment or remodelling of the Meadowbank site, as a second best option, would be unable to meet the city's aspirations for modern sporting facilities, would still require the sale of a substantial part of the Meadowbank site, was not fully funded and would be a short-sighted alternative.
 - g) that any revised priorities for the delivery of national and regional sports facilities in Edinburgh must be based on the resources available and the resolution of the outstanding issues described in the Chief Executive's report.

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- 2) To agree therefore:
- (a) to proceed with the full refurbishment of the RCP, as a priority.
 - (b) to address the funding gap for the completion of the national and regional sports facilities programme through the capital budget for 2008-2011, by realising a capital receipt from the sale of the Meadowbank site.
 - (c) to restore the original option of a replacement sporting facility at Sighthill, along with a further reassessment of the options for this facility and the RCP (including the possibility of a phased approach to their development, the involvement of commercial funding and the possibility of additional capital resources) in order to bridge the funding gap or provide facilities within the financial means of the Council.
 - (d) to reaffirm the Council's previous decision, as first formally proposed by the Conservative Group, to provide a replacement local sports facility in east Edinburgh and to undertake a full local consultation on which sports facilities were needed in the east of the city to meet continuing local needs.
 - (e) to undertake full consultation with those who had an interest in cycling on the need for track cycling training facilities in the city given that these were never envisaged in the Sighthill or Meadowbank proposals and that a competition standard indoor velodrome was to be provided in Glasgow as part of the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Buchan (on behalf of the Conservative Group).

Amendment 3

- 1) To support the refurbishment of the Royal Commonwealth Pool but to agree that this refurbishment should not be funded by the sale of the much loved and well used Meadowbank Sports Centre complex, venue for the 1970 and 1986 Commonwealth Games.
- 2) To lobby the Scottish Government for funding for national sports facilities.
- 3) To request a carbon audit for refurbishment and rebuild options at Meadowbank.
- 4) To request further quotations on refurbishment of Meadowbank Stadium.

- moved by Councillor Johnstone, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

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Voting

In a first vote between the motion and the amendments, the voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	28 votes
For amendment 1	-	14 votes
For amendment 2	-	11 votes
For amendment 3	-	4 votes

As there was no overall majority, amendment 3 which had received the fewest votes fell and, in a second vote, the voting between the motion and amendments 1 and 2 was as follows:

For the motion	-	29 votes
For amendment 1	-	14 votes
For amendment 2	-	11 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Cardownie.

(References – Act of Council No 8 of 22 November 2007; report no CEC/138/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Whyte declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Director of Edinburgh Leisure.

5 Questions

Questions put by members to this meeting, written answers and supplementary questions and answers are contained in the Appendix to this minute.

6 Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the meeting of the Council of 22 November 2007, as submitted, as a correct record.

7 Placing in Schools Appeal Committee

Decision

- 1) To re-appoint Donna Caldwell and Dr Karen Traill to Panel 2 of the Placing in Schools Appeal Committee.
- 2) To appoint Krystin Clyne to Panel 3 of the Committee following her retirement in February 2008.

(Reference – report no CEC/114/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

8 Appointments to Outside Bodies

Decision

- 1) To nominate Councillor Munn to the Leith Industrial School Trust.
- 2) To nominate Councillor Buchanan to SEStran in place of Councillor Cardownie.

(References – Acts of Council No 9 of 17 May 2007 and No 3 of 24 May 2007; report no CEC/116/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

9 Leader's Report

The Leader presented her report to Council. The following issues were raised on the report:

Councillor Ewan Aitken	- Public communication of “decisions” in advance reference to Conveners or Committees
Councillor Murray	- Public criticism of Council officials
Councillor Burns	- Schools PPP2 - decision to cancel biomass heating system - carbon targets and green ratings
Councillor Maginnis	- Strategic decisions taken by the Administration
Councillor Buchan	- Maintenance of Meggetland sports facility

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| Councillor Whyte | - Proposed Council Tax freeze
- Scottish Government funding allocation –
Edinburgh's case |
| Councillor Blacklock | - Violence Against Women march on 6
December 2007 |
| Councillor Burgess | - Growing Edinburgh's population |
| Councillor Godzik | - Strategic decisions by the Administration
- Staff morale |

(Reference – report no CEC/129/07-08/L by the Leader, submitted.)

10 Director of City of Development – Appointment

Decision

- 1) To appoint David Anderson to the post of Director of City Development, subject to any necessary pre-employment checks.
- 2) To thank Andrew Holmes for his work during his time as Director of City Development

(References – Act of Council No 30 of 23 August 2007; report no CEC/136/07-08/RC by the Recruitment Committee, submitted.)

11 Affordable Housing - Joint Working Group – Membership

The Health, Social Care and Housing Committee had referred a recommendation to the Council, in terms of Standing Order 53, on the membership of the Affordable Housing Joint Working Group.

The Joint Working Group of the Planning and Health, Social Care and Housing Committees would consider all issues on the provision of affordable housing and proposals for promoting Edinburgh's case to the Scottish Government.

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Motion

To appoint 3 Scottish Liberal Democrat, 2 Scottish National Party, 2 Labour, 1 Conservative and 1 Green Party member, including the Convener and Vice-Convener of both the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee and the Planning Committee, to the Joint Working Group.

- moved by Councillor Edie, seconded by Councillor Work.

Amendment

To appoint 2 members from each political group, one from the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee and one from the Planning Committee, to the Joint Working Group.

- moved (on behalf of the Labour Group) by Councillor Hinds, seconded (on behalf of the Conservative Group) by Councillor Mowat.

Voting

For the motion	-	29 votes
For the amendment	-	28 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Edie.

(Reference – report no CEC/133/07-08/HSC&HC by the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee, submitted.)

12 The COSLA/Scottish Government Concordat and Single Outcome Agreements

Details were provided of the Scottish Government/COSLA Concordat and of proposals for the introduction of Council Outcome Agreements in 2008-09 and how these agreements would fit within the Council's corporate planning framework.

Motion

To note:

- 1) the content of the COSLA/Scottish Government Concordat.
- 2) the proposals for the development of Single Outcome Agreements.

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- 3) the Chief Executive's intention to prepare a draft Single Outcome Agreement for Council approval, subject to the development of a national framework and Council's agreement of its 2008-09 revenue and capital budgets.

- moved by Councillor Dawe, seconded by Councillor Brock.

Amendment

- 1) To note the Concordat, signed by the COSLA presidential team and the Scottish Government, but to agree that it would result in the eventual removal of fiscal autonomy from local government. This was in direct contradiction to the Scottish Government's stated aim of increasing its own fiscal autonomy from central government.
- 2) To agree that the democratic rights of local government to set its own budget would be further eroded with the introduction of the SNP version of local income tax, which offered no local flexibility on tax, and would remove from the Council the ability to directly determine the level of expenditure for Edinburgh.
- 3) To agree that this move towards centralisation may continue with the SNP version of local income tax and that this would further undermine the effectiveness of local government in Scotland and, as such, to reject this as a method of funding local government in Scotland.
- 4) To request a report on the costs of delivering the additional commitments outlined in paragraph 3.3 of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 5) To agree not to prepare a Single Outcome Agreement until the settlement included adequate funding for the additional burdens being placed upon local government.

- moved by Councillor Ewan Aitken, seconded by Councillor Perry (on behalf of the Labour Group).

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	29 votes
For the amendment	-	14 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Dawe.

(Reference – report no CEC/127/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

13 Elections 2007

(a) Review of Scottish Parliamentary and Local Government Elections – Overview

The Returning Officer's review of the Scottish Parliament and City of Edinburgh Council elections held in May 2007 was provided. The lessons learned would be incorporated into future election planning and management.

Motion

- 1) To acknowledge the unprecedented challenges associated with the combined elections in May 2007.
- 2) To recognise the hard work and dedication shown by the Elections Management Team and election staff in delivering the elections.
- 3) To note the concerns which the Returning Officer had expressed to the leaders of the political groups on the Council and the apology he had made for the specific difficulties which had arisen at the end of the Local Government count.
- 4) To note the specific factors which had contributed to the difficulties encountered at the end of the count, many of which had been outwith local control.
- 5) To welcome the publication of the Gould report (www.electoralcommission.org.uk) and to support the view expressed by Gould that the primary interest in all elections should be the needs of the voter.
- 6) To note the Returning Officer's report and the accompanying main report on the Review of the 2007 Scottish Parliamentary and Local Government Elections.
- 7) To note that the Returning Officer had written to all candidates and agents advising them that these reports were available, either for viewing on the Council website or by asking for a printed copy.
- 8) In the light of the detailed examination of issues in the Returning Officer's report, to agree that there was no need for any further inquiry.

- moved by Councillor Dawe, seconded by Councillor Cardownie.

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Amendment

To approve the motion and:

- 9) To instruct the Chief Executive to write to Scottish Ministers urging early release of full ballot-preference data into the public domain now that the public consultation on this issue was closed.
- 10) Due to the conclusions of both local and national inquiries, to agree that there was no sound evidence to chronologically separate Local and National elections and that the solution clearly lay in the redesign of the National ballot paper.

- moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Wilson (on behalf of the Labour Group).

The mover of the motion, with the consent of the seconder and the mover and seconder of the amendment, accepted paragraph (9) of the amendment as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

A vote was therefore taken for and against paragraph (10) of the amendment. The voting was as follows:

For paragraph 10 of the amendment	-	14 votes
Against paragraph 10 of the amendment	-	43 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Dawe and paragraph (9) of the amendment by Councillor Burns.

(References – Act of Council No 11 of 17 May 2007; report no CEC/123/07-08/CE by the Returning Officer, submitted.)

(b) Voter Registration

In response to a motion by Councillor Hinds seeking information on how to improve voter registration, the responsibilities for electoral registration issues were set out and a review of the work currently undertaken by the Electoral Registration Officer was detailed. Suggestions were made on ways in which additional voter registration activity could be focused.

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Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Chief Executive and Returning Officer.
- 2) To discharge the motion by Councillor Hinds.
- 3) To send the report to Neighbourhood Partnerships for them to consider methods of best targeting voter registration efforts.
- 4) To instruct the Chief Executive and Returning Officer to bring back a further report to Council with detailed recommendations on how best to target the limited resources available to ensure areas of lowest registration across the city were brought up towards the average levels of registration throughout Edinburgh.

(References – Act of Council No 36 of 23 August 2007; report no CEC/124/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive and Returning Officer, submitted.)

14 Edinburgh Tram: (i) Contracts Acceptance and (ii) Independent Review of Tram Funding Strategy – Council Contribution

The Council had approved the Edinburgh Tram Final Business Case version 1 (FBCv1) on 25 October 2007. Approval was now sought for:

- the Final Business Case version 2 (FBCv2) prepared by **tie** for the Edinburgh Tram Network
- staged approval for the award by **tie** of the contracts for the supply and maintenance of the infrastructure works (Infraco) and tram vehicles (Tramco) subject to conditions
- governance arrangements for the Tram through completion of the contracts, commissioning and commencement of integrated transport operations.

