

DECISION SHEET

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2026

	Item Title	Council Decision	Services Required to take action	Officer to Action
1.1	<u>Admission of Burgesses</u>	No Burgesses		
2.1	<u>Notification of urgent business</u>	No urgent business		
3.1	<u>Determination of exempt business</u>	No exempt business		
4.1	<u>Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statements</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to note the transparency statements which will be recorded in the minute.		
5.1	<u>Deputation Requests</u>	No deputation requests		
6.1	<u>Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 3 December 2025</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the minute.		
6.2	<u>Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 10 December 2025</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the minute.		

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7.1	<u>Referrals from Committees</u>	No referrals		
8.1	<u>Council Business Planner</u>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note the reason for the delay with regard to item 13 (Drug-checking Pilot), and that the item would now be reported to the Council meeting on 1 July 2026;</p> <p>(ii) to note that the Executive Director of Corporate Services would liaise with Councillor Boulton regarding briefings on the City Centre and Beach Masterplans and that updates could be provided by the appropriate officers upon request; and</p> <p>(iii) to otherwise note the business planner.</p>	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership</p> <p>Corporate Services</p>	<p>Fiona Mitchelhill</p> <p>Andy MacDonald</p>
9.1	<p><u>Treasury Management Strategy - Mid-Year Review - CORS/25/277</u></p> <p>Carried forward from the Council meeting of 10 December 2025</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note the Treasury Management activities undertaken to date in the 2025/26 financial year as detailed in the report; and</p> <p>(ii) to note that the Chief Officer - Finance would (1) check the various levels of interest rates on loans from the North East Scotland Pension Fund over a period of time; and (2) check Fidelity International's arms policy and environmental, social and governance arrangements; and provide an update to all Councillors on both matters accordingly.</p>	Finance	Jonathan Belford/ Lesley Fullerton/ Christopher Smith

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9.2	<p><u>Governance Review of Trusts - 2025 Update - CORS/25/283</u></p> <p>Carried forward from the Council meeting of 10 December 2025</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note the establishment of Aberdeen Archives, Gallery & Museums Trust (charity number SC054643);</p> <p>(ii) to note the other activity, as detailed in the report, in relation to trusts to which the Council is connected;</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Governance to bring a report to Council no later than December 2026 on future activity in relation to trusts to which the Council is connected; and</p> <p>(iv) to note that the Chief Officer - Governance would check the position with regard to the balance sheet value for the Proctor's Orphanage Trust and update Councillor van Sweeden accordingly.</p>	<p>Governance</p> <p>City Development and Regeneration</p>	<p>Steven Inglis</p> <p>Helen Fothergill</p>
9.3	<p><u>Treasury Management Policy - CORS/26/002</u></p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>to approve the Council's Treasury Management Policy, including the Treasury Management Policy Statement, Borrowing Policy, Investment Policy and Counterparty list, for 2026/27 to 2028/29 as detailed at Appendix 1 of the report.</p>	<p>Finance</p>	<p>Jonathan Belford/ Lesley Fullerton/ Christopher Smith</p>
9.4	<p><u>External Audit Recommendations - CORS/26/017</u></p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note the External Audit recommendations concerning the Governance Reference Group and consultation with elected members;</p> <p>(ii) to note that an elected member Chair had led the Governance Reference</p>	<p>Governance</p>	<p>Jenni Lawson/ Vikki Cuthbert/ Steven Inglis</p>

