



Item 6.1 - Business Bulletin

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 14 November 2017

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, Edinburgh

Culture and Communities Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Donald Wilson</p>  <p>Councillor Ian Campbell (Vice-Convenor)</p> 	<p>Councillor Wilson (Convenor), Councillor I Campbell (Vice-Convenor) Councillor Brown, Councillor K Campbell, Councillor Doran, Councillor Graczyk, Councillor McNeese-Mechan, Councillor Miller, Councillor Mitchell, Councillor Osler, Councillor Staniforth</p>	<p>Lynne Halfpenny Director of Culture Tel: 0131 529 3657</p> <p>Andy Gray Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning Communities and Families Tel: 0131 529 2217</p> <p>Health and Social Care Partnership</p> <p>Ross Murray / Jamie Macrae Committee Services Tel: 0131 469 3870 / 0131 553 8242</p>

Museums and Galleries

Architectural history and contemporary craft are both featured in the winter season of exhibitions at the City Art Centre. To coincide with the restoration of the City Observatory on Calton Hill, designed by William Henry Playfair, the gallery is displaying a range of his original drawings. Borrowed from the collections of The University of Edinburgh and Historic Environment Scotland, the exhibition features Playfair's drawings for a range of his Edinburgh buildings. Two complementary exhibitions showcase the work of some of contemporary artists and makers in Scotland. *A Fine Line* presents the work of four leading practitioners working in a range of disciplines including printmaking, sculpture and ceramics, and who explore the fine line between art and craft. *Songs for Winter* exhibits the textile work of Pauline Burbidge alongside the remarkable drawings and sculptures of her husband Charles Poulsen. Finally, the season is completed by *Hidden Gems*, an exhibition drawn from the City's own fine art collection, which focuses on some of our lesser-known treasures, giving artworks which are rarely exhibited the chance to shine.

[Museums and Galleries What's on. September – December 2017](#)

A FINE LINE:



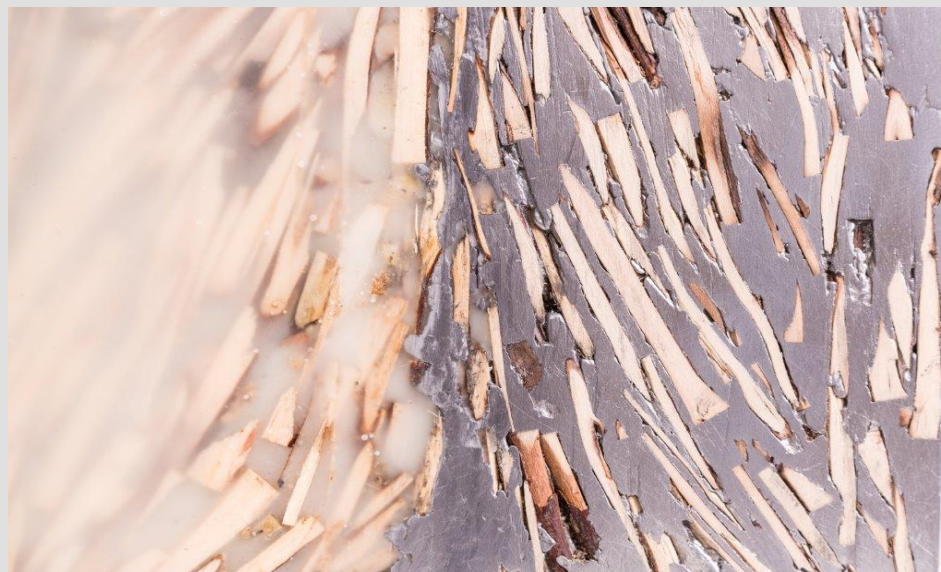
Angie Lewin, Pebble Shore with Red Branch, collage on driftwood, 2017 © the artist

For further information contact: [David Patterson](#), Curatorial and Conservation Manager. Tel 0131 529 3955

