

Notice of meeting and agenda

City of Edinburgh Council

10.00 am Thursday, 24th June, 2021

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to watch the live webcast on the Council's website.

The law allows the Council to consider some issues in private. Any items under "Private Business" will not be published, although the decisions will be recorded in the minute.

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1. Order of business

- 1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2. Declaration of interests

- 2.1 Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

3. Deputations

- 3.1 If any

4. Minutes

- 4.1 The City of Edinburgh Council of 27 May 2021 – submitted for approval as a correct record 19 - 112

5. Leader's Report

- 5.1 Leader's report 113 - 116

6. Appointments

- 6.1 Appointments to Outside Organisations etc – Report by the Chief Executive 117 - 120

7. Reports

- 7.1 Review of Political Management Arrangements – Report by the Chief Executive 121 - 146

7.2	Council Outline Diary 2022/23 – Report by the Chief Executive	147 - 152
7.3	Unaudited Annual Accounts 2020/21 – Report by the Executive Director of Resources	153 - 300
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7.5	Office of Lord Provost: Year 4 Report 2020/21 – Report by the Chief Executive	307 - 316
7.6	Children's Rights, Participation and Delivery – Report by the Chief Executive	317 - 322
7.7	Youth Work in Community Centres and Other Locations – Report by the Interim Executive Director of Communities and Families	323 - 332
7.8	Monitoring Officer Report – Report by the Monitoring Officer	333 - 352
7.9	Lothian Pension Fund - Unaudited Annual Report (and Financial Statements) 2021 - referral from the Pensions Committee	
7.10	Annual Performance Report 2020/21- referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee	353 - 412
7.11	Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021 - referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee	413 - 500
7.12	Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019.20 – Edinburgh Overview - referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee	501 - 542
7.13	Potential Retention of Space for People Measures - referral from the Transport and Environment Committee	543 - 628

8. Motions

8.1 By Councillor Doggart – Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

“Council:

- 1) Notes the publication of the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland (MWCS) report entitled “Authority to Discharge”;
- 2) Welcomes the publication of recommendations as areas of improvement;
- 3) Is concerned that the report notes that within the sample of cases provided, the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) is described as having acted without legal authority;
- 4) Notes the initial briefing provided by officers to elected members setting out the initial work to be undertaken by the EHSCP;
- 5) Recognises that more work is required to have a full understanding of any problems in respect of discharges at the start of the pandemic, but also recognises that the recommendations of the MWCS are valid in respect of all discharges at any time;
- 6) Requests a report in two cycles to the Policy and Sustainability Committee that includes a summary of the authority to discharge for all patients since the start of the pandemic, confirmation that all relevant EHSCP staff have received training in respect of current policies and procedures, including specific detail surrounding the legality of Power of Attorney and its role in decision making, and a timeframe for implementation of the MWCS recommendations.”

8.2 By Councillor Howie – Unlawful Discharges to Care Homes

Council:

- 1) Acknowledges the recent report from the Mental Welfare Commission (MWC) for Scotland on Authority to

Discharge, detailing their findings on investigating a sample of around 10% of cases across Scotland where a patient was discharged from a hospital to a care home between March and May 2020.

- 2) Notes the Council Leaders response to Cllr Howie's question on unlawful discharges in December 2020.
- 3) Notes with concern that the report specifies that there was one case identified in Edinburgh where a person was unlawfully discharged from a hospital to a care home between March and May 2020.
- 4) Understands that the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership are working with the Mental Welfare Commission to investigate this case and to produce an action plan based on the 11 recommendations of the MWC report.
- 5) Notes however that this was from a sample of around 10% of all such moves reported at the time by Public Health Scotland, indicating there is are likely to be more cases like it.
- 6) Requests a summary report in one cycle to the Policy and Sustainability Committee that includes:
 - a) The number, under each category included in the MWCS report, of a summary of the authorities to discharge for all patients since the start of the pandemic;
 - b) Confirmation that all relevant EHSCP staff have received training in respect of current policies and procedures, including specific detail surrounding the legality of Power of Attorney and its role in decision making;
 - c) A timeframe for completion of all investigations into every patient's discharge with a full report in four cycles to be returned to Policy and Sustainability; and
 - d) A timeframe for implementation of the MWCS recommendations.

8.3 By Councillor Macinnes - Health Impacts of Air Pollution

Council notes that:

- 1) Dirty air is already known to increase hospital treatment for severe asthma attacks and other respiratory illnesses.
- 2) That recent research by King's College London using clinical data has now identified significant additional increased impact on GP visits and inhaler prescriptions following periods of poor air quality.
- 3) That a wide range of individuals are affected but that there is a 'huge' increase in children seeking medical help after a week of raised air pollution.
- 4) That those suffering respiratory illnesses, including the impact of recent Covid cases, deserve to live in communities where air pollution is actively reduced through individual and organisational actions.
- 5) Recognises and welcomes the work being undertaken by the Council around the Low Emission Zone and other policy matters, the work being undertaken by the Council and other Edinburgh businesses and organisations to reduce the impact of their fleets and that many individuals are now taking positive action to reduce their own contributions to air pollution.

Requests that officers prepare a report to TEC within three cycles which, in partnership with NHS Lothian and appropriate partners such as the British Lung Foundation, seeks to describe the health impact on Edinburgh of air pollution. Recognises that this is a highly complex area and that the report should also contain recommendations for further work to better understand the economic and educational impact, for example, of lost time due to air pollution health issues.

For info: linked to this article [Air pollution linked to 'huge' rise in child asthma GP visits | Air pollution | The Guardian](#) .

8.4 By Councillor Day - In-house Service Provision

"Council notes the commitment to in-house delivery wherever possible to ensure the best service provision alongside our

commitment to best value, fair work and as a living wage employer.

Council also notes the use of external service providers through contracts and as part of frameworks in many areas to maximise service delivery and deliver specialist services where it would not be possible or efficient to build an in-house model to deliver those services.

Lastly notes previous and recent decisions on service frameworks and contracts where options remain to be fully explored on in-house components of service delivery within the service areas.

Requests a report to Policy and Sustainability in 2 cycles setting out a process and timeline to examine where in-house provision can be expanded in Council service delivery (including setting out engagement processes for staff, local trade unions, key service users and other stakeholders), and include an update on the use of community benefit clauses in external contracts such as increased local apprenticeships and other clauses in use.”

8.5 By Councillor Booth - Suspension of Eviction Action Against Council Tenants for Rent Arrears

“Council:

- 1) Notes that since Feb/March 2021, the council has served 20 eviction notices on tenants for rent arrears and that since the Sheriff Court re-opened in October 2020, decree has been granted to the council in 8 cases;
- 2) Acknowledges that substantial advice and assistance is offered to tenants before an eviction notice is pursued, and that court action remains a last resort for tenants who do not engage or make reasonable payments;
- 3) Nonetheless notes that the covid pandemic has not yet ended, that Edinburgh remains under covid restrictions, that many businesses are currently unable to operate and therefore many citizens currently have severely restricted income;
- 4) Agrees that the council should not be threatening any tenants with eviction for rent arrears in the current

circumstances;

- 5) Therefore agrees that:
 - a) no new court orders for eviction due to rent arrears shall be initiated by the council; and
 - b) all current decrees granted to the council by the Sheriff Court for non-payment of rent shall be suspended; until such time as the Scottish Government declares an end to covid restrictions;
- 6) Further agrees that a report on this issue will be provided to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee within two cycles, and that this report should also set out options for a review of pre-court engagement with tenants with a view to adopting best practice in encouraging tenants to engage early and constructively with the council when arrears problems first emerge.”

8.6 By Councillor Howie - Accessible Play Parks

“Council:

- 1) Recognises the need for disabled children to be able to play alongside their more able friends.
- 2) Welcomes the written answer to Full Council on 27.5.21 which indicated that the council has already invested in accessible play equipment.
- 3) Welcomes new facilities at revamped parks like Saughton Park which are accessible to children of a range of abilities.
- 4) Appreciates that different children have different needs and that what is suitable for one child’s disability may not be suitable for others.
- 5) Calls on officers to compile a detailed list of what accessible play equipment is available across Edinburgh’s play parks to be published online to allow the parents of disabled children to use the play park most suitable for their children.

Further, Council:

- 6) Notes the fully accessible play park at Pittencrieff Park in Fife is the closest all-inclusive play park for Edinburgh residents.
- 7) Understands that the play park, which was opened in 2018 by the First Minister, was created in a partnership with Fife Council and Play As One Scotland and was the first of its kind in Scotland.
- 8) Believes that Edinburgh, as the capital city, should have a fully accessible park that at least matches Pittencrieff Park.
- 9) Therefore, requests a report to be returned within 4 cycles to the Culture and Communities Committee which:
 - Outlines the range of disabilities, including learning difficulties, that require specialist equipment or facilities.
 - Details the full range of accessible play park equipment available and their cost.
 - Recommends a series of options for the construction of a fully accessible play park in Edinburgh for a range of budgets.
 - Outlines any options for outside funding, including sponsorship and partnerships to help secure the necessary funding.”

8.7 By Councillor Webber - Footpath Completion, Curriehill Road

“Council:

- 1) Notes that in 2018 Miller Homes completed the new housing development off Curriehill Road: Brock View, Currie, Edinburgh, EH14 5TW;
- 2) Notes that Miller Homes contributed to extend the existing footway on the west side of Curriehill Road footway northwards to link to the existing footway;
- 3) Notes that without this extension pedestrians have to walk on a main road to access all their local services including primary schools, libraries, GP surgery and local public transport links;
- 4) Therefore requests that this footway is completed as a

matter of urgency, reaffirming the transport hierarchy, and putting the needs of pedestrians first.”

8.8 By Councillor Jim Campbell - Engagement and Consultation with regard to the Retention of Spaces for People Survey and Market Research

“Council:

Reaffirms its commitment to undertaking high quality opinion surveys and marked research to best understand the views and attitudes of City of Edinburgh residents.

Notes that the Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed in April to a new Engagement and Consultation approach, in response to the Best Value Audit of Council, and that this attempt to inject greater rigour was warmly welcomed by all Members.

Observes that doubt has been cast on the rigour with which market research on the retention of Spaces for People has been conducted and notes the reported differences between the headline results of this market research when compared with the survey views of almost 18,000 responses.

Instructs the Monitoring Officer to report to Council if, in whole or in part, the consultation exercise was covered by the new Engagement and Consultation approach and, if so, whether it conformed to these requirements.

Further instructs the Chief Executive to write to the authors of the Market Research, relaying any documented concerns raised by elected members and members of the public and shared with the Transport and Environment Committee when it meets on 17 June, asking for a response at their earliest convenience. This response should be shared on receipt with all Councillors.”

8.9 By Councillor Mowat - West End Traffic Impacts

“The resident community in area of the West End bounded by Haymarket Terrace, Magdala and Douglas Crescents, and Palmerston Place is concerned that the changes proposed to improve active travel and air quality in the city may negatively impact on them as traffic avoids the Low Emission Zone and the

roads are altered with the City Centre West to East Cycle route.

The work completed so far has noted that there will be changes in traffic patterns (CCWEL) and possible displacement (LEZ) there is no commitment to work with the local community to consider whether there are measures that can be taken to avoid the schemes above negatively impacting on this area.

Council therefore instructs Transport officers to meet with residents to discuss and review programmed measures to improve road safety and maintain their environmental quality including any measures could be taken and how these could be resourced.”

8.10 By Councillor McLellan - Lothian Buses

“Council

- 1) Is deeply grateful to the drivers of Lothian Buses who were determined to keep serving the public when their vehicles came under repeated attack by vandals earlier this year.
- 2) Recognises that Lothian Buses had little choice but to suspend services to protect both their drivers and passengers.
- 3) Utterly condemns the baseless slur by SNP MSP James Dornan against Lothian Buses management that the decision to suspend services on March 17 (St Patrick’s Day) was motivated by anti-Catholic bigotry.
- 4) Further condemns Mr Dornan’s abuse of parliamentary privilege to make such an allegation without a shred of evidence.
- 5) Instructs the Council leader to write to Mr Dornan to express the unanimous dismay of this council at his accusation and
- 6) Calls upon Mr Dornan to issue a full public apology to the company for casting groundless aspersions on the integrity of its staff.”

8.11 By Councillor Laidlaw - Platinum Jubilee Holiday - June 2022

“Council:

- 1) Notes that to celebrate HM The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee the UK government has announced a special four-day bank holiday weekend to include Thursday 2nd June and Friday 3rd June 2022.
- 2) Recognises the momentous occasion of Her Majesty celebrating 70 years of serving her country and Commonwealth and that this will be the first time any British monarch has celebrated a platinum jubilee.
- 3) Notes the four days will include special celebrations and festivities including public and community events.
- 4) Recognises that Edinburgh, as Scotland’s capital and the site of Her Majesty’s official residence in Scotland, will play a key part in these celebrations.
- 5) Notes that currently City of Edinburgh Council offices and libraries are scheduled to be open on existing May public holidays in 2022.
- 6) Notes City of Edinburgh schools are scheduled to be closed on Victoria Day on Monday 23 May 2022.
- 7) Acknowledges that additional public holidays are a fitting reward for the hard-work our employees have undertaken during the pandemic.
- 8) Approves a one-off closure of Council offices and libraries 2nd and 3rd June 2022 and a two-day holiday for all Council staff; taken in lieu for those who provide essential services over the jubilee holiday weekend.
- 9) Approves closure of schools on 2nd and 3rd June to allow pupils to join their parents in enjoying the celebrations, in lieu of the Victoria Day holiday.”

9. Congratulatory Motions

9.1 By the Lord Provost - World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships

“Council notes:

That Jennifer Dodds and Bruce Mouat who represented Scotland

in the World Mixed Doubles Championships and won the Gold medal on Sunday.

By winning Team Scotland also ensured Team GB will be represented in the Mixed Doubles at the Winter Olympics 2022.

Jen and Bruce both play at Murrayfield Curling facility.

That Frazer Shaw (one of Murrayfield's ice technicians) was also part of the World Curling Federation ice crew.

This was the second World Curling Final for Bruce this season as Team Scotland, which Bruce skips, earned a silver medal and also ensuring that Team GB will be represented in the Men's event at the Winter Olympics.

Council requests that the Lord Provost recognises this success in an appropriate manner."

9.2 By Councillor Gardiner - Balerno Fairtrade Village

"Council requests that our Lord Provost write to Balerno Fairtrade Village Group in recognition that the Fairtrade Foundation has made Balerno their Fairtrade Community of the Month for June 2021.

This welcome award recognises the excellent work of Balerno Fairtrade Village Group and its local and international focus."

10. Questions

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------|
| 10.1 | By Councillor Burgess - Low-Carbon Retrofit of Council Buildings – for answer by the Leader of the Council | 629 - 630 |
| 10.2 | By Councillor Lang - Pedestrian Crossing at Bo'ness Road, Queensferry – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee | 631 - 632 |
| 10.3 | By Councillor Lang - New and Replacement Bins – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee | 633 - 634 |

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| 10.4 | By Councillor Munro - 2020/21 Budget Meetings – for answer by the Leader of the Council | 635 - 636 |
| 10.5 | By Councillor Munro - Local Child Poverty Action Report – for answer by the Leader of the Council | 637 - 638 |
| 10.6 | By Councillor Munro - Funding for Housing in Edinburgh – for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee | 639 - 640 |
| 10.7 | By Councillor Munro – Community Education Workers – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee | 641 - 642 |
| 10.8 | By Councillor Munro - Library Workers – for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee | 643 - 644 |
| 10.9 | By Councillor Booth - Carbon Literacy Training for Council Officers – for answer by the Leader of the Council | 645 - 646 |
| 10.10 | By Councillor Booth - Catchment Area for GME – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee | 647 - 648 |
| 10.11 | By Councillor Douglas - Slurry Sealing Work on Footways – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee | 649 - 650 |

10.12	By Councillor Webber - Street Schemes Consultation – Advertising – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee	651 - 652
10.13	By Councillor Johnston - Company Accounts for Marketing Edinburgh Ltd – for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee	653 - 654
10.14	By Councillor Laidlaw - SQA Assessments 2021 – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee	655 - 656
10.15	By Councillor Rust - "Self-selecting" Consultations – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee	657 - 658
10.16	By Councillor Rust - Spaces for People - Market Research - Potential Spam Entries – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee	659 - 660
10.17	By Councillor Rust - Spaces for People - Stakeholder Consultation – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee	661 - 662
10.18	By Councillor Rust - Spaces for People Market Research - Duplication of Mode of Transport – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee	663 - 664
10.19	By Councillor Rust - Spaces for People – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee	665 - 666

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| 10.20 | By Councillor Rust - Spaces for People - Expenditure on Lanark Road Scheme etc – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee | 667 - 668 |
| 10.21 | By Councillor Booth - Discussions on GME – for answer by the Leader of the Council | 669 - 670 |
| 10.22 | By Councillor Booth - Suggested Locations for GME Secondary School – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee | 671 - 672 |
| 10.23 | By Councillor Rust - Spaces for People - Access to Cars – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee | 673 - 674 |
| 10.24 | By Councillor Johnston - Spaces for People Independent Safety Audit – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee | 675 - 676 |

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Information about the City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council consists of 63 Councillors and is elected under proportional representation. The City of Edinburgh Council usually meets once a month and the Lord Provost is the Convener when it meets.

This meeting of the City of Edinburgh Council is being held virtually by Microsoft Teams.

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Gavin King, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2.1, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG, Tel 0131 529 4239, email gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk.

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to the Council's online [Committee Library](#).

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Minutes

The City of Edinburgh Council

Edinburgh, Thursday 27 May 2021

Present:-

LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable Frank Ross

COUNCILLORS

Robert C Aldridge
Scott Arthur
Gavin Barrie
Eleanor Bird
Chas Booth
Claire Bridgman
Mark A Brown
Graeme Bruce
Steve Burgess
Lezley Marion Cameron
Jim Campbell
Kate Campbell
Mary Campbell
Maureen M Child
Nick Cook
Gavin Corbett
Cammy Day
Alison Dickie
Denis C Dixon
Phil Duggart
Karen Doran
Scott Douglas
Catherine Fullerton
Neil Gardiner
Gillian Gloyer
George Gordon
Ashley Graczyk
Joan Griffiths
Ricky Henderson
Derek Howie
Graham J Hutchison

Andrew Johnston
David Key
Callum Laidlaw
Kevin Lang
Lesley Macinnes
Melanie Main
John McLellan
Amy McNeese-Mechan
Adam McVey
Claire Miller
Max Mitchell
Joanna Mowat
Rob Munn
Gordon J Munro
Hal Osler
Ian Perry
Susan Rae
Alasdair Rankin
Lewis Ritchie
Cameron Rose
Neil Ross
Jason Rust
Stephanie Smith
Alex Staniforth
Mandy Watt
Susan Webber
Iain Whyte
Donald Wilson
Norman J Work
Ethan Young
Louise Young

1 Chair

In the absence of the Lord Provost, the Depute Convener took the Chair.

2 Emergency Motion by Councillor Doggart – Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

The Depute Convener ruled that the emergency motion submitted by Councillor Doggart in terms of Standing Order 17 not be considered as a matter of urgency and submitted to the next meeting of the Council for consideration.

3 Emergency Motion by Councillor Howie – Unlawful Discharges to Care Homes

The Depute Convener ruled that the emergency motion submitted by Councillor Howie in terms of Standing Order 17 not be considered as a matter of urgency and submitted to the next meeting of the Council for consideration.

4 Order of Business – Motion by Councillor Jim Campbell

The following motion by Councillor Jim Campbell had been submitted in terms of Standing Order 10.1(b)

“Council:

- 1) Agrees that item 6.2 on the agenda, Vacation of Office should be taken as the last item of Council business today.
- 2) Agrees that item 7.3 on the agenda, Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board (EIJB) – Contract Living Wage Update be taken before Item 7.2 Revenue Budget Framework 2021/26 Update so that Council can be assured that the EIJB Contract Living wage pressure places no prior call on the Revenue Budget before considering the options set out in the update.”

Motion

To agree that item 7.3 on the agenda, Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board (EIJB) – Contract Living Wage Update be taken before Item 7.2 Revenue Budget Framework 2021/26 Update so that Council can be assured that the EIJB Contract Living wage pressure places no prior call on the Revenue Budget before considering the options set out in the update.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Whyte

Amendment

To deal with Items 7.2 and 7.3 on the agenda in the order they were listed on the agenda.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	26 votes
For the amendment	-	36 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Lang, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Osler, Ritchie, Rose, Neil Ross, Rust, Smith, Webber, Whyte and Louise Young.

For the amendment: Councillors Arthur, Bird, Booth, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Howie, Key, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rae, Rankin, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work and Ethan Young.)

Decision

To approve the amendment by Councillor McVey.

Point of Order

Councillor Whyte raised a point of order, whether or not in terms of Standing Order 22.15, the 40 minute rule would apply to Item 7.2 on the agenda (Revenue Budget Framework 2021/26 Update)

The Depute Convener confirmed that the 40 minute rule would apply.

5 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Council of 29 April 2021 as a correct record.

