



Item 6.1 - Business Bulletin

Housing and Economy Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 7 June 2018

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, Edinburgh

Housing and Economy Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener Cllr Kate Campbell</p>  <p>Vice Convenor Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Jim Campbell• Cllr David Key• Cllr Kevin Lang• Cllr John McLellan• Cllr Claire Miller• Cllr Gordon Munro• Cllr Susan Rae• Cllr Cameron Rose• Cllr Norman Work	<p>Stephen Broughton Committee Clerk Tel: 0131 529 4261</p> <p>Rachel Gentleman Committee Clerk Tel: 0131 529 4107</p> <p>Paul Lawrence Executive Director of Place Tel: 0131 529 7325</p>

Record numbers of affordable homes under construction

There are around 2,200 homes under construction across 35 sites in the city. Since last committee, work has begun on the former B&Q site in Canonmills, which will see Hillcrest Housing Association build 45 homes for social rent. The development will also include five homes for Scottish Veterans.

The last three months has also seen the completion of the final phase (36 homes for social rent) of affordable housing delivered by Hillcrest HA on former hospital site just off Seafield Road. Over 290 affordable homes will be delivered in total across the site, which include supported housing and homes for older people, as well as, family homes for social rent and mid market rent. These homes were delivered by Dunedin Canmore, Bield HA and Hillcrest HA, with around £20 million funding from the Affordable Housing Supply programme.

In Portobello, 52 homes for social rent and mid market rent will be completed by Port of Leith HA in June. This will be largest number of affordable housing delivered in Portobello town centre in over a decade.

Contact:

Lisa Mallon
Lisa.Mallon@edinburgh.gov.uk
 0131 529 6291

Council housing developments shortlisted for awards

Awards season is well underway and the Council's housebuilding programme.

Leith Fort was voted Affordable Housing Development of the Year at the Homes for Scotland Awards on 25 May 2018.

Leith fort saw the Council jointly working with Port of Leith Housing Association to redevelop the former fort house site into a modern interpretation of the Edinburgh colonies style, retaining some interesting historical features and delivering around 94 new homes.

Leith Fort is also shortlisted in the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) awards, winners to be announced 20 June 2018.

Next is the MJ Achievement awards on 27 June 2018. Here the Council has been shortlisted in the Best Social Housing Initiative category for its work in the regeneration of Pennywell. This area has seen substantial investment in housing, education and health services and progress to date has been achieved with a significant level of input from the community.

Contact:

Colette McKenna
Colette.McKenna@edinburgh.gov.uk
 0131 529 7429

Recent News

Background

Launch of New Housing Partnership

In January this year, the Council gave its approval to establish two new Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) to own and managed homes for market and mid market rent. The homes will be let to tenants on low to moderate incomes in housing need across all localities in the city. The LLPs are owned by the Council and the Scottish Futures Trust.

The first meeting of the LLPs Corporate Body took place on 4 June 2018. Building work is now underway on eight of the sites. The first tenants could be moving in to their new homes as early as August this year. The first 105 mid market homes to be purchased by the LLPs will be delivered through the Council's house building programme subject to approval by the Finance and Resources Committee on 12 June 2018.

Contact:

Elaine Scott

Elaine.scott@edinburgh.gov.uk

0131 529 2277

Private Rent Pressure Zones

On 18 January 2018 Committee approved a [report on Rent Pressure Zones](#). The report agreed to work with other local authorities and Scottish Government to develop a shared methodology for gathering evidence that complies with the requirements of Scottish Government guidance, to support the designation of RPZ. In April 2018, City of Edinburgh Council officers met with Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers (ALACHO), several local authorities including Glasgow City Council and the Scottish Government to begin these discussions.

The report also agreed to commission further analysis on the profile of rents and household incomes across localities, postcodes and data zones in the city. City of Edinburgh Council officers have commissioned this and a report on the outcome of the research and next steps will be considered by Committee in November 2018.

