

**DECISION SHEET**

**COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>Item Title</b>	<b>Council Decision</b>	<b>Services Required to take action</b>	<b>Officer to Action</b>
1.1	<b><u>Admission of Burgesses</u></b>	Not applicable		
2.1	<b><u>Notification of urgent business</u></b>	No urgent business		
3.1	<b><u>Determination of exempt business</u></b>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> 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 11.1 and 11.2 so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in paragraph 8 of Schedule 7A of the Act.		
4.1	<b><u>Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statements</u></b>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to note the declarations of interest and transparency statements which will be recorded in the minute.		
5.1	<b><u>Deputation Requests</u></b>  1) Karen Barrett-Ayres for item 9.1 in relation to libraries 2) Laurie Mackay for item 9.1 in relation to libraries 3) Alasdair Ross (ACVO) for item 9.2	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to note the deputations and thank them for their contributions.		

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	- to ask members to consider the results of the Third Sector's recent discussion on the Council's budget consultation and to accept the conclusions of our report (copy attached)			
6.1	<b><u>Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 11 October 2023</u></b>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to approve the minute.		
6.2	<b><u>Minute of Adjourned Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 3 November 2023</u></b>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to approve the minute.		
6.3	<b><u>Minute of Meeting of Urgent Business Committee of 30 October 2023</u></b>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to approve the minute.		
7.1	<b><u>Outline Business Case: New Secondary School Provision for Hazlehead and Countesswells - RES/23/366 - Finance and Resources Committee of 22 November 2023</u></b>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> (i) to approve in principle the recommended option within the OBC to construct a new 1,600 pupil campus on the current Hazlehead Academy playing fields to provide secondary school provision for Hazlehead and Countesswells ASGs, subject to the outcome of a statutory consultation; (ii) instruct the Chief Officer - Capital to refer the proposals for the project to the Budget process in 2024/25; and (iii) subject to the outcomes of the	Corporate Landlord  Capital	Maria Thies  John Wilson

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		statutory consultation and any decision taken at the budget meeting of March 2024, to approve in principle the use of resources for the implementation of the project from 2024.		
7.2	<b><u>St Peter's RC School - Long Term Education Provision - RES/23/365 - Finance and Resources Committee of 22 November 2023</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note and approve the recommended option to refurbish Old Aberdeen House with the addition of new build provision to deliver a 21st century learning environment for St Peter's RC school;</p> <p>(ii) to approve the use of resources for the implementation of the proposed improvement works to Old Aberdeen House with new build provision;</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Capital to refer the proposals for the project to the Budget process in 2024; and</p> <p>(iv) instruct the Chief Officer - Capital to report back to a future meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee in 2024 with a progress update report.</p>	<p>Corporate Landlord</p> <p>Capital</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>Maria Thies</p> <p>John Wilson</p> <p>Mark Masson (business planner)</p>
8.1	<b><u>Council Business Planner</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>to note the business planner.</p>		
9.1	<p><b><u>Libraries and Bucksburn Swimming Pool Consultation Results - CUS/23/386</u></b></p> <p><b>Pages 91 and 94 of the original agenda</b></p>	Meeting adjourned - item to be considered on 14 December.		



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9.6	<b><u>Council Annual Effectiveness Report and Committee Annual Effectiveness Reports - COM/23/380</u></b>	Meeting adjourned - item to be considered on 14 December.		
9.7	<b><u>Governance Review of Trusts - 2023 Update - COM/23/383</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note the activity, as detailed in the report, undertaken in relation to trusts to which the Council is connected;</p> <p>(ii) to approve the appointment of Councillor David Cameron, Councillor Alison Alphonse and the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord as directors of Glover House Trustees Ltd and instruct the Chief Officer - Governance to take any necessary action to give effect to this decision; and</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Governance to, as appropriate, bring a report to Council and/or provide a service update to elected members no later than December 2024 on future activity in relation to trusts to which the Council is connected.</p>	Governance	Jenni Lawson/ Steven Inglis
9.8	<b><u>Treasury Management Strategy - Mid-Year Review - RES/23/381</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>to note the Treasury Management activities undertaken to date in the 2023/24 financial year as detailed in the report.</p>	Finance	Neil Stewart
9.9	<b><u>Petition - United Nations Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons / Nuclear Free Local Authorities</u></b>	Item withdrawn from the agenda at the request of the petitioner - to be considered at the Council meeting of 7 February 2024.		