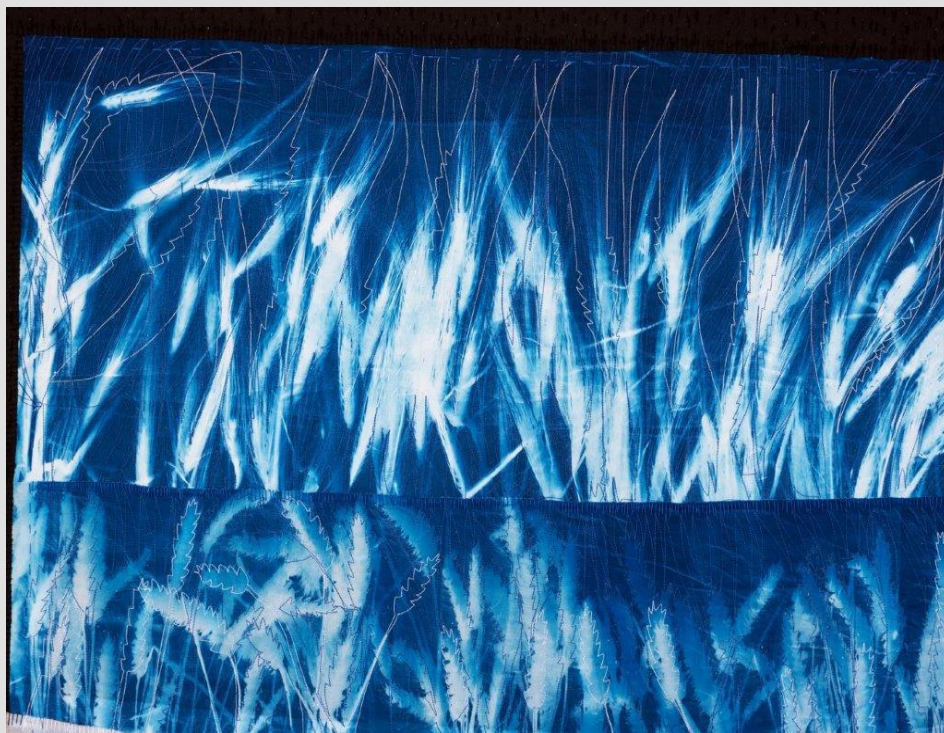


Frances Priest, Grammar of Ornament | India (detail), collection of 16 ceramic forms, 2014 © the artist, Photography Shannon Tofts.

SONGS FOR WINTER:



Charles Poulson, Waxwork V (detail), 2017 © the artist, Photography Philip Stanley Dickson.



Pauline Burbidge, *Wheat Barley Fields (detail)*, cyanotype © the artist

HIDDEN GEMS:



Morris Grassie, *The Sou'Westers, Arbroath*, c.1957. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Antonia Reeve

LEARNING AND EVENTS**Lauriston Castle**

We have entered our busiest season at Lauriston Castle with a packed programme of family, adult, special events and lectures to celebrate Halloween, Autumn and Christmas. Special events include a partnership with Edinburgh Horror Festival, with a packed programme of ghostly events in October, partnerships with Edinburgh International Magic Festival, Halloween theatre exploring Sherlock Holmes and a retro screening of Carry on Screaming (a partnership with New media Scotland) for Halloween night. We also have a series of Living History events and two special Murder Mystery evenings in November. As well as these special events we are doing a series of family events including two of our busiest annual events – Spooky Lauriston and an Enchanted Family Christmas. Families from all over Edinburgh attend a full day of activities that include, theatre, storytelling, art and crafts and woodland trails and activities. Our very popular lecture programme also includes a series of lectures by Archaeology Scotland to celebrate the Year of History Heritage and Archaeology. Our adult programme focuses on Christmas with a series of ever-popular Christmas crafts

The programme can be viewed here:

[http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Venues/Lauriston-Castle/Events-\(1\)/Lauriston_Castle_final](http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Venues/Lauriston-Castle/Events-(1)/Lauriston_Castle_final)



For further information contact: [Margaret Findlay](#), Learning and Public Programme Manager Tel: 0131 529 3963

Volunteer Programme at Lauriston Castle

We have successfully increased the tours at Lauriston this summer with our new volunteer programme leading to increased numbers and income. We are now looking at extending the amount of tours we do over the winter on additional days, and continuing to build on our volunteer programme.

At Lauriston Castle we are also taking part in Edinburgh's Christmas campaign *24 Days of Advent*. On 19 December we are opening up the house with a series of costumes special tours.

We are looking ahead to plan our award-winning school programmes at Lauriston Castle for 2018. We plan to devise a new programme to tie in with the closing commemorations of the centenary of WW1, engaging with young people across the Lothians.

