

Committee Minutes

The City of Edinburgh Council

Year 2007/2008

Meeting 12 – Thursday 13 March 2008

Edinburgh, 13 March 2008 - 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
Joanna Coleman
Jennifer A Dawe
Charles Dundas
Paul G Edie
Nick Elliott-Cannon
Paul Godzik
Norma Hart
Stephen Hawkins
Ricky Henderson
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
Stefan Tymkewycz
Phil Wheeler
Iain Whyte
Donald Wilson
Norrie Work

1 Youngedinburgh

Youngedinburgh, the Council's Youth Services Strategy, aimed to improve the quality of life of the city's young people aged 11-21 years. The strategy was developed and delivered by all Council departments and partner agencies and formed a key strand of the Council's community planning process.

(a) Youngedinburgh Viewfinder 3 Study

Representatives of Ipsos MORI Scotland presented the findings of the Viewfinder 3 survey conducted in 2007. The survey was conducted every three years to gather the opinions of young people; over 18,000 young people had participated in the 2007 survey. The findings had a major impact on decision-making in relation to services for young people and helped to shape Youngedinburgh.

(Reference – Viewfinder 3 – summary research findings of the views of young people living in Edinburgh.)

(b) Young People's Involvement in Youngedinburgh

Twelve young people, who had an active involvement in Youngedinburgh, described particular aspects of the strategy, including the Youth Services Advisory Committee, Student Councils, Edinburgh Young Scot, the Fairdeal Steering Group, the Pedals not Petrol Initiative, skateboarding, climate change, community safety, Youngedinburgh Communications Group and the launch of the WOW website (What's on Where).

A question and answer session was then held with elected members. Topics covered included Fairtrade, work experience, young people's rights at work, young people's emotional well being, skateboarding, voting age and youth cafes.

2 Deputations

The Council agreed to hear the following deputations:

(a) Council Funding to Third Parties (see item 10 below)

(i) The Community Against Creche Closures

Beverley Klein and Karina Mcfall referred to proposals by Edinburgh Leisure to close crèche facilities in six sports centres in response to a reduction in its grant. The deputation pointed out that closure of these facilities directly contradicted the Council's policies on health and wellbeing. 1400 signatures had been collected on a petition in

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the three days since hearing about the closures. The deputation was extremely concerned at the lack of consultation with users on the closures and at the way staff had been informed. They asked the Council to ring-fence £300,000 to keep the facilities open and to consider expanding access to them and installing crèches in other venues.

(Reference – e-mail dated 11 March 2008, submitted)

(ii) Bingham & District 50+ Project

The deputation described the services provided by the project which was at the heart of the community and provided a lifeline to its users. The project was prudent and resourceful and met all its targets. Although the project received money from other sources, the grant from the Council covered staff and running costs and went some way towards classes and transport. The deputation asked the Council to continue its current level of funding to the project.

(Reference – e-mail dated 4 March 2008, submitted.)

(iii) Gorgie/Dalry Partnership

Kirsten Cook referred to the proposal to reduce grant aid to the Gorgie Dalry Partnership. The Partnership existed to promote the economic development of the area and its people. She presented a petition with 500 signatures against this proposal together with letters of support for the Partnership from local businesses. She read a statement from the Partnership Board which described its work and the impact of the proposed cut in Council funding. She pointed out that the justification given in the report before the Council was vague and conflicted with the Council's stated objectives. She therefore asked the Council to reconsider the proposal and to continue with the current level of funding for the project.

(Reference – e-mail dated 5 March 2008, submitted.)

(iv) Edinburgh Community Newspaper Trust (ECNT)

Mary Burnside said that ECNT was disappointed that they had only received three days' notice of the proposed 85% reduction in funding. This cut would result in the closure of a large number of community businesses and the loss of jobs. Edinburgh Community Newspaper Trust represented excellent value for money; it provided 70,000 newspapers to one third of the city and provided training to local people, all for £10,500 per month. Compared to the cost of the Council's publication "Outlook", this represented excellent value for

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money. She asked the Council to reconsider the proposal to reduce grant funding.