6 Leader's Report

The Leader presented his report to the Council. He commented on:

- Update on COVID emergency progress
- Congratulations to Hibernian Football Club and tributes to businesses and fans in the Leith area

The following questions/comments were made:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Councillor Whyte | - Recent election and work of staff |
| | - Congratulations to Councillor Webber |
| | - Emergency motions on agenda |
| Councillor Main | - Scottish Parliament results – Climate change – extension of free bus travel for under 18's |
| Councillor Aldridge | - Scottish Parliament elections - Congratulations to Councillor Webber and former Councillor Alison Johnstone |
| | - Spaces for People measures – responses to constituent's e-mails |
| Councillor Day | - Scottish Parliament elections - Congratulations to Councillor Webber and Foyso Choudhury |
| | - Ongoing Local Government pay award discussions |
| Councillor McNeese-Mechan | - Disappointment of the Royal Military Tattoo not going ahead this summer and support for the City's Festivals |
| Councillor Johnston | - Accounts Commission for Scotland - financial outlook for Scotland's Councils |
| Councillor Staniforth | - BBC report into Scottish libraries remaining closed – opening Edinburgh's Libraries |
| Councillor Osler | - Libraries re-opening |
| Councillor Arthur | - Local Government pay award - COSLA |
| Councillor Kate Campbell | - Welcome announcement by Forthports announcement of investment in renewable energy |

Councillor Doggart	-	Mental Welfare Commission hospital discharges
Councillor Laidlaw	-	Holyrood elections – GME secondary school for Edinburgh - consultation
Councillor Munro	-	Financial settlement for Edinburgh – lowest per capita settlement of the major cities in Scotland
Councillor Cameron	-	Progress made towards the replacement of the Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion
Councillor Burgess	-	Lothian Pensions Fund – Investment in Royal Dutch Shell and other oil and gas companies
Councillor Dickie	-	New Cabinet Secretary for Education’s announcement - proposals for new GME

7 Review of Appointments to Committees, Boards and Joint Boards for 2021/2022

The Council was invited to appoint members to Committees, Boards and Joint Boards for the municipal year 2021/2022.

Motion

- 1) To agree to appoint Councillor McVey as Leader of the Council and Councillor Day as Depute Leader of the Council.
- 2) To agree to retain the appointments to committees based on the current political breakdown and retains committee membership as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 3) To agree to retain current appointments as outlined in Appendix 2 of the report, with the following changes:
 - a) Councillor Gordon Munro from Housing Homelessness and Fair Work Committee and replace with Councillor Cammy Day.
 - b) To remove Councillor Gordon Munro from Governance Risk and Best Value Committee and replace with Councillor Scott Arthur.
- 4) To agree to retain current membership as outlined in Appendix 4 of the report.
- 5) To agree to appoint Councillor Ricky Henderson as Convener outlined in Appendix 4 of the report.

- 6) To agree to retain current appointments to the Licensing Board and Lothian Joint Valuation Board outlined in Appendix 4 of the report.
- 7) To agree the appointment of John Anzani (member representative) and Richard Lamont (employer representative) as members of the Pensions Committee.

- moved by Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Fullerton

Amendment 1

To make the following changes to Committee and Board Membership:

- a) To appoint Councillor Hutchison to replace Councillor Webber on the Transport and Environment Committee.
- b) To appoint Councillor Webber to replace Councillor Hutchison on the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee.
- c) To appoint Councillor Jim Campbell to replace Councillor Webber on the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- d) To appoint Councillor Whyte to the Licensing Board as Councillor Cook had already resigned.

- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Whyte

Amendment 2

Council recognises that the Edinburgh Party of Independent Councillors (EPIC) meet the criteria as set by the Electoral Commission to be recognised as a political group as described in the paper tabled by the Chief Executive at Council on 21st November 2019, and as such should be proportionally represented on committees as described in that paper here [Item 7.1 - Appointments to Committee and Outside Organisations.pdf \(edinburgh.gov.uk\)](#)

Council therefore agrees to delete recommendation 1.2(c) in the report by the Chief Executive and replaces it with:

“1.2 (c)

- i) Increase the Policy and Sustainability Committee number by one member to accommodate an EPIC member.
- ii) Remove 1 Green member and appoint one member from EPIC to the Culture and Communities, Education, Children and Families, Finance and Resources, Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work, Transport and Environment,

Governance Risk and Best Value, Planning Committees and Development Management Sub-Committee.

- iii) Maintain the current membership numbers of the Regulatory and Personnel Appeals Committees and Licensing Sub-Committee.

And as a consequence of this amendment appoints the undernoted Members to the following committees:

Policy and Sustainability Committee - Councillor Gavin Barrie

Culture and Communities Councillor - Gavin Barrie

Education, Children and Families - Councillor Gavin Barrie

Finance and Resources Councillor - Claire Bridgman Housing,

Homelessness and Fair Work Councillor - Lewis Ritchie

Transport and Environment - Councillor Gavin Barrie

Governance Risk and Best Value Councillor - Claire Bridgman

Planning Committees Councillor - Lewis Ritchie

Development Management Sub-Committee - Councillor Lewis Ritchie

- moved by Councillor Barrie, seconded by Councillor Bridgman

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12) Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12) Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to Amendment 1.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	34 votes
For Amendment 1 (as adjusted)	-	25 votes
Abstentions	-	1

(For the motion (as adjusted): Councillors Arthur, Bird, Booth, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry, Rae, Rankin, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work and Ethan Young.

For Amendment 1 (as adjusted): Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Doggart, Douglas, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Lang, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Osler, Ritchie, Rose, Neil Ross, Rust, Smith, Webber, Whyte and Louise Young.

Abstentions: Councillor Munro.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey (the appointments to Committees, Boards and Joint Boards for 2021/22 are detailed in Appendices 1 to 3 of this minute):

- 1) To agree to appoint Councillor McVey as Leader of the Council and Councillor Day as Depute Leader of the Council.
- 2) To agree to retain the appointments to committees based on the current political breakdown and retains committee membership as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 3) To agree to retain current appointments as outlined in Appendix 2 of the report, with the following changes:
 - a) To remove Councillor Gordon Munro from Housing Homelessness and Fair Work Committee and replace with Councillor Cammy Day.
 - b) To remove Councillor Gordon Munro from Governance Risk and Best Value Committee and replace with Councillor Scott Arthur.
- 4) To agree to retain current membership as outlined in Appendix 4 of the report.
- 5) To agree to appoint Councillor Ricky Henderson as Convener outlined in Appendix 4 of the report.
- 6) To agree to retain current appointments to the Licensing Board and Lothian Joint Valuation Board outlined in Appendix 4 of the report.
- 7) To agree the appointment of John Anzani (member representative) and Richard Lamont (employer representative) as members of the Pensions Committee.
- 8) To appoint Councillor Hutchison to replace Councillor Webber on the Transport and Environment Committee.
- 9) To appoint Councillor Webber to replace Councillor Hutchison on the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee.

- 10) To appoint Councillor Jim Campbell to replace Councillor Webber on the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 11) To appoint Councillor Whyte to the Licensing Board as Councillor Cook had already resigned.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

8 Vacation of Office

Decision

To note that the report had been withdrawn.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

9 Motion by Councillor Mary Campbell Deferred Start Funding - referral from the Education, Children and Families Committee

a) Deputation – Give Them Time Campaign Group

A written deputation was presented on behalf of the Give Them Time Campaign Group.

The deputation asked the Council to fund all discretionary deferrals this year, with specific consideration of the added impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent restrictions as evidenced by multiple research publications (4)(5)(6)(7).

They further asked the Council to consider changing their policy in advance of the law change to ensure a child centred, transparent, consistent approach to meeting the health, wellbeing and education needs of all children aged 4yrs old living in Edinburgh who needed more time in an Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) setting before transitioning to school at age 5yrs old.

The deputation urged the Council to allow children time to thrive, develop and learn in the environment most conducive to meeting their needs and let parents use their legal responsibilities and rights to decide this.

b) Referral from the Education, Children and Families Committee

The Education, Children and Families Committee had referred a motion by Councillor Mary Campbell to the City of Edinburgh Council as the terms of the motion called for expenditure which was not included in the annual revenue budget for financial year 2021/2022.

Motion

To agree to the request that for the August 2021 intake, the unique circumstances of the year past and the level of applications for deferrals from parents concerned that their children had not been able to develop as well with so much time spent out of nursery; and so agree to fund any non-granted requests from those families who had already applied for term 2021/2022 and to note that this number would be known for certain after the appeals committee met on 13 May 2021 but would be fewer than 55 children.

- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

- 1) To agree to the request that for the August 2021 intake, the unique circumstances of the year past and the level of applications for deferrals from parents concerned that their children had not been able to develop as well with so much time spent out of nursery; and so agree to fund any non-granted requests from those families who had already applied for term 2021/2022 and to note that this number would be known for certain after the appeals committee met on 13 May 2021 but would be fewer than 55 children.
- 2) To agree to allocate revenue funding of £169k in 2021/22, £270k in 2022/23 and £100k in 2023/24 to support all deferral applications. Funding to be allocated from the additional £20.150m available to address budget pressures, anticipated savings delivery shortfalls and member priorities in 2021/22 and 2022/23.
- 3) To assume that the Scottish Government will bring forward legislation and funding from the 2023/24 school year.
- 4) To recognise that there may be a significant increase in demand when funding is made available.

- moved by Councillor Laidlaw, seconded by Councillor Hutchison

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an amendment to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Perry:

- 1) To agree to the request that for the August 2021 intake, the unique circumstances of the year past and the level of applications for deferrals from parents concerned that their children had not been able to develop as well

with so much time spent out of nursery; and so agree to fund any non-granted requests from those families who had already applied for term 2021/2022 and to note that this number would be known for certain after the appeals committee met on 13 May 2021 but would be fewer than 55 children.

- 2) To agree to allocate revenue funding of £169k in 2021/22, £270k in 2022/23 and £100k in 2023/24 to support all deferral applications. Funding to be allocated from the additional £20.150m available to address budget pressures, anticipated savings delivery shortfalls and member priorities in 2021/22 and 2022/23.
- 3) To assume that the Scottish Government will bring forward legislation and funding from the 2023/24 school year.
- 4) To recognise that there may be a significant increase in demand when funding is made available

(References: Education, Children and Families Committee of 18 May 2021; referral from the Education, Children and Families Committee, submitted.)

Declarations of Interest

Councillor McVey declared a non-financial interest in the above item as the parent of a child contained in the statistics.

10 Revenue Budget Framework 2021/26 Update - referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on the Revenue Budget Framework 2021/26 to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision on funding available.

Following the receipt of significant additional COVID-related funding late in 2020/21, up to £20.150m was available to address budget pressures, anticipated savings delivery shortfalls and member priorities in 2021/22 and 2022/23.

Motion

Council notes that when the Council Budget was agreed in February 2021 the final local government settlement was not known in full. At the time we set a prudent Budget in the knowledge that we would have other decisions to make following clarification of the final settlement. That final settlement was more than we had anticipated which has allowed us to make investments to meet commitments and to ensure that we address poverty, well-being and the climate challenge.

Council therefore agrees to invest in the following:

Roads and Pavements Infrastructure – recognising the impact of prolonged winter weather the coalition will invest an additional £2m extra in repairs to our roads and pavements network including local residential areas and an extra £4m to improve surface condition for all users – those walking, wheeling, cycling, using public transport and motorists,

Street Cleaning and gritting – we will invest £300k to improve both street cleansing operations and winter gritting making our streets cleaner and safer,

Communal Bins – we will invest £1.100m in this programme to improve organisation and capacity in our communal bins across the city bringing forward welcome investment to improve the service and address the funding shortfall in delivering the programme in full,

Public Conveniences - the £450k Council has already approved to invest will ensure a temporary network of public conveniences at key locations, meeting accessibility needs in premier parks and other locations where people need facilities,

Estate Energy Reduction – we will invest another £500k to improve council estate carbon performance to meet the climate challenge by identifying shovel ready projects,

Carbon net zero engagement – £700k funding to take forward citizen communication and engagement to bring about behaviour change assisting the city in reaching carbon net zero target,

EV Infrastructure – we will invest £250k to expand EV charging infrastructure for our fleet ensuring that as a Council we lead by making our vehicle fleet carbon zero,

Up Recycling – £200k invest to improve our recycling performance,

20-minute neighbourhoods – we're allocating £500k to drive forward the delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods, making it easier for people to get to and access the services they need in their community,

Food Growing – invest £130k recognising the increase in demand for local food growing opportunities this is investment to expand provision,

Looked after Children – we recognise the pressures of out of authority placements we will invest £1.5m to improve the service and help ensure vulnerable children are accommodated in authority wherever possible,

Children & Families Development officers – £124k investment to provide service for disabled children in terms of holiday provision and positive destinations,

Carers' Recovery Fund – It is important that we recognise the extra challenge for carers during the pandemic we will invest £250k in a fund providing additional support to carers,

Edinburgh Summer Festivals – invest £300k to support resumption of festivals this summer including support for local community festivals,

Books for libraries - we'll increase this year's allocation for new books in our libraries by £50k, improving choice and service to our residents,

Embedding Prevention and Community Engagement – £600k investment to improve delivery of prevention services through empowering frontline staff to coproduce service redesign across departments, reform current practice, and create a preventative service and community engagement model and develop a plan for wider roll out,

HR Diversity – invest £100k to embed diversity training in HR,

Taxi and Licence enforcement – invest £160k to meet demand and ensure robust enforcement,

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board – £2.5m funding to EIJB to address base budget pressures for social care,

Independent inquiries – £400k funding for these inquiries. They are important inquiries for this council and this funding is needed to bring these inquiries to their conclusion,

Place fees and charges reduced income – £559k to address issues with reduced income due to the Covid-19 pandemic changing behaviours and the impact on fees and charges.

Home to School Travel Demand – invest £600k to meet demand in this service while working to reshape and achieve savings,

Development and Business Services Loss of Income – invest £187k to cover loss of Planning, Building Services and Regulatory Services income,

Early Years Deferral - We will allocate up to £270k over the full academic year (two financial years) to offer the 40 nursery children who applied for deferral and were not among the 66 approved through application of appeal a funded place for another year due to lost time through COVID-related nursery closures.

All Ability Bike - Active travel is for everyone in our City. Work is ongoing to find a solution to ensure the service is still available and we're allocating £71k to help facilitate this and ensure our transport is inclusive.

In addition to these investments, further funding has been set aside to address the following;

Edinburgh Bike Hire Scheme – We recognise the popularity of the current scheme and seek to continue with a cost-effective and robust scheme fit for the future,

Trams Concessionary travel – Trams contribute to Edinburgh’s clean air and net zero strategy and will continue to press the Scottish Government to recognise this in its concessionary travel funding. We will continue dialogue with the Scottish Government on delivering free tram journeys for young people on the same terms as bus travel as we feel an integrated public transport system is key to Edinburgh’s future. If this is unfunded at a national level, we will look into the possibility of expanding free provision to young people in Edinburgh subject to affordability,

Homelessness – we recognise the pressure on the service in the past year due to Covid and that pressures are expected to exceed the additional £10m allocated in February’s budget. We also recognise that should legislative protections change as restrictions ease, there may be a requirement for even further resources to improve outcomes for temporary homeless accommodation. We will continue to make the case for additional resources equivalent to those allocated to other local authorities for homelessness support from IJB budgets. Following that process and depending on in-year position due to service demand, we will agree that left over monies can be used to meet the required supply to get the outcomes right for people finding themselves at risk of homelessness.

Employability for disabled people - to plug the gap left by the loss of the European Social Fund due to Brexit and the lack of a direct replacement fund from the UK government

- 1) Under the terms above, the Council therefore approves the revised budget for 2021/22 outlined in this motion and following Appendix.
- 2) Notes the proposed spending plans.

Appendix - Spending Profiles 2021/22 to 2024/25

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Projected funding gap per Budget Framework Update report to Finance and Resources Committee, 20 May 2021	0	0	50,200	65,200
Resources available for allocation	(21,000)	0	0	0
Changes to budget framework assumptions (if any), including additional savings				
Total	0	0	0	0
Proposed allocation of available resources, including future years' impacts (where applicable)				
Public Conveniences	450			
Roads and Pavements Infrastructure	6,000			
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	2,500			
Communal Bins	1,100			
Independent Inquiries	400			
Looked after Children	1,500			
C&F - Development Officers	124	124	124	124
Estate Energy Reduction	500			
Up Recycling	200	100	100	100
Carbon Net Zero Engagement	700			
EV Infrastructure	250			
Street Gritting and Cleansing	300	500	500	500
Embedding Prevention and Community Engagement	600	600		
HR Diversity	100			
Active Travel and 20 mins Neighbourhood	500	500	500	500
Carers' Recovery Fund	250			
Taxi and Licence Enforcement	160			
Home to School Transport - Travel Demand	600			
Place - Fees and Charges: Reduced Income	559			
Development and Business Services - Reduced Income	187			
Edinburgh's Summer Festivals	300			
Food Growing	130			
Homelessness	2,000			
Disability Employability	0	400		
Library Books	50			
Bike Scheme	800	500	500	500
Tram Concessions	500	500	500	500
Early Years Deferral	169	101		
All Abilities Cycling	71			
Total	21,000	3,325	2,224	2,224
Restated funding gap, taking account of above investment and/or savings	0	3,325	52,424	67,424

- moved by Councillor Munn, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Amendment 1

Council:

Recognises the significant financial challenges which lie ahead as the city recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, not least the formidable projected deficits for 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Welcomes the availability of an additional £21m of revenue funding across 2021/22 and 2022/23, but further recognises that in allocating this funding Council should seek as far as possible not to commit to recurring spending which will widen the projected deficit in future years.

Approves the implementation of the following proposals from the Conservative Budget Motion 2021-26 presented in February 2021: Strategic property and VfM service reviews £1m , and Health and Social Care Innovation £0.500m, all funded from the Spend to Save fund; Strategic Investment in Homelessness £1m funded from the City Strategic Investment Fund and a programme of workforce modernisation, in total delivering projected savings of £8.7m by 2025.

Agrees to allocate the available revenue funding as follows;

- 1) £0.450m to support the decision of Council on 29 April 2021 to provide additional temporary public toilets, thereby meeting accessibility needs in premier parks that require additional facilities. This funding will also be used to extend existing facility opening hours in peak footfall locations and further improve signage at locations where these facilities are available.
- 2) Acknowledging the need for the whistleblowing inquiries to be concluded and report back on their associated findings and recommendations, allocates an in-year provision in 2021/22 of £0.400m.
- 3) In support of the Deferred Start Funding allocates £0.539m to cover all deferral requests in the 2021/22 and 2022/23 school years. Assumes that the Scottish Government will introduce legislation and funding from the 2023/24 school year. Recognises the potential for increased demand when funding is made available.
- 4) Recognising the significant budgetary pressures faced by the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, agrees to allocate: £3m to Homelessness and the management of recurring COVID pressures, noting the investment in prevention elsewhere in this motion and engaging with the Scottish Government to seek fair funding for Edinburgh; £2.5m to the residential and secure budgets within Looked After Children, noting that financial flexibilities

are still available and being considered and thus could be used to meet further pressures; and £2.5m to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board while engaging with the Scottish Government and NHS Lothian regarding fair funding for demography, living wage and delayed discharge improvements.

- 5) Noting the Red rated approved savings within the main report which are unlikely to be delivered, allocates; £0.187m to the Development and Business Services Operating Model, £0.900m to the Transport Review – Travel Demand and £0.563m to Fees and Charges – 5% uplift, instructing the Chief Executive to develop options to deliver these savings from year 2 onwards.
- 6) From the suggested investment options laid out in the report; allocates; £0.500m to Edinburgh's Summer Festivals, £0.250m to EV charging, £1.200m to Prevention and Community Engagement – Reforming the way we work, £1.800m to Increase Footway and Cycleway Gritting and Cleansing, £0.250m to a Carers' Fund and £2.3m to the Edinburgh Bike Hire Scheme subject to presentation of a full business case.
- 7) A total investment of £6.5m in Improvements to Roads and Pavements including funding for a pilot of the Road Mole – Right First Time pothole repair system, and an additional investment of £0.300m in dropped kerbs.
- 8) From the spending priorities identified in the Conservative Budget Motion 2021-26, allocates; £0.100m for establishment of a sports fund including £0.030m to support the Spartans alternative school, £0.025m for a modular housing feasibility study to help tackle homelessness, £0.500m to establish a Business and Economy Support Fund, £0.300m for a Staff Support Fund and £0.800m in Parks and Greenspace infrastructure.
- 9) Recognising the unique challenges facing the City Centre in order to ensure safety and cleanliness, and avoid overcrowding as citizens and visitors return, allocates £0.250m to support the City Centre.
- 10) Acknowledging the scale of the financial challenges which lie ahead, allocates the remaining £0.286m to the Council's General Reserve.
- 11) Notes the risk of a funding gap in relation to the Communal Bin Review and requests a further detailed report on estimated financial implications following outcome of the Zero Waste Scotland funding application.

