

Public Document Pack



Meeting Tuesday, 3 September 2024
Time 2.00 pm
Venue 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

3. Minutes

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4. Outstanding Actions

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5. Appointments

5.1 Appointment of Vice Chair

The Partnership is asked to appoint a Vice Chair for the forthcoming period.

6. For Consideration

6.1 Edinburgh Transformation and Improvement Programme (Daniel Greig) 23 - 26

6.2	Community Planning Self-Evaluation (Michele Mulvaney)	27 - 30
6.3	Scottish Government Ten Year Population Health Framework (Dona Milne)	Verbal Report
6.4	Poverty Prevention (Lindsay Robertson/Flora Ogilvie)	31 - 40
6.5	Housing Partnership Proposal (Derek McGowan/Lynn McMath)	41 - 44
6.6	Local Outcome Improvement Programme Annual Progress Report (Daniel Greig)	45 - 62
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8. Future Meetings

- 7.1** Future Partnership Meetings
Next date: Thursday 12 December 2024

THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Tuesday 11 June 2024 – 2.00pm - Meeting held in person in the Business Centre, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh and via Microsoft Teams

MINUTE

Board members present

Cllr Cammy Day (in the chair)	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr McNeese-Meechan	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Alex Staniforth	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Iain Whyte	City of Edinburgh Council
Lyn McMath	University of Edinburgh
Dona Milne	NHS Lothian
Paul Wilson	Volunteer Edinburgh

In attendance

Andrew Field	City of Edinburgh Council
Daniel Greig	City of Edinburgh Council
Kathy Henwood	City of Edinburgh Council
Andrew Kerr	City of Edinburgh Council
Linda Lees	City of Edinburgh Council
Jamie Macrae	City of Edinburgh Council
Derek McGowan	City of Edinburgh Council
Michele Mulvaney	City of Edinburgh Council
Gillie Severin	City of Edinburgh Council

Deborah Smart	City of Edinburgh Council
Murray Dalgleish	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Laurene Edgar	Lothian Association of Youth Clubs
Emma Matthews	CPPS Scotland
Flora Ogilvie	NHS Lothian
Mary Stewart	Heriot-Watt University

1. Declaration of interests

None.

2. Minute

Decision

To agree the minute of the Edinburgh Partnership Board 5 March 2024 as a correct record.

3. Outstanding Actions

The Outstanding Actions were presented to the Edinburgh Partnership Board.

Decision

- 1) To note the updated actions.
- 2) To agree to close the following actions:
 - Action 1 – End Poverty Edinburgh Annual Report
 - Action 8 – Asset and Land Use.
- 3) To note that actions due back in June would now come in September.

4. Housing Emergency – Presentation

A presentation on the Housing Emergency was provided, including statistics on homeless assessments, households in temporary accommodation, void properties, and planned actions to support households into permanent accommodation and reduce the number of voids.

Decision

- 1) To agree that an Edinburgh Partnership Housing group should be set up.



- 2) To note this group will be scoped out and developed with key partners, led by Derek McGowan. The proposal will be presented to the September Edinburgh Partnership Board for discussion.

5. Transformation and Improvement Programme

An update was provided of the programme agreed at the September 2023 Board meeting. The goal was to strengthen community planning, based on a shared understanding of statutory duties and what it meant in practice. Details were provided of current challenges and how the current framework for community planning could be replaced to enable the delivery of local improvement plans in a new way, to strengthen support for local initiatives and increase community involvement.

Decision

To agree the proposals in the presentation and next steps, and to agree that information would come back to show what other partnerships were doing.

6. Community Learning and Development Partnership Plan

Details were provided of the legislative requirements for Community Learning and Development (CLD) and the actions taken to develop the new CLD Plan 2024-27. The new CLD Plan for approval and publication on 1 September 2024 as per legislation

Decision

- 1) To note the report alongside the report to Education Children and Families presented for noting on 11 June, deferred from 16 April 2024.
- 2) To note that the governance of the CLD Plan rested with the CLD Partnership, which was part of the Community Planning Family and reported to the Edinburgh Partnership, as set out in the Edinburgh Partnership Governance Framework.
- 3) To note that by not meeting over the course of the current CLD Plan (2021-24), and by not reporting to the Edinburgh Partnership throughout the life of the plan, the Council was failing to meet its legislative duties to co-ordinate and report on CLD.
- 4) To agree that the recently established new CLD Partnership lead the development, delivery and reporting of the new CLD (2024-27) Plan, thereby ensuring the Council and its partners met the regulations for CLD
- 5) To note that the refreshed Edinburgh CLD Partnership has developed the new CLD Plan 2024-27, was committed to monitoring progress, and held a special meeting specifically to consider feedback from the HMI Progress Visit.

- 6) To commend the efforts of the CLD Partnership to engage partners, learners and communities in the development of the new CLD Plan.
- 7) To agree the CLD Plan 2024-27 as presented and, viii. Delegate responsibility to the CLD Partnership to refine and finalise the CLD Plan to be published on the Education Scotland website by 1 September in line with legislation.
- 8) To agree to receive an annual progress report updating on the progress of the CLD Plan.

7. Land and Asset Update

A short update was provided on land and asset management in Edinburgh.

Decision

To note the Director of Public Health for NHS Lothian would liaise with the new Chief Executive of the City of Edinburgh Council to discuss a co-chair role and establish the Terms of Reference for advancing the work.

8. Any other Business

A request from Local Community Planning Partnership (LCPP) Chairs to attend future EPB meetings on a rotational basis had been received by the Chair.

Decision

To agree that no changes will be made to the current membership arrangements of the Board.

9. Dates of Future Meetings

Decision

To note the next meeting would be held on 3 September 2024, venue to be arranged.



Edinburgh Partnership Board: Special Meeting

7th August 2024

16:00 -17:00

Attendees:

Chair: Cammy Day (Council Leader)

Alistair Dinnie (CEC)

Caroline Hiscox, NHS Lothian

Cllr Bandel

Cllr Kevin Lang

Cllr Kumar

Cllr Mowat (replacing Cllr Whyte)

David Peace, EVOC

Derek McGowan (CEC)

Dona Milne, NHS Lothian

Evonne Boyd, Skills Development Scotland

Iain Stewart, Edinburgh Interfaith

Jakki Jeffrey, Edinburgh College

Jean Gray, EAHP (tentative)

Ken Robertson, EACC

Lucy Pearson (CEC)

Lynn McMath, Edinburgh University

Michael Pinkerton (CEC)

Murray Dalgleish, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Murray Tait, Police Scotland (replacing David Happs)

Pat Togher, EIJB

Paul Lawrence (CEC)

Paul Wilson, EaRN

Steve Kerr, EACC

Will Tyler-Greig, Scottish Government

Item	Subject	Decision/Discussion	Action by	Timescale / comment
1.	Welcome/Introductions (CD)	<p>CD welcomed all attendees and reassured the Edinburgh Partnership (EP) that the Council has been in communication with Police Scotland, and should similar action happen in Scotland, be assured they have advanced plans in place.</p> <p>As a partnership, it is important to share this detail today and to agree on additional support the EP can provide residents in the city during this difficult time, without raising alarm across the city.</p>		
2.	Overview of the current position in Edinburgh (CD)	<p>Update from Police Scotland - intelligence and risk (MT)</p> <p>MT explained that Police Scotland has stood up a full command structure.</p> <p>There are daily meetings with reps from all local/national and specialist divisions.</p> <p>A dedicated 24-hour-a-day intelligence unit has been set up to monitor local community and online intelligence.</p> <p>MT noted that this is a quickly changing environment and reassured the group that that they are monitoring closely.</p> <p>MT explained that a conventional policing response is in place at present, but they are prepared to bring in additional resources if required.</p> <p>There are 3 key events in the city over the weekend – including a static protest at Chambers Street and a Stand Up to Racism event at Parliament Resources are in place for this and summer events.</p> <p>MT asked that the group remain mindful of speculation and misinformation online.</p> <p>Update from NHS Lothian (CH)</p>		

Item	Subject	Decision/Discussion	Action by	Timescale / comment
		<p>CH conveyed support to the EP and said that the escalation of concern has been across the NHS workforce and steps have been taken to support colleagues, but they are preparing for additional workload should events take place.</p> <p>Update from Edinburgh Interfaith (IS)</p> <p>IS highlighted that a lot of people are concerned and there are lots of unverified reports circulating. He explained the work he is doing nationally and suggested partnership-working with other authorities should things escalate. IS also highlighted rising tensions across Europe.</p> <p>EIFA has released a statement co-signed by the Lord Provost and the Council Leader – reiterating the message that we stand in solidarity and to alert people to the risks of spreading misinformation at this time.</p> <p>IS highlighted an Interfaith Peace Service that is taking place in November at St Giles but there are concerns around safety and tensions. This event remains under review.</p> <p>IS also highlighted the timing of the Edinburgh 900 funding awards that have created upset across communities.</p> <p>Update from City of Edinburgh Council (LP/DM)</p>		

Item	Subject	Decision/Discussion	Action by	Timescale / comment
		<p>LP provided an update on current work to create a Council webpage that can signpost affected communities to relevant support – across both council services and community organisations: https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/communitysupport</p> <p>LP informed the group that the Resilience Incident Notification and Escalation Protocol has been discussed and service areas are considering the impact of such events happening on service areas – this is the same protocol used during the pandemic.</p> <p>DM provided an update on the Housing and Family and Household Support Services explaining there is an offer of support across localities -via all our neighbourhood offices and established partnership-working in place.</p> <p>DM also stated that his team is equipped and skilled to support people who may need temporary housing for their own safety and the locality offices remain a source of frontline community support.</p> <p>MP gave an overview of the sensitivities around the messaging of this, and that any communication regarding this will reaffirm the message that Edinburgh continues to be a welcoming and diverse city – whilst offering continued support to those affected by these events.</p>		
3.	Discussion: What more can The Edinburgh Partnership do to support communities? (All)	Questions were raised around the protection of Edinburgh’s Central Mosque, given its proximity to Bristo Square/Fringe activities. MT reassured the group that policing is in place with local police stations and summer policing protocols (including day and night shift officer patrols).		

Item	Subject	Decision/Discussion	Action by	Timescale / comment
		<p>LMc explained that Edinburgh University has released communications for staff/students around these events and is working closely with the UoE Head of Security to monitor safety on their campuses, especially during the festival.</p> <p>MT reassured the group that the festival organisers have EPOG processes in place and the event organisers have these in place for all venues.</p> <p>PL informed the group that Education colleagues are working to review the support that teachers and pupils may need with schools returning next week, and this will be informed by intelligence so as not to raise alarm.</p> <p>Agreement that the group members will circulate the webpage across their networks.</p>		
4.	Next Steps	<p>Council officers will meet regularly to monitor the situation. Officers will update the EP as appropriate and reconvene the group if required.</p> <p>An Elected Member briefing will be prepared– including wider EP membership updates where applicable.</p> <p>A statement would go out from the Council leader, reinforcing the message that Edinburgh is a welcoming and diverse city and pointing to support available. CPPs to share if possible.</p>	<p>PL/MM</p> <p>MP/LP</p> <p>MP</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Immediately</p> <p>Immediately</p>

Item	Subject	Decision/Discussion	Action by	Timescale / comment
		<p>Partners would review the dedicated advice/ support page on the council website and come back with any amendments and/or additions by 5.30pm, following which the page would be made live and promoted through the council's (and partners') social media channels.</p> <p>EP members will continue to share the message that Edinburgh is a welcoming and diverse city as above with links to CEC website.</p> <p>EP members to follow police updates on social media.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p>Immediately</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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Rolling Actions Log

Edinburgh Partnership Board

3 September 2024

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
1	12.12.23	Update – LOIP Priority 1 – ‘Enough Money to Live On’	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The board will take a strategic look at Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) support for parents, to enable them to work and learn. 2) A session will be held in February, to look at provision and pressures on ELC in relation to the Council’s Poverty Prevention Board. 3) To consider Energy Poverty at a future meeting of the board and note the work of 	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Michele Mulvaney, Strategy Manager (Communities) michele.mulvaney@edinburgh.gov.uk	September 2024		<p><u>Update March 2024</u></p> <p>A group of key stakeholders met in February to discuss childcare provision in the city. As a first step it was agreed to carry out a mapping exercise to better understand the landscape of provision. This will inform discussion about gaps and opportunities and how to better achieve a collaborative approach. The group will reconvene in April and a progress report will be submitted to</p>



No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			<p>Home Energy Scotland.</p> <p>4) To note that some of the 'red' marked actions in the report have not started yet. Some of these are owing to resources and some require broader cultural shifts across partners.</p>				the Board in June.
2	12.12.23	LOIP Priority 1 – Loan Shark Charter Mark	<p>1) a) To bring together an Edinburgh wide communications strategy to be launched in February 2024 regarding illegal money lending and to roll this out across places where partners engage with the public.</p> <p>b) To roll out communications</p>	<p>Kate Barlow: Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.</p> <p>kate.barlow@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk</p>	June 2024		<p><u>Update June 2024</u></p> <p>A briefing will be circulated to all members.</p> <p><u>Update March 2024</u></p> <p>Comms work has been delayed until March 2024. Further updates to follow.</p>

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			<p>about Credit Unions as alternative methods of borrowing.</p> <p>2) To set a stretch target of increasing Credit Union membership across Edinburgh by up to 10% within one year. To establish some baseline data to measure this against and report back to the LOIP Priority 1 Group and the board early in 2024.</p>				
3	12.12.23	Transformation and Improvement Programme	<p>1) To note that the working group has been re-convened and will meet on 29 January 2024.</p> <p>2) To note that the Transformation and</p>	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Michele Mulvaney, Strategy Manager (Communities) / EVOC	Ongoing		<p><u>September 2024</u></p> <p>A further update is on the Board Agenda for September 3 2024.</p> <p><u>June 2024</u></p>

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			<p>Improvement Programme is being undertaken in tandem with the partnership's broader work.</p> <p>3) To note that as part of the programme a communications strategy about Community Planning arrangements in Edinburgh targeted at people in communities.</p> <p>4) A further update will come to the board when matters have progressed.</p>	michele.mulvaney@edinburgh.gov.uk			Update on progress included within agenda for Board meeting, 11 June 2024.
4	05.03.24	The Edinburgh Children's Partnership Plan	To agree that a progress report come back to the partnership in September 2024.	Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services Lead Officer: Rose Howley/ Colin Briggs	September 2024		<p>Recommended for Closure</p> <p>On agenda for the September 2024 Board Meeting.</p>

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
				rose.howley@edinburgh.gov.uk / colin.briggs@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk			
5	05.03.24	Poverty Related Hunger Edinburgh – Plan Update	To agree to receive a further report, in September 2024 with recommendations about how the £500,000, agreed as part of the budget, would be used.	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Eleanor Cunningham eleanor.cunningham@edinburgh.gov.uk	September 2024		Report submitted to Policy and Sustainability Committee on 28 May 2024
6	05.03.24	Transformation and Improvement Programme	To agree that a follow-up report will be presented to the partnership in September 2024.	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Michele Mulvaney michele.mulvaney@edinburgh.gov.uk	September 2024		Recommended for Closure On agenda for September 2024
7	05.03.24	Review of Neighbourhood Networks	To agree that the report with recommendations about the future of Neighbourhood Networks which will go to	Executive Director of Place Lead Officer: Andrew Field	December 2024		Update on progress included within Transformation and Improvement Programme

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			the Culture and Communities Committee will come back to the partnership board in due course.	andrew.field@edinburgh.gov.uk			update to the EPB, 11 June 2024.
8	11.06.24	Housing Emergency	A proposal to form a partnership focused on housing issues has been agreed upon. This partnership will be scoped out and developed with key partners, led by Derek McGowan. The proposal will be presented to the September Edinburgh Partnership Board for discussion.	Executive Director of Place Lead Officer: Derek McGowan Derek.McGowan@edinburgh.gov.uk	December 2024		
9	11.06.24	Transformation and Improvement Programme	A programme of engagement has been agreed upon to further develop a future model for community planning in the city.	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Daniel Greig daniel.greig@edinburgh.gov.uk	December 2024		<u>September 2024</u> This is on the agenda for the September 2024 Board Meeting.