John Loughton asked the Council not to underestimate the value of community newspapers; they were vital and were particularly effective at communicating with young people. He also asked the Council to reconsider the proposal to reduce funding to ECNT.

(Reference – e-mail dated 7 March 2008, submitted.)

(v) Edinburgh Community Food Initiative (ECFI)

Cara Gillespie and Anita Aggarwal said that the proposed reduction in funding to ECFI would affect eight members of staff, 60 volunteers and over 6,000 service users. ECFI was a food and health project which serviced 13 community co-operatives in areas of deprivation and ran a range of other projects. There would be effects on over 40 groups if funding was reduced. The deputation pointed out that the report before the Council described the ECFI application as a new application; this was not the case as the project had been funded since 1996. The deputation asked the Council not to cut the grant to ECFI.

(Reference – e-mail dated 9 March 2008, submitted.)

(vi) Edinburgh TUC

Des Loughney said that the report before the Council was misleading and did not contain enough information for the Council to make a decision to discontinue its funding to Lothian Trades Union Council. The deputation was disappointed that they had not heard of the proposed cut to the project until a few days ago. This was a unique pathfinding partnership which ought to be supported. They therefore asked the Council to continue its grant of £15,000 in order to meet the objectives of those disadvantaged in the labour market.

(Reference – e-mail dated 11 March 2008, submitted)

(vii) Scottish Ballet/Scottish Opera

Cindy Sughrue, Chief Executive and Producer at Scottish Ballet, said that whilst she understood the significant financial challenges faced by the Council, she queried the rationale for discontinuing revenue funding to Scottish Ballet. The company had only heard six days ago that the Council intended to a cut their revenue support of £40,000. The Ballet was an award winning company of international standard which regularly exceeded its targets. She therefore asked the Council to reconsider this proposal.

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Andrew Reedijk, General Director of Scottish Opera, supported the comments from Scottish Ballet. Scottish Opera had also received short notice of the withdrawal of revenue funding and was shocked at its complete withdrawal. This withdrawal would affect the company's education and outreach work. He asked the Council to reconsider this proposal and help Scottish Opera to continue doing what it did best.

(Reference – e-mails dated 11 & 12 March 2008, submitted)

(viii) Broomhouse Centre

Marie Anderson described the services provided by the Broomhouse Centre and the impact on the local community of a reduction in grant funding. She appealed to the Council to make adequate investment in the Centre to allow them to continue with their current work

(Reference – e-mail dated 12 March 2008, submitted)

(b) Number 18 Bus Campaign Group (see item 28 below)

Irene Paterson and Peggy Wright asked the Council to reinstate the subsidy for the Number 18 Sunday bus service. They explained the impact of its withdrawal on the elderly population and young families who relied on this service.

(Reference – e-mail dated 10 March 2008, submitted)

(c) National and Regional Sports Facilities (see item 12 below)

(i) Save Meadowbank Campaign

Bill Walker expressed the Campaign's disappointment with the proposals before the Council in relation to Meadowbank Sports Centre. He asked the Council to listen to its constituents and the people who used the centre who wanted Meadowbank maintained as a sports centre in its entirety. Once land was sold there was no way back and no possibility of future expansion.

Allister Watson referred to the lack of a cycling velodrome in the plans for the new centre and asked the Council not to make this decision and to uphold the cycling tradition in the city.

(Reference – e-mail dated 11 March 2008, submitted)

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(ii) Trinity Community Council

Alyson Cameron said that there would be no lack of money to refurbish Meadowbank if the Council held the Scottish Government to its commitment, contained in Glasgow's bid document for the Commonwealth Games, that they would fund the refurbishment of the Royal Commonwealth Pool. She asked the Council to hold the Scottish Government to this commitment and thereby give the city the sports facilities it deserved.