Appendix

	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000
Projected funding gap per Budget Framework Update report to Finance and Resources Committee, 20 May 2021	0	0	50,200	65,200
Resources available for allocation	(19,519)	(1,481)	0	0
Changes to budget framework assumptions (if any), including additional savings				
<u>Contributions from reserves (subject to business cases to Finance & Resources)</u>				
Spend to Save Fund (Strategic Property and VfM Reviews; HSC Innovation)	(1,500)			
City Strategic Investment Fund (Homelessness)	(500)	(500)		
<u>Investment from reserves</u>				
Strategic Property Review and VfM Service Reviews	1,000			
Health and Social Care Innovation	500			
Homelessness Strategic Investment	500	500		
<u>Additional Savings</u>				
VfM Reviews - Phase 1 (net) Savings		(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)
Workforce Modernisation	(600)	(1,200)	(1,200)	(1,200)
Total	(600)	(2,700)	(2,700)	(2,700)
Proposed allocation of available resources, including future years' impacts (where applicable)				
Homelessness	2,000	1,000	0	0
Looked after children	1,500	1,000	0	0
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	2,500	0	0	0
Development and Business Services Operating Model	187	0	0	0
Fees and Charges 5% Uplift	563	0	0	0
Transport Review - Travel Demand	900	0	0	0
Public Toilets	450	0	0	0
Whistleblowing Inquiry	400	0	0	0
Deferred Start Funding	169	270	100	0
Edinburgh Summer Festivals	500	0	0	0
EV Charging	250	0	0	0
Prevention and Community Engagement - Reforming the way we work	600	600	0	0

Increased Footway and Cycleway Gritting and Cleansing	300	500	500	500
Carers' Fund	250	0	0	0
Edinburgh Bike Hire Scheme	800	500	500	500
Investment in Roads and Pavement repairs including Road Mole Pilot	6,500	0	0	0
Dropped Kerbs	150	150	0	0
Modular Housing Feasibility Study	25	0	0	0
Sports Fund - Including support for Spartans alternative school (£30k)	100	0	0	0
Business and Economy Fund	500	0	0	0
Staff Support Fund	300	0	0	0
Parks and Greenspace Infrastructure	800	0	0	0
City Centre - A safe and clean recovery	250	0	0	0
Increase in General Reserves	125	161	0	0
Total	20,119	4,181	1,100	1,000
Restated funding gap, taking account of above investment and/or savings	0	0	48,600	63,500

- moved by Councillor Hutchison, seconded by Councillor Johnston

Amendment 2

Council:

- 1) Notes the availability of additional resources since the budget was set on 18 February 2021.
- 2) Agrees that a priority for additional resources and flexibilities should be supporting a Green Recovery from the pandemic – that is, actions which set out a pathway from the Coronavirus crisis to a Zero Carbon future for Edinburgh; and, therefore, agrees the priorities set out in the appendix to this amendment under Green Recovery totalling £3.3m, over 2 years, including:
 - Citizen engagement in tackling the climate emergency in the year of COP26
 - Developing the city heat and energy strategy
 - Delivering on plans to energy retrofit council buildings
 - Improving recycling in schools and recovery of materials for recycling
 - Extending Electric Vehicle infrastructure

- Encouraging more food growing
 - Parks and water-space: blue-green infrastructure recovery
 - Developing 20-minute neighbourhoods and active travel
- 3) Agrees further investment in a range of services as detailed in appendix 1, including:
- Continued funding for the All Ability Bike Centre for the current year before integration within the wider bike hire contract.
 - Early action on preventing people falling into poverty
 - Roads and footways: repairing, gritting and clearing
 - Investing in the library service
 - Supporting carers, disabled people and holiday schemes for children with additional needs.
- 4) Agrees to fund currently-sought P1 deferrals from children under five years of age in the upcoming school year, August 2021 - June 2022; and includes a contingency for funding it again August 2022 – June 2023, believing, however, that Edinburgh should seek to be a fully-funded pilot for that year before full implementation in August 2023.
- 5) Recognises the need for service investment and the deficits in council budgets in 2023-24 onwards and therefore agrees to assume use of full council tax flexibility in 2022-23 to improve funding sustainability.
- 6) Agrees to put on hold use of loan fund flexibility for 2021-22 but to include it as a contingency from 2022-23 onwards, while restating the council's preference instead to have available revised terms for PPP debt which would support further Green Recovery investment towards the 2030 Net Zero Carbon target; without costs being incurred until post-2030.
- 7) Recognises pressures on homelessness budgets for temporary accommodation and therefore allocates additional transitional funding of £2m for two years, as well further adding to the investment of £994k agreed in February; however, also believes that it is not sustainable for the council to continue to transfer increasing sums to private sector B&B hostels and other commercial accommodation providers and therefore reform to reduce temporary accommodation demand must continue; and, further, calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that central funding to Edinburgh's homelessness services is at least equivalent to support given to councils

which fund homelessness services through health and social care mobilisation plans.

- 8) Includes an allowance for equalising the provision of free travel between bus and tram but re-states its call for the Scottish Government to fund tram concessions in the same way as bus concessions.

Appendix

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Projected funding gap per Budget Framework Update report to Finance and Resources Committee, 20 May 2021	0	0	50,200	65,200
Resources available for allocation*	(19,295)	(1,705)	0	0
Changes to budget framework assumptions (if any), including additional savings				
Council Tax, 2022/23 (increase to 4.79%)	0	(5,400)	(5,550)	(5,700)
Potential use of Loans Fund and/or PPP financial flexibility	0	(18,000)	0	0
Parking reform	0	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
Total	0	(25,400)	(7,550)	(7,700)
Proposed allocation of available resources, including future years' impacts (where applicable)				
Public conveniences	450	0	0	0
Independent Inquiries	400	0	0	0
Nursery deferrals	169	270	101	0
Green Recovery: Citizen engagement	310	0	0	0
Green Recovery: City Heat and Energy Strategy	345	0	0	0
Green Recovery: Sustainability Team	200	180	0	0
(offset by receipt of assumed external funding)	(200)	(180)	0	0
Green Recovery: estate retrofit phase 2	500	0	0	0
Green Recovery: recycling in schools	150	0	0	0
Green Recovery: recycling recovery	200	200	200	200
Green Recovery: EV infrastructure	250	0	0	0
Green Recovery: food growing	150	0	0	0
Green Recovery: blue green infrastructure recovery	0	160	0	0
Green Recovery: 20 minute neighbourhoods	500	500	500	500
Tram extend concession to U-19s	500	500	500	500
Tram extend concession to U-22s	576	700	800	800
Bike hire scheme	700	400	400	400
All Ability Bike Centre yr 1 support then rolled into wider	71	0	0	0

bike hire				
Homelessness prevention	0	100	0	0
Homelessness transition costs	1,000	1,000	0	0
Looked after services	2,100	0	0	0
Health and social care	2,500	2,500	0	0
Early action on poverty	600	600	0	0
Disability / employability services	0	400	0	0
Positive destination and Holiday Programme posts	124	124	124	124
Carers recovery fund	250	0	0	0
Allowance for savings shortfalls	1,200	301	0	0
Communal bin roll out	800	0	0	0
Critical repairs on footways and key roads/junctions	3,900	0	0	0
Footway and cycleway gritting and clearing	300	500	500	500
Community transport	500	500	500	500
Festivals	300	0	0	0
HR project	100	0	0	0
Libraries	350	350	0	0
Green COVID Recovery Contingency through debt review	0	18,000	0	0
Total	19,295	27,105	3,625	3,524
Restated funding gap, taking account of above investment and/or savings	0	0	46,275	61,024

- moved by Councillor Corbett, seconded by Councillor Booth

Amendment 3

Council:

Regrets the re-election of an SNP minority Scottish Government and the likely continuation of restricted funding of local authorities leading to severe cuts in service provision and council jobs in future.

Notes the assumption of a 3% annual rise in Council Tax, rather than the previously assumed rise of 4.79%, with a resulting loss of income of £5.4m for 2022/23 and the compounding effect of this in subsequent years.

Notes that, as a result of Liberal Democrat negotiations on the Scottish Government's Budget, the £60m of Education catch-up resource will result in an allocation of £4.239m for Edinburgh. A further £1.2m is anticipated to come from the £20m of additional Pupil Equity Fund funding.

Notes continued failures to meet residents' expectations for performance levels in path, pavement and road repairs, gully cleaning, gritting, snow clearing, street sweeping and waste collection services, despite the efforts of Council staff who are continually expected to do more with less.

Notes the need for additional funding of temporary accommodation for homeless people following the lack of support from the Scottish Government to fund expenditure and therefore instructs the Council Leader to lead discussions with the Scottish Government to ensure that a consistent Scotland-wide approach is adopted in funding for homelessness services.

Notes with concern the recurring EIJB revenue deficit and the impact this will have in terms of cuts to service levels and increased delays in care packages and therefore instructs the Council Leader to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy to ask the Scottish Government to provide additional funding for the EIJB.

Notes the absence of a comprehensive savings programme, needed to address the significant revenue funding gaps identified for years 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Notes that not all libraries, community centres, public toilets and publicly accessible council offices have been re-opened.

Notes that £21m is available to address budget pressures, anticipated savings delivery shortfalls and member priorities in 2021/22 and 2022/23.

Seeks to use this sum to help in the building of a fair and green recovery along with meaningful community engagement, consultation and participation.

Specific Revenue proposals for 2021/22 & 2022/23

Council agrees the following additional expenditure:

- 1) £7.5m for paths, pavements and roads infrastructure, including dropped kerbs;
- 2) £800k to improve footway and cycleway gritting and cleansing;
- 3) £440k to fund deferral of school starts;
- 4) £1.2m to reverse the cut to the Devolved School Management budget made in February;
- 5) £400k to improve school playgrounds;
- 6) £500k for a Carers' Recovery Fund;
- 7) £250k to subsidise school lets for youth & community sports and leisure groups;
- 8) £200k to re-open community centres more quickly;
- 9) £150k to bring forward implementation of pedestrian crossings and other road safety measures;

- 10) £590k to reduce CO2 emissions from Council buildings & improve recycling in primary schools;
- 11) £200k to maintain the Council's Sustainability team;
- 12) £250k to help electrify the Council's commercial vehicle fleet;
- 13) £920k to continue the Council's Bike Hire Scheme;
- 14) £700k to modernise the Council's Library software;
- 15) £450k for temporary public toilets in parks;
- 16) £400k for the Whistleblowing Inquiry;
- 17). £3m to support homeless people with temporary accommodation and to prevent people at risk of homelessness from losing their homes;
- 18) £3.2m to ensure that Looked After Children are provided with suitable residential school placements and secure placements;
- 19) £2.5m to help the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board to meet its revenue funding deficit for the current year; and
- 20) £1.65m to meet anticipated delivery shortfalls in current year approved savings for Planning, Building Standards and Regulatory Services, Place Fees and Charges and Home to School Transport.

The need for a Savings Programme for 2023/24 and 2024/25

Council:

Recognises that the absence of a comprehensive programme of recurring savings, needed to address the significant revenue funding gaps identified for years 2023/24 and 2024/25, may lead to significant cuts to frontline Council services and the jobs of staff employed to deliver them.

Recognises that identifying and implementing a plan of recurring savings may take 12 to 18 months before any savings may be realised and that work on this must start immediately.

Agrees therefore to remove the self-imposed policy restrictions of the Administration which require the in-house provision of existing services and an expensive commitment to avoiding compulsory redundancies.

Agrees instead to empower senior officers to develop a savings plan for consideration in the Autumn of 2021 centred on a programme of efficiencies and

evidence-based Best Value service reviews with a view to delivering significant recurring revenue savings.

Appendix – Liberal Democrat Group Budget 2021-22 Council Budget Proposals

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Projected funding gap per Budget Framework Update report to Finance and Resources Committee, 20 May 2021	0	0	50,200	65,200
	(20,020)	(980)	0	0
Changes to budget framework assumptions (if any), including additional savings				
<i>Changes to Redeployment policy</i>	(600)	(1,200)	(1,200)	(1,200)
<i>Savings arising from empowering Council management to seek and implement -</i>				
<i>1) an efficiencies programme</i>		(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
<i>2) Evidence-based best value service reviews</i>		(1,500)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Total	(600)	(3,700)	(7,200)	(7,200)
Proposed allocation of available resources, including future years' impacts (where applicable)				
Paths, pavements and roads infrastructure, including dropped kerbs	6,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
Footway and cycleway gritting and cleansing	300	500	500	500
Extra funding for deferral of school starts	170	270	100	
Reversing the cut to school budgets	600	600	600	600
Improvements to school playgrounds	400			
Carers' Recovery Fund	500			
Fund to subsidise school lets for youth & community sports and leisure groups	250			
Re-open community centres more quickly	200			
Bring forward implementation of pedestrian crossings and other road safety measures;	150			
Reducing Council emissions & improving recycling	590			
Sustainability team	200			
Electrification of the Council fleet	250			
Bike Hire Scheme	460	460	460	460
Library software investment	350	350		
Temporary public toilets	450			
Whistleblowing Inquiry	400			
Budget Pressures				
Homelessness	3000			
Looked-After Children - Residential and Secure	2200	1000		
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	2500			
Approved Savings - anticipated delivery shortfalls				
Development and Business Services Operating	187			

Model				
Fees and Charges (Place)	563			
Transport Review (Travel Demand)	900			
Total	20,620	4,680	3,160	3,060
Restated funding gap, taking account of above investment and/or savings	0	0	46,160	61,060

- moved by Councillor Neil Ross, seconded by Councillor Aldridge

Voting

First Vote

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion	-	27 votes
For Amendment 1	-	17 votes
For Amendment 2	-	9 votes
For Amendment 3	-	6 votes
Abstentions	-	3

(For the Motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rankin, Watt, Wilson, Work and Ethan Young.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.

For Amendment 2: Councillors Booth, Burgess, Mary Campbell, Corbett, Graczyk, Main, Miller, Rae and Staniforth.

For Amendment 3: Councillors Aldridge, Gloyer, Lang, Osler, Neil Ross and Louise Young.

Abstentions: Councillors Barrie, Bridgman and Ritchie.)

There being no overall majority, Amendment 3 fell and a second vote was taken between the Motion and Amendments 1 and 2.

Voting

Second Vote

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion	-	27 votes
For Amendment 1	-	17 votes
For Amendment 2	-	9 votes
Abstentions	-	8

(For the Motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rankin, Watt, Wilson, Work and Ethan Young.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.

For Amendment 2: Councillors Booth, Burgess, Mary Campbell, Corbett, Graczyk, Main, Miller, Rae and Staniforth.

Abstentions: Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Gloyer, Lang, Osler, Neil Ross and Louise Young.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Munn.

(References: Finance and Resources Committee of 20 May 2021; referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Bruce, Cameron, Dixon, Osler and Staniforth declared a non-financial interest in the above item as members of Edinburgh Leisure.

Councillors Bird, Brown and Gordon declared a non-financial interest in the above item as members of Spartan Community Football Academy.

Councillor Macinnes declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Chair of Transport for Edinburgh.

Councillors Doran, Laidlaw and Miller declared a non-financial interest in the above item as members of Transport for Edinburgh.

CHAIR

During consideration of the above item, the Lord Provost resumed the chair.

11 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board - Contract Living Wage Update - referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board – Contract Living Wage Uplift to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration.

Decision

To note that any shortfall in funding could result in a call on Council resources of up to £3.5m in 2021/22 and up to £6.6m from 2022/23.

(References: Finance and Resources Committee of 20 May 2021; referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

12 20 West Shore Road, Granton, Edinburgh – Proposed Ground Lease Acquisition and New Lease - referral from the Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee had referred a report on 20 West Shore Road, Granton, Edinburgh – Proposed Ground Lease Acquisition and New Lease to the City of Edinburgh Council for approval to acquire the ground lease interest, and to subsequently lease the property to Edinburgh Palette.

Decision

- 1) To approve the purchase of the ground lease interest in the property at 20 West Shore Road.
- 2) To agree the use of Prudential Borrowing to fund the purchase.
- 3) To approve a 15-year lease of the property to Edinburgh Palette on the terms outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Resources and on other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director.

(References: Finance and Resources Committee of 20 May 2021; referral from the Finance and Resources Committee, submitted.)

13 Clean Air Day – Motion by Councillor Macinnes

The following motion by Councillor Macinnes was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Council:

Acknowledges that every year air pollution causes an estimated 36,000 deaths in the UK and that in Edinburgh there are around 200 deaths each year attributable to fine particulate matter. The World Health Organisation, the UK Government, Scottish Government and City of Edinburgh Council all recognise that air pollution is the largest environmental health risk we face today, with a particularly significant impact on children’s health.

Agrees that transport is a significant contributor to air pollution in Edinburgh.

Supports Clean Air Day , which is supported by Environmental Protection Scotland and Global Action Plan, on 17 June 2021 and encourages people to leave the car at home and to walk, cycle or take public transport if they are travelling to work or school, or work from home.

Recognises that choosing to walk, cycle or wheel or to use public transport is a highly effective way that individuals can actively contribute to improving Edinburgh’s air quality.

Suggests that residents on clean air day:

- 1) Avoid non-essential, polluting deliveries – instead, choose cargo bike deliveries, bundle orders, choose ‘click and collect,’ or shop locally.
- 2) Don’t idle – if people choose to drive, they should turn off their engine whenever the vehicle is stationary, particularly outside schools.
- 3) If people are intending to purchase a car please consider if a combination of sustainable transport choices, including electric bikes, public transport and shared car clubs, could substitute effectively for a car, or whether an electric car, particularly important for those with mobility issues, could be a better choice.

Is committed to improving air quality and encouraging better health and well-being through public transport, active travel and investment in electric vehicle infrastructure as part of a green recovery from COVID-19, and in tackling the climate emergency.

Asks that to mark Clean Air Day the Council uses evidencebased arguments on its social media channels to:

- 1) Improve public understanding of air pollution and its sources.
- 2) Build awareness of how air pollution affects our health.
- 3) Explain the easy actions we can all take to tackle air pollution on Clean Air Day and in the longer term, and thereby help to protect the environment, and our health and that of others.”

- moved by Councillor Macinnes, seconded by Councillor Doran

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Macinnes.

Declaration of Interests

The Lord Provost declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Trustee of Environmental Protection Scotland.

14 Proposal to Sign a Friendship Agreement between Edinburgh City and Kunming City (Yunnan Province) – Motion by The Lord Provost

The following motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Council notes:

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) has a long history of working with China and Yunnan in particular, dating back more than 100 years and continuing to this day.

RBGE is twinned with the Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB), and jointly established the Lijiang Field Station, the UK’s first joint scientific laboratory in China.

RBGE’s living plant collection contains more than 1,600 Chinese species – the largest collection of Chinese plants outside of China, and RBGE’s Chinese Hillside showcases Chinese plants to about 1 million visitors each year.

The fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the parties (COP15) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD) will be held in Kunming, Yunnan on the 11-24 October 2021.

The Edinburgh Declaration will be presented at COP15, and at the parallel 7th Global Biodiversity Summit of Local and Subnational Governments (co-organised by ICLEI and Kunming City government) in Kunming.

The Edinburgh Declaration itself focuses on the critical role of cities, regions and non-state governments for biodiversity conservation – and this itself directly aligns with the green recovery, addressing the biodiversity crisis, and enhancing city environments for the human health and well-being.

This international landmark event will focus on the agreement of a new global strategy for biodiversity for 2021-2030.

RBGE has requested that the City of Edinburgh considers signing a Friendship agreement with Kunming City in support of their ongoing work and that notes that signing a Friendship Agreement between Edinburgh and Kunming City before or at COP15 would add profile to the Edinburgh declaration, and Scotland's role in international biodiversity conservation.

This Friendship Agreement will provide impetus and visibility to the role of cities and subnational governments in addressing the biodiversity crisis and the climate emergency. The Friendship Agreement would bring additional profile to the Edinburgh Declaration, and also build on, strengthen (and celebrate) the existing collaborative links in biodiversity and conservation between RBGE and scientists in Yunnan.

A Friendship Agreement, linked to biodiversity conservation, and the Edinburgh Declaration aligns directly to the international priorities of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Nature Scot, and Scottish Government. It also aligns to the biodiversity conservation work of Edinburgh City Council.

Agrees to sign a Friendship agreement between City of Edinburgh and Kunming City and instructs the Lord Provost to work with RBGE to do so.”

Motion

Council notes:

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) has a long history of working with China and Yunnan in particular, dating back more than 100 years and continuing to this day.

RBGE is twinned with the Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB), and jointly established the Lijiang Field Station, the UK's first joint scientific laboratory in China.

RBGE's living plant collection contains more than 1,600 Chinese species – the largest collection of Chinese plants outside of China, and RBGE's Chinese Hillside showcases Chinese plants to about 1 million visitors each year.

The fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the parties (COP15) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD) will be held in Kunming, Yunnan on the 11-24 October 2021.

The Edinburgh Declaration will be presented at COP15, and at the parallel 7th Global Biodiversity Summit of Local and Subnational Governments (co-organised by ICLEI and Kunming City government) in Kunming.

The Edinburgh Declaration itself focuses on the critical role of cities, regions and non-state governments for biodiversity conservation – and this itself directly aligns with the green recovery, addressing the biodiversity crisis, and enhancing city environments for the human health and well-being.

This international landmark event will focus on the agreement of a new global strategy for biodiversity for 2021-2030.

RBGE has requested that the City of Edinburgh considers signing a Friendship agreement with Kunming City in support of their ongoing work and that notes that signing a Friendship Agreement between Edinburgh and Kunming City before or at COP15 would add profile to the Edinburgh declaration, and Scotland's role in international biodiversity conservation.

Council therefore agrees to continue working with Kunming City on addressing biodiversity and the climate crisis and explores any further role for the Council and wider City in helping facilitate this effort to help meet out climate and biodiversity obligations.

- moved by the Lord Provost, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Amendment 1

To delete all after paragraph 8 in the motion as originally submitted (which ends with "Scotland's role in international biodiversity conservation.")

To insert after paragraph 8:

Council notes, however, the continued enslavement and suppression of the Uyghur population in China and that Friendship Agreements with Chinese cities while the Chinese government continues to abuse human rights in this way may indicate a tacit endorsement of, or at least willingness to ignore, those abuses. This is especially true for Kunming City after a terrorist attack in Kunming City in 2014 was used as an excuse to further crack down on the Uyghur population of China even though there was little evidence the attack was religiously motivated and no evidence it was part of any wider organised terrorism.

Council further notes that Kunming City is home to the 14th Group Army, one of two group armies responsible for 'security' in Tibet and that Tibet has also been persecuted by the Chinese government.

Council therefore agrees to continue working with Kunming City on addressing biodiversity and the climate crisis but will not go further and sign any Friendship Agreement with any Chinese city whose municipal government does not condemn the Chinese government's human rights abuses – in particular towards religious minorities. If the municipal government of Kunming does choose to condemn those abuses then this position will be reviewed.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Main

Amendment 2

To take no action on the motion by the Lord Provost.

- moved by Councillor Rose, seconded by Councillor Douglas

Voting

In terms of Standing Order 24(4), the Lord Provost ruled that a first vote be taken for or against the motion for no action.

