## **GOVERNANCE**

## **COMMITTEE DECISION SHEET**

## CITY GROWTH AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST 2021

Please let the Committee Officer know as soon as possible if you do not agree with any action proposed in this decision sheet. These are decisions of the Committee 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 Committee Officer know as it may be necessary to advise the Committee or seek further instructions from the Committee.

	Item Title	Committee Decision	Services Required to take action	Officer to Action
1	Notification of Urgent Business	The Committee resolved: to note that an Urgent Notice of Motion by Councillor Boulton had been submitted and would be considered prior to the Exempt/Confidential items of Business on the agenda.		
2.1	Determination of Exempt Business	The Committee resolved: in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of items 13.1 (Aberdeen International Market – August 2021 Update Report), 13.2 (Berryden Corridor Improvement Business Case Update), 13.3 (Chapel Street Car Park - Lease Proposal), 13.4 (Placed Based Investment Programme - Exempt Appendix) and 13.5 Disposal of Eastside of Carnie - Lands of Skene House - Exempt Appendix).		
3.1	Declarations of Interest	The Committee resolved: the following declarations of interest were intimated:-		

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	<ul> <li>(1) Councillor Cooke declared an interest in item 7.1 (Notice of Motion by Councillor Hutchison – Beach Masterplan), 11.5 (City Centre Masterplan Review) and item 11.6 (Beachfront Projects Feasibility Report), by virtue of him being an Aberdeen City Council appointed Director of SportAberdeen. He considered that the nature of his interest did not require him to leave the meeting, therefore he remained in the meeting throughout these items;</li> <li>(2) Councillor Hutchison declared an interest in item 11.5 (City Centre Masterplan Review), by virtue of him being a resident of George Street, given there was references to the street in the documents. He considered that the nature of his interest did not require him to leave the meeting, therefore he remained in the meeting throughout this item whilst substituting for Councillor McLellan; and</li> <li>(3) Councillor Yuill declared an interest in item 11.5 (City Centre Masterplan Review), by virtue of him being an Aberdeen City Council appointed member of Robert Gordon's College Board of Governors. He considered that the nature of his interest did not require him to leave the meeting, therefore he remained in the meeting throughout this item.</li> </ul>		

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4.1	<u>Deputations</u>	The Committee resolved: there were no requests for deputation.		
5.1	Minute of Previous Meeting of 10 August 2021 - For Approval	The Committee resolved: to approve the minute as a correct record.		
6.1	Committee Planner	The Committee resolved:  (i) to reject the procedural motion submitted by Councillor Nicoll;  (ii) to remove item 62 (School Business Cases) from the planner for the reasons outlined therein;  (iii) that in relation to item 62 (School Business Cases - New Primary School at Countesswells), to instruct the Chief Officer – Capital to circulate a Service Update to members of the Committee and Ward Members following the closure of the procurement process or other suitable milestone;  (iv) to note the reason for the reporting delay in relation to item 4 (Freeport/Greenport update), item 6 (Queen Street Development) and item 10 (Wellington Road Multimodal Corridor Study STAG Part 2); and  (v) to otherwise note the content of the Committee Planner.		
7.1	Notice of Motion by Councillor Hutchison - Beach Masterplan  That the Council:-	The Committee resolved: to take no action.		

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(1) Notes the decision of the City Growth and Resources Committee on 11 May 2021 to formulate a Beach Masterplan and the scope of the area being considered (Area A in appendix 1 - map circulated within the agenda);			
(2) Instructs the Chief Officer - City Growth look at what medium and long-term strategic interventions could be made in the area that includes Queens Links Leisure Park (Area B), together with the area bounded by Wellington Street, York Place and Beach Esplanade (Areas C & D);			
(3) Instructs the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord, supported by the Chief Officer - City Growth, to progress discussions with the existing owners/occupiers of the properties at Queens Links Leisure Park as to opportunities to improve accessibility to beach front access from existing and future properties; and			
(4) Instructs the Chief Officer - City Growth to consider funding options that may qualify to support strategic interventions that could supplement a Beach Masterplan and to bring back a report on this, incorporating the findings of (2) & (3) above, to the City, Growth and Resources Committee in due			