The findings of the DTZ review of the Council's strategy for funding the estimated £45m contribution towards the cost of constructing the tram system were also presented.

Motion

- 1) To approve the Final Business Case version 2 for the Edinburgh Tram Network.

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- 2) To authorise the Chief Executive to instruct **tie** to enter into contracts with the Infraco bidder (BBS) and Tramco bidder (Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles SA (CAF)), providing the remaining issues were resolved to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive as detailed in the joint report (no CEC/139/07-08/CD+F) by the Directors of City Development and Finance.
- 3) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive to exercise the role in terms of paragraph (2) above.
- 4) To authorise the Director of City Development to grant leases or licences, as required, to facilitate the construction and operation of the tram.
- 5) To note that the formal award of these contracts was programmed to take place in January 2008 and would be notified to Council on 7 February 2008.
- 6) To issue the Guarantee (as detailed in paragraphs 8.7-8.10 and Appendix 2 of the joint report) and to delegate authority to the Council Solicitor to conclude and execute this on behalf of the Council for the benefit of BBS.
- 7) To note that the terms of the Draft Grant Award had been agreed in principle and to delegate authority to the Director of Finance to execute this on behalf of the Council.
- 8) To approve:
 - a) the Tram governance structure as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Directors' joint report.
 - b) the draft **tie** Operating Agreement as detailed in Appendix 2 to the Directors' joint report and to delegate authority to the Council Solicitor to execute the Operating Agreements with **tie** and TEL on behalf of the Council.
 - c) the delegation of general authority to the Tram Project Board through TEL and **tie**.
 - d) the nomination of the Director of City Development and Director of Finance to the Tram Project Board.
- 9) To note the schedule of milestones presented at paragraph 8.19 of the Directors' joint report.
- 10) Subject to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, as detailed in paragraph 2 above, to resolve in terms of (i) Edinburgh Tram (Line One) Act 2006, Section 69 (2) & (3); and (ii) Edinburgh Tram (Line Two) Act 2006, Section 68 (2) & (3):

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- (a) To enter into an agreement with **tie** Limited whereby **tie** Limited is permitted to exercise the powers of authorised undertaker to enter into and manage a contract (“the Infraco Contract”) with Bilfinger Berger UK Ltd and Siemens plc (together “the Infraco” acting with joint and several liability) for the design, construction and maintenance of the Edinburgh Tram Network Phase 1a (and Phase 1b if instructed) such Infraco Contract to be on terms approved by the **tie** Limited Board;
 - (b) To enter into an agreement with **tie** Limited whereby **tie** Limited is permitted to exercise the powers of authorised undertaker to enter into the tram vehicle and tram maintenance contracts with Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles S.A. on terms acceptable to **tie** Limited and to novate the contracts to the Infraco at the time of the execution of the Infraco Contract, such tram vehicles and tram maintenance contracts to be on terms approved by the **tie** Limited Board;
 - (c) To authorise **tie** Limited to novate the design contract dated 19 September 2005 between **tie** Limited and Parsons Brinkerhoff Limited to Infraco in accordance with the terms of that agreement (and such other conditions as **tie** may agree) at the time of execution of the Infraco Contract.
 - (d) To authorise **tie** Limited to make such use of (and amendment to) the agreement dated 14th May 2004 between **tie** Limited and Transdev Edinburgh Tram Limited as **tie** sees fit in connection with the operation of the authorised works under the Tram Act.
 - (e) To notify Scottish Ministers in accordance with the provision of the Tram Acts that an agreement has been entered into between the Council and **tie** concerning the exercise of certain of the statutory powers granted to the Council.
- 11) To note that **tie** was to act as agent for the Council under NRSWA 1991 for the purposes described in paragraph 8.9 of the Directors’ joint report.
- 12) To note that the Chief Executive would report back to Council on 7 February 2008 on the outcome of the above.
- 13) To note the findings of the DTZ report on the review of the Tram Funding Strategy as detailed in Appendix 1 to the joint report (no CEC/130/07-08/CD+F) by the Directors of City Development and Finance.
- moved by Councillor Wheeler, seconded by Councillor Dawe.

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Amendment

To reject the Final Business Case version 2 for the tram scheme, believing that:

- 1) the financial risks associated with the project were too great;
- 2) it would not deliver all the benefits that were claimed for it; and
- 3) in the Council's current financial situation, there were higher priority areas where the money should be directed.

- moved by Councillor Elliott-Cannon, seconded by Councillor McIvor.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 43 votes
For the amendment - 12 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Wheeler.

(Reference - Act of Council No 3 of 25 October 2007; joint report no CEC/139/07-08/CD+F by the Directors of City Development and Finance, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Jackson and Wheeler declared a non-financial interest in the above item as non-Executive Directors of TEL.

Councillors Jackson, Gordon MacKenzie and Wheeler declared a non-financial interest in the above item as non-Executive Directors of **tie**.

Councillor Buchan declared a financial interest in the above item as an adviser to a tram contractor and left the Chamber during the debate on the matter.

15 Shared Services Pathfinder Project and Modernisation Programme

Progress with the design phase of the shared services pathfinder project was detailed together with proposals for ensuring that the project and other significant improvement activity were effectively co-ordinated and communicated and would fit within the overall vision for change within the Council.

Motion

- 1) To note the progress with the pathfinder project workstreams.
- 2) To note the efforts being made to re-assure staff and trade unions following the recent media coverage.
- 3) To note that the Chief Executive intended to hold discussions with the Administration in relation to the updating of the Council's vision for modernisation and strengthening the programme management arrangements for the Council's modernisation activity and would report back to Council on the outcome.
- 4) To note that the Chief Executive would report further progress with the pathfinder project proposals as the detailed work was completed.

- moved by Councillor Gordon Mackenzie, seconded by Councillor Elliott-Cannon.

Amendment

To approve the motion and:

- 5) To hold discussions and briefings with those parties not in the Administration to keep them fully informed of the progress being made.
- 6) To ask the Chief Executive to outline the effect of the pathfinder proposals in the 3rd sector in his next report on this issue.
- 7) To agree that there should be no compulsory redundancies as part of this process.

- moved by Councillor Ewan Aitken, seconded by Councillor Munro (on behalf of the Labour Group)

The mover of the motion, with the approval of the seconder and the mover and seconder of the amendment, accepted paragraphs 5 and 6 of the amendment as an addendum to the motion.

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Voting

For the motion (as adjusted) - 40 votes
For the amendment - 17 votes

Decision

To approve the motion (as adjusted) by Councillor Gordon Mackenzie.

(Reference - Act of Council No 13 of 25 October 2007; report no CEC/128/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

16 Equal Pay Claims – Progress Report

Information and legal advice was provided on the position of male manual workers following the settlement of equal pay claims by female manual workers.

Decision

To note the position and that a full report would be made to the Council in February 2008.

(References – Act of Council No 16 of 25 October 2007; report no CEC/125/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

17 Child Protection Improvement Project

The Council had established a Project Board and appointed a Project Manager to undertake the necessary improvements to child protection services in Edinburgh which had been identified by the HMIE child protection inspection.

Decision

- 1) To note the establishment of the Project Board and appointment of the Chief Social Work Officer as Project Manager.
- 2) To note that the Education, Children and Families Committee would receive three monthly reports on progress.
- 3) To note that regular progress updates would be considered by the Project Board and Council Management Team.

(References – Act of Council No 11 of 25 October 2007; report no CEC/118/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

18 Child and Adult Protection Governance Arrangements in Edinburgh

The establishment of an inter-agency Chief Officers' Group as the focal point of Edinburgh's governance arrangements to ensure the delivery of integrated, high quality child and adult protection services in Edinburgh was proposed. The arrangements also included the management of dangerous offenders.

Decision

To note the intention to establish a Chief Officers Group for Edinburgh, in accordance with the responsibilities detailed in Appendix 2 to the report by the Chief Executive.

(Reference – report no CEC/119/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

19 Social Justice Fund – Final Allocations 2007/08

Final allocations from the Social Justice Fund for 2007/08 were proposed.

Decision

- 1) To agree the allocations set out in Appendix 1 to the report by the Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To conserve the remaining funds in 2007/08 to help with the Council's overall budget situation and to seek economies in existing allocations through the lead departments and agencies.

(Reference – Act of Council No 40 of 23 August 2007; Policy and Strategy Committee 4 December 2007 (item 11); report no CEC/120/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services 7 December 2007, submitted.)

20 A Review of Permits for Tables and Chairs

A review of the current permit procedures for tables and chairs on the public highway had been carried out. Proposals were submitted to address the issues identified in the review and the growth in demand from businesses to occupy the footway beyond the current time period.

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Decision

To agree the proposed new hours, charging regime and application process for tables and chairs on the public footway.

(References – Act of Council No 25 of 8 March 2007; CEC/117/074-08/SFC by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

21 Schools PPP2 – Progress Report

Progress on the PPP2 schools project was detailed. This included an update on action being taken to mitigate delays at the Tynecastle and Craigroyston sites and details of the urgent action taken in accordance with Standing Order 84 to suspend the provision of biomass boilers from the project.

Motion

- 1) To note:
 - (a) the excellent progress achieved on six of the eight schools under the contract.
 - (b) the current issues regarding the Tynecastle and Craigroyston sites and their impact on the contract.
 - (c) that the potential financial implications for the Children and Families capital investment programme would be considered as part of the Council budget preparations and would involve the necessary re-alignment of the programme.
 - (d) the importance of quickly instructing Axiom of the Council's requirements on receipt of their technical report and costs.
 - (e) the advice provided by the Director of Services for Communities regarding the use of biomass boilers and the current research commissioned by the Scottish Government.
 - (f) the action taken under Standing Order 84 by the Directors of City Development and Children and Families, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to suspend and remove from the contract the provision of biomass boilers. This would not preclude the provision of biomass boilers at a later date, subject to funding provision.
 - (g) that the arrangements prior to financial close and the related failure of the Council to meet its contractual obligations were the subject of an investigation by Internal Audit.

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- 2) To authorise the Director of City Development, in consultation with the Directors of Finance and Children and Families, to instruct variations to the contract with Axiom on receipt of the technical contractual and financial implications.
- 3) To instruct the Chief Executive to undertake, as a matter of urgency, an investigation into why the present site problems at Craigroyston High School had occurred, who was responsible and how such a situation could be avoided in the future and any issues surrounding questions of liability.

- moved by Councillor Mrs MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Beckett.