First Vote

The voting was as follows:

For the motion for no action	-	17 votes
Against the motion for no action	-	45 votes

(For the motion for no action: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Daggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.

Against the motion for no action: Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Booth, Bridgman, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gloyer, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Lang, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Osler, Perry, Rae, Rankin, Ritchie, Neil Ross, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work, Ethan Young and Louise Young.)

As the vote for no action was lost, a second vote between the motion by the Lord Provost and Amendment 1 by Councillor Staniforth was then taken.

Second Vote

For the Motion - 36 votes
For Amendment 1 - 26 votes

(For the motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Bridgman, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gloyer, Gordon, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Lang, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Osler, Perry, Rankin, Ritchie, Neil Ross, Watt, Wilson, Work, Ethan Young and Louise Young.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Booth, Brown, Bruce, Burgess, Jim Campbell, Mary Campbell, Cook, Corbett, Doggart, Douglas, Graczyk, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Main, McLellan, Miller, Mitchell, Mowat, Rae, Rose, Rust, Smith, Staniforth, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by the Lord Provost.

15 City of Edinburgh Council Rejects Photo ID for Voting – Motion by Councillor Staniforth

The following motion by Councillor Staniforth was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Council notes:

That in this year’s Queen’s Speech the Westminster government have set out their intention to introduce a photo ID requirement for voting.

That this would only apply to UK wide general elections and would therefore further separate the requirements for voting in Scottish local and parliamentary elections from those for Westminster elections creating confusion as to which paperwork is required for which election.

That following the 2019 UK general election only four people were convicted of voter fraud and that the electoral commission states, “the UK has very low levels of proven electoral fraud.” Therefore there is no need for any further measures to combat electoral fraud, especially if those measures risk voter disenfranchisement.

That there is no form of photo ID currently available for free in the UK and that therefore demanding photo ID to vote is demanding that people pay to vote.

That adding any further requirement to vote will disenfranchise some voters.

That those least likely to have photo ID, and therefore most likely to be disenfranchised by a photo ID requirement, are those under 30, families on low incomes and disabled people.

Council therefore:

Will reject any proposal to be involved in a pilot of photo ID for voting to the fullest extent the law allows.

Will refuse to administer photo ID for voting to the fullest extent the law allows.

Will respond to any consultation on photo ID for voting with an unequivocal statement against it.

Calls on the council leader to write to the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary stating Edinburgh City's objection to voter ID laws and to any law which will disenfranchise Edinburgh's citizens."

Motion

To approve the motion by Councillor Staniforth.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Main

Amendment

To take no action on the motion by Councillor Staniforth.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Doggart

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	44 votes
For the amendment	-	18 votes

(For the motion: Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Booth, Bridgman, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gloyer, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Lang, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Osler, Perry, Rae, Rankin, Neil Ross, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work, Ethan Young and Louise Young.

For the amendment: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Ritchie, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Staniforth.

16 Motion by Councillor Corbett - Bridges and Investment in Craiglockhart and Colinton Dells

a) Deputation – Craiglockhart Community Council

The deputation urged the Council to support the motion by Councillor Corbett.

They felt that:

- The Water of Leith was an iconic asset “a silver thread in a ribbon of green” flowing through Edinburgh;
- COVID 19 had increased the pressure on shared public outdoor space in Edinburgh;
- There was an urgent need for investment in Craiglockhart and Colinton Dells due to bridge and path failures over the last few years.

The deputation indicated that while the local community were willing to help through volunteering and fundraising, they hoped that despite tight budgets, the Council would show a similar commitment.

b) Motion by Councillor Corbett

The following motion by Councillor Corbett was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Council

- 1) Recognises that Craiglockhart and Colinton Dells are one of the best-loved green spaces in Edinburgh.
- 2) Recognises that restrictions on travel and guidance to exercise locally since March 2020 has hugely increased footfall demand in an area already popular between the Water of Leith Visitor Centre and the Colinton Tunnel.
- 3) Notes that for all of that time, and longer, whole sections of path have been closed off because of the closure of two bridges in poor condition – the “pipe” bridge at Katesmill and the bridge near Redhall Mill Weir; and that there is no plan to re-open them.

- 4) Notes the bridge failures are the most obvious sign, but not the only example, of the need for investment in the Dells area – also including paths, steps, walls and historic structures; and that the deteriorating condition of this valued blue-green corridor is causing increasing local anger.
- 5) Welcomes an offer by Water of Leith Conservation Trust, partnered by local community councils, to marshal a community fundraising effort to tackle the “pipe” bridge which has been closed longest; and that therefore agrees that the council should support that process by providing a detailed specification and cost.
- 6) Agrees that action by the City Council is long overdue and therefore agrees that a report be submitted to Culture and Communities Committee in two cycles with proposals to assess and address investment needs in the Dells, with the initial priority to replace the decking on the Redhall Mill Weir bridge to allow it to be re-opened.”

Motion

To approve the motion by Councillor Corbett.

- moved by Councillor Corbett, seconded by Councillor Rae

Amendment

- 1) To accept paragraphs 1 and 2 of the motion by Councillor Corbett.
- 2) To replace paragraph 3 of the motion with:

“Notes work has been ongoing to reopen the sections of path which have been closed off because of the closure of two bridges in poor condition – the “pipe” bridge at Katesmill and the bridge near Redhall Mill Weir; and welcomes the plans to reopen them from the Parks Capital Infrastructure programme.”
- 3) To replace paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of the motion with:
 - “4) Notes that a detailed report is scheduled to come to the Culture and Communities Committee in June with costs and dates for completion. The Scope of this report should include proposals to assess investment needs in the Dells, with the initial priority to replace the decking on the Redhall Mill Weir bridge to allow it to be re-opened.”

- moved by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor McNeese-Mechan

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the amendment was accepted as an amendment to the motion

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Corbett:

- 1) To recognise that Craiglockhart and Colinton Dells were one of the best-loved green spaces in Edinburgh.
- 2) To recognise that restrictions on travel and guidance to exercise locally since March 2020 had hugely increased footfall demand in an area already popular between the Water of Leith Visitor Centre and the Colinton Tunnel.
- 3) To note work had been ongoing to reopen the sections of path which had been closed off because of the closure of two bridges in poor condition – the “pipe” bridge at Katesmill and the bridge near Redhall Mill Weir; and welcome the plans to reopen them from the Parks Capital Infrastructure programme.
- 4) To note that a detailed report was scheduled to come to the Culture and Communities Committee in June with costs and dates for completion. The Scope of this report should include proposals to assess investment needs in the Dells, with the initial priority to replace the decking on the Redhall Mill Weir bridge to allow it to be re-opened.

17 Josh Taylor, Light-Welterweight World Champion – Motion by the Lord Provost

The Lord Provost ruled that the following item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency to allow the Council to give early consideration to this matter.

The following motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Council Notes:

The recent world beating performance of Josh Taylor in Las Vegas resulting in him becoming the undisputed light-welterweight world champion.

With his victory Taylor has become the second Scotsman to become an undisputed champion.

And the first British boxer to do so in the four belt era and only the fifth man to do so.

Recognises that Josh Taylor began his career at Meadowbank ABC before moving to Lochend ABC.

Congratulates Josh Taylor on this world beating performance and instructs the Lord Provost to recognise this in an appropriate manner.”

- moved by the Lord Provost, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Decision

To approve the motion by the Lord Provost.

18 Questions

The questions put by members to this meeting, written answers and supplementary questions and answers are contained in Appendix 5 to this minute.

19. Resolution to Consider in Private

The Council, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, were requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Motion

To agree to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

- moved by The Lord Provost, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Amendment

To hold any debate on the following item of business in public but retain the report in private.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Rust

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	34 votes
For the amendment	-	25 votes

(For the motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Bridgman, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Child, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Lang, Macinnes, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Munn, Munro, Osler, Perry, Ritchie, Neil Ross, Watt, Wilson, Work, Ethan Young and Louise Young.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Booth, Brown, Bruce, Burgess, Jim Campbell, Mary Campbell, Corbett, Doggart, Douglas, Graczyk, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Main, McLellan, Miller, Mitchell, Mowat, Rae, Rose, Rust, Smith, Staniforth, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by the Lord Provost

20 Senior Leadership Review

The Council, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, had agreed to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business for the reason that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Details were provided on a proposed new structure for the Council's Chief Officers, covering Executive Director and those roles currently designated as Head of Service.

Decision

Motion

- 1) To approve the proposed reorganisation and a new senior leadership structure, at Chief Officer level, including the resulting changes to job titles, from the Chief Executive in his statutory capacity as the Head of Paid Service.
- 2) To agree that this organisational review of the Chief Officer structure would be carried out in line with our agreed Organisational Change Policy and process.
- 3) To agree the permanent recruitment to the new post of Executive Director for Education and Children's Services to start immediately and, if required, to any vacant Service Director roles following completion of the organisational review. These appointments would be made in line with our Chief Officer Recruitment Policy and would be led by the Recruitment Committee, composed of the appropriate elected members.
- 4) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make the necessary amendments to Standing Orders, the Scheme of Delegation, Contract Standing Orders and other associated governance arrangements to reflect the

revised organisational structure set out within the report by the Chief Executive.

- 5) To note that the Chief Executive took an urgent decision under delegated authority to appoint an interim Executive Director for Communities and Families until such time as a permanent appointment could be made.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

- 1) To approve the proposed reorganisation and a new senior leadership structure, at Chief Officer level, including the resulting changes to job titles, from the Chief Executive in his statutory capacity as the Head of Paid Service.
- 2) To agree that this organisational review of the Chief Officer structure would be carried out in line with our agreed Organisational Change Policy and process.
- 3) To agree the permanent recruitment to the new post of Executive Director for Education and Children's Services to start immediately and, if required, to any vacant Service Director roles following completion of the organisational review. These appointments would be made in line with our Chief Officer Recruitment Policy and would be led by the Recruitment Committee, composed of the appropriate elected members.
- 4) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make the necessary amendments to Standing Orders, the Scheme of Delegation, Contract Standing Orders and other associated governance arrangements to reflect the revised organisational structure set out within the report by the Chief Executive.
- 5) To instruct the Chief Executive to further review the Senior Leadership Proposals and Structure, reporting back to Council in June 2022. The report should take account of any changes that became apparent from Covid-19 recovery and in any case should include commentary and suggestions for change based on the following points:
 - a) Comparison to other large UK Local Authorities' Senior Leadership structures;
 - b) The implications of a flatter Senior Leadership hierarchy, with a single level replacing the Executive Director and Service Director levels;
 - c) The potential for this to achieve larger budget savings;
 - d) How a greater prominence could be given to service delivery;

- e) The merits and de-merits of a Deputy Chief Executive;
- f) The rationale for the roles and responsibilities in the Education and Children’s Services Directorate as they have, or could, evolve;
- g) The opportunity to increase clarity over the roles and responsibilities of the senior leadership of the Health and Social Care Partnership and the Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board, in so far as the Council is able to do this, and respecting the outputs from national reviews and Government legislation or guidance.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	43 votes
For the amendment	-	16 votes

(For the motion: Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Booth, Bridgman, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Lang, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Osler, Perry, Rae, Ritchie, Neil Ross, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work, Ethan Young and Louise Young.

For the amendment: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Doggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

APPENDIX 1

(As referred to in Act of Council No 7 of 27 May 2021)

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2021/2022

CONVENERS AND VICE CONVENERS OF COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES		
Policy and Sustainability	Convener: Vice-Convener:	Councillor McVey Councillor Day
Culture and Communities	Convener: Vice-Convener:	Councillor Wilson Councillor McNeese- Mechan
Education, Children and Families	Convener: Vice-Convener:	Councillor Perry Councillor Dickie
Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work	Convener: Vice-Convener:	Councillor Kate Campbell Councillor Watt
Finance and Resources	Convener: Vice-Convener:	Councillor Munn Councillor Griffiths
Transport and Environment	Convener: Vice Convener:	Councillor Macinnes Councillor Doran
OTHER COMMITTEES		
Governance, Risk and Best Value	Convener:	Councillor Mowat
Leadership Advisory Panel	Convener:	Councillor McVey
Pensions	Convener:	Councillor Munn
Planning/Development Management Sub	Convener: Vice-Convener:	Councillor Gardiner Councillor Child
Regulatory/Licensing Sub	Convener: Vice Convener:	Councillor Fullerton Councillor Dixon
Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest	Convener:	Councillor Fullerton

APPEALS		
Committee on Discretionary Rating Appeals	Convener:	Councillor Munn
Personnel Appeals Committee	Convener:	Councillor McNeese-Mechan
Committee on Pupil/Student Support	Convener:	Councillor Perry
Placing in Schools Appeals		Independent Chairperson
RECRUITMENT		
Recruitment Committee	Convener:	Council Leader

APPENDIX 2

(As referred to in Act of Council No 7 of 27 May 2021)

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2021/2022

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND JOINT BOARDS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES	
Policy and Sustainability Committee (17 members: 5SNP, 5C, 3L, 2G, 2SLD)	
Councillor McVey (Convener) Councillor Kate Campbell Councillor Gardiner Councillor Macinnes Councillor Munn Councillor Jim Campbell Councillor Cook Councillor Hutchison Councillor McLellan	Councillor Whyte Councillor Day (Vice Convener) Councillor Perry Councillor Wilson Councillor Main Councillor Staniforth Councillor Aldridge Councillor Gloyer
Culture and Communities Committee (11 members:- 3SNP, 3C, 2L, 2G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Key Councillor McNeese-Mechan (Vice Convener) Councillor Ethan Young Councillor Brown Councillor Doggart Councillor Mitchell	Councillor Wilson (Convener) Councillor Doran Councillor Rae Councillor Staniforth Councillor Osler
Education, Children and Families Committee (11 members:- 3SNP, 3C, 2L, 2G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Dickie (Vice Convener) Councillor Bird Councillor Key Councillor Douglas Councillor Laidlaw Councillor Rust	Councillor Griffiths Councillor Perry (Convener) Councillor Burgess Councillor Mary Campbell Councillor Louise Young

Added Members for Education Matters	
Fiona Beveridge (Church of Scotland) Rabbi David Rose	Therese Laing (Roman Catholic Church of Scotland) Alexander Ramage (non-voting)
Finance and Resources Committee (11 members:- 3 SNP, 3C, 2L, 2G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Gordon Councillor Munn(Convener) Councillor Rankin Councillor Bruce Councillor Hutchison Councillor Johnston	Councillor Griffiths (Vice Convener) Councillor Watt Councillor Booth Councillor Corbett Councillor Neil Ross
Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee (11 members:- 3SNP, 3C, 2L, 2G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Kate Campbell (Convener) Councillor Key Councillor Work Councillor Jim Campbell Councillor McLellan Councillor Webber	Councillor Day Councillor Watt (Vice Convener) Councillor Booth Councillor Miller Councillor Lang
Transport and Environment Committee (11 members:- 3 SNP, 3C, 2L, 2G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Bird Councillor Key Councillor Macinnes (Convener) Councillor Hutchison Councillor Smith Councillor Whyte	Councillor Arthur Councillor Doran (Vice Convener) Councillor Corbett Councillor Miller Councillor Lang

Other Committees	
Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee (11 members:- 3 SNP, 3C, 2L, 2G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Bird Councillor Dixon Councillor Work Councillor Jim Campbell Councillor Doggart Councillor Mowat (Convener)	Councillor Arthur Councillor Child Councillor Rae Councillor Staniforth Councillor Gloyer
Pensions Committee (5 members –1SNP, 1C, 1L, 1G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Munn (Convener) Councillor Rose Councillor Child	Councillor Burgess Councillor Neil Ross
External Members	
John Anzani	Richard Lamont
Planning Committee and Development Management Sub-Committee (11 members:- 3 SNP, 3C, 2L, 2G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Gardiner (Convener) Councillor Gordon Councillor Ethan Young Councillor Mitchell Councillor Mowat Councillor Rose	Councillor Child (Vice-Convener) Councillor Griffiths Councillor Booth Councillor Mary Campbell Councillor Osler
Planning Local Review Body All members of the Planning Committee (other than its Convener) comprising two panels of five.	
Panel 1 (5 members)	
Councillor Gordon Councillor Griffiths Councillor Mitchell	Councillor Mowat Councillor Mary Campbell
Panel 2 (5 members)	
Councillor Booth Councillor Child Councillor Ethan Young	Councillor Rose Councillor Osler

Regulatory Committee and Licensing Sub-Committee (9 members:- 2SNP, 3C, 2L, 1G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Dixon (Vice- Convener) Councillor Fullerton (Convener) Councillor Mitchell Councillor Mowat Councillor Rose	Councillor Arthur Councillor Wilson Councillor Rae Councillor Neil Ross
Leadership Advisory Panel (5 members of the Council plus 3 statutory representatives, appointed by the committee dealing with education, when considering education business)	
Leader of the Council (Convener) Deputy Leader of the Council Conservative Group Leader	Green Group Leader Scottish Liberal Democrat Group Leader
Administration of Trust Funds	
Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest (8 members - 2SNP, 2C, 2L, 1G, 1SLD) plus one nominee of Friends of the City Arts Centre and two nominees of Executive Director of Resources	
Councillor Fullerton (Convener) Councillor McNeese-Mechan Councillor Mitchell Councillor Mowat	Councillor Doran Councillor Munro Councillor Rae Councillor Aldridge
Reviews and Appeals	
Committee on Discretionary Rating Relief Appeals (5 members –1SNP, 1C, 1L, 1G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Munn (Convener) Councillor Hutchison Councillor Day	Councillor Corbett Councillor Gloyer
Personnel Appeals Committee (9 members – 2SNP, 3C, 2L, 1G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Bird Councillor McNeese-Mechan (Convener) Councillor Jim Campbell Councillor Rose Councillor Webber	Councillor Doran Councillor Griffiths Councillor Rae Councillor Lang

Committee on Pupil Student Support (5 members and one religious representative –1SNP, 1C, 1L, 1G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Perry (Convener) Councillor Laidlaw Councillor Dickie	Councillor Burgess Councillor Young
Placing in Schools Appeal Committee (3 persons drawn from three Panels as described in Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions no.17)	
Panel 1 – All members of Council and religious representatives on the committee dealing with education business	
Recruitment Committee	
Leader of Council (Convener), Deputy Leader of the Council, Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee and the appropriate Executive Committee Convener and relevant opposition spokespersons (or nominees)	

APPENDIX 3

(As referred to in Act of Council No 7 of 27 May 2021)

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2021/2022 MEMBERS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORKS

ALMOND	
Councillor Hutchison	Councillor Work
Councillor Lang	Councillor Louise Young
CITY CENTRE	
Councillor Doran	Councillor Mowat
Councillor Miller	Councillor Rankin
CRAIGENTINNY/DUDDINGSTON	
Councillor Griffiths	Councillor Staniforth
Councillor McLellan	Councillor Ethan Young
FORTH	
Councillor Bird	Councillor Day
Councillor Jim Campbell	Councillor Gordon
INVERLEITH	
Councillor Barrie	Councillor Osler
Councillor Mitchell	Councillor Whyte
PENTLANDS	
Councillor Arthur	Councillor Henderson
Councillor Bruce	Councillor Rust
Councillor Doggart	Councillor Webber
Councillor Gardiner	
LEITH	

Councillor Booth	Councillor Munro
Councillor McNeese-Mechan	Councillor Rae
Councillor McVey	Councillor Ritchie
Councillor Munn	
LIBERTON/GILMERTON	
Councillor Cameron	Councillor Macinnes
Councillor Howie	Councillor Smith
MORNINGSIDE	
Councillor Cook	Councillor Neil Ross
Councillor Main	Councillor Watt
PORTOBELLO/CRAIGMILLAR	
Councillor Kate Campbell	Councillor Child
Councillor Mary Campbell	Councillor Laidlaw
SOUTHSIDE NEWINGTON	
Councillor Burgess	Councillor Perry
Councillor Dickie	Councillor Rose
SOUTH WEST	
Councillor Corbett	Councillor Johnston
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Key
Councillor Fullerton	Councillor Wilson
Councillor Graczyk	
WESTERN EDINBURGH	
Councillor Aldridge	Councillor Douglas
Councillor Bridgman	Councillor Frank Ross
Councillor Brown	Councillor Gloyer

APPENDIX 4

(As referred to in Act of Council No 7 of 27 May 2021)

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2021/2022

JOINT COMMITTEES AND BOARDS, THE LICENSING BOARD

Lothian Valuation Joint Board/Lothian Electoral Joint Committee (9 members – 3SNP, 2C, 2L, 1G, 1SLD)	
Councillor Gordon Councillor Key (Convener) Councillor Work Councillor Doggart Councillor Rust	Councillor Doran Councillor Henderson Councillor Corbett Councillor Gloyer
Licensing Board (10 members)	
Councillor Howie Councillor Key Councillor Work (Convener) Councillor Laidlaw Councillor Mowat	Councillor Whyte Councillor Cameron Councillor Day Councillor Burgess Councillor Gloyer
Integration Joint Board (5 members)	
Councillor Aldridge Councillor Gordon Councillor Henderson (Vice-Chair) (from 27 June 2021)	Councillor Main Councillor Doggart
Integrated Children's Services Joint Board (Appointed March 2018) (3 members)	
Councillor Dickie Councillor Laidlaw	Councillor Perry
Edinburgh and South East of Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee (1 member)	
Councillor McVey	

SEStran (South East of Scotland Regional Transport Partnership) (5 members – 2SNP, 1C, 1L, 1G)	
Councillor Key Councillor Macinnes Councillor Rose	Councillor Doran Councillor Miller
SESPlan Joint Committee (South East Scotland Regional Joint Committee – Planning) (2 members)	
Councillor Gardiner	Councillor Child
Shadow Joint Committee for Collaborative Road Services	
Substantive Member Councillor Macinnes	Substitute Member Councillor Doran
Hawes/Longcraig Piers User Committee (2 members)	
Councillor Work	Councillor Hutchison
Pentland Hills Regional Park Joint Committee (3 members)	
Councillor Gardiner Councillor Henderson	Councillor Bruce
Pentland Hills Regional Park Consultative Forum (2 members)	
Councillor Gardiner	Councillor Henderson

Appendix 5

(As referred to in Act of Council No 18 of 27 May 2021)

COUNCIL QUESTIONS

QUESTION NO 1

By Councillor Miller for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Question (1) Could the Convener please provide a complete list of locations of all personal injury collisions that were

- a) fatal and
- b) serious severity collisions,

since 2011 showing the date when the collision occurred?

