



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

North West Locality Community Planning Partnership

Friday 10 December 2021, 10.00am
MS Teams

Agenda

1. Welcome & Apologies
2. Minutes of Meeting held 4 October 2021 and Action Tracking
3. North Edinburgh LIP priority - Communities North Portal update by Lynn Loudon, Edinburgh College & Elaine Lennon, Lifelong Learning Development Officer, CEC
4. Locality Improvement Plan Priorities- Quarterly Reports
 - a. Employment & Skills
 - b. Social Isolation
 - c. North Edinburgh
5. Neighbourhood Networks Update
 - a. Western
 - b. Forth
 - c. Inverleith
 - d. Almond
6. AOB
7. Date of Next Meeting



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

NORTH WEST LOCALITY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

Monday 4 Oct 2021: 9.30 – 11:00

Microsoft Teams

MINUTE

Members present

Joan Beattie	Inverleith Neighbourhood Network Representative
Cllr Claire Bridgeman	City of Edinburgh Council
Ramsay Dow	Skills Development Scotland
Percy Fekety	Almond Neighbourhood Network Representative
Cllr George Gordon	City of Edinburgh Council (Co- chair)
Steve Kerr	Western Neighbourhood Network Representative (Co-chair)
Evelyn Kilmurry	City of Edinburgh Council
Mike Massaro-Mallinson	Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership
Liz McIntosh	Queensferry Care, Western & Almond Voluntary Sector Forum rep
Tommy McLean	Corstorphine Community Centre, Western & Almond Voluntary Sector Forum rep
Cllr Max Mitchell	City of Edinburgh Council
Morag Wilson	Forth & Inverleith Voluntary Sector Forum Representative
Dawn Anderson	Forth & Inverleith Voluntary Sector Forum Representative

In attendance

Scott Donkin	City of Edinburgh Council
Michele Mulvaney	City of Edinburgh Council
Garry Sneddon (note)	City of Edinburgh Council

Apologies

Heather Yang	Volunteer Edinburgh
Fred Marinello	Forth Neighbourhood Network Representative

1. Welcome and Apologies

As above

2. Minutes of Meeting held 27 July 2021 and Action Tracking

The minutes and action tracking from the previous meeting were approved.

3. Edinburgh Partnership Update – Michele Mulvaney

Michele provided an update on the last Edinburgh Partnership Board meeting held on 21st September. The LOIP (Community Plan) was presented and milestones and measures set out – the main changes were within the ‘Place to Live’ theme looking closely at sustainability and health inequalities with some work still to do on the covering strategy.

Progress was reported with closure on actions within the Best Value Improvement Plan. Michele was happy to circulate these to the group.

Nick was positive about the progress he had observed.

4. Locality Improvement Plan Update

Employment & Skills

Nick added to the progress report previously circulated. Whilst there has been noticeable continued investment in support and development funding and programmes, there does remain inter-connectivity issues but work is underway to address this. Locally, dialogue continues with the many individuals and organisations that had indicated an interest in becoming involved with and potentially supporting the priority through a local network. Other local activity underway includes:

- Discussion on campus with reduced timetable pupils of which over 250 have participated and there was a wide range of useful activities.
- Benefit locally to the waterfront area – Job Fairs with Police Scotland in attendance put forward till April 2022.
- Mapping exercise – looking at utilising existing Capital City Partnership website.
- Looking at data and measures – this can date back somewhat to around 2017. Need to investigate further and check what Skills Development have in terms of breakdown to localities etc.

Nick highlighted the main challenges going forward will comprise of the ending of the furlough scheme, the cessation of the Universal Credit Uplift and continued labour shortages.

Investment to date, has been healthy within the 16-25 age group in particular and Nick noted that whilst welcomed, there is a need to have more focus on older age groups with a view to re-skilling and training to gain meaningful employment.

Councillor Gordon expressed a declaration of interest as a member of the Capital City Partnership. This will become stated in future papers as they are issued.

Councillor Gordon also suggested Nick speak with Rhona Hunter at the Capital City Partnership on these issues.

Joan highlighted the announcement earlier from the Chancellor regarding the launch of new support schemes likely to involve older age groups.

Nick acknowledged the announcement and suggested that whilst these initiatives did help play a part in assisting people towards new opportunities, they are often time bound and the concern is where do they go once they have gone through that scheme?

Evelyn acknowledged the positive progress and asked how schools might link in with any local network developed.

Nick suggested that this would be welcomed as it would also be good to understand the impact and outcomes from the Pupil Equity Fund. Nick was aware that there is a Headteachers meeting that takes place in each locality and would welcome a list of contacts for him to get in touch.

Action – Nick to be provided with Headteachers contact details.

