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- 5) To continue urgent discussions with NHS Lothian to identify wherever possible financial solutions to balance the budget in Health and Social Care without impacting on delayed discharge targets. Any such alternative proposals to be reported to Council in September.
- 6) Not to accept the recommendations proposed in Appendix 6 (Health and Social Care) and to remit the requirement to provide proposals to address the deficit within that Department back to the Director of Health and Social Care to produce an alternative package of measures for Council in September.
- 7) To authorise the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Director of Finance and after consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, to introduce stricter controls on departments' ability to commit expenditure on staffing or other expenditure heads as necessary in the light of emerging financial monitoring information.
- 8) To reiterate the Council's intention to engage fully and meaningfully with Trade Unions and staff on the development of proposals and appropriate mechanisms to deal with the Council's current budget difficulties. In addition, to instruct the Director of Corporate Services to review existing consultative mechanisms and, where appropriate, to put in additional measures to address those concerns raised by Trade Unions.

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

Amendment 1

- 1) To express total opposition to the approach adopted by the Administration to deal with the present overspend. The budget reductions outlined in the report by the Director of Finance would mean that services to vulnerable young people and the elderly would be dramatically cut. It would also mean that valuable services and experienced staff would be lost and the reputation of the Council severely damaged.
- 2) To instruct the Director of Finance to identify £12 million worth of Council assets to transfer to EDI at market value in order to manage the budget deficit in a manner that avoided the need for such severe budget cuts and to instruct EDI to release the value of these assets in the following manner:

Year 2007-2008	-	£7,000,000
Year 2008-2009	-	£4,000,000
Year 2010-2011	-	£1,000,000

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- 3) To note that this approach would allow the Council to reinstate the cuts identified below and, in particular, allow the Directors of Children and Families and Health and Social Care to manage the deficit over a four year period and avoid the need to cut vital services to vulnerable young people and the elderly and also remove the threat of compulsory redundancies.

	£
School Energy Budgets	673,000
Sure Start – Funding within voluntary and statutory sectors	573,000
Targeted School Savings – One-Off	950,000
Costed Savings from Staffing Structure	570,000
Sure Start - Savings for Early Years Rationalisation Programme	129,000
Early Years Strategy	264,000
Early Years Spending	270,000
Early Years Provision - Further reduction in 300 FT places	275,000
Early Years Staff Reductions	109,000
Capacity Play Pay Services	550,000
Cease Employment of Agency Gap	604,000
Close Order People Care Home	266,000
Older People Care Home	831,000
Care Home Placements	585,000
Reduce Welfare Rights	128,000
Contingency to avoid compulsory redundancies	223,000
Total	7,000,000

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

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Amendment 2

- 1) To condemn the irresponsible budget set by the former Labour Administration in February 2007 and that Administration's generally irresponsible attitude to financial management of the Council and to note that this budget had contributed to the Council's present serious financial situation.
- 2) To note that the budget proposed by the Conservative Group in February 2007 would have made more resources available for the needs of older people but nevertheless would have been financially responsible and would still have set a Council Tax increase below the rate of inflation.
- 3) To approve the following recommendations by the Director of Finance:
 - (a) To note the projected overspend of £2.847m.
 - (b) To reaffirm the instruction to all service Directors to balance their budgets in the current year.
 - (c) To instruct the Directors of Children and Families and Health and Social Care to identify specific further measures to bring expenditure into line with the approved budget and report these within one cycle.
 - (d) To instruct all Directors to prepare formal contingency plans to ensure expenditure remains within the approved budget.
 - (e) To note the balanced position on the HRA account.
- 4) To approve recommendation (ii) in the report by the Director of Finance with the following changes: rejects the Health and Social Care proposed savings to "Close Older People Home" and "Restrict Care at Home Placements" (rows 14 and 16 of Appendix 6);
- 5) To instruct the Directors of Health and Social Care, Finance and Services for Communities to investigate the methods outlined below to fund alternative and further savings, with the expectation that these savings could realise at least £1.860m annually, and to report back to Council within one cycle on proposals to:
 - increase Home Care charges to an economic level for those not in receipt of means tested free care;
 - investigate the possibility of using Spend to Save funds to offer voluntary redundancies to Home Care staff with a view to improving the efficiency of the service;

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- introduce a scheme of charges for equipment loans by the Department of Health and Social Care;
- investigate the possibility of imposing an economic level of charge for the Services for Communities Department's Housing Support Services with a view to utilising any realisable savings to resolve budget difficulties within the Health and Social Care Department.

