

COUNCIL DECISION SHEET - MONDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2020

Please let the Clerk know as soon as possible if you do not agree with any action proposed in this decision sheet. These are decisions of the Council and there is an expectation that action will be taken. If for any reason it is apparent that you will not be able to act on these instructions in full or in part or that there will be a delay, please let the Clerk know as it may be necessary to advise the Council or seek further instructions from the Council.

	Item Title	Council Decision	Services Required to take action	Officer to Action
1.1	<u>Admission of Burgesses</u>	No burgesses		
2.1	<u>Determination of urgent business</u>	No urgent business		
3.1	<u>Determination of exempt business</u>	No exempt business		
4.1	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to note the declarations of interest which will be recorded in the minute.		
5.1	<u>Requests for deputation</u>	No deputations		
6.1	<u>Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 2 March 2020 - for approval</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the minute.	Governance	Martyn Orchard
6.2	<u>Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 3 March 2020 - for approval</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the minute.	Governance	Martyn Orchard

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6.3	<u>Minute of Meeting of Urgent Business Committee of 30 June 2020 - for approval</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the minute.	Governance	Stephanie Dunsmuir
7.1	<u>Guildry and Mortification Funds Committee - 9 September 2020 - Guildry Funds - Review of Allowances</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the 5% increase in annual allowances backdated from 1 May 2020.	Finance Governance	Catriona Gilmour Emma Robertson
7.2	<u>City Growth and Resources Committee - 28 October 2020 - Notice of Motion by Councillor Lumsden</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> (i) to note with pride that Aberdeen City Council has been named as the United Kingdom's Local Authority of the Year 2020 at the MJ Achievement Awards, an outstanding achievement given we were the only Scottish local authority shortlisted and we beat off competition from 6 other local authorities; (ii) to note the Local Authority of the Year category recognised success across the organisation, including strong performance in major services, innovation, good synergy between the executive and political functions, and sound financial stewardship; (iii) to note this UK award is a first for Aberdeen City Council since its creation in 1996, under the Local Government etc. Act 1994 and reflects the hard work of the Council since 2012 onwards; (iv) to note the finalists were selected based on evidence of having delivered	Chief Executive	Angela Scott/ Member of ECMT to be confirmed

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		<p>meaningful and positive change to the communities they serve;</p> <p>(v) to note the judges said the Council had “an impressive story to tell in terms of its changing economic context and the bold steps it is taking to deliver an unprecedented transformation of the city through a pioneering capital programme and significant investments in the social and cultural future of its communities”;</p> <p>(vi) to note the judges described the Council as bold, brave, impressive and ambitious, commending them on the collaboration between officers and politicians who have worked together and created partnerships, focusing with a clarity of purpose for the sake of the city as a whole;</p> <p>(vii) to agree that this award is dedicated to all Council employees, citizens and businesses in Aberdeen as well as the Council’s public, private and voluntary sector partners including the trade unions;</p> <p>(viii) to agree that this award could not have been achieved without the endeavours of our hard working Council staff, both past and present, and the political foresight of the Administration who have adopted a programme of investing in the people and the place in order to secure Aberdeen’s long-term future prosperity;</p>		

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		<p>(ix) to agree that an email or letter, if no email is available, be sent from the Co-Leaders of the Council to every Council employee; recognised trade unions; the Council's public and private sector partners, thanking them for the part they have played in helping Aberdeen City Council secure the Local Authority of the Year 2020 award;</p> <p>(x) to congratulate Councillor Cormie on being shortlisted as Urban Community Champion at the (LGIU) Scotland Councillor Awards;</p> <p>(xi) to congratulate Councillor Laing, Co-Leader of the Council, on winning the prestigious Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) Scotland Leader of the Year 2020, following on from her success in winning the Herald Local Government politician of the year award in 2017;</p> <p>(xii) to agree that the Council continue to extensively promote itself and the city via the "This is Aberdeen" video on all social media and other outlets using existing budgets; and</p> <p>(xiii) to agree that the target reach of the promotional video be the subject of a report from the Chief Officer - City Growth at the next City Growth and Resources Committee.</p>	<p>City Growth Governance</p>	<p>Richard Sweetnam Mark Masson (business planner)</p>