Answer (1) Police Scotland are responsible for the collection of all personal injury road traffic collision data. The latest data for which collision details are currently held is 31 December 2020.

The information attached in Table 1 below shows the details of fatal road traffic collisions in the period 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2020. This shows there were 74 fatal collisions reported to the Police on roads within the City of Edinburgh Council's boundary in this period.

In addition, there were 1,433 serious injury collisions and the details of these could be provided on request

Question (2) For each location, could the Convener please summarise what measure(s) are being taken and indicate the status of each measure including estimated or actual completion dates?

Answer

- (2) The delivery of the Council's Road Safety programme was the subject of a [report](#) to the Transport and Environment Committee on 22 April 2021.

Road safety remedial measures are not progressed at every location where there has been a fatal or serious collision. Instead, the Council has two ongoing programmes of work aimed at reducing road traffic collisions:

- 1) Remedial measures following fatal collisions; and
- 2) Remedial measures arising from ongoing monitoring of collisions in the city - the Accident Investigation and Prevention (AIP) programme.

Following any traffic collision that results in a fatality (or where injuries sustained are likely to prove fatal), a site meeting will be arranged by Police Scotland and attended by a Council officer. The timing of the meeting is determined by the Police and this can vary, depending on the progress of their investigations into the collision and whether it is likely to be referred to the Procurator Fiscal.

Following this meeting, if there are actions for the Council to progress, these will be incorporated into the Council's Road Safety Programme. The timescale for delivery of the changes can vary considerably, depending on their nature and scope.

Site meetings are not held routinely for serious accidents.

Table 2 shows details of the five improvements identified as part of the 2016 Accident Investigation Process, along with improvements that are currently under development.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost and thank you very much to the Convener for her answer. It would be helpful however if the Convener could clarify her answer to my question, it might have been an issue of layout constraints for written questions, but I would like to check please, out of all of the locations of fatalities that are listed in Table 1 which stretches to over three pages, is it that only the 9 locations

that are included in Table 2 are where change is going to be made in response to a fatality, as her answer says I was already in receipt of the information in Table 2 and what I was really seeking was the information in Table 1 but with a clear indication of what change if any was being made at the location of each fatality, and I'm asking this clarification because Table 2 only lists 9 locations which seems counter to the concern I know that the Convener holds about safety on our roads and pavements, so it might be that a briefing in the form of a landscape table would ensure clarity on this topic, thank you.

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you very much Councillor Miller. It is a very interesting supplementary because I think nobody can look at these tables with any degree of pride, in fact I have a great sense of shame attached to these figures because the number of people across these last years that are covered in this question, who have either been killed or seriously injured on our roads is unbelievably high and the loss to the city, to the families, to the economy, to every aspect of those incidents is just appalling, it's a waste, a complete and utter waste, so what can we do about it, and you're right to call into question where we're looking at records of accidents, where can we be making changes. Now as you said there are some that are already under way at the moment, some of those have been identified, I think there has been other work done in previous years because remember the first table dates back as far as 2011 so there are some previous improvements that had been made, but we are bounded I think by some parameters which are difficult to encapsulate in a written answer, so for example, the way in which we react to fatal or potentially fatal accidents is different than the way in which we act to some other ones. So for example, Police Scotland control the investigation immediately after one of those fatal accidents and we have to wait for them to tell us what they believed to be the cause, now that's often done in conjunction with us, we're invited into the investigation but an accident is not always a cause of the geography of the location, it can be caused by driver error or driver behaviour, it can be caused by a number of other pieces of action, so the natural follow on from the

occurrence of an injury or a fatality is not always that we then have to change a junction, where we have to change the topography of the road, it will often be that case but will not always that case. So the link between what's happened in the past and what our reaction to it is, isn't as clear cut as I would like it to be for all those reasons. On the basis of trying to get you the other information, I think this is something which we can take into a meeting, if necessary bring it in front of the Transport and Environment Committee if you want to, to try and populate that answer to your question and try and get a greater degree of understanding around it, but these figures should reinforce what we're doing around transport policy in every way, reduction of speed, change of roads, reduction of levels of traffic, and then we might see in future years a much shorter list of these dreadful casualties.

Table 1 – Fatal Accident Locations

Accident Severity	Accident Date	Location
Fatal	01/01/2011	UNION PLACE A900 OPPOSITE JUNCTION WITH UNION STREET EDINBURGH 326080E 674450N
Fatal	26/01/2011	EDINBURGH TO KILMARNOCK A71 200M EAST OF IT'S JUNCTION WITH LONG DALMAHOY ROAD EDINBURGH 313460E 668610N
Fatal	15/02/2011	SOUTH GYLE CRESCENT 150 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH REDHEUGHS AVENUE EDINBURGH 318490E 671780N
Fatal	28/04/2011	BROUGHTON ROAD B900 AT ITS JUNCTION WITH EAST CLAREMONT STREET EDINBURGH 325830E 675350N
Fatal	19/06/2011	EDINBURGH CITY BYPASS A720 0.5 MILE WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH A7 AT SHERIFFHALL ROUNDABOUT EDINBURGH 330980E 667900N
Fatal	26/06/2011	BURNSHOT ROAD 730 METRES EAST FROM ALMONDHILL COTTAGES KIRKLISTON 313740E 675360N
Fatal	09/08/2011	PORTOBELLO ROAD A1140 AT THE JUNCTION WITH CRAIGENTINNY AVENUE EDINBURGH 329030E 674250N
Fatal	15/11/2011	SALAMANDER STREET A199 20 METRES EAST OF THE JUNCTION WITH ELBE STREET EDINBURGH 327520E 676400N
Fatal	05/01/2012	LANARK ROAD A70 10 METRES SOUTH FROM JUNCTION WITH DOVECOT GROVE EDINBURGH 321410E 670190N
Fatal	07/02/2012	CORSTORPHINE HIGH STREET C 5 METRES WEST FROM JUNCTION WITH ORCHARDFIELD AVENUE EDINBURGH 319900E 672680N
Fatal	05/03/2012	CORSTORPHINE ROAD A8 100 METRES EAST FROM JUNCTION WITH MURRAYFIELD ROAD EDINBURGH 322530E 673200N
Fatal	07/03/2012	MAYBURY ROAD A902 75 METRES NORTH EAST OF THE JUNCTION WITH MAYBURY DRIVE EDINBURGH 318110E 673830N
Fatal	12/03/2012	GILMERTON ROAD A772 50 METRES NORTH OF THE JUNCTION WITH THE SPINNEY EDINBURGH 328930E 669060N
Fatal	05/04/2012	CREWE ROAD SOUTH C 75 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CRAIGLEITH ROAD EDINBURGH 323500E 674680N
Fatal	03/06/2012	OLD DALKEITH ROAD A7 300 METRES SOUTH FROM JUNCTION WITH FERNIEHILL ROAD EDINBURGH 329057E 669979N
Fatal	29/07/2012	OCEAN DRIVE 200 YARDS FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH COMMERCIAL STREET EDINBURGH 326550E 676930N
Fatal	01/09/2012	NEW LISTON ROAD 30 METRES NORTH FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH GATESIDE ROAD KIRKLISTON 312402E 674260N
Fatal	22/09/2012	ULSTER CRESCENT 238 METRES WEST FROM JUNCTION WITH WILLOWBRAE ROAD EDINBURGH 328666E 673549N
Fatal	29/09/2012	NICOLSON SQUARE AT THE JUNCTION WITH MARSHALL STREET EDINBURGH 326024E 673175N
Fatal	08/12/2012	DUNDAS STREET C AT THE JUNCTION WITH HERIOT ROW EDINBURGH 325260E 674330N

Fatal	10/12/2012	BAVELAW ROAD 10 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH HARLAW ROAD BALERNO 316310E 666210N
Fatal	06/01/2013	WESTER HAILES ROAD AT ITS ROUNDABOUT JUNCTION WITH CLOVENSTONE ROAD JUNIPER GREEN 320130E 669370N
Fatal	26/01/2013	MARCHMONT ROAD C AT THE JUNCTION WITH WARRENDER PARK ROAD EDINBURGH 325460E 672320N
Fatal	21/03/2013	PALMERSTON PLACE AT JUNCTION WITH ROTHESAY PLACE EDINBURGH 323950E 673660N
Fatal	06/05/2013	M9 SPUR JUNCTION 1A M9 APPROX 2 MILES SOUTH OF THE ROUNDABOUT JUNCTION WITH A8, GLASGOW ROAD SOUTH QUEENSFERRY 311470E 674380N
Fatal	05/06/2013	QUEENS DRIVE AT ITS JUNCTION WITH DUKES WALK EDINBURGH 327630E 673960N
Fatal	10/08/2013	GLASGOW TO EDINBURGH ROAD M8 100 METRES WEST FROM JUNCTION WITH A720, CITY OF EDINBURGH BYPASS EDINBURGH 317990E 670870N
Fatal	27/09/2013	GREAT JUNCTION STREET A901 25 METRES NORTH FROM JUNCTION WITH JUNCTION PLACE EDINBURGH 326800E 676090N
Fatal	28/11/2013	EDINBURGH CITY BYPASS A720 200YDS WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH STRAITON ROAD EDINBURGH 327070E 666970N
Fatal	16/02/2014	QUEENSFERRY ROAD B800 AT ITS JUNCTION WITH UNNAMED ROAD LEADING TO ROYAL ELIZABETH YARD KIRKLISTON 312760E 676480N
Fatal	01/03/2014	SILVERKNOWES ROAD 500 YARDS NORTH OF THE JUNCTION WITH LAURISTON FARM ROAD EDINBURGH 320420E 676400N
Fatal	22/04/2014	GILLESPIE ROAD B701 100 YARDS EAST OF JUNCTION WITH PENTLAND AVENUE EDINBURGH 321160E 668900N
Fatal	19/05/2014	WAVERLEY BRIDGE AT SOUTH ENTRANCE TO RAILWAY STATION WAVERLEY RAILWAY STATION, EDINBURGH 325690E 673810N
Fatal	08/07/2014	PRINCES STREET AT THE JUNCTION WITH SOUTH ST ANDREW STREET C EDINBURGH 325720E 673970N
Fatal	07/11/2014	OLD DALKEITH ROAD A7 APPROX 20 METRES SOUTH OF JUNCTION WITH BRIDGE END EDINBURGH 327810E 671100N
Fatal	22/11/2014	NEWHALLS ROAD APPROX 60 METRES WEST OF JUNCTION WITH HIGH STREET SOUTH QUEENSFERRY 313680E 678340N
Fatal	06/12/2014	EDINBURGH TO GLASGOW ROAD M8 APPROX 1.5 MILES WEST OF JUNCTION WITH A720 EDINBURGH CITY BYPASS EDINBURGH 316910E 670330N
Fatal	08/12/2014	FERRY ROAD 25M EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH DUDLEY AVENUE SOUTH EDINBURGH 326140E 676350N
Fatal	17/12/2014	LINDSAY ROAD A901 AT ITS JUNCTION WITH SANDPIPER DRIVE EDINBURGH 325740E 677040N
Fatal	19/08/2015	FREDERICK STREET C AT THE JUNCTION WITH PRINCES STREET A8 EDINBURGH 325190E 673830N
Fatal	08/10/2015	BUCKSTONE TERRACE 50 METRES SOUTH OF THE JUNCTION WITH CAIYSTANE CRESCENT EDINBURGH 324640E 668560N

Fatal	17/12/2015	NEWBRIDGE TO WILKIESTON B7030 15 METRES NORTH JUNCTION OF UNCLASSIFIED ROAD TO RATHO QUARRY NEWBRIDGE 312020E 670350N
Fatal	01/01/2016	MURRAYBURN ROAD AT THE JUNCTION WITH DUMBRYDEN DRIVE EDINBURGH 320560E 670680N
Fatal	09/01/2016	DRUM BRAE DRIVE 38 METRES WEST FROM JUNCTION WITH HOSEASONS GARDENS EDINBURGH 319610E 674340N
Fatal	17/04/2016	MORNINGSIDE ROAD 10 M NORTH FROM JUNCTION WITH JORDAN LANE EDINBURGH 324540E 671140N
Fatal	12/05/2016	KINGSTON AVENUE C AT THE JUNCTION WITH OLD DALKEITH ROAD A7 EDINBURGH 328470E 670400N
Fatal	06/06/2016	BURNSHOT ROAD AT THE JUNCTION WITH STANDINGSTONE ROAD KIRKLISTON 314360E 675670N
Fatal	10/06/2016	SILVERKNOWES ROAD AT THE JUNCTION WITH SILVERKNOWES COURT EDINBURGH 320830E 675840N
Fatal	17/09/2016	NEWCRAIGHALL ROAD A6095 AT JUNCTION WITH NEWCRAIGHALL PARK & RIDE, EDINBURGH 331740E 671810N
Fatal	25/11/2016	WEST APPROACH ROAD AT THE JUNCTION WITH ROSEBURN STREET C EDINBURGH 322740E 672640N
Fatal	16/12/2016	GILMERTON ROAD A772 AT THE ROUNDABOUT WITH EDINBURGH CITY BYPASS SLIP ROAD A720 EDINBURGH 330520E 667960N
Fatal	30/01/2017	STANDINGSTONE ROAD TO B800 ROAD NEAR MILTON COTTAGE, 1 KM EAST FROM JUNCTION WITH B800 SOUTH QUEENSFERRY 313240E 676220N
Fatal	24/04/2017	LANARK ROAD AT THE JUNCTION WITH BABERTON CRESCENT JUNIPER GREEN 320250E 668890N
Fatal	14/05/2017	MAIN STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH QUALITY STREET B9085 DAVIDSONS MAINS, EDINBURGH 320560E 675450N
Fatal	31/05/2017	PRINCES STREET A8 AT THE JUNCTION WITH LOTHIAN ROAD A702 EDINBURGH 324670E 673670N
Fatal	03/09/2017	REGENT ROAD A1 200M NORTH EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH REGENT TERRACE EDINBURGH 326660E 674130N
Fatal	27/10/2017	CHARTERHALL ROAD 102 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH BLACKFORD AVENUE EDINBURGH 325860E 670990N
Fatal	26/12/2017	DUDDINGSTON PARK 30 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH PARK LANE EDINBURGH 330270E 673060N
Fatal	10/01/2018	BROOMHOUSE AVENUE 50 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH BROOMHOUSE PLACE EDINBURGH 319970E 671230N
Fatal	30/03/2018	
Fatal	25/05/2018	MAYBURY ROAD A902 200 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH MAYBURY DRIVE EDINBURGH 318170E 673970N
Fatal	16/10/2018	SOUTHHOUSE AVENUE 100 M WEST FROM JUNCTION WITH SOUTHHOUSE BROADWAY, DRIVEWAY OF 29 EDINBURGH 327690E 668100N
Fatal	02/11/2018	GREAT JUNCTION STREET A901 APPROX 20 METRES EAST OF JUNCTION WITH HENDERSON STREET EDINBURGH 326880E 675990N
Fatal	10/01/2019	LEITH WALK A900 AT THE JUNCTION WITH CROWN STREET EDINBURGH 326900E 675780N

Fatal	20/02/2019	MURRAYBURN ROAD 7 METRES WEST OF THE JUNCTION WITH HAILES LAND ROAD EDINBURGH 319830E 670150N
Fatal	13/03/2019	PORTOBELLO HIGH STREET B6415 AT THE JUNCTION WITH SIR HARRY LAUDER ROAD EDINBURGH 330018E 674376N
Fatal	14/05/2019	OCEAN DRIVE 200 METRES SOUTH OF ROUNDABOUT AT MELROSE DRIVE EDINBURGH 326649E 677029N
Fatal	03/09/2019	GREAT JUNCTION STREET (A901) AT JUNCTION WITH GREAT JUNCTION STREET (A901)
Fatal	07/01/2020	QUEENSFERRY ROAD (A90) - 75 METRES FROM JUNCTION WITH PARKGROVE AVENUE
Fatal	29/03/2020	SPOTTISWOODE ROAD NEAR JUNCTION WITH MARCHMONT ROAD
Fatal	25/06/2020	GILMERTON ROAD (A772) AT JUNCTION WITH KINGSTON AVENUE
Fatal	30/06/2020	MORNINGSIDE ROAD (A702) AT JUNCTION WITH SPRINGVALLEY GARDENS
Fatal	14/07/2020	WILLOWBRAE ROAD (A1) NEAR JUNCTION WITH WILLOWBRAE ROAD (A1)
Fatal	02/11/2020	SIR HARRY LAUDER ROAD (A199) NEAR JUNCTION WITH PORTOBELLO HIGH STREET (B6415)

Table 2 – Improvements Identified

<u>Location</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Date and Identified via</u>	<u>Comments</u>
A71 Dalmahoy Junction	Vehicle activated signs and reduction in speed limit	AIP	Complete - Vehicle activated signs installed in 2017 and speed limit subsequently reduced in 2018. A scheme for further road safety improvements, arising from a decision by Committee in March 2015 following the submission of a petition, is currently being progressed for implementation by the end of 2021.
Drum Brae Drive	Signalised Junction	2013 AIP	Improvement identified via AIP was for a signalised Puffin pedestrian crossing. However, there was strong feedback from the Drum Brae Community Council that a full signalisation of the junction should instead be progressed. Unfortunately, the significant additional funding required to deliver this could not be justified on the grounds of collision reduction alone and the development of proposals was therefore suspended to allow further options, including potential additional sources of funding to be investigated. In December 2018, the Western Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnership agreed to allocate the additional funding required to allow a signalised junction to be progressed. Currently finalising the tender package to progress to construction.
Hermiston Roundabout	Road Marking Alterations	2016 AIP	Complete - implemented in 2019.

Telford Road	Road Marking/ Directon Signage Alterations	2016 AIP	Complete - implemented in late 2019/early 2020.
South Bridge @ Chambers Street	Road Marking Alterations	2016 AIP	Complete - layout amended as part of South Bridge improvement works. Monitoring ongoing.
Queensferry Road @ Quality Street	Alterations to signal phasing and type to include Craigcrook Road slip.	2016 AIP	Complete- implemented 2018/19.
Davidsons Mains	Crossing/Roundabout Upgrade	2016 AIP and Response to Fatal Collision in 2017	Currently finalising detailed design to progress to construction.
Murrayburn Road at Hailesland Road	Signalised Crossing	Response to Fatal Collision in 2019	Currently finalising tender package to progress to construction.
Portobello High Street/King's Road Junction	Road Layout Alterations and Improvements to Alternative Routes	Response to Fatal Collisions in 2019 and 2020	Awaiting Road Safety Audit and further engagement with stakeholder groups to progress to implementation.

QUESTION NO 2

By Councillor Howie for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

- Question** (1) How many public playparks do the council own or maintain?
- Answer** (1) The Council owns or maintains 165 play parks.
- Question** (2) For each of these, what individual pieces of play equipment are designed for use by disabled children?
- Answer** (2) The Council has a significant amount of play equipment which has been designed for use by disabled children. Examples include a swing seat called the Mirage (which is based on a fighter pilot's ejector seat and has fixing points for a harness supplied on request and can be fitted on any swing frame that is 2.4m high), Orbit and dish roundabouts, trampolines and ramped / pull up decks. Further details of these will be put on the Council's website.
- Question** (3) Which playparks have blue badge or abundant parking immediately adjacent to them?
- Answer** (3) There are many playparks which have parking in close proximity however the Council does not hold a definitive list of playparks with adjacent parking or blue badge spaces.
- Question** (4) Which playparks have surfaces suitable for use by wheelchairs?
- Answer** (4) Approximately 100 sites have surfaces suitable for use by wheelchairs. A list will be added to the council website.
- Question** (5) What is the council's current policy regarding the inclusion of accessible play equipment in any future playparks?

Answer

- (5)** The Council's Play Area Action Plan designs are child centred, based on children's desires, expectations, how they play and what they need to get out of the play experience. Designs are also governed by the need to meet the play standard BS EN 1176 Parts 1 to 11. The choice of equipment and layout of the play space needs to allow for inclusion, allowing as wide a range of children to play together as possible. The play space must be sustainable, meet consulted needs and not be easily vandalised.

QUESTION NO 3

By Councillor Howie for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Question

What is the council's response to the points raised by the RNIB in their consultation response on retaining Spaces for People that was received from them on 1st April 2021?

Answer

Ahead of the consultation response the Convener and Vice-Convener held an engagement session with RNIB and other accessibility groups on 2 March 2021. The discussion was comprehensive and allowed for setting the context of our wider transport policies and reinforced our commitment to accessible and inclusive walking wheeling and cycling for all with the understanding that some people do require the use of private vehicles.

RNIB were concerned that due to the quick action associated with Spaces for People, it was difficult to convey to those with sight problems where changes would occur in the city, and how this might alter the streetscape. In order to assist with this, documents relating to changes had to be accessible, and detailed engagement with access panels and disability groups had to be ongoing and proactive.

A report will be presented to the Transport and Environment Committee on 17 June which will present and respond to the Spaces for People consultation submissions. However, the Council are keen to maintain engagement and work with all resident groups to ensure inclusivity for all. Consultation materials for the SfP consultation were made available in accessible formats, including a BSL video, large print paper copies of the consultation response form and copies in braille.