Amendment 3

Children and Families

- 1) To recognise that the remit of Community Learning and Development included adult learning, active citizenship, voluntary sector support and youth and children's work, all of which were vital services for some of the citizens of Edinburgh that needed these services the most.
- 2) To note that, of the proposed reduction in expenditure, Community Learning and Development was to reduce its spending by about £850,000 and further to note that this figure was about 10% of the overall budget.
- 3) To express concern that this reduction in spending could not be made without the removal of posts and the reduction of valuable adult learning and community centre support services.
- 4) To agree that detailed information on the actual impact to public services on the ground as a result of proposed cuts should be provided before any further decision was made.
- 5) To postpone any decision to cut public services for a period of public consultation in order that "communities were fully involved in decisions which affected them and that local democracy was enlarged".

Health and Social Care

- 6) To note the immediate introduction of agency staffing cuts and non-filling of vacancies for non-statutory functions proposed in the Department of Health and Social Care Revenue Budget Action Plan.
- 7) To express concern about the possible service implications these measures would have, especially to vulnerable members of society.
- 8) To delay these measures until service users could be fully informed of the changes and alternative arrangements made, where possible.

- moved by Councillor Chapman, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

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Voting

The mover and seconder of the motion, with the consent of the mover and seconder of amendment 2, accepted paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 of amendment 2 as an addendum to the motion.

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	40 votes
For amendment 1	-	15 votes
For amendment 3	-	3 votes

Decision

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

(References – Act of Council No 14 of 28 June 2007; report no CEC/55/07-08/F by the Director of Finance, submitted.)

(b) Capital Monitoring 2007/08 – Month Three Position

The three month capital monitoring expenditure position showed slippage of £21.94m against budget and was forecast to increase as a more rigorous review of projects was undertaken for future monitoring reports. The Corporate Asset Management Group would continue to monitor slippage on a monthly basis.

Decision

To note the report by the Director of Finance.

(References – Act of Council No 1 of 8 February 2007; report no CEC/56/07-08/F by the Director of Finance, submitted.)

(c) Management Culture – Maximising Resources

A number of current and future Council wide initiatives, aimed at developing a high performance culture in relation to financial and human resource management, were detailed. Clarification was also provided on the roles and responsibilities of elected members, chief officers and finance officials in relation to budget setting and management across the Council.

Decision

- 1) To note the significant levels of activity aimed at achieving a high performance culture across the Council in relation to financial and human resource management.

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- 2) To note the current roles and responsibilities established within the Council in respect of budget and financial management.
- 3) To ask the Chief Executive to report to the Council meeting on 20 September 2007 providing a specific and measurable action plan for implementing the initiatives described in his report to ensure that Council managers properly and rigorously monitored and controlled budgets.
- 4) To note that there remained much to be done to achieve a “can do”, “continuous improvement” management culture.

(References – Act of Council No 14 of 28 June 2007; report no CEC/57/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

(d) Park Ranger Service Review

Services for Communities were conducting a major review of all budgets and services. The terms of reference of the review of the Park Ranger Service were outlined.

Decision

To note the report by the Director of Services for Communities and that a further report would be submitted once the review had been completed.

(References – Act of Council No 14 of 28 June 2007; report no CEC/46/07-08/SfC by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

18 Review of Political Management Arrangements

Following the review of the Council’s political management arrangements, proposals were presented to deal with scrutiny and performance monitoring and a number of ancillary issues.

(a) Scrutiny and Performance Monitoring

Arrangements for performance reporting and monitoring by elected members were proposed.

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Decision

- 1) To approve the arrangements for submission of performance monitoring reports to Committees and the production of annual performance reports by each Committee as outlined in the report by the Chief Executive.
- 2) To note the scope of the bi-monthly reports to be received by the Policy and Strategy Committee and the Executive Committees.
- 3) To note the importance given to customer satisfaction and financial management in the Executive Committees' reports.
- 4) To acknowledge that these were reasonable priorities but needed to be managed in relation to the Council's sustainable development priorities.
- 5) To agree that these monitoring reports should cover explicitly the performance of each Department in relation to the Council's sustainability agenda.
- 6) To note that a further report detailing scrutiny and policy review arrangements would be presented to Council in September.