Martin asked about the success of the H&SC micro-courses and whether they were still working bearing in mind the challenges with the Health and Social Care workforce in the winter period. Martin suggested that perhaps these courses could be carried across each locality.

Nick explained that the college does offer 18-25hour courses for entry level jobs and that SCQF Higher Courses are also made available. Interviews are guaranteed and there has been good demand with high numbers of take up across the city. Martin accepted the unavailability (at present) of NW specific numbers.

Mike was optimistic around these courses providing further skills and a boost for care sector staff before Christmas.

Nick highlighted that this initiative provided good evidence of effective partnership working.

Social Isolation

Mike provided an update to the group.

Mike highlighted that following approval from the LCPP, he and his colleague had attended Inverleith, Western and Forth Neighbourhood Networks to highlight the plans to support activity that will have positive impact on Social Isolation. Each attendance has resulted in very positive discussion.

A GP 'Cluster Meeting' had recently taken place where there was positive feedback on 'Social Prescribing' being piloted and specifically encourages people to participate with healthy walks. This initiative links local GP practices with the voluntary sector and is a good indicator of replacing traditional prescribing to tackle issues.

Due to some capacity issues the anxiety management course 'Health and Mind' will now take place in January 2021.

The 'Safe Places' app promoted with training from Police Scotland is showing good uptake with local businesses.

Mike indicated that there is a positive development taking shape and led by members of the Western Voluntary Sector and Neighbourhood Network to develop a support hub at the Gyle Centre. It's intended to involve a wide range of agencies using a drop in format.

Heather highlighted that from Blackhall there was a request from GP practices for ten volunteers to help reduce the number of home visits needed by encouraging people to get out and about (safely and confidently) again following the effects of the fallout from the pandemic.

Mike expressed that these activities, especially when linked to other initiatives are examples of great pieces of work.

North Edinburgh

Morag spoke to the paper previously circulated and added that further discussions had taken place between herself, Dawn and Lifelong Learning to identify and agree appropriate reporting mechanisms. Much of the focus will be to identify the contribution of the third sector to help tackle poverty and inequalities but it was recognised that capturing information and recording will be supported by colleagues in Lifelong Learning.

It was also highlighted that the scale of the issues and the activity underway will mean that capturing everything will be an impossible task and all involved are keen to ensure there is no duplication related to seeking information from providers wherever possible. With this in mind, it is known that a call was sent out to the third sector by the Poverty Commission to promote where organisations feel they are contributing

and the officer responsible has been contacted with a view to identifying any north based information.

It is also suggested that going forward, case studies will assist to help promote how services are making a difference and a template has been created and will be widely circulated to groups who may wish to get involved.

Dawn explained that the Edinburgh North 'Respond and Recovery' group had paused sub group activity currently to review progress and prioritise activity. Each group has chosen two priorities to take forward for winter and the activity and outcomes can be reported at a later date.

In respect of the activity to develop the Community North Website, Scott explained that work on this progressed almost two years ago and is a collaboration between Lifelong Learning and Edinburgh College and north based service delivery organisations. The intention is to establish a hyper local site that will include as many organisations as possible with intuitive search functions. Scott provided a typical example where a new family moving into the area may search for what's on or happening near them and receive hundreds of responses via a mainstream search engine. The north site will quickly link to specific initiatives, advice and support with information and links to their sites. There remains an opportunity to grow the site as its development was halted as a result of the Pandemic.

Scott suggested a demonstration at the next LCPP.

Cllr Gordon felt that the site would be beneficial as it would help link existing groups to better understand what other services and groups exist locally and promote other local opportunities to get involved e.g. Community Council.

ACTION: Scott to arrange a demonstration and further background at the next LCPP meeting.

5. Neighbourhood Networks Update

Western

Steve updated the group with network progress. The mapping exercise to identify levels of support linked with tackling social isolation has been completed. This was useful as it has helped demonstrate where and when activity takes place and any gaps. The network has agreed to proceed with a 'Youth Decides' model and has committed £5k from Community Grant funds. Lifelong Learning will support. Consideration was being made towards a net zero – meaning carbon footprint made as a result of a project being funded was now an important factor in decision making.

Dave Sinclair (CEC Transport) will be attending the next meeting to talk about progress with projects under the Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP) and it was hoped to offer a notional timeline on project delivery dates.

Edinburgh Zoo's Director of Business and Engagement has made an approach to the network looking at the need to link with the community. They are open to the issues around social isolation and keen to also look now at opportunities with schools to use zoo facilities more beneficially.

Forth

In Fred's absence, Cllr Gordon highlighted that the meeting had been positive and agreement had been reached to establish a funding panel Scott added (from draft notes) that there had now been a couple of discussions in relation to widening participation at the network itself but also in supporting some of the lesser known groups to apply for Community Grant funding.

