

Committee Minutes

The City of Edinburgh Council

Year 2006/2007

Meeting 4 – Thursday 24 August 2006

Edinburgh, 24 August 2006 - At a meeting of The City of Edinburgh Council.

Present:-

LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable Lesley Hinds

COUNCILLORS

Elaine Aitken
Rev Ewan Aitken
Robert C Aldridge
Donald Anderson
Phil Attridge
Jeremy R Balfour
Ian J Berry
Andrew Burns
Robert Cairns
Stephen Cardownie
Maureen M Child
Bill Cunningham
Trevor Davies
Jennifer A Dawe
Michael P Dixon
Paul G Edie
Edward B Fallon
William Fitzpatrick
Sheila Gilmore
The Hon David Guest
Kenneth Harrold
Ricky Henderson
George A Hunter
Allan G Jackson
Shami Khan
Douglas J Kerr
Allan Laing
John Longstaff

Jim Lowrie
Gordon Mackenzie
Kate MacKenzie
Fred Mackintosh
Marilyne A MacLaren
Elizabeth Maginnis
Lawrence Marshall
Mark McInnes
Eric Milligan
Gordon J Munro
Ian Murray
Jack O'Donnell
Liz O'Malley
Alastair Paisley
Ian Perry
Thomas V Ponton
Frank K Russell
Jason G Rust
Andrew A Scobbie
Lorna Shiels
Kingsley E F Thomas
Marjorie Thomas
Susan B Tritton
David J Walker
Phil Wheeler
Iain Whyte
Chris Wigglesworth
Donald Wilson

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

1 Questions

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

2 Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of meeting of the Council of 29 June 2006 as a correct record.

3 Placing in Schools Appeal Committee - Appointments

Decision

To appoint Sue Harland and Christabel Jack to Panel 3 of the Placing in Schools Appeal Committee.

(Reference – report no CEC/71/06-07/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

4 Leader's Report

The Leader presented his last Leader's report to the Council.

The Lord Provost thanked Councillor Anderson on behalf of the Council and the city for his work during his time as Leader. Councillor Rev Ewan Aitken, the new Leader of the Labour Group, and the Leaders of the Scottish Liberal Democrat and Conservative Groups also paid tribute to Councillor Anderson.

The following issues were raised:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Councillor Dawe | - Purpose of Leader's Report |
| | - The scrutiny process |
| | - Craigmillar Hearts Supporters Club |
| Councillor Whyte | - Purpose of Leader's Report |
| | - Evening News article speculating on next Lord Provost |
| Councillor Wheeler | - Liberton Brae burst water main |
| Councillor Kate MacKenzie | - Quality of Education Service |

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Councillor Dixon | - Flooding – Raeburn Place/Comely Bank Road |
| Councillor Cardownie | - Safety in the Meadows |
| Councillor Fitzpatrick | - Purpose of Leader's Report
- Reduction in road accidents |

5 Children and Families Department – Revised Capital Investment Programme 2006-2009

The Executive had considered a revised Capital Investment Programme for the Children and Families Department and recommended that the Council approve pre-emptions in the Department's 2007/08 and 2008/09 Programmes.

Decision

To approve the pre-emptions in the 2007/08 and 2008/09 Capital Investment Programmes for the Department of Children and Families detailed in Appendices 3 and 4 of the report by the Director of Children and Families (report number E/176/06-07/C&F).

(References – Act of Council No 2 of 9 February 2006; report no CEC/72/06-07/E by the Executive, submitted.)

6 Revenue Budget (a) Revenue Outturn 2005-2006 – Unaudited – Budget Flexibility Scheme; (b) Revenue Monitoring 2006-2007 – Three Month Position

The Executive had considered the financial outturn position on the Council's Revenue and Capital Accounts for 2005-2006. This showed significant variances leading to carry forwards which required to be addressed under the budget flexibility scheme. The Executive recommended that the Council approve the net recovery of £7.493m under the budget flexibility scheme in future year(s).

The Executive had also considered the three month revenue monitoring position for 2006-2007 and the projected outturn for the year. The Executive recommended that the Council approve action on the outturn deficit for Children and Families and Culture and Leisure in order to bring expenditure into line with approved budgets.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Motion

- 1) To approve the net recovery of £7.493m under the budget flexibility scheme in future years.
- 2) To agree that the repayment of the full outturn deficit for Children and Families of £5.648m for 2005/06 be deferred until 2007/08 and then repaid over a two year period in 2007/08 and 2008/09.
- 3) To agree that £0.296m of the outturn deficit for Culture and Leisure be deferred until 2007/08.

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

Amendment 1

- 1) To note with concern the position outlined in the Unaudited Accounts for 2005-2006 and the 3 month position for 2006-07, in particular:
 - (a) The overspend of £7.493m, all of which will have to be recovered after the current administration ceases to be in office.
 - (b) The raid on the general reserve to a level below that recommended by the Director of Finance.
 - (c) The sale of further assets forced upon the Council to finance foreseeable liabilities in respect of equal pay.
 - (d) The inadequacy of financial information available to Directors during the period when the Oracle system was being commissioned.
 - (e) The failure of planning for the new Children and Families Department to take into account the historic and predictable budget pressures.
- 2) To agree:
 - (a) the net recovery of £7.493m under budget flexibility, in principle, but that a short life working group, led by the Director of Finance, review the allocation of budget share to child protection and child care services and advise on mechanisms available to the Council to address the budget pressures associated with this area of service delivery within existing resources;
 - (b) to review the mechanisms put in place to ensure a seamless continuation of financial information flows when replacing finance critical systems; and

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- (c) to review the mechanism for planning and implementing departmental restructuring in respect of the impact on financial management.

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

Amendment 2

- 1) To approve the net recovery of £7.493m under the budget flexibility scheme in future year(s).
- 2) To note that the underlying cause of the £5.647m overspend in the Department of Children and Families was due to the failure of the Labour Administration to provide funding for essential services to children which were previously funded from underspends due to social work vacancies.
- 3) To consider that these difficulties were predictable given the decision to prioritise social worker recruitment which, while welcome, was unsustainable without corrective budget action.
- 4) To note with concern the Administration's full use of the reserves to offset budget pressures leaving the Council with no further flexibility for unforeseen expenses in the coming year.
- 5) To condemn the Labour Administration's imprudent and incompetent budget which would have an impact on Council finances for a number of years to come.
- 6) To request a report from the Director of Children and Families detailing the size of the headquarters administration in his Department and providing options for savings in management costs to bring the budget into line in future years.

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

The mover of amendment 1, with the consent of his seconder and the mover and seconder of amendment 2, agreed to accept amendment 2 as an addendum to his amendment.