We are currently exploring a partnership with Licketyspit at Lauriston Castle. Licketyspit is a leading early years theatre company that seeks to put children and play at the heart of communities. Since it was founded in 2004, Licketyspit has been committed to creating participatory, socially engaged work that explores the transformative power of theatre - or play. We are exploring a regular programme of using Lauriston Castle as an inspirational venue for the children.



Meadowbank Sports Centre and Stadium



After a run of almost 50 years, Edinburgh's Meadowbank Stadium will shut its doors on 3 December 2017. The closure of the flagship venue, which was built for the 1970 Commonwealth Games, will mark the start of major redevelopment plans to create a new state-of-the-art sports centre on the same site. The new Meadowbank sports centre is due to be operational by Easter 2020.

From the beginning of 2018 the sports centre will be decommissioned and prepared for demolition in the summer of 2018. Construction works on the new centre will begin later in the year.

Later this year, further details of how users groups and members of the public can be kept up to date with the progress of the project will be made available prior to the submission of planning applications for the sports centre and the wider site masterplan. Officers are continuing to work with Edinburgh Leisure to assist clubs and groups to find alternative sport facilities following the closure.

The new sports centre is set to include:

- An outdoor athletics track with a 500 seat stand
- Two multi-sport games halls
- Three fitness studios
- A gym
- A gymnastics hall
- Two squash courts
- A combat studio for martial arts
- A boxing gym with ring
- A 60m six lane indoor athletics track and jumps space
- An outdoor throwing area

- Two FIFA standard 3G (all weather) pitches – one which will be in the centre of the athletics track
- Cafe and meeting rooms

The new centre will be partly funded by residential and commercial development on parts of the existing site that are not required for the new sports complex. This will include development of affordable and low cost housing through the Council's 21st Century Homes Programme. A full update on the overall masterplan and sports centre project including the overall funding package and proposed construction contract arrangements will be provided to the next meeting of the Culture and Communities Committee.

City Art Centre

The Learning and Programmes Team have just finished the jam-packed programme for *Edinburgh Alphabet* running over the summer. Events were popular and helped bring visitors into the gallery throughout the exhibition. The Edinburgh Alphabet events programme consisted of 75 separate very varied and lively events for mixed audiences, 15 costumed performances, 40 special gallery tours and a school programme. There was also a family and school activity area which was consistently busy throughout the exhibition and attracted repeat and regular visitors.

We have a new programme out for autumn and winter supporting exhibitions. Programmes consist of a new activity space in the Lower Ground floor for our exhibition *Hidden Gems*. This activity area has new family activities to encourage families and schools to visit the City Art Centre and explore the permanent collections in our new exhibition. There are also programmes to support exhibitions, *A Fine Line*, *Playfair in the City* and *Songs for Winter*. We are also launching our newly refurbished art studio which was funded by the Friends of Museums. These creative workshops have proved hugely successful and are completely sold out.

This programme can be viewed here:

<http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Events/Sep-Dec-Whats-On>

Royal Mile Museums

We have a new programme launched for autumn and winter in our Royal Mile venues including a partnership with the Scottish Storytelling Centre for the Edinburgh International Storytelling Festival. We are also doing programmes to link in with Halloween, Christmas and events to Celebrate the national celebration of Books and reading by the Scottish Book Trust - *Book Week Scotland* at the end of November. At the Writers' Museum we are taking part in the annual Robert Louis Stevenson birthday celebrations in November with a series of events.

These programmes can be viewed here:

<http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Events/Sep-Dec-Whats-On>

We are running a Ghost Story Competition with Edinburgh Schools in Partnership with City of Edinburgh Tours. Primary and Secondary schools all over Edinburgh have been invited to visit our museums and write ghost stories based on our intriguing buildings and collections. The winning works will be exhibited at the Museum of Edinburgh from early November till early January. A ceremony to celebrate the winners at Museum of Edinburgh will be held on Saturday 4 November. There is also a small programme of associated events.

As partners of the Living Knowledge Network with The British Library our CEC libraries will be running an Edinburgh "A history of Magic: Harry Potter" from October to February alongside their exhibition/events. Scotland will have only Glasgow & Edinburgh participating. This is a citywide initiative. We are delighted to be participating in this, with both the Writers' Museum and Lauriston Castle running special events.