The Headteacher of Trinity Academy had also been present and was keen to ensure the school is engaged with community activity.

Inverleith

Joan provided the Inverleith update following a meeting on 17th August where 'Lifecare' gave a presentation on how they used their money.

Frustration and disappointment had been expressed at the meeting in respect of NEP projects still not being progressed and further down the line being blocked by the Transport and Environment Committee. Joan provided some examples and highlighted that projects appeared to have been downgraded. Drylaw Park badly needs funding for broken equipment.

Joan expressed concerns around specific challenges she had encountered as a result of attempting to support another local community member of their severe difficulties with digitally accessing registration and log-on challenges with Edindex and Key for Choice systems.

Evelyn responded acknowledging that there has been a service issue and that there had been an evident shift to online channels of contact through the pandemic – Evelyn offered to link in with Joan directly following the meeting on this issue.

ACTION – Evelyn to pick up Joan’s concerns on service issues.

Councillor Gordon acknowledged that equality issues had been identified and that a re-design was now in progress. Councillor Gordon suggested that he would also raise the matter directly with the Convenor of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee.

ACTION – Councillor Gordon to highlight issue to Convenor.

Almond

Percy informed the group that the network had met on 8th September, but no minutes had been received as yet. Percy provided examples of the highlights of the meeting such as a local pipe band seeking funding for use of the Roseberry Hall due to the school being unavailable and a presentation is planned at the next meeting by EVOC.

Dave Sinclair (CEC Transport) presented on progress with local road schemes. There was a query around grants for open spaces and a mental health pilot scheme was being set up. Lots of work still to come to fruition but plenty going on and progress being made.

Percy provided specific grant application details from local groups. So far half of the allocation has been committed (£13k).

6. AOB

Dawn highlighted GP training in 'Green Prescribing' is really making a difference and asked that engagement should possibly be widened by creating larger un-constituted groups by allowing regular faces to encourage and bring in other people.

Both Steve and Councillor Gordon endorsed and approved of this idea as money needs to be spent where it is most needed.

Percy asked if there was a minute of the presentation that Steve did for the EACC. Steve said he would put together a note of the talk on the Best Value Audit and issue to the group

ACTION – Steve to provide a note.

Tommy highlighted a presentation on Social Security Scotland around setting up of their systems and making contact with claimants. Tommy also highlighted the large space available at the Gyle Hub being in its early stages but coming on. There needs to be better linking in with the voluntary sector forums and hoping to set up a Corstorphine Festive Market to widen the footfall to this area from the city centre.

Liz highlighted the 'Keep Safe Project' may broaden out to the west as far as to Edinburgh Airport.

7. DONM

Friday 10th December 2021 at 10am-11.30am

Number	Date	Topic	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Status	Comments
1	05/02/2021	Locality Improvement Plan	Nick to liaise with Council colleagues re linking into schools	Nick			
2	27/05/2021	Bridie Ashrowan from EVOC	Bridie to come back to subsequent meeting to update on progress	Julie			
3	04/10/2021	LIP Update - North Edinburgh	Scott offered colleagues to attend the next LCPP to provide an overview of the portal.	Scott			
4	04/10/2021	Neighbourhood Networks - Inverleith	Evelyn link in with Joan on service issues highlighted.	Evelyn			
5	04/10/2021	Neighbourhood Networks - Inverleith	Councillor Gordon to highlight issue to Convenor	Cllr Gordon			
6	04/10/2021	AOB	Steve to provide minute	Steve			



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

NW Edinburgh Locality Community Planning Partnership

LIP Quarterly Progress Report – Quarter 4 2021

Date of LCPP Meeting for consideration: Friday 10 December 2021

Lead officer: Nick Croft – Edinburgh College

Priority theme: Outcome 2 – Employment, Skills and Education

Actions completed in the last quarter (since the last progress report)

Actions completed against key LIP objectives are:

- 1. Support schools to develop life skills/similar programmes suitable for each cluster** – Schools continue to deliver a wide variety of internal life skills programmes and events, linked to Curriculum for Excellence. The College has secured £3,000 from the Edinburgh College Development Trust and Thomas Telford Trust for work in NW Edinburgh to develop life skills programmes for school pupils showing an interest in attending college. It is intended to run a range of pilot partnership programmes through three secondary schools (Craigroyston, Broughton and Royal high), which bring together the school, college, local third sector voluntary forum, and local businesses.
- 2. Develop flexible training / taster sessions with employers for young people and wider community** – Initial engagement has taken place with some individual employers and through local business and trade associations in NW Edinburgh to discuss an employer offer for local young people e.g. Corstorphine Business Community. Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce employing extra DYW coordinators to College working with local schools to improve the School College Partnership offer – which includes training and taster sessions. The Council has also made available the [Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentives \(EERI\) – The City of Edinburgh Council](#) for businesses in the local area. Capital City Partnership has established a <https://www.joinedupforjobs.org/service-providers/joined-up-for-young-people> to improve coordination and partnership activity between providers for 16 to 25 year-olds. The Council continues to fund and coordinate delivery of Activity Agreements in the area for local school children, in partnership with Barnardo's and Action for Children. DWP continue to deliver Kickstart programmes and have developed a new pre-Kickstart course with Cyrenians and the Salvation Army,
- 3. Develop a suite of options for school leavers – including Edinburgh College, volunteering etc** – Volunteering Edinburgh are working with the CAMHS to provide more volunteering opportunities for young people. Large scale government investment in the Youth Guarantee, National training Transition Fund, College Micro Skills Courses, Kickstart, and Capital City Partnership third party programmes and projects are all been offered to local school leavers. SDS working more closely with the College on school leaver tracking through improved data sharing. The JET programme supports school leavers with experience and level 4 employability award. Fresh start is delivering a Refresh Programme for homeless young people to provide support and improve employability prospects.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

- 4. Develop partnership approach to supporting pupils placed on reduced timetables** – Initial contact has been made with Deputy Head Teachers at local primary and secondary schools, and with those staff who have responsibility for pupil welfare. More work is required to ascertain the number of pupils on reduced timetables, and their various needs, before partnership proposals can be developed.
- 5. Develop North Edinburgh comms app as community database for available jobs/training/volunteering** – Initial mapping of around 30 NW employability, training and education providers completed. New LIP outcome network contact list agreed by partners. All providers to be asked to upload service details to CCP website and join the JU4J Forum at: [Joined Up for Jobs](https://www.joinedupforjobs.org/service-providers/joined-up-for-young-people) and <https://www.joinedupforjobs.org/service-providers/joined-up-for-young-people>. First network took place in November 2021 to update on LIP objectives.
- 6. Maximise local employment opportunities e.g. Granton Waterfront Project, including social enterprise space / community benefits** – £16.5M was secured by the GWD to develop the Gas Holder, from the UK Government’s Shared Prosperity Fund. Initial building works at the tram / train station are now underway. Partners in the area are beginning to explore community benefit opportunities from large scale public contracts awarded in the area to maximise local job and training opportunities - [Homepage \(esescommunities.org\)](http://www.esescommunities.org)
- 7. Develop local “Jobs Fairs”** – Granton Waterfront Development Project and Police Scotland organised a community engagement event to plan for the [North Edinburgh Community Day - Community Planning Meeting Tickets, Tue 23 Nov 2021 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/north-edinburgh-community-day-community-planning-meeting-tickets-23-nov-2021-at-14-00). The event is planned for May 2022 and funding of £2000 has been sourced from the Edinburgh College Development Trust and Thomas Telford Trust to organise the event.
- 8.** still progressing proposals for local Jobs Fair in April 2022 in Granton.
- 9. Better use of learning estate i.e., college, libraries, community centres, voluntary sector spaces** – The temporary location of Muirhouse Library Services at the College’s Granton campus was launched on 11 October 2021. Local communities, college students and nursery children are now accessing this provision. [Edinburgh Pallet](https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/news/2021/10/11/edinburgh-pallet) has announced that it will be locating to West Shore Drive to set up new operations in council owned premises there. More community centres in the area are resuming learning activities in the area for local residents. North Edinburgh Arts are temporarily locating to West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre.
- 10. Improving progression pathways** – Recruitment for College January 2022 course start is underway via their new website ([Welcome to Edinburgh College | Edinburgh College](https://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/)). Around 2000 students per week are currently on campus. GWD Project published, and is now actively consulting, on their new ‘Learning Strategy’ - <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/28867/learning-strategy>.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Milestones expected to be achieved in the next quarter

1. Continued improved coordination of employability services to 16 to 25-year-old age range.
2. May 2022 Community Jobs Fair arrangements confirmed.
3. Engagement with schools to deliver actions 1, 3 and 4 progressed significantly.
4. Further work required on developing KPIs and up to date related performance data

Barriers/challenges (physical, partnership, financial etc)

1. CV19 Pandemic impacts on the reduction in face to face / on site educational engagement and learning has had a negative impact on learners. Important to recommence, within guidelines, the resumption of more face to face / on site learning.
2. The end of Furlough period at September 2021 will likely lead to higher unemployment and universal credit claims. UC claims already risen by around 140% in the last quarter. Important for NW providers to work more closely with SDS and DWP to ensure support for affected individuals.