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		<p>Group through a number of successful reviews of the Scheme of Governance over the years, some of which had been unanimously agreed when recommendations were made to Council; and agree to continue with an Elected Member as Chair of the Governance Reference Group;</p> <p>(iii) to approve, with effect from 1 April 2026, the “Delegated Powers and Political Sensitivity - Guidance for Officers” as appended to the report, to support officers in their operation of the Powers Delegated to Officers within the Scheme of Governance; and instruct the Chief Officer - Governance to review the Guidance in parallel with any future reviews of the Scheme of Governance which take place after the 2027 Council Election; and</p> <p>(iv) to note that the Chief Officer - Governance would provide an update to Councillor Nicoll regarding the other External Audit recommendations from 2024/25.</p>		
10.1	<p><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Kusznr</u></p> <p>“That the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes with the ongoing road and utility works across Torry/Ferryhill and the disruption these closures are causing to residents, businesses, and commuters in the surrounding communities. 2. Recognises that: 	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the notice of motion.</p>	Operations	Mark Reilly/ Claire Royce

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prolonged or repeated closures have a disproportionate impact on communities such as Torry and Ferryhill, increasing travel times, congestion on usually quieter streets and reducing accessibility to services. b. Aberdeen's road network is not based on a grid system, meaning that the closure of a single street often can cause significant spill over effect across a wider area, exacerbating disruption and congestion. c. Local businesses and residents have expressed frustration over the lack of timely communication and mitigation measures during these closures. <p>3. Therefore instructs the Chief Officer - Operations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Engage with affected communities, including Torry and Ferryhill, to gather feedback and concerns, regarding the recent road closures, due to the SSEN utility works. b. Continue to liaise with SSEN and other relevant stakeholders to ensure mitigation strategies are in place, including signage and alternative transport routes during closure periods. c. Ensure a lessons-learned session is held with SSEN to review improvements following the recent utility works. This should include enhancing media communications from SSEN beyond statutory notices, such as providing clear, concise updates on social media and to Elected Members. These updates should move beyond only 			

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	<p>saying that the works are essential and explain the reasons for the works, what is being done and why and the expected timescales.”</p> <p>Carried forward from the Council meeting of 10 December 2025</p>			
10.2	<p><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Boulton</u></p> <p>“That the Council agrees to:</p> <p>(1) Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to refer details of the funding required to develop further detailed studies for a flooding solution as described by the WSP consultants to provide protection for The Paddock, Peterculter to the budget process;</p> <p>(2) Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to refer details of the funding required to develop further detailed studies for a flooding solution as described by the WSP consultants to provide protection for Millside and Culter Den, Peterculter for a 1 in 200 and a 1 in 30 flooding event to the budget process;</p> <p>(3) Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to continue engagement with local residents, Culter Community Council and the Community Resilience Group on the progress in relation to these flood prevention schemes, subject to funding being awarded to support future activity, and to report these outcomes to a future meeting of the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee; and</p> <p>(4) Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to work in collaboration with The River Dee Trust where there is mutual benefit and to</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u> to take no action.</p>		

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	<p>avoid duplication of effort.”</p> <p>Carried forward from the Council meeting of 10 December 2025</p>			
10.3	<p><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Boulton</u></p> <p>“Instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning, in collaboration with the Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC), to review national research on the impacts of banning mobile phones in schools and report findings to a future meeting of the Education and Children’s Services Committee.”</p> <p>Carried forward from the Council meeting of 10 December 2025</p>	<p>The Council resolved:</p> <p>(i) to approve the notice of motion; and</p> <p>(ii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning, in collaboration with the HDRC, to review national and international research on the impacts of banning mobile phones and smart watches in schools for inclusion in the report on "Action to Reduce Incidents in Schools" to the Education and Children’s Services Committee as soon as possible.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>Shona Milne</p> <p>Steph Dunsmuir (for info)</p>
10.4	<p><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Farquhar</u></p> <p>“That the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes with extreme disappointment the Chancellor’s decision on 26 November 2025 to keep the Energy Profits Levy (EPL), despite significant lobbying from industry in Aberdeen. Recognises the Fraser of Allander Institute’s “<i>Is the energy sector at a turning point?</i>” report of 20 November 2025 which shows that the North East economy has contracted by 21% since 2015. Further recognises Robert Gordon University’s “<i>Striking the Balance</i>” report 	<p>The Council resolved:</p> <p>(i) to approve the notice of motion;</p> <p>(ii) to agree the Labour UK Government’s Autumn Budget, delivered in the House of Commons on 27 November 2025 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP, fails to deliver for Aberdeen;</p> <p>(iii) to condemn the decision of the Labour UK Government to retain the Energy Profits Levy which is risking thousands of jobs in Aberdeen, and the North East of Scotland, and accelerating decline in the North Sea;</p> <p>(iv) to note David Whitehouse, Chief</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>City Development and Regeneration</p>	<p>Angela Scott</p> <p>Julie Wood</p>