Voting

The voting was as follows:-

For the motion	-	30 votes
For amendment 1 (as adjusted)	-	26 votes

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Child.

(References – Act of Council No 11 of 29 June 2006; report no CEC/74/06-07/E and CEC/73/06-07/E by the Executive, submitted.)

7 The Quality Standard Award

The Lord Provost and Members of the Council congratulated eight schools in achieving the Quality Standard Award in the second round of applications. The award was a benchmark of the highest standards in school education. The Lord Provost presented the following schools with the award to recognise the school's success in each of their chosen areas:

Name of School	Why they Won the Award
Children's House Nursery School	Arts, Community Links and Eco School
Abbeyhill Primary School	Community Links, International Education and Pupil Participation
Roseburn Primary School	Community Links, Enterprise Education and International Education
St Catherine's RC Primary School	Enterprise Education, Physical Activity and Sport and Pupil Participation
St Mary's RC (Leith) Primary School	Community Links, Enterprise Education and International Education
Leith Academy	Community Links, Eco School and Enterprise Education
Trinity Academy	Eco School, Enterprise Education and International Education
Wester Hailes Education Centre	Arts, Enterprise Education and Physical Activity and Sport

(Reference – report no CEC/83/06-07/C&F by the Director of Children and Families, submitted.)

8 Efficient Government – Edinburgh/Glasgow Pathfinder

The Scottish Executive had awarded funding to take forward the initial phase of the Edinburgh/Glasgow pathfinder project for shared services. The procurement process had begun and it was hoped to start work on the project towards the end of the year. Details were also given of the Scottish Executive's consultation on "Transforming Public Services – The Next Phase of Reform" which was relevant in the context of the project. A proposed response to the consultation would be submitted to the Council for approval.

Decision

To note:

- 1) The Scottish Executive's offer of funding of up to £1.5m for the Edinburgh/Glasgow pathfinder project.
- 2) That the Chief Executive would report further to the September meeting of the Council with a draft response to "Transforming Public Services – The Next Phase of Reform".
- 3) That approval would be sought later in the year in respect of the appointment of consultants as the first phase of the pathfinder project

(References – Act of Council No 9 of 29 June 2006; report no CEC/87/06-07/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.

9 Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland – Recommendations for Edinburgh Wards

The Local Government Boundary Commission's recommendations to Scottish Ministers on the proposed wards for the city following the introduction of Single Transferable Voting at next year's elections were presented.

The following motion had been submitted by Councillor Dawe in terms of Standing Order 28:

"That this Council

- 1) expresses concern at the outcome of the Local Government Boundary Commission's deliberations on the new ward boundaries for Edinburgh and the length of time it has taken to come to a decision;

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- 2) agrees to make representation to the Minister for Finance and Public Services, asking him
 - (a) not to accept the recommendations for the community centred on the Davidson's Mains/Silverknowes area of the city because of the failure to give due weight to local ties and to strong representations from local residents and community groups;
 - (b) to revise the recommendations by moving electors in Silverknowes from Ward 4 to Ward 1 and moving electors into Ward 4, for example from Ward 5, which would result in retention of community ties and no significantly worse electoral parity than some of the Commission's other proposals in the City;
 - (c) not to accept the names for some of the new wards, such as South West Edinburgh; Clermiston & East Craigs; West Edinburgh and Gorgie Dalry; Central Edinburgh and South East Edinburgh, which either do not adequately describe the geographical/community area or may lead to confusion with Scottish and/or Westminster constituency names; and
 - (d) to consult with the Council so that more appropriate names can be put in place before the end of this year."

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Dawe subject to deletion of the words "and moving electors into Ward 4, for example from Ward 5" from paragraph 2 (b) of the motion.

(References – Act of Council No 14 of 30 June 2005; report no CEC/75/06-07/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

10 McGarrity Case – Follow-Up Action

Details were provided of the action taken by the agencies after the death of Ann Marie McGarrity and the discovery of her son at their home in Leith. This action was aimed at minimising the risk of a similar situation arising in the future.

Motion

To note the position.

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

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Amendment

- 1) To note with concern the unilateral decision by the Director of Children and Families not to set up a Short-Life Member Officer Working Group as charged by Council on 23 February 2006.
- 2) To remind the Chief Executive and Officers that decisions made by Council were binding unless subsequently overturned by a later decision of Council.
- 3) To instruct the Director of Children and Families to provide a cross party briefing and review session (on the action taken so far and the proposals he intended to take forward) in order to have elected member input to those proposals.

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

The mover of the motion, with the consent of his seconder and the mover and seconder of the amendment, agreed to accept paragraph 3 of the amendment as an addendum to his motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	30 votes
For the amendment	-	27 votes

Decision

To approve the motion, as adjusted, by Councillor Rev Ewan Aitken.

(References – Acts of Council No 4 of 23 February and No 2 of 29 June 2006; report no CEC/82/06-07/C&F by the Director of Children and Families; letter from Lothian NHS Board dated 18 August 2006, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Whyte declared a financial interest in the above item as a non-Executive Director of NHS Lothian.

11 Communities That Care – Initial Findings of the Risk and Protection Audit

Initial findings were provided of the Communities That Care (CTC) Audit that had taken place across the city in the autumn of 2005. Progress in rolling out the CTC approach across Edinburgh was also detailed.

Decision

- 1) To welcome the report from the Director of Children and Families and thank all the staff involved in both pilot projects and the preparation of the reports.
- 2) To recognise the comprehensive nature of information and analysis at citywide and neighbourhood level contained in the Risk and Protection Audit reports.
- 3) To agree that these Audits would be a valuable planning tool for the development of integrated services for children and families.
- 4) To note that the findings showed that the abuse of alcohol was the most serious drug issue facing the city and its communities and that alcohol abuse was seriously damaging the lives of many children and adults in the city.
- 6) In light of the challenge:
 - i) To receive a report in the near future that set out ways in which alcohol abuse could be tackled by the Council and all public agencies in the city.
 - ii) To receive a report from the Director of Children and Families and Chair of the Drug Action Team on how a local campaign could be developed in Edinburgh highlighting to parents, children, alcohol licensees and the wider communities the risks involved in alcohol abuse.
 - iii) To receive twice yearly updates on the progress of the Communities That Care initiatives.

(Reference – report no CEC/84/06-07/C&F by the Director of Children and Families, submitted.)

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

12 Council Review 2007 – Health and Social Care Department – Revised Management Structure

Approval was sought for revised management arrangements for Social Care Services within the Department of Health and Social Care.