Should the schemes be progressed permanently, we would look to using experimental traffic orders in the first instance so there would be an opportunity to consider the layout and make alterations before any permanent scheme is progressed. Efforts will be made to mitigate impacts on our visually impaired residents.

QUESTION NO 4

By Councillor Webber for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

In December 2020 Council Officers were made aware that Juniper Green Primary School parents and staff had carried out research and had pulled together a comprehensive Road Safety Action Plan to be progressed through 2021.

Through the local Ward Councillor, Councillor Webber, a draft of this road safety action plan was provided to Council officers. This included 50 ideas to be reviewed and considered and was obviously created with local knowledge and awareness of the entire area and this document made no mention of a planter!

Question (1) Is it safe to assume that the Spaces for People team are not genuinely interested in working collaboratively with communities, parent councils and schools to make their road safety action plan live and implemented and would rather progress with their own interpretation of the issues and the solutions?

Answer (1) The Spaces for People projects around schools were intended purely to assist in creating a safer space for pedestrians to physically distance at the school gates, not to address wider safety concerns on routes to school.

Question (2) How should the parent council and school progress their Road Safety Action Plan given the placement of the planter in April 2021?

Answer (2) The Road Safety team are currently undertaking a review of School Travel Plans for every school cluster in the city and will engage with the school and parent body around the contents of their Action Plan as part of this process.

Supplementary Question Thank you Lord Provost and thank you Convener for your answer. Given that these temporary schemes that have been installed under the Spaces for People programme have recently been installed at this location long after the consultation has taken place, and it is quite contrary to what

the school and the parents were working on, to increase the safety of this area, what suggested action do I go back to the parents with and the school to give them guidance as to how we can proceed when something is so very different to what they were wanting to happen in application and has been forced upon them?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Councillor Webber for your supplementary. To the best of my knowledge I was not shared the draft of the Juniper Green Parents requests and that would have been helpful for me to be able to answer the question more accurately. I applaud any school community that takes the issues of road safety around the school seriously, but what I did have a bit of a problem with in terms of your question, as it seems to confuse two matters, the issues of what is possible under the Spaces for People scheme and what is actually really referred to as a much wider piece which is around school safety, which is an ongoing piece of work that was happening long before Covid, long before the Spaces for People issue. I suspect that most of what the parents grouping wants to see happen falls in that latter part, and so I would suggest that what you do is contact the Road Safety Team, the team that deals with schools streets and deal with it that way. If necessary I will try and get involved if you think it would be useful although no doubt that's not a preferred option for you, but I think we have to get a greater degree of understanding amongst our Councillors and amongst people who watch this that there is a limit to what is being done under Spaces for People, so the calls for pothole repairs, the calls for wider safety around schools measures doesn't fall within the remit of Spaces for People and we've been giving you that message right from the very beginning and a few people don't seem to be listening to that. I welcome anything that comes out of the Juniper Green Parents Grouping, I think that is valuable work, we see that kind of work going on in schools across the city and it is absolutely to be valued, then we have to take it on board and work out what is possible within Council parameters and that stage doesn't seem to have been done in preparation for this question, thank you.

QUESTION NO 5

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 27 May 2021**

The council has stated its policy is to 'try and modify' Spaces for People schemes:

Question (1) What steps are the council taking to encourage the public to report 'near misses' or 'near accidents' related to Spaces for People infrastructure and other road infrastructure to ensure these are accurately captured?

Answer (1) Any individual or organisation can report a range of service requests or a road or pavement problem relating to road infrastructure through www.edinburgh.gov.uk/report.

For Spaces for People dedicated Inspector has been appointed to ensure that the infrastructure introduced is safe and well maintained. Issues relating to Spaces for People measures can be sent directly to the Spaces for People team (spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk).

Question (2) How should the public report a 'near miss' or 'near accident' to best ensure a 'near miss' report is not 'missed'?

Answer (2) As above.

Question (3) What policies are in place to ensure the data from 'near misses' or 'near accidents' is shared across all relevant people and lessons learned, and adaptations made in a timely fashion?

Answer (3) For issues reported in relation to the Council's road infrastructure through the link above, these are directed via Confirm, to the relevant service for rectification/repair.

For Spaces for People, in addition to the approach taken for road infrastructure, information received will be investigated by the Inspector and action taken rectification/repair. Issues which do not relate to infrastructure will be considered on receipt and appropriate action taken if required. As part of the bi-monthly scheme reviews, any issues raised are also considered.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost and thank you to the Convener for her answer. In the answer to point 3, I just wonder are the near misses actual accidents in terms of Spaces for People, are they added to the Safety Audit brief for each scheme if they occurred after a safety audit or are they discussed with the original auditor?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for the supplementary Councillor Rust, I'm not absolutely certain as that's a very specific question, I will ask officers to provide you and the other Councillors with a response to it. What I would say is that they are taken seriously, they are taken as part of that background understanding of what is happening around the Spaces for People issues and indeed any other issues on the road. The one thing I would say is that the Council does not have a definition for near misses so what somebody might consider in their own experience to be a near miss, somebody else might not, so it actually makes it quite difficult for us to interact with it as a complete topic but I know certainly there is a strong willingness within our Road Safety Team, within our Spaces for People team and indeed across the transport department to understand what's happening around those kind of issues and see where we can put in preventative measures to follow on from that, thank you.

QUESTION NO 6

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 27 May 2021**

Question (1) Under what authority/legislation can “planters” be placed on the roadway?

Answer (1) The [Roads Scotland Act 1984](#) (Part 1 Public Roads – General powers and duties of roads authorities) sets out the powers and duties of local roads authorities.

In Part 1, the Act states that a local roads authority shall manage and maintain all roads included in their list of public roads. Within this the local roads authority has the power to reconstruct, alter, widen, improve or renew any such road or to determine the means by which the public right of passage over it, or over any part of it, may be exercised.

Question (2) What is the total cost of planters placed and proposed to be placed at locations close to Primary Schools?

Answer (2) £57,439.

Question (3) In terms of the maintenance of planters by P1:

- (a) what is the cost;
- (b) what is the schedule; and
- (c) will all future costs be met from the Spaces for People fund, administered by Sustrans?

Answer (3) a) The total cost is £5,586.
b) The schedule of maintenance includes approximately 12 summer and six winter visits. The schedule includes application of slow release fertiliser in the Spring; watering planters once a week during the growing season; and pruning and weeding as required to keep planters presentable and ensure health of plants.

- c) It is expected that all reasonable costs will be covered by the Spaces for People budget whilst planters are used by the Programme in 2021/22.

Question (4) What consultation was undertaken with

- (a) local residents and
- (b) parent councils prior to implementation of the planters at each location?

Answer (4) In answer to (a) and (b):

The notification and engagement process for the measures introduced to support physical distancing around schools followed the same process as used for all Spaces for People schemes which was approved by Policy and Sustainability Committee on 14 May 2020.

This includes notification to allow ward members, local stakeholders, community representatives and key partners to consider the proposed measures and provide feedback so that design alterations can be made.

These Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice (TTRN) notifications related to vehicle prohibitions and not on the planters themselves.

Question (5) Why were planters placed on roadways without reflective markings or other visibility aids?

Answer (5) The existing temporary traffic management should have remained in place to identify and protect the on-street planters. Unfortunately, this was removed in error during the installation period. Appropriate reflective markings are currently being installed on all on-street planters.

Question (6) Can links to the individual risk assessments be placed on the “Spaces for People – School Measures” portal?

Answer (6) Individual design risk assessments and other supporting documents can be requested from the project team.

Question (7) Where it has been agreed that roads will be open out with school dropping off and pick up times who is going to move the planters to allow full unrestricted access outwith these times?

Answer (7) The roads affected by part time vehicle prohibitions remain open at all times to exempt vehicles. It is not necessary to remove planters out with the operating hours, as most features have been placed where parked cars would normally be present.

Supplementary Question Thank you Lord Provost and thanks again to the Convener for her answer. Would the Convener agree in relation to the answer to point 5 that it is unacceptable to introduce a planter to a road, supposedly to improve safety around disease transmission yet install it in a way which introduces new and potentially more serious and severe dangers?

Supplementary Answer I was very unhappy with the roll out of the planter programme within Spaces for People. I think we missed an opportunity to do it in a clean effective manner i.e. by adding the signage at the right time, adding reflective tape at the right time, I think you'll see in the written answer there's an explanation given on that particular piece. I do however say that the planters I think are a very necessary item in certain parts of Spaces for People roll-out and one of the reasons for that is that we've seen an enormous degree of what I would quite frankly call sabotage of some of the measures that have been put in place. We've had drivers driving round barriers, we've had barriers being removed, we've had ones being destroyed, there are a number of actions being taken by people who are determined that they will not accept what we believe to be the necessary changes on the roads and I think that's a very regrettable aspect to the Space for People project which really does have to be dealt with hence very heavy unable to be moved planters. We've seen this happening across the UK, it's been particularly bad in London with people destroying efforts to improve safety on our roads and that's a very regrettable aspect of resident behaviour around some of these measures, thank you.

QUESTION NO 7

By Councillor Rust for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Question (1) In Item 10.2 of the previous full council meeting on 29 April, it lists that £15,000 was paid to Sustrans in 2019/20 for 'Bike Life'. Please provide detail of what services were included in that cost.

Answer (1) The Bike Life programme in 2019/20 was part of the Council's 'Smarter Choices, Smarter Places' programme, which is funded by Scottish Government funding through the Paths for All programme.

The funding contributed to the costs for:

- Data collection and analysis, including the survey of residents (carried out by a third party - NatCen);
- Conducting case study interviews;
- City streetscape and case study photography; and

Document design, production and distribution.

Question (2) In *Bike Life* report https://www.sustrans.org.uk/media/5965/bikelife19_edinburgh_web.pdf, on page 12, "*Better road quality and fewer potholes*" is the biggest issue reported in terms of issues residents think are important for improving cycle safety in Edinburgh. Which *Spaces for People* schemes have seen road resurfacing form part?

- Answer** (2) As part of the following Spaces for People schemes, patching or re-surfacing undertaken:
- The Mound
 - Bank Street
 - Forest Road
 - Dundee Street and Fountainbridge
 - A1 – Milton Road West
- The following schemes have identified the need for patching at specific locations. These will be incorporated into Edinburgh Road Services' programme:
- Craigmillar Park, Minto St and Mayfield Gardens
 - Buccleuch St and Potterow
 - Gilmerton Road
 - Ladywell Road
 - Crewe Road South
 - Ferry Road
 - Queensferry Road
- Question** (3) Is another *Bike Life* survey /report scheduled and if so, when?
- Answer** (3) The Bike Life report is produced every two years. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, Bike Life 2021/22 has been slightly delayed. Data collection is underway, and the report is expected Summer 2022.
- Question** (4) Is *Bike Life* reporting used to measure success or otherwise of *Spaces for People*?
- Answer** (4) Bike Life is a UK wide report; therefore, the citizen survey and data collection are standardised across the different cities. Bike Life 2021/22 will not therefore look to explicitly assess the impact of Spaces for People in Edinburgh.
- Question** (5) Will the Council commit to undertaking equally detailed research for '*Walking Life*' (with questions for those with mobility issues) as pedestrians are top of the hierarchy of road users and activities around active travel should lead on this?

Answer (5) Bike Life is a UK wide document that is produced every two years for multiple cities. In 2021/22 the scope of this document is being extended at the UK level to equally consider walking, wheeling and cycling. The name of the document will also change to reflect the wider scope of the document.

Supplementary Question Thank you Lord Provost and thanks again to the Convener. In relation to point 2 of question 7, I note Lanark Road, a major arterial road wasn't one of those included in this and it actually has been further degraded by the central line at the tarmac join being burned off for the Spaces for People measures and I think the Convener herself mentioned about volume of traffic earlier on in the Council meeting, but I just wondered are there plans in place for new road resurfacing which needs done directly as a result of the Spaces for People measures?

Supplementary Answer There will be very few examples of road changes that need to be made as a result of Spaces for People, however there is a ready acknowledgement of the fact that we do need to continue for example to repair potholes in cycle lanes, in newly segregated cycle lanes, and in other parts of the road network where we're seeing changes, that's one of the great benefits of this additional money that's been put in and it will help us do that. It is of course a divorced element from the Spaces for People funding because Spaces for People funding did not cover the issue of pothole or road resurfacing, the fact that we've been able to combine some of the projects with our existing Capital Programme work and existing road resurfacing work in other ways in potholes and such has been a benefit, but it's not been a fundamental part of the Spaces for People programme.

QUESTION NO 8

**By Councillor Johnston for answer
by the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 27 May 2021**

Question

Can the Convener confirm:

In the last 12 months how many 5G Mast applications have been received per locality, how many have been approved and how many have been rejected?

Answer

Generally, masts within conservation areas require planning permission; while masts outwith conservation areas are permitted development, subject to a “prior approval” process. The “prior approval” process is limited to consideration of appearance and design.

Since 1 May 2020 the Council has received:

- 54 Permitted Development Prior Approvals; and
- 12 Planning Applications.

In the same period:

- 50 permitted Development Prior Approvals were approved, with two refused; and
- Nine Planning Applications were granted and one refused.

These are broken down by Locality below:

Locality	Planning applications made	Prior Approvals Made	Total
North East	2	13	15
South East	3	7	10
South West	1	14	15
North West	6	20	26
Total	12	54	66

Locality	Planning Applications Decisions				Prior Approval Decisions			Total
	Granted	Refused	Withdrawn	Total	Approved	Refused	Total	
North East	2	0	0	2	12	1	13	15
South East	3	0	1	4	6	0	6	10
South West	1	0	0	1	12	1	13	14
North West	3	1	0	4	20	0	20	24
Total	9	1	1	11	50	2	52	63

(The difference in the total submissions and decisions is because some applications have not yet been decided and some that have been decided were received before 1 May 2020).

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost and thank you to the Convener for her answer. As she'll be aware, the masts are often a source of great concern within the community and since the publication of the answer a number of colleagues have got in touch to say that they think it may be incomplete and there may have been other applications made in the timeframe, so I wonder if she will agree if I can write to her setting out these other examples, perhaps we could have a further discussion on it?

Supplementary Answer by Councillor Gardiner

Thank you Councillor Johnson for the original question and the supplementary. I'd be very happy if you wrote to me with what you suggested is the case and then we can look into it through the Planning Department and then I would share that of course with all Councillors as well, so thank you.

QUESTION NO 9

By Councillor Mitchell for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

On 20th July 2020 in the feedback summary for the Ferry Road scheme, Spaces for People said in response to a question about the removal of guardrails between Arboretum Road and Inverleith Gardens that, "This was considered, however the narrowness of the footways and the proximity to often high volume of traffic made this undesirable."

The guardrails at this location were removed by Spaces for People earlier this month.

Please could the Convener explain:

Question (1) Why their removal is now considered desirable?

Answer (1) The original scheme for Ferry Road was implemented early in the Spaces for People programme and, due to the urgent nature of the programme, the scheme considered that the narrowness of the footway and proximity to often high volume traffic meant that the initial assessment indicated that the guardrails could not be removed.

However, this was revisited as part of the dedicated street clutter programme project, which was progressed with Living Streets in line with the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance, analysis of three-year collision data found no issues at this location. Using the guardrail removal protocol, it was therefore considered appropriate to remove this section of guard rail.

Question (2) Why local members were not consulted or informed in advance of the change of opinion?

Answer (2) Updates on the street clutter programme have been presented to Transport and Environment Committee however, due to the timing of the implementation and funding availability it has not been possible to update local ward Councillors on the individual elements of the street clutter programme.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thanks Lord Provost and may I thank the Convener for her answers. Lord Provost, the Convener will be aware that guardrails around Inverleith ward, such as in the Blackhall dip, further along towards Warriston, have been removed and indeed the railings in question within the question. Part of the Spaces for People is about making the routes safer for people but parents don't feel safe, the elderly people in the sheltered housing unit do not feel safe with the removal of these railings, the parents and the children, the dog owners, pet owners, are they wrong for feeling unsafe with the removal of these railings?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you for your supplementary Councillor Mitchell. No I would never say that anybody's feelings about their environment were wrong and I'm surprised that you've asked me that question because it seems to be trying to lead me into making some kind of statement which would upset those members that you've talked about of the community, and that's clearly not the case. What we have been doing and as you should know from the written answer, we've been working very closely with Living Streets Edinburgh on a clearance programme around street clutter. Now the advice that we're getting from them which is a long standing body, it's a national body that happens to be the particular Edinburgh part of it that talks about the need to remove street clutter for a whole variety of good solid reasons, that's the reason why we've gone on to take away some of these guard rails. There's also a general acceptance within the street design guidance that we wouldn't certainly be adding any more guard rails because they have lived past their usefulness in many of the locations that we had. I understand people's reaction when they have a change to the local environment, it can be very uncomfortable, it can take some time to get used to it and sometimes people don't see the reasons behind it, but I think it's our responsibility as Councillors to help people to understand why we make these decisions around street clutter and why we are attempting to make positive changes around the environment even although I understand fully that it's difficult for some people to adjust to those changes because of concerns, most of the concerns come from heavy traffic volume in the area causing that degree of concern around the environment, thank you.

QUESTION NO 10

By Councillor Whyte for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Question

The publicly available Edinburgh Road Reports (eg. <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/29452/14-may-2021>) in the table listing road works, in the 'Traffic Control' column, many of the controls are listed as:

*"Re-designating key parts of the road to help pedestrians, people using **wheelchairs**, prams or bicycles to physically distance"*

For every entry in this list, where the Traffic Control has the word '**wheelchair**' mentioned and, therefore, implies to council staff and the wider public that the control is specifically being put in place to help people with wheelchairs, please can you provide:

- a) The measure that was put in place to specifically help people using wheelchairs by improving accessibility.
- b) Any measures put in place as part of that scheme which conversely reduce accessibility for wheelchairs

Answer

- a) Spaces for People measures are designed to improve conditions for pedestrians and for people using wheelchairs, prams or bicycles by providing additional footway space to support physical distancing and to enable people to move around more easily.
- b) As part of the Spaces for People programme some parking provision has been removed to allow measures to be installed.

In some cases, following feedback received, parking and loading have been reintroduced to improve accessibility.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost. The Convener's answer to Part 8 of the question doesn't tell me anything specific and I can only conclude from that, that given extending a pavement with a bit of roadway when there's still a kerblin inbetween doesn't actually assist wheelchair users very often that that means that isn't really anything for wheelchair users in that so given that, how can she justify the outcome of Part b of the question which seems to suggest lesser access for wheelchair users because they can't get to places and park if they need to?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Councillor Whyte for your question. I think you're misunderstanding completely the purpose behind extended pavements, they're designed to give more space to the people who are moving around in that particular location. that includes wheelchair users who might get crowded out on a pavement, if you then have people who are able to access that extended pavement, using that extended pavement, it clears a path for people who have other mobility issues or who are wheelchair users. So in actual fact there are all sorts of aspects of Spaces for People where there are a number of groups of people who will benefit from the particular measures that we're taking and that will include often wheelchair users. When you talk about the disadvantage to wheelchair users you're presumably referring to the removal of certain car-parking spaces. I would stress the fact, I'm assuming that that's the case I see you trying to contribute something again, that I am assuming that it's down to the loss of car parking spaces. We have kept wherever we possibly can space for disabled parking, we have also retained the rights of disabled car users to be able to park in places where other people cannot, and indeed in certain parts of Spaces for People programme we've already put in specific disabled parking bays to allow greater degree of access. So I do consider a little bit regretful that you seem to be trying to push this idea that we either don't care about wheelchair users or care about those with mobility issues, that is quite clearly not the case and I've been privy to many a conversation with officers about trying to ensure that facilities are still available for those of us who are more vulnerable in the community.

QUESTION NO 11

By Councillor Burgess for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Question (1) Does the council see it as a priority to engage with citizens about the need for their support and action in tackling the Climate Emergency?

Answer (1) The Council views engagement with citizens as of the utmost importance in tackling the climate emergency.

Since declaring a Climate Emergency, the Council has already delivered:

- an open dialogue with citizens through 'Edinburgh Talks Climate' (an online, interactive forum for discussion, debate and information sharing)
- ongoing social media campaigns on climate change awareness
- a Youth Climate Summit attended by over a hundred young people from Edinburgh's schools
- A climate change survey responded to by 1,834 residents

As part of the process to develop a 2030 Climate Strategy for the city, additional engagement has been undertaken including:

- civil society roundtables
- third sector events
- engagement with community councils
- strategy-specific social media

The draft strategy is due for consideration by Policy and Sustainability Committee on 10th June and the Council will undertake extensive citizen engagement and consultation on the strategy over the summer period.

Question (2) What resources and programme will the council employ to engage with citizens about the need for their support and action in tackling the Climate Emergency?

Answer (2) The Council has secured European funds through the Climate Knowledge and Innovation Community (CKIC) to employ a dedicated Sustainability Communication and Engagement Officer who will be responsible for delivering the 2030 Climate Strategy consultation. In addition to sector-specific engagement with city partners, this will include:

- A 12 week on-line consultation
- A third sector consultation event (delivered in partnership with EVOG)
- Specific thematic sessions with community councils
- Dedicated sessions for a range of communities of interests and seldom-heard groups
- A programme of engagement with schools

There is currently no specific budget allocated to support ongoing engagement activity or awareness-raising campaigns through the life of the strategy. However, budget proposals are being considered as part of the current budget discussions and resourcing will also be considered as part of the strategy's finalisation in September.

Question (3) Is the council considering extending its approach to citizen engagement, particularly with the UN Climate Conference being hosted in Glasgow later this year?