Nelson Monument Garden

For some years the garden site next to the Nelson Monument on Calton Hill has been unkempt and uncared for. In a unique partnership, museums and galleries have joined forces with the Council's Community Payback team, Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust and the city's African and Caribbean Christian Fellowship to breathe new life into the space. The Payback Team, under the expert guidance of Gordon Donaghy, have been doing a lot of the hard graft – clearing the site, building the raised flowerbeds and constructing the paths. The Christian Fellowship, with a grant from Edinburgh and Lothian Greenspace Trust, have been involved in planting the beds as they are completed, and are committed to maintaining them on a regular basis.

Things are really beginning to take shape. The intention is that the garden will be completed in the Spring of 2018, after which time visitors to the monument will be able to enjoy a stroll in the garden, a place to sit, and some spectacular views of the city. And once a month, a work party from the Christian Fellowship will make sure that the garden is kept looking at its very best.



Recent News	Background
<p>Loo of the Year Award – Assembly Rooms</p> <p>Further to a recent mystery shop by the Loo of the Year Inspector, the Assembly Rooms have achieved the highest award – The Platinum Award. The certificate will be awarded during a ceremony in December.</p>	
<p>Edinburgh’s Christmas and Hogmanay</p> <p>Edinburgh’s Christmas was officially launched in September with an exciting programme for the festive season in Edinburgh. As well as the traditional markets and stalls on the Mound Precinct and Princes Street Gardens East and the ice rink in St Andrew Square, Edinburgh’s Christmas will feature a number of new attractions including a giant advent calendar at General Register House, market on George Street and Ice Adventure: A Journey Through Frozen Scotland. The Spiegeltent returns to Festival Square with a new show for Edinburgh’s Christmas, La Clique Noel.</p> <p>It all kicks off with Light Night on George Street on Sunday 19 November with the switch-on of the Christmas Lights and community celebrations.</p> <p>www.edinburghschristmas.com</p> <p>Edinburgh’s Hogmanay has been refreshed for 2017/18 with many new events. The Festival starts with the Torchlight Procession on 30 December and a new route for 2018. The celebrations continue on Hogmanay itself with the family-friendly Bairns Afore event, Concert In The Gardens (headlined by Rag’n’Bone Man), Ceilidh Under The Castle, and Street Party, with more acts and details to be announced shortly. The first day of the new year sees the return of the Loony Dook in Queensferry and a new event, Message From The Skies, a literary tour of Edinburgh, which sees a specially commissioned new work from crime writer Val McDermid projected on to key Edinburgh landmarks.</p> <p>www.edinburghshogmanay.com</p>	<p>For further information contact: Lindsay Robertson, Culture Manager (Arts, Events & Public Safety). Tel: 0131 529 6719</p>

Usher Hall – October to December 2017

October:

We have opening season concerts for the Royal Scottish National orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and for our own Sunday Classics season

<http://www.usherhall.co.uk/sunday-classics>

October concerts include:

- The Ultimate Eagles
- Richard Thompson
- The King of Pop
- The Simon and Garfunkel Story
- The Musical Box
- London Grammar and Napier and open University Graduations. (sold out)
- Children's Classic Concerts - back at the end of October for their Ghost Train Concert
- Squeeze

November concerts include:

- Father John Misty
- Alison Moyet
- The King is Back
- Marc Almond
- The Forth Awards
- The Divine Comedy
- Queens of the Stone Age
- The Kooks
- Seafarers
- Worbey and Farrell.

We also have a number of Schools concerts including the RSNO schools and Midlothian Schools.

For any concert details / tickets please check the Usher Hall website:

www.usherhall.co.uk

For more information contact: [Emma Patterson](#), Event Co-ordinator, Tel: 0131 221 6336

