

MINUTES of MEETING of the MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL held in the Council

Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday, 16 December

2014 at 2.00pm.

Present:- Provost Wallace, Depute Provost Coventry and Councillors Baxter, Beattie, Bennett, Bryant, Constable, de Vink, Imrie, Johnstone, Milligan, Montgomery, Pottinger, Rosie, Russell, Thompson and Young (arrived late).

Religious Representatives Present (Non Voting Observers for Education Business):- Mr V Bourne, Mr P Hayes and Mrs M Harkness.

1 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

2 Order of Business

The Clerk advised the Council that an additional item of business, namely a report by the Chief Executive entitled "City Deal Proposal" which had been distributed to Members would be considered as item No 18A on the Agenda.

3 Minutes of Council

The Minutes of Meetings of Midlothian Council of 4 November and 2 December 2014 were submitted and approved as correct records.

4 Other Meetings

The undernoted Minutes of Meetings were submitted. The Council noted the Minutes and approved the recommendations contained therein: -

Meeting	Date
Cabinet	7 October 2014
Planning Committee	7 October 2014
General Purposes Committee	30 September 2014
Appeals Committee	22 July 2014
Local Review Body	21 October 2014
Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee	21 October 2014
Petitions Committee	25 June 2013
	24 June 2014

5 Question to Leader of the Council

No questions to the Leader of the Council had been received.

6 Notices of Motions

(a) Ashleigh Gray

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillor Johnstone, countersigned by Councillor Thompson as follows: -

“Midlothian Council congratulates Ashleigh Gray, a former pupil of Newbattle Community High School, in her new role as Elphaba in Wicked’s UK tour as from September 2014. Midlothian Council recognises Ashleigh’s ongoing success in Musical Theatre”.

Having heard both Councillors Johnstone and Thompson, the Council unanimously agreed the terms of the Motion.

(b) “There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillor Thompson, countersigned by Councillor de Vink as follows: -

“Midlothian Council would like to recognise the contribution Ken Adam has made to community life in Midlothian Ken has played an active and valuable part in representing local people through his involvement with Moorfoot Community Council, The Federation of Community Councils and Community Planning in Midlothian.

He was most recently instrumental in driving forward the revised scheme for community councils in Midlothian.

We would like to pay our respects and acknowledge his determination, diligence and commitment to improving partnership working for the benefit of our Midlothian’s communities.

He will be sadly missed by all those who had the pleasure of working with him. We would like to offer our sincere condolences to his family.”

Having heard both Councillors Thompson and de Vink, the Council unanimously agreed the terms of the Motion.

7 Midlothian Council Annual Audit 2013/14

There was submitted report, dated October 2014, by the Council’s External Auditors, (Grant Thornton UK), summarising the findings from their audit work for the year 2013/14. The report highlighted that the Council had set out an ambitious strategy for growth, the 2013/14 financial and that more could be done to support effective scrutiny. The report also included an Action Plan covering the key recommendations to support the Council in meeting those challenges.

The Council heard from Mr Gary Devlin, External Auditor in amplification of the report.

Decision

To note the content of the Auditors report.

8 Petitions Committee – Annual Review of Procedures

There was submitted report, dated 3 December 2014, by the Director, Resources, inviting the Council to conduct the annual review of the Petition Committee's procedures and consider the need for any change.

The report highlighted that two meetings of the Petitions Committee had so far been held in 2014, namely on 24 June 2014 and 4 November 2014. Each of those considered one petition only. This contrasted with the position in 2014 when 11 petitions were considered.

In accordance with petition procedures, the Council's the Head of Customer Services had been given responsibility for validating petitions. Following the Head of Service review at the end of 2013, this post was removed from the establishment, however for the purpose of consistency the previous incumbent continued to validate petitions in her ongoing capacity as Monitoring Officer until her departure from the Council in September 2014. On this basis, the Legal Services Manager, who was currently the Monitoring Officer, had therefore taken over the role of petition validator. In order to give flexibility it was suggested that in the absence of the Monitoring Officer, the Depute Monitoring Officer also be authorised to act as petition validator.

During 2014 there had been one petition which was rejected in August as not being valid on the basis that it related to a matter which had been considered by the Council within the previous six months. This petition was re-submitted after the six month period had elapsed and was duly heard by the Petitions Committee on 4 November 2014.

Decision

- (a) To continue the operation of the petitions procedures as they stood; and
- (b) To confirm that the validation of petitions be by the Monitoring Officer, whom failing the Depute Monitoring Officer.

(Action: Director, Resources)

9 Midlothian Local Licensing Forum

There was submitted report dated 14 November 2014, by the Clerk to the Licensing Forum recommending changes to the Midlothian Licensing Forum membership.

Membership of the Midlothian Licensing forum was agreed by Council at its meeting on 22 May 2012. Following recent staffing changes and a recruitment campaign, this report presented recommended changes.

The recruitment campaign was ongoing with further work planned to encourage involvement of young people and Community Councils. Planned work included the following:

- Senior pupil councils (possibility for a rotation system)
- Contacting MYPAS, if a staff member would be willing to act as a link to young people (MYPAS have already asked young people if they would be willing to join the Forum but there was little interest)
- Contacting Pub Watch members
- Contacting Community Council members via the Federation of Community Councils
- Forum membership applications to be sent out with notification of license approval.

It had also been suggested that if young people were unable to commit to attending meetings they could be added to a communities circulation list to provide comments and suggestions via e-mail.

Following the recent recruitment campaign, consideration required to be given to a further five membership applications which had been received; these were detailed in an Appendix to the report.

As part of the recruitment campaign, the Licensing Forum had updated its Terms and Reference and Code of Conduct for Forum members.

Decision

- (a) To note the changes to partner representatives on the Forum and the updated Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct for Forum members; and
- (b) To approve the appointment of the named applicants to serve on the Midlothian Local Licensing Forum.

(Action: Head of Customer and Housing Services)

10 Review of Midlothian Council Grants to Community Groups and Organisations.

There was submitted report dated 19 November 2014, by the Director, Health and Social Care, informing Council of the completion of the review of the Midlothian Council Grants to Communities, and recommending the allocation of grants to community groups and organisations for the next three financial years.

Following the consideration of a report to the June 2014 Council meeting, officers had undertaken a programme of activity to provide for a new grants scheme to commence on 1 April 2015. Details of that activity were provided in the Appendix to the report. In summary it included an extensive and comprehensive communications exercise across a wide range of media, and information and awareness sessions at various locations to assist prospective applicants. Very wide publicity had been given to the period for receipt of applications, this being 1 September 2014 to 10 October 2014. A measure of success of that programme of publicity was that only eight of the 216 applications submitted (this was a net figure as the overall total of 221 included five duplicate applications) were received outwith that period.