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
10	11.06.24	Community Learning and Development Partnership Plan	The Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan has been agreed upon as presented. A progress report on the CLD Plan will be provided annually to the EPB.	Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services Lead Officer: Linda Lees linda.lees@edinburgh.gov.uk	June 2025		
11	11.06.24	Land and Asset Update	The Director of Public Health for NHS Lothian will liaise with the new Chief Executive of the City of Edinburgh Council to discuss a co-chair role and establish the Terms of Reference for advancing the work.	Director of Public Health, NHS Lothian / Chief Executive, City of Edinburgh Council Lead Officer, Dona Milne Dona.Milne@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk	September 2024		Currently drafting Terms of Reference. Draft will be presented for comment when available.
12	11.06.24	Future Meetings	Partners have agreed to identify locations for future Edinburgh Partnership Board (EPB) meetings and will provide feedback to the	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Daniel Greig	Prior to September 2024 Board		Recommended for Closure Complete.

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			Edinburgh Partnership Lead Officer.	daniel.greig@edinburgh.gov.uk			



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Transformation and Improvement Programme – Progress Update

3 September 2024

1. Executive Summary

This report presents stakeholder feedback to date on the Transformation and Improvement Programme and sets out next steps for consideration.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Board:

2.1.1 Note the feedback to date on the change proposition; and

2.1.2 Agree the proposed next steps in the Transformation and Improvement Programme.

3. Main Report

Context and Background

3.1 At the last Board, partners discussed a proposal to redesign community planning governance (see appendix) and approved next steps which included wide engagement with partners to inform the final model. The overall aim of this is to embed and strengthen the city's approach to community planning. The starting point was to access areas of good practice along with areas of improvement. There has been wide recognition among partners at all levels that a different approach is required.

Key Findings from Workshops and Stakeholder Discussions - June to August

3.3 Discussions and engagement sessions have occurred with members of strategic partnerships, LOIP groups, Locality Community Planning Partnership Chairs, and Council Services. These conversations, which mirror insights from the from the Board Working Group, highlight several strengths in the current community planning approach, including:

3.3.1 Third sector led initiatives, such as the R2 collaborative in the North community, showcasing the effectiveness of targeted, community-based interventions that are tailored to local needs.

3.3.2 The effectiveness of the Local Outcome Improvement, with strong involvement of key stakeholders in the planning and delivery process such as work undertaken within LOIP 1 to embed income maximisation services within GP practises. This collaborative approach means that initiatives are

well co-ordinated and focused on addressing the specific needs of the community.

- 3.4 Several areas for improvement were identified, including:
- 3.4.1 A lack of co-ordination across the various partnerships which creates gaps between local communities and planning structures, as well as between the strategic and operational levels. This includes a notable disconnect between the strategic partnerships, Locality Community Planning Partnerships (LCPPs), and the Board.
 - 3.4.2 The current approach is considered complex and characterised by multiple layers of bureaucracy and unclear priorities between partnerships. This leads to potential inefficiencies and a lack of clarity in roles and responsibilities, which is viewed as impeding effective decision-making and slowing the implementation of necessary actions. Additionally, LCPPs perceive community planning as overly top-down, which further complicates engagement and communication and is seen to reduce the ability for community participation.
 - 3.4.3 Framework could do more to include the community in decision-making processes.
 - 3.4.4 Resource competition and duplication of effort results in inefficiencies.
- 3.5 Whilst the proposition has been generally welcomed, some stakeholders have expressed concerns of the need to ensure adequate support, resources, and time for full implementation. It is essential that the new approach addresses these concerns by offering robust support structures, clear governance, and sufficient time for embedding within communities.
- 3.6 Additionally, clarification is sought on where other partnerships and groups fit within the proposed approach, for example the Health and Social Care Partnership, Edinburgh Drugs and Alcohol Partnership and the child and adult protection committees. The potential for establishing a dedicated Health and Wellbeing Partnership has also been raised with a remit to include sport and physical activity as an example.
- 3.7 Feedback has reinforced the views of the Working Group, with importance placed on the need for:
- 3.8 Action-Oriented Approach:** A shift towards an action-oriented framework is necessary, prioritising clear objectives and actionable outcomes, minimising bureaucracy. A structured project management framework facilitates this, ensuring monitoring of progress, clear assignment of responsibilities, and strict adherence to timelines. Localised partnerships, led by the voluntary sector and supported by the Council with key public services integrated is essential.
- 3.9 Enhanced Community Engagement:** Deepening community engagement is crucial, ensuring local residents actively participate in the co-design of services.



This aligns with the Scottish Approach to Service Design, which promotes user involvement in design processes. Incorporating insights from anti-poverty networks and initiatives such as TACL is necessary to address issues swiftly in a multidisciplinary manner.

- 3.10 Simplified Governance Structure:** Simplifying the governance structure aims to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and clarify roles and responsibilities. These revisions will enhance transparency and increase efficiency in decision-making, thus making community planning more responsive to local needs. Additionally, it is essential to establish a mechanism that allows both local and strategic partnerships to raise issues across the partnership effectively
- 3.11 Improved Communication:** Breaking down departmental and organisational silos is crucial to enhance communication across various levels and sectors. Improved communication will foster better collaboration, build trust, and strengthen accountability, crucial for the success of community initiatives.
- 3.12 Sustainable Funding and Resources:** Securing sustainable, long-term funding is essential. This support will ensure the effectiveness of community programmes by providing the necessary resources for new initiatives to thrive and adapt to changing circumstances.
- 3.13 Strengthened Third Sector Relationships:** Involving the third sector in community planning is vital. Strengthening these relationships will enhance our responsiveness and adaptability to community needs, particularly as we face evolving challenges.
- 3.14 Place-Based Approach:** Adopting a flexible, place-based approach to service delivery, supported by data-driven decision-making, ensures services meet the specific needs of different communities. This approach will significantly improve outcomes by addressing unique local issues and leveraging local strengths.
- 3.15 Integrated Performance Framework:** Implementing an integrated performance framework will ensure continuous assessment and improvement of community planning efforts. This framework will provide a structured approach to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of initiatives, ensuring all objectives are met.
- 3.16 Co-Production in Implementation:** It is critical that we co-produce the "Develop and Deliver" phases with all stakeholders. This collaborative approach must involve communities, third sector organisations, and other key partners in the development and testing of solutions. Co-production is essential for ensuring that the implementation plan is successful and sustainable, accurately reflecting the genuine needs and aspirations of the communities involved.

Next Steps

- 3.17** Further stakeholder engagement is planned for September. This includes sessions with the Locality Community Planning Partnerships, Neighbourhood Networks, community councils, elected members, partner management groups



and voluntary sector organisations and local collaboratives. This provides all relevant stakeholders with an opportunity to inform the final approach which will be presented to the Board for approval in December 2024.

- 3.18 On agreement of the approach, work will begin on the "Develop" phase. Key within this will be the co-production with stakeholders of an implementation plan scheduled for presentation to the Board in March 2025.

4. Contact

Michele Mulvaney, Strategy Manager (Communities and Equalities)

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Daniel Greig, Senior Policy and Insight Officer

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Community Planning Self-Evaluation

3 September 2024

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Improvement Service (IS) is introducing a national biennial self-assessment process for Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs). This recognises the essential role CPPs play in improving local outcomes. This report seeks agreement of the Board to participate in this programme of work.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to agree to participate in the biennial national self-assessment provided by the Improvement Service.

3. Main Report

Context

- 3.1 The Improvement Service (IS) provides support for local government improvement in Scotland. This includes support for CPPs through the provision of various work, including self-assessments, the Community Planning Network, and guidance for Board members.

Proposal for National CPP Self-Assessment

- 3.2 Building on its experience with national self-assessments in other areas, the IS is providing an opportunity for CPPs to participate in a biennial national self-assessment. The assessment will provide a national overview, identifying best practice and areas for improvement, together with confidential individual CPP reports to inform local approaches. Within this context, the work has the scope to augment and help shape the current work of the Edinburgh Partnership through the Transformation and Improvement Programme.

Benefits of a National Self-Assessment

- 3.3 The national self-assessment offers several benefits:
- National Benchmarking: CPPs will receive a national overview of successes and areas needing improvement, providing a benchmark for future progress.

- Enhanced Support: National organisations like the IS can use the assessment data to refine their support offerings.
- Development of Case Studies: The assessment will enable the creation of case studies showcasing good practice, which will be shared nationally.
- Confidential Reporting: Each CPP will receive an anonymous report, ensuring confidentiality and encouraging honest self-assessment.
- Cost-Free Participation: The IS will cover all costs associated with the self-assessment process.

National Self-Assessment Process

3.4 The IS proposes beginning the self-assessment process in late September/early October. The process will include:

- Awareness Session: An online session to introduce the process and address any questions.
- Checklist Distribution: CPP managers will distribute the Checklist to their Partnership members.
- Analysis and Reporting: The IS will compile a national overview and provide individual reports to each participating CPP.
- Facilitated Sessions: IS will offer to facilitate sessions with individual CPPs to develop improvement plans based on the findings.

CPP Checklist

3.5 The CPP Checklist includes 38 Likert scale statements across six key sections: Clear Leadership, Governance and Accountability, Community Engagement and Capacity Building, Effective Use of Joint Resources, Reporting of Performance Management and Outcomes, and How the Partnership is Making an Impact. Participants will be encouraged to highlight strengths and areas for improvement in each section.

Transformation and Improvement

3.6 The Board is asked to agree to participate in this national initiative based on its potential to add value and enhance the current Transformation and Improvement Programme.

3.7 In addition, and recognising the value of the approach, it is proposed to use a similar framework with the EP strategic partnerships, with this work being progressed by the Communities Team. This will support the development of a maturity model that will not only evaluate the current state of these partnerships but also provide actionable insights to inform the Transformation and Improvement Programme.



4. Contact

Daniel Greig – Senior Policy and Insights Officer
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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Poverty Prevention Work – Progress Update

3 September 2024

1. Executive Summary

Prevention and early intervention, with a particular focus on poverty prevention, is a priority for partners and a core theme across a number of existing workstreams and strategies. This joint paper from the City of Edinburgh Council Strategic Change and Delivery Team and NHS Lothian's Public Health Team provides a summary of work underway and proposed next steps, including recommendations for the Edinburgh Partnership Board.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- 2.1.1 Note the plans in progress to reconvene the Edinburgh Poverty Commission for an interim review of progress to date;
 - 2.1.2 Agrees for the board to meet the Commission in as a part of this review in a special meeting to be arranged for October 2024;
 - 2.1.3 Agrees for the development of a roadmap of change actions needed to make substantive progress for prevention of poverty and other harms;
 - 2.1.4 Notes that this roadmap should be developed in parallel to aligned with the Edinburgh Partnership Transformation and Improvement Programme;
 - 2.1.5 Discusses and agrees the proposed scope and draft priorities for this roadmap outlined in this report;
 - 2.1.6 Agrees for all partner organisations to identify and nominate key lead officers for relevant workstreams;
 - 2.1.7 Agrees for these officers to form a working group, formed as a sub-group to the LOIP Delivery Group, and tasked with developing a programme of 12 month delivery plans for each priority action area for scrutiny by the Board at its next meeting;
 - 2.1.8 Agrees to support the development of a partnership wide Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to support the delivery of this roadmap and other service programmes; and,
 - 2.1.9 Agrees for further work to be undertaken on the potential for Marmot principles and indicators to be used as part of monitoring progress in delivery of this roadmap and the community planning partnership as a whole.

Context and Background

- 3.1 Systems change needed to promote prevention and early intervention is a core priority across a number of local and national partner workstreams. These include the forthcoming publication of a **Scottish Government Prevention Strategy**, the **Whole Family Wellbeing Fund** being used as a catalyst for prevention actions, an [NHS Lothian Strengthened Approach to Prevention Report](#), and the [draft IJB Strategic Plan](#). All these plans seek to improve partnership approaches to avoiding harms, achieve better outcomes for citizens, and reduce service demand pressures. Prevention of poverty, as a key driver of need, is a core element of all these plans.
- 3.2 There is an opportunity for the current Community Planning Partnership Transformation and Improvement Programme to support this work, with a specific focus on partnership work to prevent poverty.
- 3.3 This paper provides an update on partnership work already underway, an outline for a proposed roadmap for further system change across the partnership, and key components needed to support delivery of this roadmap.

