

Public Document Pack



Meeting Tuesday, 28 June 2022
Time 2.00 pm to Time Not Specified
Venue Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

Edinburgh Partnership Board

Pages

1. Welcome and Meeting Protocols

1.1 Welcome and Meeting Protocols

2. Declaration of Interests

2.1 Declarations of Interest

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5.7 Recovery Planning - update from Members Verbal

5 Future Meetings

6.1 Date of Next Meeting

- Tuesday 6 September 2022 2-4pm
- Tuesday 6 December 2022 2-4pm
- Tuesday 7 March 2023 2-4pm
- Tuesday 13 June 2023 2-4pm



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Wednesday 15 March 2022 – 2:00pm - Meeting held via Microsoft Teams

MINUTE

Board members present

Cllr Adam McVey	The City of Edinburgh Council
Audrey Cumberland	Edinburgh College
Gavin Donoghue	The University of Edinburgh
Cllr Cammy Day	The City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Robert Aldridge	The City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Susan Rae	The City of Edinburgh Council
Andrew Kerr	The City of Edinburgh Council
Steve Kerr	Edinburgh Association of Community Councils
Angus McCann	Chair of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board
Dona Milne	NHS Lothian
Lorne Ian Campbell	Ministry of Defence
Calum Campbell	NHS Lothian
Dave McCallum	Skills Development Scotland
David Milne	Scottish Government
Stephen Gourlay	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Mark McMullen	Scottish Enterprise

In attendance

Sam Ainslie	Police Scotland
Crawford McGhie	The City of Edinburgh Council
Daniel Greig	The City of Edinburgh Council
Gavin King	The City of Edinburgh Council
Gavin Sharp	The City of Edinburgh Council
Iain Brooke	EVOG
Judith Proctor	The City of Edinburgh Council
Lynn McMath	The University of Edinburgh
Nick Croft	Edinburgh College
Paula McLeay	The City of Edinburgh Council
Michele Mulvaney	The City of Edinburgh Council
Chris Adams	The City of Edinburgh Council

Apologies

Bridie Ashrowan	EVOG
Sean Scott	Police Scotland

1 Minutes

Decision

To agree the minutes of 15 December 2021 as a correct record, subject to the correction of the minutes to reflect that David Milne (Scottish Government) was in attendance and at item 1, to change the wording from 'raided' to 'raised'.

2 Humanitarian City Aid to Ukraine

An update was provided on the Council's humanitarian response to the conflict which was ongoing in Ukraine involving:

1. A Homes for Ukraine Scheme which was announced by the Home Office whereby a named sponsor would accommodate a refugee within their own home and further detail on the scheme was to be announced;
2. Welcome and arrivals;
3. Resettlement scheme – matching families to accommodation from private landlords and hotels alongside plans for dispersal;
4. Community integration – maximising the benefits;
5. Data stream – in order to know who was coming into the country and to foresee what help would be required;
6. Voluntary befriending schemes;
7. Supporting vulnerable women and children coming into the city.

Gavin Sharp advised that daily meetings were taking place with the key agencies supporting the humanitarian response and support was in place at gateways into the city such as train stations and airports. There was a 24-hour vulnerable hotline for Ukrainian arrivals. The Council Communications team were providing support alongside the Council translation service.

The focus was to seek an appropriate facility for the location for a welcome centre, the Council was underway with discussions on a number of appropriate sites which were near the airport.

The NHS representatives highlighted the potential stress of stress on the hospital system by taking large numbers of people into the city, and it was agreed that the NHS colleagues would be invited to the Officer Steering Group meeting which took place each Friday.

It was noted that unaccompanied children were expected to represent a significant portion of the refugee population and assurances were made that this was being considered and plans were being made to sensitively and adequately support this cohort of refugees.

Plans and preparations had been made for temporary accommodation, but this had not yet been required.

It was requested that If members of The Partnership had any offers of support, to relay this to Gavin Sharp to ensure the support available could be presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the update.
- 2) For Partners to advise Gavin Sharp of offers of support to assist Ukrainian people who were settling in Edinburgh.
- 3) To agree to invite NHS representatives to the weekly meeting.

3 Rising Energy Costs

The Edinburgh Partnership reflected on the matter of rising energy costs, which was considered a significant concern and an area of priority for the Edinburgh Partnership to address, via a quick action plan. It was agreed that The Strategy Manager (Communities) would be the nominated Officer who would act as the lead for members of the Partnership wishing to discuss the Edinburgh partnership's response to rising energy costs and that discussions would take place to develop a quick action plan for rising living costs.

Decision

- 1) To agree that the Strategy Manager (Communities) of the City of Edinburgh Council would be the point of contact for Edinburgh Partnership Members for issues related to rising living costs.
- 2) To agree that the Edinburgh Partnership would discuss the potential for the Partnership to develop a quick action plan in response to the issue of rising living costs.

4 Place Based Opportunities Board

The Place Based Opportunities Board was set up between public sector partners to promote cross partner working and investigate opportunities across the city to develop a coordinated asset-based approach to the delivery of public services and place making. As new governance structures involving partners, such as the Climate Strategy Infrastructure Investment Programme Board and 20 Minute Neighbourhood Programme Board, began to emerge to tackle recovery priorities across the city, a review of how the activity of the Place Based Opportunities Board aligned to the new structures was propose and the views of the Edinburgh Partnership were sought.

Decision

- 1) To agree to consider ways to appropriately merge the work of the Place Based Opportunities Board with the governance structures which were emerging.
- 2) To agree to request a further report to a future meeting which reflected the considerations of the Edinburgh Partnership and other stakeholders and presented recommendations for future governance of strategic partnership place making activity.

5 Local Outcome Improvement Plan

The Edinburgh Partnership was required to produce a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The plan, approved in 2018, had been revised to reflect policy shifts in the city, the effects of Covid-19, the climate emergency and findings of the Best Value Assurance Audit in 2020. The primary focus remained to tackle poverty and inequality which was the single most critical challenge faced by community planning partners in the city. A draft version of the plan for approval was submitted and would require subsequent formal agreement of individual partners through their governance arrangements.

Decision

- 1) To agree to approve the Edinburgh Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2022-2028;
- 2) To note that the approval of the Edinburgh Partnership LOIP required the formal agreement of individual partners through their governance arrangements.
- 3) To agree that that the delivery plan would be updated to include timelines.
- 4) To agree that partners would advise Michele Mulvaney when approval of the LOIP was secured from constituent organisations forming the partnership, so that there was a record of the approval being made for the funding.

6 Edinburgh Partnership Resourcing

An update on the resourcing requirements of the Edinburgh Partnership was presented. This followed on from the budget report in December 2021 where it was agreed to consider resource requirements to meet development and operational costs of the Partnership. This work was being taken forward on a phased basis to ensure there was a comprehensive assessment of the needs across all aspects of the Edinburgh Partnership arrangements. This was being jointly led by the Community Planning Support Team and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

Delivery Group. Each phase of work, including proposals for the decision of the Board at this meeting was presented and the final phase would comprise a comprehensive report to the Board in June 2022.

Decision

- 1) To note the phased approach and progress in identifying resource requirements as set out in the report.
- 2) To agree the outcome of phase one to reprioritise the existing budget to a general pot to meet one off development and operational costs as identified in paragraph 3.9 of the report.
- 3) To agree to fund the BAME Citizens Panel activity as identified in paragraph 3.12.1 under phase 1 of the report.
- 4) To agree to allocate £8,556 to meet one-off small-scale costs.
- 5) To agree that all partners make a financial contribution to the Edinburgh Partnership to meet the requests under phase 2 as identified in paragraphs 3.12.2 and 3.12.11 of the report.
- 6) To agree to receive the phase 3 comprehensive resource proposal in June 2022.

5) Recovery Planning

Partners gave an update in respect of their recovery planning arrangements following on from the pandemic.

The NHS advised that the number of people with Covid in hospital was quite high, and that management of expectations was important and that scheduled and unscheduled care was under pressure.