All applications were submitted on a standard template form to enable consistency of assessment. Following closure of the period for receipt of applications the defined process of assessment was instigated. For each of the four grant streams (employability, poverty, health/physical activity, and development communities) two scoring panels were appointed; these being one for small grants (up to £3,000) and large grants (£3,001 and over). These scoring panels comprised Council officers with particular knowledge of these streams. Although invited to be fully participating members of the scoring panels, the voluntary sector decided to take a participating observer role on each panel.

All members of the scoring panels received a thorough briefing and training prior to assessing applications to ensure that the assessment process would be rigorous, robust and consistent. The work of the scoring panels took place over a two week period in late October/early November, and at the conclusion of which a full set of recommendations on all of the applications was provided. The lead officers of the scoring panels then further refined the recommendations for the purposes of consistency and equality of assessment in regard to the overall criteria for the consideration of applications. The product of that completed scoring and assessment process and the recommendations were contained with a further Appendix to the report. The information provided showed that the total amount of money being bid for by applicants significantly exceeded the amount which was available to award. Accordingly, whilst some applicants were recommended to receive that for which they applied, others were recommended to receive only part of their requested amount, and some were recommended to receive no grant funding.

The Director, Health and Social Care, was heard in amplification of her report during which she stressed that although she would be able to answer any questions on the overall process and strategic approach taken, officers were not in a position to comment on any specific individual organisation's application at this stage.

Councillor Thompson was heard in support of the report and whilst acknowledging that tough decisions required to be taken, stressed that the approach suggested was appropriate and therefore recommended approval of the recommendations contained within the report.

Councillor Milligan was heard opposing the cuts as they stood and highlighted the legal advice received from the Standards Commission was that any elected Member who spoke about an individual group or organisation involved, would require to declare an interest and take no further part in future deliberations involving that group. He stressed that he believed this to be fundamentally flawed but that the Labour Group was required to adhere to it.

He therefore proposed that an all party Working Group be established to consider this matter in detail and report back to a future meeting of the Council with their recommendations.

Councillor Beattie whilst acknowledging the ruling of the Standards Commission, highlighted the issue of the rural deficit involved with MYPASS at Pathhead and associated organisations.

Councillor Milligan expressed concern at the highlighting of an individual organisation by Councillor Beattie as this appeared to be in conflict with the legal advice given to the Labour Group. He therefore requested that the Monitoring Officer provide clarification on this issue.

The Monitoring Officer provided advice that he had previously given that although Members could comment on the overall process and strategic approach being taken, that to comment on any specific individual organisation's application could prevent them from participating in any future consideration thereof.

Councillor Thompson whilst again accepting the advice of the Standards Commission, clarified that Councillor Beattie's comments were concerning the general issue of the rural deficit and not about the decision with regard to a specific organisation. He stated that although there was merit in a Cross Party Working Group looking at what assistance could be given to any organisation which lost out through this process he also stressed the importance of moving forward on this matter.

He therefore formally moved that the recommendations contained within the report as detailed below be accepted. Councillor Constable formally seconded the Motion.

- (a) To note the extent of the comprehensive review of the processes associated with the awarding of grants by the Council to community groups and organisations;

- (b) To approve the recommended grant awards as set out in Appendix 2 of the report (subject to meeting the appropriate conditions of grant);
- (c) To note that for large (£3,001 and above) grants the next round of bids would be invited in 2017/18 for award in 2018/19, and every three years thereafter;
- (d) To note that for small (below £3,000) grants the next round of bids would be invited in 2015/16 for award in 2016/17, and annually thereafter; and
- (e) Instruct the Director, Health and Social Care, to report annually in accordance with the Council's agreed procedures for reporting on Following the Public Pound.

As an amendment, Councillor Milligan seconded by Councillor Muirhead moved that an All Party Working Group be established to consider this matter in detail and report back to a future meeting of the Council with their recommendations.

On a vote being taken, nine Members voted for the Motion and nine Members for the amendment. There being an equality of votes, the Provost in accordance with Standing Order 11.2 (iv), used his casting vote in favour of the Motion, which accordingly became the decision of the Council.

(Action: Director, Health and Social Care)

11 Report of Seminar of Midlothian Council of Tuesday, 11 November 2014

There was submitted and noted Report of Seminar of Midlothian Council of Tuesday, 11 November 2014, as shown at **Appendix I hereto**.

12 Catchment Review Programme

There was submitted report dated, 3 December 2014, by the Director, Education, Communities and Economy, proposing the next phases of the School catchment review programme, in light of the Seminar of Midlothian Council held on Tuesday 11 November 2014 on the subject of the Catchment Review and School Estate Strategy and taking account of implications for Midlothian's school estate arising from the proposed Local Plan sites as presented to Cabinet on 18 November 2014. The Director was heard in amplification of her report.

Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Constable moved that the recommendations contained within the report be adopted:-

- (a) That statutory consultation be undertaken to establish the catchment areas for the new non-denominational primary schools in Bilston and North Gorebridge, due to open in August 2016;

- (b) statutory consultation on the proposed changes to the school catchment areas of Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools;
- (c) statutory consultation on the proposed changes to the school catchment areas of Newtongrange, Mayfield and Bonnyrigg Primary Schools;
- (d) detailed feasibility studies looking at a range of options available to the Council to provide primary school capacity for the proposed growth in Bonnyrigg and Auchendinny to be progressed by the end of 2014/15 ;
- (e) a detailed feasibility study looking at a range of options available to the Council for Roman Catholic primary school provision in the Bonnyrigg/Rosewell area to be progressed by the end of 2014/15;
- (f) a detailed feasibility study looking at a range of options for secondary school provision for Shawfair and the option of a '3 - 18 School' to be progressed by the end of 2014/15;
- (g) the identification of potential sites for secondary schools to serve Penicuik, the A701 corridor and Gorebridge, and preparation of detailed feasibility studies looking at the range of options available to the Council to be progressed by the end of 2014/15; and
- (h) preparation of an updated School Estate Management Plan.

Councillor Milligan, seconded by Councillor Montgomery, moved as an amendment that the option of only one secondary school serving the Penicuik area be omitted from any future consideration as there was a need to retain the two existing High Schools currently there, i.e. Penicuik High School and Beeslack Community High School.

