

**Committee Minutes**

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**Transport, Infrastructure and Environment  
Committee**

**Edinburgh, 23 September 2008**

**Present:-** Councillors Wheeler (Convener), Aldridge (Vice-Convener), Barry, Beckett (substituting for Councillor McIvor), Buchanan, Burgess, Child, Dawe, Dundas, Elliott-Cannon (substituting for Councillor Keir), Hawkins, Jackson, McInnes, Mowat, Munro, Peacock, Perry and Tymkewycz.

**Also Present:-** Councillors Hinds and MacLaren.

**1 Minutes**

**Decision**

To approve the minutes of the meetings of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee of 29 July 2008 and 5 August 2008 as correct records.

**2 The Legality and Practicality of Carrying Prams and Pushchairs  
on Buses**

**2.1 Deputation**

Caroline Burgess and David Hunter of "Mums Need to Use Lothian Buses Too" asked the Council to influence Lothian Buses to allow parents with prams and pushchairs onto their services. They explained that no other bus company in the UK had adopted the same policy and that the vast majority of mothers would vacate the wheelchair space if requested. People with prams and pushchairs should not be denied access to public transport. Moreover, it was not appropriate to ask people to take their child out of their buggy as holding the baby in a chair was not safe and for one person on their own it would be logistically very difficult.

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### Decision

The Convener thanked the deputation for attending and indicated that their comments would be taken into account when the Committee considered a report by the Director of City Development on the matter.

(Reference – e-mail, submitted.)

### 2.2 Report by the Director of City Development (Agenda Item 6.4)

In response to a motion submitted by Councillor Mowat to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee on 29 July 2008 the Director of City Development reported on the legality and practicality of carrying prams and pushchairs on buses. The Council in its capacity as Transport Authority would have no authority to instruct public transport operators to alter the conditions of carriage.

### Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) Whilst recognising that the City of Edinburgh Council has no authority to instruct public transport operators to alter their Conditions of Carriage, to express deep concerns over the position adopted by Lothian Buses on the carrying of non-folding prams on their vehicles.
- 3) To further request that Lothian Buses re-visits this policy with a view to relaxing it, in response to the recent statement by the Department of Transport that the relevant legislation allows a designated wheelchair space to be used by other passengers when it is not required by a wheelchair user, but it should be vacated, **if at all possible** when a wheelchair user requires it.
- 4) To ask Lothian Buses to convene a meeting of representatives of disability groups and the deputation from 'Mums Need to Use Lothian Buses Too' to discuss the situation.
- 5) To ask that Lothian Buses meet a cross-party deputation to discuss the situation.

(Reference – Transport Infrastructure and Environment Committee 29 July 2008 (item 2); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

### 3 Review of Parking Permits for Businesses TRO/08/06

#### 3.1 Deputation

Chris Collins representing the Drummond Civic Association, Saxe-Coburg Association and Central Edinburgh New Town Association advised the Committee that there was no spare capacity for resident's parking. The groups he represented supported the recommendations in the Director's report and he asked the Committee to endorse them.

#### Decision

The Convener thanked the deputation for attending and indicated that their comments would be taken into account when the Committee considered a report by the Director of City Development on the matter.

(Reference – e-mail, submitted.)

#### 3.2 Report by the Director of City Development (Agenda Item 21)

A review of Parking Permits for Businesses had been considered by the Committee on 27 November 2007 and following the formal consultation the Director of City Development reported further on the proposed amendments to the Retailers and Trades Parking Permit Scheme and approval was sought to make the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders.

#### Decision

- 1) That the following amendments to the Retailers' and Trades' Parking Permit Scheme **should not** be implemented:
  - (a) A new permit should be introduced to replace the Retailers' permit and be called a Business permit;
  - (b) The limit of one Business permit per business should be increased to two; and
  - (c) The requirement for vehicles to be liveried should be relaxed, provided applicants can meet all other criteria.
- 2) That the following amendments to the Retailers and Trades Parking Permit Scheme **should** be implemented:
  - (a) Trades' permits should be made available to all trades people working from home, provided that they meet all other terms and conditions;

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- (b) Trades permits should be issued for any number of months (at £100 per month) up to a maximum of £1,000 for a full year; and
  - (c) Pharmacies should be brought under the umbrella of the Retailers' permit scheme.
- 3) To make the Traffic Regulation Orders taking into account the changes agreed in decision 2 above.