Decision

- 1) To note the consultative process and its outcomes.
- 2) To approve the proposed arrangements, including the deletion of existing posts and creation of new posts, as shown in Appendix 2 to the report by the Director of Health and Social Care.
- 3) To approve the proposed matching and recruitment process.
- 4) To note the financial implications of these proposals.

(References – Act of Council No 8 of 29 June 2006; report no CEC/85/06-07/HSC by the Director of Health and Social Care, submitted.)

13 Chief Social Work Officer – Operational Protocol

Every local authority was required to nominate a professionally qualified Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) to maintain a professional overview of the Council's Social Work services.

The proposed new organisational arrangements of the Health and Social Care Department (see item 12 above) provided for the location of the CSWO within the Health and Social Care Department. As the postholder must maintain professional oversight of the Social Work services across the whole Council, a revised operational protocol was set out to ensure that this corporate oversight could effectively be maintained.

Decision

To approve the new operational arrangements for the Chief Social Work Officer.

(References – Act of Council No 7(b) of 24 February 2005; report no CEC/88/06-07/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

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

A summary was given of discussions between the Council and SEEL on the redevelopment of the Ross Bandstand, related parks issues and the proposed wide ranging amendments to the City of Edinburgh District Council Order Confirmation Act 1991. Revised recommendations were made regarding the mechanism for amending the relevant private legislation and the next stages of examining the redevelopment of the Ross Bandstand.

Decision

- 1) To accept the advice of the Parliamentary Agents and instruct 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 1991 Act.
- 2) To approve the proposals to develop the project through the instigation of a design competition and development of the business plan.
- 3) To approve the inclusion of the Ross Bandstand redevelopment in the capital programme.
- 4) To instruct the Director of Corporate Services to report in six months providing an update on progress with the "General" Bill, outlining which aspects of the Act were to be addressed and amended.

(References – Executive of the Council 1 March 2005 (item 2) and 25 April 2006 (item 23); report no CEC/76/06-07/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

15 Adult Entertainment – Proposed Policy on Dance Entertainment in Licensed Premises

In response to a motion by Councillor Shiels, a policy was proposed to assist in establishing good practice in premises offering dance entertainment in advance of the new legislative provision, currently planned for 2008/09. The City of Edinburgh Licensing Board had approved the policy in principle. Following consultation a further report would be presented to the Board inviting adoption of an interim policy to apply until statutory regulation took effect.

Decision

To note the Licensing Board's proposed adoption of a policy on best practice in licensed premises offering adult entertainment following consultation with the trade and other relevant bodies on the draft policy annexed to the report by the Director of Corporate Services.

(References – Act of Council No 25 of 4 May 2006; report no CEC/77/06-07/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

16 Forth Road Bridge Issues

Comments were presented on two petitions to the Scottish Parliament's Petitions Committee which related to the possibility of an additional road crossing of the Forth.

Input was also proposed to a forthcoming Scottish Executive study looking at the costs and impacts of retaining or removing the Tay and Forth tolls and to consultation on a proposed Scottish Parliament Bill promoted by Bruce Crawford MSP on removal of tolls from the Forth and Tay Bridges.

Decision

- 1) To submit the report by the Director of City Development to the Scottish Parliament Public Petitions Committee as the Council's comments on the issues raised in petitions PE942 and PE943 and on the issues raised on the Committee's debate on these petitions, noting that paragraphs 30-39 referred to other matters.
- 2) To submit the response to the proposed Scottish Executive Study and draft Bill as set out in paragraphs 30-39 of the Director's report.

(Reference – report no CEC/78/06-07/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Burns and Councillor Marshall declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a member and as Chair of FETA respectively.

17 Waverley Station

The recent work to examine the comprehensive redevelopment of Waverley Station was detailed and a way forward for its future development proposed.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

It had been concluded that the comprehensive redevelopment of the station was not a realistic option and it was proposed that the Council continue to work with stakeholders to develop an alternative vision for the site as part of a co-ordinated strategy for the redevelopment of the city centre.

Decision

- 1) To acknowledge and note the conclusions on the feasibility of the comprehensive redevelopment of Waverley.
- 2) To pursue alternative financing tools for major infrastructure work with the Scottish Executive.
- 3) To develop the initial work of the City Design Champion through the mechanism of the City Centre Development Partnership Board.
- 4) To instruct the Director of City Development to seek a recognition from Transport Scotland that the position of an enhanced commuter and suburban railway service in Edinburgh was likely to require additional extra capacity at Waverley before 2020 and to report to full Council on the response.

(References – Act of Council No 7 of 1 June 2006; report no CEC/80/06-07/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

18 Severance Payments for Elected Members

The draft Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Severance Payments) Regulations 2006 provided for severance payments to be made to elected members who did not intend to stand for re-election in May 2007. The Scottish Executive had issued draft regulations on severance payments which required Councillors to indicate their intention to stand down by 30 September 2006.

The following motion had been submitted by Councillor Dawe in terms of Standing Order 28:

“To request the Minister for Finance and Public Services to alter the date by which a member of a local authority should submit an application for a severance payment from 30 September 2006 to 29 December 2006 at 6(2) of Draft Statutory Instrument SS11572, The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Severance Payments) Regulations 2006.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Dawe.

(References – Act of Council No 9 of 18 September 2003; report no CEC/90/06-07/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

19 Equal Pay – Single Status – Funding of Standing Claims – Sale of the Morrison Street Goods Yard Site

The Council's approved strategy to achieve the backdated element of the equal pay settlement included the disposal of the Morrison Street Goods Yard Site. Following an extensive international marketing campaign the Council had been recommended to pursue a bid from Tiger Developments Limited (Tiger).

The disposal was a major transaction with significant commercial sensitivity and it had been imperative that the Council proceed as quickly as possible. A decision on its disposal had therefore been taken by the Chief Executive and Director of City Development in consultation with the Leader of the Council in terms of Standing Order 91.

Decision

To note:

- 1) The decision of the Chief Executive and Director of City Development:
 - (a) to sell the Morrison Street Goods Yard site to the highest bidder, Tiger Developments Limited, whom failing the next highest bidder, following the open market disposal; and
 - (b) to delegate authority to the Director of City Development, in consultation with the Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Council Solicitor, to complete the transaction.
- 2) The success of the marketing campaign in securing a number of substantial offers.
- 3) The progress made with the disposal of the site to Tiger Developments Limited.
- 4) That in the event the sale to Tiger fell the Council would seek to sell the site to the next highest bidder.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- 5) A further progress report would follow once all contractual documentation was signed and any conditions purified.

(References –Executive of the Council 14 March 2006 (item 3); report no CEC/81/06-07/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Cairns, Dixon, Fallon, Gilmore, Gordon Mackenzie, Perry and Scobbie declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of EDI.

