Adjournment.

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

Resumption of meeting.

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

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

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

VICE DEAN OF GUILD

Apologies: Paul Carey, Malcolm Cunning and Alex Wilson.

Attending: E Galletly, Director of Legal and Administration; A O'Donnell, Chief Executive; M Booth, Executive Director of Finance; and C Edgar, Head of Communication and Strategic Partnerships.

Cost of living – Motion, as adjusted approved, after division.

12 Councillor Aitken, seconded by Councillor Bell, moved that:-

"Council agrees that the cost-of-living crisis is the most acute challenge currently facing Glasgow and that a collective effort is required to meet this challenge head on.

Council recalls the £3m Cost of Living Crisis Fund included in the SNP and Green combined budget for 22/23. Council instructs the Executive Director of Finance to bring a paper to the first CAC after the recess outlining how this fund is being distributed and how its impact will be assessed.

Council agrees that supporting the individuals, households and communities most vulnerable to the effects of the cost-of-living crisis is an urgent organisational priority; and resolves to seek every opportunity to enhance and expand on existing work in this area: to mitigate and ameliorate the immediate financial impact of the crisis, particularly in relation to the rising costs of food and household fuel; to prevent vulnerable individuals and households from falling into homelessness or other severe consequences; and to support individuals and households to permanently improve their financial circumstances.

Council commends the joint report by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health and The University of Glasgow, "Resetting the course for population health: evidence and recommendations to address stalled mortality improvements in Scotland and the rest of the UK.

Council is deeply disturbed if not surprised by its central finding that "Austerity is highly likely to be the most substantial causal contributor to the stalled mortality trends seen in Scotland and across the UK" and fears that this impact will be further exacerbated by the current crisis in household incomes.

Council agrees that, while primary responsibility for both the causes and solutions to these trends lies within the policy and budget choices of UK governments, Council also has a responsibility to act where it can to support affected citizens.

Council notes that the report has several recommendations to be progressed at local level - defined as local authority or health board.

These recommendations include:

- Provide high-quality money advice and welfare rights services to ensure people receive all the benefits and other entitlements for which they are eligible.
- Use public spend to advance progressive employment practices, including good/fair work, and to create healthier working environments.
- Maximise the potential of City and Regional Growth Deals to reduce inequality and improve health.
- Implement the principles of inclusive economies to ensure that the economy is redesigned to achieve economic, social and health equity
- Design local services for the populations they serve, involving citizens in the design of services wherever possible.
- Reduce the cost of public transport for those most in need.

Council understands that Glasgow City Council and our city partners are already advancing work in all of these recommended areas, including but not limited to: the Financial Inclusion in Schools project; the Glasgow Alliance to End Homelessness; Civic Innovation community pilot work being undertaken by the Centre for Civic Innovation and other ongoing work to support community budgeting and service-co-design; and inclusive and wellbeing-focused economic development practices supported by the Inclusive Growth Diagnostic, the Glasgow Green Deal and the developing Community Wealth-Building Strategy.

Council resolves: to understand what positive outcomes are already being progressed through this and related work; to seek the necessary resources to turn successful pilots into embedded ways of working; and to accelerate the rollout of these and similar collaborations, pioneering service models and investments to spread and maximise impact across the city, targeting individuals, households and communities in the greatest need. Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to bring forward a paper to the first appropriate committee after recess, outlining how these objectives can be achieved."

Councillor Redmond, seconded by Councillor Siddique, moved as an amendment that:-

(1) paragraph 6 be deleted and replaced with the following:-

"Council agrees that primary responsibility for both the causes and solutions to these trends lies within the policy and budget choices of the UK and Scottish Governments.

Failure to act in Glasgow's interests by both governments has diminished the potential of Glasgow citizens to deal with the challenges posed by austerity economics. The recent announcement by Scotland's Finance Minister, Kate Forbes, will continue the annual trend of Glasgow receiving less resources and diminishing essential jobs done in the public sector in Glasgow and across Scotland.

Council notes that the budget decisions of the Scottish Government have multiplied the impact of the UK Government's austerity policy for Scottish local

authorities; considers that the year on year cuts from successive SNP governments, amounting to over £1 billion cut from Glasgow council core revenue budgets since 2013, has hampered the councils ability to deliver the services that improve health and tackle inequalities.