Amendment

- 1) To note:
 - (a) the excellent progress achieved on six of the eight schools under the contract.
 - (b) the current issues regarding the Tynecastle and Craigroyston sites and their impact on the contract.
 - (c) that the potential financial implications for the Children and Families capital investment programme would be considered as part of the Council budget preparations and would involve the necessary re-alignment of the programme.
 - (d) the importance of quickly instructing Axiom of the Council's requirements on receipt of their technical report and costs.
 - (e) that the arrangements prior to financial close and the related failure of the Council to meet its contractual obligations were the subject of an investigation by Internal Audit.
- 2) Not to agree with the advice provided by the Director of Services for Communities regarding the use of biomass boilers and the action taken by the Directors of Children and Families and City Development under Standing Order 84.
- 3) To note further:
 - a) that Biomass was already used in the new Council Care Homes and that Queen Margaret University had had it installed in their new campus - to great acclaim.
 - b) that the schools in Edinburgh were to have sourced their wood-based biomass material from the Lothians.

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- c) that the Liberal Democrat local manifesto for 2007 stated "*Liberal Democrats want to create a greener, cleaner city, where good environmental practice is at the core of all policy and practice, and where resources are protected for future generations.*"
 - d) that the SNP local manifesto for 2007 stated "*An SNP administration is committed to making Edinburgh an environmentally sustainable city. We will be an administration that would lead by example by making council offices and services as energy efficient as possible. Our city's environment must be protected for future generations.*"
 - e) all PPP2 schools were to reach the 'Building Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)' rating of excellent and thus achieve the contracted carbon target of '5kg of Carbon per m² per annum' – this now seemed impossible given the actions taken under Standing Order 84.
- 4) Finally, to instruct the Chief Executive to urgently provide, to all elected members, the detailed scientific advice upon which this decision was taken. That information to include the advice of the Council's own scientific adviser/s.

- moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Child (on behalf of the Labour Group).

Voting

The requisite number of members having so required in terms of Standing Order 31(1) the vote was taken by calling the roll.

The voting was as follows:

For the motion by Councillor Mrs MacLaren:

Lord Provost Grubb; Councillors Elaine Aitken, Aldridge, Balfour, Beckett, Bridgman, Brock, Buchan, Buchanan, Cairns, Cardownie, Dawe, Dundas, Edie, Elliott-Cannon, Hawkins, Jackson, Keir, Lang, Lowrie, Gordon Mackenzie, Kate MacKenzie, Mrs MacLaren, McInnes, McIvor, McKay, Morris, Mowat, Munn, Paisley, Peacock, Rose, Rust, Snowden, Thomas, Toomey, Tymkewycz, Wheeler, Whyte and Work – 40.

For the amendment by Councillor Burns:

Councillors Ewan Aitken, Barry, Blacklock, Burgess, Burns, Chapman, Child, Godzik, Hart, Hinds, Johnstone, Maginnis, Milligan, Munro, Murray, Perry and Wilson – 17.

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Mrs MacLaren.

(References – Act of Council No 15 of 8 March 2007; report no CEC/185/07-08/CD+C+F by the Directors of City Development and Children and Families, submitted.)

22 Children and Families/Fit for Future 2 Property Strategy

A rationalisation programme of the Council's property was being developed in order to achieve revenue budget savings through the disposal of properties and the control of leasehold properties. Strategies were proposed for the following properties:

- St Ann's Community Centre, 6 South Gray's Close
- 30 Albany Street
- Panmure House, 4 Lochend Close
- Inch House, Inch Park
- 19 Chester Street
- Riddles Court, 322 Lawnmarket.

Decision

- 1) To retain St Ann's Community Centre for operational purposes.
- 2) To note the intention to dispose of the property at 30 Albany Street.
- 3) To dispose of Panmure House, Lochend Close to the agent representing a charitable organisation on terms to be negotiated by the Directors of City Development and of Children and Families and reported back to the Finance and Resources Committee. Should the arrangement not proceed the property would be marketed.
- 4) To note the intention, subject to their agreement, to relocate the Sleep Scotland project to Inch House, Inch Park, and grant a concessionary lease, details of which would be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee.
- 5) To note the intention to dispose of the property at 19 Chester Street and to declare the janitor's house property at Tollcross School surplus to requirements in order that a lease may be offered to Gingerbread at a nominal rent, subject to the approval of the Scottish Government under section 74(2) of the Local Government Act 1973.
- 6) To note the position with regard to Riddles Court.

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- 7) To note that the re-prioritisation of the Children and Families Capital Investment Programme would be considered in the development of the 2008-11 budget.

(References – Executive of the Council 27 March 2007 (item 33); Acts of Council No 11 of 26 April 2007 and No 14 of 23 August 2007; report no CEC/131/07-08/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

23 Bus Service from Queensferry and Kirkliston to St John’s Hospital, Livingston

Information was provided on the potential loss of the bus connection between Queensferry, Kirkliston and St John’s Hospital, Livingston and proposals made for replacing the withdrawn bus service.

Decision

- 1) To participate in West Lothian Council's proposed Temporary Supported Bus Service Contract covering the extension of First's commercial bus service 6 to serve Kirkliston and Queensferry.
- 2) To note that there was currently no provision in the budget for 2008/09 to enable the service to be provided.
- 3) To assist West Lothian Council in the procurement of a longer-term bus link between Queensferry, Kirkliston and St John’s Hospital, Livingston.
- 4) To acknowledge West Lothian Council’s assistance in the matter.

(Reference – report no CEC/132/07-08/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

24 Action to Reduce the Use of Plastic Bags in Edinburgh

The Council had requested a report on how Edinburgh could become the first plastic bag-free city in the United Kingdom and an investigation on how best to support retailers and local communities who wished to be part of the “we are what we do” plastic bag-free Christmas campaign.

Previous and current Council-led activities and initiatives to discourage the use of plastic bags in the city were detailed together with proposals for future action.

It had been concluded that the Council could not on its own make Edinburgh plastic bag-free but could be most effective in acting as an advocate of change.

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Motion

- 1) To note the contents of the report by the Director of Services for Communities and, in particular, the various Council-led initiatives that had and were being run to discourage the unnecessary use of shopping bags.
- 2) To consider ways in which the Council could continue to promote more sustainable bag use in conjunction with partners, including retailers and other sectors, within the budgets available, and to ask the Director of Services for Communities to report this to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee.
- 3) To note that the Council was exploring opportunities to meet with retailers to work on SNUB (Say No to Unwanted Bags) and other environmentally friendly approaches.
- 4) To instruct the Director of Services for Communities to report back on how a 'green concordat' with retailers in Edinburgh could be implemented as part of an Edinburgh business and environment awards scheme, part of which would be to eliminate the use of new plastic bags.

- moved by Councillor Aldridge, seconded by Councillor Bridgeman.

Amendment

- 1) To regret the lost opportunity to present a visionary, ambitious strategy on an issue which had much public and political party support and one which would assist the Council in reducing landfill, moving towards a policy of zero waste and avoid fines for failing to meet EU landfill targets.
- 2) To note that plastic bags were one of the worst indicators of excess packaging and as such were vitally important in raising awareness of waste issues.
- 3) To note the positive, city-wide impact of the Plastic Bag Free Dundee launch which had taken place on 1 December in Dundee, sponsored by Dundee City Council, the Hilton, Borders and the Overgate Shopping Centre.
- 4) To liaise with those involved in the Dundee launch and to consider a similar launch in Edinburgh, reinforcing the launch with dedicated piloting of plastic bag free "villages" in areas of the city with distinctive local centres.

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- 5) To instruct the Director of Services for Communities to report back on how a 'green concordat' with retailers in Edinburgh could be implemented as part of an Edinburgh business and environment awards scheme, part of which would be to eliminate the use of new plastic bags.

- moved by Councillor Johnstone, seconded (on behalf of the Labour Group) by Councillor Child.

Voting

For the motion - 40 votes
For the amendment - 17 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Aldridge.

(References – Act of Council No 18 of 20 September 2007; report no CEC/134/07-08/SFC by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

25 Multi-Member Wards – Protocols

Approval was sought for draft protocols to regulate issues arising from multi-member wards.

Decision

- 1) To approve the supplementary guidance on information sharing in multi-member wards as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report by the Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To approve the guidance on the use of Council facilities by Councillors as detailed in Appendix 2 to the Director's report.
- 3) To review the guidance after one year.

(Reference – report no CEC/122/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services 7 December 2007, submitted.)

26 Policy Review – Committees' Role in Scrutiny

Arrangements for the exercise of the scrutiny and policy review function within the streamlined Committee structure were outlined.

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Decision

To approve the framework for policy review outlined within the report by the Director of Corporate Services.

(References – Act of Council No 7 of 20 September 2007; report no CEC/126/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

27 Employee Survey 2006 – Progress Report

Details were given of the progress made against targets set within Departmental Employee Survey Action Plans which had been developed in response to the findings of the Council's 2006 Employee Survey.

Decision

- 1) To note the good progress made against targets described within Departmental Employee Survey Action plans.
- 2) To receive further annual progress reports.

(References – Act of Council No 13 of 8 March 2007; report no CEC/122/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services 7 December 2007, submitted.)

28 Quincentenary of the Printing Industry in Edinburgh

The Festival of Scottish Printing 2008 would mark the Quincentenary of the printing industry in Edinburgh. Approval was sought for the Council to become involved in the Festival and to find an appropriate way to mark the anniversary.

Decision

- 1) To note the various activities that were planned to mark the Quincentenary of the printing industry in Edinburgh.
- 2) To endorse the Council's continued participation in and support for the Festival of Scottish Printing planned for 2008.

(References – Act of Council No 33 of 23 August 2007; report no CEC/115/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services 30 November 2007, submitted.)

29 Edinburgh's Case in the Scottish Parliament – Motion by Councillor Hinds

The following motion by Councillor Hinds was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“This Council recognises that it is important for the city of Edinburgh to be aware of and to influence the decision-making processes of the Scottish Parliament. The service provided by the Parliamentary Officer in the Council is a valuable resource for Councillors and officials, enabling them to keep up to date with the current and future business of the Scottish Parliament and its Committees. The Council asks the Chief Executive to explore the possibility of pooling resources with other public sector bodies in Edinburgh, to ensure that Edinburgh has the best possible information and lobbying resources at its disposal, to influence and put the case for Edinburgh in the Scottish Parliament.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Hinds.

30 Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives – Motion by Councillor Hinds

The following motion by Councillor Hinds was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“This Council welcomes the creation of the Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives and the new award scheme which replaces the past SHAW (Scotland's Health at Work) award. Council notes in particular that this award scheme recognises the issue of mental health well-being. The Council asks the Chief Executive to report on the position of Council departments and the Council as a whole regarding their current and future involvement with this award scheme.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Hinds.

31 New Committee System – Motion by Councillor Hinds

The following motion by Councillor Hinds was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“Council recognises that following the introduction of the new committee system, the methods of keeping members informed of issues relevant to their wards, and of policy development, are in need of improvement. Council asks the Cross Party Working Group to recommend the best way of ensuring proper dissemination of information.”

Motion

To approve the motion by Councillor Hinds.

- moved by Councillor Hinds, seconded by Councillor Burns (on behalf of the Labour Group).

