

# Liveblog – City of Edinburgh Council Meeting



The Council has called a special meeting today to discuss the Alternative Business Model, and the possible outsourcing of some key roles within council staff.

There is a very short agenda which you can read below.

Before the meeting The Reporter spoke to the Labour Group leader Andrew Burns who said:-“The Labour Group have opposed the Alternative Business Model workstream since its inception in the February 2009 Administration Budget. All the evidence, which we have carefully considered – and our Statutory Duty to deliver best value and balance quality with cost – indicates to us that this procurement process should be terminated and these public services should be retained in-house.”

The Conservative Group have confirmed:-“We are supporting the officers’ recommendations for 2 different ABM proposals.”

The Council explained last week what the ABM process is all about...

*“The officer recommendation [in the report](#) is for MITIE to enter into a partnership contract with the Council for the next seven years. MITIE, as prime contractor, proposes to establish Vital Edinburgh as a wholly owned subsidiary of MITIE Group PLC. Vital Edinburgh will be supported by partners Atkins and Lambert Smith Hampton. This potential strategic partnership is due to be considered by Councillors at a meeting on Thursday, 19 January*

*The officer recommendation is part of the Council’s Alternative Business Models programme. This involved a*

*competitive dialogue process which was agreed by Council in February 2009.*

*A full business case has also been prepared which considers the best value solution to the Council for Corporate and Transactional Services. This analysis concludes that there is not a compelling business case to adopt a partnership model and therefore the Council should terminate the procurement without a contract award.*

*The report recommends that the Council should develop the vision set out within the public sector comparator and immediately implement a programme of improvement of the services included within the Corporate & Transactional Services workstream. Further reports will be made to the appropriate committees as this improvement programme progresses.”*