(b) Ancillary Issues

A number of ancillary issues had been addressed, including timetabling of meetings, scrutiny arrangements for items called in from the final Executive meeting and provisions in the Council's Standing Orders for receiving deputations and the submission of Notices of Motion.

Motion

- 1) To note the adjustment to the timetable of meetings as detailed in paragraph 2 of the report by the Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To note the arrangements for dealing with any decisions called in to scrutiny from the meeting of the Executive on 14 August 2007 as detailed in paragraph 3 of the Director's report.
- 3) To approve revised Standing Order 62 (Receiving Deputations) as detailed in Appendix 2 to this minute.
- 4) To note the provisions of Standing Orders 28 and 29 on the submission of notices of motion as detailed in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of the Director's report.

- moved by Councillor Dawe, seconded by Councillor Aldridge.

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Amendment

- 1) To agree with the statement in the report by the Director of Corporate Services that:

“The provisions in the Council’s Standing Orders for receiving deputations are a key part of the democratic process and demonstrate the Council’s commitment to listening to community representations on matters coming up for decision.”

- 2) To agree that reducing the number of opportunities for citizens to express their views on issues before the Council was undemocratic.
- 3) Therefore, to modify Standing Order 62 only to delete the references to Scrutiny Panels and Local Development Committees.

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

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	40 votes
For the amendment	-	18 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Dawe.

(References – Act of Council No 12 of 28 June 2007; reports no CEC/58/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive and no CEC/66/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

19 Refurbishment of Glenogle Swim Centre

Progress on plans for the future refurbishment of Glenogle Swim Centre was provided.

Decision

- 1) To note the estimated overall cost of £5,815,712 gross at 2010/11 prices of the refurbishment of the existing Glenogle Swim Centre.

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- 2) To note the intention to seek funding from external partners and other sources.
- 3) To call for a progress report to the meeting of the Culture and Leisure Committee in November 2007.

(References – Act of Council No 11 of 24 May 2007; report no CEC/40/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

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

20 Edinburgh City Centre Management Company

As a result of a motion by Councillor Dawe, a review of the operation of the Edinburgh City Centre Management Company (ECCM) had been carried out. Following the review, and in light of the Scottish Executive's support for the concept of Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), proposals were made on the way forward.

Decision

- 1) To acknowledge the achievements of ECCMC and the commitment of the staff since its formation in April 2000.
- 2) To recognise the emergence of the new structures of the Business Improvement District (BID) process, the City Centre Development Partnership Board and Local Neighbourhood Partnerships and the continuing need for a mechanism to allow genuine strategic and operational partnership between the public and private sector for the development, promotion and management of the city centre.
- 3) To approve, in principle, that relevant activities of ECCMC should be merged into the BID structure;
- 4) To instruct the Director of City Development to work with the ECCMC, BID Advisory Board and other stakeholders to develop a smooth transition of relevant functions from ECCMC to the BID structure;
- 5) To instruct the Director of City Development to report on future delivery of those activities currently undertaken by ECCMC that would not transfer to the BID.

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- 6) To confirm the previously agreed level of core funding to ECCMC, subject to budget capacities, for at least the period of transition, and conditional on the approval of a robust forward operational budget.
- 7) To recognise emerging proposals for BIDs in other city centre areas and instruct the Director of City Development to work with ECCMC, the BID Board and other stakeholders and to report on how the establishment of these BIDs may be assisted by this Council.

(References – Act of Council No 20 of 28 June 2007; report no CEC/45/07-08/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Beckett, Dawe and Mowat declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of Edinburgh City Centre Management Company.

Councillor Godzik declared a financial interest in the above item as his wife was an employee of Edinburgh City Centre Management Company.

21 City Centre and Waterfront Development: Partnership Board Arrangements

Revised arrangements for representation on the Boards of the City Centre Development Partnership and Waterfront Development Partnership were proposed.