Edinburgh Poverty Commission Interim Review

- 3.3 The calls to action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission in 2020 provide a core reference point for all work conducted by partners to prevent and address the effects of poverty in Edinburgh. Progress on actions to meet these calls to action are monitored through the Annual End Poverty in Edinburgh progress report discussed by the Partnership Board each year, as well as through the Edinburgh Local Outcome Improvement Plan Annual Report.
- 3.4 Building on this annual scrutiny, 2025 will mark the mid-point between the publication of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission's final report and the 2030 targets set out in its calls to action for the city. In advance of that threshold, in December 2022 the Edinburgh Partnership agreed that the members of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission would be invited to reconvene during 2024 to provide an interim review of progress made in the city towards 2030 targets.
- 3.5 In line with the original commission process, and to protect the independence of its findings, final decisions on the process and timing of this review are made by the commission chair, Dr Jim McCormick in collaboration with other independent members.
- 3.6 All original independent members were invited to an inception and scoping session in June this year. At this session, the commission agreed that the review process would be conducted and led in partnership with members of the End Poverty Edinburgh citizen's group with a focus on three priorities:



- 3.6.1 **Reviewing progress** made in the past four years, adding independent insight and value to the annual reports and scrutiny conducted by partners, noting the areas where the commission's calls to action are being delivered, highlighting those areas where more work is needed, and considering new paths to meeting those calls to action.
- 3.6.2 **Reiterating and restating** the core principles and findings of the original commission, the evidence they were drawn from, and their continued relevance.
- 3.6.3 **Refreshing the calls to action.** In particular, this interim review provides an opportunity for the commission to consider new evidence and new issues that have come to light since its original work, and to consider any issues to which the original commission might, with the benefit of hindsight, have given more emphasis.
- 3.7 It is proposed that the commission conduct its review during Autumn 2024, with a view to publication of interim findings during winter 2024. In doing so, the review process and findings are intended to support the development of transformation and poverty prevention programmes currently underway within the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Partnership.
- 3.8 An outline timeline and process for this review is provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

A roadmap for prevention of poverty

- 3.9 In preparation for this review, and as part of the annual self-assessment process used in development of the progress reports cited above, Council officers have developed an outline SWOT analysis of Edinburgh's current approach to poverty prevention.
- 3.10 In summary this analysis finds that:
- 3.10.1 Overall poverty rates (for adults or children) have shown no significant change in the period since 2020
- 3.10.2 But the cost of living crisis and other trends have brought increasing evidence of rising 'deep' poverty, homelessness, destitution, and hardship within the population
- 3.10.3 The work led by partners has a demonstrable impact on people's lives – Scottish Government estimates suggest that 2,000 Edinburgh children are being kept out of poverty by actions in the city delivered by local partners
- 3.10.4 But the rate and scale of progress has not yet been sufficient to meet the targets for poverty reduction set by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, or Scottish Government



- 3.10.5 The calls to action set by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission have provided a powerful direction for the work of partners in the city, and clear guidance on the future state and ways of working partners should aim for
- 3.10.6 But, for reasons highlighted through the EP Transformation and Improvement Programme, it has proved difficult to translate this vision into a practical and deliverable roadmap for change.
- 3.11 To meet this need it is proposed that a core priority of the Edinburgh Partnership should be the development and delivery of a refreshed roadmap for poverty prevention in Edinburgh. This roadmap should be developed:
- 3.11.1 In line with and as a demonstration of the principles set out through the **Edinburgh Partnership Transformation and Improvement Programme**,
- 3.11.2 With and in response to the findings and recommendation arising from the **Edinburgh Poverty Commission Interim Review**,
- 3.11.3 Alongside and in alignment with other emerging partnership structures and programmes, including the proposed **Housing Partnership**.
- 3.12 Building on existing LOIP priority programmes, the findings of the LOIP Annual Report, and other discussions with partnership leads, it is proposed that an initial outline for this roadmap should include the following five action programmes which aim to:
- 3.12.1 **Improve core service delivery** – ensuring public services that deliver to those in greatest need are of the highest possible quality (including housing, health and wellbeing, neighbourhood, community services and others), joined up, and fit for purpose to provide a service experience that is humane, compassionate, and easy to navigate;
- 3.12.2 **Maximise incomes and minimise costs** – providing easy access to high quality money, debt and welfare advice making sure citizens are able to access all the benefits they are entitled to, reduce living costs, and manage financial pressures (building on existing LOIP 1 workstreams);
- 3.12.3 **Improve economic inclusion** – ensuring that economic opportunity in the city is available to those in greatest need and that employment is translated into income growth (building on existing LOIP 2 workstreams);
- 3.12.4 **Improve health and well-being**– targeting good physical and mental health programmes in the areas and across the communities which need them most;
- 3.12.5 **Area based anti-poverty alliances** - assembling local partnerships across Edinburgh which bring together voluntary sector agencies with key public services with the aim of providing integrated support to those



already in need, or those at risk of being in need (building on existing LOIP 3 workstreams).

- 3.13 In support of these actions, the roadmap should also incorporate cross cutting enablers needed to deliver these programmes, including:
- 3.13.1 **Strong leadership and programme management** to drive and be accountable for change at the pace needed, with clear roles and responsibilities defined and a clear, consistent approach to co-production with communities.
 - 3.13.2 As a first step towards development of the road map it is proposed that all partner organisations nominate key lead officers with capacity to form a working group to scope and report to the board with a **12 month delivery plan for actions needed in each priority area**, including identification key resource constraints, and alignment with existing work streams and funding opportunities (including Whole Family Wellbeing Fund and other programmes).
 - 3.13.3 Clear agreement of needs and priorities across all areas of the roadmap. A **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment** provides one route to provide this clarity of purpose and direct strategic programmes. Further information on work underway is provided in Appendix 2.
 - 3.13.4 A review of current approaches to **third sector funding**. Strong, responsive, and innovative third sector organisations are critical to the delivery of any poverty prevention programme and work is needed to ensure that funding provided by partners delivers the impacts needed, and supports sustainable, long term relationships with community organisations.
 - 3.13.5 A strong **financial case and evidence base** for poverty prevention action to ensure that poverty reduction can be meaningfully incorporated within partner budget decision processes.
 - 3.13.6 **Data driven innovation support** for poverty prevention programmes, including digital tools to help programmes identify early indicators that people may need help.
 - 3.13.7 **Consistent and meaningful evaluation** of the outcomes, impacts, costs, and benefits of poverty prevention programmes, designed to highlight what works and driving improvement.
 - 3.13.8 An **integrated performance management framework** that supports continuous assessment and improvement across all programmes, aligned to insights from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Marmot Principles provide one approach to development of a framework. Further information on this approach is provided in Appendix 3.



Next Steps

3.14 Proposed next steps include:

- 3.14.1 A special Edinburgh Partnership Board session to be held in October 2024 as part of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission interim review,
- 3.14.2 A working group of key officers to be established, as a sub group of the LOIP Delivery Group, to develop a prevention roadmap, with clear leads and responsibilities for each priority area identified from all appropriate partner agencies
- 3.14.3 A programme of 12 month delivery plans for each priority area in the road map to be developed for approval by the partnership board.
- 3.14.4 This programme to include next step actions for delivery of a partnership wide Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and
- 3.14.5 Further analysis needed to assess the potential for use of Marmot principles in development of future integrated performance frameworks for the partnership.

4. Contact

Flora Ogilvie, Consultant in Public Health, NHS Lothian

Lindsay Robertson, Change and Delivery Manager, City of Edinburgh Council

Chris Adams, Strategy Manager, City of Edinburgh Council

Appendix 1: Edinburgh Poverty Commission work programme

It is proposed that the commission conduct its review during Autumn 2024, with a view to publication of findings during winter 2024. In doing so, the review process and findings are intended to support the development of transformation and poverty prevention programmes currently underway within the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Partnership.

During its review process, it the commission will:

- Assess evidence published by partners during 2020-24 including progress reports, new strategies, and budget commitments. Within this, a key element of evidence will be provided through the 2024 End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Progress report due for scrutiny by the Partnership Board in November 2024.
- Meet and observe partnerships and delivery structures that have been developed in the city since the initial commission work was completed.
- Issue a public online call for evidence and invitation for community sector organisations to provide face to face evidence to the commission
- Conduct a short series of roundtables and evidence gathering sessions with partners, citizens, statutory bodies, and community organisations across Edinburgh, including a specific focus on organisations that support people with protected characteristics
- A key part of this roundtable series will be sessions with the Edinburgh Partnership Board
- Deliberate on the findings from these discussions in partnership with End Poverty Edinburgh and other citizen led groups, and
- Publish and launch its findings at a public in person event.

Secretariat support for the Commission will be provided by the Council's Policy and Insight team with additional support from LOIP Delivery Group members and chairs of LOIP priority groups.



Appendix 2: A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Edinburgh

A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is a comprehensive process conducted by local councils, NHS boards and other partners to identify the current and future health and wellbeing needs of their local population.¹ It systematically gathers and analyses a wide range of data, including demographic trends, health outcomes and social determinants of health, to provide a detailed understanding of the community's needs.

This data can include statistics on prevalence of health and outcomes; prevalence of determinants of health such as poverty, employment, and housing; health behaviours; and access to services and the building blocks of health. A JSNA is critical in informing the planning and commissioning of health and social care services, ensuring that resources are allocated effectively to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

A JSNA can be completed for a whole population or specific subgroups of the population, or for a specific health or determinants of health topic.² Edinburgh HSCP has recently completed several JSNA on specific topics, including Population and Demographics; Poverty; Dementia; Population Health and Inequalities in Edinburgh; Mental Health; Carers; and Alcohol; with a Housing needs assessment currently underway.³

However, as children and young people are outwith the remit of the EHSCP these assessments have all focussed on the needs of adults. With this in mind, we have identified that a further JSNA specifically focussed children, young people and their families in Edinburgh would be beneficial to support the work of the Community Planning Partnership, particularly in relation to the Partnership ambition to address child poverty.

A JSNA process can be used to tell us:

- the level of need for public services and opportunities
- the extent of unmet need
- the pattern of supply and effectiveness of current services
- how to work towards meeting a need
- how to use resources in the most effective and efficient way

Initial scoping will be conducted with relevant stakeholders, including members of the Edinburgh Children's Partnership, to agree the focus of a Children's JSNA, recognising that a phased approach may be required. NHS Lothian's Public Health Team will lead the JSNA process, but this will require input from all relevant partners. The plan is to have a draft JSNA covering priority topics for Children and Young People completed by early 2025.

¹ <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7b88cced915d131105fdff/Statutory-Guidance-on-Joint-Strategic-Needs-Assessments-and-Joint-Health-and-Wellbeing-Strategies-March-2013.pdf>

² [Understanding needs - Reducing health inequalities - Public Health Scotland](#)

³ [Joint strategic needs assessment - Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership \(edinburghhsc.scot\)](#)



Appendix 3: Marmot Principles in Edinburgh

Marmot Places⁴ (Cities) are local council areas that have pledged to implement the recommendations of the Marmot Review, which was led by Professor Sir Michael Marmot in 2010.⁵ The Marmot Review highlighted strategies to reduce health inequalities based on the social determinants of health, through coordinated actions across multiple sectors such as education, employment, housing and public health.

The Marmot principles are:

- Give every child the best start in life.
- Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives.
- Create fair employment and good work for all.
- Ensure a healthy standard of living for all.
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities.
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.
- Tackle racism, discrimination, and their outcomes.
- Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together.

The aim of a Marmot Place is to recognise that health and health inequalities are mostly shaped by the social determinants of health (the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age) and takes action to improve health and reduce health inequalities.⁶ This work has already shaped the prioritisation of areas of focus within NHS Lothian's Public Health team.

Marmot Indicators are a set of measurements developed locally to monitor and assess the progress of areas implementing the Marmot Review principles. These indicators can cover a range of domains, including life expectancy, healthy life expectancy, early childhood development, educational attainment, employment, income inequality and housing conditions, and have already informed the development of NHS Lothian's Public Health Core Dataset.

These indicators provide a comprehensive framework for measuring health equity and aim to guide evidence-based decision making that could be used at a community planning level. Indicators can vary per place. An example set of indicators and associated monitoring tool has been developed by several cities, such as Coventry⁷. It

⁴ [Marmot Places - IHE \(instituteofhealthequity.org\)](https://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/)

⁵ [Fair Society Healthy Lives \(The Marmot Review\) - IHE \(instituteofhealthequity.org\)](https://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/)

⁶ [Marmot Places - IHE \(instituteofhealthequity.org\)](https://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/)

⁷ [How will we measure how well we are doing; summary of recommendations and indicators on a page – Coventry City Council](#)



is recognised that work to develop a Community Planning Performance Framework is ongoing as part of the Community Planning Transformation and Improvement, and that this will need to include Key Performance Indicators and Milestones for each of the Partnership Groups. An overarching set of Indicators, such as Marmot Indicators, could also help the Partnership to track overall progress in relation to the evidence-based actions that are needed to address health inequalities.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Proposal for Housing Partnership Establishment

3 September 2024

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report follows on from the Edinburgh Partnership Board agreement on 11 June 2024 to establish a new Housing Partnership. It sets out proposals for the Partnership's establishment for agreement by the Board.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to agree the proposals for the establishment of a Housing Partnership as set out in the report.

3. Main Report

- 3.1 The City of Edinburgh Council declared a Housing Emergency on the 2 November 2023, agreeing a Housing Emergency Action Plan on the 27 February 2024. A Housing summit convened by Professor Lesley McAra on the 28 February 2024 brought together key figures from local and national organisations to examine the drivers of the emergency and identify partnership solutions. Correspondence has been exchanged with the Housing Minister since that event and a further meeting convened by Professor McAra is planned for the end of September 2024.
- 3.2 At their meeting on the 11 June 2024 the Edinburgh Partnership Board (EP) agreed to establish a strategic Housing Partnership, to ensure a citywide community planning focus on the housing and homelessness issues facing the city. The EP Housing Partnership is designed to be a strategic group with members drawn from across organisations and affiliate groups focussing on housing and homelessness as a public health issue, and collectively benefitting from the Edinburgh Partnership brand.
- 3.3 It is suggested that membership of the EP Housing Partnership be agreed as follows:

Chair: Lynn McMath, University of Edinburgh

Members: Flora Ogilvie, NHS Lothian

Derek McGowan, City of Edinburgh Council
Sean Smith, University of Edinburgh
Beth Watts-Cobbe, I-Sphere
Pat Togher, Edinburgh H&SCP
Amanda Hatton, City of Edinburgh Council

One representative from each of the following:

EVOC
SHAPE
Edinburgh Affordable Housing Partnership
NHS Lothian
Police Scotland
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Higher and further education sector in Edinburgh
Social Security Scotland
Department for Work and Pensions
Skills Development Scotland
Homes for Scotland

- 3.4 With the next Ministerial meeting being held in late September, the proposal is to use that meeting as the initial meeting of the EP Housing Partnership, with all members attending. This would be chaired by Professor McAra before being handed over to Lynn McMath, ensuring continuity of the convening power of the University. To demonstrate a true partnership approach, it is considered important that the Partnership is chaired by an organisation not as closely connected with housing and homelessness.
- 3.5 This Partnership will examine strategic issues in housing and homelessness, providing a single city voice through the Edinburgh Partnership benefitting from Senior Leadership across the public sector.
- 3.6 Meetings will be quarterly, in line with Edinburgh Partnership meetings with reporting to be agreed as part of the transformation and improvement programme. A representative of the Housing Partnership would also sit on the EP Management Group if this proposition is agreed. Subject to the Board approval the planned meeting will be convened in September and work carried out to develop the terms of reference and role of members to align with the final model for community planning for the city.

4. Contact

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Local Outcome Improvement Plan Annual Report

3 September 2024

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Edinburgh Partnership, as required by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, must produce a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) to guide collaborative efforts in improving outcomes for residents facing the greatest inequalities in the city. The Board approved the current LOIP in March 2022, and this report provides an annual update on the progress made.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to approve the publication of the LOIP annual report as detailed in Appendix 1.