(Reference – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 27 November 2007 (item 6); report by the Director of City Development.)

#### **4 Controlled Parking Zone Extension – Results of “South of S2” Consultation**

##### **4.1 Deputation**

David Fudge from Braid Residents Association asked the Committee to consider including the east side of Comiston Road in a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) area. He stated that there were two contrasting points of view. On the west side of Comiston Road they did not support being in a CPZ but on the east side the majority of residents supported being in the CPZ. He explained that the Council should have a flexible approach for areas on the periphery of the controlled parking zones and that reconsideration be given in regard to the east side of Comiston Road.

##### **Decision**

The Convener thanked the deputation for attending and indicated that their comments would be taken into account when the Committee considered a report by the Director of City Development on the matter.

(Reference – e-mail, submitted.)

##### **4.2 Report by the Director of City Development (Agenda item 26)**

The Council on 13 March 2008 considered a report on Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) and instructed that the Director of City Development report on the consultations for the nine areas on the periphery of the new zones.

The Director of City Development reported on the outcome of the informal consultation carried out with residents and businesses in the areas south of the S2 Zone of the extended CPZ.

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**Decision**

- 1) To note that the Consultation exercise revealed general opposition to parking controls and that the survey data collected supported the contention that controls were unnecessary, in relation to the west side of Comiston Road.
- 2) To agree that it was not considered necessary to consider parking controls in relation to the west side of Comiston Road.
- 3) To note that there was a significant divergence of opinion on issues faced between those on the east and west side of Comiston Road.
- 4) To call for a report on the proposal for a free standing CPZ extension on the east side of Comiston Road, including other measures which could be taken to alleviate the very serious problems currently being faced by residents.
- 5) To ask the Director of City Development to investigate possible alternatives to controlled parking, including the installation of double yellow lines.

(Reference – Act of Council No 20 of 13 March 2008; report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**5 Appointments to Tram Sub-Committee**

**Decision**

Councillor Perry was appointed the Labour Group Member to the Tram Sub-Committee.

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

**6 Trinity Gardens Development – Traffic Flow – Motion by Councillor Hinds**

The Directors of City Development and Services for Communities reported on a motion, submitted by Councillor Hinds to the Council on 26 June 2008, on proposals for a consultation on how developer contributions should be allocated in respect of the Trinity Gardens Development. The contribution would be to fund transport improvements at Inverleith Row/Ferry Road/South Trinity Road Junction or any other junction improvements/traffic calming scheme as reasonably required by the Council in the vicinity of the development site.

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Councillor Hinds was heard in regard to the report.

**Decision**

- 1) To proceed with the study as outlined in the joint report by the Directors of City Development and Services for Communities once the contribution has been received by the Council and to report to the Committee on the proposals.
- 2) To begin the consultation immediately and to involve local ward members and the local community.

(Reference – Act of Council No 38 of 26 June 2008; joint report by the Directors of City Development and Services for Communities, submitted.)

**7 Edinburgh Road Works Ahead Agreement – Motion by Councillor Hinds**

The Director of Services for Communities reported on a motion, submitted by Councillor Hinds to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee of 29 July 2008, presenting proposals for an improvement of road works management in particular examining the management, co-ordination and effective controlling of road occupations.

Councillor Hinds was heard in regard to the report.

**Decision**

- 1) To approve the proposals for improvement outlined in the report by the Director of Services for Communities.
- 2) To note in particular the changes being introduced by the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and grant approval for the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices to utilities and others, and to delegate the power to issue these to the Director of Services for Communities (or his nominee).
- 3) To note that a further report would be presented to the Committee after six months from the start of the initiative.
- 4) To refer the report to all the Neighbourhood Partnerships.

(Reference – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 29 July 2008 (item 5); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## **8 The Provision of Water Fountains for Runners and Joggers – Motion by Councillor Buchan**

On 16 September 2008 the Culture and Leisure Committee considered a motion by Councillor Buchan on the provision of water fountains for runners and joggers. The Culture and Leisure Committee referred the proposal by Councillor Buchan to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee for consideration.