Council agrees that improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Glasgow must be a priority. Council therefore expresses its deep disappointment at the decisions by the SNP administration to cut funding for essential Citizens Advice Bureau and Law Centres and considers that, particularly in the midst of cost of living crisis, ensuring people across the city have free access to financial and legal advice will be essential. Council also notes the importance of community facilities, such as museums, libraries and leisure centres, for promoting good physical and mental health and expresses its frustration that a number of Glasgow Life facilities, remain closed. Council therefore calls for these facilities to be reopened and instructs the Chief Executive to update Council at the next available meeting on timescale and for when this will be achieved."; and

(2) the last sentence in the final paragraph be deleted and replaced with the following:-

"Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to bring forward a paper to the first appropriate committee after recess, outlining how the City responds to the actions of the UK and Scottish Government and identifies how we can progress on the objectives raised in this motion."

Councillor Wardop, seconded by Councillor Reid McConnell, moved as an amendment that:-

(a) the following be inserted at the end of the first paragraph:-

"Council acknowledges that such acute challenges consistently disproportionately impact low income families and groups who are marginalised within society such as disabled people, ethnic minorities, women and lone parents.";

(b) the following be inserted after paragraph 6:-

"Council recognises that ensuring that everyone has a safe, warm, dry, affordable home is also fundamental to reducing health inequalities, and therefore, it is vital to work with key local and national stakeholders to coordinate action to maximise the contribution of housing to health improvement. Council acknowledges that the climate and health crisis we face will continue to be exacerbated by this cost of living crisis, that in many ways they are interconnected and that pace of intervention in the coming years is essential in tackling these crises and building resilience for the future.";

(c) the following be inserted after the final bullet point at paragraph 7:-

- "Help prevent poverty by growing a social rented housing sector that is accessible, affordable and provides secure tenancies.

- Extend the housing quality standard to the private rented and tied housing sectors, avoiding associated rental increases or reduced housing availability
- Support communities to diversify economic ownership (e.g. public ownership and co-operatives) of essential resources such as food and energy to build towards a more resilient future for both climate, health and cost of living crisis

Council welcomes the Bournemouth University collaborative study that will evaluate the public health benefits of community focused health initiatives to improve wellbeing, both mentally and physically and notes the importance of community organisations in the movement for an inclusive, wellbeing economy.";

(d) the following be inserted in the 8th paragraph between "…the Financial Inclusion in Schools project…" and "…the Glasgow Alliance to End Homelessness":

"the Glasgow Food Policy Partnership"; and

(e) the following be inserted in the 9th paragraph between "…in the greatest need …" and "…the Council therefore instructs":

"Council regrets the UK Tory Government's assault on employment rights over the past 12 years, sends our solidarity to striking workers, and calls on the Council to work constructively with workers and trade unions in the months ahead. Council acknowledges that restrictions and lack of support for trade unions nationally will contribute to greater health inequalities in the future."

Bailie Thomas Kerr, seconded by Councillor Daly, moved as an amendment that all after the third paragraph be deleted and replaced with the following:-

"This Council recognises the significant £37 billion cost of living support given to families across the UK from the UK Government and welcomes the additional support announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 26th May which included significant new financial support for the most vulnerable households across the UK. These additional measures mean that the most vulnerable households will now receive additional support of £1200 to meet cost of living pressures.

In addition, this Council welcomes the doubling of support for energy bills to £400 and commends the Chancellor for listening to concerns and changing this to a grant rather than a loan.

Council notes that increased costs of energy, goods and services are occurring across the globe due to a unique combination of factors including the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns and Russia's aggression in the Ukraine.

Council affirms its strong view that it will work with both the Scottish and UK Governments to address the cost of living crisis and will ensure any funds

received from government for direct payment to individuals or households is distributed promptly. Council believes that any additional funds that the Scottish Government receives from the UK Government to address cost of living pressures must be passed on in full for use in addressing this significant challenge."

Councillor Aitken, with the approval of her seconder, accepted the amendment by Councillor Wardrop resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

"Council agrees that the cost-of-living crisis is the most acute challenge currently facing Glasgow and that a collective effort is required to meet this challenge head on. Council acknowledges that such acute challenges consistently disproportionately impact low income families and groups who are marginalised within society such as disabled people, ethnic minorities, women and lone parents.