(Reference – e-mail dated 11 March 2008, submitted)

(iii) Craigentiny Community Council

Phyllis Herriot asked the Council to stop their plans to demolish Meadowbank Stadium. Selling off recreation land for housing had happened on too many occasions in the city and she therefore asked the Council not to take this decision.

(Reference – letter of 12 March 2008, submitted)

(d) Craigleith Road Parking Action Group (see item below)

Gordon Stewart explained that Craigleith Road was just outside the extended Controlled Parking Zone and as such was experiencing severe problems because of commuter parking. He referred to the report to be considered later on the agenda which reviewed the extended zone; the recommendation to reduce the hourly rate for parking in the existing pay and display parking places on the north side of Craigleith Road to 30p would not achieve the objective of making spaces available for residents as commuters would continue to seek out free parking. He proposed an alternative whereby 50% of the metered area on the north side of Craigleith Road between Craigleith Hill Crescent and Crewe Road South was restored as a free parking area and asked the Council to reject the Director's recommendation and reconsider the matter.

(Reference – letter dated 11 March 2008, submitted)

(e) The following deputation requests were withdrawn:

- **Grants to Third Parties:**
 - **Water of Leith Conservation Trust** – e-mail dated 22 January 2008
 - **Workers' Educational Association** - e-mail dated 26 February 2008
- **Edinburgh World Justice Festival** - e-mail dated 9 March 2008

3 Andrew Holmes – Valedictory

The Lord Provost advised the Council that Andrew Holmes, Director of City Development, would retire from the Council on 1 April 2008. The Lord Provost thanked him for his service to the Council and the city and wished him a long and happy retirement.

Councillors Wheeler, Ewan Aitken, Jackson, Burgess and Cardownie paid tribute to the Director's integrity, professionalism and dedication to the city throughout his long years of service with the Council.

Andrew Holmes thanked the members of the Council for their best wishes and for having had the opportunity to work in such a marvellous city. He wished the Council well in its future endeavours.

4 Council Funding to Third Parties: Performance and Outcomes 2006/07 and Grant Aid to Third Parties 2008/09

The Council considered the following:

- performance outcomes for 2006/07 of third party organisations receiving grant aid from the Council;
- proposals for the further development of quality assurance arrangements with the third sector;
- recommendations for the disbursement of the Council's grant aid to third party organisations in 2008/09.

Reference was made also to the Council's role in the Compact Partnership with the third sector and the implications of the advent of the Single Outcome Agreement with the Scottish Government

Two questions had been put on this issue in terms of Standing Order 25(2) (see item 6 below) and the Council had heard a number of deputations on the matter (see item 2(a) above).

Motion

- 1) To welcome the range of reports from the Director of Corporate Services and agree an annual reporting pattern on the topics covered.
- 2) To note the performance data identified in Appendix 1 to the Director's report no CEC/185/07-08/CS and:
 - (a) To welcome the development of a single quality assurance scheme, congratulating the efforts of partners.

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- (b) To approve the proposals in the Director's report for the further development of performance reporting and quality assurance.
- 3) To note the significant work that had been undertaken to protect grants to third party organisations in the light of the challenging financial position inherited by the Administration.
 - 4) To recognise that grant funding decisions had been taken using clear criteria to assess and minimise any impact on service delivery.
 - 5) To utilise any potential savings identified through the Comprehensive Review of Funding to Third Parties, which was scheduled to report in September 2008, to fund voluntary sector organisations and initiatives.
 - 6) To ask the Director of Services for Communities to report back on how Edinburgh Community Newspapers Trust (ECNT) would receive sufficient funding to provide for any compulsory redundancies (should these prove necessary).
 - 7) To approve the grant recommendations detailed in Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4 to report no CEC/186/07-08 by the Director of Corporate Services subject to the provision of an additional £17,000 to Edinburgh Community Food Initiative (ECFI).
 - 8) To assist ECFI in working with the Capital City Partnership to develop a more sustainable forward programme.
 - 9) To note the influencing factors in the area of grant aid to third parties and the ongoing Compact action in regard to the concerns expressed by third sector interests.
 - 10) To approve the proposed actions for improved communication and engagement with the third sector as detailed in the Director's report no CEC/186/07-08/CS.