Recent News	Background
<p><u>Ross Bandstand – October to December 2017</u></p> <p>September:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly events • Edinburgh Lindy Exchange <p>October:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edinburgh Diwali 	<p>For more information contact: Emma Patterson, Event Co-ordinator, Tel: 0131 221 6336</p>
<p><u>Assembly Rooms – October to December 2017</u></p> <p>5 – 6 October - Global congress on Bladder Cancer: The Global Congress on Bladder Cancer brings together top experts and delegates from several disciplines, for an in-depth discussion of the different aspects of bladder cancer, with a focus on difficulties and dilemmas of clinical decision making.</p> <p>26 – 29 October - Sotherby's Free public exhibition of artwork. Theme to be announced.</p> <p>We welcome back the SQA awards on 1 November, and the Start up Summit for We are the Future.</p> <p>11 November - Kathy Griffin – Laugh your head off comedy world tour: After two Emmys, a Grammy, decades of starring in television shows and touring, Kathy Griffin is launching her FIRST world tour after suddenly never being more in-demand.</p> <p>25 November - The Alternative Peers Ball: in celebration of 230 years of the Assembly Rooms Edinburgh (see report on Festival and Events Core Programme 2017/18 on this agenda for further information).</p> <p>We welcome back the 3d2d craft fair, 1 – 3 December, along with various Christmas Parties.</p> <p>31 December – Annual 'Snow Ball' celebrations.</p>	<p>For further information contact: Anne Murrricane, Business Development Manager Cultural Venues. Tel: 0131 220 4348</p>

Recent News	Background
<p><u>Churchill Theatre – October – December 2017</u></p> <p>11-14 October - Opera Camerata presents La Belle Helene by Offenbach http://www.operacamerata.org.uk/</p> <p>25-28 October - Edinburgh Gilbert & Sullivan Society presents Oklahoma http://www.edgas.org/home/news.shtml</p> <p>31 October – 4 November - Allegro Musical Productions presents Rock of Ages http://allegromusical.co.uk/</p>	<p>For further information contact: Julie Abrahams, Events Coordinator, Cultural Venues. Tel: 226 9907</p>
<p>9 November - Shakespeare Schools Festival https://www.shakespeareschools.org</p> <p>10-11 November - Sing in the City Choir present their Corries/Leithers Shows https://choiredinburgh.co.uk/</p> <p>22-25 November - Leittheatre <i>presents</i> The Crucible by Arthur Miller http://leittheatre.com/</p> <p>2 December - Edinburgh Gay Men’s Chorus present their Winter Concerts http://www.egmc.co.uk/events</p> <p>6-9 December - Balerno Theatre Company present their pantomime - Aladdin https://www.balernotheatrecompany.co.uk/</p> <p>15-23 December - Edinburgh Peoples Theatre present their pantomime - Jack & The Beanstalk https://www.ept.org.uk/shows/</p>	

Creative Carbon Scotland's environmental sustainability work with the cultural sector and the Edinburgh Festivals

[Creative Carbon Scotland](#) (CCS) connects the arts and culture with climate change, believing that climate change is as much a cultural as a scientific and technological challenge. Without the arts and culture being involved the necessary cultural shift to a low-carbon, climate changed society will be much harder to achieve.

Edinburgh, as a city with a significant cultural basis, and its many cultural individuals and organisations, can help influence their large and loyal audiences – both local and international - in understanding climate change and participating in both reduction of carbon emissions and adaptation to the impacts of climate change. Actors in the cultural sector can do this by reducing their own environmental impacts, and by using their communications with audiences, the example they provide and the work they produce to help society imagine a different future.

CCS is a charity, formed in 2011 by the Edinburgh Festivals, the Federation of Scottish Theatre and the Scottish Contemporary Art Network. CCS is supported by the City of Edinburgh Council Culture Division through provision of office facilities, and financially by Creative Scotland. We also earn income and seek grants from other bodies.

CCS works closely with the Edinburgh Festivals, providing strategic advice and support and running joint projects which achieve and develop the aims of the [Festivals' Environment Policy](#). These include a range of initiatives and events as part of the Festivals' programmes that highlight environmental sustainability to the public and to participants, such as the [Fringe Swap Shop](#) which both reduces waste going to landfill at the end of the Fringe Festival and helps furnish many Edinburgh homes with the tables and chairs that have been used on stage!

CCS and Festivals Edinburgh jointly started the [Green Arts Initiative in 2011](#), aimed initially at helping and encouraging Edinburgh's festival venues to reduce their carbon emissions and has been so successful that it has subsequently been rolled out to nearly 200 cultural venues and companies across Scotland. CCS runs regular discussion events to bring together artists and sustainability people in Edinburgh through our [Green Tease](#) programme. CCS Director Ben Twist is also Vice Chair of the [Edinburgh Sustainable Development Partnership](#), ensuring that the cultural voice is heard in that cross-sectoral strategic partnership within the wider Edinburgh Partnership family.

