

## DECISION SHEET

**COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 20 AUGUST 2025**

	Item Title	Council Decision	Services Required to take action	Officer to Action
1.1	<u>Admission of Burgesses</u>	None		
2.1	<u>Notification of urgent business</u>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b>  to note that the Lord Provost had accepted the urgent notice of motion by Councillor Houghton onto the agenda as a matter of urgency in terms of Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as this was the first Council meeting since the passing of John Alexander Cruickshank VC and it was important it was recognised.</p>		
3.1	<u>Determination of exempt business</u>	No exempt business		
4.1	<u>Declarations of interest and transparency statements</u>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b>  to note the transparency statements which will be recorded in the minute.</p>		
5.1	<u>Deputation requests</u>	None		

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6.1	<u>Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 2 July 2025</u>	<b>The Council resolved:-</b> to approve the minute.		
6.2	<u>Minute of Meeting of Urgent Business Committee of 26 June 2025</u>	<b>The Council resolved:-</b> to approve the minute.		
7.1	<u>Referrals from Committees</u>	None		
8.1	<u>Council Business Planner</u>	<b>The Council resolved:-</b> (i) to remove item 15 (Revised Council Climate Change Plan) as it was on the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee business planner; (ii) to request officers to provide more regular briefings on progress with the City Centre Masterplan; and (iii) to otherwise note the business planner.	Governance        Corporate Services	Martyn Orchard        Sandy Beattie
9.1	<u>Performance Management Framework Refresh 2025/26 - CORS/25/189</u>	<b>The Council resolved:-</b> (i) to approve the revised Performance Management Framework for 2025-26 as detailed in Appendix A to the report; and (ii) to request the Chief Officer - Digital and Technology to provide a service update on the Council's approach to Artificial Intelligence to provide assurance with regard to the use of data and ethics.	Data Insights        Digital and Technology	Martin Murchie/ Alex Paterson        Steve Roud

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9.2	<b><u>Council Diary 2026 - CORS/25/190</u></b>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> (i) to approve the Council diary for 2026 appended to the report; and (ii) to schedule an additional Council meeting for 3 December 2025 at 10.30am, for the primary purpose of considering the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget, as per the budget protocol.	Governance	Martyn Orchard/ Committee Services/ Sandy Munro
10.1	<b><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Nicoll</u></b>  That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notes with concern the Energy from Waste facility (NESS) operated on behalf of Aberdeen City Council in partnership with Aberdeenshire Council and Moray Council has recently had to shut down out with the planned maintenance programme.</li> <li>Notes that this shut down, while an operational matter, was not reported to elected members and that the situation came into the public domain via social media.</li> <li>Notes that the Aberdeen City Council, 2024/25 Annual Audit Report prepared by Audit Scotland and passed by an Urgent Business Committee on 26 June 2025 with less than 2.5 hours notice, of the circa 266 pages in the business papers, made a clear</li> </ol>	<b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> (i) to note deliveries of waste to the North East Scotland Shared (NESS) Energy from Waste Project (EfW) recommenced on 19 August 2025 with all costs to be recovered through the contractual arrangements with the operator; (ii) to note the Finance and Resources (special) Committee on 31 July 2025 resolved to:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>note the North East Scotland Shared (NESS) Energy from Waste Project (EfW) is a shared service between Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Moray Council to treat the residual waste from the three Councils;</li> <li>note that EFW Ness Ltd (Acciona) is the contractor responsible for delivering that service for the three authorities and it has sub-contracted the operation of the facility to</li> </ol>	Operations	Mark Reilly/ Pam Walker

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	<p>recommendation in the section Best Value at Recommendation 4,  <i>"It would be more transparent if criteria were developed to provide a framework for officers in considering the circumstances when consultation and/or a report to elected members would be appropriate in respect of delegated matters deemed to be politically sensitive."</i></p> <p>4. Considers that issues affecting the operation and maintenance of the Energy from Waste facility are matters of considerable public interest and to the elected members of Aberdeen City Council and agrees all material or major issues affecting the operation and maintenance of the plant should be shared with elected members timeously, subject to the Council's contractual confidentiality obligations.</p> <p>5. Instructs the Chief Officer - Operations to bring a report, to be shared with all elected members, to the 18 November 2025 meeting of the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee detailing all occasions when the unscheduled shut downs of the facility have taken place and the amount of Aberdeen City Council's waste</p>	<p>Indaver, and that EFW Ness Ltd recently notified Indaver of their intention to terminate the operating sub-contract;</p> <p>3. note the ongoing contractual negotiations between Council officers and Acciona to ensure the Energy from Waste facility is fully operational as soon as possible;</p> <p>4. note that any changes in the delivery of waste management will be reported to the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee, through the performance report; and</p> <p>5. instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to provide an update to the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee when the Energy from Waste facility is operational, outlining any potential environmental impact and any contractual implications for the Council; and</p> <p>(iii) to note the Chief Officer - Operations would provide an update to all members to confirm (1) when the EfW facility would be able to utilise the waste, which was now being accepted, to provide energy to the relevant homes; (2) how many times the EfW facility had not been operational since 13 June 2025 and for how long, which would include</p>		