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

Amendment 1

- 1) To note that the Labour Group budget protected the funding to all third parties previously supported by this Council.
- 2) To express regret at the lack of consultation there had been on Council funding to third parties with the voluntary sector, in blatant breach of the Edinburgh Compact.

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- 3) To note that under both the previous Committee system and the Executive system, voluntary sector grants went to at least one Committee and often more before they were ratified at the full Council meeting.
- 4) To regard the submission of these reports direct to the full Council as an unacceptable method of avoiding any opportunity to scrutinise the proposals.
- 5) To pay the first quarter grants as recommended.
- 6) To refer the reports by the Director of Corporate Services to the Policy and Strategy Committee for determination.

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

Amendment 2

- 1) To express regret that the Administration budget approved on 21 February 2008 had effectively included a requirement to find savings in grants totalling approximately £600k in addition to saving circa £200k by failing to apply an inflationary increase.
- 2) To note that the Conservative alternative budget would have sought a wider restructuring of all Council funding to third parties to provide £800k to be redistributed in addition to the inflationary uplift of £200k, together with a further £500k for growth in support to the third sector.
- 3) To instruct the Director of Corporate Services to ensure that the Council Review of Funding to Third Parties (as noted in paragraphs 3.15 and 3.16 of his report no CEC/186/07-08/CS) was underpinned by the following strategic objectives:
 - (a) providing value for money;
 - (b) removing duplication;
 - (c) moving emphasis where possible away from reliance by projects on public support towards charting a route to self-reliance and sustainability; and
 - (d) in relation to projects dealing with alcohol and drug issues, changing the emphasis from dependency towards genuine rehabilitation.
- 4) To call on Edinburgh Leisure to review its decision on crèches and to consult with appropriate groups before any final decision was taken.

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- 5) Given the short notice to the Edinburgh Community Newspapers Trust of the proposed cut in grant, and the need for Neighbourhood Partnerships to improve their communications with their communities, to continue a decision on this specific proposal for two cycles, pending a report on the Council's future communications strategy, that report to include supported newspapers and to consider how grants to third parties might help Neighbourhood Partnerships improve their communications.
- 6) To agree that, otherwise, the decisions made in the Liberal Democrat/SNP budget require the Council to accept with regret the recommendations as set out in paragraph 5.1 of the Director's report no CEC/186/07-08/CS as the least worst option given the overall cut in funding available for grants to third parties.

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

Amendment 3

- 1) To note the range of reports by the Director of Corporate Services and the performance data presented.
- 2) To note the almost 1:10 ratio of Council grant aid to income and benefit of this aid.
- 3) To agree that performance reporting and quality assurance were crucially important but that more needed to be done to ensure proper scrutiny of these processes.
- 4) To note the concerns expressed by the third sector with regard to consultation and communication and to ensure that the terms and conditions of the Edinburgh Compact were met and that communication and engagement with this sector would be improved.
- 5) To approve the grant recommendations detailed in appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Director's report no CEC/186/07-08/CS, with the exception of those resulting in **any** loss of services that made a difference to vulnerable or marginalised members of society, where the full grants requested should be awarded.
- 6) To fund the exceptions from a re-allocation of non-service provision budgets (such as the revenue previously allocated to the Inspiring Capital Brand, etc) in full consultation with representatives from all political parties and the Directors of Finance and Corporate Services.

- moved by Councillor Chapman, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

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Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	29 votes
For amendment 1	-	13 votes
For amendment 2	-	10 votes
For amendment 3	-	3 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Gordon Mackenzie.