On a vote being taken, 8 Members voted for the amendment and 10 for the Motion, which accordingly became the decision of the Council.

(Action: Director, Education, Communities and Economy)

13 Early Years Update

There was submitted report dated, 16 December 2014, by the Director, Education, Communities and Economy, providing an update on work undertaken on the early learning and childcare provision and setting out the vision for young children and families in Midlothian.

The report highlighted that all three and four year old children had access to 600 hours of early learning and childcare. Midlothian had taken a flexible approach to implementing this in response to local need. An enhanced staffing structure was now in place to support the implementation in local authority nurseries.

The Scottish Government delayed the legal duty to provide places for eligible two year olds from August to October 2014. Midlothian Sure Start (MSS) Centres and partnership providers offered a flexible service responsive to need. Forty families had taken up places to date.

This initial low uptake was consistent with the national picture and take up was being closely monitored. Working in partnership with MSS, Partnership Centres and Health colleagues, work was ongoing to publicise these opportunities to access Early Learning and Childcare.

The Scottish Government had increased the capital funding for the additional 2 year olds in 2015/16 and distribution details had now been received, allocating an additional £318,000 to Midlothian.

Decision

Having heard the Director, Education, Communities and Economy in amplification of her report, the Council agreed:-

- (a) To note the work undertaken in the implementation of early learning and childcare in Midlothian;
- (b) To agree the vision for early years services in Midlothian; and
- (c) To request a follow-up paper giving an update on progress implementing the integrated Family Learning Centres

(Action: Director, Education, Communities and Economy)

14 Integrated Care Fund – Health and Social Care

There was submitted report, by the Director, Health and Social Care, inviting the Council to consider, comment and approve for consultation the Midlothian Integration Scheme required to establish the Midlothian Integration Joint Board (IJB).

The report advised that the Integration Scheme must include all matters described in the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Integration Scheme) (Scotland) Regulations 2014. The prescribed information was to be agreed between the Health Board and the relevant Local Authority.

The Draft Integration Scheme was a legal document and was attached as an Appendix to the report. It covered such matters as:-

- Aims and outcomes of the IJB;
- The integration model i.e. IJB;
- The functions to be delegated to it
- The governance arrangements that it will operate under
- Clinical and care governance arrangements
- Workforce matters including the role and responsibilities of the Chief Officer
- Financial governance and operation
- Risk, claims and complaints

- Information sharing
- Participation and engagement; and
- Dispute resolution.

Decision

- (a) To agree to delegated criminal justice social work in addition to the functions the council must delegate to the Integration Joint Board;
- (b) To consider and approve for public consultation the Midlothian draft Integration Scheme attached as an appendix to the report; and
- (c) To note and agree the consultation period as set out and to agree that a revised Integration Scheme be considered for approval by Council on 24 March 2015 before submission to Scottish Government on 31 March.

(Action: Director. Health and Social Care)

15 Integrated Care Fund – Health & Social Care

There was submitted report, by the Director, Health and Social Care advising Council on the Integrated Care Fund Plan and recommending the approval on the proposed investments to support the delivery of integrated health and wellbeing outcomes for adult health and social care in 2015-16.

The report advised that the Scottish Government announced that additional resources of £100m would be made available to health and social care partnerships in 2015-16 to support delivery of improved outcomes from health and social care integration, help drive the shift towards prevention and further strengthen our approach to tackling inequalities.

In following the previous funding allocation formula used for the Change Fund, the investment amount for Midlothian is £1.44m. This was an increase on the c £970,000 for the Change Fund however the scope of work was wider within the Integrated Care Fund.

The Integrated Care Fund was to be used to test and drive a wider set of innovative and preventative approaches in order to reduce future demand, support adults with multi-morbidity and address issues around the inverse care law, where people who most need care are least likely to receive it. Given that the funding was available for one year, it was important that these approaches were built in to and sustained through the longer term strategic commissioning approach.

Central to these approaches would be the shift to support the assets of individuals and communities so that they had greater control over their own lives and capacity for self-management, particularly of multiple conditions. The third sector had a particularly crucial role to play in supporting such an approach and there had been a series of engagement events with third sector partners and community groups.

The six key principles underpinning the development and direction of the Integrated Care Fund Plan in Midlothian are set out below:

- Co-production
- Sustainability
- Locality
- Leverage
- Involvement
- Outcomes

Decision

To approve the proposed investments through the Integrated Care Fund to support the delivery of integrated health and wellbeing outcomes for adult health and social care in 2015-16.

(Action: Director, Health and Social Care)

16 Penicuik Recycling Centre

There was submitted report, dated 3 December 2014, by the Director, Resources, seeking approval to refurbish the existing recycling centre and abandon proposals to establish a new recycling centre within the Penicuik area.

The report highlighted that at its meeting of 25 September 2012 Council approved an allocation of £1.38 million to provide a new recycling facility off Eastfield Farm Road, Penicuik as a result of a number of concerns relating to the existing site at Bellmans Road in Penicuik.

A planning application was lodged to allow for the construction of a new facility at the site off Eastfield Farm Road, however a number of objections were raised, principally in relation to its location relative to Strathesk Primary School. A decision was taken to pause the application to ascertain if there was suitable land in the general Penicuik area that would offer up a more suitable site. This investigation has indicated a number of plots that could have merited further consideration including:-

- Milton Bridge Ministry of Defence site
- Glencorse adjacent to treatment works
- Gowkley Moss
- Rear of Tesco
- Former Territorial Army site
- Mauricewood Bing
- Pomathorn Mill
- Pentland Industrial Estate
- Edgefield Industrial Estate

However, given the financial situation facing the Council, and the relocation of the collection and street sweeping operations and vehicles to Stobhill Depot it was considered prudent to reconsider the options available before proceeding further.

The table below outlined the options available:-

Table 1: Options Available to Council

Option	Capital Cost	For	Against
Construct a new facility	£1.38m	No traffic related residual H&S issues at the existing site. Capability to maximise recycling opportunities. Releases the existing site for development.	Cost of new facility.
Retain and improve the existing site	£0.30m	Opportunity to increase recycling.	Minor residual H&S issues
Close the existing site	£0.10m	Produces recurring saving of circa £90,000. No residual H&S issues at the existing site. Releases the existing site for development.	Would require residents to travel to Stobhill. Potential increase in fly tipping. Would require Land Services staff to relocate to Stobhill.
Retain the existing site with no improvements	Nil	Retains facility for Penicuik residents. Requires no substantial spend.	Minor residual H&S issues. No opportunity to increase recycling.