Wider factors/influencers (i.e. legislative changes)

1. EU Withdrawal impacts on NW yet to be specifically defined, but likely to affect hospitality, construction and technical sectors and export sectors most.
2. Covid 19 Pandemic end of Furlough period and proposed reductions in Universal credit, plus, ongoing pandemic impacts on reductions in face to face delivery of services and continued closure of premises.

Community engagement undertaken

Local business engagement.

Local community and third sector service provider engagement.

School engagement.

Direct community engagement on community jobs fair proposals.

Case study examples – please complete for any examples of success/good practice that has been achieved to date under this priority

TBC

For LCPP delivery group to complete

Date considered:

Is the priority on track? Y/N

Any decisions to be taken? (i.e. change of actions, escalation)

Feedback to lead officer (if any)



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Date of LCPP group for consideration: 10th December 2021

Lead officer: Mike Massaro-Mallinson (EHSCP)

Priority theme: Theme 1 – Social Isolation

LIP quarterly progress report

A. Actions completed in the last quarter (since the last progress report)

1. *Preparatory work for trial of short walk referral service from GP practices, in partnership with Volunteer Edinburgh, for socially isolated patients at risk of becoming frail and/or housebound*

Data Protection Impact Assessment and Data Sharing Agreement submitted to NHS Lothian Information Governance; currently awaiting final approval. Service will be trialled from Blackhall Medical Centre in the first instance. We had hoped this could start in autumn but the information governance requirements have taken longer than anticipated.

Contributes to shared outcomes framework...	
Activities	Short-term outcomes
Reduce impact of barriers to participation (inc. financial, digital inclusion, frailty)	People feel confident to take part in varied activities and meet people
Increase social prescribing, including green prescribing	

2. *Networking and partnership working continues to support the development of a drop-in wellbeing hub and community space at The Gyle shopping centre through links with local community organisations, Health and Social Care Partnership teams, Thrive etc.*

Decorating of the space will be going ahead over the next few weeks, with an aim to launch in December. Thrive¹ is also now considering the space as a test site for a drop-in information station, a way of expanding the successful Mental Health Information Station model (in Walpole Hall) to more local venues.

The project coordinator is Esther Elliot from Work Place Chaplaincy Scotland, a West NN and Almond & West VSF member. Any organisations interested in being involved can contact Esther at esther.elliott@wpcscotland.co.uk

¹ Thrive is the Adult Mental Health Strategy for Edinburgh



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Contributes to shared outcomes framework...	
Activities	Short-term outcomes
Raise awareness of existing opportunities to connect	A wide range of activities that promote physical and mental wellbeing are available in NW
Increase opportunities for befriending/ companionship, and peer support	People can easily find out about activities that interest them
Promote “everyday” techniques to improve mental wellbeing and resilience	People are able to access support that is right for them

3. *Promotion of the Police Scotland/‘I Am Me’ Keep Safe initiative through the NN, VSF and other subgroup networks.*

PS are training a number of ‘champions’ for the scheme, including young people, that will be able to undertake the initial premises assessment. As premises assessment involves a site visit it is quite time consuming, so a larger number of people trained to complete this will help move new organisations into the scheme more quickly. Once premises have been assessed as suitable, training for staff can be completed in a relatively short period.

In addition to a number of smaller businesses, Morrisons and Tesco have both expressed an interest in enrolling in the scheme and this will be explored further after the festive period. Geographical spread is kept under review in order to develop Keep Safe travel ‘corridors’ along popular routes. Enrolled premises can be seen on the Keep Safe app (see <https://iammescotland.co.uk/about-keep-safe> for information and links to download app).

There has so far been a limited response from community pharmacies and health care premises, but this was expected given the current pressure on all health services which will likely be sustained throughout the winter period. The plan is to continue sign-ups in other sectors first and encourage engagement in HSC sector after the winter.

Contributes to shared outcomes framework...	
Activities	Short-term outcomes
Reduce impact of barriers to participation (inc. financial, digital inclusion, frailty)	People feel confident to take part in varied activities and meet people

4. *Increase anxiety management & wellbeing provision in West Edinburgh*

A suitable venue had been identified for an anxiety management course in West Edinburgh, facilitated by Health in Mind (this is part of the range of activities commissioned from Health in Mind through Thrive Edinburgh that run across the city). An 8-week course was facilitated in NE Edinburgh by HiM in October, with the venue funded by the primary care link worker network and clients referred to the course by their community link worker. Learning from that experience suggests that a change in format might be more suitable for West Edinburgh e.g. a shorter series, or one-off workshops, and these options are now being explored.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Contributes to shared outcomes framework...	
Activities	Short-term outcomes
Support the remobilisation of services and activities following the COVID19 pandemic	A wide range of activities that promote physical and mental wellbeing are available in NW
Promote “everyday” techniques to improve mental wellbeing and resilience	People are able to access support that is right for them

5. *Links with NN social isolation work*

The social Isolation group members are represented within the NNs, and the increased collaboration and working relationships between the various members and organisations on the group also supports the social isolation work within the NNs, and vice versa.