Decision

- 1) To agree to the revised composition of the Development Partnership Boards for the City Centre and Waterfront and to the Council representation outlined in the report by the Director of City Development.
- 2) To make the following nominations:
 - (a) City Centre Development Partnership – Councillor Whyte
 - (b) Waterfront Development Partnership – Councillor Maginnis.

(References – Act of Council No 3 of 24 May 2007; report no CEC?68/07-08/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

22 Edinburgh Tram: Update

Recent developments on the Edinburgh Tram Project were provided and appropriate future governance arrangements proposed.

Decision

- 1) To note the contents of the report by the Chief Executive with respect to the revised funding arrangements for the Tram Project and the implications for the transfer of financial risk to the Council.
- 2) To note that this position required a revised governance structure for the project and for the relationships between the various companies and agencies promoting it.
- 3) To instruct and delegate to the Council Solicitor to conclude Operating Agreements with **tie** and TEL.
- 4) To note that the roles of the Executive Chairman of **tie** and Chief Executive of TEL were being reviewed with a view to clarifying the contracts and responsibilities of each post.
- 5) To establish a subcommittee of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee with a remit to review and oversee decisions with respect to the Tram Project.
- 6) To note that the Chief Executive would report further to Council in September on a detailed scheme of delegation of powers to the various parties mentioned and in the meantime to delegate responsibility to the Chief Executive for any decisions that may require to be taken.
- 7) To agree that the Chief Executive's report in September would also deal with the relationship between TEL and Lothian Buses and the post of the Executive Chairman of **tie**.

(Reference – report no CEC/60/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

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

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

23 North Edinburgh Arts Centre

The Council had been informed that the North Edinburgh Arts Centre may face a substantial projected deficit in addition to an accumulated deficit of £45,930. An audit service examination of the organisation's financial situation had therefore been initiated.

Decision

- 1) To note the work which was now underway to obtain a clear picture of North Edinburgh Arts Centre's current financial position.
- 2) To agree that the findings of the investigation, together with an assessment of the options available to deal with the situation, be reported to the first full meeting of the Culture and Leisure Committee on 18 September 2007.

(References – Executive of the Council of 14 August 2007 (item 30); report no CEC/61/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Hinds declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Board member of North Edinburgh Arts Centre.

24 Restriction of Taxi Numbers in Edinburgh

The Council had a policy to restrict taxi numbers in Edinburgh based on Section 10(3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. Recent court decisions, which had dealt with the duties on licensing authorities who sought to restrict the number of taxi licences issued, had raised concerns. The implications for the Council were outlined.

Decision

To note the terms of the report by the Director of Corporate Services and to instruct the Director to report further within two cycles detailing options available to the Council, including:

- 1) the implications of retaining the existing policy to restrict taxi licence numbers in Edinburgh in the light of the decision of Salteri case, including the potential effect on procedures for surveying and monitoring demand and the instruction of a new comprehensive survey as called for by the Regulatory Committee; and

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- 2) the implications of removing the restriction on taxi licence numbers.

(Reference – report no CEC/38/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Cardownie declared a financial interest in the above item as a private care hire operator/driver.

Councillor Bridgman declared a financial interest in the above item as a licensed private car hire driver

Councillors Barry and Work declared a financial interest in the above item as licensed taxi drivers.

25 The City of Edinburgh District Council Order Confirmation Act 1991 – Review of Private Legislation – Redevelopment of the Ross Bandstand

The Council had instructed the Council Solicitor to pursue two separate Bills (i) in relation to the new Ross Bandstand; and (ii) in relation to other parks developments and the general amendments to The City of Edinburgh District Council Order Confirmation Act 1991.

A summary of discussions between Council officials, Parliamentary Agents and the Private Bills Unit of the Scottish Parliament was provided. An update on progress on the wide ranging amendments to the City of Edinburgh District Council Order Confirmation Act 1991 was given and instructions sought on the preferred option for amending or appealing the legislative restriction on permanent buildings in certain city parks.

Decision

- 1) To instruct the Council Solicitor to pursue a Bill which would be limited to exempting from the effect of Section 22 of the 1991 Confirmation Act the development for which planning consent would eventually be granted for a redevelopment of the Ross Bandstand.
- 2) To note the progress being made by the Parliamentary Agents towards a draft Bill encompassing the wide-ranging amendments requested.