Councillor Rosie, seconded by Councillor Thompson moved:-

- (a) To set aside the Council decision of 25 September 2013 to provide a new recycling centre, and
- (b) To agree to the inclusion of £300,000 in the General Services Capital Plan to refurbish the existing site at Bellmans Road, replacing the current provision of £1.308m in the General Services Capital Plan, as per the layout shown in the Appendix to the report, noting the reduction in borrowing costs of £29,000 in 2014/15 and £71,000 per annum thereafter.

As an amendment, Councillor Montgomery, seconded by Councillor Imrie, moved that the Council did not spend £300,000 enhancing the existing Bellmans Road site and that the appropriate officials continue to attempt to identify a further site for this purpose.

On a vote being taken, eight Members voted for the amendment and ten for the Motion, which accordingly became the decision of the Council.

(Action: Director, Resources)

17 Note of Seminar of Midlothian Council of Tuesday, 18 November 2014

There was submitted and noted, Report of Seminar of Midlothian Council of Tuesday, 18 November 2014, as shown at **Appendix II** hereto.

18 20 mph Limit Strategy

There was submitted report, dated 13 November 2014, by the Head of Commercial Operations, advising that at its meeting on Tuesday 17 December 2013, the Council had noted that:-

- work was continuing to develop a strategy for the introduction of 20 mph areas and would be the subject of a full report following receipt of advice from Transport Scotland; and
- the Director Resources would arrange a seminar of Council to discuss the introduction of 20 mph areas when the draft strategy was available.

The report therefore provided details of the indicative Transport Scotland advice and as a consequence outlined a strategy for consideration to extend 20 mph areas across Midlothian.

Following the programme of 20mph speed limits introduced around schools in Midlothian in 2001, it was considered logical to extend 20 mph areas as follows:-

- adjacent to nursery schools,
- residential areas adjacent to existing 20mph zones,
- residential areas (not covered by schools or through routes),
- shopping streets (High Streets etc), and
- through routes, villages etc .

This hierarchical approach to the introduction of 20 mph limits allowed experience to be gained in regards to compliance and calls to retrofit traffic calming. It was likely that the phasing of these works would require to be carried out over a period of time of between 24 and 36 months.

The use of signage and road markings only option is being taken proposed, however this did increase the likelihood of requests for traffic calming in any street where there was non-compliance. This was the experience of other local authorities who had introduced similar schemes.

The adoption of the strategy would reduce the ad hoc requests for 20 mph speed limits and also provide a clear explanation to, if and when, 20 mph limits may be implemented on any one street/road.

A mapping exercise had been undertaken of existing 20 mph limits and zones throughout Midlothian and the costs involved in extending the 20 mph areas took this information into account.

The/

The report recommended that all nursery Schools, other than those included within Midlothian Primary Schools listed below with reference to proposals for any 20 mph limit. Nursery schools within Primary Schools already operate within 20 mph traffic calmed zones or part-time 20 mph limits.

Councillor Rosie, seconded by Councillor Thompson moved that in accordance with the report, that the recommendations contained within paragraph 2.4 as detailed below be accepted.

Location	Proposal
Abacus Nursery, Dalkeith	A new 20 mph limit
Clover Country Nursery, Fala	A new 20 mph limit
Cranston Country Nursery, Edgehead	A new 20 mph limit
Forest Friends Nursery, Roslin	This nursery is on a private road where the owners can erect signs if they wish.
Happy Days Nursery, Dalkeith	This nursery is on a private road where the owners can erect signs if they wish.
Little Hawthorn Nursery, Loanhead	This nursery is on a commuter route and would be suitable only for a part time 20 mph limit which will be assessed in future phases.
Milton Bridge Nursery, Penicuik	This nursery is on a private road where the owners can erect signs if they wish.
Pinocchio's Children's Nursery, Eskbank	Currently this nursery is on a private road but adjacent development will mean that in the future this road will be adopted and a 20 mph speed limit feasible. As Police Scotland have a headquarters on this road also, initial consultation would be required taking into account emergency vehicle activity.
Pinocchio's Children's Nursery, Lasswade	A new 20 mph limit
Pinocchio's Children's Nursery, Penicuik	This nursery is within an existing school 20 mph zone
Temple Nursery and Playgroup, Gorebridge	This nursery is within an existing 20 mph speed limit
Wizkidz Nursery, Newtongrange	A new 20 mph limit
Mayfield Nursery School	This nursery is within an existing school 20 mph zone
Mount Esk Nursery School	A new 20 mph limit
Total Cost – Phase 1 Nursery Schools £30,000	

As an amendment, Councillor Imrie, seconded by Councillor Russell moved that a revised proposal as detailed in **Appendix III** hereto be accepted.

On a vote being taken 8 Members voted for the amendment and 10 for the Motion, which accordingly became the decision of the Council.

(Action: Head of Commercial Operations)

19 City Deal Proposal

With reference to paragraph 2 above, there was submitted report dated 11 December 2014, by the Chief Executive, seeking Council's endorsement of the proposed approach to participation by Midlothian Council in a potential City Deal for the City of Edinburgh/East of Scotland Region.

The report highlighted that the analysis conducted by for the Scottish Cities Alliance suggested that the Edinburgh City Region could benefit significantly from an Infrastructure Fund, and accompanying payment-by-results deal with Government.

The/

The Edinburgh City Region being defined as the local authority administrative areas of:

- City of Edinburgh
- East Lothian
- Fife
- Midlothian
- Scottish Borders and
- West Lothian

There was a clear ambition to invest in growth, with an emerging project pipeline which included significant potential investments. These aligned with aspirations to:

- Improve the regional transport network, including enhancing public transport and promote active travel infrastructure;
- Unlock strategic development areas;
- Support key industry sectors; and
- Deliver sustainable places.

With the opening of the Borders Railway and the establishment of four stations in Midlothian in September 2015 it was anticipated that the establishment of the Edinburgh City Region model would complement the ongoing investment in infrastructure.

A key consideration for the Council was the affordability of any contribution to the fund and also the affordability associated with forward funding the planned investment where the capital investment costs were incurred over a ten year period but the government grants were repaid over a 20 year timeframe. Affordability was in the context of the Council's longer term financial stability and future capital investment in the Council's existing asset base and identified essential infrastructure requirements. The Council would test the affordability and best value of any contributions with local authority partners during the development of the City Deal Proposition. A range of income sources, including developer contributions, could be used to help offset Council contribution. However, there remained questions that needed to be addressed as to how the Council would be able to sustain its proportion of investment over the short and long term. Accordingly any investment requirements would be reported in advance to the Council for consideration.