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	course.			
7	Urgent Notice of Motion by Councillor Boulton - Provost Skene's House Restoration Works	The Committee resolved:  (i) to agree to highly commend the work carried out by the Council's in house, building services team and other professional specialists in the restoration and transformation of Provost Skene's House;  (ii) to agree the standards, professionalism and pride that has been demonstrated throughout the entirety of the project in extremely difficult circumstances has been exceptional;  (iii) to agree the public comments by Councillor Hutchison attacking the work of council employees is unfounded and he should apologise to the Council and its workforce;  (iv) to note the trade union Unite has written to the Chief Executive and the Council Leader following comments made by Councillor Michael Hutchison regarding Provost Skene's House workmanship;  (v) to note the Trade Unions are requesting a public apology from Councillor Hutchison; and  (vi) to agree that Councillor Hutchison be referred to the Ethical Standards Commissioner and instruct the Chief Executive to make the referral, with reference to section 3.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.		

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8.1	Referrals from Council, Committees or Sub Committees	The Committee resolved: there were no referrals from Council, Committees or Sub Committees.		
9.1	Aberdeen City's Affordable Housing Delivery Programme - COM/21/169	The Committee resolved:  (i) to approve the allocation of the Section 75 and Council Tax monies detailed at section 3.4 of the report for the future delivery of affordable housing; and  (ii) that the Chief Officer – Strategic Place Planning circulate further details relating to the developments and numbers of the proposed units in relation to the affordable housing supply grant for 2020/21 to the members of the Committee by way of email.		
9.2	Place Based Investment Programme - COM/21/176  Please note that an exempt appendix is contained within the Exempt/Confidential Business section of this agenda.	The Committee resolved:  (i) to agree to allocate up to £430,000 to the Union Terrace Gardens Play Park Proposal and delegates authority to the Chief Officer - Capital, following consultation with the Head of Commercial and Procurement Services, to consider and approve a procurement business case for the project for the purposes of Procurement Regulation 4.1.1.2; and thereafter to procure appropriate works and services, and enter into any contracts necessary for the project; and  (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer – City		

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		Growth to bring a report to the next Committee with details of other projects that could draw down the remaining Place Based Investment Programme funding.		
10.1	Performance Management Framework Report – City Growth and Resources Functions - CUS/21/172	The Committee resolved: to note the performance information contained in the report Appendix.		
10.2	Commemorative and Court Plaques Policy - COM/21/173	The Committee resolved:  (i) to agree to the implementation of the Plaques Policy with effect from the date of the Committee meeting (25 August 2021), subject to amending the Policy by replacing the word 'must' with 'should normally' in the qualifying criteria for people plaques (in section 5.1), and also making any necessary consequential amendments to the Policy and supporting documentation; and  (ii) to agree to the proposed colour change for the People Plaques to blue and white.		
11.1	External Transportation Links to Aberdeen South Harbour - Updated Strategic Business Case - COM/21/174	The Committee resolved:  (i) to note and approve the Updated Strategic Business Case (USBC) for the External Transportation Links to the Aberdeen South Harbour project, as per Appendix 1;  (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer – City Growth in his remit as Chair of the Programming Board to submit the		

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		USBC to the UK and Scottish Governments to draw down £1.2m from the £25m allocated to this project from the Aberdeen City Region Deal; (iii) to approve the £1.2m for project manager resource and the costs outlined to complete the design work; (iv) that subject to approval by the UK and Scottish Governments, instruct the Chief Officer - Capital to progress the next stages of project delivery, including but not limited to, surveys and investigations, design development, obtaining all necessary approvals, permissions, licences, agreements and consents required to develop the design and an Outline Business Case for the project and to report back to this Committee and the City Region Deal Joint Committee upon completion in 2024, and to provide an update if not completed by that time; and (v) to instruct the Chief Officer – Capital to investigate all possible measures to expedite the delivery of the harbour link road and update members of the Committee accordingly.		
11.2	Bus Partnership Fund Bid - COM/21/178	The Committee resolved:  (i) to note that £12,030,000 has been granted by Transport Scotland to Aberdeen City Council to work with partners in the North East Bus Alliance to develop and deliver the bus priority interventions through a		