(References – Executive of the Council 13 March 2007 (item 2); report nos CEC/184/07-08/CS, CEC/185/07-08/CS and CEC/186/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services; e-mail dated 11 March 2008 on Crèche Closures, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Financial Interests

The following members declared a financial interest in the above item and left the Chamber during the debate on the matter:

Councillor Elaine Aitken	Employed by voluntary sector organisation
Councillor Maginnis	Employed by voluntary sector organisation
Councillor Wilson	Partner employed by voluntary sector organisation

Non-financial Interests

Councillors Ewan Aitken, Buchanan, Chapman, Coleman, Dawe, Edie, Elliott-Cannon, Godzik, Lang, Lowrie, Kate MacKenzie, McInnes, Munn, Snowden and Whyte

5 National and Regional Sports Facilities

Progress on the Royal Commonwealth Pool (RCP) refurbishment project and a further assessment of the options for facilities at Meadowbank were detailed. Information was also provided on an approach to **sportscotland** on the location of its proposed 'hub' and the headquarters of those national bodies based in Edinburgh.

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

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Motion

- 1) To proceed with the submission of the **sportscotland** Stage 2 application for funding for the RCP.
- 2) To continue the design process for the RCP from RIBA stage E through to completion.
- 3) To confirm the sports facilities brief, as outlined in paragraph 3.17 of the report by the Director of Corporate Services.
- 4) To ensure that this brief met the future operational requirements of Edinburgh Leisure and, as far as resources allowed, met the requirements of the National and Regional Facilities brief.
- 5) To note that the planned development would be designed to enable extending the facilities in future.
- 6) To approve a new build at Meadowbank as the best option and to commission an appraisal for this new facility.
- 7) To undertake to consult, as part of the appraisal study for this new facility, with key stakeholders regarding the mix and nature of sporting facilities that would be accommodated in the future on the Meadowbank site.
- 8) To ask that approximately 3.5 hectares of the Meadowbank site was considered for sale, with all capital funds released as a result being ring-fenced for investment in future Meadowbank sporting facilities.
- 9) To note the ongoing dialogue with **sportscotland** on the co-ordination and co-location of the proposed **sportscotland** 'hub' in Edinburgh and that a report on this would be submitted in due course.
- 10) To undertake consultation with Scottish Cycling, the East of Scotland Cycling Association, **sportscotland** and other stakeholders on the identification of an affordable cycling training facility for Edinburgh.
- 11) To note the progress being made on the consultation in the west of the city and that a report on this would be submitted to the Council in the autumn.
- 12) To discharge the motion by Councillor Godzik.

- moved by Councillor Brock, seconded by Councillor Thomas.

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Amendment 1

- 1) To approve paragraphs 1 and 2 of the motion.
- 2) To regret the great delay in the publication of the Director's report.
- 3) To note that the proposals put forward by the Administration could reduce overall sports facilities in the city.
- 4) To agree that a piecemeal approach to the provision of sporting facilities would not assist in meeting the aims of the city's Sport and Physical Recreation Strategy to make Edinburgh the most physically active city in Europe by 2020.
- 5) To call on the Administration to bring forward an holistic plan outlining how it intended to meet the National and Regional Facilities brief, which would increase and improve sporting provision in Edinburgh, with full and comprehensive details of the facilities it intended to provide at Meadowbank, in the west of the city and for the cycling fraternity, also including details of discussions with **sportscotland** on the proposed Edinburgh 'hub'.

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

Amendment 2

- 1) To recognise that officers in the Corporate Services Department had prepared the new proposals contained in this report at short notice and to thank them for that work.
- 2) To express regret that the preparatory works at Sighthill had cost the Council Tax payer over £1m and that neither the previous nor the current Administration had delivered any improvement to sports provision.
- 3) To note that construction inflation was running at over 8% and would only increase in the short term, adding further costs.
- 4) To note that the Conservative Group would have selected the Sighthill option, as there was no viable financial way to proceed with the Meadowbank site which would have satisfied all of the sports bodies, including **sportscotland**, but to accept with regret that some other solution must now be found, however imperfect.
- 5) To note the funding shortfall for Option B of approximately £5m identified in the report and to request the Director of Corporate Services to prepare a report on attracting private sector funds for the project.