Amendment

To welcome the introduction of the new committee system which allowed all members to contribute fully to the decision making processes of the Council and to ask the Chief Executive to ensure that the review of the system addressed any concerns individual Councillors might have.

- moved by Councillor Snowden, seconded by Councillor Keir.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 17 votes
For the amendment - 39 votes

Decision

To approve the amendment by Councillor Snowden.

32 Edinburgh: Transition City Initiative – Motion by Councillors Chapman and Ewan Aitken

The following motion by Councillors Chapman and Ewan Aitken was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

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“This Council:

- 1) notes the long term economic and environmental costs associated with peak oil, and the benefits of future-proofing Edinburgh’s economy against these costs.
- 2) notes the existing commitment to become a zero-carbon economy by 2050 through, for example, the signing of the Scottish Climate Change declaration.
- 3) notes the emergence of Transition Initiatives in villages, towns and cities in Scotland, England and beyond. These seek to address the negative effects of the current oil economy and climate change, through community led initiatives to build local resilience and reduce carbon emissions.
- 4) agrees to work with and support the newly established steering group of the Edinburgh: Transition City Initiative along similar lines to those undertaken in the move towards Fair Trade status, including providing resources such as meeting space, access to officials’ time, etc.”

Decision

- 1) To note the long term economic and environmental costs associated with peak oil and the benefits of future-proofing Edinburgh’s economy against these costs.
- 2) To note the existing commitment to become a zero-carbon economy by 2050 through, for example, the signing of the Scottish Climate Change declaration.
- 3) To note the emergence of Transition Initiatives in villages, towns and cities in Scotland, England and beyond. These sought to address the negative effects of the current oil economy and climate change, through community led initiatives to build local resilience and reduce carbon emissions.
- 4) To work with and support the newly established steering group of the Edinburgh: Transition City Initiative along similar lines to those undertaken in the move towards Fair Trade status.
- 5) To instruct the Director of Corporate Services to prepare a report, within two cycles, providing information on the emerging Transition City Initiative and its relevance to Edinburgh, specifically detailing how the Fair Trade City model could be applied.

33 Non-Domestic Rates Relief – Motion by Councillor Chapman

The following motion by Councillor Chapman was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“That the Council:

- 1) notes the social and economic contribution to Edinburgh from Social Enterprise;
- 2) further notes the need for many Social Enterprises to have premises, and that this need contributes a significant additional overhead;
- 3) believes that the contribution from Social Enterprises to improving quality of life in the Lothians could be enhanced by further support from the local authority;
- 4) additionally notes the commitment to undertake an audit of support for social enterprise; and
- 5) calls for a report, within two cycles, to look at the mechanisms available to City of Edinburgh Council to reduce the burden of business rates on social enterprises, and other support mechanisms for developing social enterprise in Edinburgh.”

Decision

To approve paragraphs 1-4 of the motion and:

- 5) To note that a review of the Council’s Discretionary Rates Relief policy was currently being undertaken. Legislation restricted the policy to charities and certain non-profit making organisations. The revised policy would be submitted to the Finance and Resources Committee meeting on 29 January 2008 for approval.
- 6) To note, in addition, that rates relief would be available via the Scottish Government’s new Small Business Bonus Scheme which provided relief for small business of up to 50% of their rates liability in 2008/09 rising to 100% in 2010-11 subject to rateable value.
- 7) To note that a report on the impact of the Small Business Bonus Scheme would be submitted to the Finance and Resources Committee meeting on 17 June 2008. The report would review the actual impact of the Scheme and in particular the assistance it had provided to Social Enterprises.

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- 8) To instruct the Director of City Development to provide a report on the support for Social Enterprises to the first meeting of the Economic Development Committee following publication of the report referred to in paragraph (7) above.

34 Five Year Contracts for Voluntary Organisations – Motion by Councillor Chapman

The following motion by Councillor Chapman was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“That the Council:

notes the contribution made to the city by the voluntary sector;

further notes the opportunity for development offered by longer contracts;

welcomes the move to three year contracts, and believes that the Council should investigate moving towards offering 5 year contracts for contracted out services;

calls for a report to the next Finance and Resources Committee setting out the practicalities of such a move and a timescale within which it could be achieved.”

Motion

To approve the motion by Councillor Chapman.

- moved by Councillor Chapman, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

Amendment

- 1) To note the terms of the decision, agreed unanimously by the Policy and Strategy Committee on 6 November 2007, in respect of the report on the Review of Contract Management Arrangements for Social Care and Housing Support Services.
- 2) In particular to note that the decision included:
 - (a) that the Council’s normal practice would be to issue three year block contracts with the option of a three year renewal. Following a satisfactory service review, consideration would be given to longer contract terms in specific circumstances.

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- (b) the establishment of a short life reference group which would include representatives of providers and service users whilst the Council implemented the decision.
- 3) To review the implementation of the decision within one year and as part of that to consider whether the approach might be extended to other contracted services.

- moved by Councillor Gordon Mackenzie, seconded by Councillor Elliott-Cannon.

Voting

For the motion - 17 votes
For the amendment - 39 votes

Decision

To approve the amendment by Councillor Gordon Mackenzie.

(Reference – Policy and Strategy Committee 6 November 2007 (item 5).)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Aldridge declared a financial interest in the above item as Director of a voluntary organisation in receipt of grant funding and left the room during the debate on the matter.

35 Affordable Housing – Motion by Councillor Whyte

The following motion by Councillor Whyte was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“Council:

- 1) notes with concern the shortage of affordable houses in the capital.
- 2) notes that the Conservatives, the Greens, Labour, the Scottish Liberal Democrats and the SNP all pledged in their 2007 manifestos to take action of various kinds to ensure a greater supply of affordable housing.
- 3) calls on the Chief Executive to investigate and report early in 2008 on the viability of setting up a shared ownership housing trust, as proposed in the Conservative Group’s manifesto for the Council elections in May 2007 and also outlined in the national Conservative manifesto.”

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Decision

- 1) To approve the motion by Councillor Whyte.
- 2) To include in the report by the Chief Executive investigation and work into bringing large investors to the city to create a new “Edinburgh Homestake Fund” to help low income residents buy their first home in Edinburgh, as proposed in the Labour Group’s manifesto

36 Events on the Meadows – Motion by Councillor Mrs MacLaren

The following motion by Councillor Mrs MacLaren was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“In view of the strong community concerns about the use of the Meadows as a location for events throughout the year, Council calls for a report detailing the effects and implications of overuse of this location, and reviewing how other city parks and spaces could be better used in order to minimise the impact of events on the Meadows.”

Decision

- 1) To approve the motion by Councillor Mrs MacLaren.
- 2) To note that Edinburgh delivered inspiring events throughout the year which generated significant economic benefits, reflected the civic importance of Scotland’s capital city and helped make Edinburgh a great place to live and work.
- 3) To recognise the position of the Meadows as one of the city’s premier parks and to note that its central location made it accessible to all Edinburgh’s citizens.
- 4) To agree that events in the Meadows, such as ‘the Moonwalk’, the ‘Taste of Edinburgh’ and the ‘Make Poverty History march’ had made a significant contribution to tourism and economic development in the city, and especially to local businesses around the Meadows area.
- 5) To note the concern of local groups with regards to repeated damage to the Meadows and to request that the Council produce a report:-
 - a) urgently reviewing the current licensing conditions attached to events to help minimise damage from all future events in the city’s parks;
 - b) outlining the economic and other benefits of current events held in Edinburgh; and

- c) detailing what action was being taken to ensure that Edinburgh built a portfolio of events that would benefit all areas of the city.

37 Strike Action at Edinburgh Airport – Motion by Councillor Buchan

The Depute Convener ruled that this item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency in order that it be considered timeously.

The following motion by Councillor Buchan was submitted in terms of Standing Order 27:

“Council:

- 1) notes the strike action ballot currently being undertaken by the Unite trade union and their proposal for strike action at Edinburgh Airport during the festive period;
- 2) notes that any strike action during Edinburgh’s Winter Festivals (Edinburgh’s Christmas and Edinburgh’s Hogmanay) would have significant detrimental impacts for the city’s economy and reputation;
- 3) calls upon the trade union to consider further talks with BAA rather than strike action.”

Motion

To approve the motion.

- moved by Councillor Buchan, seconded by Councillor Rose (on behalf of the Conservative Group).

Amendment

To approve paragraphs 1 and 2 of the motion and replace paragraph 3 with the following:

- 3) To call upon BAA to suspend its decision to close its final salary pension scheme to new entrants until it had received the actuarial valuation of its pension scheme which was due in April 2008.

- moved (on behalf of the Labour Group) by Councillor Ewan Aitken, seconded by Councillor Chapman.

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Voting

For the motion - 11 votes
For the amendment - 24 votes

Decision

To approve the amendment by Councillor Ewan Aitken.

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Munro declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a member of Unite trade union.

38 Future of UK Astronomy Technology Section – Motion by Councillor Snowden

The Depute Convener ruled that this item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency in order that it be considered timeously.

The following motion by Councillor Snowden was submitted in terms of Standing Order 27:

“The Council notes that on 11 December 2007 the Science and Technology Facilities Council published a Delivery Plan for the years to 2012 and that this plan includes:-

- a) proposals to explore alternative options for running the UK Astronomy Technology Centre (UKATC)
- b) a significant reduction in UK involvement in a number of major telescopes and withdrawal from the International Linear Collider project

The UKATC at the Royal Observatory on Blackford Hill is truly a global centre of excellence in the development and manufacture of the instruments for major telescopes and was anticipated to have a major role in the production of instruments for the International Linear Collider. Accordingly the Council is concerned that the major reduction of investment in such projects by the Science and Technology Facilities Council will put the future operations of the UKATC and the high technology employment and research it provides at risk.

Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Chief Executive of the Science and Technology Facilities Council and the Principal of the University of Edinburgh, the funding bodies, asking them to ensure that the UKATC continues to prosper as a major technological employer in Edinburgh beyond the end of the current Comprehensive Spending Review.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Snowden.

39 Edinburgh Royal Hospital for Sick Children – Motion by Councillor Hinds

The Depute Convener ruled that this item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency in order that it be considered timeously.

The following motion by Councillor Hinds was submitted in terms of Standing Order 27:

“This Council has grave concern regarding the threat to services at the Sick Kids. The option of the downgrading of paediatric cancer and neurology at the Sick Kids in Edinburgh is unacceptable and this Council should work with campaigners to keep these vital services in Edinburgh. The Council asks the Chief Executive along with the Leader of the Council to bring this matter up at the Edinburgh Partnership. The Chief Executive to bring back a report to the Council on how this city can make sure these services stay at the Sick Kids.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Hinds.

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Edie and Whyte declared a financial interest in the above item as Non-Executive Directors of NHS Lothian.