The Council was progressing with plans to bring some teams back in a hybrid format with the focus on meeting room ventilation and not too many people meeting at work. There was a team working on the return to the office arrangements.

Decision

To note partners' updates.

6) Date of Next Meeting

- Tuesday 28 June 2022 at 2pm

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Edinburgh Partnership Resources

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on progress on Edinburgh Partnership resourcing following the recommendations agreed by the Board at its meeting in March 2022.
- 1.2 Information is provided in respect of the three phases of work, and confirms the financial support secured from partners under phase 2 of the programme to progress the End Poverty Edinburgh funding and a partnership citywide survey to support organisational and partnership performance data.
- 1.3 The report highlights that while Year 1 funding for a joint survey is secure, there is a shared challenge in committing ongoing funding for organisations with annual budgets. This presents a future risk to a longitudinal survey which will have to be addressed on an ongoing basis

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to:
 - i. note the progress in relation to phase 1;
 - ii. note the confirmation of funding commitments by partners;
 - iii. allocate £25,000 to the End Poverty Edinburgh Citizen's Group and £60,000 to support the Edinburgh Partnership survey;
 - iv. agree that partners, where appropriate, will provide final confirmation of their financial contributions as agreed by their own governance by 1 July 2022;
 - v. note the risk of annual budgets to securing funding for a longitudinal survey and agree that partners prioritise future years contributions to the Edinburgh Partnership survey as part of their annual budget setting process;
 - vi. agree to hold a dedicated meeting of partner financial leads to discuss the future funding pressures associated with phase 3 and consider a resourcing forward plan.

3. Main Report

3.1 The Board agreed at its meeting in March a three phased programme of work in relation to the resourcing of Edinburgh Partnership. Set out below is a summary of the activity carried out to progress the Board's decisions.

Phase 1

3.2 This phase focused on immediate calls on the existing Edinburgh Partnership budget. This included

3.2.1 £5,000 to support the BAME citizens panel;

3.2.2 £1,000 towards the development of the empowerment strategy; and

3.2.3 £1,500 for facilitation for a workshop on community wealth building.

3.3 A further call has been identified to support the facilitation of a LOIP priority 3 workshop in August, at a potential cost of circa £1,500. With this there is a notional residual budget of £7,056 to meet small scale ongoing costs.

Phase 2

3.4 Under Phase 2, support was sought and agreed for the End Poverty Edinburgh Citizen's Group and the Edinburgh Partnership survey as summarised in the table below.

Edinburgh Partnership Resource Commitments					
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Edinburgh Survey	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000
End Poverty Edinburgh Citizen's Group	£25,000				
Total Expenditure	£101,056	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000
Partnership contribution requirement	£85,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000

3.5 Following the meeting, the ten active public body members of the Board were asked to confirm the level of contribution each was able to commit. The responses are set out below, noting where they are confirmed or provisional subject to organisational sign off. It should be noted that these are based on the current financial year only, future years financial support will require to be subject to further consideration by partners as part of their annual budget setting process.

Partner	Contribution (£) 2022/23	Status
City of Edinburgh Council	40,000	Partially confirmed
NHS Lothian	12,000	Confirmed
Police Scotland	10,000	Provisional
Fire and Rescue Service	4,000	Provisional
Edinburgh University	10,000	Confirmed
Edinburgh College	2,000	Confirmed
Skills Development Scotland	2,000	Confirmed
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	0	Still under consideration
Scottish Enterprise	0	No response
Armed Forces	0	No financial control to fund
Capital City Partnership*	5,000	Confirmed
Total	85,000	
Budget required	85,000	
Outstanding	0	

* Whilst not a member of the Board as lead organisation for LOIP Priority 2, Capital City Partnership has agreed to make a financial contribution.

- 3.6 As noted above, the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board is still considering a contribution and there has been no response to date from Scottish Enterprise. There is no financial control available to the Edinburgh Garrison, Armed Forces to allow for a contribution. Other partners still require to formally confirm their contributions and partners are asked to do this by Friday, 1 July 2022.
- 3.7 This results in sufficient funds having been secured (subject to final confirmation from partners) to support the End Poverty Edinburgh Citizen's Group and Edinburgh Partnership survey in this financial year. As further years contributions will be subject to partners budget setting processes, there is a risk, given the indication from the Scottish Government of the challenging financial picture ahead, that support for future years will not be secured.
- 3.8 The value of this work was recognised during discussions with partners, and the opportunity if afforded to not only the Edinburgh Partnership but also in providing data for organisational use.



3.9 Work to progress the co-design of the survey is underway.

Phase 3

3.10 It was noted that under phase 1 and 2 of the programme of work only immediate budget calls were identified. Further work was required to provide a comprehensive picture of the resource needs to support the LOIP delivery plan and development of the Neighbourhood Networks.

3.11 Whilst initial discussion has taken place it is too early in the development process for detailed business cases to be produced. However, future support requests are anticipated for

3.11.1 the implementation of the findings from the advice service review;

3.11.2 actions to increase access to affordable credit;

3.11.3 work to support care experienced young people;

3.11.4 activity to progress priority 3 following a workshop in the autumn; and

3.11.5 support requirements for the Neighbourhood Networks.

3.12 The Edinburgh Association of Community Councils is also seeking financial support from the Edinburgh Partnership and this is covered elsewhere on the agenda.

3.13 With these anticipated further requests, which are critical to the delivery of the LOIP, it is proposed to hold a dedicated meeting of financial leads from each of the partners to consider a forward plan for Edinburgh Partnership resourcing, recognising the collaborative gain that can be achieved particularly at a time of increasing budgetary pressures.

4. Contact

Name – Michele Mulvaney, Strategy Manager (Communities)
Michele.mulvaney@edinburgh.gov.uk



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Ending Poverty-Related Hunger in Edinburgh

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In response to calls to action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, the Edinburgh Partnership committed to the development of a new strategy setting out the partnership responses needed to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh.
- 1.2 This paper provides a progress update on work carried out to date in development of this strategy. The paper describes the engagement and research activities led by City of Edinburgh Council and EVOG in design of a new approach to ending poverty related hunger, and a draft paper for public consultation to support next steps in the strategy's development.
- 1.3 The draft strategy sets the partnership a mission to ensure that no one in Edinburgh should need to go hungry because of a lack of money. In doing so, the draft proposes that partners should aim to ensure that:
 - 1.3.1 When people fall into food crisis, Edinburgh networks aim to give a cash first approach to providing support
 - 1.3.2 Where emergency food provision is needed, people can access support in ways that are safe, dignified, respectful, and prevent future need
 - 1.3.3 Community food initiatives are available in all parts of Edinburgh to build people's wellbeing, improve skills and confidence, and help people access the supports they need to get by.
- 1.4 To deliver these aims, the draft strategy outlines five short to medium term strategic actions for the Edinburgh Partnership. These include actions to
 - 1.4.1 improve collaboration,
 - 1.4.2 secure sustainable resources,
 - 1.4.3 set agreed standards and principles,
 - 1.4.4 improve accessibility of support, and
 - 1.4.5 improve communication and awareness of available supports.
- 1.5 In the immediate term, the paper notes that pressures arising from the cost of living crisis are resulting in a significant increase in the risk of poverty related hunger. Actions needed to address these short term risks are outlined in a separate paper for consideration by the partnership.
- 1.6 As next steps, the paper proposes a period of further research, engagement, and consultation on these findings over the period July to September, with a final draft

strategy to be prepared for consideration by the Edinburgh Partnership in December 2022.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Edinburgh Partnership:
- i. Notes that the current cost of living crisis is resulting in a significant increase in poverty related hunger, and that work underway to mitigate this risk is outlined in a separate paper for partnership consideration
 - ii. Approves the draft paper (Appendix 1) for public consultation during July to September
 - iii. Notes the further research and engagement planned to support strategy development
 - iv. Agrees to establish an Edinburgh Food Network, following models observed in other local authorities, to promote collaboration and partnership working across the sector.
 - v. Agrees that a final draft strategy and action plan will be prepared for consideration by the Edinburgh Partnership in December 2022.