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8.1	<u>Council Business Planner</u>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to agree that the Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2019/20 be delayed to the Council meeting on 3 March 2021; and</p> <p>(ii) to otherwise note the business planner.</p>	<p>Governance</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p>	<p>Martyn Orchard</p> <p>Susan Thoms</p>
9.1	<u>Council Annual Effectiveness Report and Committee Annual Effectiveness Reports - COM/20/235</u>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note Aberdeen City Council was the first in Scotland to be awarded the CIPFA Mark of Excellence in Governance, and the annual effectiveness report was again highlighted by CIPFA as one of the examples of good governance implemented by the Council;</p> <p>(ii) to note that the effectiveness report contributes to the Council's Annual Governance Statement which forms part of the Council's Annual Accounts which are presented to the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee;</p> <p>(iii) to note civic leadership and engagement is at the heart of the Target Operating Model approved by the Council in August 2017;</p> <p>(iv) to note that the values and principles of civic leadership and engagement are being driven through the Council's transformation programme;</p> <p>(v) to note that Full Council and the Urgent Business Committee has operated in a transparent manner, with no reports marked as exempt</p>	<p>Governance</p>	<p>Martyn Orchard</p>

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		<p>coming to Council and limited numbers of exempt appendices being brought before the Urgent Business Committee;</p> <p>(vi) to note that during the course of 2020/21, officers will progress the transformation programme to allow the Council to set a budget in a manner that strategically allocates resources against the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and associated strategies as envisaged by the Target Operating Model;</p> <p>(vii) to agree that the successes of the Council winning prestigious awards is down to good governance and that this Council Annual Effectiveness Report alongside the Committee Annual Effectiveness Reports are a testament to our hard working and caring workforce who always put the interests of Aberdeen citizens first;</p> <p>(viii) to note the annual effectiveness reports of the various Committees as contained at Appendices B to L; and</p> <p>(ix) with regard to the Licensing Committee Annual Effectiveness Report, to note that at the Urgent Business Committee on 20 March 2020, it was agreed that Councillor Boulton be appointed Convener of the Licensing Sub Committee on a temporary basis in place of Councillor Reynolds, and agree that Councillor Reynolds be re-appointed as</p>	Governance	Mark Masson

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		Convener of the Licensing Sub Committee with immediate effect.		
9.2	<u>Family Leave for Elected Members - Updated Guidance - COM/20/234</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> to agree to adopt COSLA's updated "Family Leave Guidance for Councils" as appended to the report.	Governance Finance	Mark Masson Amy Jones
9.3	<u>Standards Commission for Scotland - Written Decision - Councillor Boulton - COM/20/238</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> (i) to note the sanction imposed by the Standards Commission for Scotland; and (ii) to note that an appeal had been lodged in terms of section 22 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 200.	Governance	Fraser Bell
9.4	<u>Standards Commission for Scotland - Written Decision - Councillor Donnelly - COM/20/239</u>	<u>The Council resolved:</u> (i) to note the sanction imposed by the Standards Commission for Scotland; (ii) to note the decision of the Urgent Business Committee meeting of 19 December 2019 where the Council called on Councillor Donnelly to resign and reiterate that position today; and (iii) to note the consultation to the Councillors' Code of Conduct and instruct the Chief Officer - Governance to respond as follows:- a. The Code of Conduct should be explicit that any Councillor found guilty under the sexual offences (Scotland) Act 2009 should	Governance	Fraser Bell

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		<p>automatically be removed from office.</p> <p>b. In respect of sanctions, the Commission should have the power to form the view that in some cases where a breach is of a trivial nature, the Commission should have the power, where appropriate, to infer an absolute discharge.</p> <p>c. There should be a statutory duty imposed on the s75 officer to provide the Commissioner for Ethical Standards (ESC) with all relevant information regarding the circumstances of the alleged breach, regardless of being asked by the ESC or the Councillor involved.</p> <p>d. Agree nothing in respect of (i), (ii) and (iii) above should stop officers from responding to the consultation in the normal manner.</p>		
9.5	<p><u>Treasury Management Strategy - Year-End and Mid-Year Review - RES/20/209</u></p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note the Treasury Management activities undertaken in the 2019/20 financial year as detailed in the report; and</p> <p>(ii) to note the Treasury Management activities undertaken in the 2020/21 financial year to date, as detailed in the report.</p>	Finance	Neil Stewart

