Suspension of Standing Order No 12 (2) agreed.

7 The Council agreed to suspend the provisions of Standing Order No 12 (2) to allow the first motion to be taken as a cross party motion with one speaker from each group followed by motions from each group in order of relative strengths in the Council.

School Meal Debt – Motion approved.

8 Councillor Cannon, seconded by Councillor Rannachan, moved that:-

"Council notes that addressing food insecurity and hunger has been a priority for the Council and measures to support this have achieved cross party support including millions of pounds of funding for our Holiday School and Activity Programme and local food growing.

Council recognises the cost-of-living crisis, food inflation and the impact of Brexit is raising food insecurity in the city in ways that have not been seen for decades and that this is having a significant impact on people's health and wellbeing.

Council believes that adequate nutrition is vital to allow our young people to reach their full potential and that the nutritional value of school meals is equally important in supporting our young people to make healthier choices. Council commends the staff working across the Council together on food education, growing, health and, addressing poverty which has led the Council being awarded a Food for Life Served Here Bronze accredited by Soil Association Scotland. Glasgow has also recently been recognised by Sustain in its recent Every Mouthful Counts report which has commended Glasgow for its food policy, practice, and procurement.

Council further believes that the nutritional value of school meals is equally important in supporting our young people to make healthier choices. Council therefore resolves that a paper should be brought before the Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee in due course, outlining how the Council's school meal provision fulfils the requirements of the Food and Drink in Schools regulations and the current policy and practice across Glasgow schools to ensure young people have access to a wide range of healthy and filling meals.

Council notes the recent Health and Wellbeing Census for 2021/2022 which has given us data to build and act upon. Nearly 60% of pupils at least sometimes went to bed or school hungry; 3% of respondents to the survey said that they always go to bed hungry; 6% said they often did and 27% have said that they sometimes do. These are findings that Council agrees we need to act upon.

Council supports the ongoing programme of Financial Inclusion in Schools which seeks to ensure that parents and guardians are accessing the financial support they are entitled to help weather the cost-of-living crisis. Additionally, Council notes and applauds the efforts of all our school and education staff in supporting our young people and families during this especially stressful period.

Council notes that Glasgow has been Scotland leading in extending free school meals to Primary 4 and readying the education estate for future extensions to school meals over the coming years. Council reiterates its commitment to expand free school meals to all primary school pupils when funding from the Scottish Government is received and regrets that this funding continues to be delayed. Council recalls the decision at the last meeting of the Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee for officers to bring forward a paper at the earliest opportunity on how the roll-out of universal free school meals to P6 and P7 will progress; in addition, Council asks officers to include details on how uptake of free school meals will be promoted for all those eligible following the expansion of eligibility to children in P6 and P7 who receive the Scottish Child Payment.

Council welcomes the Unite the Union's "Feed the Weans" campaign and Debt Justice's "Together Against Debt" campaign. Council agrees to write off current levels of school debt held centrally. Council agrees to use reserves to write off current levels of school debt held locally, where that debt is over and above the equivalent of one month's worth of meals, in line with Principle 5 of COSLA's Good Practice Principles for School Meal Debt Management.

Council further notes the recent Good Practice Principles for School Meal Debt Management guidance published by COSLA which, among other recommendations, highlights the discretionary ability of schools to use their funding streams to write-off school meal debt and provide additional free school meals for those in need who may not meet the national eligibility criteria. Council instructs the Executive Director of Education to update Glasgow City Council's policies in line with this best practice and bring a report with these updated changes to a future Education, Skills, and Early Years City Policy Committee for discussion and feedback; these policies should ensure that no child is denied food in school, regardless of ability to pay at the time of eating."

The motion was approved.

Adjournment.

9 In terms of Standing Order No 17, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1240 hours until 1330 hours.

Resumption of meeting.

10 The meeting resumed at 1330 hours and the sederunt was taken as follows:-

Present: The Lord Provost, Jacqueline McLaren (Chair).

SAQIB AHMED	LAURA DOHERTY	NORMAN MacLEOD
SUSAN AITKEN	STEPHEN DORNAN	ELAINE McSPORRAN
IMRAM ALAM	PATRICIA FERGUSON	ANNE McTAGGART
BLAIR ANDERSON	SEAN FERGUSON	HANZALA MALIK
KEN ANDREW	ELAINE GALLAGHER	LEÒDHAS MASSIE

ALEXANDER BELIC	ZEN GHANI	CHRISTY MEARNS
RICHARD BELL	ALLAN GOW	ANGUS MILLAR
DECLAN BLENCH	WILLIAM GRAHAM	MALCOLM MITCHELL
EVA BOLANDER	SHARON GREER	JON MOLYNEUX
ABDUL BOSTANI	GREG HEPBURN	ROBERT MOONEY
PHILIP BRAAT	FIONA HIGGINS	MARGARET MORGAN
JILL BROWN	RASHID HUSSAIN	EVA MURRAY
HOLLY BRUCE	DAN HUTCHISON	CECILIA O'LONE
MAUREEN BURKE	FYEZA IKHLAQ	JILL PIDGEON
BILL BUTLER	EUNIS JASSEMI	LINDA PIKE
GRAHAM CAMPBELL	ANN JENKINS	HANIF RAJA
CHRISTINA CANNON	LILITH JOHNSTONE	THOMAS RANNACHAN
JOHN CARSON	JIM KAVANAGH	GEORGE REDMOND
ANTHONY CARROLL	RUAIRI KELLY	LANA REID-MCCONNELL
PAUL CAREY	ALEX KERR	ROZA SALIH
ALLAN CASEY	MATT KERR	FRANNY SCALLY
ANNETTE CHRISTIE	THOMAS KERR	JAMES SCANLON
CHRIS CUNNINGHAM	KEVIN LALLEY	SORYIA SIDDIQUE
STEPHEN CURRAN	PAUL LEINSTER	KIERAN TURNER
FEARGAL DALTON	FRANK McAVEETY	CATHERINE VALLIS
JOHN DALY	PAUL MCCABE	MARTHA WARDROP
AUDREY DEMPSEY	ELAINE McDOUGALL	ALEX WILSON
STEPHEN DOCHERTY	KENNY McLEAN	

LORD DEAN OF GUILD

Apology: Keiran O’Neill.

Attending: E Galletly, Director of Legal and Administration; A O’Donnell, Chief Executive; M Booth, Executive Director of Finance; G Gillespie, Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; D Hutchison, Executive Director of Education Services; S Millar, Chief Officer, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; I Robertson, Director of City Development; K Rush, Director of Regional Economic Growth; and C Edgar, Head of Communication and Strategic Partnerships.