3. Main Report

- 3.1 In 2021 the Edinburgh Partnership approved a proposed approach to the development of a new partnership strategy to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh.
- 3.2 To develop this strategy a core working group led by officers from the City of Edinburgh Council and EVOC was established. This group has led a process of research and engagement including:
- 3.2.1 Four stakeholder workshops
 - 3.2.2 Discussion sessions with the End Poverty Edinburgh citizen's group
 - 3.2.3 Establishment of a service provider reference group
 - 3.2.4 Gathering of baseline data on local and city-wide service provision
 - 3.2.5 Securing resources for additional research activity, and
 - 3.2.6 Site visits to key projects across the city.
- 3.3 The engagement has shown the wide range and scale of statutory and third sector support for people experiencing poverty related food crisis or hunger across well over 100 organisations and local community groups. In broad terms, types of support provided include:
- 3.3.1 **Cash first supports:** Cash grants for people experiencing food crisis through programmes such as the Scottish Welfare Fund, Free School

Meals, as well as other statutory and third sector programmes. Cash first supports also include income maximisation and money advice services which aim to help prevent future need.

3.3.2 **Free or low-cost food provision:** Food banks, food pantries, free meal projects (including delivery, takeaway and van outreach services), healthy meal kits, and school breakfast clubs. In most cases these projects also promote access to cash first, advice and other supports alongside direct food provision.

3.3.3 **Community food initiatives:** Including projects which provide support for wellbeing, skills, and capacity building alongside free or low cost food provision. Projects include community meals, community cafes and food markets, cook clubs, cooking and nutrition courses, and skills development support.

3.4 Across this community of providers and projects, key issues identified include:

3.4.1 **High and rising need and demand:** An estimated 30,000 adults went hungry due to a lack of money in Edinburgh in 2020. In 2022 the cost of living crisis is increasing the number of people in need of food support. Across the UK, 14% of all households are considered to be in ‘food stress’ – levels as high as those experienced during the first covid lockdowns. The Council Advice Shop notes a 20% increase in call volumes in the past month, with a significant increase in visits to ‘food advice’ support webpages. Citizen’s Advice Scotland note a recent doubling of queries relating to food and foodbank access.

3.4.2 **Capacity and resources to respond to need:** Even before recent increases in need, service providers were experiencing difficulties in securing the sustainable resources needed to meet demand. Third sector providers note the significant time and resources needed to pull together funding from multiple sources, as well as challenges in securing core funding or funding for more than one financial year. Such circumstances, providers note, provide a barrier to innovation, long-term planning, staff recruitment and retention, and collaboration across the food support community.

3.4.3 These challenges have been exacerbated in recent months due to the increasing cost of supplies, difficulties accessing donations, and other supply chain challenges arising from the war in Ukraine, and ongoing impacts of Brexit.

3.4.4 **The need for a more strategic approach to commissioning and funding:** Edinburgh Partnership members, The Council and Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership in particular, invest significant resources into a range of food support organisations and activities. The collective scale, range, and impact of this investment, however, is not well



understood, nor is it guided by shared a policy objective or strategic framework.

- 3.4.5 **A need for improved partnership working and collaboration across the sector:** Providers and stakeholders across the sector demonstrate a strong willingness and ability to collaborate effectively when need arises. There is a clear culture of partnership and innovation across organisations in Edinburgh working to address poverty related hunger.
- 3.4.6 At the same time, however, while individual groups of organisations work well together, there is no single network or forum helping providers in all parts of the city to share knowledge, skills, and capacity, or to collaborate on opportunities for fund raising or project development. The lack of such a network also makes it more difficult to co-ordinate city wide responses, particularly in the face of current and future crises.
- 3.4.7 **Gaps in access, variability of standards:** Work carried out to date highlights concerns over gaps and inconsistencies in the availability of support across the city. These include, areas of the city which are under provided relative to need, lack of access to out of hours or weekend support, and inconsistent standards relating to issues such as food quality, nutrition, and hygiene, guidance on 'cash first' support, and the embedding of appropriate family and household supports to prevent future need.
- 3.4.8 **Communication and awareness:** Workshop participants, particularly those from the End Poverty Edinburgh citizen group, noted the need for improved promotion of food support available to people in Edinburgh. Local examples of promotion campaigns in areas such as west Edinburgh provide a useful model. Further work is needed to identify approaches across all parts of the city.

Developing the longer-term strategy

- 3.5 These emerging themes from engagement suggest a number of key areas where Edinburgh Partnership members can play a significant role in improving the impact of work underway to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh. These include actions to:
 - 3.5.1 Improve networking and collaboration across the food support sector
 - 3.5.2 Help providers secure sustainable resources
 - 3.5.3 Set agreed standards and principles for commissioned support to end poverty related hunger
 - 3.5.4 Improve accessibility of support by addressing gaps in provision, and
 - 3.5.5 Improve communication and awareness of available supports.

- 3.6 These outline actions are set out in a consultation draft strategy (Appendix 1 to this paper), which provides a vision, aims, and the outline actions needed to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh.

Next steps

- 3.7 The next steps development of this strategy include:
- 3.7.1 Public consultation on the draft document provided in Appendix 1
 - 3.7.2 Continued engagement with stakeholders to develop and agree the action areas outlined in the document, including phasing of activity and resource requirements
 - 3.7.3 Analysis and collation of existing data on food support services provision across Edinburgh to further build understanding of potential gaps in access. This work is being carried out by University of Edinburgh with the support of data provided by a range of stakeholders.
 - 3.7.4 Commissioned research to further understand and gather the experiences of users of food support services. This will include interviews and focus groups with citizens across Edinburgh and is being carried out through funding provided by City of Edinburgh Council.
 - 3.7.5 Further analysis of the total value and configuration of current funding from Edinburgh Partnership members for food provision and support in the city. This information may provide opportunities to consolidate or reconfigure future funding, in line with the findings of the above research and the consultation process.
 - 3.7.6 In parallel with strategy development, proposals will be progressed for an Edinburgh Food Network, following models observed in other local authorities, to promote collaboration and partnership working across the sector. Development of such proposals will be taken forward in full alignment with other groups in the city, such as Edible Edinburgh.
- 3.8 On completion of these actions, a final draft strategy will be provided for consideration by the Edinburgh Partnership in December 2022.

4. Contact

Eleanor Cunningham – Lead Policy Officer, Policy Unit, Corporate Services
Eleanor.cunningham@edinburgh.gov.uk

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Ending Poverty Related Hunger in Edinburgh

A draft Edinburgh Partnership strategy for consultation

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1. Introduction

1.1 In September 2020 the Edinburgh Poverty Commission published their final report – A Just Capital. Their findings challenged the city to end poverty in Edinburgh by 2030, and to make sure that Edinburgh can be a city in which:

- *“No one has to go without the basic essentials they need to eat, keep clean and stay warm and dry”.*

To meet this goal, the Commission made seven calls to action for the city to deliver. Among these, the report called on City of Edinburgh Council, EVOG and local organisations to improve the co-ordination of support services for citizens experiencing food insecurity or at risk of poverty related hunger. In doing so, commissioners reported that:

- *“Emergency food support should not become locked in as a fourth emergency service but serve as a gateway to other support that will ease isolation and build human connection and kindness where it has been lacking.”*

In response to this call to action, Edinburgh Partnership committed to the development of a new strategy setting out the partnership responses needed to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh.

This document sets out a draft of this strategy for consultation and further development. It describes a draft vision, principles, and outline actions needed to meet the challenge set by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission.

Developing the strategy

To develop this strategy a core working group led by officers from the City of Edinburgh Council and EVOG was established. This group has led a process of research and engagement including workshops with stakeholders, service providers and the End Poverty Edinburgh citizen’s group, data gathering and analysis.