The report also highlighted that to collate and submit a business case for an Edinburgh Region/East of Scotland City Deal in time for the UK March budget statement was achievable, but challenging. This timeframe would require a procurement process, as well as very close collaboration with the other partners of the region.

Decision

Having heard the Chief Executive in amplification of his report, the Council agreed to:

- Note the content of the report and the progress to date led by the Scottish Cities Alliance;
- Authorise Midlothian Council to engage with City of Edinburgh Council and neighbouring local authorities; and to negotiate directly with HM Treasury and the Scottish Government over the potential operation of an Infrastructure Fund and wider City Deal;
- Delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council authority to establish an interim Governance structure with other potential participating Authorities and authorise the Chief Executive to lead on this;
- Agree to authorise the Head of Communities and Economy to act as project sponsor, liaising with colleagues from across the City Region as appropriate;
- Agree to receive further reports on the development of the fund at key stages in its development;
- Note that a procurement process would need to be undertaken to secure technical support; and
- Note that a further report would be brought forward to Council in respect of resource implications at an early date.

(Action: Chief Executive)

20 Financial Monitoring 2014/15 – General Fund Revenue

There was submitted report dated 2 December 2014, by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support, providing Council with information on performance against revenue budget in 2014/15 and details of the material variances.

The detailed budget performance figures were shown in an appendix to the report and resulted in a projected net underspend of £0.3444 million which was 0.18% of the revised budget for the year.

Detailed information on material variances were contained within a further appendix which identified each variance, explained why it happened, outlined what action was being taken to control variances and detailed the impact of that action.

Several Members were heard raising their concern over the unsustainable level of overspend being incurred as a result of ongoing sickness levels at Newbyres Care Home.

In response, the Director, Health and Social Care concurred with the views being expressed and confirmed that commencing in the new year, a small group would be charged with undertaking external scrutiny of this situation with a view to reporting back to Council in due course.

Decision

To note the contents of the report and that a further report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Council with regard to concerns raised in relation to ongoing sickness levels at Newbyres Village.

(Action: Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support)

21 Housing Revenue Account - Revenue Budget and Capital Plan 2014/15

There was submitted report dated, 2 December 2014, by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support, provide Council with a summary of expenditure and income to 24th October 2014 for the Capital Plan and a projected outturn for both the Housing Revenue Account and Capital Plan.

The report highlighted that the summarised financial performance for 2014/15 was:-

- Capital Expenditure to 24 October 2014 was £4.122 million and was anticipated to be £20.041 million for the year;
- A net underspend of £0.432 million was projected on the Revenue Account; and
- The HRA reserve at 31 March 2015 was projected to be £21.505 million.

Decision

- (a) To note the content of the report; and
- (b) To ask the officials to bring forward a report on the possible repair/upgrading of pavements and pathways in older Council estates.

(Action: (b) Head of Commercial Operations)

22 Treasury Management Mid-Year Review Report 2014/15

There was submitted report, dated 9 December 2014, by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support, advising Members of the Treasury Management activity undertaken during the first half of 2014/15 and of the forecast activity for the second half of 2014/15. The report also updated the Prudential Indicators for 2014/15.

Decision

- (a) To note that the Financial Services Team had achieved a better than benchmark return on investments for the year to 30 November 2014;
- (b) To note the report and the treasury activity undertaken in the first-half of the year, and the expected activity during the second-half of the year;

- (c) To approve the revisions to the Prudential Indicators in Section 5 of the report; and
- (d) To approve the revised list of Permitted Investments included as Appendix 2 to the report.

(Action: Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support)

23 General Services Capital Plan

There was submitted report, dated 9 December 2014, by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support providing Council with (a) information on the projected performance of the General Services Capital Plan against budget for 2014/15; and (b) forecast expenditure and income for the General Services Capital Plan for 2015/16 through to 2017/18.

The report highlighted that expenditure to date was £3.400 million with a projected expenditure outturn of £16.998 million.

Decision

- (i) To note the General Services Capital Plan monitoring position for 2014/15; and
- (ii) Approve the proposed General Services Capital Plan 2015/16 to 2017/18 as detailed within the report, noting the overall cap on the level of debt outstanding in each of these years.

(Action: Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support)

24 Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2014

There was submitted report dated 2 December 2014, by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support providing Council with a brief overview of the changes made during the audit process to the Council's Financial Statements for 2013/14. The audited accounts had been circulated to members.

Decision

To endorse the content of the report.

(Action: Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support)

25 Financial Strategy 2015/16 to 2017/18

There was submitted report dated 2 December 2014, by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support providing Council with a further update on the delivery of the Financial Strategy approved by Council on 4 February 2014.

It included:-

- An update on Scottish Government Grant Settlements;
- An update on the budget projections for 2015/16 to 2017/18;
- A recommendation to continue the Council Tax freeze for a further year, maintaining the Band D Council Tax at £1,210 ;

- An update on delivery of the strands of the Financial Strategy, including the Transformation Programme;
- Recommendations in respect of budget savings proposals;
- An update on reserves.
- A recommendation to earmark reserves to promote and capitalise on Borders Railway.

The Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support was heard in amplification of his report.

Councillor Thompson was heard in support of the recommendations contained within the report as detailed below and again urged his Labour colleagues to take up their allocated places on the Business Transformation Steering Group in order that cross party discussion could take place on future budget deliberations:-

- (a) To note the assumptions which underpin the Financial Strategy as set out in section 5 of the report;
- (b) To approve a Council Tax freeze with a Band D Council Tax of £1,210 as set out in appendix 1 of the report;
- (c) To note the operational savings summarised in appendix 2 of the report;
- (d) To consider and approve the savings proposals set out in appendix 3 of the report;
- (e) To agree to receive a service by service budget statement, reflecting the grant settlement, and agree the final 2015/16 budget on 10 February 2015;
- (f) That subject to recommendations b) and d) to earmark any surplus in 2015/16 to partially offset the projected budget shortfall for 2016/17;
- (g) To earmark £0.250 million of the projected General Fund reserve to promote and capitalise on the Borders Railway and delegate authority on the use of these resources to the Chief Executive in conjunction with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Economic Development; and
- (h) To note the remaining projected budget shortfall for 2017/18 of £5.620 million and endorse the proposals for a Comprehensive Service Review Programme as part of the Transformation Programme and request the Chief Executive to report back on progress with the development of the programme through Business Transformation Steering Group.