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	<p>of 2 June 2025 which shows that we could lose 1,000 oil and gas jobs a month if current policies continue. The equivalent of a Grangemouth refinery closure every two weeks for the next 5 years.</p> <p>4. Notes with regret the misery that this will cause many families in and around Aberdeen.</p> <p>5. Instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor to outline our city's concerns about the continuation of the EPL and formally ask that this be reconsidered."</p> <p>Carried forward from the Council meeting of 10 December 2025</p>	<p>Executive of Offshore Energies UK, said (P&J, 26/11/2025): <i>"Reforming the Energy profits Levy will support the UK's wider energy future by sustaining the supply chain and industrial capabilities needed for offshore wind, carbon storage and hydrogen projects. Our message to Government is simple: Reform the EPL in 2026 to unlock more tax not less, support more jobs, not less, and deliver more homegrown energy not less."</i></p> <p>(v) to agree the Energy Profits Levy should be reformed to support "oil & gas & hydrogen & storage & wind"; and</p> <p>(vi) to instruct the Chief Executive, on behalf of Aberdeen City Council, to sign Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce's open letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP, regarding Support our North Sea at this critical moment.</p>		
10.5	<p><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Thomson</u></p> <p>"That this Council:</p> <p>(1) notes that STV's revised proposals seek to end production and broadcast of a weekday peak-time news programme from Aberdeen serving the North of Scotland region, so centralising all Scottish television news production in the Central Belt, depriving the North of Scotland region of its own TV news for the first time since</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to approve the notice of motion;</p> <p>(ii) to acknowledge Council agreed on 1 October 2025:</p> <p><i>That this Council:</i></p> <p>1. <i>Recognises the importance of the North East and North of Scotland regional news services provided by</i></p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>City Development and Regeneration</p>	<p>Angela Scott</p> <p>Julie Wood/ Mark Bremner</p>

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	<p>the establishment of Channel 3 in the 1960s, and undermining Aberdeen's standing as an independent media centre;</p> <p>(2) believes that the case for a weekday peak-time North of Scotland news programme on Channel 3 is as strong now as it was when Ofcom approved the current licence conditions in September 2024, and as it has been since the first elections to the modern Scottish Parliament in 1999, rejecting entirely the notion that devolution has reduced the need for a particular focus on the distinctive economic, cultural, political and other news stories and issues which are specific to the North of Scotland region;</p> <p>(3) disagrees with the contention that changes in the way we receive news and opinions mean we have less need of objective, professional journalism informed and delivered by people living in our communities, believing instead that such changes make news programmes like STV News at Six made in and for the North of Scotland even more important;</p> <p>(4) agrees with those who live in Scotland's rural and island communities who believe that STV's revised proposals will materially disadvantage these areas, by depriving them of news programmes made in and for the North of Scotland region of which they are such an important part;</p> <p>(5) notes the consultation by Ofcom on STV's revised proposals, which opened on 16 December 2025 and will close on 9 February 2026, which invites representative organisations, individuals and communities to respond directly to three specific questions, providing reasons for such responses; and</p> <p>(6) instructs the Chief Executive to respond to this consultation before the closing date of 9 February 2026, stating in answer to question 1 our opposition to the revised STV proposals, and in answer to question 3 our view that these proposals fail to deliver equal treatment to Scotland's rural and island areas, and to the North of Scotland generally, setting out the Council's reasons for these answers in the terms set out in this motion."</p>	<p><i>STV North / Grampian TV over 60 years.</i></p> <p><i>2. Notes the undertakings given by STV, at the time it took over Grampian TV in 1997, that the separate North East and North of Scotland regional news programmes would be maintained.</i></p> <p><i>3. Deplores the announcement by STV that it intends to end its STV North news programming and the reported loss of 60 jobs associated with this.</i></p> <p><i>4. Notes that Aberdeen City Council's Employability Team, through Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE), is ready to support individuals facing the loss of their jobs.</i></p> <p><i>5. Agrees that the Council will seek to work with others, including the National Union of Journalists, to make the case for the retention of STV North news programming and, in particular, instructs the Chief Executive to make representations to this effect to STV, Ofcom, the Scottish Government, and UK Government.</i></p> <p>(iii) to note the Chief Executive sent the letters (dated 8 January 2026) to Ofcom, STV, the Scottish Government and UK Government, as attached, following the unanimous instruction of Council on 1 October 2025;</p> <p>(iv) to note the Chief Executive's letter to</p>		