This paper builds on the engagement carried out to date and sets out a draft strategy for further consultation and development. This consultation will run for 12 weeks and be promoted across partnership networks to encourage people from all parts of Edinburgh to give their views and opinions to help shape the final strategy.

Alongside this consultation, additional research will be undertaken to further understand and gather insights from the experiences of users of food support services.

Feedback from the consultation and the research will be used to further develop this strategy and the actions needed to end poverty-related hunger.

2. Scope and Strategic Context

This document is positioned within a strategic framework of plans and actions driving the structural changes needed to end poverty in Edinburgh and address all seven calls to action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission.

The purpose of this strategy is to focus on those on actions needed to address and prevent poverty related hunger in Edinburgh. Its scope relates to improving co-ordination, access, and impact of support for people experiencing food crisis, including:

- **Cash first supports:** Cash grants for people experiencing food crisis through statutory and third sector programmes. Cash first supports also include income maximisation and money advice services which aim to help prevent future need.
- **Free or low-cost food provision:** Food banks, food pantries, free meal projects (including delivery, takeaway, and van outreach services), healthy meal kits, and school breakfast clubs. In most cases these projects also promote access to cash first, advice and other supports alongside direct food provision.
- **Community food initiatives:** Including projects which provide support for wellbeing, skills, and capacity building alongside free or low-cost food provision. Projects include community meals, community cafes and food markets, cook clubs, cooking and nutrition courses, and skills development support.

Within this context, the strategy is developed as part of and in alignment to a number of other programmes underway to address poverty in Edinburgh. These include:

The **Edinburgh Partnership Community Plan**, and its three priority programmes to ensure people have enough money to live on, people have access to work, learning and training opportunities, and people have a good place to live. Associated key Edinburgh Partnership programmes aligned to this work include the development of Community Wealth Building approaches and [Thriving Local Places](#), a re-shaping of the relationship between Edinburgh Partnership partners and city residents.

The **City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan**, which incorporates ending poverty by 2030 as one of three priorities for Council and includes a range of actions across place-making, housing, homelessness, education, income security, transport, and family support within its **End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan**.

Growing Locally, Edinburgh's first food growing strategy and its goals to tackle food insecurity and promote community wellbeing through food programmes across the city. The Edible Edinburgh Partnership is a key stakeholder in this work and its vision for good food to be accessible for all, is an important input into this strategy's development.

[**The Good Food Nation \(Scotland\) Bill**](#), spans social and economic wellbeing, health, environment, and economic development and includes the aim that everyone in Scotland has ready access to the healthy, nutritious food they need. The principles and action areas in Scottish Government's ambition to [end the need for foodbanks](#) and [Best Start, Bright Futures](#), its 2022-2026 Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan, and its [vision for a wellbeing economy](#) are also shared in the development of the current strategy.

3. Poverty related hunger in Edinburgh – the challenge

The findings from engagement activities carried out to date identify a number of key challenges for people in Edinburgh, and the food crisis networks established to provide support. A summary of these findings shows challenges relating to:

- **High and rising need and demand:** An estimated 30,000 adults went hungry due to a lack of money in Edinburgh in 2020. In 2022 the cost of living crisis is increasing the number of people in need of food support.
 - In April 2022, 13.8% of all UK households were considered to be in ‘food stress’ – not eating or skipping meals because they cannot afford or access food¹.
 - These are levels similar to those recorded in the early weeks of the first pandemic lockdown but represent a 57% increase in food stress since late 2021.
 - Citizen’s Advice Scotland note that page views for online advice around food banks and crisis support in Spring 2022 were almost double that of the previous year².
 - In Edinburgh, the Council Advice Shop notes a 20% increase in call volumes in the past month, with a significant increase in visits to ‘food advice’ support webpages.³
 - Food insecurity is more common among households with children. Across the UK, more than one in five (20.6 per cent) have faced moderate or severe food insecurity in the past six months, compared to 11.5% in the year prior to pandemic.
- **Capacity and resources to respond to need:** Even before recent increases in need, service providers were experiencing difficulties in securing the capacity needed to meet demand. The challenge of sourcing sustainable funding is common across providers. Third sector providers note the significant time and resources needed to pull together funding from multiple sources, as well as challenges in securing core funding or funding for more than one financial year. Such circumstances, providers note, provide a barrier to innovation, long-term planning, staff recruitment and retention, and collaboration across the food support community.
- These challenges have been exacerbated in recent months due to the increasing cost of supplies, difficulties accessing donations, and other supply

¹ Source: The Food Foundation, May 2022, <https://foodfoundation.org.uk/press-release/millions-adults-missing-meals-cost-living-crisis-bites>

² Source: Citizen’s Advice Scotland, <https://www.cas.org.uk/news/demand-housing-advice-grows-cost-living-crisis-intensifies>

³ Source: City of Edinburgh Council

chain challenges arising from the war in Ukraine, and ongoing impacts of Brexit.

- **The need for a more strategic approach to commissioning and funding:** Edinburgh Partnership members, The Council and Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership in particular, invest significant resources into a range of food support organisations and activities. The collective scale, range, and impact of this investment, however, is not well understood, nor is it guided by shared a policy objective or strategic framework.
- **A need for improved partnership working and collaboration across the sector:** Providers and stakeholders across the sector demonstrate a strong willingness and ability to collaborate effectively when need arises. There is a clear culture of partnership and innovation across organisations in Edinburgh working to address poverty related hunger.
- At the same time, however, while individual groups of organisations work well together, there is no single network or forum helping providers in all parts of the city to share knowledge, skills, and capacity, or to collaborate on opportunities for fund raising or project development. The lack of such a network also makes it more difficult to co-ordinate city wide responses, particularly in the face of current and future crises.
- Examples of food support networks in other local authorities have been identified as useful routes to help:
 - Understand and assess the effectiveness of support to address poverty related hunger
 - Develop and promote common principles across food support systems and improve alignment between different types of support (e.g., cash first, money advice and food bank services)
 - Share capacity and resources, including warehousing, skills, staff, and technical resources, and
 - Collaborate effectively to source external funding.
- **Gaps in access, variability of standards:** Work carried out to date highlights concerns over gaps and inconsistencies in the availability of support across the city. These include areas of the city which are under provided relative to need, lack of access to out of hours or weekend support, and inconsistent standards relating to issues such as food quality, nutrition, and hygiene, guidance on 'cash first' support, and the embedding of appropriate income maximisation advice, family and household support to prevent future need.
- **Communication and awareness:** Workshop participants, particularly those from the End Poverty Edinburgh citizen group, noted the need for improved promotion of food support available to people in Edinburgh. Local examples of promotion campaigns in areas such as west Edinburgh provide a useful

model. Further work is needed to identify approaches across all parts of the city.

Questions for consultation:

- Do you agree these are the right challenges that a strategy to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh needs to address?
- Is there anything missing? Is there anything you would add?
- Do you have any specific examples of how these challenges have affected you or the services you provide?

4. Draft vision and principles

Vision

In response to these challenges, partners have identified a draft vision to guide the work of the city. Edinburgh Partnership members should commit to ensuring that:

- **No one in Edinburgh needs to go hungry due a lack of money**, that
 - When do people fall into food crisis, Edinburgh networks aim to give a **cash first** approach to providing support
 - Where emergency food provision is needed, people can access wider support in ways that are **safe, dignified, respectful**, and **prevent future need**, and that
 - **Community food initiatives** are available in all parts of Edinburgh build people's **wellbeing**, improve **skills and confidence**, and help people access the supports they need to get by

What do we mean by 'Cash First'?

Food insecurity in Edinburgh is caused by too much poverty, not too little food. the evidence shows that the key drivers of food insecurity are income crises in a household caused by problems of access to and adequacy of social security benefits, low pay and insecure work, problem debt, and the rising cost of living.

To end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh, nothing is more important than improving access to an adequate and secure income.