With the launch of the [Edinburgh Community Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund](#) administered by EVOG, there is a good opportunity to access funds for community activities that promote social networks, and the subgroup members are actively supporting the development of expressions of interest to this fund.

6. *Links with other LIP Themes*

Work ongoing under the *LIP Theme 3 – North Edinburgh* includes much activity that is directly relevant to the reducing social isolation priority. The leads for Theme 3 also attend the social isolation subgroup to maximise links between these priority themes. The social isolation subgroup has agreed that in the report for the social isolation theme each quarter, it would be sensible to include a brief note on progress under Theme 3.

The small North Edinburgh area has developed a collective of 20 organisations – the Respond and Recovery group - working together since the start of the pandemic to ensure all people in the community have the support, goods and services they need. The 5 working groups of the collective meet regularly to share information and resources which also allows gaps in provision to be identified.

This collective is pulling together case studies and key statistics to report to the NN, VSF and LCPP showing the collective impact of this work. This will be rolled out from 1st April 2022, but information collated for 2021 / 22 will be available at the end of this financial year.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

B. Milestones expected to be achieved in the next quarter

- Short walk service trial up and running from Blackhall MC
- Complete health walk/green prescribing case study and promote to other GP practices
- Explore closer working with local Scottish Ambulance Service crews as a way to identify and support social isolated people
- Explore closer working with drug and alcohol teams e.g. outreach to temporary accommodation across the locality to link people in temporary accommodation with local activities
- Continue to support the development of community spaces and activities including at least one trial local mental health information station trial through Thrive e.g. at the Gyle
- Strengthen links with Neighbourhood Networks and identify how we can best support the priorities they have identified
- Continue to support the roll out of the Keep Safe scheme
- Further develop links with Theme 2: Employment & Skills workstream
- Promote the [Edinburgh Community Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund](#) in NW locality and support development of Expressions of Interest that reduce social isolation

C. Barriers/challenges (physical, partnership, financial etc)

Significant pressure and waiting lists across health and social care services has knock on effect on third sector organisations, many of them also stretched.

Ongoing, considerable workforce disruption across most agencies (absence due to COVID self-isolation, other respiratory infections as weather cools, impact of Brexit on employment market).

Winter weather and shorter days in general discourages participation in community activities.

D. Wider factors/influencers (i.e. legislative changes)

Change in national policy on scheduling and pace of COVID booster programme announced in late November, has knock on effect on availability of HSC staff and volunteers to get involved in other initiatives.

E. Community engagement undertaken

No direct community engagement this quarter though there is ongoing, regular participation of subgroup members through the NN, VSFs and Community Councils.

F. Case study examples – please complete for any examples of success/good practice that has been achieved to date under this priority

See activities noted above.

NWLCPP: Reducing Social Isolation in NW Edinburgh, shared outcomes framework (version 29.09.21)

We reach these groups

- Families on low incomes
- Young people
- New parents and young families
- Isolated older people
- Carers
- Those who are housebound
- Those with no recourse to public funds
- Those who are struggling with stress/distress

To address these issues

- Changes in life circumstances can be isolating and social networks can shift
- People don't always know about activities and support available
- People lack confidence to make new connections and take part
- Opportunities for connection and support are not always available or accessible

Our activities

- Support the remobilisation of services and activities following the COVID19 pandemic
- Raise awareness of existing opportunities to connect
- Reduce impact of barriers to participation (inc. financial, digital inclusion, frailty)
- Link with and support the actions of the LIP Employment and Skills workstream to promote welfare and employability advice
- Increase social prescribing, including green prescribing
- Increase opportunities for befriending/ companionship, and peer support
- Promote "everyday" techniques to improve mental wellbeing and resilience
- Support NN with their identified priorities as relevant

Our short-term outcomes

- A wide range of activities that promote physical and mental wellbeing are available in NW
- People can easily find out about activities that interest them
- People are able to access support that is right for them
- People feel confident to take part in varied activities and meet people
- People have strong social networks

How we work:

- We work in a spirit of collaboration and learning.
- We foster good relationships and trust.
- We start from local knowledge and context.
- We build on community resilience, rather than statutory interventions or services.
- We recognise that all ages and groups can be affected by social isolation at different stages of life.
- We consider how our activities can best help to reduce poverty and inequality.