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- 6) To note that the outline brief described in paragraph 3.17 of the Director's report did not provide all of the facilities that would be desirable as a replacement for Meadowbank and was particularly deficient in its provision of outdoor all weather sports pitches and facilities for martial arts and gymnastics.
- 7) Nevertheless, to accept that Option B was the best available solution suggested by officers in this report and to request that the appraisal detailed how this proposal could be enhanced in order to meet the requirements of the National and Regional Facilities brief.
- 8) Should the Council proceed with a new build at Meadowbank, to call for a fully costed plan to be reported to Council by October; the plan to examine all the costs including land remediation, which might be excessive due to the history of this site.
- 9) To accept the recommendations in paragraph 6 in the Director's report.

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

Amendment 3

- 1) To reject the sale of part of the Meadowbank site to fund a new build as such a sale would result in a reduction of public recreational facilities in the city.
- 2) To express the belief that such a reduction was contrary to the Council's stated aim of becoming the most active city in Europe by 2020.
- 3) To note the low level of funding per head of population in Scotland for sport and to continue to lobby the Scottish Government for funding.
- 4) To support a phased refurbishment of all facilities at Meadowbank sports centre.
- 5) To consult throughout the process with local stakeholders and interested parties.

- moved by Councillor Johnstone, seconded by Councillor Chapman.

The mover of the motion, with the consent of the seconder and the mover and seconder of amendment 2, accepted paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8 of amendment 2 as an addendum to the motion. The remaining paragraphs of amendment 2 were withdrawn.

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Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	39 votes
For amendment 1	-	15 votes
For amendment 3	-	4 votes

Decision

To approve the motion (as adjusted) by Councillor Brock.

(References – Acts of Council No 4 of 20 December 2007 and No 18 of 7 February 2008; report no CEC/191/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Brock, Cairns, Godzik, and Thomas declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of Edinburgh Leisure.

6 Questions

Questions put by members to this meeting, written answers and supplementary questions and answers are contained in Appendix 1 to this minute.

7 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meetings of the Council of 7 and 21 February 2008, as submitted, as correct records.

8 Appointments to Committees, Joint Committees and Outside Bodies

The Lord Provost ruled that the appointment of members to Scotland Excel (report no CEC/190/07-08/CS), 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.

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Decision

- 1) To appoint members to Committees as follows:
 - (a) Councillor Child to the Planning Committee/Development Management Sub-Committee in place of Councillor Hart.
 - (b) Councillor Hart to the Personnel Appeals Committee in place of Councillor Child.
- 2) To nominate Councillors Milligan and Rust to the Board of Edinburgh International Jazz and Blues Festival.
- 3) To appoint Councillors Elliot-Cannon and Munro to the Joint Committee for Scotland Excel.

(References – Acts of Council No 8 of 17 May 2007, Nos 2 and 3 of 24 May 2007 and No 2 of 21 February 2008; reports nos CEC/170/07-08/07-08/CS, CEC/171/07-08/CS and CEC/190/07-08/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

9 Leader's Report

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

Councillor Ewan Aitken	- Administration budget priorities - Financial settlement from the Scottish Government
Councillor Burns	- Council Tax freeze - Single Outcome Agreement – timescale for signing
Councillor Rose	- Investment in roads and pavements
Councillor Buchan	- Children and Families review – Water of Leith Trust – education worker
Councillor Maginnis	- Single Outcome Agreement – opportunity for consideration by members
Councillor Murray	- Neighbourhood Partnerships – localisation agenda

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Councillor Work	- Fair Trade fortnight events - South Queensferry – Royal Burgh status
Councillor Balfour	- Children and Families review – consultation
Councillor Cardownie	Meadowbank Sports Centre

Decision

To note the Leader's report.

(Reference – report no CEC/182/07-08/L by the Leader, submitted).

10 Public Transport and Cycling Issues on Bank Street, North Bank Street and the Mound

The Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee had referred recommendations to the Council, in terms of Standing Order 53, on public transport and cycling issues on Bank Street, North Bank Street and The Mound.