20 Fit For Future Project – Council Chamber Furniture

Recommendations were made on the future use of the Council Chamber and the range of furniture to be specified for Council meetings, including the possible refurbishment of the Davenport desks.

Decision

To continue consideration of the matter for a further report to the Council meeting on 21 September 2006.

(References – Act of Council No 16 of 4 May 2006; report no CEC/79/06-07/CD by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

21 tie Limited – Interim Appointment of Executive Chairman

The Council had appointed W Gallagher as Chair of **tie** Limited following Ewan Brown's resignation. Michael Howell had subsequently left the post of Chief Executive of **tie** Limited and, given the very significant time commitment already being given by Mr Gallagher in his position as Chair, the Chief Executive had, exceptionally and for an interim period only, agreed that he should assume the dual role of Executive Chairman with effect from 1 June 2006. The position would be reviewed before Christmas 2006 at which time consideration would be given to the need to appoint a Chief Executive of **tie**.

Decision

To note the appointment of Willie Gallacher as Executive Chairman of **tie** Limited and that the Chief Executive would report further, following a review of the position, in December 2006.

(References – Act of Council No 14 of 1 June 2006; report no CEC/89/06-07/CE by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Burns, Child and Wheeler declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of **tie**.

22 Motion by Councillor Ponton – Free Personal Care

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

“That the Council, following recent press coverage of the waiting lists for assessment for free personal care across Scotland, instructs the Director of Health and Social Care to prepare a report for submission to the next Council, to clarify the current situation with respect to waiting times within Edinburgh.

That this report should address the criteria that are being used in assessments, the number of individuals that are currently awaiting assessments, the trends in this figure since the introduction of the policy, the effect of the policy on delayed discharge performance and the pressures that are being faced by the Domiciliary Care service.

That this report should also consider Edinburgh’s performance as compared to that of other peer authorities and comment on actions that are being taken to address any issues that have arisen to limit performance.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Ponton.

23 Motion by Councillor Mackintosh – Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) Extension

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

“Council maintains support for the extension of the CPZ, but in view of the visual impact of the proliferation of poles in zone S1 the Council instructs the Director of City Development to ensure that this is not replicated in the balance of the CPZ extension by placing signs on lamp posts where available and seeking permission from frontagers to attach signs to walls where available.”

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Decision

To maintain support for the extension of the CPZ but, in view of the visual impact of the proliferation of poles in zone S1 and now in N1, to confirm the instruction already given to the Director of City Development and the Director of Services for Communities by the Planning Committee to implement the draft "Edinburgh Standards for Streets" which, amongst other actions, required the placing of signs on lamp-posts where available and seeking permission from frontagers to attach signs to walls where available.

(Reference - Planning Committee 18 May 2006 (Item 14)).

24 Motion by Councillor Anderson – Meadows Area – Safety, Security and Vandalism

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

"Council asks for a report from the Director of Services for Communities on concerns regarding safety, security and vandalism in the Meadows area.

The report should highlight the following:

- a review of lighting on the main pedestrian routes through the Meadows area;
- a review of CCTV coverage in and around the area;
- advice that can be given to users of the Meadows including students;
- the possible use of the city centre policing team to carry out patrols in the area; and
- the recurring problems of graffiti on pavilions in the Meadows and how this can be more effectively tackled.

The report should also include information on any consultation that can be undertaken with local stakeholders."

Decision

- 1) To approve the motion by Councillor Anderson and that the report by the Director of Services for Communities should also address:
 - (a) similar concerns relating to Bruntsfield Links.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- (b) the problems for the area caused by the late night economy in the Grassmarket area.
- 2) To consult the existing Short Life Working Group on the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links in the preparation of the report.

25 Motion by Councillor Dawe – Air Travel

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

“To call for a report on the feasibility of the Council offsetting the environmental damage created by air travel carbon emissions on journeys undertaken by Councillors and officers on official business by contributing the relevant sum to fund sustainable energy projects.”

Decision

To agree that the report called for on air travel should be incorporated into the earlier motion by Councillor Anderson, of 31 January 2006, as agreed by the Council Executive and outlined in the following extract from the Executive minute:

“Council notes the recent IPPR report which states that only UK and Sweden are on target to meet the Kyoto Protocol to protect our climate. In light of the need for Edinburgh to increase its contribution to reducing carbon emissions, Council asks for a report from the Chief Executive that includes:

- i) Estimates and measurements of CO₂ emissions in the city highlighting any key areas for concern.
- ii) Up to date information on the range of initiatives being taken to reduce emissions in the city including Council initiatives, such as the proposed Edinburgh Standards for Sustainable Buildings.
- iii) The possibility of adopting specific targets for reducing CO₂ emissions for the city and becoming a signatory to the UN Green Cities Protocol.
- iv) An early action plan to tackle in particular energy conservation in existing buildings.

In addition, Council asks the Chief Executive to review strategies adopted in other cities, drawing out the relevant cases of best practice for consideration in Edinburgh.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Anderson and agree that the report by the Chief Executive should clearly set out a route by which the Council could achieve a reduction in carbon emissions."

26 Motion by Councillor Fallon – Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival

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

- "i) To congratulate the Starbucks Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival on its most successful year ever with ticket sales up by more than 12% on last year.
- ii) To further congratulate the festival organisers and volunteers in raising more than £11,000 towards the New Orleans Musicians Disaster Appeal Fund.
- iii) To arrange an appropriate reception to recognise the efforts of the Festival organisers and volunteers in helping to ensure the ongoing growth and success of the festival."

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Fallon.

27 Motion by Councillor Wheeler – Edinburgh South Suburban Railway

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

"Council instructs the Director of City Development to arrange for an all party delegation to meet with the Minister of Transport in support of the campaign to reopen the Edinburgh South Suburban Railway to passenger traffic."

Decision

- 1) To note that, with the agreed improvements to Waverley Station, there will be capacity to accommodate the reopening of the South Suburban Railway (SSR).

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- 2) To note also that the SSR was given the highest priority of any new projects in the Council's draft Transport Strategy as submitted to the Scottish Executive.
- 3) In light of the contribution that could be made to improving public transport:
 - a) To commission a feasibility study setting out the requirements for the reopening of the SSR.
 - b) To make representations to Sustrans and the Scottish Executive based on the findings of the study.
 - c) To seek an all party meeting with the Minister of Transport to seek support in principle for the reopening of the SSR.

(Reference - Executive of the Council 24 May 2005 (Item 33).

