



Planning Update - CEC

Introduction by John Bury (JB) who announces that CEC has restructured at executive level. Announces new Executive Director of Place Paul Lawrence (PL) who addresses the forum.

PL: We have been poor in the UK at encouraging sustainable development. We have to realise that growth is facing Edinburgh, but what kind of growth and how can we make it sustainable.

JB: Transport services has been in review, as has planning. They are being brought together. Closer working relationships to solve related problems.

David Leslie (DL) reminds forum that there is a week to go in terms of making comments on the Budget Engagement Exercise. He reminds the Forum there is a £126m budget shortfall, gives figures about the 3 sources of the CEC budget. He mentions changes made to the 2015/16 budget are based on dialogue with the local community. Encourages Forum to use Edinburgh.gov.uk/budget to comment and keep abreast of developments

Nancy Jamieson (NJ) discusses the Edinburgh Planning Concordat. As of 2013 it became a tripartite concordat featuring the Development Forum, CEC and Community Councils.

DL: The development forum is a mirror image of the Civic Forum. Mr Leslie mentions members of the Development forum have joined us today. He introduces a workshop format for discussing issues we have and states his intention to have more forums of this nature to encourage civic engagement in planning.

Some members of CC's represented in the forum expressed their mistrust for the developers we have present and questioned the motives of the CEC for inviting them. Marion Williams (MW) calls for order at the meeting and urges a productive dialogue.

Workshops – public engagement

The meeting divides into workshops to discuss public engagement in city planning (see separate note on workshops).