Within this context, a '*cash first*' approach means that people who are experiencing food insecurity have the opportunity to access:

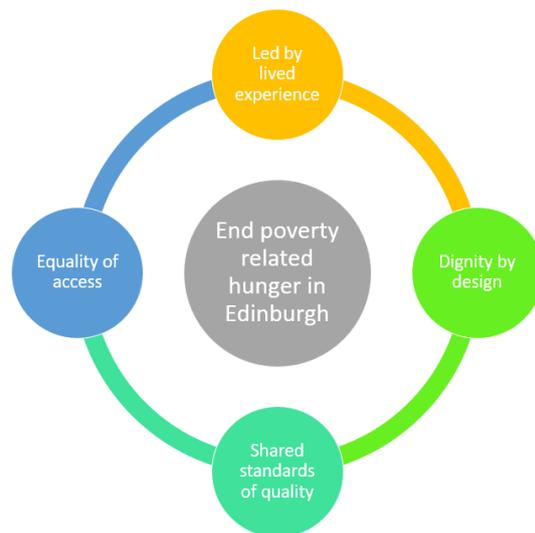
- Available crisis fund support to help them afford the food they need (via Scottish Welfare Fund, Hardship Fund, and third sector operated crisis funds), and
- Are able to access advice and support to help them maximise their income, manage debts, access available benefit entitlements, and improve employment prospects.

In a cash first approach, local partners commit to doing all they can to offer such supports at the first point of contact for people in immediate food crisis. Where direct help to access food is required – via foodbanks, food pantries, or community meals this is provided in a way that maximises dignity and reduces future need. This means ensuring that the offer of ongoing support to maximise income and manage money problems is made alongside and embedded into every food support service.

Principles

Delivery of this vision should be guided by four core principles to which all partners and stakeholders are committed.

- **Led by lived experience:** The design and review of programmes to end poverty related hunger should be done with and alongside people who have lived experience of food crisis and have relied upon emergency food support in Edinburgh.



- **Dignity by design:** Shame and stigma are key barriers that stop people from seeking help when in a food crisis.

People's experience of getting help and the way support is provided can make a significant difference to whether a person is able to avoid future crisis.

Dignity by design in approaches to poverty related hunger means ensuring that people can access the support they need:

- In trusted places where they feel safe and comfortable, are treated with kindness
 - In ways that make sure there are no wrong doors and no handoffs. Relationships are at the heart of the response and people have choice and control over the support they receive
 - Through holistic support that aims to help people build resilience and move on from poverty, as well as dealing with immediate crisis needs
 - Through responses that are flexible enough to meet the needs of local communities and respects local knowledge about what works, and
 - In ways that ensure the needs of priority groups are recognised and addressed.
- **Shared standards of quality:** Programmes to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh should aim to meet common, shared standards of quality in:
 - Providing access to good quality, nutritious food that meets cultural needs and food hygiene standards
 - Ensuring staff and volunteers are supported and trained to appropriate standards

- Ensuring cash first, income maximisation and other advice supports are offered and available to people and are of a required agreed standard, and
- Support is simple to access and swift to respond.
- **Equality of access:** People in all parts of Edinburgh, from all communities should be able to access support when they need it. Partners in Edinburgh should work towards a principle of ensuring:
 - Appropriate levels of food crisis support are accessible in all areas of the city
 - Delivery of food crisis support recognises and addresses physical and digital barriers to access, as well as the need for availability in evenings and weekends
 - The provision, promotion, and communication of the support available is co-ordinated across the city so that people know how and where to get support

Questions for consultation:

- Do you agree with the vision set out in this draft strategy?
- Are these the right principles to guide the work of the Edinburgh Partnership?
- Is there anything missing? Is there anything you would add?
- Do you have any specific examples of how these principles can be applied in practice?
- If you are a user of food support services, how important are these principles to you?

5. Proposed Actions

Engagement and analysis carried out to date suggests five proposed areas of action for Edinburgh Partnership members and stakeholders to prioritise. Throughout the consultation period for this draft strategy further work will be undertaken to further develop and agree these actions, including phasing and resourcing needed for delivery.



Draft Actions for Implementation	
Improve networking and collaboration	<i>Build on existing partnership structures to establish an Edinburgh Food Poverty Network (EFPN) with a remit to:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring together organisations working to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve understanding of shared challenges and opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with citizens with lived experience and collaborate in the design of projects and programmes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share best practice, understand, and monitor the effectiveness of interventions and supports
Maximise capacity and secure sustainable resources	<i>Through the proposed EFPN and other networks, partners should:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek ways to share capacity and resources more efficiently across partner and stakeholder organisations (including food, skills, technical resources, warehousing)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop improved referral pathways and communication routes across partners to maximise the impact of available capacity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider options for commissioning processes to deliver greater security of funding for organisations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate on development of proposals to secure external funding for projects aligned to this strategy

Draft Actions for Implementation

Set agreed standards and principles	<i>Through the proposed EFPN and other networks, partners should:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the standards for food and support - spanning quality, nutrition, and hygiene - which will underpin provision across the city
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the actions needed to communicate and embed these standards, including staff training and support
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop agreed standards and working principles for ensuring that 'cash first' and advice supports are available throughout food crisis supports.
Improve accessibility of support by addressing gaps in provision	<i>Through the proposed EFPN and other networks, partners should:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve understanding of gaps in current provision, and collaborate on solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek ways to ensure that citizens in all areas of the city have swift and easy access to the full range of supports needed (including cash first, crisis food support, and community-based food and wellbeing initiatives)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve data collection and monitoring of impact to ensure that supports are accessible to all communities and groups in the city
Improve communication and awareness	<i>Through the proposed EFPN and other networks, partners should:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a communication strategy to ensure that people (citizens and staff) know where and how to get help, embedding stigma-free messaging
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore options to develop an accessible information hub providing access to the full range of food support resources in all areas of the city

Questions for consultation:

- Are these the right actions for Edinburgh Partnership and stakeholders to focus on?
- Is there anything missing? Is there anything you would add?
- What challenges do you foresee in implementing these actions?
- And what opportunities should partners take advantage of?

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

1. Edinburgh's response to the cost of living crisis

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 There has and continues to be a lot of activity to try and mitigate against this current cost of living crisis, but it will not prevent everyone from falling into poverty or severe poverty.
- 2.2 We continue to take a targeted approach and raise the awareness of the available cost of living support with key frontline staff.
- 2.3 There are challenges in managing the current demand for support, in that demand is outweighing capacity, which in turn impacts on the people seeking support and the workforce supporting these people.
- 2.4 Continue to work towards the delivery of coordinated support across the whole system and capitalise on any new funding opportunities.

3. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to:
 - i. Note the current activity and support to date.
 - ii. Note the challenge and proposed next steps.

4. Main Report

- 4.1 There is lots of activity and support to date, but we know that this is not enough due to ever increasing demand for services (details on the factors contributing to this crisis and Edinburgh's response is in appendix).
- 4.2 In order, to be able to recommend any possible further actions, we needed to understand what additional support was being planned by partners. And thereby ensure that it is all connected and that this extra support helps the people most at risk. The LOIP Delivery Group and LCPAR/ Poverty Group organised an event in April 2022 to bring together key partners to discuss what more can be done. These discussions have contributed to the proposed actions in this report and incorporated into our ongoing poverty work.