40 Meadow Place Closure – Motion by Councillors Mrs MacLaren and McInnes

The following motion by Councillors Mrs MacLaren and McInnes was submitted in terms of Standing Order 29:

“That this Council notes that the proposal by the City Development Department to close Meadow Place in Marchmont to motor vehicles has attracted strong opposition from residents, and in particular the Community Council.

In view of this, Council calls for a report on traffic safety, including accident statistics for Meadow Place and Melville Drive, to identify a new traffic safety scheme for the local area, examining the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

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This report should also cover the current position of pedestrian/cyclist crossings and the potential requirement for further crossing places.”

Decision

To remit the motion to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee.

41 Controlled Parking Zone Extension – Motion by Councillor Buchan

The following motion by Councillor Buchan was submitted in terms of Standing Order 29:

“Council:

- 1) notes that the review of the impact of the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in the S3/zone 8 boundary (covering Craigleith, Craiglockhart and Shandon) is provisionally scheduled to begin within the next 39 to 42 months¹;
- 2) notes that residents living in the areas bordering the CPZ are encountering a number of adverse impacts from the CPZ expansion;
- 3) calls upon the Administration to provide sufficient resources to complete the review across the city as quickly as any relevant statutory legislation will allow.”

¹ Source: Written Answer to Question 1, Council 22 November 2007

Decision

To remit the motion to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee.

Appendix

(As referred to in Act of Council No 5 of 20 December 2007)

QUESTION NO 1

**By Councillor Blacklock
answered by the Convener of
the Education, Children and
Families Committee**

Question

What legal advice have you taken to ensure that the Council has not broken its legal obligations when the administration chose to cut funding mid year to groups with service level agreements (SLA), for example Pilmeny Development Project and Pilton Youth and Children's Project?

If the advice was in written form please publish it in your answer.

Answer

No organisation with a signed SLA received a cut.

Supplementary Question

(1) I know that following a meeting on 14 December with EVOC several organisations are joining together to seek legal advice and prepare a case. So, with that in mind, I would appreciate if the Council could have a written answer giving more clarity to the answer you have given.

Supplementary Answer

(1) I am not really sure what you are wanting because your question was about service level agreements and my answer was that no organisation with a service level agreement had a cut. So what extra information do you want? I am very happy to get extra information for you but I am just a bit confused about what exactly you want.

Supplementary Question

(2) Well, for example Pilmeny Development Project does have a service level agreement so is it just the fact it has not been re- signed? Is it a technical thing that you have come back with? I still don't understand why organisations with service level agreements have had cuts mid year.

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Supplementary Answer (2) We will continue this discussion and I will try to find the information that Councillor Blacklock would like.

QUESTION NO 2

**By Councillor Ewan Aitken
answered by the Convener of
the Education, Children and
Families Committee and the
Convener of the Health, Social
Care and Housing Committee**

- Question** (1) Can you tell the Council whether or not it is true that copies of some of the contracts between the Council and some third sector organisations were lost during the move from Shrubhill to Waverley Court and that the Council had to ask those organisations for copies of the contracts?
- Answer** (1) I have had assurances from officers that no contracts were lost during the move from Shrubhill to Waverley Court.
- Question** (2) Can you confirm whether there are up to date signed and exchanged contracts with all the approximately 650 organisations, private and third sector, with whom the Council has a funding agreement?
- Answer** (2) No. There is a backlog of contracts to be agreed or renewed.
- Question** (3) Can you provide each Councillor with the details of every third sector organisation in his or her ward that has a contracted agreement with the Council to deliver services on behalf of the Council?
- Answer** (3) Should individual Councillors wish this information it is available from the Children and Families Department and the Department of Health and Social Care and contact should be made with the appropriate officer.

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Question (4) Can you include in that answer information on those organisations whose contracts are coming to an end in the next twelve months and so are being or will be put out to tender?

Answer (4) See attached appendices. The Council recently agreed to undertake a Procurement Quality and Risk Assessment at the end of each service contract. It therefore cannot be assumed that because a contract has or is due to expire that the service will necessarily be tendered.

Supplementary Question If I could just try and dig a little deeper; if there is a backlog as you say and therefore they are not up to date agreements, on what basis are these organisations being paid if they are not fully processed or up to date? How will they know when the end is going to occur so that the procurement quality and risk assessment occurs? I have one case in point of an organisation which is on the list that you helpfully provide and which did not know it was on this list so what information is being given to them if they don't have the time line of a contract for a certain period of time to go by? Also under my question 3, if you are able to provide the information on the request of all 58 individual Councillors, would it not have been of more use and perhaps even more transparent to do so in one fell swoop on the request of one?

Supplementary Answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee My answer will be quite quick because we do not have a backlog of contracts for Children and Families so I will leave it to my colleague to do Health and Social Care. In your answer about the details, as far as Children and Families goes it is my Departmental Assistant who now has all that information and if anybody wants that information on their ward then please contact him and he will furnish you with the information straight away.

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**Supplementary
Answer by the
Convener of
the Health,
Social Care
and Housing
Committee**

The backlog is historic that goes back, I think, several years due to a period when the contract management was substantially understaffed. Valiant efforts are being made to catch up on this but there are still a number that are ticking on and have not yet been dealt with as timeously as we would like. Many of these actually have agreements, service level agreements or local agreements that do just carry on forward. As to your point about providing information for the other 57 Councillors who haven't actually requested it, that would be a very large job. If Councillors want that information they can contact the relevant officials.

I must apologise because Services for Communities should also be included in the answer. So if members want to contact the individual relevant officers in Services for Communities, Children and Families and Health and Social Care, they will provide the information but to provide it for all 58 Councillors, many of whom aren't actually seeking that information themselves, would be a big job. They can find that information themselves from the officers, if they want.

Supplementary Question (2) Those answers were helpful but you said something about agreements that were carrying on but what information has been given to organisations when they are going to appear on that?

Supplementary Answer (2) Not recorded.

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Appendix

Question 4 – Children and Families Department – SL/Contracts due for renewal in 2008/09

Type	Organisation
SLA	Action Group- Playschemes
SLA	Caledonia Youth
SLA	Children 1st (Bfriends)
SLA	Edinburgh Women's Aid
SLA	Family Mediation Lothian (contact centre)
SLA	Home-Start Leith & North East Edinburgh
SLA	Lothian Autistic Society
SLA	Places for People- Horizons
SLA	Shakti Womens Aid
SLA	The Big Project

Appendix

Name of Organisation	Client Group	Type of Service	Current Expiry
All Care Home Care Ltd	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Ardmore Home Care	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
C&DDH Ltd Elite Homecarers	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Call-In Homecare Ltd	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Family Circle Care Ltd	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Housecall Care Ltd (Nursing and Homecare)	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
JB Nursing & Staff Employment Agency	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Primecare Health Ltd	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Acorn Health Service	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Scot Homecare	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Senior Service	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Social Care Recruitment & Training (SCRT)	Older People	Care at Home	31/10/2008
The Thistle Foundation	Older People & Physical Disability	Care at Home	31/10/2008
Alzheimer's Scotland	Older People	Care at Home	31/03/2008
Apex Trust Scotland	Criminal Justice	Supported Employment	31/03/2008
Abercorn	Older People	Respite	01/04/2008
Abercorn	Older People	Respite	08/04/2008
Crossreach	Older People	Respite	31/03/2008
Edinburgh Advocacy & Representation Service	Mental Health	Advocacy	31/03/2008
Edinburgh Erskine Nursing Home	Older People	Respite	31/03/2008
European Wellcare Ltd	Older People	Care Home & Respite	31/03/2008
Fair	Learning Disability	Advice	31/03/2008
Four Square	Vulnerable Adults	Day Service	31/03/2008

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Name of Organisation	Client Group	Type of Service	Current Expiry
Jericho Benedictines	Vulnerable Adults	Care Home	31/03/2008
Jubilee House	Older People	Respite	31/03/2008
Link Living	Mental Health	Supported Accommodation	31/03/2008
Places for People Scotland Care & Support	Vulnerable Adults & Mental Health	Supported Accommodation	31/03/2008
SACRO	Criminal Justice	Various	31/03/2008
SACRO	Criminal Justice	Supported Accommodation	31/03/2008
SACRO	Criminal Justice	Various	31/03/2008
SACRO	Criminal Justice	Various	31/03/2008
SACRO	Criminal Justice	Various	31/03/2008

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
SUPPORTING PEOPLE CONTRACTS Ark HA	Supported Tenancies and outreach	The Priory	Canaan Lane	EDINBURGH	EH10 4SG	LD	Visiting Support
Ark Trust Barnardos 16+ Project	The Ark Outreach Barnardos 16+ Tenancy Support	2 New Street 235 Corstorphine Road	EDINBURGH EDINBURGH		EH8 8BH EH12 7AR	H YP	Visiting Support Visiting Support
Barony HA	Care Leavers Barony Visiting Support	8 Balcarres Street	EDINBURGH		EH10 5JB	YP MH	Supp Accom Visiting Support
Bethany Christian Trust	North Fort Street Upper Grey St etc Bethany House	18 Jane Street Leith	EDINBURGH		EH6 5HD	MH MH H	Supp Accom Supp Accom Supp Accom
Bield HA	Bethany Christian Centre Bethany Supported Housing Bield Amenity	79 Hopetoun Street	EDINBURGH		EH7 4QF	H H OP	Supp Accom Visiting Support Sheltered Housing
Cairn HA	Bield Sheltered Bield Very Sheltered Cairn Sheltered Outlook Sheltered CAST	22 York Place	EDINBURGH		EH1 3EP	OP OP OP	Sheltered Housing Sheltered Housing Sheltered Housing
Canongate Youth Project		South Bridge Resource Centre	6 Infirmary Street	EDINBURGH	EH1 1LT	OP OP YP	Sheltered Housing Supp Accom Visiting Support

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
Carr-Gomm Scotland	12 Ettrick Road (Merchiston)	Craigmillar Social Enterprise and Arts Centre (SPACE)	11 Harewood Road	EDINBURGH	EH16 4NS	OP	Supp Accom
	14 Ettrick Road (Ettrick)					MH	Supp Accom
	Carr-Gomm Visiting Support					MH	Visiting Support
	Gilmerton Service Hartington & Morningside					LD MH	Supp Accom Supp Accom
Castle Rock Edinvar HA	CRHA Sheltered	1 Hay Avenue		EDINBURGH	EH1 1NQ	OP	Sheltered Housing
Choices CCS Ltd	Choice visiting support services	Choices House, Rosebank Park	Kirkton Campus	LIVINGSTON	EH54 7AN	LD	Visiting Support
Crossreach	Cunningham House Rankeillor Anchor Project Rankeillor Genesis Threshold	Charis House	47 Milton Road East	EDINBURGH	EH15 2SR	H	Supp Accom
	Community Help and Advice Initiative	13 - 14 Hailesland Place		EDINBURGH	EH14 2RP	D/A D/A LD OTHER	Supp Accom Supp Accom Visiting Support Visiting Support
Crown HA	Crown Amenity	7 Cheam Court, Station Way	Cheam	SURREY	SM3 8SP	OP	Sheltered Housing
Dean & Cauvin Trust	After Care Service	17 Melville Street		EDINBURGH	EH3 7PH	YP	Visiting Support
Dunedin Canmore HA	Chinese Elderly	8 New Mart Street		EDINBURGH	EH14 1RL	OP	Sheltered Housing