3. Main Report

- 3.1 The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the Edinburgh Partnership to publish a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), with annual reports outlining progress towards the plan's goals, as mandated by Sections 8 and 12 of the Act. In March 2022, the Board revised the LOIP in response to significant shifts in the city's strategic context, particularly due to the Climate Emergency, the ongoing impacts of the pandemic, and heightened risks of poverty and inequality as highlighted by the Poverty Commission.
- 3.2 The LOIP seeks to address deep-rooted poverty and inequality in Edinburgh through a partnership approach focused on three key areas: ensuring residents have enough money to live on, providing access to work, learning, and training opportunities, and enhancing the overall quality of life in Edinburgh. This report reviews the actions undertaken over the past year and identifies the challenges currently faced.
- 3.3 Next steps**
- 3.4 The Transformation and Improvement Programme will enhance collaboration within the Edinburgh Partnership by reducing bureaucracy, improving cross-sector communication, and strengthening ties with third-sector organisations. Simplified governance structures and clear roles will support a more effective community planning model focused on poverty prevention. Continued engagement with communities and stakeholders will ensure an inclusive approach, while an integrated performance framework will guide data-driven

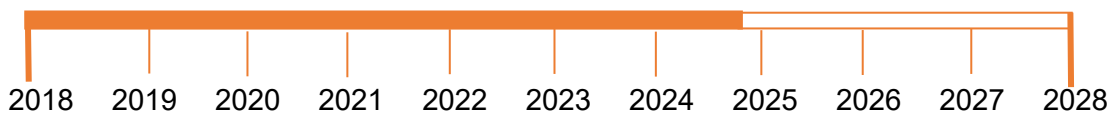
decisions, targeting efforts effectively and measuring progress towards reducing poverty in Edinburgh.

4. Contact

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Edinburgh Community Planning Partnership

Local Outcome Improvement Plan



Annual Report
April 2023-March 2024



Foreword

By Councillor Cammy Day, the Leader of the City of Edinburgh Council and Chair of the Edinburgh Partnership Board

To follow

Introduction

Under Sections 8 and 12 of the [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#), Community Planning Partnerships are required to publish annual reports which describe progress made towards ambitions in their [Local Outcome Improvement Plan](#) (LOIP).

Edinburgh is widely recognised as an affluent and growing city, but it also experiences significant levels of inequality, with some communities among the most deprived in Scotland. Addressing these disparities is the primary focus of all members of the Edinburgh Partnership. This challenge is not only central to the LOIP but also aligns with the priorities outlined in strategic partnerships and agency plans across the city. Importantly, these issues cannot be effectively addressed by any single partner or partnership alone, necessitating coordinated efforts.

Three Priority Workstreams

The drivers of poverty and inequality in Edinburgh are deeply entrenched and multifaceted, requiring sustained partnership efforts and investment to address. Through collaboration with partners and informed by community input, the Edinburgh Partnership has identified three priority workstreams that demand additional action and leadership, beyond the individual strategic plans and priorities of each member.

Over the period of the LOIP, we will deliver actions to ensure that residents across all parts of Edinburgh have:

- 1. Enough money to live on:** The goal is to ensure that all residents have enough money to live on. Currently, around 15% of Edinburgh's population is living in poverty, including 21% of children. The LOIP outlines actions aimed at increasing income through better access to benefits, financial advice, and support services, as well as efforts to tackle in-work poverty.
- 2. Access to work, learning and training opportunities:** Access to quality employment, education, and training opportunities is vital for reducing inequality. Unemployment in Edinburgh stands at approximately 3%, with higher rates in the most deprived areas. The LOIP focuses on creating pathways to employment, particularly for young people, those with disabilities, and other disadvantaged groups. It also aims to enhance lifelong learning opportunities to support career progression and adaptability.
- 3. A good place to live:** The population of Edinburgh has grown by 7.6% since 2012 and is also ageing, with 20.1% over the age of 65, surpassing those under 15. Life expectancy in Edinburgh, while higher than the Scottish average, remains unevenly distributed, with lower rates in deprived areas.

Despite general satisfaction with neighbourhoods, significant disparities persist, particularly in the most deprived areas. The LOIP 3 actions are focused on targeted, data-driven interventions in areas like Liberton and Craigmillar, incorporating these demographic shifts and emphasising inclusive, community-driven responses.

This report outlines the current delivery landscape, provides updates on the three priority areas, and sets out the way forward for the coming year. It details the progress achieved in these areas over the past year and identifies key challenges facing all partners and the City. The report offers an evidence-based review of the actions taken and their impact, while also highlighting areas where further work is needed. The Edinburgh Partnership remains dedicated to these priorities, recognising that addressing poverty and inequality is crucial to making Edinburgh a city where all residents can thrive. By maintaining focused action and strong collaboration, we will continue to work towards the outcomes established in the LOIP, contributing to a fairer and more inclusive Edinburgh.

Delivery Landscape

Edinburgh faces several significant challenges that impact community planning, particularly in housing and social services. The city's diverse population experiences considerable disparities in income, housing, and access to essential services. Rising costs of living and increasing demand for affordable housing have exacerbated these issues. Over the past year, house prices in Edinburgh have risen by approximately 6%, with the average house price now at £312,000, placing further strain on affordability for many residents. This situation is part of a broader housing emergency marked by a sharp increase in homelessness—Edinburgh saw 3,815 homeless assessments in 2022-23, with projections indicating this number will exceed 3,870 in 2023-24. Additionally, the average time spent in temporary accommodation has surged to 402 days, a 386% increase since 2012-13, reflecting the growing pressures on the housing system.

The Edinburgh Partnership Survey, undertaken in 2023, reveals a complex picture of resident experiences. While 91% of residents express satisfaction with their neighbourhoods and 94% with the city as a place to live, significant disparities exist, particularly in the 20% most deprived areas according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). In these areas, satisfaction is notably lower.

Poverty is the most significant factor affecting the quality of life for Edinburgh residents, particularly those living in the city's most disadvantaged areas. The Edinburgh Partnership Survey 2023 reveals that only 68% of residents in the 20% most deprived areas are satisfied with their neighbourhoods, compared to 95% in more affluent areas. Health outcomes are similarly affected, with only 27% of residents in these deprived areas rating their physical health as "very good," compared to 41% in other areas. Digital access also reflects these disparities: while most residents have internet-capable devices, only 85% of those in the most deprived areas do, and just 80% report having the necessary digital skills.

Furthermore, over a quarter of residents have struggled with paying household bills, using credit to cover expenses, or resorting to food banks in the past year—issues

that are particularly prevalent among the unemployed, with 53% of them using food banks and 59% having difficulty paying bills. While a strong sense of community exists, with 81% in deprived areas feeling a sense of belonging, only 21% of these residents feel they have control over their local environment, highlighting a gap in participation and empowerment in decision-making processes.

The city also faces critical challenges in land use and public asset management. Effective land use planning that supports sustainable development is essential, particularly in underserved areas. This includes addressing the need for community facilities and ensuring that existing assets are utilised to benefit all residents.

Access to affordable and high-quality childcare remains a significant concern, especially for working families in lower-income brackets. Edinburgh has some of the highest childcare costs in Scotland, creating barriers for parents seeking employment or educational opportunities. Expanding access to affordable childcare is vital for supporting families and reducing inequalities across the city.

In response to these challenges, the Edinburgh Community Planning Partnership launched a Transformation and Improvement Programme in September 2023. This programme is aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of community planning by improving the relationship with the public, voluntary and community sectors. A key focus of this programme is improving outcomes for efforts experiencing poverty with efforts set to continue into the next year.

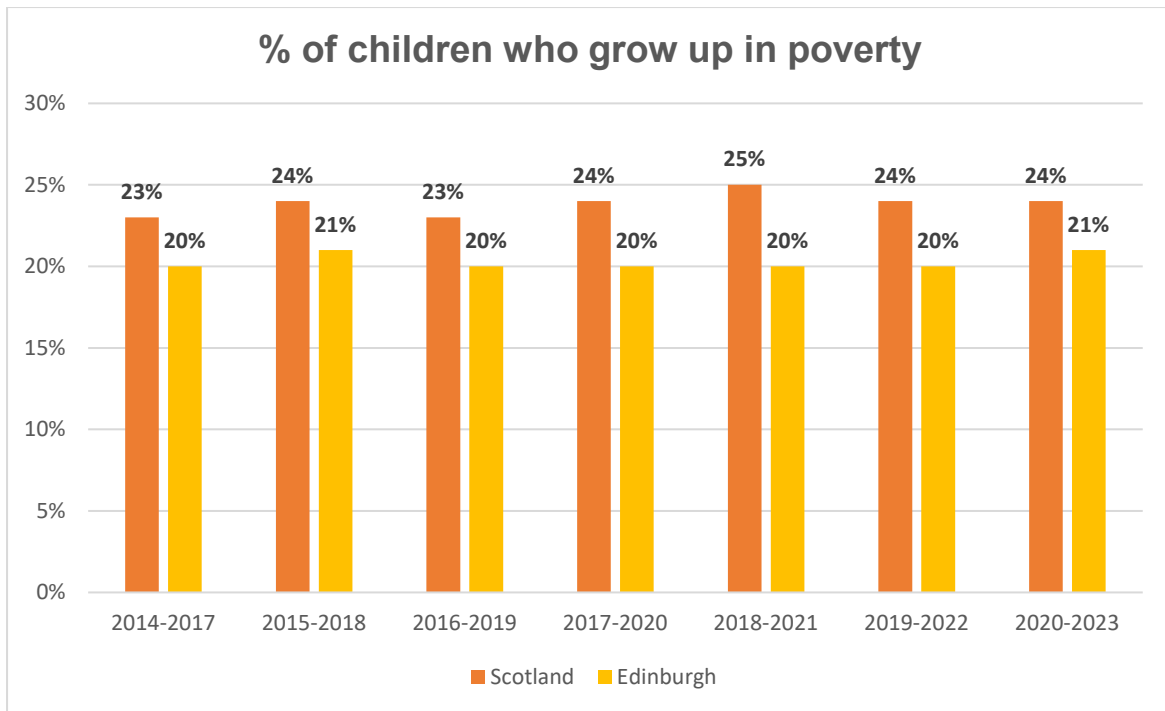
Priorty1: Enough money to live on

Lead: Edinburgh Advice Partnership

Partners include: Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership, City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian, Citizen Advice Edinburgh, CHAI, GIC, The Action Group, Edinburgh Food Project, Capital City Partnership, DWP, SSS, EVOC, Home Energy Scotland and Changeworks.

What do we know?

Data shows that poverty rates in Edinburgh are high with one in five children living in poverty.



Poverty in Edinburgh affects around 15% of the population, including 21% of children. These figures have remained steady in recent years, despite challenges such as the pandemic and the cost of living crisis. Certain groups, including women, families with children, minority ethnic groups, and disabled individuals, face a higher risk of poverty, with rates often more than double the citywide average.

Poverty can significantly impact health, education, employment, discrimination, and vulnerability to crime. There is a growing number of people seeking support for mental health issues, often linked to loneliness, social isolation, and financial, employment, and housing concerns.

Inequalities and poverty not only affect individuals but also hinder the delivery of key services. According to a recent JRF report, the lack of essential resources increases pressure on primary schools and GP surgeries, diverting resources and adding to workloads. This research underscores the impact of financial hardship on staff, particularly GPs and other community health professionals, and highlights the importance of integrating welfare rights and debt services into health settings.

How are we doing?

This priority theme remains on track, but broader factors, such as economic conditions, policy changes, and social inequalities within the community, directly impact this work.

Evidence from 2022 indicates that approximately 10,000 families in Edinburgh were regularly skipping meals due to financial difficulties. There has also been a noticeable increase in the number of people seeking assistance for rent arrears and problem debt. The city shows significant spatial inequalities, with child poverty rates in some areas being up to five times higher than in more affluent parts of Edinburgh

LOIP KPI	2017-2020	2018-2021	2019-2022	2020-2023	Source
Percentage of people living on incomes below the poverty threshold	16%	16%	17%	15%	CEC estimates
Percentage of children living in families on incomes below the poverty threshold	20%	20%	20%	21%	End Child Poverty Coalition
Percentage of people living in destitution	-	4%	-	-	JRF/Heriot Watt University

Service providers in both the third and public sectors continue to support individuals, generating substantial financial gains annually in Edinburgh. A recent needs assessment by NHS Lothian Public Health (August 2024) estimates that 48,000 to 55,000 individuals could benefit from welfare rights advice, while 26,000 to 66,000 may require debt advice. It is important to note that these estimates should be used cautiously as this information is based on a snapshot of time. However, can be used to show the extent of possible demand.

The demand for support is likely to grow due to limited resources, reduced workforce capacity, and an increase in complex cases, including rising debt levels, particularly among households with a child or adult who has a disability, and in-work poverty. Prioritising the most vulnerable remains essential in addressing these challenges

Key achievements

In recent efforts, two key funding streams from the Scottish Government have been secured. The Child Poverty Accelerator Fund (CPAF) supports a pilot programme aimed at expanding the city's successful 'Discover!' initiative to cover the school term. This programme, which already provides vital assistance to low-income families during school holidays, including food support, family activities, learning support, and income maximisation, is now being extended. Additional pilots are focused on income maximisation, particularly targeting debt prevention and access to appropriate money advice. Collaborating with organisations such as the City of Edinburgh Council, The Action Group, Family Advice and Information Resource, and Lothian Centre for Inclusive Living, these efforts also address early years' debt prevention for families with a disabled child or adult.

The Cash First Funding initiative seeks to improve access to emergency financial assistance through a cash-first approach. This initiative is complemented by money advice and holistic support services designed to prevent future financial hardship. A project manager oversees the implementation, and a mapping exercise has been

commissioned to guide the process. The Menu for All Network, established to deliver the Ending Poverty-Related Hunger in Edinburgh strategy, has been launched and has already hosted two learning events to support this initiative.

In parallel, the Affordable Credit Action Plan has made progress in raising awareness of illegal money lending. Edinburgh Partnership has formally joined the Scottish Illegal Money Lending Unit's (SIMLU) Loan Shark Charter, reinforcing its commitment to combatting this issue. Training sessions on illegal money lending, delivered by SIMLU, have continued, engaging at least 16 different organisations and agencies across various sectors.

The Money Counts Training programme has been enhanced to better equip participants with the skills to deliver financial support in a more compassionate and effective manner. The updated curriculum now includes a cash-first approach, which prioritises providing immediate financial assistance to those in need. Additionally, the training emphasises trauma-informed care, ensuring that service providers are sensitive to the emotional and psychological challenges faced by individuals in financial distress. This approach also focuses on reducing stigma, promoting dignity, and fostering a supportive environment for those seeking help. A total of 13 training sessions have been delivered through Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, City of Edinburgh Council, and Community Help & Advice Initiative, reaching 203 front-line staff from 47 different organisations within the public sector, third sector, and housing associations.

Challenges

Resources

Securing sustainable funding for welfare rights and debt advice services remains a significant challenge for the third sector. Funding continues to be short-term, with many allocations not adjusted for inflation, leading to a reduction in real terms. Additionally, there is ongoing uncertainty regarding the continuation of funding streams, such as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) has allocated an additional £150,000 for 2023/24 to the Edinburgh Health and Social Partnership for grants. This funding will be used to pilot a triage system in collaboration with CAE and CHAI, as well as to enhance welfare rights and debt advice provision in food banks. However, the funding for the network coordinator for the Edinburgh Advice Network (EAN) is only secured until March 2025.