- 4.3 The priority has been cash first followed by support in income maximisation, welfare rights and debt advice and energy advice.
- 4.4 There is still a lot of confusion about how the system works. This is clearly articulated in the forthcoming Towards a Hunger Free Edinburgh consultation. Clear communications around the type of support services available is important whilst recognising and managing demand with allocated capacity.
- 4.5 It is proving difficult to increase capacity in the system due to staffing and funding issues. Demand for welfare rights and debt services has been for the last year and continues to be very challenging to manage. As a result, there has and continues to be a high staff turnover. The situation has and is further exasperated by recruitment issues, the training and supervision of new staff.
- 4.6 We need to ensure that we minimise the impact on staff who are dealing with people experiencing this financial crisis in terms of their own wellbeing.
- 4.7 The mapping and review of services currently underway will help to resolve this; as workforce planning and development will be a key theme within the recommendations but there is a need for some more funding to support this increasing need.
- 4.8 We will continue to link in and ensure Edinburgh maximises any funding opportunities in Scottish Government's recent Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 'Best Start, Bright Futures' and the forthcoming UK Shared Prospective Fund for advice services.
- 4.9 We will continue to take a targeted approach and develop a system that allows an early identification of people in crisis. This may take the form of new opportunities to automate an early warning system e.g. if people fall into rent arrears, they automatically receive the offer of a welfare rights and debt advice appointment.
- 4.10 And continue to work towards the delivery of coordinated advice support across the whole system.

5. Contact

Paper drafted by short term working group formed from The LOIP Delivery Group and LCPAR/ Poverty Group with a membership of:

Kate Barlow, Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership
Chris Adams, City of Edinburgh Council
Sheila Haig, City of Edinburgh Council
Eleanor Cunningham, City of Edinburgh Council
Michele Mulvaney, City of Edinburgh Council
Rona Hunter, Capital City Partnerships
Ian Brooke, EVOG

Kate Barlow – Public Health Practitioner
Kate.barlow@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

APPENDIX

Cost of living crisis – outlining the factors and detailing Edinburgh’s response

There are several factors contributing to this national crisis, the table below details the contributing factors and their impact:

Factor	Change ¹	Impact
Rising consumer price inflation	Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rose by 9.0% in the 12 months to April 2022, up from 7.0% in March. Predicted to reach levels not seen since early 1980’s. Inflation for poorest households runs at 4 percentage points higher than average household and 6% points higher than the richest households.	Increase in severity of poverty Increase in hunger and fuel poverty Higher risk of debt and rent arrears Higher risk of homelessness and destitution
Rising food prices	Average grocery bills +£180. ‘Lowest cost price index’ reports: Pasta +50% Crisps +17% Bread +16% Beef +16% Rice +15% 20,000 people in food crisis in Edinburgh pre-pandemic.	Poorer health outcomes (physical and mental health) Increased inequalities
Rising home energy prices	Energy prices account for a third of CPI inflation. 54% increase in bills with more to follow. Number people in fuel crisis expected to double.	
Rising fuel prices	Average petrol prices stood at 161.8 pence per litre in April 2022, compared with 125.5 pence per litre a year earlier. The April 2022 price is the highest recorded. The average price of diesel in April 2022, which was 176.1 pence per litre, was also the highest on record.	

¹<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/april2022>

	The 12-month rate for motor fuels and lubricants was 31.4%, the highest since before the start of the constructed historical series in January 1989.	
Wage increases not in line with inflation	Average wage forecast to rise by 3.9% in 2022 versus an inflation rate of currently 9% (average).	
Changes in taxation	Frozen personal tax allowances and increases on National Income Contribution. Equivalent to a 1% wage cut for people on low incomes.	
Changes in benefits	Worse off than last year, a 3% real terms cut in the value of DWP benefits. (N.B. Changes to Universal Credit taper rates may help to mitigate this but complex and it estimated that 73% of UC families are still worse off than last year.)	

The Scottish Government has responded:

- To mitigate, as fully as possible, the spare room subsidy (commonly known as Bedroom Tax) support delivered through Discretionary Housing Payments via Local Authorities.
- Increasing Social Security Scotland benefits (Scottish Child Payments, Adult Disability Payment, Child Disability Payment)
- Increased support for home energy efficiency
- Funding to Council's to apply cost of living awards of £150 to Council Tax bands A-D and those in receipt of Council Tax Reduction in Bands E-H. As well as this, where no Council Tax liability existed, citizens received £150.

And recently, the UK government has announced support for the rising energy costs:

- To mitigate against these costs, targeted support for people on benefits and pensioners
- To mitigate the increases in energy costs, universal support of £400 for everyone in October.

However, even with these support measures, this only offsets 82% of expected energy price rises and 93% offset for the poorest households. Potentially this one-off and flat payments could leave high risk groups (highlighted as priority groups within the Local Child Poverty Annual Reporting (LCPAR)) under supported - families where a member of the household is disabled and families with 3 or more children.

The current predicted net affect is that the headline poverty trend will not be affected but that severe poverty is rising. Currently being estimated as an increase of 11,000 people in Edinburgh, equivalent to a 20% increase.

Edinburgh's current activity and support to date

In Edinburgh the use of the allocation of £6.435m was set out in the budget motion as follows:

'We have elected to spend the majority of this figure supporting the most vulnerable households through the cost of living crisis. We are committing to providing a cash grant of £150 to each of the 33,000 low-income households across the city at a total cost of £4.95m. On top of this, we will provide £100 for every child within a low-income home by utilising the free school meals qualification (£1m). This could give a family with three children £600 in total support include the Council Tax credit support of a further £150 to offset the cost of living crisis and escalating energy bills. We will also be providing an additional £450k in crisis grant funding'.

Advice and Support such as income maximisation, welfare rights, debt and money management, raising the profile of services by promoting the [Worrying about Money](#) resources. A £300k investment in income maximisation and household support from the Council. Edinburgh Food Project's employing more staff for their Money Advice Service, to increase money advice capacity in their foodbank centres. Welfare Rights Advisors work in most deprived areas Deep End GP surgeries linking with the Community Link Worker network, with additional monies of £61k per annum from Scottish Government. Citizen Advice Edinburgh ensuring every customer has a financial health check to pick up any issues. One Parent Family Scotland offers advice and information and can support single parents to access grants from other organisations. They are running groups and free counselling to help parents, as seeing mental health issues exacerbated by this crisis. However, there is no capacity in the system; demand is higher than what is currently being funded for welfare rights and debt advice services.

Emergency Relief Cash through Scottish Welfare Fund £800k, free school meals and school clothing grants (the uptake has increased three fold).

Energy support – £500k and an extra £100k to Home Energy Scotland for energy crisis support from the Council. Home Energy Scotland taking a

targeted approach, prioritising families on low incomes by working in partnership with the Maximise! programme and 1 in 5 schools programme; as well as working closely with NHS and Edinburgh Health and Social Care by taking the learning from the annual flu vaccination campaign/ COVID vaccinations to build into ongoing work. Partnership working between Changeworks and community cafes: e.g. Ripple's Hub Grub Community Café in Restalrig, helping to inform people on how to reduce energy costs. The City of Edinburgh Council's Advice Shop direct referrals to Home Energy Scotland increasing each week.

Food support in the format of cash first. The Council provided £244k funding to foodbanks and food initiatives across the City over the last year in recognition of increased demands anticipated by the withdrawal of additional pandemic related support and the cost of living challenges. This includes an additional £4k for foodbanks, community food projects, and £40k for school breakfast clubs. Examples of local community food support are:

- The Health Agency partnered with Wester Hailes Edible Estates is continuing the development of a food pantry in Wester Hailes.
- NE Edinburgh, Ripple and Cyrenians partnership provides a food pantry, foodbank at St Margaret's with budgeting project and free meal vouchers for the Ripple Café.

Core employability support

Edinburgh has a mature employability and skills intervention model with an aim to increase household income and reduce the poverty gap. The portfolio of investment circa is £7 million. To enable a strategic focus and operational delivery, work is based on the Joined up for model. For example, the Joined up for Families involves:

- Parental Employment Support Fund services aimed at low income and unemployed parents from six identified priority groups
- Maximise! Citywide service embedded in schools which offers family support, advice and employability and has Home Energy Scotland link for fuel poverty
- Intensive Family Support and Early Years, working across 10 standalone early years in the city and also focus on welfare training via CPAG for staff
- Subsidised Childcare under review making sure that it is meeting need and filling any gaps
- Whole Family Equality Project will offer advice, employability and family wellbeing to black and minority ethnic families and young people.
- Barclay's Emergency Fund, £100k of access to crisis grants to fund childcare, household items, barrier removal for jobs being distributed to key partners.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Community Wealth Building – Learning & Action Group

1. Executive Summary

To interrogate the role of community wealth building, with the purpose of driving a new systems change level of collaboration between Edinburgh anchor institutions.