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
	Dunedin Harbour Flats					H	Supp Accom
	Dunedin Harbour Hostel					H	Supp Accom
	Dunedin Sheltered Canmore Sheltered					OP	Sheltered Housing
	Deaf Action Visiting Support	49 albany street		EDINBURGH	EH14 1NE	SI	Sheltered Housing Sheltered Housing Visiting Support
	Slateford Green	6 Victoria Terrace		EDINBURGH	EH1 2JL	SI	Supp Accom
Edinburgh City Youth Café	Keysteps Project	Norton Park		EDINBURGH	EH7 5QY	H	Visiting Support
Edinburgh Cyrenian Trust	Tenancy Support Service	57 Albion Road		EDINBURGH	EH4 1JB	DV	Visiting Support
Edinburgh Women's Aid	Women's Aid Follow On Women's Aid	4 Cheyne Street		EDINBURGH		DV	Supp Accom
Places for People Scotland, Care & Support	Refuge Bingham Outreach Service	Craigmillar Social Enterprise and Arts Centre (SPACE)	11 Harewood Road	EDINBURGH	EH16 4NS	LD	Visiting Support
	Caledonian Village Connections					MH	Supp Accom
	Horizons					BI	Visiting Support
	Horizons Care					YP	Visiting Support
	Leavers					YP	Supp Accom
	North Edinburgh Service					MH	Visiting Support
	South Edinburgh Service					MH	Visiting Support
	St Leonard's					OP	Supp Accom

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
Enable Scotland	Enable Supported Living	6th Floor 7 Buchanan Street	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	G1 3HL	LD	Visiting Support
Foursquare	Follow Up Number 20 Stopover Visiting Support	28 North Bridge	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH1 1QG	H	Visiting Support Supp Accom Supp Accom Visiting Support
Freespace	Visiting Support	2 Duff Street Lane	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH11 2HS	PD	Visiting Support
Fresh Start	Fresh Start - Befriending Fresh Start - Hit Squads	22-24 Ferry Road Drive	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH4 4BR	H	Visiting Support
Garvald Centre Edinburgh Gowrie Care Ltd	Garvald Visiting Support 1 Gilmour Street	2 Montpelier Terrace 4 South Ward Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH10 4NF	LD	Visiting Support
			DUNDEE	DUNDEE	DD1 1PN	H	Supp Accom
	77 Lauriston Pl Bruntsfield Caledonia House Dryden Street Gowrie Visiting Support					H	Supp Accom Supp Accom Supp Accom Supp Accom Visiting Support
	Oxgangs South Fort Street St Johns Hill Thomson's Court Mayfield					H	Supp Accom Supp Accom Supp Accom Sheltered Housing Supp Accom Sheltered Housing
Hanover HA	Hanover sheltered	95 McDonald Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH7 4NS	OP	Supp Accom Supp Accom Supp Accom Sheltered Housing Supp Accom Sheltered Housing
Health in Mind	Beyond Trauma	40 Shandwick Place	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH2 4RT	MH	Visiting Support
Home in Scotland	Supported Services Home in Scotland Visiting Support	Unit 3 Q Court, Quality Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH4 5BP	MH OTHER	Visiting Support Visiting Support

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
Homelink Partnership	Homelink Visiting Support	Flats 3 & 4	65 Niddrie Mains Terrace	EDINBURGH	EH16 4NX	H	Visiting Support
Keymoves	Keymoves	2 Cranston Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH8 8BE	H	Supp Accom
Linkliving	Comely Green	45 Albany Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH1 3QY	MH	Supp Accom
	Mental Health Services					MH	Visiting Support
	Young Person Service					YP	Visiting Support
Changeworks	Warmburgh Advice Team	36 Newhaven Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH6 5PY	OTHER	Advice
Margaret Blackwood HA	MBHA Visiting Support	Craigievar House	77 Craigmount Brae	EDINBURGH	EH12 8XF	PD	Visiting Support
Methodist Homes HA	MBHA Sheltered MHHA Sheltered Housing	Epworth House	Stuart Street	DERBY	DE1 2EQ	PD OP	Sheltered Housing Sheltered Housing
Penumbra	Penumbra Visiting Support	Norton Park	57 Albion Road	EDINBURGH	EH7 5QY	MH	Visiting Support
Port of Leith HA	Lorne Amenity	108 Constitution Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH6 6AZ	PD	Sheltered Housing
	Lorne Sheltered Port of Leith Sheltered					OP OP	Sheltered Housing Sheltered Housing
Prestonfield & District Neighbourhood Project	Prestonfield Neighbourhood Project	63 Prestonfield Avenue	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH6 5EX	OP	Advice
Queensferry Churches Care in the Community	Queensferry & District Home Support	25b Burgess Road	South Queensferry	EDINBURGH	EH30 9JA	OP	Visiting Support

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
Richmond Fellowship	Duff street	3 Buchanan Gate, Buchanan Gate Business Park	Cumbernald Road	STEPS	G33 6FB	MH	Supp Accom
Rock Trust	Northcote Street Bedrock	55 Albany Street	EDINBURGH		EH1 3QY	LD YP	Supp Accom Supp Accom
Rowan Alba	Bedrock: Additional Care Leavers Mainstay Sorbus Project	54a Fountainbridge	EDINBURGH		EH3 9PT	YP H	Supp Accom Visiting Support Visiting Support
Saheliya	Supported (West Pilton Pk) Thorn tree Street Saheliya Visiting Support Service	10 Union Street	EDINBURGH		EH1 3LU	H MH	Supp Accom Visiting Support
Salvation Army	Ashbrook Hostel	1 The Pleasance	EDINBURGH		EH8 9UE	H	Supp Accom
SAMH	Bread Street Centre Outreach Pleasance East Adam Street North East Edinburgh Independent Living Scheme St Katherine's Community Support Project	Cumbræ House	15 Carlton Court	GLASGOW	G5 9LP	H H H MH	Visiting Support Supp Accom Supp Accom Supp Accom
Scottish Veterans HA Shakti Women's Aid	Whitefoord House Shakti Women's Refuge Visiting Support	53 Canongate Norton Park	EDINBURGH EDINBURGH	57 Albion Road	EH8 8BS EH7 5QY	H DV	Supp Accom Supp Accom
						DV	Visiting Support

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
Share Scotland	SHARE Visiting support service	8a Silk Street	PAISLEY	PAISLEY	PA1 1HG	LD	Visiting Support
Shelter Scotland	Shelter Families Project	60/62 Newhaven Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH6 5QB	H	Visiting Support
Streetwork	Streetwork Tenancy Support Service	14 Albany Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH3 3QB	H	Visiting Support
The Action Group	Women's service Action Group	Norton Park Centre	57 Albion Road	EDINBURGH	EH7 5QY	DV LD	Visiting Support Visiting Support
Thistle Foundation	Thistle Visiting Support Service	Niddrie Mains Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH16 4EA	PD	Visiting Support
Trust HA	Trust Amenity	12 New Mart Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH14 1RL	OP	Sheltered Housing
Turning Point Scotland	Trust Sheltered Midpoint	44 Hanover Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH2 2DR	OP D	Sheltered Housing Visiting Support
Viewpoint HA	Viewpoint Sheltered Viewpoint Alarm/Amenity Service	4 South Oswald Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH9 2HG	OP	Sheltered Housing
YMCA Glasgow	Viewpoint Enhanced/Supported Broomhouse	33 Petershill Drive	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	G21 4QQ	H	Supp Accom
	Crewe Road Gardens					H	Supp Accom
	West Pilton View					H	Supp Accom

**HOMELESSNESS
STRATEGY
CONTRACTS**

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
Citizens Advice Scotland	In Court Advice Service	58 Dundas Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH3 6QZ	H	Advice Service
Cyrenians/SACRO	Young Persons Mediation Project	Norton Park	57 Albion Road	EDINBURGH	EH7 5QY	H	Young Persons Mediation Supported
Edinburgh Cyrenians Trust	Farm & City		EDINBURGH			H	Accommodation for Young People
Edinburgh Cyrenians Trust	RDGS		EDINBURGH			H	Rent Deposit Guarantees
Edinburgh Cyrenians Trust	GFITH		EDINBURGH			H	Food Distribution – Employability
FourSquare	Cowgate Centre Edinburgh	28 North Bridge	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH1 1QG	H	Day & Night Service
FourSquare	Furniture Initiative		EDINBURGH			H	Furniture Provision
FourSquare	Prison Outreach Project		EDINBURGH			H	Prison Outreach
FourSquare	Spectrum		EDINBURGH			H	Employability Service
Fresh Start	Fresh Start - Starter Packs	22-24 Ferry Road Drive	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH4 4BR	H	Home Starter Packs
Granton Information Centre	Granton Information Centre	134-136 West Granton Road	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH5 1PE	H	Advice Service
HOP	Streetwork Service	1a Grindlay St Court	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH3 9AR	H	Rough Sleepers Outreach
HOP	Complex Needs Service		EDINBURGH			H	Rough Sleepers with Complex Needs (Addictions)
HOP	Needle Exchange		EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH		H	Needle Exchange Supported
Jericho Benedictines	Jericho House	53 Lothian St	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH1 1HB	H	Accommodation
Keymoves	Cranston Street Housing Advice & Advocacy Worker	2 Cranston Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH8 8BE	H	Women's Hostel
Milan		Norton Park, 57 Albion Rd	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH7 5QY	H	Housing Advice

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Organisation	Service	HQ Address	Address	Address	Postcode	Client Group	Service Type
Move On	Move On Shelter Families Project	55 Albany Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH1 3QY	H	Housing Education Schools
Shelter	Complex Needs Service	60-62 Newhaven Rd	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH3 8BX	H	Children's Service
Streetwork	Drug Outreach Project	14 Albany Street	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH3 3QB	H	Rough Sleepers with Complex Needs
Streetwork	Women's Service		EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH		H	Drugs Outreach
Streetwork	First Point of Contact Service		EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH		H	Service to Rough Sleepers
The Ark Trust	Space 44	30 Montrose Terrace	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH	EH7 5DL	H	Women's Streetwork Service
Turning Point	Midpoint	44 Hanover St	EDINBURGH	EDINBURGH		H	Rough Sleepers Outreach
							Women's Support Service
							Specialist Support for Rough Sleepers with Addictions

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QUESTION NO 3

**By Councillor Maginnis
answered by the Convener of
the Finance and Resources
Committee**

Question (1) How many properties in Edinburgh are registered as second homes?

Answer (1) 3,326.

Question (2) What does this figure represent as a percentage of all domestic properties?