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9.6	<u>Armed Forces Covenant Gold Accreditation Award - COM/20/237</u>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note the successful Gold accreditation for the Council's Armed Forces Covenant through the Defence and Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS);</p> <p>(ii) to note the ongoing work to promote the Armed Forces Covenant; and</p> <p>(iii) to thank the members and officers on the Advisory Working Group for their excellent work and for the report.</p>	Early Intervention and Community Empowerment	Derek McGowan
10.1	<p><u>Councillor Boulton</u></p> <p>That Council -</p> <p>(i) notes with great Civic Pride that Aberdeen Art Gallery was a winner of Art Fund Museum of the Year 2020; and</p> <p>(ii) congratulates Christine Rew and the Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums team in winning this highly prestigious award. The redevelopment of Aberdeen Art Gallery has been a transformational project not just for the building, but also for the city. In November last year we experienced the powerful affection with which visitors reconnected with the building and their favourite artworks - transformed, but reassuringly familiar. To see the ambition and success we wanted to achieve at the art gallery</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>to approve the notice of motion.</p>	City Growth	Richard Sweetnam/ Christine Rew

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	<p>recognised by a panel of experts is the icing on the cake.</p> <p>(Please see the agenda for the full wording)</p>			
10.2	<p><u>Councillor Delaney</u></p> <p>Council acknowledges that people living alone have been disproportionately affected by covid restrictions which prevent them having visitors to their home other than for the limited number of permitted reasons. Council further appreciates that residents with certain disabilities or who are housebound are further impacted as they cannot meet friends and relatives outdoors. This can lead to additional social isolation which research shows can affect health and wellbeing. Accordingly, Council agrees to the following:-</p> <p>That people who live alone, are housebound or living with disabilities:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be kept safe from harm from coronavirus (covid-19) whilst accepting they have the same rights as everyone else and should not be disproportionately impacted upon by loneliness or isolation and the additional physical and mental health impact this brings. • Have their rights respected and 	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u> to approve the notice of motion.</p>	Chief Executive	Angela Scott/ Member of ECMT to be confirmed

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	<p>Government when introducing necessary restrictions, undertake equality impact assessments so as to avoid causing unintentional harm to vulnerable people whilst trying to keep them safe from covid-19</p> <p>and furthermore to write to the First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health & Wellbeing in the terms outlined above requesting they consult their leading medical and scientific advisors with a view to confirming that the guidance set out in '<i>You can go into another household to provide care and support for a vulnerable person</i>' permits visits to those affected by social isolation and loneliness due to impacting on physical and mental health or otherwise considers revising this guidance in such terms. The purpose of such guidance being to support those who are elderly, disabled or living alone and identified as being at increased risk of social isolation and loneliness, to receive visitors safely.</p>			
10.3	<p><u>Councillor Jackie Dunbar</u></p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>(1) acknowledge that while Byron Square car park is currently maintained out of the ACC Housing Revenue Account it is used by the public in the area;</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u> to refer the notice of motion to the City Growth and Resources Committee.</p>	Governance	Mark Masson

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	<p>(2) agree that it is an anomaly to have a car park that is freely accessible to the public but the upkeep and repairs costs come from the budget that is dedicated to the upkeep and maintenance of our housing stock; and</p> <p>(3) instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment, following consultation with the Chief Officer - Finance, to investigate which account the Byron Square car park should be held on, to take any necessary remedial action and to report back to the City Growth and Resources Committee on the action taken.</p>			
10.4	<p><u>Councillor Laing</u></p> <p>That Council:-</p> <p>(i) Notes that UNISON Scotland is running a campaign called Plug The Gap that is geared toward the gap in local government funding across Scotland in light of the austerity measure pre-pandemic and the additional financial burden on local authorities as a result of Covid-19.</p>	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note that UNISON Scotland is running a campaign called Plug The Gap that is geared toward the gap in local government funding across Scotland in light of the austerity measure pre-pandemic and the additional financial burden on local authorities as a result of Covid-19.</p> <p>The campaign focuses on four main themes:</p> <p>1. Securing the long-term financial</p>	Chief Executive	Angela Scott/ Member of ECMT to be confirmed