The principles of community wealth building (CWB) are:

- Plural ownership of the economy
- Making financial power work for local places
- Fair employment and just labour markets
- Progressive procurement of goods and services
- Socially productive use of land and property

2. Recommendations

The Board is recommended to:

2.1 Recognise the role of members of the Edinburgh Partnership as Anchor Institutions:

City of Edinburgh Council, Police, NHS Lothian, Edinburgh College, Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board, Scottish Enterprise, Edinburgh Universities, Social Housing Providers and all partners

2.2 To declare members of ECPP as Anchor Institutions:

An anchor institution is a statutory body which can influence ‘economic engines’: they are employers, purchasers, own land and property and investors.

2.3 To support mapping of how anchor strategies in Edinburgh Partnership

To note progress in Edinburgh and to support further mapping of how anchor institution strategies, among all members of the Edinburgh Partnership, to enable a Community Wealth Building approach to emerge.

2.4 To progress towards an Edinburgh Partnership Commitment

To progress towards a commitment in June 2022: to long term collaboration between Edinburgh anchor institutions, supporting shared Community Wealth Building goals. This includes a commitment to the embedding of Community Wealth Building Principles, preparing for the forthcoming CWB act. As with NHS Lothian, best practice across the UK suggests that anchors work needs to be ambitious and set aspirational targets.

3.1 What is community wealth building:

- A model and approach that offers a maturing of economic development practice
- Community wealth building is a means to practically deliver on Scotland's wellbeing/inclusive growth aspirations.
- It requires a system ethos, working with what is already being done
- Not a new projects/programmes, but bending existing spending to catalyse change
- Traditionally, we have focussed on **redistribution** of wealth after it is created
- CWB is also about **pre-distribution** during and before wealth is created

3.2 Four areas of work - Democracy Collaborative & Scottish Government:

- **Policy:** across range of Scottish Government policy areas.
- **Practice:** there has been important and significant progress made in several pilot localities and regions over the past year.
 - Ayrshire region, alongside 5 other areas - Clackmannanshire, South of Scotland, Western Isles, Tay Cities/Fife and Glasgow City Region.
 - other areas, including South Lanarkshire, Moray, East Renfrewshire, Highland, West Lothian and Dundee City
- **Movement building.**
 - Industry and economic sectors are integrating CWB principles into their development and delivery approaches.
- **Legislation.** 'Community Wealth Building act'

3.3 What does it look like in Cleveland, USA: place, ownership, and institutions

The Greater University Circle Initiative has brought together 6 anchor institutions:

- Case Western University and the Cleveland Clinic with the support of the Cleveland Foundation and city government to better connect their economic output to the struggling communities directly adjacent to their campuses
- They helped incubate a network of **three employee-owned cooperatives** that are located in and employ residents from these low-income communities.

3.4 Progress on CWB in Scotland: Workforce

- Deepen practical application of Fair Work locally (e.g. Fife)
- Focus on gender pay gap (e.g. Clacks)
- Stimulate local employment through spending
- Advance employee ownership conversion

3.5 Progress on CWB in Scotland: Land & Property

- Application of land rights and responsibilities for greener, more local productive use
- Developing high streets, through greater consideration of ownership (e.g. Clacks)
- Advance VDL sites to more productive use (e.g GCR - Glasgow City Region).

3.6 Progress on CWB in Scotland: Finance

- Deepen recognition and visibility of community finance (e.g. Fife Credit union)
- Promote divestment of fossil fuels from LG pension
- Place CWB 'lens' to mainstream resource Growth Deals (e.g Clyde mission)

3.7 Progress on CWB in Scotland: Spending



- Deeper awareness and application of Community Benefits via CB (e.g. Clacks)
- Growing sectors and creating innovation within supply chains providers (housing)
- Deeper planning for and securing pipeline of contracts (apprenticeships within construction sector in GCR)
- Deepen recognition of alternate ownership as part of business support (e.g. Clacks)
- Increase role of employee ownership/cooperative development (e.g. Fife)
- Increase recognition of inclusive ownership as part of public sector supply chain– procurement and commissioning (e.g South of Scotland)

3.8 Progress on CWB in Preston: over 5 years

Progress on CWB in Preston was measured and the changes over 5 years were:

- £70m more for city economy
- £200m more for regional economy
- Created 1600 more jobs
- 4000 more people - paid real living wage
- Cooperative development network
- Using local pension funds – local investment
- North West Community bank

3.9 Progress on CWB in Edinburgh: Edinburgh Social Enterprise (ESE)

- Working with CEC and other stakeholders/partners to explore how supply chains can be extended to small, community based social enterprises/third sector orgs.
- Via small value spends to start, on items such as venue hire/catering/corporate gifts
- Can CEC and all anchors incentivise larger contractors to use SEs in supply chains?
- Developing ESE as a single point of entry for anchor institutions looking to purchase from Social Enterprises and socially aware businesses
- Promoting the net zero benefits of local supply chains and shopping locally

3.10 Progress in Edinburgh: Edinburgh BioQuarter - Community Impact Strategy

- Enterprise – one of five key themes
 - Increased spend and flow of wealth to local communities
 - Increased entrepreneurship within communities
 - **Employment with suppliers and self-employment for local people**

3.11 Progress on CWB in Edinburgh: Capital City Partnership & City Region Deal

The project is made up of partners, Capital City Partnership, West Lothian Council & Go Beyond (with funding through the Regional Recovery & Renewal fund).

- Aim: to accelerate existing CWB agendas to a regional level and to help amplify activities across the 6 local authorities, embedding the ethos within all levels
- Engagement at a local level, with anchor networks and key stakeholders
- **Promotion of a new portal for Community benefits**
- Identifying and sharing good examples of CWB to help inspire change
- Collaborative Working & a Community of Practice
- Creating A CWB Toolkit: identifying examples of CWB across the pillars
- Create A Video: showcasing examples to inspire & bring CWB to life

3.12 Progress on CWB in Edinburgh: GoBeyond, a CWB Partnership in SW

GoBeyond is a CWB Partnership in SW Edinburgh, Big Hearts, Space & Whale Arts

- Social Investment Scotland and Community Shares Scotland advice
 - Enabling small business owners/workers to get advice
 - Advice on business ideas, loans and ideas related to local land/property
- **Dumbeg Park Kickabout - Wester Hailes**
 - Working collaboratively with local residents to re-design and upgrade the local kickabout park in the area. An exciting gathering is planned on next steps.
 - Wealth of feedback from the local residents survey in the area, City of Edinburgh Council have completed some tidy up work of the area

3.13 Progress on CWB Lothian wide: NHS Lothian

NHS Lothian Board has agreed to developing its role as an Anchor Institution as part of its work on pandemic remobilisation and tackling inequalities.

Key issues that have been raised so far include

- Living Wage Accreditation for NHS Lothian
- Housing supply and its impact on NHS Lothian staff recruitment and retention
- Extending the scope of community benefit clauses beyond construction programmes (note that local authority procurement appears to offer more flexibility than NHS Scotland procurement). e.g. public health partnership teams can facilitate local intelligence to inform NHS Lothian procurement wish-lists.
- NHS capital planning assumptions: opportunities to work with local authority spatial planning and housing teams to establish shared population projections to inform demand e.g. draft West Lothian Planned Housing Report
- Core funding for welfare rights and income maximisation service provision at NHS Lothian hospitals
- Ensure NHS Lothian's pioneering employability programmes provide entry level opportunities and development prospects across the whole organisation

The Programme Board will develop an agreed workplan which will prioritise action for the remainder of 2021-22:

- Developing as an Anchor Institution will provide a strong basis for preventative work and work tackling inequalities across NHS Lothian. The Programme Board is focused initially on ensuring the NHS Board is delivering best practice across the five anchor work areas. Best practice across the UK suggests that anchors work needs to be ambitious and set aspirational targets.