28 Motion by Councillor Whyte – Private Sector Housing Grant

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

- "1) To note the cut by the Scottish Executive of the Private Sector Housing Grant (PSHG) across Scotland in 2006/07 from £72m to £65m.
- 2) To note that the Council's share of that budget had fallen by 11.2% to £6.8m in 2006/07.
- 3) To condemn the action of the Scottish Executive in cutting this grant, which, amongst other objectives, provided grants for adaptations for disabled people living in private housing, at a time when the number of people who needed this assistance was known to be increasing.
- 4) To note that this cut had forced the Services for Communities Department, for the first time, to prioritise applications for adaptation grants, and had had to place a number of applicants indefinitely on a waiting list.
- 5) To note that while the Department had taken action to prioritise the adaptations work within the PSHG, any further prioritisation would be difficult to achieve due to the detrimental effect this would have on the other important areas of work carried out using the PSHG, such as services to private tenants, buybacks and regeneration.
- 6) To lobby the Scottish Executive to request an increase in PSHG in future years."

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Whyte.

29 Craigmillar Community Council Elections

The Council, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, excluded the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

An update was given on current issues associated with Craigmillar Community Council following the recent elections to the Council and the subsequent appointment of office bearers.

Decision

- 1) To note the contents of the report by the Director of Corporate Services and Monitoring Officer.
- 2) To receive a further report recommending revision to the Scheme for Community Councils.

(Reference – report no CEC/86/06-07/CS by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Appendix
(As referred to in Act of Council No 1 of 24 August 2006)

QUESTION NO 1

**By Councillor Tritton
answered by the Executive
Member for Corporate
Resources and Modernising
Government**

Question

- (1) How many grievance appeals against dismissal or disciplinary action have been heard by the Personnel Appeals Committee since May 2003?

Appeal type	Department	Appeals heard since May 2003
Dismissal	City Development	2
	Corporate Services	4
	Children & Families	4
	Services for Communities	2
	- Former Env & Cons Services	15
	- Former Edinburgh Building Services	3
	- Former Housing	2
	Health & Social Care	1
SUB-TOTAL		33
Disciplinary Action	City Development	1
	Children & Families	1
	Services for Communities	
	- Former Edinburgh Building Services	1
	- Former Housing	1
	Health & Social Care	1
TOTALS		38

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Question (2) Please list the times taken from the lodging of an appeal to the hearing by the Personnel Appeals Committee.

Answer

(2)	Appeal type	Department	Case Ref	Time taken
	Dismissal	City Development	Case a) Case b)	33 wks 29 wks
		Corporate Services	Case a) Case b) Case c) Case d)	19 wks 15 wks 12 wks 20 wks
		Education Children & Families	Case a) Case b) Case c) Case d)	25 wks 20 wks 2yrs 5 wks 41 wks
		Services for Communities	Case a) Case b)	39 wks 33 wks
		- Former Env & Cons Services	Case a) Case b) Case c) Case d) Case e) Case f) Case g) Case h) Case i) Case j) Case k) Case l) Case m) Case n) Case o)	19 wks 11 wks 14 wks 34 wks 19 wks 19 wks 16 wks 15 wks 16 wks 14 wks 13 wks 13 wks 13 wks 13 wks 12 wks
		- Former Edinburgh Bldg Services	Case a) Case b) Case c)	23 wks 15 wks 15 wks
		- Former Housing	Case a) Case b)	23 wks 34 wks
		Health & Social Care (former Social Work)	Case a)	31 wks

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Appeal Type	Department	Case Ref	Time taken
Disciplinary Action	City Development	Case a)	35 wks
	Children & Families	Case a)	21 wks
	Services for Communities - Former Edinburgh Bldg Services - Former Housing	Case a) Case a)	1yr 32wks 1yr 37wks
	Health & Social Care (former Social Work)	Case a)	19 wks

Note: The time between an appeal being lodged and a hearing date being arranged can vary for a variety of reasons, including -:

- the need to receive written submissions from both parties to the appeal before a date can be offered
- the need to secure agreement from both parties on the suitability of dates
- hearing dates being offered and not accepted by one of the parties
- the requirement to give a degree of priority to dismissal cases.

Question (3) How many appeals were upheld?

Answer (3) Three appeals against dismissal upheld from employees in the former Environmental & Consumer Services Department.

Thirteen appeals against dismissal upheld in part:-

- 1 Services for Communities
- 2 former Education
- 8 former Environmental & Consumer Services
- 1 former Edinburgh Building Services
- 1 former Housing

Question (4) How many were not upheld but were subsequently upheld by an Employment Tribunal?

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- Answer** (4) No cases not upheld by the Personnel Appeals Committee were subsequently upheld by an Employment Tribunal.
- Question** (5) How many appeals against Employment Tribunal decisions have been made?
- Answer** (5) None.
- Question** (6) How many compensation payments has the Council been ordered to make?
- Answer** (6) None in respect of the cases above.
- Question** (7) Within what timescale from final decision did the Council make each of these payments?
- Answer** (7) Not applicable in light of answer 6.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

QUESTION NO 2

**By Councillor Edie answered
by the Executive Member for
Health and Social Care**

- Question** (1) How many different waiting lists or categories of applicants are there for aids adaptations?
- Question** (2) What were the numbers in each category or on each waiting list on 1 June 2006?
- Question** (3) What is the target waiting time for each?
- Question** (4) How many clients were still on waiting lists after their target date had passed on 1 June 2006?
- Answer** (4) It has not been possible within the available time to provide detailed answers to the questions asked. For this reason, I have asked the Director of Health and Social Care to incorporate into the report to September's Council meeting, asked for in Councillor Ponton's motion (Agenda item 11.1), a comprehensive response to the questions asked by Councillor Edie. This same report will respond in detail to the questions asked by Councillor Mackintosh.
- Supplementary Question** Can I ask why it has not been possible to give me an answer within the prescribed time?
- Supplementary Answer** I think gathering the statistics to answer Councillor Edie's question properly has taken longer than we first thought. Given that work is progressing in the whole area of community care and free personal care in response to Cllr Mackintosh's question and Councillor Ponton's motion on the agenda, it seemed sensible to me to bring an all encompassing report to the next Council meeting on the entire subject.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

QUESTION NO 3

**By Councillor Mackintosh
answered by the Executive
Member for Health and Social
Care**

- Question** (1) When was the Council first advised by the Scottish Executive Health Department that the preparation of food for those in receipt of Free Personal and Nursing Care should not be charged for?
- Question** (2) How many persons who have been in receipt of Free Personal and Nursing Care have been charged for the preparation of food in each financial year since April 2004?
- Question** (3) What is the total of the charges levied by the Council for the preparation of food from persons in receipt of Free Personal and Nursing Care in each financial year since April 2004?
- Question** (4) How many persons in receipt of Free Personal and Nursing Care who were charged for the preparation of food have had charges refunded in each financial year since April 2004?
- Question** (5) What is the total amount of money refunded by the Council in respect of charges levied for the preparation of food from persons in receipt of Free Personal and Nursing Care in each financial year since April 2004?