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		series of workstreams and deliverables, as described in paragraph 3.2;  (ii) to acknowledge that this funding will support public transport in line with the Council's ambitious Net Zero Carbon plans for Aberdeen;  (iii) to note the current governance arrangements in place across the North East Bus Alliance, as outlined in paragraphs 3.8 and 3.9, and the comfort this will provide to the Council in the delivery of the approved programme;  (iv) to instruct the Chief Officer – Strategic Place Planning and Chief Officer – Capital to continue to work with partners to deliver the projects in accordance with the grant conditions; and  (v) to instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to submit a report to the November 2021 meeting of the Committee on the progress of the delivery of this grant.		
11.3	Denis Law Projects Update - COM/21/175	The Committee resolved:  (i) to note the creativity and work that has gone into developing the Printfield 10 project proposals to date;  (ii) to note the significant costs in delivering and maintaining the proposed murals as well as the Council staff resources which would be required to complete the project;  (iii) to agree that the murals are not a		

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		feasible part of the Printfield 10 project at this time due to the costs and challenges associated with them;  (iv) to agree to allocate up to £20,000 from the Common Good to support the walking trail;  (v) to delegate authority to the Chief Officer – City Growth to enter into appropriate agreements and arrangements as necessary to facilitate the delivery of the walking trail; and  (vi) to delegate authority to Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord in consultation with the Convener of City Growth and Resources Committee and Convener of Capital Programme Committee to determine the location and installation of the Denis Law statue.		
11.4	Capacity Exemption Applications - Tour of Britain and Other Future Events - COM/21/188	The Committee resolved:  (i) to note that the Council anticipates receiving a capacity exemption application from Sweetspot Ltd to increase capacity for the 2021 Tour of Britain finish and that future capacity exemption applications for other events may be received by the Council as Covid-19 restrictions are eased;  (ii) to delegate authority to the Chief Officer - City Growth to determine all such applications following consultation with the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services,		

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		the Chief Officer - Governance, the Director of Public Health and Aberdeen's Safety Advisory Group, in terms of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2021; and (iii) to instruct the Chief Officer - City Growth to keep under review any approvals of such applications and delegates authority to the Chief Officer - City Growth, following consultation with the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services, the Chief Officer - Governance and the Convener of the City Growth and Resources Committee, to revoke such approvals and add, vary or remove conditions as appropriate, in terms of the said Regulations.		
11.5	City Centre Masterplan Review - RES/21/179	The Committee resolved:  (i) to note that the review of the City Centre Masterplan 2015 is not an exercise to replace or supersede the CCMP, but rather look at a number of priority intervention areas, within scope;  (ii) to approve the City Centre Masterplan 2015 Review and project recommendations as detailed in Appendix A Section 3 and acknowledge the projects that have been completed since the approval of the CCMP in 2015, that a number of others are well underway, and that others are not within the control of		

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	Aberdeen City Council at this time and require partnership working with other stakeholders;  (iii) to note the high level of response to the recent public engagement exercise on the future of the City Centre, the priority projects which scored the highest as part of this exercise, and the responses received on what it would take to attract people back into the City Centre in the short-term (Appendix A Section 2) and instruct the Director of Resources to publish the results online;  (iv) to note the indicative visioning exercise for current City Centre interventions areas on Union Street, the West End, Castlegate, and Schoolhill/Upperkirkgate and instruct the Director of Resources to develop these indicative works to detailed design stage including costing, delivery timelines and consultation with key stakeholders, residents and traders in the area for:  (1) Redesign of Union Street Central streetscape, complete with consideration of the associated changes to the surrounding transport network to facilitate the project as envisaged in Appendix A section12;  (2) Union Street West and West End as envisaged in Appendix A section 12;		

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	(3) Union Street East and Castlegate (linked to accessibility studies and design work for the Beach Masterplan) as envisaged in Appendix A section 12; (4) Schoolhill and Upperkirkgate as envisaged in Appendix A section 12; and (5) Undertake key stakeholder engagement to inform the design for each of the above projects, and report progress to the City Growth and Resources Committee on 3 November 2021; (v) to agree that George Street be subject to its own public engagement exercise, and instruct the Director of Commissioning to report back progress to the City Growth and Resources Committee in November 2021; (vi) Agrees that in light of the instruction to proceed with detailed design for the redesign of Union Street Central streetscape, to support businesses as we emerge out of the pandemic and noting correspondence from the Scottish Government (dated 15 July 2021) in respect of continuation of special measures to enable the erection of temporary buildings by the hospitality sector, and that guidance on such has been extended to 31 March 2022, instruct the Chief Officers of Capital and Operations and		