The demographic changes in Edinburgh's population, particularly in relation to ethnicity, have increased the demand for translators and interpreters. This need has not yet been fully accounted for in service delivery costs.

Workforce

The advice sector continues to struggle with workforce capacity and staff retention. The recruitment and training of new advisors also take considerable time, leading to a short-term reduction in service delivery. Additionally, there is an ongoing review and restructure of CEC's The Advice Shop, which may further impact service provision.

Need for Welfare Rights and Debt Advice

The recent needs assessment highlights a high level of unmet demand for welfare rights and debt advice, with significant levels of crisis support still required across the city.

LOIP 1 Case study

To ensure that service design aligns with people's needs and is accessible when and where required this case study highlights the significance of targeted outreach conducted as part of LOIP 1, in which a GP referred a couple with significant health issues to a project for assistance with Adult Disability Payment (ADP) applications. The wife successfully secured the enhanced rate for both Daily Living and Mobility components, leading to further support for her husband in applying for ADP, State Pension, Carer's Allowance, and Council Tax Reduction. Their total financial gain so far is £23,012.96.

Previously, the couple relied solely on their early workplace pensions, having left employment due to their health. A benefits check revealed that, while they weren't eligible for Universal Credit, they could access other benefits once the wife received ADP.

The wife is also receiving support from the City of Edinburgh Council's Health & Social Care department for a care package and home adaptations. The GP Surgery Project, which facilitated these applications, is well-regarded, and the couple's patient records were used with their consent to aid in the process.

Initially, the couple was anxious about claiming benefits, as they had never done so before. They required significant support, including face-to-face meetings, to navigate the process. Despite missed appointments and a waiting list due to high demand, they have now accessed the support they need.

Priority 2: Access to work, learning and training

Lead: Capital City Partnership

Partners include: City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian, Edinburgh College, Edinburgh University, Department of Work and Pensions, Skills Development Scotland, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce

What do we know?

Worklessness remains the single most important predictor of poverty. However, work alone is not necessarily enough to prevent poverty. The aim is to provide additional targeted services to help residents access the work, learning, and training opportunities they need to maintain a good quality of life.

Despite some improvement in the cost of living crisis, Edinburgh continues to experience persistent unemployment and low-income employment. Unlike other areas of Scotland, the city has not experienced a significant reduction in the number of people claiming out-of-work benefits. As of July 2024, there are 9,730 people claiming out-of-work Universal Credit in Edinburgh, representing a 55% increase compared to July 2019..

A recent client survey commissioned by the Joined up for Jobs network has told us that people are continuing to face significant barriers to work, particularly the availability of affordable childcare, health issues, high housing costs and access to language support for those that do not speak English.

We also have a renewed focus on ensuring that people have the skills for the jobs of the future. We know that people will require their skills updating as we move to a green economy and there has been a particular emphasis on digital/data skills and retrofit. There is real opportunity here for inclusive growth and supporting people to move out of poverty through higher skilled, higher paid roles.

How are we doing?

Edinburgh's labour market is relatively buoyant (economic activity is 84% as opposed to 77% in Scotland as a whole) but there remain areas in our City where there are high levels of both unemployment and inactivity due to poor health. In the past year we have focussed on supporting these communities and those with more barriers to work. A series of community job fairs have been successful, and our employability provision has been co-located with food banks, welfare advice and English classes.

In the past year we've focused on engaging with low-income families, particularly lone parents and those from black and minority ethnic communities as they are most likely to be experiencing poverty.

LOIP KPI	Jan-Dec 2019	Jan-Dec 2020	Jan-Dec 2021	Jan-Dec 2022	Jan-Dec 2023	Source
Number of households with no adult in employment	15.1%	16%	11.5%	15.1%	Data due October	NOMIS
Employment rate	75.1%	75.7%	78%	80.6%	80.2%	NOMIS
LOIP KPI	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Source
Percentage of young adults (16-19-year olds) participating in education, training or employment	92%	92%	92%	95%	Figures due in August	SDS

An enhanced focus on reducing child poverty by supporting parents into work has resulted in job and education outcomes across the Scottish Government's six priority family groups (Lone parents, parents with a child under one, households where someone has a disability, parents from an ethnic minority, large families, and families where the mother is under 25). This has resulted in 596 parents gaining employment and 322 furthering their education.

Employer engagement continues to be central to our efforts to improve the labour market. This year 71 employers received an incentive to support their training of a new recruit from a disadvantaged background and 21 people benefited from a 6-month paid work placement experience many of which led to a sustainable job. We held six community job fairs making direct introductions to 39 employers with live vacancies.

We know that fair work, particularly through higher waged employment is a route out of poverty. There are now over 720 accredited Real Living Wage employers in Edinburgh and 70% of people supported by the Joined up for Jobs network go into jobs that pay at least the Real Living Wage.

Key achievements

The Local Employment Partnership continues to work to offer support to refugees and displaced people. We commissioned specific programmes for New Scots and in 23/24 and almost 2000 parents from an ethnic minority background were given support to access work, education and training.

Outcomes for young people leaving school have improved and now 95% of young people are in a positive destination after six months. We have revised our support for those young people who need extra support to gain a foothold in education, training and work and created a new geographical service linked with school clusters. There is also a range of employability supports available to them focused on areas such as sports, creative industries and construction.

We know that fair work is a route out of poverty; a 'Fair Work Charter' for Edinburgh is under development which will encourage and support employers to assess their delivery of the Fair Work Principles. The views of employers, employees and other stakeholders are being collated to help us achieve our goal of becoming a Fair Work City.

Challenges

Workforce recruitment

Edinburgh faces a complex and evolving landscape in workforce recruitment, particularly as it strives to address the needs of historically disadvantaged communities. Employers continue to grapple with recruitment challenges, which demand innovative and collaborative responses. There is a pressing need to upskill the workforce and attract individuals to better-paid positions. Promoting fair work and highlighting its numerous benefits remain central to this effort.

New Scots support

As a city, Edinburgh has consistently welcomed displaced individuals, recognising the significant contribution they make to the local economy and society. Although the influx of new residents presents resource challenges, it also brings an abundance of talent and skills that the city desperately needs. To fully harness this potential, particular emphasis will be placed on enhancing language skills throughout 2024 and 2025.

Embedding mental health support

Mental health support is becoming increasingly important as more people report that confidence and mental health issues are barriers to employment. The Edinburgh Partnership must play a crucial role in developing and implementing solutions that address the scale of this challenge, ensuring that interventions are comprehensive and effective.

Single Point of Contact

To simplify access to employability services, the Edinburgh Guarantee has introduced a 'Single Point of Contact'. This initiative streamlines the referral process, making it easier for both organisations and individuals to navigate the complex array of support services available.

LOIP2 Case Study

We know that for many people their housing situation can impact their ability to find and sustain work. Access to Industry now have an embedded employability worker in the Council's Housing and Advice team to offer support to clients at risk of homelessness.

Donna was referred to the service in April 2024 to help support her re-entry into work since being made redundant in early 2023. With benefits not being enough to cover local rent rates set by private landlords, her tenancy was at risk and Donna descended further into debt each month to cover the cost of essentials. As a single parent to a young child with no family support, she was experiencing financial hardship and debt due to the spiraling cost of living and various costs associated with long standing legal issues. She regularly accessed the support of food banks. Paired with the financial hardship she was experiencing, Donna's continuous job searching was taking a toll on her mental health.

Donna met with her Access to Industry Caseworker on a regular basis and demonstrated a strong desire and motivation to find work. She took part in mock interviews that really boosted her confidence. She was signposted to Passion4Fusion, a community organization supporting BME families and attended wellbeing groups and creative activities. She reported this had been beneficial, helping her manage her mental health issues and remain resilient. Donna was also signposted to SmartWorks, who provided a free professional outfit fitting and a coaching session.

After months of relentless applications, Donna was delighted to receive a job offer in financial services. She continues to receive aftercare from Access to Industry to help her put in place the necessary arrangements for childcare and financial support in the lead up to her start date ensuring that her housing situation remains secure.

Priority 3: A good place to live

Lead: NHS Lothian, Public Health & Health Policy

Partners include: City of Edinburgh Council; Police Scotland; LAYC; EVOC; Fresh Start

What do we know?

Edinburgh's population is undergoing significant changes. Census data from 2022 indicates a 7.6% increase in the population since 2011. This demographic shift is also reflected in the growing diversity of the city, with 17.9% of Edinburgh's residents identifying as part of an ethnic minority in 2022.

The city's population is also ageing, a trend consistent with the broader Scottish demographic pattern. Currently, 15.3% of Edinburgh's population is under the age of 15, while 20.1% are over 65. This shift towards an older population poses challenges for service provision and community planning.

Life expectancy in Edinburgh remains higher than the Scottish average but reflects the national trend of stagnation. Inequality exacerbates disparities in life expectancy, with lower figures recorded in areas of the city facing higher levels of deprivation.

Despite these challenges, many Edinburgh residents continue to express positive feelings about their community, reporting a strong sense of belonging and feeling welcomed. However, significant issues of deprivation persist, particularly in the 20% most deprived areas, where residents report markedly worse experiences compared to those in less disadvantaged parts of the city.

These demographic insights are crucial for ensuring that Edinburgh remains a desirable place to live for all its residents. The Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) must address these changing demographics and collaborate with partners to develop responses that are inclusive, community-driven, and tailored to the diverse needs of the population.

How are we doing?

While the majority of Edinburgh residents report satisfaction with their neighbourhoods, there are areas where this is not the case. Recognising these disparities, LOIP 3 has adopted a targeted, test-of-change approach, utilising a whole-systems methodology in place-making efforts.

Progress continues in key test sites, including ongoing initiatives in Liberton and Craigmillar. This work is data-driven, focusing on what is known about these areas and identifying gaps in information. The gathered data has informed the development of recommendations and priorities for action.

LOIP KPI	2018	2019	2021	2022	Source
Satisfaction of neighbourhood as a place to live	96%	95%	97%	96%	SHS
Percent who feel safe when walking alone in local neighbourhood after dark	82%	81%	85%	81%	SHS
Percent who agree that in their local neighbourhood people from different backgrounds get on well together	71%	69%	72%	76%	SHS
Percent who agree that their local neighbourhood is somewhere local people take action to help improve the area	61%	61%	67%	72%	SHS
LOIP KPI	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Source
Number of new affordable home completions	1285	1251	800	TBC	CEC
Number of new affordable home approvals	1087	1041	1246	TBC	CEC
LOIP KPI	2017-2019	2018-2020	2019-2021	2020-2022	Source
Life expectancy (at birth)	Male - 78	Male - 78	Male – 78	Male – 78	NRS
	Female – 82	Female – 82	Female – 82	Female - 82	

A review of the delivery plan was conducted with input from the membership, enabling LOIP 3 to determine which actions are better suited for other initiatives and where the programme's activities should be concentrated. This review is particularly

relevant considering the proposed changes under the Transformation and Improvement programme led by the City of Edinburgh Council. Although still in the proposal stage, this programme has been incorporated into future planning for LOIP 3 and has influenced decisions on actions and areas of focus in the delivery plan. The evolving programme has also led to changes in membership as new teams and services are developed, which has proven to be a valuable adjustment.

Key achievements

Craigmillar whole systems approach work:

The work in Craigmillar has progressed beyond the initial test site phase into a more action-oriented Phase 2. This phase exemplifies effective partnership working, aligning various agendas and maximising capacity across multiple services. A significant aspect of this phase has been the comprehensive engagement with children and young people, gathering their insights on living in the area. This engagement led to the creation of a 'how to' guide focused on effectively involving children and young people in discussions about 'healthy places.' This guide will be rolled out citywide, serving as a tool for partners in similar initiatives. The issues raised by the young participants have been incorporated into a coordinated action plan, with a unified response from a broad range of partners.

Data driven approach

In Liberton, the test site work has utilised data to enhance understanding of the area's key issues. Four central themes have been identified as focal points, shaping the development of an action plan that is both relevant and up-to-date. The data, combined with insights from previous workshops, has informed a responsive and targeted approach to addressing local challenges.

City of Edinburgh Council Planning links:

In parallel with local test site activities, ongoing discussions with the City of Edinburgh Council's planning teams are exploring how LOIP 3 can support major initiatives such as City Plan 2030 and the development of City Plan 2040. While specific actions have yet to be determined, valuable connections have been established, and discussions are moving forward productively.

Challenges

Continued challenges around current economic circumstances affecting all members of the Partnership. This impacts on capacity and the ability of partners to fully engage with the LOIP 3 work programme

The Edinburgh Partnership Transformation and Improvement programme of work is underway and is proposing changes to how place work is structured and delivered in the City. This will have an impact on how LOIP 3 functions and structures its activities

LOIP 3 Case Study

Work in the Liberton test site has been ongoing as part of the LOIP 3 delivery plan. Initially, workshops were held to bring together statutory and voluntary services to identify priorities and challenges in the area. These sessions provided valuable insights from those working on the ground.

However, it was recognised that a refreshed focus was needed to ensure the information and themes remained current. To address this, a session with key partners reviewed updated data and intelligence to identify any new priorities. This included:

- Current demographics
- Local primary care data
- Edinburgh Survey (locality level)
- Community Empowerment team insights
- CEC Team Around the Learning Community data (Liberton High School focus)
- EVOC engagement findings

This review led to the identification of new themes and updates to existing ones. Notably, the area shows a demographic split between 'new' and 'old' neighbourhoods, each with distinct populations, highlighting the need for integration and future-proofing strategies. The review also provided a more nuanced understanding of poverty and inequality in the area.

While not a large-scale project, the impact on the test site has been positive. This work exemplifies the effectiveness of a place-based approach and underscores the value of using highly localised, both qualitative and quantitative, data.

Way Forward

As the Transformation and Improvement Programme progresses, we will focus on enhancing collaboration across all levels of the Edinburgh Partnership. This approach includes reducing unnecessary bureaucracy, improving cross-sector communication, and strengthening ties with third-sector organisations. Simplifying governance structures and clearly defining roles and responsibilities will develop a more effective community planning model that supports poverty prevention efforts.

We will engage continuously with local communities, partners, and stakeholders to ensure an inclusive and effective approach. Co-producing the implementation plan will enable us to leverage the collective strengths and insights of everyone involved in the community planning process.

Building on recent progress, we will prioritise key areas identified in the Transformation and Improvement Programme to drive further improvements in community planning. The development of a roadmap for poverty prevention in the city will provide short-term focus, with delivery plans ensuring transparency and accountability within partnership groups. Implementing an integrated performance framework, informed by the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and potentially guided by Marmot principles, will offer a consistent method for monitoring and evaluating our initiatives. This will enable data-driven decisions, targeted efforts, and accurate measurement of progress, ensuring that the Partnership remains aligned with broader goals of poverty prevention in Edinburgh.