Answer

It has not been possible within the available time to provide detailed answers to the questions asked. For this reason, I have asked the Director of Health and Social Care to incorporate into the report to September's Council meeting, asked for in Councillor Ponton's motion (Agenda item 11.1), a comprehensive response to the questions asked by Councillor Mackintosh. This same report will respond in detail to the questions asked by Councillor Edie.

A briefing for all Councillors was issued on the subject of Free Personal Care in July.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- Supplementary Question** (1) Mine is a similar flavour to the question by Councillor Edie but I would add that I am concerned that Councillor Thomas can't provide the answer because I still have evidence of constituents who are being sent bills for this work. I think the report that comes to the Executive is going to have to be a most impressive piece of work. I would ask you to ensure that it doesn't fail to answer any of my questions, if you see it before signature, because I have my concerns that they won't all be answered.
- Supplementary Answer** (1) The whole question of meal preparation and the charging for meal preparation has been one on which there has been conflicting guidance issued by the Labour and Liberal Scottish Executive over the past few years. It is an issue which COSLA and this authority are taking a lead on trying to resolve and I think that will be reflected in the report which comes to the next Council meeting
- Supplementary Question** (2) Why, if it is not possible to answer my question 1, when was the Council first advised by the Scottish Executive Health Department that the preparation of food for those in receipt of free personal care should not be charged for, is Councillor Thomas able to tell me there is conflicting advice? Because by definition he must know about that advice so why can't he tell me. I think he's avoiding the answer. Can he confirm that?
- Supplementary Answer** (2) I don't have the exact dates to hand but there have been a series of circulars from the Scottish Executive over the past few years about the whole issue of free personal care and the definition that could cover. It was open to interpretation as to how far meal preparation went. Did it cover things like making a cup of tea? Did it cover things like putting a slice of bread in the toaster? Or did it actually cover, and this is the interpretation we took to mean food preparation, people who needed assistance in actually eating the food as well as preparing it?

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Over the past few years there's been a number of sets of guidance issued, I don't have the exact dates but I will produce that for Councillor Mackintosh, open to different interpretations. That's what the position is we're in at the moment, trying to get a definitive definition so we can implement the policy fairly across the city.

QUESTION NO 4**By Councillor O'Malley
answered by the Executive
Member for Transport and
Development**

- Question** (1) How many additional signposts have been installed as part of the extension to the controlled parking zone in (a) Zone S1 and (b) Zone N1?
- Answer** (1) (a) 340 new posts are proposed for Zone S1 (This figure may reduce should we receive approval from residents that we have approached to gain approval for signs to be fixed to walls or railings). As at 15 August 2006 we were awaiting responses from 83 residents.
- (b) 483 new posts are proposed for Zone N1.
- Question** (2) What is the total cost of installing these posts or poles?
- Answer** (2) (a) The estimated cost of installing new poles in Zone S1 is £74,500.
- (b) The estimated cost of installing new poles in Zone N1 is £45,600.
- Question** (3) How many signs in (a) Zone S1 and (b) Zone N1 will be fitted to existing lampposts, walls or other street furniture and not to specially installed new signposts?
- Answer** (3) (a) In Zone S1 243 signs are proposed to be affixed to existing lamp columns and 31 to walls or railings.
- (b) In Zone N1 352 signs are proposed to be affixed to existing lamp columns or existing poles.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- Question** (4) How many signs in (a) Zone S1 and (b) Zone N1 could have been fitted to existing lampposts rather than purpose built poles had a decision not been taken not to fit signs to existing lampposts?
- Answer** (4) (a) In Zone S1 all existing lamp columns that fall within the criteria provided for within the legislation have been used.
- (b) In Zone N1 all existing lamp columns that fall within the criteria provided for within the legislation have been used.
- Question** (5) What is the justification for not fitting signs to existing lampposts and will the Executive member publish in full the reports from experts, officers or consultants that support that justification?
- Answer** (5) All traffic signs must conform to the requirements set out in the "Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002" and the location requirements are described in "The Traffic Signs Manual". Both of these publications are available from The Stationery Office.
- Question** (6) Was the project designed to conform to the requirements of "Edinburgh Standards for Streets" and were the officials of the Planning Department consulted about the visual impact of poles erected for signage?
- Answer** (6) The project was designed to comply with the regulatory requirements as set out in the documents referred to in answer 5 (above). Continuing effort is being applied to minimizing street furniture in line with the standards.
- Question** (7) How many frontagers in (a) Zone S1 and (b) Zone N1 have been asked by the Department for permission for the Council to attach CPZ signs to their walls and when were they asked?

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- Answer**
- (7) (a) In Zone S1 we have contacted 97 residents who have frontages that could be used to mount a sign without the requirement of a post.
- (b) The advice from our consultant is that there are few suitable locations that have been identified for mounting signs on walls or railings in Zone N1. These are in areas where properties are in multiple-ownership (mainly tenement flats) and often the owners are not the occupiers.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the information. However I'd like to look specifically at question 6. In light of the assurance given as early as 2000 to the then Councillor for Sciennes and to all the local Councillors since, can I have a specific assurance the second part of question 6 that in future planning officials will be consulted?

Supplementary Answer

I can give that assurance to Councillor O'Malley and, as she'll know from the Scrutiny Panel discussions last Wednesday, the Director of City Development has been instructed to make sure Standards for Streets has been adhered to and that's also reflected in our amendment to item 11.2 on today's agenda.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

QUESTION NO 5

**By Councillor Lowrie
answered by the Executive
Member for Sport, Culture and
Tourism**

Question

Please can you list all the football pitches, both grass and "all-weather", on Council land and whether they are managed by the new Services for Communities Department, the Children and Families Department, the Culture and Leisure Department or Edinburgh Leisure?