3.14 Next steps on CWB in Edinburgh

EVOC is one partner in the TSI, Third Sector interface, with Volunteer Edinburgh and Edinburgh Social Enterprise. EVOC and the TSI are *not* anchor institutions.

The TSI works with the communities and organisations that could thrive with a focus on CWB, as a component of the Edinburgh Partnership focus on a 'Good Place to Live'.

EVOC will work with the Edinburgh Partnership to support further mapping of anchor institution strategies, among all members of the Edinburgh Partnership, to enable a Community Wealth Building approach to emerge.

Our joint aspiration at the Edinburgh Partnership would be to put in place a series of recommendations to take forward areas such as inclusive growth, with a first major step being **local, progressive procurement** and for the future, that anchor institutions work on CWB needs to be ambitious and set aspirational targets.

4. Contact

Bridie Ashrowan
Chief Executive
bridie.ashrowan@evoc.org.uk

Links

NHS Lothian as an anchor institution, EVOC AGM Presentation 2021
<https://www.evoc.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/media/2021/11/Dona-Milne-Presentation-EVOC-Conference-2021.pdf>

North Ayrshire Community Planning partnership, CWB Plan
<http://northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/CWB-Powerpoint-Template-NAC-strategy-update-for-CPP-Board-Sept-2020.pdf>

Health Institutions as Anchors – CLES
<https://cles.org.uk/publications/health-institutions-as-anchors-establishing-proof-of-concept-in-the-nhs/>

The role of the NHS as an anchor institution – The Health Foundation
<https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/building-healthier-communities-role-of-nhs-as-anchor-institution>

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The report outlines the arrangements for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) and sets out a proposed approach to developing the required Investment Plan by August 2022.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to:
- i. Note work being undertaken to develop the Edinburgh's UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan;
 - ii. Approve that the Edinburgh Partnership take on the role of the Local Partnership Group for the development of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan and provide advice on strategic fit and deliverability.
 - iii. Agree to review and agree, via email, the proposed recommended funding plan following the assessment of bids, in late July.

3. Main Report

- 3.1 On 13 April 2022 the UK Government published a prospectus for the new [UK SPF](#). As part of the Levelling Up programme, and as a successor to European Union Structural Funds, the SPF plans to invest £2.6bn in projects across the UK between 2022 and 2025.
- 3.2 This paper sets out Edinburgh's conditional allocation from the SPF over this time period, and a proposed approach to development of an investment plan needed to access the funds.
- 3.3 SPF aims to boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards across the UK, closing inequalities in opportunity, health and wellbeing, and improving sense of community, local pride and belonging. The three identified themes in the programme are Community and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills. A number of interventions reflecting this have been listed in the prospectus and all activity needs to define which intervention they attribute to.
- 3.4 As part of the fund allocation, a sum is also earmarked for delivery of Multiply, a national programme to increase numeracy skills in adults.

- 3.5 The Fund can support activity that started from 1 April 2022. All activity should end by March 2025 or have a break clause allowing for closure by March 2025 if required.
- 3.6 All UK areas have received a conditional SPF distribution, and Edinburgh's allocation is set out in Appendix 1. To access this allocation, places need to submit an investment plan for approval by the UK Government by 1st August 2022.
- 3.7 The UK Government have confirmed that extensions to the 1 August deadline will be considered on a case by case basis where local elections and timings of recess have made that timeline difficult to adhere to.

UK SPF Investment Plan

- 3.8 Whilst allocations have been made on a Local Authority level, in Scotland, the SPF "supports delivery through Regional Economic Partnerships, where this is the preference of local areas". In Edinburgh and South-East Scotland, the delivery area described by the SPF prospectus includes: the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian, West Lothian, and Fife.
- 3.9 Following conversations with regional partners, the decision has been made that due to the short time frames and local needs, individual investment plans will be submitted for each Local Authority rather than one plan for the region.
- 3.10 Officers are currently working on delivery proposals for Edinburgh but are also continuing conversations with regional partners as to jointly funding regional projects as identified through the Regional Prosperity Framework.
- 3.11 The current approach is to focus on continuing and/or expanding on existing initiatives funded under European Structural Funding in year 1 but to also invite applications from third parties for projects to complement these initiatives. In year 2 and 3 it is envisaged that further third party projects can be funded alongside a number of regional initiatives which are currently in development.
- 3.12 The Council's SPF allocation also includes a minimum of £1,608,217 of capital funding. Consideration has been given as to how this funding could potentially be utilised in line with the investment priorities of the SPF. It is envisaged that this funding could be utilised for investments in keystone community facilities in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods of Edinburgh that will significantly improve carbon performance; investing in the delivery of new/refurbished business space of which there is presently a structural undersupply, particularly industrial space and flexible space for microbusinesses, in regeneration areas; and strengthening Edinburgh's strategically important technology sector via practical interventions to boost the digital skills of people in Edinburgh and address the undersupply of skilled technology workers. Detail on the proposed utilisation of the capital funding will be set out in the SPF Investment Plan.

- 3.13 A call for applications was made on 21 June 2022. This was distributed to third parties (from the public, voluntary and private sectors), including networks such as EVOC, Edinburgh Social Enterprise network, Chamber of Commerce, Lifelong Learning/Community Learning and Development, Edinburgh Partnership and City Region Deal.
- 3.14 The call requires that projects are aligned to one or more of the UK SPF interventions, clearly evidencing which outcomes and outputs they will achieve. It is also expected that activities will support the priority themes of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and the Council's Business Plan priorities of Net Zero, Poverty Prevention and Health and Wellbeing. Proposals will need to be clearly developed with a defined costing plan as well as an exit plans for when the funding ends in March 2025.
- 3.15 The submission of proposals opened on 20 June 2022 and will close on 11 July 2022. Proposals will be assessed by a panel which will consist of council officers, members of Edinburgh Partnership and strategic partner organisations.
- 3.16 Recommendations for which proposals to take forward as part of the Investment Plan will be circulated to the Edinburgh Partnership Board via email for review and comment prior to being reported to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on 4 August 2022.
- 3.17 The delivery programme for Multiply is currently being developed by officers in the Lifelong Learning service.

Governance

- 3.15 While Local Authorities are responsible for the Investment Plan and its delivery, the Prospectus mandates that a Local Partnership Group should be in place to support the development of the Investment Plan and, once plans are approved, to provide advice on strategic fit and deliverability. Members of this group should be "a diverse range of local and regional stakeholders, civil society organisations, employer bodies responsible for identifying local skills plans, and businesses or business representative groups to achieve Fund outcomes in their areas". While MP endorsement is not a pre-requisite for the Investment Plan approval, the Prospectus sets out that engagement with MPs and MSPs is expected.
- 3.16 A series of workshops/engagement sessions have taken place over the last few weeks to get a wide range of views on areas for priority, but it is requested that the Edinburgh Partnership take on the role of the Local Partnership Group, with a separate consultation group for MPs and MSPs established.

4. Contact

Elin Williamson, Head of Business Growth and Inclusion, City of Edinburgh Council
Elin.williamson@edinburgh.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Edinburgh SPF Allocation

	22-23	23-24	24-25	TOTAL
Core UKSPF	£1,244,788	£2,489,577	£6,522,691	£10,257,056
Revenue	£1,115,330	£2,178,380	£5,355,129	£8,648,839
Capital	£129,458	£311,197	£1,167,562	£1,608,217
MULTIPLY	£647,290	£746,873	£746,873	£2,141,036

SPF Admin*	£49,792	£99,583	£260,908	£410,282
Multiply Admin*	£25,892	£29,875	£29,875	£85,641

* Included in numbers above