Councillor/

Councillor Milligan on behalf of the Labour Group, tabled revised proposals to the Budget recommendations as detailed in **Appendix IV** hereto, which they considered critical and confirmed that if these proposals were accepted, the Labour Group would favourably reconsider accepting their places within the Budget Transformation Steering Group.

Councillor Baxter was heard seeking support to phasing out Music Tuition Fee charges over two academic years with a cut in August 2015 of 50% of the existing charges and to have the charge abolished a year later for the August 2016 school term. The cost in 2015/16 would be around £30,000 to be taken from the £1.6 million allocated for transfer to Reserves.

He therefore moved an amendment to the recommendations, to insert between Recommendation d) and e) above, a recommendation to reduce the charge for music tuition by 50% at the start of academic year 2015/16 and to abolish the charge completely from the start of academic year 2016/17, and to amend Recommendation f) to reflect the impact of this new recommendation.

Councillor Thompson, on behalf of the Administration accepted the revised proposal from Councillor Baxter and then formally moved that the recommendations contained within the report subject to this revision be accepted. Councillor Constable formally seconded this Motion.

Councillor Milligan, seconded by Councillor Muirhead moved as an Amendment, in similar terms but including the 5 proposals submitted by the Labour Group.

On a vote being taken, 8 Members voted for the amendment and 10 for the Motion, which accordingly became the decision of the Council.

26 Private Item of Business - Midlothian Local Development Plan: Proposed Plan

Councillor Baxter was heard proposing that item No 25 on the Agenda, namely "Midlothian Local Development Plan: Proposed Plan" be considered in public as several members of the public with an interest in this matter were in attendance.

After a general discussion on this issue during which several Members as well as the Head of Planning and Development were heard, the Council agreed that the matter be considered in private as originally stated on the Agenda.

27 Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Council agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted item, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

Midlothian Local Development Plan: Proposed Plan – Recommendations
Approved with highlighted amendments.

The meeting terminated at 7.23pm.

APPENDIX I

(relative to paragraph 11)

REPORT of SEMINAR of MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday, 11 November 2014 at 11.15am.

Present:- Provost Wallace and Councillors Baxter, Bennett, Bryant (11.46pm), Constable, Coventry, Johnstone, Milligan, Montgomery, Muirhead, Pottinger, Rosie, Russell and Thompson.

Religious Representatives Present (Non Voting Observers for Education Business):- Mr V Bourne, Mr P Hayes and Mrs M Harkness.

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Beattie, de Vink and Imrie.

1 Order of Business

There were tabled eight A3 colour maps showing the current position and options/proposals relative to the Catchment Review and School Estate Strategy.

2 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

3 Catchment Review and School Estate Strategy

(a) Report by Chief Executive

There was submitted report, dated 7 November 2014, by the Chief Executive, outlining (i) options that could address key issues relating to a sustainable School Estate Strategy; and (ii) proposals for the next phase of the school catchment review programme.

The report recalled that a programme of catchment reviews had commenced in 2009/10 to address the mismatch between Midlothian's schools' capacities and the demand for pupil places and to ensure that the school infrastructure would support the implementation of Midlothian's Local Plan. The report gave an update on developments since this review had been instigated and highlighted that a number of issues arising from this and other developments still required to be addressed, all of which were critical to a sustainable school estate strategy. These were:-

- (i) Options regarding the non-denominational secondary school estate, to address increasing and changing populations across the county:-

- (1) The number, location and associated catchments of

secondary schools serving Midlothian's communities, including the following issues:-

- (a) Secondary school provision for the communities along the A701 corridor;
 - (b) Potential of a single site for a merged Beeslack and Penicuik High School, due to pupil numbers in the Penicuik area being unable to sustain 2 separate secondary schools over the forthcoming years;
 - (c) Secondary school provision for pupils from the proposed new community at Redheugh / Prestonholm;
- (ii) Options regarding specific areas of the Council's Primary School estate:-
- (1) Mayfield, Newtongrange and Bonnyrigg Primary Schools' catchment boundaries and primary school provision for pupils arising from committed development sites at Mayfield, Newtongrange and Cockpen Farm;
 - (2) Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools catchment boundaries and primary school provision for pupils arising from committed development sites;
 - (3) The impact on Bonnyrigg from the level of house building at Hopefield Farm and the preferred sites in the next phase of housing development was such that substantial additional primary school capacity will be required. The potential solutions for the location of the additional primary capacity could require further primary school catchment revisions affecting Bonnyrigg, Burnbrae, Hawthornden and Lasswade Primary Schools;
 - (4) Review of denominational catchment boundaries and primary school provision across the county.
- (iii) The possibility to explore the concept of a 3-18 school for Shawfair and/or a new Gorebridge High School as part of a more detailed review.

With regard to the Non-Denominational Secondary School Estate, the report commented on:-

- The investment already secured;
- The optimum size of secondary schools serving Midlothian's communities; and
- Options for non-denominational secondary school provision.

With regard to the latter point, the report presented the following four options and commented on the advantages and disadvantages of each:-

OPTION 1: SIX SCHOOLS

Maintain the current position – the five (non-denominational, built) secondary schools, with the feeder primary schools (except Danderhall) staying as they currently are, plus Shawfair with Danderhall re-zoned to it. Shawfair would be required by the mid 2020's.

Proposed High Schools:- Dalkeith, Lasswade, Newbattle, New Shawfair, Existing Penicuik, Existing Beeslack

OPTION 2: FIVE SCHOOLS

As per Option 1 but combining Penicuik & Beeslack into one secondary school. Redistributing the primary schools (as shown in Appendix 2 to the report), with Loanhead PS and Paradykes PS going to the new combined Penicuik & Beeslack HS, the forthcoming Redheugh PS going to Lasswade HS and Moorfoot PS going to Dalkeith HS. Consideration should be given to ensuring that the existing Penicuik/Beeslack schools, and the proposals for the new Penicuik High School, meet the criteria for the next round of SFT funding (expected to be within the next 18-24 months), which would facilitate a planned opening date of 2020.

Proposed High Schools:- Dalkeith, Lasswade, Newbattle, New Shawfair, New Combined Penicuik/Beeslack

OPTION 3: SIX SCHOOLS

As per Option 2 but with a replacement Penicuik High School to serve the Penicuik area, and a relocated Beeslack HS to serve the remainder of the A701 corridor. The primary schools would be redistributed as shown in the appendix to the report, with the forthcoming Redheugh PS going to Lasswade HS and Moorfoot PS going to Dalkeith HS. Shawfair would be required by the mid-2020's. Again, a replacement for Penicuik High School should be targeted to coincide with future rounds of SFT funding, which in this context, together with consideration of the roll projections across Penicuik, would be for the school to be open by August 2020.