Decision

- 1) To change the existing single yellow line waiting restrictions on the east side of Bank Street, the north side of North Bank Street and all of The Mound to double yellow lines and to initiate the statutory procedures necessary to vary the Traffic Regulation Order.
- 2) To note that any objections to these proposals would be reported to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee.
- 3) To instruct the Director of City Development to report on arterial routes in the city centre that experienced congestion on a Sunday.

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- 4) To instruct the Director of City Development to meet with SPOKES to discuss the survey that SPOKES had undertaken on cars parked on The Mound on a Sunday.

(Reference – report no CEC/172/07-08/TIE by the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Keir and McIvor declared a financial interest in the above item and took no part in its consideration.

Councillor Munro declared a non-financial interest in the item as a member of SPOKES.

11 Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan: Progress Report 2007

Decision

To note the progress made during the third year of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2004-2009.

(Reference – report no CEC/173/07-08/PC by the Planning Committee, submitted.)

12 Review of Home Care and Support and Care at Home Services

The Health, Social Care and Housing Committee had referred recommendations to the Council, in terms of Standing Order 53, on modernising the Home Care and Support and Care at Home Services.

Motion

- 1) To note the progress achieved to date by the Home Care Modernisation Board.
- 2) To note that the Council, at its meeting on 21 February 2008, had endorsed the re-ablement model and agreed the six year timetable, thereby avoiding compulsory redundancy and an adverse impact on clients.
- 3) To instruct the Director of Health and Social Care to provide regular updates on the implementation plan, including a review of progress so that any opportunities to accelerate the change programme could be considered in a timely manner.

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- 4) To change the criteria for Home Care and Care at Home services to “substantial and critical” from 1 April 2008.
- 5) To make any future changes at either the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee or, should the need arise, full Council:
- 6) To take cognisance of the disability equality duties and any other relevant equalities public duties in any further changes in the eligibility criteria.

- moved by Councillor Edie, seconded by Councillor Work.

Amendment

- 1) To welcome the report by the Director of Health and Social Care on the partnership working with Lothian Health and the establishment of the Long Term Teams.
- 2) To note with concern that, although the Home Care Modernisation Board had been meeting for over a year, there had been no briefing to councillors on the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee.
- 3) To note with concern that, following a two page report to the Council budget meeting, the Council was now committed to savings from the Health and Social Care budget.
- 4) To reject a cut from 50% to 25% to the internal provision until there was a comprehensive review and scrutiny of the proposals.

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

Voting

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

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Edie.

(Reference – Act of Council No of 21 February 2008; report no CEC/188/07-08/HSC by the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee, submitted.)

13 Fairer Scotland Fund: Further Guidance and Community Planning Partnership Relationships

The Lord Provost 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 Economic Development Committee had referred recommendations to the Council, in terms of Standing Order 53, on the Fairer Scotland Fund.

It was intended to submit recommendations on the allocation of the Fund to the Edinburgh Partnership meeting on 27 March 2008.

Motion

- 1) To endorse the decision made at the Policy and Strategy Committee on 26 February 2008 to allocate 6 month initial funding of the Fairer Scotland Fund with the subsequent progression to a programme of activities meeting the new fund outcome criteria and to recommend this approach to the Edinburgh Partnership.
- 2) To note the additional guidance provided by the Scottish Government on the Fairer Scotland Fund.
- 3) To request the Edinburgh Partnership to nominate the Council as the accountable body for the Fairer Scotland Fund.
- 4) To extend the remit of the Neighbourhood Partnership Review Group to include the Fairer Scotland Fund to enable elected members to keep fully informed and involved in the transition process.
- 5) To recommend to the Edinburgh Partnership that it initiated a review of the relationship and reporting links with Neighbourhood Partnerships, in the light of the new Single Outcome Agreement and outcome-based approach to the Fairer Scotland Fund.

- moved by Councillor Buchanan, seconded by Councillor McKay.

Amendment

To approve the motion subject to the allocation of 12 month initial funding of the Fairer Scotland Fund.

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