Answer (3) The Council has timed the publication of the 2030 Climate Strategy for October to coincide with COP26 coming to Scotland in November. This is intended to ensure consultation and engagement on the draft strategy is linked to, and benefits from, the increased profile for climate action that COP26 will bring.

In addition to consultation and engagement on climate issues through the strategy, the Council will work with civil society groups and Edinburgh businesses to collaborate on a range of thematic events and awareness raising sessions.

The Council has allocated £100,000 to support a COP26 events programme, to be led by the Chamber of Commerce. An additional £6,000 has been allocated to cover venue costs to support engagement by community groups.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thanks very much for the answers and I very much welcome the council earlier agreed some of the Green proposals on funding for citizen engagement in their budget motion but can I clarify, given the recent opposition to measures for supporting active travel for example, whether an Edinburgh Citizens' Assembly on the climate emergency is something that the coalition might consider setting up in future?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Can I thank Councillor Burgess for the question. We have obviously, and we continue to periodically think about the exact mechanisms and tools we use to engage people and we haven't certainly ruled out a Citizens' Assembly as part of that process. Councillor Burgess makes a good point that for some of the big things that we will need to do as a city and every city in the world will need to do in order to make meaningful progress on delivering that net zero position we will have to make sure that citizen understanding is at high level and a citizen sign off is a high level for those actions, we need that buy in, people understand the need to change, people understand the need for the city to decarbonise and we've not ruled out any forms of engagement at this stage in terms of how to do that best. There is obviously not unlimited resource and this is the only caveat I'll put on all that, we do need to focus the resource we do have as effectively as possible to deliver what we need to the city to reach that net zero position.

QUESTION NO 12

**By Councillor Gloyer for answer by
the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 27 May 2021**

Question

Craighleith Crescent was scheduled for carriageway surface treatment in 2019-20.

- a) On what date was the condition of this carriageway last inspected?
- b) What was the outcome of that assessment?

Answer

- a) A full condition assessment of the carriageway on Craighleith Crescent was carried out in August 2020.

Since then, several safety inspections have been carried out to identify and address any urgent or dangerous defects. The most recent safety inspection took place 15 April 2021.

- b) The condition assessment in August 2020 identified that Craighleith Crescent merited inclusion in the capital programme but was not suitable for surface treatment. It is now included in 2021/22 capital carriageway resurfacing programme.

QUESTION NO 13

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Planning Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Further to his answer to my questions on this subject on 13 December 2018, will the Convener please identify:

Question (1) When were the technical factsheets "C6, Cycle Parking in New Developments", and "C7, Cycle Parking", published?

Answer (1) C6 and C7 are both currently under development. During this work, the scope of the two factsheets has evolved slightly. C7 now deals with all cycle parking and C6 addresses other elements of cycling in new developments.

Question (2) What consultation was carried out prior to their publication?

Answer (2) In 2021, consultation on the latest draft of C7 was undertaken with Edinburgh Access Panel, Living Streets, Spokes and Transport for Edinburgh. RNIB were also approached for input but they did not submit a response.

Question (3) Will the Convener please provide the URL on the council's website where these factsheets can be downloaded?

Answer (3) The technical fact sheets that have been published to date can be viewed on the Council's website via the link below:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory/10232/edinburgh-design-guidance>

The both factsheets will be added to this site when ready.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost and I thank the Convener for his answer. When I last asked about the publication of these technical fact sheets in 2018 the Convener replied that they would be published as soon as possible, I quote. Please could the Convener clarify why he apparently feels that the definition of "as soon as possible" is nearly three years, can he clarify whether this delay reflects the lack of interest in sustainable transport from the Council's Planning Department and will he provide a date when these factsheets will be published?

**Supplementary
Answer**

Thank you Lord Provost. The fact sheets, I have been informed the fact sheet for cycle parking should be ready in 2021 and the one for the cycling and new development will also be done in the financial year 2021/22. The delays are partly due to a pause in work whilst the new contract was let and negotiated with consultants and there was also delays due to Covid and there's resource reprivatisation around that. I don't think that the other parts of your question are fair, I think there's clear direction of travel, not least through the City Plan Choices report and the City Plan which will come to Committee this summer, probably in August, it's quite clear what direction the planning department and the wider council is taking in terms of sustainability, so I hope that answers your question.

QUESTION NO 14

**By Councillor Booth for answer by
the Leader of the Council at a
meeting of the Council on 27 May
2021**

Question

Further to his answer to my leader's question on this subject at full council on 29 April 2021, please can the Council Leader confirm:

- a) when he made contact with the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for education;
- b) whether the pledge for a standalone GME secondary school in central Edinburgh was discussed;
- c) whether any offer of funding was made by the Scottish Government towards such a school;
- d) what was the conclusion of the discussion.

Answer

- a) I made contact with the new Cabinet Secretary on 19th May 2021 (the day of the First Minister's Cabinet announcement) to arrange a conversation that took place on 24th May 2021.
- b) The Council's GME plans for the future of Gaelic in the City were discussed to ensure this was consistent with the educational aspirations of the Scottish Government.
- c) Capital and operational cost issues were discussed but the discussion focused, rightly, on the educational attainment of young people in GME and this remains the Council's focus.
- d) The Cabinet Secretary acknowledged the strength of the option of a co-located campus at a new Liberton High. The Cabinet Secretary also committed to responding to the letter of the Education Convener as soon as possible to formally confirm the Government's support for the Council's plan, assuming

recommendation 1.2 is agree by committee on Friday:

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s34256/4.1%20Gaelic%20Medium%20Education%20in%20Edinburgh%20Statutory%20Consultation.pdf>

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost, I thank the Council Leader for his answer. Please can the Council Leader clarify when he spoke to the Cabinet Secretary for Education about Gaelic in the Capital, did the Council Leader make clear to her that only 15%, one five percent of Gaelic parents surveyed last year support Liberton for GME secondary and that many parents are considering withdrawing their children from GME if Liberton is progressed. Did he make clear to her that expert at research has found

Comments by the Lord Provost

Excuse me Councillor Booth I gave you a bit of latitude with your first question, it is a supplementary question singular please rather than multiple, so if you have multiple please pick one.

Councillor Booth

Can the Council Leader clarify whether he made it clear to the Cabinet Secretary that only 15% of Gaelic parents support Liberton for GME secondary and if he didn't, did he potentially mislead the cabinet secretary?

Supplementary Answer

I thank Councillor Booth for that supplementary. I can confirm that we spoke about the very long and exhaustive process including the parent engagement which is obviously very split in terms of first preference opinion, I think it would be fair to say amongst parents just how to go forward. The Cabinet Secretary was very well aware during that conversation from me and from the briefings from her own officials on virtually every aspect of the decision facing us ie in terms of funding, in terms of capacity, in terms of educational attainment and in terms of parent voice.

QUESTION NO 15

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Question

Following her answers to my questions on private sector rents on 10 December 2020, please will the Convener clarify:

- a) When did the Convener last meet with the Scottish Government to discuss action to tackle excessive private sector rents, and what was the conclusion of that discussion?
- b) What action has the council taken to publicise the Rent Service Scotland process for challenging excessive private sector rents?

Answer

- a) The Convener has not met with the Scottish Government since this question was last asked, this is largely due to the election period during which this would have been improper.

The Convener has now written to the new Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government setting out the challenges in Edinburgh and requesting a meeting to discuss a number of issues including grant funding for social housing, rent pressure zones and short term lets.

- b) The Council has a communications plan which aims to ensure that private tenants in Edinburgh are aware of their rights and to empower them to take action where required to ensure that they are not being treated unfairly.

The plan includes highlighting the role of the Rent Service Scotland service for challenging excessive private sector rents in Edinburgh and promoting the Private Rented Tenancy, which establishes a legal

agreement between the tenant and the landlord. The Council's Private Rented Sector Team help raise the profile of the services available and help private tenants threatened with homelessness.

The Council uses its social media channels and is engaging with key Edinburgh stakeholders (such as Crisis, Shelter Scotland, Citizens Advice Bureau and National Union of Students) to reach as wide an audience as possible, in order to promote the support, information and resources available to private tenants in Edinburgh.

**Supplementary
Question**

Thank you Lord Provost, I thank the Convener for her answer. When I asked this question in December last year the Convener replied that she felt a committee report was needed to address the issue of excessive private sector rents. Please can the Convener clarify when that Committee report will be forthcoming?

**Supplementary
Answer**

I thank Councillor Booth for his question. I think what's important is we've now got a manifesto commitment from the SNP on rent pressure zones, their manifesto that was very much endorsed in Edinburgh as the Council Leader has already said by the increase to the SNP MSP in Edinburgh representing our city and I think that I'm very especially pleased by the commitment on Rent Pressure Zones to reforming Rent Pressure Zones legislation and ensuring that local authorities can use it to cap high rents. When I wrote to the Cabinet Secretary, and we now have a Cabinet Secretary for housing which I think is a clear statement of intent, I made it very clear that I want to accelerate that process, we're already in a working group with Scottish Government officials, our officers are working very hard and have been on the legislation issues as Councillor Booth will know is around data collection, I've written asking to accelerate that work and I have stated a clear intent that I would like Edinburgh to be the first city with the Rent Pressure Zone, I think it is needed here so I'd be very happy to bring back a report to look at that but I think it's important that we give our council officers the opportunity to properly engage with civil servants so that we can really understand what we can deliver, the time frames and make sure that we have the resources to back it.

QUESTION NO 16

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 27 May 2021

Question

Please can the Convener clarify when the questions which I tabled for full council on 10 December 2020 on the subject of Gaelic Medium Education will be answered?

Answer

This was provided to Councillor Booth on 19 May 2021.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Provost I thank the Convener for his answer. Please can he clarify whether the parents who asked questions as part of the informal consultation on GME last year and who are still waiting for answers to their questions, will also have to wait six months for an answer?

Supplementary Answer

Very difficult to answer a general question like that, but I shall check and I'll make sure that all the answers, all the questions that the parents asked were answered in some way, and I know they were collected in the one document, I'll need to check and see if individual answers were given.

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Tests, jags and FACTS to keep Capital Covid cases down

With the success of the vaccination roll-out, we're making good progress in the fight against Covid, but [we still have much to do](#).

Cases are rising fast across the country and they remain high in Edinburgh too. This means we've got to redouble our efforts to break the chain of transmission by sticking closely to the public health guidance and by taking regular tests so we can catch it and isolate before it spreads.

There are lots of ways you can get a test, either come along to one of our [community testing centres](#) and take a rapid test or collect a pack of tests for use at home. You can also [order free home testing kits online](#). And remember, if you do test positive and therefore have to self-isolate, there's [financial support and help available](#) if you need it.

Having both doses offers the best protection so it's vital everyone attends their appointments when they're called forward. I've had my first and looking forward to the second soon! And finally, if we all take care to follow FACTS, especially if we're meeting up with more people now than in recent weeks, then we can get through this more quickly together.

Positive progress despite the pandemic

Our [latest performance reports](#) paint a holistic picture of the Council's performance in recent years and, while there is of course scope for improvement in some areas, it's encouraging to see that we're making good progress, despite the huge pressures placed on our services by the pandemic.

We've had to make massive changes to the way we deliver hundreds of lifeline services to residents to make sure we keep the city going and ensure our most vulnerable are supported.

Major and important projects like taking trams to Newhaven and the new Meadowbank continue to progress well, the number of children receiving 1,140 hours of early learning and childcare continues to grow, we've successfully reduced our carbon emissions and our performance in areas like building warrant applications has improved despite the need to allocate resources elsewhere. Meanwhile, vital services such as bin collections continued thanks to early actions taken to ensure our colleagues could work safely.

While dealing with the immediate public health needs of the city, it's inevitable that progress has slipped in some areas but we've managed to improve and maintain progress in many more, which is testament to the sheer dedication and commitment of our workforce.

The changing face of our city centre

Several major landmark projects are coming to fruition in the city centre, bringing a real sense of optimism about the area's prospects as we look towards recovery. Next week we'll see the new Edinburgh St James opening its doors on a reinvigorated shopping and leisure offering, while at the west end, Johnnie Walker Princes Street is sure to be a huge draw when it opens later this summer.

This multi-million pound refurbishment of the old Frasers department store, together with transformations for key Princes Street buildings, including the former BHS and Debenhams stores and the iconic Jenners department store, herald a great new chapter for the area.

These major developments are testament to the enduring appeal of Edinburgh for investors and will act as a catalyst for our city centre's resurgence, creating new job opportunities and building the momentum needed to drive up footfall and turnover to the benefit of all businesses.

These principles are at the heart of our [Economic Development Strategy and City Centre Recovery Plan](#) as we focus on Edinburgh's wider recovery. We've worked with key stakeholders, partners and business leaders to refresh both reports and, as we take them to wider consultation, I'll be excited to see how they develop and progress.

Help Edinburgh get climate-ready

With only a few months to go before the world's eyes are on Scotland for COP26, we've launched a major public consultation on our draft 2030 Climate Strategy, which sets out how Edinburgh will work together to become a net-zero, climate-ready city by 2030.

It sets out how, by the end of the decade, citizens will be able to have their needs met locally, reducing the need for travel; communities will be protected from the impacts of climate change by a network of green and blue routes across the city, and people's heat and energy needs will be met through new heat networks and energy-efficient buildings.

Over the summer months, residents will be able to share comments and opinions on the strategy by [taking part in the consultation online](#) and I'd urge you to have your say. Your responses will form the basis of a finalised strategy, which will be brought to Committee later in the year.

Supporting business to help Edinburgh recover

We've seen an incredible amount of innovation from traders who've been hit so hard by this pandemic – taking their businesses online, developing takeaway offers and diversifying to keep going as circumstances have changed.

We're committed to doing everything we can to support businesses and help them bounce back. Over the past year, we've made 19,000+ payments totaling over £250 million through Scottish Government-provided grant funds to help businesses to stay afloat. And we're in ongoing discussions with the Scottish Government around support for businesses while we remain in level 2.

We also continue to look at where sectors are struggling, where there are gaps and how we can help with additional training support. We're seeing that the hospitality sector, in particular, is experiencing a real skills shortage after workers were forced to find work elsewhere during prolonged lockdown periods, plus the loss of students and impact of Brexit.

Through the Edinburgh Guarantee, we're actively working with our partners to increase training opportunities for people looking to get into hospitality. This piece of work will be finalised in the coming weeks and, together with the wider [Joined Up For Jobs](#) network, we hope it'll make a real difference.

Transporting Edinburgh to a safer, more sustainable future

Our plans for a Low Emission Zone (LEZ) are one step closer after councillors approved [a city centre zone for consultation](#). The LEZ is key to cleaner air tackling the impacts poor air quality can have on the health of our residents. Not only will it significantly reduce harmful emissions, but its introduction next year will have a knock-on effect around the city businesses, transport providers and other private vehicles convert to lower-emission options to comply with the changes.

Please be assured that the majority of vehicles won't be affected by the measures thanks to already being compliant and, for those that aren't, enforcement won't begin until 2024 to help people adjust. Exemptions for blue badge holders and other essential vehicles will also be in place.

As part of the [City Mobility Plan](#), the LEZ is central to our ambitions to create a healthier and more sustainable future for Edinburgh. This ethos has guided our [assessment of the future of Edinburgh's Spaces for People schemes](#). Since their introduction, so many people have benefited from the changes, from giving residents the confidence to try out cycling to providing space for families to stroll to the park. We know not all of the changes have worked as well, and I look forward to a constructive discussion on the longer-term replacement for schemes we propose to keep in place, as well as improvements in areas where schemes are removed.

Of course, we need to get the basics right if we are to help the public make sustainable transport choices so I'm delighted that councillors also approved a comprehensive [review of winter weather maintenance](#). Amongst the actions based on lessons learned from last year will be a doubling of gritting provision for pavements and work to plug gaps in the city's network of gritted cycle routes. These efforts will be bolstered too by the agreement of an [additional £6m investment](#) in improving our roads and pavements, providing a safer environment for all road users.

Mapping out 20-minute neighbourhoods for Edinburgh

Earlier this month, a new strategy was approved that will find ways for residents to meet their daily needs within 20 minutes of their homes by walking, using public transport, wheeling or cycling. This brand new approach for the Capital aims to deliver more sustainable places, improve public services, and build on what is already a powerful sense of local community across the city.

[Twenty-minute neighbourhoods](#) are about helping local people access the services they need, where and when they need them. They're also a way of empowering communities, fostering stronger partnership working at a local level and, where appropriate, delivering multiple services from stand-alone 'hubs'.

We know this can help organisations work more efficiently within our communities, providing better outcomes for our residents. I'm very much looking forward to seeing this pivotal project move ahead.

There's no place like home

It was great to see the valuable work done through our [Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan](#) recognised this month. The multi-pronged approaches we're taking to prevent homelessness, reduce pressures on our temporary accommodation and reduce the number of people rough sleeping are making positive steps in the right direction.

In just over a year, 324 households living in the private rented sector have been prevented from becoming homeless thanks to the Council's Private Rented Service (PRS) Team, which has helped them keep their existing tenancy or to move to a new private or mid-market rent-secure tenancy. Edinburgh Help to Rent has supported this work by providing rent deposit guarantee bonds for 50 households since February 2020.

This comes as we also [celebrate helping 250 households into affordable, safe and warm mid-market rented homes through our Edinburgh Living partnership](#). It's fantastic to hear how we're making a real difference to individuals and families on low to medium incomes by helping them secure quality properties, improving the diversity of communities and promoting the regeneration of parts of Edinburgh.

Festivals' return puts Culture back at centre stage

After the challenging year we've all had the disappointment of not being able to enjoy the festivals in the usual way last year, it's fantastic we're now on the cusp of another Edinburgh festival summer – albeit one with a difference.

Festival organisers have really stepped up to make sure they're putting public safety and Covid guidance at the heart of their plans and it's great to see such diverse programmes where audiences can share in the live performance experience again alongside the online offerings.

The [Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival](#) recently announced a fabulous programme, kicking off on 16 July and showcasing amazing Scottish musicians. Later this month sees the return of the [Edinburgh Science Festival](#) and, in August, we'll be spoilt for choice with plans for in-person or online events for the [Edinburgh International Festival](#), [Edinburgh Art Festival](#), [Edinburgh Festival Fringe](#), [Edinburgh International Book Festival](#) and the [Edinburgh International Film Festival](#).

Join the next generation of Scottish politicians

There's only a couple of weeks left for the next generation of aspiring politicians to register their interest in becoming one of the 12 young people to represent Edinburgh in the next [Scottish Youth Parliament](#) (SYP).

If you know anyone aged between 14 and 25 who's passionate about issues such as climate change, racism, poverty, equality and their community, let them know that by standing as an MSYP they can make a real difference to young people's lives both here in the Capital and across the country.

Aspiring candidates need to register an interest by 30 June, with polling taking place in November for the six constituencies here in Edinburgh. Anyone interested should contact jackie.barr@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Schools out for summer

This has undoubtedly been the most difficult year that our education system has ever faced. The constant uncertainty over schools reopening and closing, classes self-isolating and interruptions to learning and teaching has been unprecedented.

So top marks must go to all our teaching staff and everyone working in our schools – from cleaners to cooks – who have done an incredible job in the past 12 months. And let's not forget our young people themselves and their families, who have shown great strength and perseverance with everything that the pandemic has thrown at them.

I'm sure brighter times are ahead of us as the vaccine roll-out gathers pace and I wish everyone in our school communities a safe, happy and well-deserved summer holiday.

Get involved

Keep up to date with all council news via our [news section online](#). You can watch live council and committee meetings via our [webcast](#) service and join the debate on Twitter using #edinwebcast. If you wish to unsubscribe, please [email](#) us.

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday 24 June 2021

Appointments to Outside Organisations

Item number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendation

- 1.1 To appoint one member to serve in place of Councillor Kate Campbell as a Council representative on Craigmillar Opportunities Trust (Cre8te).
- 1.2 To appoint one of the Council's existing Scotland Excel Joint Committee representatives to serve on its Executive Sub-Committee until June 2022.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Louise Williamson, Committee Services

Email: louise.p.williamson@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 4264

Appointments to Outside Organisations

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 Councillor Kate Campbell has tendered her resignation as a member of Cre8te.
- 2.2 Council is asked to appoint a member in place of Councillor Kate Campbell on Cre8te.
- 2.3 Council is asked to appoint a member to Scotland Excel's Joint Committee's Executive Sub-Committee.

3. Main report

- 3.1 Appointments to Outside Bodies for 2017 – 22 were approved by Council on 29 June 2017.
- 3.2 Cre8te is a social enterprise that delivers services that help to regenerate local communities. Councillors Child and Kate Campbell were appointed to represent the Council on the organisation by the Council on 29 June 2017.
- 3.3 Councillor Kate Campbell has submitted her resignation as a Council representative, and a replacement representative is sought.
- 3.4 Councillors Rankin and Hutchison were previously appointed to represent the Council on the Scotland Excel Joint Committee. The Council on 25 August 2020 noted that Councillor Rankin was taking a leave of absence on health grounds and agreed to replace Councillor Rankin with Councillor Munn on an interim basis on all respective working groups, bodies and committees.
- 3.5 The Scotland Excel Joint Committee has invited the Council to confirm that it would seek continued appointment of its Executive Sub-Committee for the period to June 2022 and formally nominate one member to serve on the Executive Sub-Committee. Councillor Hutchison previously held this position.