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- 3) To call for a report from the Director of Finance on a funding strategy for the redevelopment of the Ross Bandstand.

(References – Act of Council No 14 of 24 August 2006; report no CEC/67/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

26 Post Office Closures

Information was provided on the Government's proposals for Post Office closures and the implications for Edinburgh. The Council was a statutory consultee and would be invited to participate in the public consultation exercise. In preparation for this, key aspects of the network in the city were highlighted.

Decision

- 1) To note the government's decision to proceed with a planned programme of post office closures in the UK and that detailed area plans would be prepared by Post Office Ltd for consultation as described in the report by the Director of Corporate Services.
- 2) To agree the initial identification of posts offices in the city that were serving areas with the highest concentrations of vulnerable customers, as detailed in the Director's report.
- 3) To note that further detailed analysis would be undertaken in relation to those post offices that were identified for closure, once these were known.
- 4) To seek to influence the final outcomes through Postwatch Scotland and the public consultation process and to submit the Director's report to Postwatch Scotland in advance of the pre-consultation phase.
- 5) To submit the Director's report to the Edinburgh Partnership for further awareness raising and comment from partners.
- 6) To call on the Chief Executive to make representations to the Royal Mail Group to schedule consultation for the Lothians outwith the Festival and school holiday period.
- 7) To call on the Director of Corporate Services to fulfil Council's instruction of 21 December 2006 and report urgently on what steps the Council could take to limit the impact of closures on Edinburgh citizens and whether the Council could transfer any business to Post Offices to help ensure the vitality of the Post Office network.

(References – Act of Council No 18 of 21 December 2006; report no CEC/41/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

27 Salvation Army Premises

As a result of a motion by Councillor Whyte, details were provided of the work undertaken to find new premises for the Salvation Army to allow them to expand their drop in centre currently based at Bread Street. The search had been unsuccessful so far. Work would continue to identify premises and discussions on service development in the context of the homelessness strategy would be held with the Salvation Army.

Decision

To note the inability to identify any suitable property from the Council's own portfolio and the commitment to continue to work with the Salvation Army to discuss service development, including suitable property.

(References – Act of Council No 22 of 26 April 2007; joint report no CEC/47/07-08/SfC/CD by the Directors of Services for Communities and City Development, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Balfour declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a member of the Salvation Army Steering Group.

28 The Ark Café

As a result of a motion by Councillor Mowat, the Council had agreed that steps be taken to ensure there was no gap in service for homeless people due to the closure of the Ark Café. Details were given of alternative services which had extended their hours to cover the previous hours of operation of the Ark Café. The Council was also reminded of the reasons why funding had been withdrawn from the Ark Café.

Decision

- 1) To note the background to the withdrawal of funding for the Ark Café service and the other services commissioned to replace that service.
- 2) To discharge Councillor Mowat's motion as provision from other sources had been extended to cover the previous hours of operation of the Ark Café service.

(References – Act of Council No 32 of 28 June 2007; report no CEC/69/07-08/SfC by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

29 Recycling Facilities in Parks

The implications of introducing convenient recycling facilities in city parks were provided. A review had been established to allow officers to consider the issues and to identify a pilot area.

Decision

To note the content of the report by the Director of Services for Communities and that a further report would be submitted once the review had been completed.

(References – Act of Council No of 28 June 2007; report no CEC/48/07-08/SfC by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

30 Council Review 2007: City Development Department Recruitment

Recruitment to the posts of Director of City Development, Head of Economic Development and Head of Transport in the City Development Department was proposed.

Motion

- 1) To proceed with the recruitment of a new Director of City Development, followed by the appointment of Head of Transport and Head of Economic Development.
- 2) To note the Recruitment Committee makeup proposed in Appendix 1 to the Chief Executive's report.

- moved by Councillor Dawe, seconded by Councillor Wheeler

Amendment

- 1) To proceed with the appointment of a new Director of City Development and agree that the selection criteria and application pack should stress the need for an individual with skills and experience of the economic development field.
- 2) To appoint the new Director on a fixed term contract which would include a performance related pay scheme.