### **Decision**

- 1) To call for a joint report by the Directors of City Development, Corporate Services and Services for Communities on the provision of water fountains in areas popular with runners and joggers;

The report to include:

- (a) Full costing for installation (including any associated cost for statutory permissions; i.e. planning permissions, road occupation consents, maintenance and ongoing running costs (including any care and repair, land rental and charges) (i.e. water supply).
  - (b) Potential usage of the water fountains by runners and joggers.
  - (c) Timescales for proposals to be implemented.
  - (d) Any potential health issues.
  - (e) The views of relevant stakeholders.
- 2) The report to be referred to the Culture and Leisure Committee for consideration with recommendations from the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee to aid in its determination.

(Reference – report by the Culture and Leisure Committee, submitted.)

## **9 Roads and Street Lighting Improvements – Right First Time**

The Director of Services for Communities presented an Improvement Plan which aimed to deliver innovated service efficiency and customer service and gave details of the data quality and performance issues relating to street lighting.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the timetable for the Right First Time projects.

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- 2) To note the improvements made in current live projects.
- 3) To note the projected service improvements to the street lighting service.
- 4) To note that a further report on street lighting statistics and further progress reports regarding the Right First Time projects would be presented to future meetings of the Committee.

(Reference – report by the Director for Services for Communities, submitted.)

### **10 Detailed Assessment 2007 of Nitrogen Dioxide at West Port and Great Junction Street Local Air Quality Management (Round 3)**

The Director of Services for Communities reported the main findings of the Detailed Assessment (2007) Air Quality Report for Great Junction Street and West Port and gave details of the outcome of the consultation with the Scottish Government and Scottish Environment Agency (SEPA).

#### **Decision**

- 1) To note the comments of the Scottish Government and SEPA.
- 2) To approve the Detailed Assessment Report 2007 for Great Junction Street and West Port.
- 3) To create a separate Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) for Great Junction Street.
- 4) To extend the central AQMA to include West Port.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

### **11 Air Quality: Progress and New Action Plan**

Approval was sought by the Director of Corporate Services for the submission of the Air Quality Progress Report 2005-2007 and the Air Quality Action Plan 2008-2010 to the Scottish Government.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the Air Quality Progress Report 2005-2007 for submission to the Scottish Government.
- 2) To approve the new Air Quality Action Plan 2008-2010 for submission to the Scottish Government.



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- 2) To approve the new Air Quality Action Plan 2008-2010 for submission to the Scottish Government.
- 3) To note that further reports would be submitted on progress.
- 4) To further ensure that the proposed Quality Partnerships as referred to in Section 7 of the new Action Plan 2008-2010 set stringent and challenging targets for both bus and freight operators in the city.
- 5) The Committee recognises the financial risk to the Council from fines should air quality standards not be met and seeks further clarification about the risk.
- 6) The Committee recognises the risk that the voluntary agreements with bus and freight operators identified as key policies in the Action Plan 2008-10 may not succeed in bringing pollution within acceptable limits, and therefore:
  - (a) Calls for a report in one year on the progress of the proposed voluntary agreements and other measures to reduce air pollution outlined in the latest Air Quality Action Plan, and
  - (b) In the meantime, asks the Air Quality Working Group to continue to investigate all further mechanisms to achieve air quality standards, including mandatory restrictions and those that would require revenue or capital spending.
- 7) To ask for a report comparing air quality figures with other cities throughout Europe and on initiatives they undertake to improve air quality.

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

## 12 Cleanliness of the City

The Director of Services for Communities gave an update on the latest street cleansing service scores and highlighted the reasons for individual neighbourhood performance and plans for further improvement.

### Decision

- 1) To note the actions outlined to address the scores in the North and City Centre Neighbourhood areas.
- 2) To note that the North and City Centre Neighbourhood Managers would report to the Neighbourhood Partnerships on their specific short-term proposals for improvement.