A fundamental assumption in this option was that Beeslack would be relocated. In the context of SFT funding, it was thought unlikely that both Penicuik and Beeslack schools would be successful in the same round of SFT funding. With that in mind, and given the respective condition ratings for both schools (Penicuik was a C condition rating and Beeslack a B), it was thought likely that SFT would prioritise investment in Penicuik. However, the relocation of Beeslack at the earliest possible date would be key to realigning the catchment areas. The details were shown in Appendix 3 to the report.

Proposed High Schools:- Dalkeith, Lasswade, Newbattle, New Shawfair, New Penicuik, New relocated Beeslack

OPTION 4: SEVEN SCHOOLS

As per Option 1 but with a replacement school for Penicuik, a relocated Beeslack High School to serve the remainder of the A701 corridor and an additional school in Gorebridge. The primary schools would be redistributed as shown in the Appendix to the report. In this scenario Shawfair and Gorebridge would both be required by the mid 2020s, although the pace and spread of development in the Gorebridge area in particular could significantly impact on this.

Fundamental assumptions in this option were that (a) Beeslack was relocated; and (b) an additional secondary school was provided in Gorebridge. Details were contained in Appendix 4 to the report.

Proposed High Schools:- Dalkeith, Lasswade, Newbattle, New Shawfair, New Penicuik, New relocated Beeslack, New Gorebridge

Thereafter the Chief Executive's report went on to comment on the Primary School Estate, and in particular on:-

- Mayfield and Newtongrange Primary Schools;
- Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools;
- Bonnyrigg / Lasswade School Provision;
- Denominational catchment boundaries and school provision.

In summary, it was considered that decisions regarding the Loanhead / Paradykes and Mayfield / Newtongrange areas were required as soon as possible to support the completion and implementation of Section 75 agreements. In order to facilitate a positive consultation process it was considered that the proposals for secondary school provision in the Loanhead area was required. It was also considered that a decision on non-denominational provision in Bonnyrigg was required as soon as possible to allow continued development on the Hopefield Farm site.

Finally, the report advised that an option which the Council had not had the opportunity to consider to date was the "3-18" school model, where one school catered for the full time educational needs of children from the ages of 3 to 18. This could be a school for pupils from the ages of 3 to 18 years with one head teacher or it could be a hub model where primary and secondary schools were co-located. There was a pressing requirement to come to a decision on the site for the new Shawfair High School in the very near future, and whether it needed to be sized to accommodate a 3-18 school. If the 3-18 school model was employed at Shawfair, either Danderhall PS or alternatively one of the new primary schools could be co-located with the new Shawfair High School.

The secondary school at Shawfair was projected to be required by the mid-2020's, although it would take several years to reach a sustainable capacity. A 3-18 school would contribute to the viability and operational costs of a new Shawfair High School and its sustainability in the early years of this development.

It was proposed therefore that a detailed feasibility study, looking at all the options available to the Council, be progressed as a matter of urgency and a report brought back to Council updating Council on the relative costs and benefits of each option.

(b) Presentation

A presentation on the Catchment Review and School Estate Strategy was given by Ogo Onwuchekwa, Head of Service (Transformational Projects) and Sandra Banks, Resource Manager, both of the Education, Communities and Economy Division.

(c) Questions and Answers

Arising from the Chief Executive's report and the aforementioned presentation, the officers provided clarification on a number of matters, as follows:-

- (i) That it was intended to report on the recommendations of the Seminar to the meeting of the Council on 16 December 2014;
- (ii) That the proposals referred to in the report covered a timescale of over 30 years;
- (iii) The proposals presented took account of population projections arising from the Draft Local Plan and nothing beyond that;
- (iv) Under Option 4, the roll of Newbattle High School in 2024 would be above capacity. However, as 10% flexibility had been allowed for expansion, the assumption had been made that the school would not need to be extended;
- (v) Pending the construction of a new secondary school at Shawfair, Dalkeith High School, which was currently operating at under capacity, would accommodate pupils from Danderhall and Shawfair. Currently just under 200 pupils from the Danderhall area attend Dalkeith HS;
- (vi) The "3-18" model had long been associated with private (independent) schools but if Midlothian was to go down this route then it would need to be explored in much more detail;
- (vii) Around 300 pupils from the Gorebridge area attended Newbattle High School;

- (viii) Around 16% of pupils in Newbattle High School's catchment area did not attend Newbattle but travelled instead to Dalkeith High School (8%) or Lasswade High School (8%);
- (ix) Pupils from Moorfoot Primary School went on to attend a number of different secondary schools;
- (x) There was limited and conflicting academic evidence about whether the size of a school mattered. St Andrews Secondary School in Glasgow, in an area of deprivation, which had a pupil roll of 1,600, was regarded by HMiE as the best in Scotland. The main factors however in determining whether a school would be successful were seen as being values, leadership and economic advantage;
- (xi) In Edinburgh, some P7 pupils were being educated in High Schools mainly because of the availability of space. Midlothian's head teachers didn't want the secondary roll to fall below 750 as this could adversely affect curriculum delivery;
- (xii) To note the financial challenge going forward, in particular that the difference between Option 2 and 4 was £2million, which would require to be met from elsewhere within the budget.
- (xiii) To note that Education staff would arrange to provide members with information about the rolls and capacities of all Midlothian schools, both denominational and non-denominational;
- (xiv) To note that officers from Education and Planning would make themselves available to assist members in getting a clear understanding of the issues around the review, particularly in advance of any public consultation;
- (xv) To note that the replacement of Paradykes Primary School could be relocated to a site adjacent to Loanhead Leisure Centre and the proposed redistribution of the housing between Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools took that into account. The catchment review would need however to be undertaken in a timely manner to ensure that the Council was able to make the best use of the capacities at both schools;
- (xvi) To note the proposal for a review of the catchment boundaries of the seven denominational primary schools across Midlothian, where two of these were oversubscribed and three undersubscribed;
- (xvii) To note the urgent situation facing St Matthews RC Primary School in Rosewell where the building was old and in the next two years the roll was expected to drop from 20 to 10, making it unsustainable;

- (xviii) To note that in the Bonnyrigg/Lasswade area, where primary school provision was already close to capacity, significant new housing development was planned both now and in the foreseeable future.