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		<p>Ofcom, dated 8 January 2026, reads: “...Aberdeen City Council will participate fully in Ofcom’s consultation and will submit a formal response.” and</p> <p>(v) to instruct the Chief Executive to continue to make representation with the motion agreed unanimously by Council, including completion of their consultation for the avoidance of doubt, and agree this should be done as soon as possible and within the scope of the existing instructions, agreed 1 October 2025.</p>		
10.6	<p><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Watson</u></p> <p>“That the Council -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes that the previous offer from the Council to RAAC-affected home owners, following a huge community campaign and intervention from the Scottish Government, was an improvement. However, while the SNP gave an improved offer with one hand, they took away compensation for the home loss with the other. It is now evident that many residents have inadequate money to pay for removal costs. 2. Believes both the Council and RAAC owners have a mutual interest in moving on from the RAAC crisis. But if residents cannot afford to move, this process will drag on even longer with heartache and costs to all. 3. Therefore instructs the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to amend the offer to residents to reinstate the previous home 	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to note the decision made by the Council on 28 October 2025 to provide a full and final enhanced offer to homeowners; (ii) to note that 61 property completions had taken place, increased from 25 on 28 October 2025, costing so far £4.5m; (iii) to note that around an additional 70 homeowners had engaged with the District Valuer and were in the process of obtaining and considering the offers; (iv) to note the additional flexibility and support put in place for homeowners to provide advice regarding housing options; and (v) to note that demolition teams were on site, to provide additional security to 		

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	<p>loss payment at 10% of the current Market Value of the property and also to meet reasonable incurred disturbance costs and Legal and other professional fees.</p> <p>4. Instructs the Chief Officer - Finance to utilise the Capital Fund to release funding to make payments to homeowners who wish to voluntarily sell their property to the Council and notes the Chief Officer - Finance will report on the use of any fiscal flexibilities provided by Scottish Ministers to support that expenditure in the Quarter 4 Financial Performance Report.”</p>	<p>the remaining residents and the area, and were undertaking the “soft strip” on Council owned properties. Further confirm that demolition would only be progressed on Council owned properties and would only be progressed on wholly owned blocks.</p>		
10.7	<p><u>Urgent Notice of Motion by Councillor Boulton</u></p> <p>“That the Council:</p> <p>Instruct the Chief Executive to:-</p> <p>Write to the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, requesting that he seek a formal apology from President Donald Trump to the UK Armed Forces and their families, following his disrespectful comments made in relation to NATO troops who served in Afghanistan.”</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the urgent notice of motion.</p>	Chief Executive	Angela Scott/ Gail Halfyard
11.1	<p><u>Exempt/confidential business</u></p>	No exempt/confidential business		

If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Martyn Orchard, tel 01224 067598 or morchard@aberdeencity.gov.uk