Recent News	Background
<p>Leith Creative – Leith Blueprint</p> <p>In 2015, Leith Creative conducted a cultural mapping exercise in order to better understand Leith’s cultural resources and creative industries. They found that Leith is a unique area of concentrated cultural and creative activity, identifying nine creative hubs, eleven supporting cultural assets and four local and national festivals.</p> <p>Building on this research and network, since early 2017, Leith Creative has been working to bring a wider community together to talk about the future of Leith as part of the People and Places: Make Leith Better project. Utilising their local creative capacity through three different public engagement methods, various creative interventions, and the holding of a two day community conference over the summer, they have been asking the following questions of people who live and/or work in the Leith area: What do you think Leith's greatest assets are?; What do you think Leith's biggest challenges are?; What steps would you take to make Leith better?</p> <p>As a result of their research and creative interventions over the last six months, Leith Creative are now sharing their Leith Blueprint which identifies five key action areas and eight specific spatial recommendations, alongside additional conclusions for the future development of Leith.</p> <p>Leith Creative is led by Duncan Bremner (Citizen Curator) and Morvern Cunningham (LeithLate). People and Places: Make Leith Better is an independent project supported by the Scottish Government Design Charrette Fund, Creative Scotland Open Project Fund and the City of Edinburgh Council.</p>	
<p>Feedback from Delegation to Shanghai</p> <p>The Convener of Culture and Communities formed part of a delegation from Edinburgh to Shanghai in September 2017. Feedback from this visit is appended to the Business Bulletin.</p>	<p>See attached</p>

Forthcoming activities:

CONFERENCE/CIVIC VISIT FEEDBACK FORM

Report by Donald Wilson, Convener of Culture and Communities	
Event name and location: Culture Delegation Shanghai	
Authorising Committee: Culture and Communities	
Event organisers: AEMI, a cultural production company	
Nature of event e.g. conference /seminar, civic event. Official launch of 2 new festivals in Shanghai.	Date(s) of attendance: 13 – 18 September 2017
Purpose of attending: AEMI produces a range of Chinese cultural activities and productions during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The purpose of attending the launch of these festivals was to build on these connections. There were opportunities to promote Edinburgh’s festivals and to discuss cooperation between Shanghai and Edinburgh in the future.	

Key areas which you found particularly useful:

I met with the Deputy Governor of Jing'an (a district of Shanghai) and senior government officials for a general discussion on co-operation between the Edinburgh Festivals and Jing'an district. This district has a reputation for culture and specifically aspires to develop their 'Drama Valley' festival. We discussed the possibility of exchanging performance of high quality to promote Edinburgh's festivals and vice versa as well as the potential for co-operation given the newness of Shanghai's festivals and the 70 years' experience of Edinburgh. The potential for a base or office in both places was discussed.

I then opened the Jing'an Comedy Festival and attended the opening show before attending the opening ceremony of the Edinburgh Fringe Poster Exhibition and Oriental Pearl – AEMI World Comedy Day. This began at a large open-air auditorium at the base of the Oriental Pearl Tower (the 3rd largest telecommunications tower in the world). I was one of only two speakers opening the event (written speech available on request), which was broadcast on Chinese television. The opening ceremony was followed by photographs and a tour of the Edinburgh Fringe exhibition.

Over the course of the visit, I met with a number of people and visited a range of sites including:

- Lunch with Mayor Yang Pu for a roundtable discussion on the potential for a formal agreement to collaborate on culture.
- Visit Jing'an Temple, a Buddhist Temple.
- Dinner with the Director and representatives of the Oriental Pearl Tower where the discussion focused economic links with Edinburgh including direct flights.
- Lunch with the Shanghai Culture Week Committee, Deputy Director of the Jing'an District Culture Centre and the Senior Management of Cao Peng Music Centre. This built on links developed during the Shanghai Culture week in Edinburgh in 2016 and discussed the planned 2018 Shanghai Culture week.
- Meeting with the Head of East and South East China for Scottish Development International to discuss developing the relationship between the two cities.
- Reception organised by the Chinese Children Art Festival and Shanghai Culture and Art Association.
- Exploration of potential sites for Shanghai Magic Festival and visit to the traditional Shanghai district.

Benefits of attendance for the Council:

This visit was developed to deepen the relationship between Edinburgh and Shanghai and built on the existing relationship between the two cities. The delegation provided the potential to explore mutual learning and sharing of skills and experience.