(d) Decision

The Seminar:-

- (i) agreed to recommend to Midlothian Council:-
- (1) that consultation, with specific options as to possible action by the Council, be commenced on the optimal number and location of secondary schools in Midlothian, specifically:-
 - (a) the strategy for the Penicuik & A701 corridor; and
 - (b) the strategy for high school provision for the Gorebridge area;
 - (2) that approval be given to proceed immediately with the required catchment reviews for the Mayfield / Newtongrange / Bonnyrigg primary schools, Loanhead / Paradykes primary schools, denominational primary schools (county wide) and the new schools (Bilston & North Gorebridge primaries);
 - (3) that approval be given to proceed immediately with a feasibility study into non-denominational Primary School provision in the Bonnyrigg area;
 - (4) that approval be given to proceed with a feasibility study into denominational Primary School provision in the Bonnyrigg/Rosewell area; and
 - (5) that approval be given to proceed immediately with a feasibility study into a "3-18" model for the Shawfair catchment area;
- (ii) noted a proposal that the Council should not dispose of the former Hopefield Primary School site for housing purposes if this was the only site currently available to accommodate a new primary school unless an alternative site for the school could be identified;
- (iii) noted advice from the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support, that:-
- (1) the former Hopefield Primary School site was held under the General Fund Account, therefore use for social housing would require a transfer of the asset at an appropriate value to the Housing Revenue Account;

- (2) a financial appraisal would be required for any proposals relating to the combination of St Mary's and St Matthew's RC Primary Schools into a single stream school within the Bonnyrigg area and release of Dundas Buildings; and
- (iv) congratulated the staff involved in preparing the report.

(Action: Director, Education, Communities and Economy)

The meeting terminated at 12.26pm.

APPENDIX II

(relative to paragraph 17)

NOTE of **SEMINAR** of **MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday, 18 November 2014 at 2.30 pm.

Present:- Provost Wallace, Depute Provost Coventry and Councillors Baxter, Bennett, Bryant, Constable, de Vink, Imrie, Johnstone, Milligan, Muirhead, Pottinger and Rosie.

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Beattie, Montgomery, Russell and Thompson and Mr V Bourne, Mr P Hayes and Mrs M Harkness.

1 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

2 20 MPH Zones

There was submitted a report dated 13 November 2014, by the Director, Resources, advising that at its meeting of Tuesday 17 December 2013 Council;

- noted that work was continuing to develop a strategy for the introduction of 20 mph areas and would be the subject of a full report following receipt of advice from Transport Scotland; and
- that the Director Resources would arrange a seminar of Council to discuss the introduction of 20 mph areas when the draft strategy was available.

The report therefore provided details of the indicative Transport Scotland advice and as a consequence outlined a strategy for consideration to extend 20 mph areas across Midlothian.

The Director, Resources was heard in amplification of his report before inviting Mr Ricky Moffat, Head of Commercial Operations to provide a presentation on this matter.

3 Presentation

The Head of Commercial Operations thereafter provided a detailed presentation on the subject of 20 MPH Speed Zones, including:-

- 20MPH Options,
- Details of Pilot Projects being undertaken within Edinburgh and Portsmouth;

- Scottish Government Guidance: Good Practice on 20MPH Speed Restrictions;
- The Aims of the 20MPH Strategy for Midlothian;
- The Cost of the Strategy (**Total £490,000**); and
- Police Scotland's View.

He then opened up the meeting for any questions elected Members may have, during which the following points were noted:-

- In response to a question from Councillor Imrie, Mr Moffat confirmed that part of the Edinburgh Pilot was to retain a Strategic 30MPH Network and that any move towards 20MPH limits would require legislation, which would also apply to Midlothian
- Councillor Baxter highlighted that the issue of 20MPH Speed Zones had been raised through the Petitions Committee, specifically in relation to Lasswade and sought clarification on what advice Members could give to constituents who raised this matter at relevant Surgeries. During a detailed response on this question, Mr Moffat highlighted that it was essential to introduce a strategy throughout Midlothian and that research had shown that to apply a 20MPH limit within Lasswade at this time would not rectify the situation.
- In response to a question from Councillor de Vink on how this Project would be funded, Mr Moffat confirmed that costs had been detailed amounting to £490,000 to allow for the introduction of 20 mph areas across Midlothian in line with the guidance from Transport Scotland. The cost of this project would require to be funded from the General Services Capital Plan. This was likely to be spread over the financial years 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 should a decision be taken to carry out all initial three phases. The cost of any proposals would require to be considered alongside other competing General Services Capital Plan Projects being assessed by the Council.

The borrowing costs were estimated at, £29,400 in total and would be phased between financial years in line with the anticipated spend. This would be added to future years revenue budgets.

It was noted that there were ongoing maintenance costs in the order of £5,000 associated with the new road infrastructure to support the introduction of 20MPH areas.

Thereafter the Director, Resources, thanked Mr Moffat for his very informative presentation and confirmed that a report on this subject would be submitted to the December Council meeting for consideration.

The Seminar terminated at 3.05pm.

APPENDIX III

(relative to paragraph 18)

Midlothian Council
16 December 2014

Item 18: 20 mph Speed Limit Strategy

In addition to the Nursery School areas recommended in section 2.4 of the report Midlothian Labour Group moves;

(a) That the introduction of a 20mph speed limit in Lasswade Village and Polton Road, Lasswade, be introduced, without delay, as a pilot project; and

(b) That additional pilot projects introducing 20mph speed limits be introduced at the following locations;-

Penicuik town centre between Peebles Road and Beeslack and including Angle Park;

Danderhall Village;

Gorebridge in the area between the two existing primary schools;

Mayfield in the Blackcot/Waverley housing estate; and

Bilston village.

Moved

Cllr Russell Imrie

Seconded

Cllr Margot Russell

APPENDIX IV**(relative to paragraph 25)****MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL MEETING 16 DECEMBER 2014****Labour Group Budget Amendments**

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Remaining Shortfall/Surplus (Table 6 p320)	-£1,621,000	£2,223,000	£5,620,000
Labour Proposals			
Remove Charging for In house days service provision	£30,000	£30,000	£30,000
Scrap Telecare Charges	£174,000	£261,000	£261,000
Remove Closing of Taxi Card Scheme	£4,000	£8,000	£12,000
No Reduction in Community Action Teams		£125,000	£250,000
No Reduction in Early Years		£122,000	£195,000
Revised Shortfall/Surplus	-£1,413,000	£2,769,000	£6,368,000
Difference from Report Proposals	£208,000	£546,000	£748,000