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Becoming a Trauma Informed Partnership

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The [National Trauma Transformation Programme \(NTTP\)](#), led by [NHS Education for Scotland \(NES\)](#), was developed to meet the [Scottish Government](#) and [COSLA's](#) ambition for a trauma informed and responsive workforce and services. This means that we universally recognise where people are affected by trauma and adversity, respond in ways that prevent further harm and support recovery, recognising that “Trauma is Everybody’s Business”
- 1.2 The Scottish Government has provided recurring £50,000 in additional funding to all 32 Local Authorities in Scotland since 2021/22 to support them to embed a trauma-informed and responsive approach across services, systems and workforces. Local Authorities/Health and Social Care Partnerships have used this funding to meet local priorities and context for this work. This funding was used to create a Trauma Lead Officer role, to embed and sustain a Trauma Informed Culture within CEC & HSCP.
- 1.3 This applies to our workforce and our citizens. We know that people with protected characteristics and our care experienced population are likely to experience trauma at higher rates than the general population.
- 1.4 A [Roadmap for Creating Trauma-Informed and Responsive Change for Organisations, Systems and Workforces in Scotland](#) was published in November 2023 . This will be used by regulatory bodies to assess progress and hold us accountable to meeting the Scottish Government’s and COSLA’s commitment.
- 1.5 The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) Codes of Practice May 2024 have introduced a new code that relates to trauma, and -places a responsibility on the employer and the employee. Employers need to ‘Be aware of the range of impacts trauma may have on workers, and support workers who experience these.’ Employees need to work “in a way that is informed by an understanding of the impact that trauma may have on individuals, carers and colleagues”

2. Recommendations

The Board is recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider psychological trauma in any future policy or practice development, either new or reviewed.
- 2.2 Invite a partnership representative to the Strategic Oversight group, currently under development.
- 2.3 Recognise that leaders at all levels have a key role to play in setting the culture, priorities, values and behaviours of an organisation. This includes embodying the key principles of safety, trust, choice, collaboration and empowerment within our leadership practice.
- 2.4 Invite leaders to commit to developing knowledge and skills by attending the Scottish Trauma Informed Leaders Training (STILT), a half day workshop with an opportunity for ongoing coaching and peer leadership support opportunities. Please register [here](#) for STILT training here report findings [here](#)
- 2.5 To commit to a minimum of Level 1 Trauma Training across the partnership. Additional training to be encouraged based on specific roles and responsibilities, as per the NTTP recommendations
- 2.6 Leaders to commit to an ongoing journey of continuous improvement as outlined in the [Roadmap](#)
- 2.7 To encourage a Trauma Ambassador at every service level, to embed this approach within our teams and services
- 2.8 Invite member organisations of the partnership to sign the [Pledge of Support](#) to Implement the NTTP locally across the Council and the HCSP. There are almost 80 Pledge Signatories across Scotland

3. Main Report

- 3.1 The majority of people in contact with public services have experienced traumatic events. The 2019 Scottish Health Survey revealed that 71% of the Scottish adult population suffered some form of abuse, neglect or other adverse experiences during their childhood (Scottish Government, 2023)
- 3.2 Considerable evidence shows that trauma can have a detrimental impact on health, wellbeing, employment, and educational outcomes. Trauma makes increases the likelihood that people will experience multiple disadvantage and reduced life chances across the lifespan, including addiction, mental and physical health problems, homelessness, offending, domestic abuse, and poverty, at a tremendous economic, social and human cost to the Council, the HSCP and the citizens of Edinburgh.

- 3.3 Trauma informed ways of working has been shown to be effective with difficult to-engage populations by reducing barriers to accessing support and by promoting earlier intervention, preventing and reducing the need for crisis support.
- 3.4 A 'Trauma-Informed and Responsive Approach' is explicitly referenced across priority national and local guidance and policy areas, such as the National Child Protection Guidance, Equally Safe, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Covid Recovery, Suicide Prevention Strategy to name but a few.
- 3.5 Nationally - A Trauma informed response supports the [National Performance Framework](#) (NPF) and will contribute to the following National Outcomes: *Children and Young People; Communities; Fair work and Business; Human Rights; Health; and Poverty*. It also supports the implementation of the [Scotland's Promise](#) for Edinburgh.
- 3.6 We have established the role of Trauma Ambassadors to embed this approach at a service level and ensure sustainability. Trauma Ambassadors collectively contribute to a Passionate About Trauma Network for ongoing development and peer support supporting the frontline worker to take a trauma lens to challenges arising and share knowledge. Collaborative working and knowledge sharing to promote local, joined up, integrated multi-agency partnerships is key. There is significant interest in these bimonthly sessions and currently there are over 100 members across all sectors.
- 3.7 A 'Trauma-Informed and Responsive Approach (TIRA)' means recognising when someone may be affected by trauma, linking people's experiences with the difficulties they face, and collaboratively adjusting how we work to support recovery and improve life chances by addressing the root issue. This approach can work to address the revolving door we often see in our services and break the cycle of intergenerational trauma

4. Contact

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

UK Shared Prosperity Fund Update

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the delivery of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) in Edinburgh.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to note:
- i. The progress made with the delivery of programmes in Edinburgh funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund; and
 - ii. The continued engagement with the UK Government regarding future UK Government Structural Funding.

3. Main Report

- 3.1 An Edinburgh UK SPF Programme Management Office (PMO) was set up in 2023 and continues to oversee and manage the delivery of UK SPF in Edinburgh. This includes 33 grant funded projects and a suite of projects for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region, as part of the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) Delivery Plan
- 3.2 The PMO also submit reports to the UK Government on behalf of the Edinburgh “Multiply” programme, part of a national UK SPF adult numeracy programme, which is being managed and delivered by the Council through the Children, Education and Justice Service.
- 3.3 The PMO recently conducted a review of UK SPF delivery which is attached in Appendix 1. The summary statistics of activity undertaken so far and impact achieved is also provided in Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Overall, UK SPF delivery has been successful in Edinburgh. Highlights include over 26,000 households having received support with food, welfare advice or energy efficiency; more than 20,000 m² of green space improved and more than 700 businesses having received support.
- 3.5 UK SPF is now in its final year of delivery and all projects are working towards completion by 31 March 2025 or before. The next steps for UK SPF, or any replacement UK Structural Funding programme, beyond the end of March 2025 are not yet clear.

- 3.6 As arrangements for a new structural funding programme are not yet in place, Scottish Local Authorities are currently lobbying UK Government for a continuation of the current programme, at the same funding level as in 2024/25.
- 3.7 The Council will continue to liaise with projects on the implementation of the Edinburgh programme of delivery in the meantime and to engage with the UK Government, requesting a continuation of the current programme until arrangements for a new programme or alternative structural programme funding is in place.

4. Contact

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Appendix 1 – UK Shared Prosperity Fund Edinburgh Progress Review – April 2024

UK Shared Prosperity Fund Edinburgh Progress Review April 2024



Funded by
UK Government

**LEVELLING
UP**

Introduction

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a central pillar of the UK Government's Levelling Up agenda. Between 2022 and 2025, it is providing over £2.6bn of funding for local investment across the country. The primary goal of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK.

The City of Edinburgh's funding allocation of £12.3 million over three years is divided across the thematic priorities of Community and Place, People and Skills, Supporting Local Business, and Multiply. Multiply is a specific initiative to improve adult numeracy. A small proportion of Edinburgh's allocation has also been directed to regional projects, exploring ways of working together with the other local authorities in southeast Scotland on a variety of projects including addressing climate risk and upskilling for net zero (see page 18).

The vast majority of Edinburgh's allocation under the three core themes (not Multiply) was commissioned through an open grants application process during summer 2022. Grants were awarded to third sector organisations, local authority departments, and a small number of private businesses. Since this initial commissioning process, any emerging underspend has been reallocated under the governance of the Council's Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee.

As with any new funding stream it has taken time for new ways of working to be established, but as we approach the final year of this funding round, we have begun to see some fantastic examples of impact. The majority of the work is being led and delivered by third sector organisations, often those who are place-based and who deeply understand the needs of specific communities within Edinburgh. This is complemented by

projects delivered by internal council teams, including new marketing campaigns for the city offering special events and discounts to residents, aiming to ensure that local people can benefit from the extensive tourist offering. Funds are also delivering boosts to business including support and start-up grants available through Business Gateway and new programmes run by Codebase which enable and encourage new technology businesses to emerge.

A strength of the programme has been the opportunity to bring people together across different organisations and parts of the city, who perhaps would not usually work together. This has provided opportunities for organisations large and small to consider their environmental impact, through hearing from the UKSPF-funded [Edinburgh Chambers of Commerce](#) Net Zero programme. It has also broadened the audience for [End Poverty Edinburgh](#), a citizen group working to reduce inequality in the city. Connections have been made between employability organisations, business initiatives, and volunteering opportunities.

As we move into year 3 of the funding, there are some significant milestones still to be met, including the construction of a new youth work facility at the [Spartans Community Foundation](#) and the launch of a new style [Turn 2 Us](#) grant fund which will support individuals for the longer-term. We will continue to share news and learning through our blog at www.edinburghukspf.org. If you would like to talk to us about the work, you can email us via: ukspf@capitalcitypartnership.org.

UKSPF Programme Management Team
City of Edinburgh Council and Capital City Partnership

UKSPF Edinburgh - Impact so far

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund programme activity began in October 2022. Most funded projects opted to begin slightly later, either in January 2023 or April 2023. Some projects were established previously and were able to hit the ground running, whereas others were new and required development work and a recruitment phase. The figures below relate to reporting between October 2022 and March 2024 inclusive, representing 12 - 18 months of funded activity. This phase of the programme continues until March 2025.

2,751

individuals supported across the programme*

6,596

volunteering opportunities supported

26,192

households receiving support with food, welfare advice or energy efficiency

1,919

people receiving employability support

167

people who have moved into training or education

213

people who have moved into jobs

704

businesses receiving support

59

new businesses created

1,821

tonnes of Carbon saved through food redistribution

26

neighbourhood improvements undertaken

20,179

square metres of green space improved

76

trees planted

* This includes those engaged in employability programmes as well as those learning life skills such as digital skills, ESOL, cooking and gardening.

People and Skills



Projects under the People and Skills thematic priority aim to **reduce the barriers that people face to employment** and support them to move towards employment and education. It has two main elements which are employment support for economically inactive people, and skills provision to provide people with the skills needed to progress in life and work.

In Edinburgh, 22 projects led by 17 different organisations have been funded under People and Skills. Projects were selected to complement the range of provision already in place through Scottish Government funding such as No One Left Behind (NOLB). Funding through UKSPF augments this by supporting organisations who are supporting those with **specific demographics or barriers to work** such as women returners, people with disabilities, survivors of domestic abuse, rape survivors, ethnic minority groups, young people, prison leavers, and those who are digitally excluded. UKSPF funding is also supporting the establishment of the new [Macmillan Skills Hub](#) in North Edinburgh which connects new employers at the waterfront development and new Forth Green Freeport, with those looking for work.

Work with ethnic minority groups

During the programme we have seen a growing

need for employability support for those from **ethnic minority backgrounds**. The ethnic minority population in Edinburgh has increased significantly over recent years and a rising number of statutory and voluntary organisations across the city are working to respond to the needs of these individuals and communities. To give two examples, UKSPF funds both [Edinburgh Women's Aid](#) and [Networking Key Services \(NKS\)](#).

Women's Aid supports many clients from ethnic minority communities. They support those who have left domestic abuse situations with a wide range of issues including housing, legal issues and confidence-building. Through UKSPF funding the team are able to provide employability support. This is an important aspect of women becoming independent, increasing their confidence and wellbeing, and coping financially in their new situation.



ESOL Classes at Space Broomhouse Hub

Women's Aid work closely with digital inclusion experts [People Know How](#), who are also supported by UKSPF and run a diverse range of digital inclusion groups in partnership with community organisations across the city.

NKS works specifically with the South Asian community, providing holistic support that includes one-to-one outreach work that supports people with health, wellbeing and employability. They also provide training and workshops including around digital inclusion.

Due to the increasing diverse population in the city, there is a **high demand for ESOL**, and through underspends in other areas of UKSPF, we have been able to give some additional short-term support ESOL in community settings by [Fresh Start](#) and [Space](#) at the Broomhouse Hub. Locally-run ESOL courses are important, allowing for reduced transport time and cost. The trusting relationships built up with these

organisations also help with individuals' confidence and motivation in attending and participating. Effective ESOL provision is crucial not only for pathways to education and employment, but also to support the wellbeing and resettlement of New Scots in the city. In a six month period, **93 individuals** have been able to access ESOL through UKSPF provision.

Work with those who are economically inactive
UKSPF funding has a particular focus on those who are economically inactive. This means individuals who are not in work and not on Universal Credit. It can include those who have been out-of-work for a long time due to health issues or caring responsibilities. Many of the funded services are working specifically to reach economically inactive clients. This is often a challenge and is an area that we will continue to work on over the coming year. The case studies included here demonstrate some of the work this area thus far.

People and Skills Funded Projects

- All in Edinburgh and One Digital - Enable Scotland
- Communities Empowered and One-to-One Digital - Networking Key Services (NKS)
- Cook School - Cyrenians
- Engaging Young People - Action for Children,
- Engaging Young People - Barnardos
- Engaging Young People - The Prince's Trust
- ERCC Volunteering and Training Programme - Edinburgh Rape Crisis Centre
- ESOL - Space
- ESOL - Fresh Start
- Lend a Hand, Edible Estates
- Making Work Work and LEAP - Challenges Group
- Macmillan Skills Hub, Green Freeport Engagement, Vocational Training Framework - Capital City Partnership
- Shifting Gears - The Bike Station
- Strides - Apex Scotland
- Reconnect Edinburgh - People Know How
- Works4Women - Edinburgh Women's Aid
- Volunteer Vibes - Vintage Vibes



Learning new skills at Edible Estates Lend a Hand project

Case Study: All in Edinburgh

Funded organisation: Enable

Emma was referred to All in Edinburgh by her job coach for specialist support after spending 5 years unemployed. She is a single parent of a young daughter, who has struggled with poor mental health and the cost of living crisis.

This was the first time that Emma had reached out for help, specifically requesting support from a female advisor and an approach that would be tailored to her multiple complex needs. The determination to try and put her life on a more positive path was driven by Emma's desire to turn her life around for herself and her daughter.

Emma and her new advisor spent time getting to know one another, discussing Emma's life experiences, barriers to work and future aspirations. After leaving long-term, stable work to have her daughter, Emma's mental health had suffered. She had experienced heightened stress and anxiety, social isolation and reduced confidence levels. Emma reported feelings of despair, with no drive to interact with others and struggled to leave the house.

The advisor undertook a vocational profiling exercise and created an action plan to solidify goals and plot out a route to achieve these. Specialist welfare rights advice was provided so that Emma could understand how to balance her financial challenges, considering different jobs, salaries and working patterns. Emma also completed a confidence-building course and found the self-management techniques helpful. She began to leave the house more again and tentatively reached out to old friends and family.