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- 3) To instruct the new Director, as a first task, to immediately review the Department's management structure and, in doing so, to ensure that priority was given to direct work with the Chamber of Commerce and other business organisations to progress and promote the city's economic development rather than through internal Council structures.
- 4) To require the new Director to report on the proposed Departmental structure with 3 months of taking up post.
- 5) To defer a decision on filling the posts of the Head of Transport and Head of Economic Development until after consideration of the above report.

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

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 47 votes
For the amendment - 11 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Dawe.

(Reference – report no CEC/62/07-08/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

31 Scheme of Delegation to Officers – Regulatory Committee Functions

The Regulatory Committee recommended that the Scheme of Delegation to Officers include delegation of authority to the Director of Corporate Services to determine requests for variation of fees for Houses in Multiple Occupation licences.

Decision

- 1) To delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Services to determine requests for variation of fees for Houses in Multiple Occupation licences.

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- 2) To note that any requests to vary fees for Houses in Multiple Occupation licences that required Committee intervention would be dealt with at one of the Friday Regulatory Committee meetings currently used for licensing applications.

(Reference – report no CEC/39/07-08/R by the Regulatory Committee, submitted.)

33 Allocation of Statutory Addresses

The Planning Committee recommended that the Scheme of Delegation be amended in relation to the naming and renaming of streets.

Decision

To revise the Scheme of Delegation to allow the naming and renaming of streets to be considered by the Development Management Sub-Committee.

(Reference – report no CEC/44/07-08/PC by the Planning Committee, submitted.)

33 Quincentenary of the Printing Industry in Edinburgh – Motion by Councillor Milligan

The following motion by Councillor Milligan was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28.

“In recognising the importance to Edinburgh of the printing industry, first established here in 1507 by Andrew Myllar and his partner Walter Chapman, the Council calls for a report from the Chief Executive to advise us on how most appropriately we should mark this important quincentenary and indicate also our support and participation in the Festival of Scottish Printing planned for 2008 by The Scottish Printing Archival Trust and the National Library of Scotland.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Milligan.

34 Common Good Fund – Motion by Councillor Burgess

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

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“That the Council notes the serious concerns raised by land expert, Andy Wightman – in “Common Good Land in Scotland”, a public lecture on 27 June and in correspondence with the Council – about the manner in which the Council has accounted for and disposed of common good assets; notes that the disposal of common good assets may be ongoing and therefore agrees that the review of the common good fund agreed at the Council Executive on 12 December 2006 should be updated as a matter of urgency and the results fully published and made available for public scrutiny before any further common good assets are disposed of.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Burgess.

35 Regulatory Committee – Motion by Councillor McKay

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

“Council agrees to call for a report by the Director of Corporate Services, within two cycles, on the feasibility of expanding the remit of the Regulatory Committee to include:-

- 1) Determining policies for the Council's licensing functions under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other statutory provisions which are not within the remit of any other Committee (eg licensing).
- 2) Taking all executive decisions on the above licensing matters which are not reserved to the Council, its officers or delegated to another committee of the Council.
- 3) Monitoring performance in the delivery of services and financial performance relating to Regulatory Committee matters.

Policy considerations would be subject to referral to Full Council if more than 25% of the Committee members present disagree with the Committee's decision.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McKay.

36 Voter Registration – Motion by Councillor Hinds

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

“Following the elections last May it is clear that many people were not registered on the electoral roll and entitled to vote. Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive, in consultation with other agencies, to bring forward a report on how we can improve the registration of voters, make it easier for people to register and to increase the number of people registered.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Hinds.

37 JK Rowling – Motion by Councillor Hinds

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

“Following the publication of JK Rowling’s final Harry Potter book, Council recognises her contribution to the promotion of the City of Edinburgh world-wide and her encouragement of the joy of reading and literacy. Council, therefore, agrees to celebrate her achievements and asks the Lord Provost, in consultation with Group Leaders, to consider the most appropriate way of fulfilling this.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Hinds.

38 Civic Reception – Scottish Homelessness World Cup Team

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

“That this Council congratulates the Scottish team on winning this year’s Homelessness World Cup in Copenhagen, following their convincing win over Poland in the final by 9 goals to 3. To mark this achievement, Council agrees to hold a civic reception in the team’s honour.”