

Amendment by the Conservative Group

City of Edinburgh Council

30 May 2019

Item 8.1 – Review of Political Management Arrangements 2019

Council:

Agrees:

1. That the changes outlined in Option A with some adjustments as outlined below would be most likely to improve the delivery of core services and allow the efficient streamlined decision making and scrutiny that is required to improve performance and deliver the necessary savings whilst ensuring basic services are delivered efficiently and effectively.
2. That the poor outcomes demonstrated at Agenda items 8.4 and 8.5 are partly explained by the ineffectiveness of the current political management arrangements and failures to take account of views across the Council and therefore justifies the changes outlined below:
3. Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee to be renamed the Corporate Policy, Strategy and Economy Committee and its membership increased to 17 comprising: 5 SNP, 5 Conservative, 3 Labour, 2 Green and 2 Liberal Democrat Councillors with the following remit:
 - a) All cross cutting strategic policy decisions to be taken in principle at this Committee to ensure a joined-up, city wide approach for decision making in the areas of its current remit and additionally;
 - b) Economic strategy to include tourism strategy;
 - c) Sustainability to ensure that all areas of the Council contribute to delivering carbon reduction and decisions in one area do not undermine other areas;
 - d) Regeneration projects;
 - e) Approval of the citywide Police and Fire Plans;
 - f) IJB partnership oversight and Strategic Planning;
 - g) Strategic Transport Projects which have citywide or regional impacts;
 - h) Any project over £10 million capital cost
4. Makes no change to the membership of the Finance and Resources and Children and Families Committees except as per the responsibilities outlined in the remit for the Corporate Policy, Strategy and Economy Committee
5. Alters the remit of the Transport and Environment Committee as per the changes to CPS&E committee;

6. Renames the Housing and Economy Committee the Housing, Homelessness and Fairwork Committee;
7. Adds scrutiny of the services the Council is responsible for as part of the Health and Social Care Partnership to the remit of the Culture and Communities Committee;
8. Alters the role and remits of Committees to take into consideration the changes to the Corporate Policy, Strategy and Economy Committee under the value of £10 million, scrutinise the delivery and performance of the services within the Committee's remit as per the annex to these papers which will improve the accountability of officers and focus attention on delivery of core services.
9. Makes no changes to the membership and remit of the Planning, Regulatory and Governance, Risk and Best Value Committees and their sub committees except to include the Convener of the Planning Committee as a member of a Local Review Body.

10. Senior Councillor Allowances:

Lord Provost	Set by statute
Deputy Convener	50%
Leader of the council:	Set by statute
Deputy Leader of the Council	75%
Convener TEC	60%
Convener C&F	60%
Convener H&E	60%
Convener C&C	60%
Convener F&R	60%
 Planning Convener	 60%
 Council representative on Integrated Joint Board when appointed as:	
Convener, or	60%
Vice Convener	50%
 Leader Conservative Group	 50%
4 x Conservatives member (if not already in receipt of a Senior Councillor Allowance)	40%
 Leader Green Group	 50%
1 x Green member (if not already in receipt of a Senior Councillor Allowance)	40%
 Leader Lib Dem Group	 50%
1 x Lib Dem member (if not already in receipt of a Senior Councillor Allowance)	40%
 GRBV Convener (member of opposition)	 60%
Regulatory Convener	60%
Licensing Board Convener	60%

11. Agrees to limit the overall Senior Councillor Allowances budget to a level 1.5% below last years spend, reflecting the efficiency savings target Council services are being asked to achieve. Furthermore, this self-imposed reduction in the Senior Councillor Allowance will track all future savings targets outlined in Council budgets.
12. Notes the arrangements above is a total spend of £670,898.70, which achieves a saving of more than 1.5%.
13. Accepts 4.21 and 4.22 on Deputations and Working Groups
14. Agrees to discontinue the current practice of Agenda Planning Meetings and instead introduce regular briefings to group representatives in advance of executive committee meetings by senior officers.

Moved by Councillor Iain Whyte

Seconded by Councillor Joanna Mowat