The process of applying for work and receiving rejections can be disheartening and this was important to consider given Emma's anxiety. The advisor directly contacted employers on the

“I now feel my daughter can be proud of who I am.”

Emma

client's behalf, highlighting why Emma would make a great candidate for their jobs and sharing her CV with interested parties. The advisor spoke to employers about roles where Emma had relevant experience, where the job would leave her better off, and that would work with childcare availability.

The advisor became aware of a Finance Assistant role at an Edinburgh hotel, which was a good fit. The employer acknowledged and respected the barriers that Emma has overcome on her journey and viewed these as positive characteristics that give her unique skills and insights. She was offered an interview, her first in 11 years. The advisor supported her with preparation including how to discuss her health condition and the reasonable adjustments that could be considered. She was invited to a second interview and offered the job at a salary level that would leave her better off and with contracted flexible hours.

The advisor created an in-work support action plan, including budgeting support, sourcing appropriate childcare, researching the commute and navigating professional relationships. This included regular contact with the employer to offer ongoing specialist health and disability advice. Emma negotiated a flexible start to her job, increasing hours gradually, to help her avoid feelings of being overwhelmed.

Emma reported her experience of support from All in Edinburgh to be “life changing” and told her advisor “I now feel my daughter can be proud of who I am.”

Client's name changed.

Case Study: Learning, Employability and Purpose

Funded organisation: Challenges Group

Leanne, an Edinburgh mum of two, applied to the LEAP programme after seeing the programme advertised on Flexible Working Scotland. Leanne had been out of the workforce for several years following the birth of her second child. She had doubts about her skills as well as doubts about her own self-confidence to participate in the programme. She was also concerned about managing the costs and practicalities of childcare.

The LEAP coordinator provided personalised support to address Leanne's concerns, to discuss her skills and experience and to tailor a placement that suited her and her career aspirations. They were also able to offer financial assistance to cover her childcare costs. Leanne was placed with Lifepod, an Edinburgh based charity established to support those with a hoarding disorder. The LEAP coordinator facilitated initial meetings with the organisation's founder and assisted in tailoring her role to align with her skills as well as the organisation's needs.

Leanne attended online LEAP training sessions, gaining valuable insights and practical skills in management and leadership. She was part of a close cohort of nine LEAP participants who offered each other weekly peer support. Leanne also benefited from one-on-one mentoring sessions with the coordinator to further enhance her learning and to consider future opportunities.

Leanne's placement at Lifepod has proved transformative. Despite her initial reservations, her transferable skills quickly became evident as she contributed confidently to the organisation and especially to supporting the founder. Leanne

said that she felt like her 'old self' and was happy to have found her feet again. She has a breadth and depth of operational knowledge that came back quickly once she was in a professional environment.

During her placement Lifepod underwent a major restructure and a significant period of change, Leanne brilliantly navigated this period and supported the organisation in the development of a new initiative, The Hoarding Academy, demonstrating her strategic thinking and initiative.

Participating in LEAP has had a huge impact on Leanne's confidence and self-esteem. She has rediscovered her professional identity and regained the sense of self she thought she had lost. With this newfound confidence, she has embraced returning to her career journey and is keen to continue to work with The Hoarding Academy in the future. She is planning to further her professional development beyond LEAP by applying for a Business Accelerator Programme for The Hoarding Academy leading that on behalf of the founder.

“Leanne said that she felt like her 'old self' and was happy to have found her feet again.”

Case Study: Strides

Funded organisation: Apex

Andy was referred to the Strides service looking for full-time employment in the security industry or as a bus driver. He was employed part-time for a parcel delivery company and had multiple barriers to work including criminal convictions, mental health issues and debt.

During registration it became clear that Andy had decades worth of work experience and understood the impact of his convictions on his employability prospects. He was keen to work with Strides to upskill and build confidence to work towards his goals. From the initial registration process it was evident that his confidence was very low and he needed support to build skills and understanding of his disclosure obligations.

A disclosure meeting was scheduled to tackle this and to ensure that Andy understood how his convictions could affect him. The Strides worker made sure that he was confident in his obligations before proceeding to the next stage.

Strides then scheduled a mock interview for Andy to prepare him for potential interviews for bus driving jobs. In the weeks before this, his experience, strengths and weaknesses were discussed. The worker also talked him through some common interview questions. Andy was given a preparation sheet for him to take home and study so he would feel confident and ready on the day.

Andy then began a Security Industry Authority (SIA) training course funded by Strides which he successfully completed. It became clear that his IT skills required improvement as he found it difficult to apply for courses and licenses using a laptop. Strides worked closely with him to improve his digital skills. Through further digital support and advocacy, Andy eventually received his SIA license and was over the moon and very thankful for the support that all the Strides team offered him. Since gaining his licence, he has gained a full-time position working in security at a university, a fantastic outcome and the beginning of a more positive future for Andy.

Client's name changed.



Teaching digital skills, image by John Schnobrich on Unsplash

Case Study: Lend a Hand

Funded organisation: Edible Estates

Bobby, has been one of Lend a Hand's most committed participants. Coming all the way from Portobello, he spends an hour a half on the bus to get to and from the workshop at Muirhouse Neighbourhood Garden. He regularly attends both sessions and has taken real ownership of the community garage construction project.

Bobby first heard about Lend a Hand through an information session delivered at Waverley Jobcentre and promoted through his Work Coach. Despite never participating in a programme like Lend a Hand, he had done a bit of building work in the past, thought the project sounded interesting and so decided to give it a go.

Although Bobby has a one year old granddaughter who keeps him on his toes, he lives on his own and life has become more isolating as he has grown older. He's found that the Lend a Hand project has given him some direction and structure to his week, as well as getting him "out and about," connecting with others in the community. For him, Lend a Hand gives him "something to get up in the morning for." He's enjoyed meeting a variety of people at the workshops and learning together: "everyone's got a wee bit to add...I've shown people how to do some stuff and vice versa."

A space for shared learning has been a big part of the Lend a Hand experience from the very beginning. Bobby, and others like Bobby, have brought a wealth of work and life experience to the project, and Bobby in particular has enjoyed helping out Seal, the Workshop Leader, when he can. He has also taken great enjoyment from learning new skills. Unlike the work he experienced on building sites, Bobby has been able to take on bigger jobs and learn how to operate new tools. He had never worked a chop

saw before but has been regularly using it for the Lend a Hand build, and has been able to do a little bit of everything ("measurement, cutting, drilling, sawing...") which has kept him interested.

Bobby, who is 65, but still classed as someone of 'working age', faces a number of barriers when trying to access the job market. One of the biggest challenges is his digital literacy. The working world in which Bobby grew up in is markedly different to the one that exists today. Although he has a laptop, it often sits in the corner of his flat as he has little confidence or desire to operate it. Yet, Bobby's aware that unfortunately, this can lead to feelings of exclusion and isolation: "the sad thing is if I don't participate, I'll get left behind". Luckily for Bobby, he likes to get involved and has thrived on the opportunities of the Lend a Hand project.



Learning joinery skills at Lend A Hand

Communities and Place



Projects under the Communities and Place theme enable places to invest in restoring their **community spaces and relationships** and create the foundations for **economic development at the neighbourhood level**. This strengthens the social fabric of communities, supporting **building pride in place**. Projects can include public realm projects, community-led initiatives and cultural and heritage projects.

In Edinburgh, 14 projects are funded under Communities and Place.

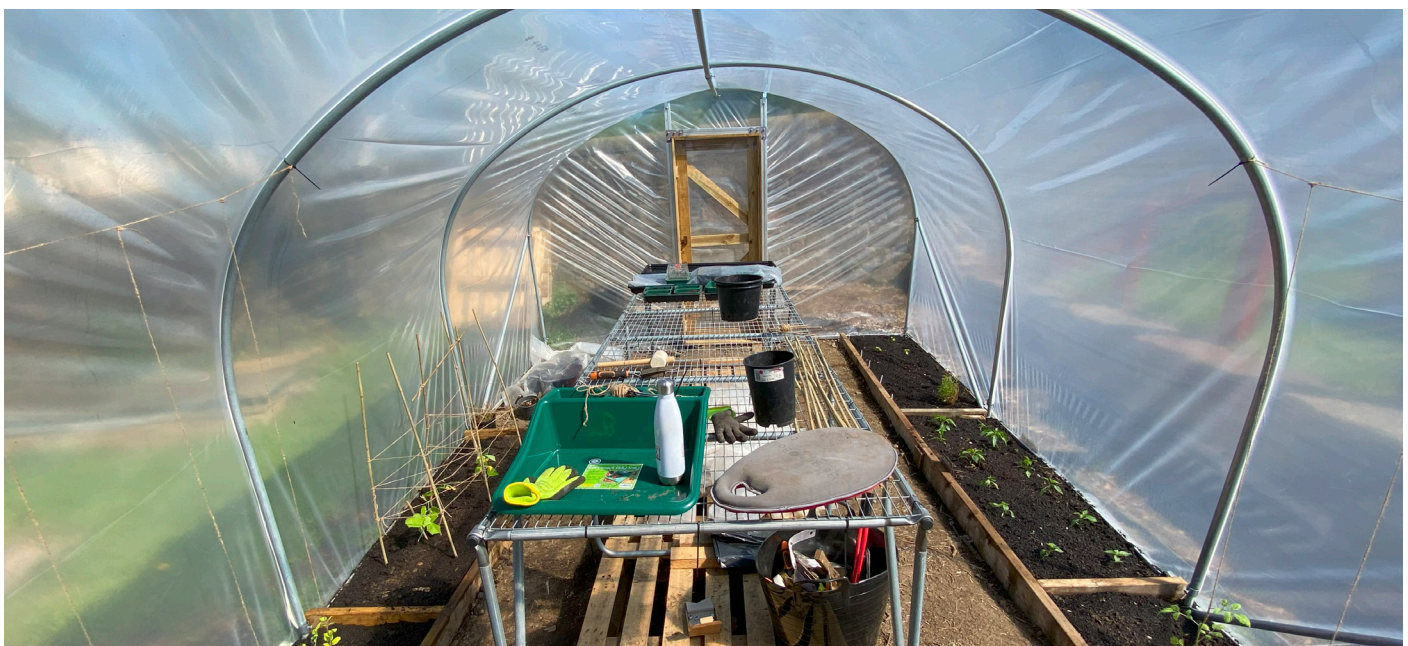
Food and garden projects

A number of these initiatives are **food projects**, reducing food waste, as well as addressing the cost-of-living crisis by providing community pantries and meals delivered to people's doors for those struggling in the cost of living crisis. This includes [Cyrenians](#), [Fresh Start](#), and [Empty Kitchens Full Hearts](#).

Several funded projects are involved in creating or improving **community garden spaces**, which benefit the environment, as well as introducing the possibility of locally grown food, and providing an opportunity for people to enjoy the outdoors, learn new skills, and make connections with others in their neighbourhood. Each of the food projects mentioned above also have

garden initiatives, and in addition, [Southside Community Centre](#) have been renovating their outside space and running engaging events connecting and educating people on the nature around them.

More broadly, a joint initiative between City of Edinburgh Council and EVOC is supporting community centre management committees to develop skills, resilience and strengthen their capacity to support their communities. Several projects are funded for **capital works** under this theme. [The Bike Station](#) (listed under People and Skills as their work overlaps the themes) have established a new hub in Gorgie, using some of their grant to renovate a shop unit and frontage. Plans for new public amenities in South Queensferry are underway, and the [Spartans Community Foundation](#) are building a new youthwork facility.



Polytunnel, Empty Kitchens Full Hearts

Volunteering

Projects that facilitate volunteering also feature strongly under this theme. There is recognition of the way in which volunteering can provide individuals with skills for life and work, and support their employability journey, as well as an appreciation of the benefit that volunteers can bring to others in their community and to the environment. The [Local Volunteering Gateways](#) project run by the Volunteer Centre is embedded across Edinburgh's localities, on hand to support those with an interest in volunteering.

Under UKSPF funded projects, volunteers are helping in community gardens, in food projects, and supporting older people through [Vintage Vibes](#). The Vintage Vibes project partners befrienders with older people suffering from dementia. The project received an additional UKSPF grant due to underspend which has been used to improve the recruitment and management of new volunteers, a piece of work that has been exemplary in its use of marketing and engagement methods, as well as its participative approach.

Engagement, participation and voice

Across UKSPF, there has been an interest in how best to engage the community with the projects themselves, and how to engage clients and participants in the feedback and evaluation around each initiative. The gathering of the case studies in this report are part of that approach.

Also funded under Communities and Place, is the End Poverty Edinburgh work. [End Poverty Edinburgh](#) is a group of residents who have come together to share their lived experience of poverty and to advocate for change in the city. The group have become widely known and recognised for their contribution. Since the beginning of the funding period, they have had 25 formal engagements with Edinburgh's voluntary sector, and 12 contributions to Edinburgh Council decision-making processes.



End Poverty Edinburgh's Linda Craik speaks with Edinburgh Council Leader Cammy Day

Communities and Place Projects

- Edinburgh Growing Together, Edible Estates
- Enabling Financial Resilience, CHAI
- End Poverty Edinburgh, Poverty Alliance
- Fresh Connections, Fresh Start
- Good Food Programme, Cyrenians
- Here for Good, Spartans Community Football Academy
- Local Volunteering Gateways, Volunteer Centre Edinburgh
- Resident Rewards Programme, Forever Edinburgh
- South Queensferry Amenities, City of Edinburgh Council
- Southside Soil, Seed and Soul, Southside Community Centre
- Support to Community Centre Management Committees, City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council (EVOC)
- Thriving Futures Fund, EVOC and Turn 2 Us
- Vintage Vibes, Life Care and Space
- Volunteer Programme and Garden Regeneration, Empty Kitchens Full Hearts

Case Study: Enabling Financial Resilience

Funded organisation: CHAI

Francine was referred to CHAI through the substance misuse service for help completing an application for Adult Disability Payment (ADP). However, the CHAI adviser quickly spotted that her child was under 16, so she was additionally eligible for Scottish Child Payment. Following the ADP application, an additional application was made for Scottish Child Payment, securing the client an extra £25 per week.

Francine then reported to CHAI that her son's Child Disability Payment (CDP) was up for review. The adviser assisted her in completing this and went to great lengths to get as much supporting information as possible with the client's consent, undertaking research into the child's school, what support he had received, and securing letters attesting to the child's needs from medical professionals. This resulted

in a higher rate of CDP being paid for the child. Francine then received news she was entitled to the enhanced rate of daily living and standard rate of mobility, which meant more than £500 every four weeks would now be paid to her. As she had been claiming Employment and Support Allowance, a severe disability premium was now added to that, resulting in an extra £140 per month.

CHAI also assisted Francine with filling out a change of circumstances for housing benefit when her rent was raised. As a result, the client says she now has more money coming in than she ever has before. She is able to provide the support her child needs whilst caring for her own needs, and does not face the financial strain that she did before. When she gave her consent for this case study to be written, Francine said she wanted to share her story so that people know help is out there.