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	<p>The campaign focuses on four main themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Securing the long-term financial stability of local government: calling for urgent investment by Scottish Government in local government to protect jobs and pay for the future. 2. Rewarding local government workers: for the vital services that local government workers provide to our communities. 3. Shaping local government for the future: looking at how services and roles will change as a result of the pandemic 4. Consolidation of the Living Wage: Delivery of full consolidation of the living wage across Scotland. <p>(ii) Agrees to support the Unison campaign and therefore agrees that the Chief Executive write to the President of COSLA and the Minister for local government asking both to support the Unison campaign to ensure the four aims of UNISON Scotland campaign are supported in full.</p>	<p>stability of local government: calling for urgent investment by Scottish Government in local government to protect jobs and pay for the future</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Rewarding local government workers: for the vital services that local government workers provide to our communities 3. Shaping local government workers for the future: looking at how services and roles will change as a result of the pandemic 4. Consolidation of the Living Wage: delivery of full consolidation of the living wage across Scotland; <p>(ii) to agree to support the Unison campaign and therefore agree that the Chief Executive write to the President of COSLA and the Minister for local government asking both to support the Unison campaign to ensure the four aims of UNISON Scotland campaign are supported in full;</p> <p>(iii) to agree to adopt the motion unanimously agreed by COSLA on 11 December 2020 as noted below, and therefore instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Local Government Minister urging him to commit to ensuring that the £500 bonus payment to Health and Social Care staff is extended to all Covid-19 responders and key workers across local government; and agree that the</p>		

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		<p>Scottish Government should fully fund this one-off payment including any costs associated with the delivery of this payment; and</p> <p>(iv) to instruct the Chief Executive to report the response from the Minister at the next meeting of the City Growth and Resources Committee.</p> <p><u>COSLA</u> <u>Item 11 - £500 Bonus Payment to Health and Social Care Staff</u></p> <p>1) Agree that whilst the Scottish Government's announcement to pay £500 (full-time equivalent) to NHS and Social Care staff is welcomed and deserved, it has missed tens of thousands of Public Sector Workers in Local Government, who have been working throughout the pandemic and left wondering why their heroic efforts are not worth rewarding.</p> <p>2) Recognise that Local Government has been operating under extremely difficult circumstances - distributing food/medicine/essential items across Scotland, protecting/caring for our vulnerable and elderly, collecting waste, staffing temporary mortuaries, staffing the hubs of "keyworker" children, keeping schools and early years open, staffing the asymptomatic testing sites, Environmental Health &</p>	Governance	Mark Masson (business planner)

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		<p>Trading Standards Officers enforcing public health and wellbeing, Mental Health Workers with increased caseloads, Housing and Craft workers who have been working in tenants homes, the army of cleaning staff who have done a brilliant job in our care homes/essential buildings/ schools and those who have been issuing emergency support grants, noting that this is not an exhaustive list.</p> <p>3) Recognise the efforts made by many other key workers in the public, private and 3rd sectors in responding to the Covid 19 pandemic.</p> <p>4) Call on Scottish Government to ensure that it recognises the efforts across our “one workforce” in local government and lobby Scottish Government to ensure that this payment is extended to all Covid-19 responders and key workers across local government and that they are rewarded equally.</p> <p>5) Seek their public assurance that Scottish Government will fully fund the payment and costs associated with the delivery of this payment.</p>		

