The new Vision and Plan for the Golden Z - Presentation noted etc.

6 There was submitted a report by the Council's Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability providing an overview of the content of the new Vision and Plan for the Golden Z and information on the project's process, including stakeholder engagement and progress towards delivery of recommended actions, advising

(1) that the new Vision and Plan had been funded by the Scottish Government City Centre Recovery Fund and was part of a package of projects progressed by the City Centre Task Force to stimulate post pandemic recovery;

(2) that the Vision and Plan was a strategic planning project which explored the spatial, socio-economic and environmental challenges and opportunities faced by the city centre's 3 iconic streets, namely, Sauchiehall Street, Buchanan Street and Argyle Street;

(3) that the project aimed to define a renewed development direction to re-energise the city centre's retail core and ensure its greater resilience in the future;

(4) that the project also aimed to provide a responsive future development trajectory that would provide clarity and confidence to residents, businesses, investors and developers and identified priorities for intervention and investment that would support recovery and resilience;

(5) of the Project Team, stakeholder engagement and key messages, as detailed in the report, with the main body of the report structured around 6 themes and the final section summarising key actions required to deliver the Vision; and

(6) of the next steps, with recommendations and actions on the new Vision and Plan informing the development of the City Centre Strategy and the review of the City Development Plan.

After consideration and having heard a supporting presentation by Fiona Campbell, the Forum noted

(a) the contents of the report and supporting presentation;

(b) that the new Vision's Delivery Plan would be reflected and progressed through the proposed new City Centre Strategy and the review of the City Development Plan;

(c) that dialogue with stakeholders to deliver the ambitions of the new Vision and Plan for the Golden Z would continue; and

(d) various comments from members in relation to the new Vision and Plan, in particular, the following:-

(i) members commented generally in support of the recommendations actions, however, it was highlighted that there should be an improved strategic approach in relation to their delivery, with better planning, consultation and collaboration between partners/stakeholders;

(ii) members discussed the reasons why there were less people frequenting licensed premises in the city centre in the later evening post pandemic and it was suggested that one of the main reasons was a lack of affordable public transport;

(iii) with regard to the above, the Convener highlighted that he had attended meetings of both the City Centre Task Force and a Glasgow Chamber of Commerce Resilience Group where these issues were under consideration, including the public transport issue; and

(iv) that there should also be engagement with appropriate student forums in the city in relation to the ongoing dialogue with stakeholders and that Fiona Campbell would discuss the matter with Eva Curran.