Our medium-term outcomes*

- Vulnerable members of our communities feel less isolated and more engaged with community life and key organisations, helping improve mental and physical wellbeing
- * As set out in the North West Locality Improvement Plan (LIP) 2017-2022. The LIP is a legislative requirement of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and a key responsibility of the Edinburgh Partnership.*

For LCPP delivery group to complete

Date considered:

Is the priority on track? Y/N

Any decisions to be taken? (i.e. change of actions, escalation)

Feedback to lead officer (if any)



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

LIP Quarterly Progress Report

Date of LCPP group for consideration: Friday 10th December 2021

Lead officer: Dawn Anderson / Morag Wilson (NVSF) (Supported by CEC Lifelong Learning)

Priority theme: 3. North Edinburgh

GENERAL:

There remains a continued emphasis on establishing appropriate structure to coordinate efforts in supporting as many people as possible who may be affected by poverty and/or inequality of outcome. The winter months and other associated factors will be challenging for many families and the service delivery organisations.

Links between existing structures including the Covid Respond & Recovery Group, VSF and Neighbourhood Network continues to strengthen.

Actions completed in the last quarter (since the last progress report)

Overarching High level outcome: *'Develop a robust mechanism for engaging with the community to articulate and develop plans to combat poverty and inequality in North Edinburgh'*

The COVID Response and Recovery Group – (R2), continues to develop and has a sub structure to assist with managing key aspects and themes of the agreed framework which focusses on tackling issues associated with poverty and inequality:

- Children and Young People – chaired by Scott Donkin (CEC)
- Ensuring Mental Wellbeing – chaired by Sheila Thomson (Community Renewal)
- Tackling Place – chaired by Kate Wimpres (NEA)
- Tackling Poverty – chaired by Bidy Kelly (Fresh Start)
- Connecting the Dots – chaired by Bidy Kelly (Fresh Start)

The design and delivery is led by third sector organisations with other partners involved, either supporting delivery or with an interest in the overall approach.

A gathering of over 20 representatives from different organisations was held on 30th September and a subsequent meeting of the Joining the Dots Group took place on 5th November to begin identifying what might be the emerging priorities for collaborative working and delivery of services aimed at the most vulnerable residents in the coming months and to identify the best approaches for prioritisation of activity next year. The immediate priorities have been discussed and agreed.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Key activities and developments are to include:

- Staff and volunteer training from Granton Information Centre (GIC) for sign posting for debt management;
- Access to services and providing right opportunities at the right time for everyone;
- Cross sector referrals and internal referrals among partners;
- Information / communication – creating the correct information aimed at the right people – using different mediums.

Immediate Priorities:

- Holiday hunger – collaborative approach to this over the school holidays within the pantry network.
- Community meals happening with a variety of different partners – Granton Community Gardeners (GCG), Scran, Stepping Stones and Pilton Community Health Project (PCHP);
- Co-ordination of Christmas hampers across the area;
- Development of staff training from GIC to be rolled out;
- Development of drop in advice and information places of access.

Planned activity to support approaches:

- Co-ordinated funding applications, some of which will promote collective approaches and others better aligned to individual organisations but linking into the wider aims of R2 (Covid Respond & Recover);
- Chairs from working groups to meet to agree key priorities for 2022 and to agree measures and data collection to support how specific aspects of the framework are measured;

Whilst data collection is important, fully understanding the role of organisations in working with and supporting residents must be used to provide wider context and complexity including resource, time and partnership working to achieve what will appear in data as a number. Brief case studies will continue to be collected and promoted to the LCPP and other bodies to help provide clarity.

Emerging Issues – Dawn Anderson

It was felt that this would be an opportunity to promote emerging issues that will impact on organisations ability to fully support some of our most vulnerable members of our communities.

The ambition outlined by the work of the R2 activity has come about as a result of the pandemic and an identified need to create and improve joint working across not only the



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

third sector, but also statutory partners. One of the critical aspects supporting some of the successes experienced during lockdown and subsequent restrictions, was the reduction and, in some cases, removal of what might have been referred to as 'red tape'. Individuals most likely to be affected by the situation were referred and moved through systems and supported quicker than ever before.

The first annual report from the ¹Edinburgh Poverty Commission highlights good progress made with some significant actions e.g. double the crisis and community care grants provided, an increase in take up of free school meals and school uniform grants, over 45,000 meals distributed across the city and investment in advice and income maximisation services securing £22m of financial gain for Edinburgh's citizens.

These and more actions included in the report are welcomed and will undoubtedly make a difference. However, according to the recent ²EiJB report on Population Health & Inequalities, the pandemic has exacerbated health and inequality. One of the key descriptors relates to lack of secure employment, good digital connectivity and personal transport directly affecting the ability to adhere to the guidance and restrictions as outlined by Scottish Government. It's also suggested that women have been disproportionately affected through loss of work or reduced income and with increased childcare and domestic responsibilities.