Answer (2) 1.46% of the 227,403 properties.

Question (3) How many 'buy to let' properties are currently empty in Edinburgh?

Answer (3) While the Council maintains an overview of the Edinburgh housing market, it does not currently hold this information as it is not required for Council Tax purposes.

Question (4) What is the average earnings per household in Edinburgh?

Answer (4) £32,000 in 2006. The City of Edinburgh was ranked 5th out of Scotland's 32 local authority areas. Only East Renfrewshire, East Dunbartonshire, Aberdeenshire and Stirlingshire have higher household incomes.

Question (5) Using this figure and taking account of the answer to question (1) what is the estimated effect of the introduction of a Local Income Tax as proposed by the Scottish Government on Edinburgh's local tax income?

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Answer (5) Detailed proposals with regard to the implementation of a Local Income Tax by the Scottish Government remain at a formative stage. Clarification is required, for instance, with regard to a number of issues relating to both the scope and application of the tax. In addition, further discussions concerning the quantity and distribution of any additional funding made available to local government to compensate for the anticipated overall reduction in local taxation revenues are needed. As a result of these factors, it is not possible at this time to estimate the effect implementation of such a scheme would have on the city.

Supplementary Question Answer 5 says that “In addition, further discussions concerning the quantity of distribution of any additional funding made available to local government to compensate for the anticipated overall reduction in local taxation revenues are needed”. I wonder if the Convener would like to elaborate on if there is any sense yet of the scale of the overall reductions in local government income here in Edinburgh as the result of the introduction of the local income tax.

Supplementary Answer I do not have details on the amount because the proposals have not been brought forward by the Scottish Government so I am afraid I cannot give you the answer. I will endeavour to get that information from the Director of Finance but I do not think he has that at the moment so we will come back to you on that one.

QUESTION NO 4

**By Councillor Maginnis
answered by the Convener of
the Planning Committee**

Question

Can you advise what progress has been made in appointing the additional 14 planning officers approved in the Council's 2007/08 revenue budget?

Answers

- (1) Recruitment to the following posts approved in the Council's 2007/08 revenue budget is complete:

Delivery

- 2x Planning Officer posts, to strengthen the planning input to project implementation and delivery.

Response to change and growth

- 3x Planning Officer posts, to strengthen the processing of major development proposals to achieve benefits to the City.
- 1x Principal Planning Officer to promote the negotiation, monitoring and implementation of planning agreements on planning consents, to ensure that the Council secures the financial benefits to invest in new infrastructure.

An efficient process

- 1x Planning Technician to improve efficiency in the receipt and validation of planning applications, where requirements are more complex and time consuming.
- 1x systems support to the planning portal to maintain the accuracy of planning information available on-line to the public.

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- (2) As part of a phased approach, recruitment to the following posts is now under way:
- 2x Support Assistants to strengthen the support to proactive enforcement activities and to improve the co-ordination of appeal cases.
 - 1x Support Assistant to strengthen the information available to the public on planning cases.

- (3) The following posts have not been progressed, as part of the Department's post-budget requirements for savings:

Design Initiative

- 2x professional staff to be temporarily seconded from across the department, with their posts back filled.
 - 1x project delivery officer to support the design leader.
- (4) The revenue budget approved the following arrangements to the existing establishment:
- 6x upgrades of planning officer posts to Principal practitioners, to retain experienced staff on case work = 4 promoted so far.
 - 6x increase hours of existing planning case officers: implemented.
 - 1x Principal Planning Officer post and 2x Planning Officer posts: existing team refocused on securing sustainable development: implemented

**Supplementary
Question**

Not recorded.

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**Supplementary
Answer**

Yes, we do get monthly reports and over the last two or three years the department has actually had better response rates. We have tried to dispel some of the rumours that we are slower than Glasgow – we are about the same or slightly better than Glasgow. What we are looking at is better delivery and we have improved that. The design initiative is another area which we are looking at which involves planning officers. We have set up the City Making Board and Forum and we are getting the Design Champion to give us a paper so that the design planners will link up to a whole restructuring of the department but I think we are responding much better than we were two or three years ago and we are continuing to improve.

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QUESTION NO 5

**By Councillor Godzik
answered by the Convener of
the Culture and Leisure
Committee**

Question (1) What meetings did you have with officers about the plan for Lismore Rugby Club prior to the Culture and Leisure Committee meeting on 20 November 2007?

Answer (1) I have been kept updated on the plans for Lismore Rugby Club at my weekly Heads of Service meetings. -

Question (2) When and by whom was the decision taken to introduce the possibility of a new care home and Seaview Respite Home on the site?

Answer (2) Council approved the use of the site for a new care home at its meeting on 27 March 2007.

Only part of the site was earmarked for the new care home. Children and Families initially expressed interest in the possibility of utilising the surplus part of the site for a replacement for Seaview Respite Home and raised an objection to the planning application by Lismore Rugby Club on this basis. They have concluded that the site is not appropriate for their purpose and have withdrawn their objection.

The site is therefore now available for use by Lismore Rugby Club subject to receipt of an updated business plan for the club.

A report is to be presented to the Finance and Resources Committee in January 2008 on this basis.

Question (3) Can you please provide copies of the minutes of those meetings to the full Council meeting?

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Answer (3) The key decision relating to the siting of the care home was indicated to the City Council on 27 March.

Supplementary Question (1) I would be extremely grateful if the Convener could provide me with the minutes of the meetings with the Heads of Service where the plans for Lismore Rugby Club were discussed and also if she could provide me with the appropriate report of 27 March.

Supplementary Answer (1) I would be happy to provide you with the 27 March report. I presume it is the case that Heads of Service meetings consist of private advice from officials to me so I do not necessarily think it is appropriate. I know that when this was pointed out, Councillor Cardownie suggested that perhaps Councillor Henderson would provide us with the last five years say of meetings that he had with his Heads of Service. So, no, I don't think that is really appropriate.

I would advise the Council that on 5 December 2007 the Corporate Asset Management Group agreed to the development of both a care home and a pavilion on the existing school site. That will go to the Finance and Resources Committee in January for a formal ratification. There is also, of course, a report coming to the Culture and Leisure Committee in February. Children and Families, as you can see from the answer, have withdrawn their objection to the Inch Park application and planning officers are meeting with Lismore RFC on 21 December to discuss the application in full so things are moving forward.

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I have every sympathy with people who become exasperated with the mysterious ways in which this Council appears to move at times but I have to say that I must wonder at Councillor Godzik asking these questions as a member of a party that was in administration until May, pointing out so clearly the inaction that was occurring while the Labour party was in power. Lismore RFC has been attempting to set up its multi-sport facilities at Inch Park since 1994. Does he really want to draw attention to the fact that more has happened in the last few months under this Administration to progress the project than has been the case for years? I leave it to the Council to draw its own conclusions about which Administration has been the most active in pursuing this project which I look forward to welcoming as a significant addition to the sporting facilities in this city.

- Supplementary Question** (2) I thank the Convener for that answer. Can I just ask in the spirit of openness and transparency which I believe that this Administration seeks to base itself upon and not wishing to place an FOI request on the meetings which have asked about, if the Convener will release the minutes of the meetings that she has had with the Heads of Service regarding Lismore Rugby Club.
- Supplementary Answer** (2) No, no I won't. It has been discussed on several occasions.

QUESTION NO 6

**By Councillor Burns
answered by the Convener of
the Education, Children and
Families Committee**

Question

Please confirm when the promised catchment review for Stockbridge Primary School:

- will commence?
- will conclude?
- and who will be consulted?

Answer

The Department has met with Stockbridge Primary School to informally discuss the process and the nature of the proposal. It is also intended to meet with neighbouring schools which may be affected by a review before drawing up a formal proposal. Once a formal proposal has been drawn up, it will be presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee with a request for permission to consult – this is likely to be early in 2008. Thereafter there will be a statutory consultation exercise, followed by a report back to Committee on the outcome of the consultation, likely to be in the second quarter of 2008. The final conclusion of the review will be dependant on securing the Scottish Ministers' consent under Section 22B of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, so it is difficult to speculate when this might be.

The consultation will be conducted in the manner prescribed by Section 22A of the 1980 Act, which requires consultation with all affected schools – including each Parent Council and parents who would be affected by any proposed change within two years of the date of the proposal.

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**Supplementary
Question**

Can I just confirm with the Convener that the catchment review for Stockbridge Primary School will be complete by the middle of 2008 as per the answer and will be undertaken entirely separately from any consideration of schools in state rationalisation?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Not recorded.

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QUESTION NO 7

**By Councillor Burns
answered by the Convener of
the Education, Children and
Families Committee**

Please confirm the following regarding Craigoyston Community High School:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Question | (1) Who is financially responsible for the 'reported' asbestos contamination, of the new-build site, due to the demolition of the previous housing? |
| Answer | (1) The arrangements for the handover of the site are the subject of a current review by Internal Audit. The following answers are provided in advance of the publication of the audit but reflect on the contractual position of the PPP contract. |
| Question | (2) In the nearby, remaining housing, are the tenants at risk and what steps are being taken to ensure their guaranteed safety? |
| Answer | (2) The site is secure and under the control of the PPP contractor. The contractor has consulted with his safety advisors and they are satisfied that the site is safe for personnel to continue to be present on site. |
| Question | (3) Was the relocation of utilities built into the building costs, and again, who is financially responsible? |
| Answer | (3) The PPP2 contract between Axiom and the Council allocated responsibility to the Council for diversion of the utility pipes and equipment. The cost of this work was not included in the contract. |

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QUESTION NO 8

**By Councillor Burns
answered by the Convener of
the Education, Children and
Families Committee**

Question

Please confirm the following regarding the ongoing review of Community Learning and Development:

- who has been consulted to date? Can you please provide a full list in answer to this question.
- exactly when were those on the list above consulted?
- exactly what were those on the list above asked to submit as part of their role in the consultation?

Answer

UNISON representatives have been kept up to date through a series of meetings with Gillian Tee, Mike Rosendale and David Wright.

Since the inception of a proposed Organisational Review of Community Learning and Development (CLD), David Wright and the CLD managers have consulted with the following staff:

Throughout September:

- a series of meetings at neighbourhood level with Senior CLD workers
- a meeting with all the centrally based CLD
- a specially organised meeting with all senior CLD workers

At these meetings full details were given to staff about the nature and scope of the proposed review. Staff were told of the budget saving target and were asked to contribute to the review process either by becoming involved in the workstreams directly or by feeding their ideas into the process via their manager or directly to D Wright.

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Written information - in September a written communication was issued by D Wright to all CLD staff which outlined the proposed areas for the CLD review. The final Terms of Reference for the review do not differ significantly from this written statement.

28 September:

All CLD workers and seniors were invited to attend an open meeting about the CLD Review. Around 60-70 attended. D Wright gave a 20 minute presentation on the proposed review, followed by a 45 minute question and answer session. Staff were then left to discuss their level of involvement. At the end of the meeting he was informed that staff had decided overwhelmingly not to get involved in the process.