Answer

See attached

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Name	Managed By	No of Football Pitches	Grass/All-Weather
Allison Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Arboretum Playing Field	Children & Families	1	Grass
Balerno/Malleny	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities + Children & Families	1	Grass
Bingham Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Bloomiehall Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Broomhouse Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Broughton Secondary School	Children & Families	2	1 Grass 1 All Weather
Burgess Park	Children & Families	1	Grass
Cairntows Craigmillar Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Campbell Park	Edinburgh Leisure	3	Grass
Carrick-Knowe School	Children & Families	3	Grass
Castle View Primary School- same as Fernieside	Children & Families	1	Grass
Castlebrae High School	Children & Families	2	Grass
City Park Football Ground	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Clermiston Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Clermiston School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Clovenstone Playing Field	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Name	Managed By	No of Football Pitches	Grass/All-Weather
Clovenstone Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Colinton Mains Park	Edinburgh Leisure	4	Grass
Comiston Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Corstorphine Park (Union Park)	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Craigentiny & Seafield Park	Edinburgh Leisure	4	Grass
Craigmount High School	Children & Families	4	3 Grass 1 All Weather
Craigroyston High School	Children & Families	4	3 Grass 1 All Weather
Craigroyston Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Currie High School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Curriehill Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Dalmeny School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Davidsons Mains Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Davidson's Mains Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Dean Park Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Drum Street Playing Field	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Drumbrae Park	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Drumbrae Primary School	Children & Families	2	Grass
Drummond High School	Children & Families	1	All Weather
Duddingston Playing Fields	Children & Families	3	Grass
Duddingston Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Dumbryden Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Dundas Park	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Name	Managed By	No of Football Pitches	Grass/All-Weather
East Craigs Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
East Pilton Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Echline Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Fernieside Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Ferryhill Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Firrhill High School-Linked to Oxbgangs Primary	Children & Families	1	Grass
Forrester High School	Children & Families	4	3 Grass 1 All Weather
Fort School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Fox Covert School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Frogston Sports Club	Children & Families	1	Grass
Gilmerton Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Glasgow Road Recreation Ground	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Gracemount High School	Children & Families	2	Grass
Gracemount Sports Centre	Edinburgh Leisure	6	All-weather (5 a-side)
Gyle Park & Playing Fields	Edinburgh Leisure	6	Grass
Harrison Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	2	Grass
Hillwood Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Hunters Tryst School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Inch Park	Edinburgh Leisure	2	Grass
Inverleith Park	Edinburgh Leisure	8	Grass

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Name	Managed By	No of Football Pitches	Grass/All-Weather
Jack Kane Sports Centre	Edinburgh Leisure	14	13 Grass 1 All Weather
Jewel Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
King George V Park (Currie)	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Kingsknowe Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	3	Grass
Kirkliston Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Kirkliston Sports Centre	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Leith Academy	Children & Families	2	1 Grass 1 All Weather
Leith Links Playing Fields	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	2	Grass
Liberton High School	Children & Families	2	Grass
Liberton Playing Fields (Double Hedges)	Children & Families	2	Grass
Liberton Public Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	2	Grass
Lismore Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Lochend Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Longstone School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Meadowbank Sports Centre	Edinburgh Leisure	2	1 Grass 1 All Weather
Meggetland Playing Fields	Children & Families	4	Grass
Moredun Primary School (former site)	Children & Families	1	Grass
Morgan Playing Fields	Children & Families	1	Grass

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Name	Managed By	No of Football Pitches	Grass/All-Weather
Muirhouse Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Newcraighall Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	2	Grass
Northfield & Willowbrae Community Centre	Children & Families	1	Grass
Oxgangs Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Paties Road Recreation Ground	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Pilrig Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
Pinkhill Playing Fields	Children & Families	2	Grass
Pirniehall Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Portobello Recreation Park	Edinburgh Leisure	2	Grass
Queensferry Recreation Centre	Edinburgh Leisure	8	2 Grass 6 All Weather (7 a side)
Ratho Park Playing Field	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Ratho Station Park Football Pitch	Edinburgh Leisure	2	Grass
Redhall Park	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Riccarton Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Roseburn Park	Edinburgh Leisure	2	Grass
Royal High School	Children & Families	2	1 Grass 1 All Weather
Sandys Boys Club Pitch	Children & Families	1	Grass
Saughton Enclosure linked with Saughton Park	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

Name	Managed By	No of Football Pitches	Grass/All-Weather
Saughton Park	Edinburgh Leisure	5	4 Grass 1 All Weather
Sighthill Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Silverknowes Park	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
South Queensferry High School	Children & Families	1	Grass
St Augustine's RC High School	Children & Families	4	Grass
St Cuthbert's Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
St Francis RC School	Children & Families	1	Grass
St Josephs RC School	Children & Families	2	Grass
St Margaret's School	Children & Families	1	Grass
St Mark's Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities	1	Grass
St Marks Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
St Mary's Primary School (Leith)	Children & Families	1	Grass
Talloaks (Gyle)	Edinburgh Leisure	1	Grass
Tynecastle High School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Victoria Park	Culture & Leisure/Services for Communities * 5 a-side pitch	1	All-Weather
Wardie Playing Fields	Children & Families	2	Grass
Wardie Primary School	Children & Families	1	Grass
Warriston Playing Field	Children & Families	1	Grass
Wester Hailes Education Centre	Children & Families	1	Grass

QUESTION NO 6

**By Councillor Dawe answered
by the Executive Member for
Health and Social Care**

- Question** (1) How many Mental Health Officer (MHO), Home Care, Hospital Discharge Team and Service Matching Unit posts are currently unfilled?
- Answer** (1) a) There are currently no Mental Health Officer vacancies.
- b) Staff within Home Care are in the following categories:
- Home Care Service Manager: no vacancies
 - Home Care Co-ordinator: no vacancies
 - Home Care Organiser: 1 vacancy
 - Social Care Workers: fewer than 10 vacancies
(FTE establishment of 325)
 - Home Helps: approximately 25 vacancies
(FTE establishment of 686)
- c) Hospital Discharge Teams are a part of Home Care. Separate figures for Hospital Discharge Teams were not available in time for this answer but the level is lower than for Home Care overall.
- d) Service Matching Unit: 2 vacancies.
- Question** (2) If there are unfilled posts, what effect is this having on the need for agency staff and on the timely allocation of cases?

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- Answer** (2) a) Not applicable
- b) There is no direct impact on agency staff spending as a result of vacancy levels within Home Care. The low level of vacancy will not have a significant effect on the timely allocation of cases.
- c) As above, separate figures for the Hospital Discharge Teams were not available in time for this answer but the vacancy level is lower than for Home Care overall and will have no direct impact on agency spend. In addition, there are no reported difficulties with the timely allocation of cases arising from vacancy levels.
- d) There are currently three members of agency staff within the Service Matching Unit, meaning (as there are two vacancies) that the unit is over establishment by one post. This has been approved as a short term measure to assist the new unit as systems bed in and to help ensure the timely allocation of cases.
- Question** (3) With reference to the MHO posts, has this resulted in delays in processing Guardianship Orders?
- Answer** (3) Not applicable. There are no vacancies for MHO posts.
- Question** (4) What is being done to address these unfilled vacancies?
- a) Not applicable.
- b) The Department is currently short-listing from 363 applications to fill the vacancies for front-line staff. A further recruitment event is planned for 4-6 September.
- c) As above, separate figures for the Hospital Discharge Teams were not available in time for this answer but any vacancies will be addressed by the measures outlined in the answer to 4.b., above.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

- d) In the short term, as reported above, the vacancies are filled with agency staff pending normal recruitment procedures.