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	<p>which has been diverted to alternative disposal facilities. Further to provide an estimate of the carbon footprint such shut downs incur with details of the additional road miles incurred to dispose of all such waste in landfill or alternative disposal facilities.</p> <p>6. Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to also advise of the risk to Aberdeen City Council should this facility become non operational for any reason, together with any lessons learned to mitigate any future disruption and report the outcome to the 27 November 2025 meeting of the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>7. Instruct the Chief Officer, - Operations to report to the 18 November 2025 meeting of the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee, the details of the loss of any revenue attributable to the shut down as well as any additional costs incurred by Aberdeen City Council in providing replacement energy normally supplied by the plant.</p>	<p>scheduled maintenance periods as well as down time for any other reason; and (3) the position regarding odour control, the involvement of SEPA and any updates as necessary.</p>		

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10.2	<p><b><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Kusznir</u></b></p> <p>That the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notes the continued persistent pavement weed growth across Torry/Ferryhill, as per Appendix A below, despite the biannual weed spraying carried out by Council contractors.</li> <li>2. Believes that this persistent weed growth is unsightly and does not represent best value for Aberdeen taxpayers.</li> <li>3. Acknowledges that the Council's contractor currently sprays a solution of acetic acid (i.e. vinegar) and alcohol in May and September each year, which is wilting the weeds and some die but sees perennial and persistent weeds regrowing.</li> <li>4. Believes that the current contract does not reflect best value, as the existing treatment appears ineffective - evidenced by the presence of knee-height weeds and persistent weed growth throughout Torry/Ferryhill.</li> <li>5. Instructs the Chief Officer - Operations to work with the current contractor to explore options within the scope of the contract for more effective weed control that will significantly reduce weed growth.</li> <li>6. Further instructs that, should it not</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>to refer the notice of motion to the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee.</p>	Governance	Steph Dunsmuir

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	<p>prove possible to implement a more effective treatment under this contract, the contract be allowed to expire at its natural end date and the Chief Officer - Operations procure a new contract which can deliver a solution that is more effective and provide best value for the good people of Aberdeen.</p> <p>7. Agrees that any additional costs associated with a revised weed control approach be met from the Common Good.</p> <p>[Appendix A at page 75 of the agenda]</p>			
10.3	<p><b><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Nicoll</u></b></p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notes that Burnbutts Crescent, Cove, Aberdeen, is a cul-de-sac providing access to over 36 dwellings and around a dozen lock up style garages. The road is adopted and maintained by Aberdeen City Council.</li> <li>2. Notes that in 2024, severe flooding in the street resulted in damage to the road surface that necessitated an area being completely resurfaced. The cause of the flooding was reported as contributed to by a blocked culvert under the main Aberdeen to</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to approve the notice of motion.</p>	<p>Operations</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>Mark Reilly</p> <p>Steph Dunsmuir (business planner)</p>

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	<p>Dundee railway line.</p> <p>3. Understands the culvert is the responsibility of Network Rail and that water draining from the roadway from Burnbutts Crescent empties into the culvert.</p> <p>4. Notes during May, June and July 2025, weather has again caused Burnbutts Crescent to experience severe flooding impacting householders' property including cars and the aforementioned lock up garages.</p> <p>5. Notes that the north end of Burnbutts Crescent is a private lane with bollards to restrict vehicular access.</p> <p>6. Instructs the Chief Officer - Operations to work with Network Rail to establish the likely timeline for any remedial works to be undertaken to resolve this issue; and in the meantime instructs that Chief Officer to consider what options or measures can be put in place to allow residents to mitigate the effects of the flooding on their property and to report the results to the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee in early course.</p>			



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10.4	<p><b><u>Notice of Motion by Councillor Tissera</u></b></p> <p>Council -</p> <p>Notes the growing support for grassroots and professional Women's football right across the United Kingdom.</p> <p>Congratulates England on successfully defending and winning UEFA Women's EURO 2025 and congratulates Wales for their efforts in the group stages.</p> <p>Agree these successes are a catalyst for woman empowerment noting Women in Aberdeen, football fans or otherwise, can look at the Lionesses' success as breaking barriers in what was once seen as a Men's game only.</p> <p>Instruct the Chief Executive, following consultation with Aberdeen Football Club and/or Cove Rangers Football Club and provided they are in agreement, to write to the President of the Scottish Football Association asking them to consider holding a Women's International Football Match in Aberdeen to allow aspiring girls and ladies to watch our national team in the granite city rather than having to travel to Dundee, Edinburgh or Glasgow.</p>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>to approve the notice of motion.</p>	Chief Executive	Angela Scott/ Gail Halfyard

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10.5	<p><b><u>Urgent Notice of Motion by Councillor Houghton</u></b></p> <p>That the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notes with deepest regret the passing of John Alexander Cruickshank VC, the last surviving Second World War Victoria Cross recipient from the UK;</li> <li>2. Acknowledges his extraordinary gallantry during a raid on a German U-boat in July 1944, when, despite sustaining severe wounds, he refused medical attention until his mission was complete and safely returned his crew to base, as detailed in his VC citation:</li> </ol> <p><i>“Though bleeding profusely and suffering intense pain, he refused medical aid until he had completed his task. In spite of his wounds he insisted on remaining at his post to direct the withdrawal of his aircraft. By his extreme devotion to duty, fortitude and disregard for his personal safety, Flying Officer Cruickshank was able to bring back his aircraft to its base and save the lives of his crew.”</i></p>	<p><b><u>The Council resolved:-</u></b> to approve the notice of motion.</p>		

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11.1	<b><u>Exempt/confidential business</u></b>	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](mailto:morchard@aberdeencity.gov.uk)