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	Protective Services to:  (1) Maintain current arrangements for the approval of temporary outdoor trading proposals until 23:59 on 24 January 2022;  (2) Reopen Bon Accord Street after the current extension of outdoor seating lapses at the end of January 2022, subject to ongoing considerations regarding the programme of works surrounding South College Street which require earlier reopening;  (3) Schedule the removal of Spaces for People Interventions from West End (Thistle Street, Chapel Street, Rose Street) following removal works of previous scheduled Spaces for People intervention removals;  (4) Union Street and Belmont Zone Spaces for People interventions to remain until a permanent design and transport mitigation is agreed at the meeting of this committee in November;  (5) The use of green spaces, carparks, parks, roads, etc. by private businesses for outdoor trading to cease from 23:59 on 24 January 2022 or to be regularised through the appropriate processes; and  (6) Instruct the Chief Officers of Operations and Protective		

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	Services, Governance, Corporate Landlord and Strategic Place Planning to explore options to align the consenting process for businesses who may wish to make permanent any existing outdoor trading, including any necessary management, leasing arrangements and upkeep of public spaces, and report back to this committee in November 2021;  (vii) to agree that the public transport network is the key to maximising mass sustainable movement of people to and from the City Centre, and that changes to Union Street (and any others) which (pre-COVID 19) supported bus services, will require mitigation to protect and enhance the bus experience as part of the COVID recovery plan as well as the City Centre Masterplan review, and that this accords with the recent Bus Partnership Fund bid (subject to a separate report to this Committee); to instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to develop a Traffic Management Plan to support the City Centre Masterplan Review in consultation with the bus operators and in collaboration with the Chief Officers of Operations and Capital and report this back to the City Growth and		

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	Resources Committee in November 2021;  (ix) in response to issues raised by the public consultation simulator, instruct the Director of Resources to:-  (1) Undertake a visual building condition survey and recommend improvement measures, including costs, constraints, methodologies and an implement programme for all properties on Union Street reporting back to City Growth and Resources Committee in November on the progress;  (2) Develop detailed design proposals to create a permanent café culture in the Belmont Street and Back Wynd area in consultation with key stakeholders, residents and traders in the area reporting back to City Growth and Resources Committee in November on the progress;  (3) Investigate the possibility of Council-owned land allowing permanent outdoor areas to promote café culture reporting back to City Growth and Resources Committee in November on the progress; and Investigate installing outdoor seating outside Aberdeen Art Gallery as a first phase delivery	(ix) in r put the (1) (2)		

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		of café culture; and (x) to approve the changes to Appendix A as follows:- (a) EC09 Mither Kirk (to a short/medium time frame); (b) the addition of a definition for short/medium/long terms; (c) ensuring wheelchair access throughout the city centre; (d) the addition of Granite Noir; and (e) improving connectivity between Schoolhill and the Denburn.		
11.6	Beachfront Projects Feasibility Report - RES/21/200	The Committee resolved:  (i) to instruct the Director of Resources to move to Full Business Case and options appraisal for the Beach Ballroom including a major refurbishment and report back on progress to the City Growth and Resources Committee on the 3 November 2021;  (ii) to instruct the Director of Resources to progress detailed design for the Queens Links to incorporate landscaping, public realm, playpark and integrated water features;  (iii) to instruct the Director of Resources to develop Full Business Cases and options appraisal for Sports/Leisure Facilities on the Kings Links which would include full redevelopment of new facilities as well as a major refurbishment of existing facilities and report back on progress to the City Growth and Resources Committee on the 3 November 2021;  (iv) to instruct the Director of Resources to		

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Item Title	develop Full Business Cases and options appraisal for Broadhill and report back on progress to the City Growth and Resources Committee on 3 November 2021;  (v) to instruct the Director of Resources to initiate a formal pre-application consultation for the Beachfront activities (Beach Ballroom, Sports/Leisure facilities, public realm/beach landscaping) and/or subsequent planning applications thereafter;  (vi) to instruct the Director of Resources to Develop and implement measures along the promenade and surrounding areas as per paragraph 3.8.7 of the report;  (vii) Instruct the Director of Resources to move to a Full Business Case and options appraisal for the Beach Boulevard with connectivity to the City Centre through the Castlegate thereby anchoring a closer link between the city centre and the beach and report back on progress to the City Growth and Resources Committee on 3 November 2021;  (viii) to instruct the Director of Resources to	-	Officer to Action
	prepare an options appraisal for the provision of an Energy Centre as described within section 3.21 of the report and report back on progress to the City Growth and Resources Committee on 3 November 2021;		