Third sector organisations are engaging people at grass roots where these and many other challenges are present. Those operating in the third sector can be identified at times as providing triage and undertaking community-based support, linking people with other local services and often supporting social needs. Where necessary, referrals are made where the need is greater than locally based projects can support. There continues to be high numbers coming through the doors, but the ability to promote these referrals across key partners appears to have slowed. There are concerns that some of the red tape is returning.

Pre pandemic, local people were presenting with issues that may have determined a need to access a single service, since the pandemic and linked to the issues highlighted by the EiJB report, many people are presenting at grass roots with more complex needs however, waiting lists appearing to be increasing.

It's suggested that alongside the issues identified, people will start to feel the effects of other (financial) aspects such as end of furlough, loss of £20 per week from Universal Credit and rising fuel bills. It is known that Loan Sharks appear to be increasing their presence in the area.

Third sector organisations are operating at capacity. There are therefore concerns that should there be an increase or surge in demand from people locally who are perhaps only

¹ End poverty in Edinburgh Annual Progress report.

² EiJB - [Population health and inequalities in Edinburgh - Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership \(edinburghhsc.scot\)](https://www.edinburghhsc.scot.gov.uk/population-health-and-inequalities-in-edinburgh)



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

now beginning to be impacted as a result of the pandemic and associated factors, demand could outweigh local provision, especially where challenges around referrals exist. With what measures can be taken to ensure they can access what might be vital services?

Those organisations engaging with vulnerable individuals and families appreciate the significant challenges faced by statutory services. Therefore, a discussion would be welcomed around the perception of the returning red tape and if this is something that needs to be addressed quickly. Similarly, how might we better plan for other emerging issues.

The case study provided later highlights where positive partnership working makes a difference to the lives of people that need them most.

ACTIONS:

'Deliver North Edinburgh comms platform in conjunction with Edinburgh college and link with Edinburgh Partnership's emerging Community Engagement and Communications Strategies'

www.communitynorth.scot – an overview of the background and a demonstration of the site functionality will be provided at the LCPP meeting.

Milestones expected to be achieved in the next quarter

Overarching:

- R2 work will continue to evolve with those involved identifying and sourcing further funding to support immediate and longer term priorities;

Barriers/challenges (physical, partnership, financial etc)

Overarching:

The winter is likely to present significant challenges to supporting vulnerable families and individuals across the area. R2 will continue to meet as a collective and are preparing plans to support activity with the available resources.

VSF will also continue to meet to share good practice and identify further development opportunities.

Website

- Need to identify funding for ongoing maintenance and development – c.£6k per annum



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Wider factors/influencers (i.e. legislative changes)

N/A

Community engagement undertaken

Overarching:

Progress regarding the Locality Improvement Plan Priority 3 and associated input from the R2 Group activity have taken place at the Forth Neighbourhood Network on 5th November.

Case study examples – please complete for any examples of success/good practice that has been achieved to date under this priority

Introduction:

The following provides a brief overview of a case study provided by Pilton Community Health Project.

GP registration case study

JJ lives in nearby temporary accommodation after being homeless previously and was registered at the Homeless Practice. Because of his health issues, JJ was unable to travel to visit the Homeless Practice to be seen by a GP. JJ was in a particularly vulnerable position and had to sleep on a chair rather than a bed due to longstanding pain. JJ had no money and no credit on his phone due to DWP cutting his Universal Credit and was also in debt from previous issues with accessing this benefit. JJ's accommodation was not adequately furnished and he did not have capacity in the kitchen to cook meals. Additionally, due to lack of phone reception in his temporary accommodation he could not receive incoming calls so initially we had to have a text first then call arrangement so he could go outside his door to get the call.

PCHP support worker spoke with the manager of Bangholm Practice because JJ was particularly vulnerable and would need a lot of support from the GPs as well as support to register. The Bangholm Practice Manager advised that he could book an appointment as soon as he registers and recommended two GPs who could then see him initially on a regular basis to ensure he was getting the healthcare he required.

then referred JJ for an urgent social work assessment and he is now linked with a social worker. PCHP support worker also referred JJ to Granton Information Centre for support to resolve the benefit freeze issue and engage him about debt worries. JJ was then referred to the Bethany Trust for help with items of furniture and some cooking materials.

JJ has now stabilised and has an opportunity to access further support from his social worker and GP regarding his health difficulties.

For LCPP delivery group to complete

Date considered:

Is the priority on track? Y/N

Any decisions to be taken? (i.e. change of actions, escalation)

Feedback to lead officer (if any)



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