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	<p>“We the undersigned call upon Aberdeen City Council to support efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons by endorsing the United Nations treaty To Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). We request that the Council join ‘Nuclear Free Local Authorities’ whose aim is to tackle in practical ways and within their powers the problems caused by civil and military nuclear hazards.”</p>			
10.1	<p><b><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Kusznr</u></b></p> <p>That the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Instructs the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord, following consultation with the Chief Officer - People and Organisational Development, to develop a separate or single-sex space policy for Aberdeen City Council that ensures the protection of separate or single sex spaces in Council owned and operated buildings;</li> <li>2. Further instructs the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to submit said policy to a 2024 Council meeting for consideration and approval; and</li> <li>3. Believes that consideration should be given to applying the policy to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 toilets;</li> <li>3.2 domestic violence refuges;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>to refer the notice of motion to the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee.</p>	Governance	Lynsey McBain

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	and 3.3 changing rooms.			
10.2	<p><b><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Thomson</u></b></p> <p>Council notes that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The pressure on organisations to pay the right amount of tax in the right place at the right time has never been stronger.</li> <li>2. Polling from the Institute for Business Ethics finds that “corporate tax avoidance” has, since 2013, been the clear number one concern of the British public when it comes to business conduct.</li> <li>3. More than two-thirds (68%) of the Scottish public agree that the Government and local councils should consider a company’s ethics and how they pay their tax as well as value for money and quality of service provided, when undertaking procurement.</li> <li>4. Around 15% of public contracts in Scotland have been won by companies with links to tax havens.</li> <li>5. It has been conservatively estimated that losses from multinational profit-shifting (just one form of tax avoidance) could be costing the UK some £17bn per annum in lost corporation tax revenues.</li> <li>6. The Fair Tax Mark offers a means for business to demonstrate good tax conduct, and has been secured by wide range of businesses across the UK, including FTSE-listed PLCs, co-operatives, social enterprises and large private businesses.</li> </ol> <p>Council believes that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Paying tax is often presented as a burden, but it shouldn’t be.</li> <li>2. Tax enables us to provide services from education, health and social care, to flood</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to refer the notice of motion to the Finance and Resources Committee.</p>	Governance	Mark Masson

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	<p>defence, roads, policing and defence. It also helps to counter financial inequalities and rebalance distorted economies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. As recipients of significant public funding, local authorities should take the lead in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct; be that by ensuring contractors are paying their proper share of tax, or by refusing to go along with offshore tax dodging when buying land and property.</li> <li>4. Where substantive stakes are held in private enterprises, then influence should be wielded to ensure that such businesses are exemplars of tax transparency and tax avoidance is shunned - e.g., no use of marketed schemes requiring disclosure under DOTAS regulations (Disclosure Of Tax Avoidance Schemes) or arrangements that might fall foul of the General Anti-Abuse Rule.</li> <li>5. More action is needed, however, as current law significantly restricts councils' ability to either penalise poor tax conduct or reward good tax conduct, when buying goods or services.</li> <li>6. UK cities, counties and towns can and should stand up for responsible tax conduct - doing what they can within existing frameworks and pledging to do more given the opportunity, as active supporters of international tax justice.</li> </ol> <p>Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration.</li> <li>2. Lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct, right across our activities.</li> <li>3. Ensure contractors implement IR35 robustly and pay a fair share of employment taxes.</li> <li>4. Not use offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty.</li> <li>5. Undertake due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately as an artificial device to reduce</li> </ol>			



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	<p>the payment of tax and business rates.</p> <p>6. Demand clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers and their consolidated profit &amp; loss position.</p> <p>7. Promote Fair Tax Mark certification to any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due.</p> <p>8. Support Fair Tax Week events in the area, and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who say what they pay with pride.</p> <p>9. Support calls for urgent reform of EU, UK and Scots law to enable local authorities to better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct through their procurement policies.</p>			
10.3	<p><b><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Watson</u></b></p> <p>This Council is proud of its first mission of serving local people, but also of its international solidarity in holding out a helping hand to those in need elsewhere, and hosting many refugees.</p> <p>The conflict in Palestine / Israel has caused huge suffering over the last 75 years. However, the horrific acts of terror by Hamas on 7<sup>th</sup> October, and the recent escalation of violence in Gaza has overshadowed the recent past in the deaths of civilians, destruction of schools, hospitals and essential infrastructure, and the blockade of water, food, and fuel.</p> <p>Locally, some citizens of Aberdeen have seen dozens of family members killed in Gaza, and there is a rising danger of Islamophobia and antisemitism.</p>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to approve the notice of motion.</p>		

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	<p>Aberdeen City Council recognises the need for justice to underly a sustainable peace, and the internationally accepted need for a 2-state solution to be implemented. All human lives should be valued equally, and human rights respected for all.</p> <p>We call for an immediate ceasefire of all hostilities in Palestine / Israel, the immediate release of hostages, and for international support for huge and urgent UN-led humanitarian relief for citizens of Gaza.</p>			
11.1	<b><u>Outline Business Case: New Secondary School Provision for Hazlehead and Countesswells - RES/23/366 - exempt appendices</u></b>	See decision at item 7.1		
11.2	<b><u>St Peter's RC School - Long Term Education Provision - RES/23/365 - exempt appendices</u></b>	See decision at item 7.2		

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