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		<ul> <li>(ix) that in relation to (vii) above, that a turning point for buses at the Castlegate be included as an option; and</li> <li>(x) to otherwise commend all officers for the work undertaken.</li> </ul>		
12.1	Disposal of Eastside of Carnie - Lands of Skene House - RES/21/170  Please note that there is an exempt appendix contained within the Exempt/Confidential Business section of this agenda below.	The Committee resolved:  (i) to accept the recommendation to dispose of this property to the preferred bidder; and  (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Governance to conclude missives for the sale of the property incorporating various qualifications as are necessary to protect the Council's interest, together with any other matters as are required to complete the sale.		
13.1	Aberdeen International Market – August 2021 Update Report - RES/21/193	(i) to note the progress that has been made in the purchase of the site including all copyrights, reports, development proposals, submitted funding applications and then entering into a demolition contract for the site; (ii) to note the progress in developing the scheme to Concept Design and instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to submit a planning application for the proposal at the earliest opportunity; (iii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to take forward a marketing exercise to identify an		

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	operator for the completed facility and thereafter select a preferred bidder, following consultation with the Convener of City Growth and Resources Committee, to ensure operator input is available at the earliest opportunity;  (iv) to progress with the Full Business case for the project bringing this back to this Committee on 3 November 2021;  (v) to instruct the Chief Officer — Corporate Landlord to progress with the purchase of other available property within the 'block' on terms identified within this report;  (vi) to instruct the Chief Officers — Corporate Landlord to extend the scope of the project to include options to undertake environmental projects to 'the tunnels' area;  (vii) to instruct the Chief Officer — Corporate Landlord to consider option to develop and deliver options for vacant upper floors in the wider block to be brought back into economic use, bring a report back to committee on 3 February 2022;  (viii) to instruct the Chief Officer — Corporate Landlord to consider a business case to bring other vacant properties within this key area of Union Street back into economic use reporting back on 3 November 2021; and		

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	(ix) to instruct the Communications and Marketing Manager to issue a media statement outlining the progress of the new International Market project and issue further statements as other properties in the report are acquired.		
Business Case Update - RES/21/184	<ul> <li>(i) to note the contents of the updated business case for the Project;</li> <li>(ii) to agree the recommendations within the revised business case for the Project appended to this report;</li> <li>(iii) to note the strategic benefits derived from the delivery of the project to facilitate and support the aspiration of other city centre proposals associated with the Public Realm;</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>(iv) to note the congestion relief, shortened journey times and improve journey time reliability along the road corridor and surrounding road network, thus providing much improved access to the city centre and relief on less appropriate routes through adjacent neighbourhoods, supporting its role as a Radial Route within the new Roads Hierarchy;</li> <li>(v) to note the anticipated Benefit to Cost</li> </ul>		
	Ratio for the Project is in excess of 2 representing a high value for money return on investment;  (vi) to note that projects under the Bus Partnership Fund programme will be able to take advantage of the benefits and improved network performance		

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		delivered by the Project when advancing their proposals;  (vii) to note the Scottish Minister's decision to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order and that the General Vesting Declaration will be made during Winter 2021/22, securing the land necessary for the Project and allowing those who's land is affected to claim compensation;  (viii) to delegate authority to the Chief Officer - Capital, following consultation with the Chief Officer - Finance, to vire surplus funds between transportation project budgets in the General Fund Capital Programme to optimise usage of currently budgeted funds; and  (ix) that following any action taken under (viii), refers the additional funding requirement to this year's budget process.		
13.3	Chapel Street Car Park - Lease Proposal - RES/21/185	The Committee resolved:  (i) to note the discussions that have taken place since 11 May 2021; and  (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer — Corporate Landlord to agree the full details of the proposal and instruct the Chief Officer - Governance to conclude the lease of the site on the terms noted within the report.		
13.4	Placed Based Investment Programme - Exempt Appendix	The Committee resolved: to note the information contained within the exempt appendix.		

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13.5	<u>Disposal of Eastside of Carnie - Lands</u> <u>of Skene House - Exempt Appendix</u>	The Committee resolved: to note the information contained within the exempt appendix.		

If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Mark Masson, email mmasson@aberdeencity.gov.uk, or telephone 01224 522989