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- 3) To note that there would be a further report to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee regarding the longer term review of Task Force working arrangements within the next financial year.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

### **13 Services for Communities: Significant Trading Organisations - Update**

The Director of Services for Communities gave an update on the progress made to the Refuse Collection Service and other aspects of waste management and the progress at Edinburgh Business Services (EBS). Additionally, approval was sought for the extension of the Council's partnership with Pinnacle.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To note the continued success of the partnership with Pinnacle in both EBS and Waste Management.
- 2) To approve the extension of that partnership into its final year.
- 3) To note that a final report would be presented in one year's time.
- 4) To refer the report to the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee for information.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

### **14 Traffic Regulation Order for the Introduction of Recycling and Residual Waste Containers in Gayfield Square (TRO/7/073)**

Approval was sought to repel the objections to the Traffic Regulation Order for the introduction of waste and recycling containers in Gayfield Square.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To repel the objections on the grounds that they were not relevant to the Traffic Regulation Order which would allow the installation of the waste and recycling containers to proceed in Gayfield Square (and the other locations affected).

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- 2) To note the responses to the objections detailed in Appendix 2 of the Director of Services for Communities' report and that this information be sent to the objectors.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## 15 Implementation of the Recycling Strategy

The Director of Services for Communities reported on the Council's Recycling Strategy, with regard to the Scottish Government's waste policy announcements in January 2008.

### Decision

- 1) To note the implementation of schemes within Phase 1 (as agreed at the Committee on 29 July 2008).
- 2) To approve the implementation of extended recycling schemes in Hard to Reach properties (contingent on the success of the trial of the Glenogle Colonies).
- 3) To agree to the commencement of a procurement process in respect of food waste. Options and costs for food waste collection would be reported to the Committee in due course.
- 4) To note that further options and costs for kerbside collection would be brought back to the Committee for determination, subject to the availability of additional funding and market testing.
- 5) To note that the most cost-effective options to enhance recycling performance beyond 40% would be reported in due course.
- 6) To request that the Director of Services for Communities report to a future meeting of the Committee on Waste Minimisation.

(Reference – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 29 July 2008 (item 13); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## 16 World Wildlife Fund (Scotland): Scotland's Climate Change Bill Campaign

The Director of City Development advised that the Council had been invited to support the World Wildlife Fund Scotland's campaign to raise public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change and available solutions, in particular transport choices.

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**Decision**

- 1) To note the report and to support the WWF (Scotland) Campaign on Climate Change.
- 2) To assist the WWF (Scotland) by making space available for the city's non-advertising bus shelters for promotional material during the limited period of the campaign.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**17 Transport Infrastructure and Environment Performance Report – June/July 2008**

Details were provided on the Performance Management Information for June/July 2008 for Services for Communities and City Development.

**Decision**

- 1) To note the performance for the period June to July 2008.
- 2) To note the action taken and planned to improve performance.

(Reference – joint report by the Directors of City Development and Services for Communities, submitted.)

**18 Department of City Development – Revenue Budget Monitoring 2008/9 – Month 4 Position – to 31 July 2008**

Details were provided of the Month 4 revenue monitoring position for the Department of City Development.

**Decision**

- 1) To note that the Department was currently projecting a break-even position for 2008/9.
- 2) To note that the efficiency savings included in the budget were anticipated to be achieved.

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- 3) To note the risks in the City Development budget and ask for a further report on how building repairs and maintenance expenditure could be contained within the budget.

(Reference – joint report by the Directors of City Development and Finance, submitted.)

## **19 Services for Communities: Revenue and Capital Monitoring 2008/9 – Month 4 Position**

Details were provided of the Month 4 revenue and capital monitoring position for Services for Communities.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note Services for Communities' financial position at Month 4.
- 2) To note that a further report would be presented at the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment meeting on 25 November 2008.

## **20 Sunday Congestion on City Centre Arterial Routes**

The Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee on 19 February 2008 considered a report on public transport and cycling issues on Bank Street, North Bank Street and The Mound and had instructed the Director of City Development to report on Sunday congestion and how it affected buses on City Centre arterial routes.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note that the City Centre arterial routes surveys, which excluded North Bridge and The Mound, were undertaken on 27 April, on 11 May and 1 June 2008 and that no general traffic or public transport congestion was observed.
- 2) To note that proposals to address Sunday congestion on North Bridge and The Mound were being implemented.
- 3) To authorise the Director of City Development to initiate statutory procedures for the no waiting and no loading at anytime restrictions for Leith Street and no waiting at anytime restrictions for Canongate.

(Reference – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 19 February 2008 (item 9); report by the Director of City Development.)