Council recalls the £3m Cost of Living Crisis Fund included in the SNP and Green combined budget for 22/23. Council instructs the Executive Director of Finance to bring a paper to the first CAC after the recess outlining how this fund is being distributed and how its impact will be assessed.

Council agrees that supporting the individuals, households and communities most vulnerable to the effects of the cost-of-living crisis is an urgent organisational priority; and resolves to seek every opportunity to enhance and expand on existing work in this area: to mitigate and ameliorate the immediate financial impact of the crisis, particularly in relation to the rising costs of food and household fuel; to prevent vulnerable individuals and households from falling into homelessness or other severe consequences; and to support individuals and households to permanently improve their financial circumstances.

Council commends the joint report by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health and The University of Glasgow, 'Resetting the course for population health: evidence and recommendations to address stalled mortality improvements in Scotland and the rest of the UK'.

Council is deeply disturbed if not surprised by its central finding that "Austerity is highly likely to be the most substantial causal contributor to the stalled mortality trends seen in Scotland and across the UK" and fears that this impact will be further exacerbated by the current crisis in household incomes.

Council agrees that, while primary responsibility for both the causes and solutions to these trends lies within the policy and budget choices of UK governments, Council also has a responsibility to act where it can to support affected citizens.

Council recognises that ensuring that everyone has a safe, warm, dry, affordable home is also fundamental to reducing health inequalities, and therefore, it is vital to work with key local and national stakeholders to coordinate action to maximise the contribution of housing to health improvement. Council acknowledges that the climate and health crisis we face will continue to be exacerbated by this cost of living crisis, that in many ways

they are interconnected and that pace of intervention in the coming years is essential in tackling these crises and building resilience for the future.

Council notes that the report has several recommendations to be progressed at local level – defined as local authority or health board. These recommendations include:

- Provide high-quality money advice and welfare rights services to ensure people receive all the benefits and other entitlements for which they are eligible.
- Use public spend to advance progressive employment practices, including good/fair work, and to create healthier working environments.
- Maximise the potential of City and Regional Growth Deals to reduce inequality and improve health.
- Implement the principles of inclusive economies to ensure that the economy is redesigned to achieve economic, social and health equity
- Design local services for the populations they serve, involving citizens in the design of services wherever possible
- Reduce the cost of public transport for those most in need
- Help prevent poverty by growing a social rented housing sector that is accessible, affordable and provides secure tenancies.
- Extend the housing quality standard to the private rented and tied housing sectors, avoiding associated rental increases or reduced housing availability
- Support communities to diversify economic ownership (e.g. public ownership and co-operatives) of essential resources such as food and energy to build towards a more resilient future for both climate, health and cost of living crisis.

Council welcomes the Bournemouth University collaborative study that will evaluate the public health benefits of community focused health initiatives to improve wellbeing, both mentally and physically and notes the importance of community organisations in the movement for an inclusive, wellbeing economy.

Council understands that Glasgow City Council and our city partners are already advancing work in all of these recommended areas, including but not limited to: the Financial Inclusion in Schools project; the Glasgow Food Policy Partnership; the Glasgow Alliance to End Homelessness; Civic Innovation community pilot work being undertaken by the Centre for Civic Innovation and other ongoing work to support community budgeting and service-co-design; and inclusive and wellbeing-focused economic development practices supported by the Inclusive Growth Diagnostic, the Glasgow Green Deal and the developing Community Wealth-Building Strategy.

Council resolves: to understand what positive outcomes are already being progressed through this and related work; to seek the necessary resources to turn successful pilots into embedded ways of working; and to accelerate the

rollout of these and similar collaborations, pioneering service models and investments to spread and maximise impact across the city, targeting individuals, households and communities in the greatest need.

Council regrets the UK Tory Government's assault on employment rights over the past 12 years, sends our solidarity to striking workers, and calls on the Council to work constructively with workers and trade unions in the months ahead. Council acknowledges that restrictions and lack of support for trade unions nationally will contribute to greater health inequalities in the future.

Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to bring forward a paper to the first appropriate committee after recess, outlining how these objectives can be achieved."

On a vote being taken by calling the roll 33 members voted for the amendment by Councillor Redmond, 2 for the amendment by Bailie Thomas Kerr and 46 for the motion as adjusted, which was accordingly declared to be carried.