Client's name has been changed.

Project focus: Edinburgh Growing Together

Funded organisation: Edible Estates

Edinburgh Growing Together supports community gardens in Edinburgh's council estates. The support includes project management, development, and community engagement support alongside improvements to infrastructure. This includes new connections to the water mains, new tool storage units, renovation of paths and growing beds.

UKSPF funding supports four new community gardens and ongoing support for others. It also facilitates community groups learning new skills together in the gardens.



Photos of community gardens, Edible Estates

Supporting Local Business



This thematic priority is designed to support **local businesses in Edinburgh to thrive, innovate and grow**. In Edinburgh, six projects are funded under this theme.

Despite being the theme with the smallest number of projects, the Supporting Local Business priority has already had substantial impact. Codebase have established two new programmes: Medtech and Greentech. Medtech provides a network and expert input through an event series to encourage **new enterprises in health technology**. Participants can come with a problem, a solution, health or technological expertise, and find others in the network to help find creative answers to all sorts of challenges in medicine and healthcare. Greentech is an educational programme applying similar principles in the **environmental and technology space**, but with more of an emphasis on led content supporting participants to develop their skills towards being able to establish new green businesses.

Medtech has engaged **118 individuals** and has garnered around **£22 million** of external investment. Greentech has engaged **204 event participants** and the programme will continue into Year 3.

Also under the Supporting Local Business theme, [Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce](#) is running an initiative to support small and medium businesses with their journey to Net Zero. This has engaged **over 100 organisations** thus far.

The Chamber of Commerce is now working on an additional initiative to encourage businesses in Edinburgh to considering becoming BCorps. You can read more about that initiative [here](#).

Supporting Local Business Projects

- Business For Good, Everyone's Edinburgh
- Business Gateway Plus, Business Gateway
- Experience the Beauty, Forever Edinburgh
- Green Tech and Medtech, Codebase
- Net Zero Edinburgh and BCorp 500, Edinburgh Chamber Of Commerce

Project focus: Business for Good Research

Funded organisation: Everyone's Edinburgh

In 2022 [Everyone's Edinburgh](#) piloted a set of tools aiming to guide businesses on their journey towards being purpose-driven. In 2023, UKSPF funded them to complete a short piece of research building on this work and asking what further support organisations required.

The research, completed in partnership with Edinburgh Napier University, reached more than 130 SMEs through surveys and interviews. Levels of awareness about 'business for good' were reported as high including that 70% of Edinburgh SMEs see themselves as actively implementing responsible business practices and 93.5% are motivated by the need to combat the effects of climate change.

However many business expressed confusion over what really constitutes a 'responsible business' and where they can focus their efforts. The study revealed low awareness among participants regarding the city's net zero

targets, government support schemes, and the Everyone's Edinburgh initiative. Finding time and identifying the most strategically effective activities that can run as part of the business were noted as key challenges. Perhaps not surprising, financing change was also noted as a concern. Since the research was completed, UKSPF has provided funding to support the new BCorp 500 project run by Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Everyone's Edinburgh. You can read more about the BCorp 500 project on the UKSPF blog [here](#).

Project focus: Net Zero Edinburgh

Funded organisation: Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce

The [Net Zero Edinburgh](#) project has supported **over 100 businesses** on their net zero journey to date. The free support has included helping businesses to understand how to calculate their carbon footprint and what first steps they could take to improve this. It has also included providing information on what funding is available to support businesses.

In June 2023 an event was held which focused on the importance of innovation in supporting businesses to achieve net zero. There were over 40 attendees addressed by David Townsend from TownRock Energy, a geothermal energy specialist consultancy and technology R&D

business. The first Lunch and Learn Roundtable took place in October 2023 for the Tourism and Events sector which saw 12 businesses come together to learn what steps they could take to help kick start their net zero journey.

As well as supporting businesses one-to-one, Net Zero Edinburgh has established a cohort of 11 businesses who began meeting in autumn 2023. They participated in three half day workshops and received intensive tailored support as well as support to help them write a carbon reduction plan. One of the businesses was LS Productions, a Bafta winning, Grammy nominated global production services partner. Having made great progress so far in regard to action, they sought some guidance on climate strategy best practice. The cohort has provided LS Productions with the knowledge and tools to create a climate strategy in line with regulatory standards. Laura, People and Operations Manager said they were given confidence from the workshops in what they are currently reporting and insights into what steps can be taken to improve.

Since starting the cohort, LS Productions have taken great actions on climate including revising their travel policy to creating a sustainable travel policy; implementing energy efficiency “quick wins” such as introducing secondary glazing; and gathering information on sustainable practices from their suppliers.

Net Zero Edinburgh is funded to continue supporting businesses until March 2025.



Net Zero Edinburgh participants

Project focus: Forever Edinburgh

Funded organisation: Forever Edinburgh – the City of Edinburgh Council’s in-house destination marketing function.

[Forever Edinburgh](#) is tasked with promoting the city on a national and international stage. Working closely with private tourism businesses and public agencies, the team works to ensure that visitors experience the very best of Edinburgh. Forever Edinburgh received UKSPF funding under Communities and Place for the expanded Resident Rewards Edinburgh programme, and funding under Supporting Local Business for the Experience the Beauty Campaign.

The [Resident Rewards Edinburgh](#) programme encourages the city’s residents to engage with Edinburgh’s cultural and leisure offerings. It also aims to generate year-round increased spend and support for the city’s tourism, hospitality, and leisure businesses. A promotional film has raised awareness of the initiative and a dedicated webpage was created at www.edinburgh.org/residentrewards. Residents redeem the rewards using a promotional code. Rewards include

monthly offers, annual passes, and previews of events and attractions. By the end of March 2024, the Resident Rewards Edinburgh website had been viewed 490,000 times and has made 22,000 referrals to participating partners.

The [Experience the Beauty](#) campaign aims to bring visitors closer to Edinburgh through stunning visuals, videos and written content which turn the city inside out. As part of the campaign, a winter promotional film was run with festive and non-festive iterations. Utilising existing campaign assets, a partnership campaign with Expedia and VisitScotland was conducted in the USA, proving to be incredibly successful. The USA activation of Forever Edinburgh’s ‘Experience the Beauty’ campaign retargeted audiences that had been served VisitScotland adverts, enabling Edinburgh to reach those who were warm to Scotland and providing valuable legacy beyond the initial investment. While the USA campaign was not funded through the UKSPF, it would not have been possible without the UKSPF investment in the ‘Experience the Beauty’ domestic campaign. This earlier investment provided Edinburgh with rich assets that could be utilised in new markets. Both workstreams will continue to deliver over the coming year.



An image from Forever Edinburgh’s Experience the Beauty campaign

Case Study: Business Gateway Plus

Funded organisation: Business Gateway (City of Edinburgh Council)

Kerrie got in touch with Business Gateway as she was thinking of starting her own cleaning business. Kerrie wanted advice and support to discuss the process, including what she was required to do with HMRC and any other things to consider. She had always worked for others and had no experience of running a business before.

The Business Gateway team had several support calls with Kerrie to help her produce a business plan, develop a strategy for growing her business, embed a customer care policy within her business and explore relevant business insurance and business banking. They also supported her with HMRC and navigating becoming registered as self-employed.

Kerrie has dyslexia and asked for support with information and documentation as well as extra time to process and understand things. It was agreed with Kerrie that support would go slowly, and that she could let the advisor know if she didn't understand or required further explanations. Part of the support package was advisory support telephone calls, introducing Kerrie to MS Teams. She enjoyed learning about this and was soon sharing documents on screen with the team as she applied feedback to her documents.

Kerrie successfully registered as self-employed and after gentle encouragement, she attempted to start securing clients. Kerrie required reassurance and encouragement in these early-stage interventions but quickly picked things up, and her honesty and transparency became very apparent.

Kerrie has always been a hard-working individual and the team helped her to realise that clients would appreciate her openness and her positive attitude. They encouraged her not to sell her cleaning services too cheaply, and to look at competitor pricing. She was advised not to be afraid of pricing her service higher than others, as she would give a better service than most of these other companies.

The team encouraged and supported Kerrie with an application for Business Gateway UKSPF start-up grant. She successfully secured a £1,000 award. This was followed up with regular catch-ups. Kerrie reported that the business was going from strength to strength. Her client list was expanding, and she had secured commercial customers as well as more domestic clients. As the year went on, the support Kerrie required was reduced, and Kerrie demonstrated a new confidence and self-assurance.

Kerrie also completed the monthly customer feedback surveys, saying that she was delighted with the guidance and direction she received from Business Gateway. Kerrie was grateful for the professional support she received and for the patience, understanding and empathy which enabled her to realise her dream and start her own business.

Multiply

The Multiply strand of funding is designed by UK Government to transform the lives of adults across the UK by improving their functional numeracy skills through free personal tutoring, digital training, and flexible courses. In Edinburgh, the Multiply funding is managed by the Wider Achievement and Lifelong Learning team with City of Edinburgh Council.

The Multiply programme in Edinburgh includes internally led provision including courses such as Maths on Toast, Pottery by Numbers, and a Cooking and Nutrition course. Courses are promoted as relevant, to internal staff, third sector partners and to existing learners such as those engaging with ESOL and adult literacy. Relevant courses have also been promoted to families engaging in the Council's Discover project which targets families experiencing poverty.

External provision is also in place which accommodates formal SCVQ qualifications

through Edinburgh College. The College are running a combined Level 4 Data Skills and Level 5 Numeracy course funded by Multiply. Maths Anxiety courses, and Budgeting and Numeracy courses are run online through WEA, and community-based initiatives are being supported to embed numeracy into their existing work. These include [Access to Industry](#), [Fresh Start](#) and [Space at the Broomhouse Hub](#).

The Multiply programme has taken time to establish and connect with potential learners, and will continue to expand and deliver this wide range of numeracy skills provision throughout Year 3. A Living Well with Diabetes course will be run by the WEA, looking at the maths involved in monitoring diabetes. The WEA will also run a workshop on Supporting Children's Numeracy. Additionally there is a Multiply Roadshow event taking place on National Numeracy Day and Numeracy Champions Training to be delivered.

The Multiply team have set up a webpage [here](#).



Image by Towfiq Barbhuiya on Unsplash

Regional working

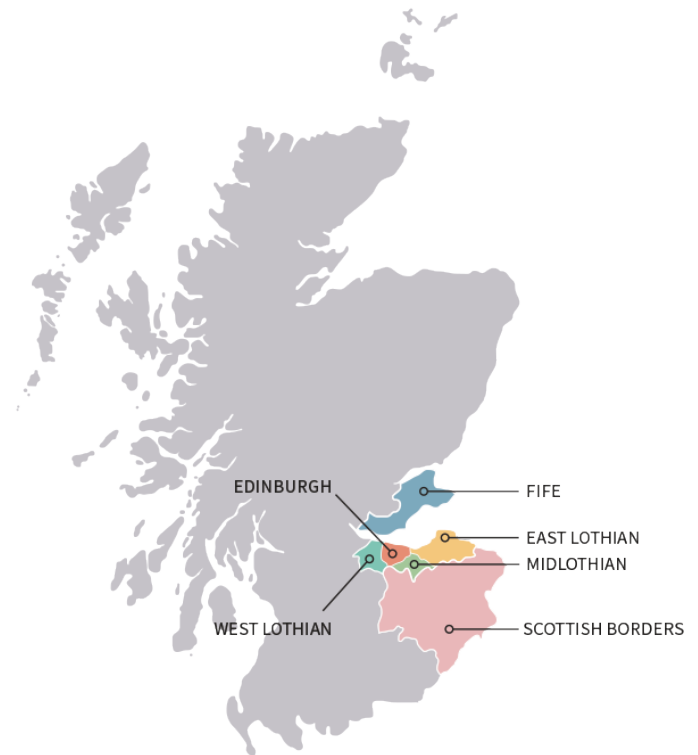
The six local authorities that make up the **Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region** are working together to deliver a suite of projects using UKSPF funding. The Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region includes East Lothian, Edinburgh, Fife, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian Councils. Edinburgh's UKSPF contribution will be made in Year 3.

The projects are a product of the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF), an ambitious 20-year vision to help shape public and private investment to develop the regional economy. The RPF delivery plan includes four key programme areas including Green Regeneration, Infrastructure for Recovery and Prosperity, Visitor Economy and Culture and Data Driven Innovation (DDI) Economy.

Two of the UKSPF funded projects began in the latter half of 2023. Utilising existing partnerships, the projects will address major environmental challenges, pooling together the resources and expertise available across the region.

The first project is part of The Regional Net Zero Accelerator Hub, led by West Lothian College. It includes a feasibility study undertaking the initial preparation, skills mapping, and planning for a Net Zero Accelerator Hub (NZAH). Supply-side work is being undertaken at West Lothian, Scottish Borders, Edinburgh, and Fife Colleges. Architectural plans will be produced, and the University of Edinburgh will provide a demand analysis based on the expected Net Zero activity taking place in the six Local Authorities in the City Region Deal area.

The second project is the Regional Climate Risk & Opportunity Assessment, led by Sniffer, an organisation that exists to facilitate collaboration on climate matters. Sniffer will



provide detailed evidence of climate risks, an economic assessment of risks, and extensive public engagement. The assessment will enable the six local authority partners to identify priority actions to address climate risks. You can read more on the Sniffer website [here](#).

A third regional project focuses on the Visitor Economy and is a series of feasibility studies looking into a cruise management strategy, better use of tourism data, cycle tourism and how to support and promote the region's cultural assets through the development of a new creative content and touring network for live arts. The final strand of the Visitor Economy work is shared by Fife and Edinburgh only, and will improve signage along the Forth Bridges tourism route.

To find out more about the City Region Deal and Regional Prosperity Framework visit the website [here](#).

Forward look

UKSPF is now entering Year 3, the final year of the confirmed programme. The Edinburgh programme will continue to deliver across the four themes. We expect to see consistency in the frontline services relied upon by thousands of people across the city. Welfare advice, employability, food programmes and life skills support will continue to serve individuals and communities, having a daily and crucial impact particularly on the lives of vulnerable people.

Other projects will ramp up, including the construction projects still to take place, such as the Spartans Community Foundation youthwork facility and new public amenities in South Queensferry. We also expect to see a new form of grant funding to individuals being piloted by Turn 2 Us. The project will test how financial security and wellbeing can be enhanced through long-term grants delivered through referral

partners. The regional work will also be a significant focus for this year – feasibility studies will test the possibility of sharing further work together as a region, particularly to tackle big issues such as climate change, and maximise the potential of economic development opportunities emerging in this part of Scotland.

You can keep up to date by visiting our website which includes a blog page. You can find it [here](#).

We are very grateful to funded providers for all of their hard work, and for their contributions to this report via regular UKSPF reporting and the provision of additional material such as photographs and case studies.

UKSPF Programme Management Team
City of Edinburgh Council and Capital City Partnership



Mural at Fresh Start

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