**Supplementary
Question**

I was quite surprised by the answers to these questions. The questions stemmed from complaints I'd received from Social Workers about levels of staffing, overuse of agency staff, the difficulties in sanctioning the use of agency staff, guardianship orders being held up for protracted periods and so on. Given that there does not appear to be an inordinate number of vacancies from the answers given, could it be that the actual staffing establishment may not be sufficient to cope with demand and, in particular, that the demands on staff due to the restructuring are greater than anticipated?

**Supplementary
Answer**

If Councillor Dawe has information to suggest that our staffing complements aren't adequate then I'd be perfectly happy to have a look at that. The Mental Health Care and Treatment Act was a major piece of legislation, a ground breaking piece of legislation, bringing new rights to people with mental health difficulties, new rights for additional advocacy and additional treatments. It also brought new responsibilities to local authorities and the implementation of these new responsibilities has taken some time to bed in. But, as I said, if Councillor Dawe has information to suggest that the information in my answer is inaccurate I'd be perfectly happy to have a look at that.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

QUESTION NO 7

**By Councillor Dawe answered
by the Executive Member for
Sustainability and Finance**

Question (1) As a result of the delay in processing pay for over 8,000 CEC employees at the beginning of July, were any claims made by staff for items such as bank charges?

Answer (1) As a result of the delay in the processing of the Bacstel file, by our IT provider, 6027 employees received their wages after the contractual payment date. This failure has resulted in claims being submitted for bank charges and where this demonstrates that additional expense has been incurred, claims have been authorised for payment.

Question (2) If so, how many and for what total amount?

Answer (2) To date we have reimbursed bank charges of £1673 to Council employees and Joint Boards have paid £1019.50. This gives a total £2692.50 reimbursed to 50 payees (32 employees within the Council).

Question (3) If so, has this been recouped from the IT provider responsible for the error?

Answer (3) Discussions have taken place with BT regarding the non-delivery of service and BT has accepted responsibility for this failure in aspects of the service wholly owned by BT. The current contract has *standard conditions for applying financial credits and compensation to the Council for non-delivery of services*. It has been agreed that discussions will resume once we have allowed sufficient time for employees to submit all claims for any bank charges. We would expect all claims to be received by early September 2006 and shortly thereafter to agree terms with BT.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

**Supplementary
Question**

I'd like to ask whether BT has explained exactly what caused the failure to process the Bacstel files in time and what they've done to ensure that this will not happen again?

**Supplementary
Answer**

I understand it was staff error and discussions have taken place with BT to put in place systems to ensure that this never happens again, that there is proper backup if people are on holiday.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

QUESTION NO 8

**By Councillor Dawe answered
by the Executive Member for
Sport, Culture and Tourism**

- Question** (1) What approaches were made for support from the Council by the organisers of the successful Edinburgh Cup and Soccer Sevens Festival youth football tournament held last month at the Civil Service Sports Ground?
- Answer** (1) The organisers (via a local contact) submitted a letter of introduction and a package of information outlining the tournament's objectives to the Council.
- Question** (2) Who took the decision not to meet with the organisers and why?
- Answer** (2) As yet I have not been able to find the answer to this question. However, the organisers of the event have been invited to re-submit the information and it will be given serious consideration.
- Supplementary Question** The Edinburgh Friendship Cup Youth Tournament had the theme of uniting against racism and it was a very reduced version of plans developed last October for an international youth tournament in the city. Its very good news indeed in the answer that the organisers have been invited to resubmit information and that their ideas will be given serious consideration.
- Does the Executive Member for Sport, Culture and Tourism himself believe that an Edinburgh International Youth Tournament, such as those held in other countries in Europe, would be an asset to the city and a boost for youth football in the city and would he personally support such a project in the city?
- Supplementary Answer** The short answer of course is yes.

QUESTION NO 9

**By Councillor Mrs MacLaren
answered by the Executive
Member for Property and
Business Management**

Question

On what date will staff move into the new Council HQ?

Answer

It is proposed to move the first group of staff into the building during the third week of November 2006. The final programme of moves will be reported to Council in October.

Supplementary Question (1)

In November 2003 it was reported to this Council that the projected entry date for the new Headquarters was summer 2006. Can you please tell me what has caused the slippage and are there financial implications for this Council?

Supplementary Answer (1)

The report to the Council in June 2006 advised that unfortunately due to the fact that two of the sub-contractors to Millers on the site went out of business and that has delayed it slightly. It has always been our intention and our plan to go into the building in August/September and that is going to happen. In October it is envisaged that Millers will leave the building. Obviously there's a lot of work to be done in terms of utilities, BT and so on, and we hope the staff will start moving in November. This will be part of a report that will come to the full Council in October.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

There has been a slight slippage in our schedule and that has been caused by the reasons I've given and that was in the report to the Council in June. The Council got full detail of the schedule of times and dates when different departments will move in there. I think, if my memory serves me right, we're looking at the possibility of 400-450 members of staff per month over the months of November leading to, I think, February or March. That will be fully set out in the report that comes to the Council in October.

Supplementary Question (2) And the financial implications, which is what I asked as well. What are the financial implications for the Council of the slippage?

Supplementary Answer (2) I'm not aware of any financial implications but I'll check that out with officials. Colleagues have got to remember that this building has been built for us to lease. It is Morley Fund Managers building. Millers Construction are building it and we'll be leasing it on a long term lease. My understanding, though I'll get it checked out with officials, is that if there is any financial concerns with regards to this that the Council will not bear any of those costs, it will be met by Morley. I have certainly not been advised by the officials that this delay will cause this Council any more money but I'll get that double checked and get back to Councillor MacLaren.

The City of Edinburgh Council
24 August 2006

QUESTION NO 10

**By Councillor Tritton
answered by the Executive
Member for Sustainability and
Finance**

Question

What percentage of the electricity used by the Council comes from renewable sources?

Answer

The Council has 2 contracts for the supply of electricity to its operational non-domestic buildings. One contract is 100% from renewable sources (Scottish and Southern) and the other is 40% from renewable sources (Scottish Power). The two contracts are approximately equal by volume so on average 70% is from renewable sources (or what we term "green").

If unmetered supplies (ie street and stair lighting) are also brought into the equation 30% of this is from renewables.