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10.5	<p><u>Councillor Lumsden</u></p> <p>That Council:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. notes that the “woodies” play area on Broomhill Road has a number of private garages in the middle of the space and that in the past they have been subject of anti-social behaviour; 2. notes the proximity of Broomhill Primary School; 3. notes the investment of £1.9m by Aberdeen City Council in new nursery facilities at Broomhill School; 4. agrees that having a safe outdoor facility could be utilised by the school and nursery and would be a benefit to our young people; and 5. instructs the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to investigate the feasibility, financial considerations and process for the council to achieve vacant possession of the site and if this can be achieved enhance the woodies area for wider community use and school use and report back to the budget setting process. 	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to note that The Woodies play area on Broomhill Road has a number of private garages in the middle of the space and that in the past they have been subject of anti-social behaviour; (ii) to note the proximity of Broomhill Primary School; (iii) to note previous long-standing and repeated requests for the garages at The Woodies to be removed; (iv) to agree that an improved outdoor space could be further utilised by the school and nursery and would be a benefit to our young people and the wider community; and (v) instruct the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to investigate the feasibility, financial considerations and process for the Council to achieve vacant possession of the garages site and if this can be achieved enhance The Woodies area for wider community and school use and report back on this to the budget setting process. Such costs to include the measures to limit dog fouling in the fenced play area and the expense of possible contaminated waste removal from the site and its disposal. 	Corporate Landlord	Stephen Booth

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10.6	<p><u>Councillor Lumsden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council agrees that the council delivery plan which forms part of our strategic planning approach has helped to lay the foundations to counter the centralising approach of the Scottish Government towards local government, which has resulted in Aberdeen being one of the lowest funded councils over the last decade; • Council is concerned that this ongoing situation is having a detrimental impact on its ability to provide important public services for our citizens both now and in the future; • In order to look at alternatives to ensure Aberdeen can reach its full potential, Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Scotland asking him if the UK government would consider dealing directly with COSLA and Aberdeen City Council in considering allocating grant funding, to ensure that Aberdeen City Council receives its fair share of funding; and • Council notes the Scottish Government’s document “Scottish Shared Prosperity Fund” and the UK Government’s decision, 	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to agree Devolution is the settled will of the Scottish People; (ii) to agree Devolution has been beneficial for Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom; (iii) to regret that local government continues to be at the forefront of SNP austerity; (iv) to agree that the Council Delivery Plan which forms part of our strategic planning approach has helped to lay the foundations to counter the centralising approach of the Scottish Government towards local government, which has resulted in Aberdeen being one of the lowest funded Councils over the last decade; (v) to agree Council is concerned that this ongoing situation is having a detrimental impact on its ability to provide important public services for our citizens both now and in the future; (vi) to agree that in order to look at alternatives to ensure Aberdeen can reach its full potential, to instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Scotland asking him if the UK Government would consider dealing directly with COSLA and Aberdeen City Council in considering allocating grant funding, to ensure that Aberdeen City Council receives its fair share of funding; and 	Chief Executive	Angela Scott/ Member of ECMT to be confirmed

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	announced in the Spending Review, to use its replacement for EU Structural Funds to work in partnership with local authorities and communities right across Scotland to ensure local accountability. Therefore instructs the Chief Executive to write to COSLA confirming that Aberdeen City Council supports the UK Government's localised approach which would allow Aberdeen City Council to spend our share of future UK Shared Prosperity Funding in line with the Council Delivery Plan which supports the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.	(vii) to note the Scottish Government's document "Scottish Shared Prosperity Fund" and the UK Government's decision, announced in the Spending Review, to use its replacement for EU Structural Funds to work in partnership with local authorities and communities right across Scotland to ensure local accountability. Therefore, to instruct the Chief Executive to write to COSLA confirming that Aberdeen City Council supports the UK Government's localised approach which would allow Aberdeen City Council to spend our share of future UK Shared Prosperity Funding in line with the Council Delivery Plan which supports the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.		
10.7	<p><u>Councillor Yuill</u></p> <p>That this Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes and regrets that slavery, human trafficking and other oppressive activities occur in the UK and around the world; 2. Notes that a number of locations and street names in Aberdeen have historical links to slavery and slavery products; 3. Notes that Sugar House Lane already has an information plaque explaining the origins of the street 	<p><u>The Council resolved:</u></p> <p>to refer the notice of motion to the City Growth and Resources Committee.</p>	Governance	Mark Masson

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	<p>name and its links to slavery products; and</p> <p>4. Instructs the Chief Officer - City Growth to report to the City Growth and Resources Committee on the practicalities and projected costs of identifying locations and street names in Aberdeen with links to slavery and slavery products and then erecting appropriate information plaques at each location.</p>			
11.1	<u>Exempt/confidential business</u>	No exempt/confidential business		

If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Martyn Orchard, tel. 01224 523097 or morchard@aberdeencity.gov.uk