## **21 The City of Edinburgh Guided Busway – Land Disposal**

The Director of City Development reported that, with the signing of Edinburgh Tram Infrastructure Construction Contract, approval was now sought for the abandonment of a guided busway serving the west of the city. Details of two parcels of land purchased for the City of Edinburgh Rapid Transit project that were not required for the Tram Project were proposed to be initially offered to the former owners.

### **Decision**

To continue consideration for a report by the Director of City Development clarifying whether the land was needed for any potential future transport infrastructure.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

### **Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Barry declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a user of bus lanes as a taxi driver.

## **22 Powered Two Wheelers and Bus Lanes**

On 6 May 2008 the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee had requested that consultation with relevant stakeholders take place before consideration of the review of powered two wheelers in Bus Lanes. The Director of City Development reported on the results of the consultation.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note that current regulations on vehicles which were permitted to use bus lanes in Edinburgh were consistent with general practice elsewhere in Scotland, the UK and Europe.
- 2) To note that there was no definitive evidence on pollution, safety or congestion grounds to warrant changing the current regulations regarding access to priority lanes in Edinburgh.

(Reference – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 6 May 2008 (item 23); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

### **Dissent**

Councillor Barry asked that his dissent be recorded in relation to the decision of the above item.

**23 Dundee Street and Fountainbridge, Edinburgh: Stopping-Up of Means of Public Right of Passage**

Approval was sought to make a Stopping-Up Order on parts of the carriageway and footway on Dundee Street and Fountainbridge.

**Decision**

To make the Stopping-Up Order to come into effect on 31 October 2008.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**24 South Gyle Broadway – Redetermination of Means of Public Right of Passage**

Approval was sought to commence the statutory procedure to re-determine part of the carriageway, verge and footway on South Gyle Broadway.

**Decision**

To commence the statutory procedure to re-determine the relevant section of South Gyle Broadway and delegate to the Director of City Development the making of the Order, provided no objections were received when the Order was advertised.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**25 Blenheim Place/Baxter's Place, Edinburgh: Stopping-Up of Means of Public Right of Passage**

Approval was sought to make a Stopping-Up Order for part of the carriageway and footway on Blenheim Place/Baxter's Place.

**Decision**

To make the Stopping-Up Order to come into effect on 3 November 2008.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**26 Proposed Bus Lane – Echline Roundabout, A90, Queensferry**

Approval was sought to make a Traffic Regulation Order for the bus lane on the north bound "on slip-road" from Echline Roundabout to the A90.

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**Decision**

- 1) To make the Traffic Regulation Order in part for the bus lane on the northbound "on slip-road" from Echline Roundabout to the A90, to come into effect at an early date.
- 2) To monitor the situation on the "off slip road" on the A90 to Echline Roundabout and report to Committee with a recommendation to make or abandon the proposal at a later date.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**27 North Edinburgh Transport Action Plan**

The Director of City Development reported on the completion of the North Edinburgh Transport Action Plan and outlined the reasons for its production, its content and future implementation.

**Decision**

- 1) To endorse and adopt the North Edinburgh Transport Action Plan as a strategy for managing the transport impacts of development in Edinburgh's Waterfront.
- 2) To note that it was proposed to report to a future meeting of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee giving further detail on an Implementation Plan for the North Edinburgh Transport Action Plan.
- 3) To refer this report to the Planning Committee on 2 October 2008.
- 4) To refer this report to relevant Neighbourhood Partnerships for information.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**28 Bus Service from Queensferry/Kirkliston to St John's Hospital, Livingston, Update**

The Director of City Development advised of developments regarding the continuation of the bus service between Queensferry, Kirkliston and St John's Hospital, Livingston.



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**Decision**

- 1) To agree to participate in West Lothian Council's Supported Bus Service contract as detailed in the Director of City Development's report.
- 2) To record the thanks of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee for the assistance of West Lothian Council in procuring the contract.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**29 Edinburgh Tram – Traffic Regulation Order Update**

The Director of City Development gave details of a number of Traffic Regulation Orders that would be advertised in the Spring of 2009 which were required to allow the tram to operate in line with its business case.

**Decision**

To note the report.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

**Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Buchanan, Jackson, Perry and Wheeler declared non-financial interests in the above item as non-executive Directors of **tie**.