Contact:

Lisa Mallon

Lisa.Mallon@edinburgh.gov.uk

0131 529 6291

Office property market in Edinburgh

Independent property consultancy Knight Frank has [reported](#) that demand for Grade A office space in Edinburgh was significant during the first quarter of 2018. Property figures show approximately 460,000 square feet of new occupier requirements came onto the market in the first quarter from companies looking to lease office space in Edinburgh. The report states that technology, media and telecommunications companies continue to play a prominent role in Edinburgh's office market, accounting for around 30% of transactions.

Contact:

Jim Galloway

Jim.galloway@edinburgh.gov.uk

0131 529 3211

Recent News	Background
<p>Edinburgh named top city for technology and creativity</p> <p>Huawei, the global technology company, has unveiled its New Renaissance Hotspots report which shows that the UK is seeing a new age of technology and creativity, with Edinburgh, Norwich and Nottingham ranking highest for innovation.</p> <p>The New Renaissance Hotspots Report, commissioned by Huawei and authored independently by the Institute of Arts and Ideas and Kjaer Global, analysed data from ten European Countries and scored them against key indicators such as the number of creative and knowledge based jobs, levels of engagement with digital creativity and cultural activities, as well as the diversity of integration with new technologies. It also considered how well cities were prepared for the future, analysing the number of graduates in key creative and technology-based fields and looking at applications for patents in ICT.</p>	<p>Contact:</p> <p>Jim Galloway Jim.galloway@edinburgh.gov.uk 0131 529 3211</p>
<p>Borders Train line boosts tourism</p> <p>Modern Railways have reported the Borders line has generated 36% new journeys into Edinburgh since it opened in September 2015. Over half (57%) of these have been converted from car journeys, reducing emissions and boosting tourism within the city.</p>	<p>Contact:</p> <p>Jim Galloway Jim.galloway@edinburgh.gov.uk 0131 529 3211</p>
<p>Changes to links between Middle East and Edinburgh</p> <p>Dubai-based airline Emirates has announced its new route from Edinburgh to Dubai will begin on 1 October 2018.</p> <p>The news comes as Etihad airlines announced it is reducing its UK operations. As part of the reduction they are stopping their service between Edinburgh and Abu Dhabi in October.</p>	<p>Contact:</p> <p>Elaine Ballantyne elaine.ballantyne@edinburgh.gov.uk 0131 469 3854 Edinburgh Airport</p>
<p>Graduate Apprenticeships scheme</p> <p>Heriot-Watt University in holding a series of business breakfasts in introduce its Graduate Apprenticeships Scheme initiative. The scheme is fully funded by Skill Development Scotland and has the aim of creating degree qualified employees with the skills businesses need. For employers, the scheme gives the opportunity to enhance business by supporting current and new employees to develop skills and talents.</p>	<p>Contact:</p> <p>Jim Galloway Jim.galloway@edinburgh.gov.uk 0131 529 3211</p>

Challenge Fund

The Challenge Fund is the third-party grant programme for employability. It currently invests in two funding streams; Adult provision (11 projects) and Youth provision (15 projects). All grants are managed by Capital City Partnership. The current upper limit for each grant is £75,000 pa, with the average grant approx. £45,000.

The current grants programme has been in place since April 2015, with a one-year extension agreed at the [Economy Committee in April 2017](#). This allowed Employability and Talent Development to review the two funding streams and bring them back into one collective investment.

A Project Board was formed to help support and shape the review. The board consisted of representatives from key stakeholders including; Edinburgh College, NHS Lothian, Capital City Partnership, Skills Development Scotland, Department of Work and Pensions, EVOG, Developing Young Workforce, The Chamber of Commerce, as well as, City of Edinburgh Council Officers.

The period of co-production is in the final stages. Results of this co-production exercise were discussed by the Project Board. Following the recommendations of the Project Board, Employability and Talent Development are creating a specification, with the intention of inviting third sector organisations to submit grant applications. The specification will be published in early August, with the aim of awards being considered for approval at the Housing and Economy Committee on 1 November 2018 for projects to commence in April 2019.

Contact:

Philip Ritchie
Philip.Ritchie@edinburgh.gov.uk
0131 529 4273