The CLD Organisational Review meetings were set for Friday mornings throughout November and December. CLD managers issued an open invitation to any staff to join this group. Two staff indicated a willingness to get involved but following a communication from UNISON urging staff not to get involved, they did not join the group.

23 November

A further attempt to engage staff in the consultation process resulted in a communication being issued to all CLD staff inviting them to join any of 3 specific workstreams. A union meeting on 30 November once again told members not to become involved and as such no staff participated.

6 December

D Wright briefed the Clerical/Admin staff on the review. Around 25 staff attended.

12 December

Latest in series of meetings with UNISON and EIS Reps to discuss the Organisational Reviews, including that on CLD.

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QUESTION NO 9

**By Councillor Munro
answered by the Convener of
the Health, Social Care and
Housing Committee**

Question

What approaches, both verbal and written, have been made by the Convener and/or his officers to the Scottish Government, the Minister and/or his officials to discuss and progress the case for housing in Edinburgh?

Answer

I wrote to Stewart Maxwell, MSP, on 29th June 2007 to raise my concerns about affordable housing, followed on by a request for a meeting from the Council Secretary on 4 July. The Vice-Convener, officials and I met with the Minister on 1 August and I wrote again on 2 August. Meanwhile, Councillor Dawe had written to Nicola Sturgeon, MSP on the subject of affordable housing issues in Edinburgh.

The City of Edinburgh Council has been involved in two meetings relating to the Housing Supply Task Force. The first was with Planning Officers on 23 October. This was a technical meeting. The second meeting, on 20 November, was attended by Mark Turley, Andrew Holmes, John Inman, Keith Anderson from the Waterfront Development and myself.

Officers have maintained verbal contact with civil servants servicing the Task Force with regard to arranging the events, agendas and who should represent the City of Edinburgh Council.

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After the Affordable Housing paper was agreed at the Planning Committee of 6 December and the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee of 11 December, I wrote to Stewart Maxwell on 13 December requesting an urgent meeting with an all party group. Additionally, Councillor Dawe and Councillor Gordon Mackenzie met with John Swinney, MSP on 12 December and raised the issue of funding for affordable housing in the city.

**Supplementary
Question**

Is the Convener satisfied that we have been unable as an authority to meet with the Minister on this issue as under the terms of the Council motions of June and August?

**Supplementary
Answer**

As I said in my answer, I have written again to the Minister seeking an urgent meeting with him and I await the response to that with interest.

QUESTION NO 10

**By Councillor Burgess
answered by the Convener of
the Transport, Infrastructure
and Environment Committee**

Question (1) What steps are being taken to implement the terms of the motion passed by Council on 25 October 2007 regarding bike-tram integration?

Answer (1) The TEL board approved the policy for bus and tram integration with cyclists on 5 September 2007, which was:

- To permit the carriage of folding bicycles, fully enclosed within a bag, at the discretion of the bus driver or tram inspector when sufficient space exists.
- To prohibit the carriage of all other bicycles on the TEL bus and tram integrated network.
- To have available cycle parking facilities where possible at tram stops west of Haymarket and north of Picardy Place.
- To provide information through the internet, on information panels at bus and tram stops and to make leaflets available through the TEL travel shops, relating to opportunities for onward travel by bus and tram for cyclists.

The detailed design for the tram is ongoing and will be for several months. *tie* and their system designers are necessarily having to work within a number of constraints particularly on the on-street sections. However, they are also required to take cognisance of the Council's Local Transport Strategy in the design process.

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- Question** (2) Specifically on the question of cycle carriage, will the agreed re-investigation include identifying how the potential problems feared by **tie**/TEL are overcome in European tram systems?
- Answer** (2) **tie** and TEL were requested to review their position with regard to cycle carriage on the trams following the agreed motion on 25 October 2007. TEL has again concluded that, at present, this cannot be achieved in a safe and efficient manner, without causing undue discomfort and risk to other passengers.
- Supplementary Question** (1) My question followed up on two motions from full Council which supported at least the idea of cycle carriage on trams. The answer that we got back from **tie**/TEL suggests that they have not really looked at this and how the perceived problems of bike carriage are overcome in many European and US modern tram systems. Given the Council's long declared aspiration for cycle carriage and reaffirmed at the October meeting, will the Convener now instruct **tie**/TEL to explain in detail why cycle carriage is perfectly feasible and normal in trams of other leading European cities but not in Edinburgh?
- Supplementary Answer** (1) This matter is not closed. The designers are still in consultation with CAF, the company producing the trams for us. That is my understanding of the position and more work is being done. There has been a visit from a Dutch expert to explain how trams and bikes can co-exist and there has also been a visit to Paris to see how things are being organised there, so, if I can use the phrase "the door is not yet shut" on the subject. I think, if anything, we may be again UK leaders in actually being able to arrange something here.
- Supplementary Question** (2) It says in the answer to the question that TEL has again concluded that at present this cannot be achieved so it is not the Convener's understanding that that is correct we are going to see further work on this.
- Supplementary Answer** (2) Yes, indeed *remainder not recorded*

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QUESTION NO 11

**By Councillor Burgess
answered by the Convener of
the Transport, Infrastructure
and Environment Committee**

Question

What progress is being made towards updating the current action plan on air quality and outlining any potential financial consequences of a failure to meet air quality standards by 2010?

Answer

A progress report on actions identified in the Council's first Air Quality Action Plan has been drafted and will be the subject of a report to Council early in 2008. Following the declaration of a second Air Quality Management Area for St John's Road in December 2006, the original action plan is in the process of being revised and updated to cover this new area. The new plan will address all relevant issues, trends and proposed actions relevant to air quality management in the city's two Air Quality Management Areas.

In terms of financial consequences of a failure to meet air quality standards by 2010, any infraction fines in relation to this would be imposed by the European Union on member states who fail to meet the requirements of the relevant Directives. It is unclear at the moment how the Scottish and UK Governments propose to deal with any infraction issues, however, air quality is a devolved responsibility and it is likely that any penalties would fall to the Scottish Government.

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QUESTION NO 12

**By Councillor Hinds answered
by the Convener of the Health,
Social Care and Housing
Committee**

- Question** (1) What was the budget originally provided for Home Based Services in 2007/8?
- Answer** (1) £19.205m.
- Question** (2) What savings are now projected to be met from this budget in 2007/8?
- Answer** (2) No savings are projected.
- Question** (3) How many clients receive this service?
- Answer** (3) 4105.
- Question** (4) How many clients who receive a Home Based Service, are having their service reviewed?
- Answer** (4) All clients should have their service reviewed after 4 weeks, 6 months and then yearly. A specific Review Team was established on 12 November.
- Question** (5) Up to 3 December 2007 how many have been reviewed?
- Answer** (5) The Review Team has reviewed 139 clients.
- Question** (6) How many clients have been informed that their service will be reduced or stopped?
- Answer** (6) Following individual reviews 56 clients have had their service reduced, 30 care packages remain unchanged and 29 have had their service stopped.

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- Question** (7) How many clients have had their service increased?
- Answer** (7) 24 clients have had their service increased.
- Question** (8) What measures are being put in place to ensure that clients, who have had this service reduced or stopped, will continue to be adequately monitored?
- Answer** (8) People who have had their services reduced will be reviewed in line with normal practice. In addition anyone can request a re-assessment via Social Care Direct if circumstances change.
- Supplementary Question** Obviously this budget has been overspent for many years and I assume is still overspent this year. First of all, does the Convener share my concern that out of these figures a third of the clients assessed now receive no service at all and if this continues with the same percentage then we are likely to have over 1,000 clients with no service being provided where it was before? What is the likely outcome of the budget for this year? Secondly, is the Convener happy with the appeal system that will take account of the most vulnerable because I have heard stories from other Councillors who have been contacted about clients over 90 now receiving no service and I am extremely concerned about that? Will the Convener make sure an appeal system is there for people to be considered? Lastly, can the Spokespersons from the other groups be kept updated on the figures as the assessments happen so that I do not have to keep putting questions to the Council?
- Supplementary Answer** Yes, I will ensure that updates are provided.

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I think what we have here, and I challenge your arithmetic because 139 divided by 30 is not anywhere near one third. I welcome the fact that 24 clients have actually had their service increased as a result of this and I think that is something worth celebrating. I think that you should share my view that what we should be doing is spending scarce resources in supporting the most vulnerable clients as a top priority and that is exactly what we have done here.

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QUESTION NO 13

**By Councillor Hinds answered
by the Convener of the Health,
Social Care and Housing
Committee**

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| Question | (1) | How many clients received the dedicated shopping service in 2007? |
| Answer | (1) | 343 at 28.9.07. |
| Question | (2) | What was the cost of this service in 2006/7? |
| Answer | (2) | £428k. |
| Question | (3) | What was the budget for this service in 2007/8? |
| Answer | (3) | £32k. |
| Question | (4) | When did the service stop? |
| Answer | (4) | 30 November 2007. |
| Question | (5) | Are any savings expected this year from stopping the shopping service? If so, how much? |
| Answer | (5) | As indicated above, budgeted provision was £32k. Completing the change of service from 30 November 2007 will, however, reduce the forecast overspend by £100k in the current financial year. |
| Question | (6) | How many clients, who previously received this service, now have it provided by their Home Help? |
| Answer | (6) | The number of clients who now have the service provided by their home help is 220. This is in addition to the 1387 clients who were already getting shopping via their home help service. |

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- Question** (7) Have home helps, on average, had their hours increased to provide a shopping service?
- Answer** (7) No. This is being delivered through a more efficient use of resources.
- Question** (8) On average how long does the Home Help spend providing a shopping service?
- Answer** (8) The standard time to deliver a shopping service for eligible clients is one hour per week.
- Question** (9) How many clients have no shopping service provided, who had the service before?
- Answer** (9) 123 clients were individually reviewed and assessed as not requiring this service and no longer receive shopping as part of their packages of care.
- Question** (10) What measures have been put in place to ensure that clients who are not provided with a shopping service are not suffering as a result?
- Answer** (10) For those assessed as not requiring a shopping service from the Council, each client was given advice on alternatives e.g. free or low cost deliveries from supermarkets, via relatives or friends or by purchasing assistance by using appropriate benefits e.g. Attendance Allowance. Anyone who has a package of care will have a personal review.
- Supplementary Question** When does the Convener expect the report to come back regarding my motion on the Shopping Service?
- Supplementary Answer** The report is going to the meeting that we are hoping to call in February.

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QUESTION NO 14

**By Councillor Chapman
answered by the Convener of
the Finance and Resources
Committee**

Question

Will you ensure the budget that the Administration prepares for February will take account of funding for groups supporting young people, people with disabilities, victims of abuse, older people, and other vulnerable groups in society, given the move away from ring-fenced funding for such groups?

Answer

Yes.