4. Next Steps

4.1 Any changes in representation will be communicated to the organisation concerned.

5. Financial impact

5.1 None.

6. Stakeholder/Community Impact

6.1 None.

7. Background reading/external references

7.1 [Minute of the City of Edinburgh Council of 29 June 2017](#)

7.2 [Minute of the City of Edinburgh Council of 3 May 2018](#)

7.3 [Minute of the City of Edinburgh Council of 25 August 2020](#)

8. Appendices

8.1 None.

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday 24 June 2021

Review of Political Management Arrangements - June 2021

Executive
Wards All
Council Commitments

Executive
All

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To agree all formal meetings of the Council will remain virtual until Edinburgh is moved to protection level zero.
- 1.2 To agree, following a move to protection level zero, a phased approach is progressed starting with the resumption of executive committees and the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.
- 1.3 To note current regulations which requires that the two-metre distancing rule must be in place. This threshold means that the only option available for Council at this stage is a blended model whereby a minority of elected members attend City Chambers and the remainder access remotely.
- 1.4 To agree that Council meetings remain virtual and when physical distancing restrictions change, to report to Council to consider the reimplementing of physical Council meetings.
- 1.5 To agree that all other committees working groups remain virtual.
- 1.6 To agree to progress with electronic voting, as set out in paragraphs 4.21 and 4.22.
- 1.7 To suspend procedural Standing Orders until 31 December 2021 and agree the Interim Standing Orders set out in appendix one to take effect from 1 August 2021.

Andrew Kerr
Chief Executive

Contact: Hayley Barnett, Corporate Governance Manager
Strategy and Communication, Chief Executive's Service
E-mail: Hayley.barnett@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 3996

Review of Political Management Arrangements – June 2021

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report sets out the meeting arrangements to carry out Council business going forward.

3. Background

- 3.1 In response to the Covid-19 emergency; specifically, to establish quick and agile decision making, manage the pressure on staff, and prioritise frontline services; interim political management arrangements were implemented.
- 3.2 Arrangements have been reviewed at regular and appropriate points during this period – April 2020, August 2020, December 2020 and March 2021.
- 3.3 Following the March 2021 Review, all formal meetings, including Council, executive committees and other committees have continued to take place virtually.
- 3.4 During this period, a number of national decisions have been taken to ease restrictions. As of 5 April 2021, the lockdown “Stay at Home” was lifted and replaced with “Stay Local” and remained until 16 April 2021 when the travel restrictions were lifted across Scotland. On 26 April mainland Scotland, moved to protection level three with most local authority areas, including Edinburgh, moving to protection level two on 17 May.
- 3.5 On 2 June the First Minister announced that Edinburgh, along with 12 other local authority areas in level two, were being held in level two with the rest of the mainland moving to level one. This was primarily due to higher case rates. Edinburgh is to remain in level two until at least 28 June.
- 3.6 The possibility of further delays to indicative timelines remain.
- 3.7 In a recent survey around future working arrangements at City Chambers, 36.17% (17/47) of elected member who responded to the survey supported a return to physical policy committee meetings and 46.81% (22/47) supported a return to physical meetings with an option to join remotely. Only 8.51% (3/47) supported an online only option. A full breakdown of survey responses to questions related to formal Council meetings are attached at Appendix 2.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Following the last review of political management arrangements in March 2021, all formal meetings of the Council, including Council, executive committees and other committees have continued to take place virtually. Council has fulfilled its duties and the business of Council has been successfully carried out.
- 4.2 As noted above, a significant majority of elected members who responded to a recent survey on this topic supported a move to return to physical meetings (or physical meetings with an option to join remotely).
- 4.3 Over the coming months and whilst there are still physical distancing rules in place, there are two options:
 - 4.3.1 Continue to hold all formal meetings virtually; and,
 - 4.3.2 Move to a blended model.
- 4.4 Blended meetings do offer a route to restart physical meetings and offer a more flexible model that can be used when restrictions are removed. Officers have taken steps to prepare for a move to blended meetings which are noted below.
- 4.5 Scotland follows the Covid-19 protection levels system (0-4). On 26 April 2021 mainland Scotland, moved to protection level three with most local authority areas, including Edinburgh, moving to protection level two on 17 May. On 1 June, the First Minister announced Edinburgh, along with 12 other local authority areas, would remain at level two.
- 4.6 An indicative timeline has been set out for the further easing of restrictions, however recent increases in case numbers suggests there could be delays to this timeline.
- 4.7 Each protection level has a different set of rules on what you can and cannot do. It is worth noting, even at level zero there is still an expectation to work from home where possible and two-metre physical distancing restrictions remain. Throughout the pandemic we have conducted meetings on a virtual basis and this should remain until protection level zero and further restrictions are lifted.

Blended meetings

- 4.8 Blending meetings are meetings where some participants are physically in the room and others join remotely.
- 4.9 Property and Facilities Management have carried out a significant amount of work to develop a strategy around the reoccupation of the City Chambers that includes the risk assessment of capacity levels for meeting rooms. Technological improvements including additional hardware and cabling have been installed and upgraded in the Main Council Chamber and Dean of Guild Court Room to support the robust and secure use of video conferencing facilities. Officers have also carried out test meetings using the new hybrid meeting facilities.
- 4.10 The improvements noted above mean, in the long term, we are able to offer more accessible options for attendance at Council and committee meetings.

Council

- 4.11 Modelling based on the current two-metre requirements stipulates that 25 individuals could safely attend meetings in the Main Council Chamber (classroom layout).
- 4.12 This threshold means that the only option available for Council at this stage is a blended model whereby a minority of elected members attend City Chambers and the remainder access remotely.
- 4.13 A breakdown of allocation based on proportionality is set out below. The allocation below excludes essential officers – Proper Officer, Committee Officers x3, AV technician and the Lord Provost as convener of the meeting.

Table1: City Chambers Maximum Capacity for a Council meeting.

Political Group	Maximum number of attendees
Conservative	5
SNP	5
Labour	3
Green	2
Liberal Democrat	2
EPIC	1
Independents	1

- 4.14 The benefits of in person Council meetings at this level are unlikely to be felt, a large number of remote participants plus a physical meeting would be difficult to facilitate and risks creating a two-tier meeting. This would not achieve the goal of moving towards normality or improving procedural matters.
- 4.15 Further, blended meetings do come with challenges:
- 4.15.1 A blended meeting will make procedural matters more complicated. e.g. roll-call votes, meeting register and management of order of speakers will present difficulties
- 4.15.2 Resource capacity - as a rule a move to blended meetings may, at least in the short-term, require a doubling up of meeting support capacity. This is to manage the complications of the AV and webcasting elements and the additional Committee Services' resource to manage procedural matters in both spheres.
- 4.16 Therefore, to progress with blended meetings, a number of restrictions would have to remain in place:

- 4.16.1 Only elected members, committee officers and 1-2 lead officers could physically attend (not exceeding maximum room capacity limits). All other officers would attend remotely e.g. those presenting reports.
- 4.16.2 A member who wanted to attend committee remotely e.g. due to the need to self-isolate would have to advise the convener and clerk in advance. If more than 25% of members wanted to attend remotely then the committee would automatically take place on MS Teams.
- 4.16.3 Deputations would attend remotely.
- 4.16.4 Members of the public/press would attend remotely.
- 4.16.5 Procedural processes would be drafted to prevent a two-tier meeting whereby those in the meeting room would potentially be at an advantage to those attending virtually.

Committee Meetings

- 4.17 The current regulations would permit space in the Main Council Chamber for physical executive committee meetings to take place.

Other committees and working groups

- 4.18 All other committees (as set out in the Committee Terms of Reference) and working groups would remain virtual. An assessment should be made as to whether, in the long term, some working groups should remain virtual. The findings of this assessment would be reported back to Council as part of the next review of political management arrangements.
- 4.19 Going forward, blended meetings are a route to restart physical meetings, however this needs to be balanced with the current distancing requirements, resource implications and risk of procedural or technical errors. It is therefore proposed that a phased approach, including the restrictions set out in paragraph 4.16, is progressed starting with the resumption of executive committees and the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee. It is imperative that we ensure committees can work in this way before reimplementing quasi-judicial physical meetings, likely after one full cycle of executive committees.
- 4.20 Currently, two-metre physical guidelines limit the number of members that could participate physically in a Council meeting from the Chambers, and for the reasons set out in paragraph 4.13, it is proposed that the Council remains virtual. If physical distancing restrictions change, a report would return to Council to consider the reimplementation of physical Council meetings.

Electronic Voting

- 4.21 Following decision at March Council, electronic voting has been tested at the Policy and Sustainability Committee using the Microsoft Forms Application. The test was successful and will be rolled out across all executive committees and the Governance Risk and Best Value Committee for virtual meetings. Members should note the time comparisons set out at Appendix 3. Votes taken at quasi-judicial and other committee meetings will be taken by roll call. Following testing at executive

committees, an assessment will be made by the Chief Executive as to whether it can be used for Council.

- 4.22 It is currently not recommended to use the Microsoft Forms Application for electronic voting when physical meetings resume due to the additional challenges for conveners and clerks presented by blended meetings. However, the benefits of electronic voting are clear, and officers will continue to explore an option currently under development by Public-I designed specifically for blended Council meetings.

Standing Orders

- 4.23 One minor change to the Interim Standing Orders is proposed, set out at Appendix 1. It is proposed to change the deadline for submitting deputation requests from 5pm to 2pm to aid the timely circulation of written submissions to elected members. The Lord Provost or Convener still retain the discretion to waive this requirement.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Interim political management arrangements noted above would be implemented from 1 August 2021.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Political management arrangements over this period would be contained within existing revenue budgets.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Political management arrangements will be communicated to all stakeholders.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 [Interim Political Management Arrangements 2020](#) – Leadership Advisory Panel of 23 April 2020
- 8.2 [Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee Arrangements and Remote Council Meetings](#) – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 28 May 2020
- 8.3 [Review of Political Management Arrangements 2020](#) – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 6 August 2020
- 8.4 [Review of Political Management Arrangements December 2020](#) – City of Edinburgh Council of 10 December 2020
- 8.5 [Review of Political Management Arrangements March 2021](#) – City of Edinburgh Council 11 March 2021

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – Interim Standing Orders
- 9.2 Appendix 2 – Future working arrangements at City Chambers Survey
- 9.3 Appendix 3 – Time comparison - roll call voting and electronic voting

CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

PROCEDURAL STANDING ORDERS

FOR COUNCIL

AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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STANDING ORDERS

These standing orders (“**Standing Orders**”) apply from ~~12 March~~ 28 June 2021 and regulate the conduct of business at meetings of the City of Edinburgh Council (“**Council**”) and the committees or sub-committees of the Council (“**Committees**”).

Members are responsible for acting in accordance with the Members’ code of conduct at Council and committee meetings.

1. **First meeting of the Council after an election**

1.1 In an election year, the Council will hold a meeting at 10 am, no later than the third Thursday after the day of the ordinary election of Councillors.

1.2 At this meeting or at any adjournment of it, the Council will

(a) appoint the Lord Provost;

(b) seek to appoint the Depute Convener, the Leader and Depute Leader of the Council, the members of the committees of the Council and their conveners and any vice-conveners, the members of the joint committees and joint boards, the members of the Licensing Board and such representatives to other bodies as the Council may decide to appoint; and

(c) deal with any urgent competent business.

2. **Lord Provost and Depute Convener – term of office**

2.1 The Council may at any time agree to remove the Lord Provost and Depute Convener from office, with immediate effect, provided that not less than three quarters of the members of the Council present and voting so decide.

3. **Ordinary and special meetings**

3.1 If circumstances allow, a meeting of the Council will be held at 10 am on every fourth Thursday.

3.2 In a non-election year the Council, at its first ordinary meeting in May will; appoint the Leader and Depute Leader, the members of the committees of the Council and their conveners and any vice-conveners and the members of the joint committees and joint boards.

3.3 The Lord Provost may in exceptional circumstances alter the arrangements for ordinary meetings or authorise a special meeting to be called. A special meeting may also be called at any time by written request to the Clerk specifying the business to be transacted and signed by at least one quarter of the members of the Council. The Clerk will arrange for the special meeting to be held within 14 days of receipt of the request. The right to call a meeting does not apply to Committees.

3.4 The Council may recess for periods to be determined by the Clerk after consultation with the Lord Provost and the Leader of the Council. During any recess no meetings

of the Council, Executive Committees or the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee will be held.

4. **Notice of Meetings**

4.1 At least 3 clear days before a meeting of the Council or its Committees:

- (a) the Clerk will publish a notice of the time and place of the intended meeting. If the meeting is called by members of the Council, the signed request will accompany the notice; and
- (b) a summons to attend the meeting containing the agenda of business will be sent to every Council member by email or to an alternative address nominated by them. If a summons is not sent to any member, the meeting will still be validly called only if good reason is shown for failure to send such a summons.

4.2 A Committee will hold such meetings as the Council may prescribe, but the Clerk will call additional meetings of a Committee at any time on being required to do so by the Committee concerned, or at the request of the Convener. Meetings will be called at least six days before the meeting date in accordance with the statutory requirements

4.3 The Clerk will call a special meeting to be held within eight days of receiving a written request specifying the business to be transacted and signed by at least one quarter of the members of the Committee concerned.

4.4 Any summons issued under Standing Order 4.1 must give a note of the agenda of business and the proposed order for dealing with business at the meeting.

4.5 No business other than that set out in the notice of meeting may be dealt with unless it is brought before the Council or Committee as a matter of urgency. The Lord Provost or Convener must rule that it is a matter of urgency and give the reasons for the ruling to be noted in the minutes. The item must be made known at the start of the meeting when the order of business is decided. If the Lord Provost or Convener rules that the matter is not urgent, it will be included as an item for the next ordinary meeting of the Council or next scheduled committee meeting, unless dealt with earlier.

5. **Quorum**

5.1 The quorum of the Council is sixteen. No business may be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. If fewer than sixteen members are present ten minutes after the appointed time for the start of the meeting a division will be announced. If after a further period of three minutes there are still fewer than sixteen members present, the meeting will be adjourned until such date and time as the Lord Provost decides.

5.2 If at any time during a Council meeting a question arises on whether there is a quorum, the Lord Provost will instruct a count of the members who are present. If a quorum is not present, the meeting will be adjourned until such date and time as the Lord Provost decides.

5.3 Subject to law the quorum of a Committee will be one third of the number of voting members of the Committee (see Committee terms of reference for specific numbers)

provided that in no case will any business be transacted unless at least two voting members are present.

5.4 If fewer members are present five minutes after the time appointed for the start of a Committee meeting than are needed to constitute a quorum the meeting will be adjourned until such date and time as the Convener decides. After a meeting has started, if the number of members present falls below the quorum the meeting will be adjourned immediately until such date and time as the Convener decides.

5.5 A member who has declared an interest in an item of business and has left the meeting may not be counted in the quorum for that item of business. If less than a quorum of the Council or Committee is entitled to vote on an item due to declaration of interests that item cannot be dealt with at the meeting.

6. **Lord Provost - Council Meetings**

6.1 The Lord Provost will chair any Council meeting when he or she is present. When the Lord Provost is absent from a Council meeting, the Depute Convener will chair the meeting. When the Lord Provost and Depute Convener are absent, another member of the Council, chosen by the members present, will chair the meeting.

7. **Convener - Committees**

7.1 The Convener will chair any meeting of a Committee when he or she is present. When the Convener is absent from a Committee meeting the Vice-Convener, if appointed, will chair the meeting. When the Convener and Vice-Convener are absent, another member chosen by the members present will chair the meeting.

8. **Lord Provost and Convener- Duties**

8.1 The duties of the Lord Provost or Convener of the meeting, in accordance with these Standing Orders, will include:

- (a) Deciding on all matters of protocol, decorum, order, competency and relevancy;
- (b) Determining all matters of procedure for which no provision is made within these Standing Orders. In reaching this determination he/she may be advised by the Clerk;
- (c) Deciding priority between two or more members wishing to speak;
- (d) Ensuring that a fair opportunity is given to all members to express their views on any item of business;
- (e) Preserving order within the meeting;
- (f) Ordering the exclusion of any member of the public, in order to prevent or suppress disorderly conduct or any other behaviour which impedes or is, in the Lord Provost or Chair's opinion, impeding the business of the meeting;
- (g) In the event of disorder arising, adjourning the meeting to a time and date the Lord Provost or Convener will fix then or later. In leaving the meeting, the Lord

Provost or Convener in such circumstances, will without further procedure, have formally adjourned the meeting;

(h) Signing the minutes of the previous meeting;

8.2 The decision of the Lord Provost or Convener in relation to all questions regarding Standing Orders is final, but in reaching these decisions advice may be sought from the Clerk.

9. **Order of Business**

9.1 **Full Council** – the business of Council at ordinary meetings will take place in the following order:

(a) Order of Business

(b) Declaration of Interests

(c) Deputations

(d) Minutes

(e) Leader's Report

(f) Appointments

(g) Reports

(h) Motions

(i) Congratulatory Motions

(j) Council Questions

9.2 At a meeting of the Council or a Committee a ten-minute break will be taken after every two hours of business or at the end of the current item of business, at the discretion of the Lord Provost or Convener.

10. **Power to vary order of business**

10.1 The Council or Committee may at any meeting vary the order of business to give precedence to any item on the agenda:

(a) at the discretion of the Lord Provost or Convener; or

(b) on a motion duly moved and seconded and voted on electronically or by a roll call.

11. **Declaration of Interests**

11.1 Where a member declares an interest in accordance with the Councillors' Code of Conduct and leaves the meeting, the fact will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

12. **Deputations**

- 12.1 The Council or any Committee can hear deputations on any matter that is included in its power, duties or delegation.
- 12.2 Every application for a deputation must be from an office bearer of an organisation or group. It must be submitted by email or in writing, setting out the subject of the deputation and be delivered to the Clerk no later than 25pm, two working days before the meeting concerned. The Lord Provost or Convener has discretion to waive both these requirements.
- 12.3 The Clerk will submit the application to the Council or relevant Committee. An application for a deputation to Council will only be submitted if it relates to an item of business on the agenda for that meeting or if the Lord Provost or Convener decides that there is sufficient reason for the meeting to consider it.
- 12.4 When the Council or Committee considers whether to hear a deputation, it must not discuss the merits of the case itself. If necessary, a vote will be taken without discussion on whether to hear the deputation.
- 12.5 Each deputation will not usually exceed four persons and will have ten minutes to present its case. If the meeting decides to hear more than one deputation on the same subject, they will be heard together. The Lord Provost or Convener will decide how much time to allow.
- 12.6 Unless the Lord Provost or Convener decides otherwise, the total maximum time allowed for deputations at a meeting will be limited to 60 minutes.
- 12.7 Any member can put a question to the deputation that is relevant to the subject. The total time allowed for such questions will not be more than ten minutes for each deputation. The merits of the case must not be discussed by members until the deputation has withdrawn.
- 12.8 Standing Order 12 does not apply to meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee, the Development Management Sub-Committee, or the City of Edinburgh Planning Local Review Body, nor to any subsequent consideration of the quasi-judicial matter, or to any other quasi-judicial items considered by the Council or its committees.

13. **Minutes**

- 13.1 The Clerk will minute all Council and Committee meetings. The minutes will record the names of the members who attended the meeting and record, in the event of a vote, how each individual member voted. They will be circulated among members of the Council or Committee at least three clear working days before its next meeting for approval. If they are approved as a correct record of proceedings of the meeting, the Lord Provost or Convener of the meeting will sign them.

14. **Reports to Council and Executive Committees**

- 14.1 Reports to the Council and its Executive Committees will be submitted in accordance with the relevant remits and delegated functions set out in the Council's Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions. Any report which may be of interest to

another Executive Committee will be included in that Committee's Business Bulletin by way of an electronic link and may also be issued by email to elected members if requested.

15. **Council Questions**

15.1 At any Council meeting, a member may put a question to the Lord Provost or to any Convener or Vice-Convener with relevant responsibility about any relevant or competent business. The question must be given in by email or in writing to the Clerk by noon on the seventh working day before the meeting. The Lord Provost or Convener may specify that a particular question will be answered by another Convener or Vice-Convener, with that member's consent.

15.2 A member may put a question to a Convener or Vice-Convener at a Council meeting about any matter that is on the summons for that meeting. He/she must give the question orally or in writing to the Clerk by 10am on the day before the meeting.

15.3 After a question has been answered the questioner may ask a supplementary question, if necessary, to seek clarification of the answer given. The total time for asking a supplementary question and replying to it will not be more than 5 minutes. The total time for all such questions and answers will not be more than 40 minutes.

15.4 No discussion will be allowed on any question or answer.

16. **Leader's Report and Questions**

16.1 At a meeting, a member may put one or more oral questions to the Leader in connection with the Leader's Report. The Leader may invite a Convener or Vice-Convener to respond on his/her behalf. The total time allowed for such questions and answers will not be more than 40 minutes.

16.2 No discussion will be allowed on any question or answer.

17. **Notices of Motion**

17.1 Every formal notice of motion will be in writing and signed off by the member giving the notice. The notice must be emailed to the Clerk by noon on the seventh working day before the meeting. Those not received within this timescale, will not be included in the summons calling the meeting.

17.2 Late formal notices of motion may be submitted to the Council or Committee at the appropriate time in the meeting, in terms of Standing Order 4.4 if:

- (a) They have been delivered to the Clerk before the start of the meeting;
- (b) They are considered by the Lord Provost or Convener to be competent, relevant and urgent; and
- (c) They have been circulated to members before the meeting commences or read by the Clerk to the meeting at the appropriate time in the meeting.

17.3 Late motions which are not accepted as urgent by the Lord Provost or Convener, will be considered at the next ordinary meeting.

17.4 Every formal motion submitted, in terms of Standing Orders 17.1 and 17.2, will require to be moved and seconded formally. If such a motion is not moved and seconded formally it will fall and this will be recorded in the minutes.

18. **Public Meetings and Private Items**

18.1 Meetings of the Council are generally open to the public but the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 does allow the Council to hear matters in private if they meet the description of confidential information as defined in the Act or by resolution if the Council agrees that if the meeting was held in public, then exempt information as defined in Schedule 7(A) of the Act would be disclosed.

18.2 Being open to the public requires that the public should be able to observe meetings and should have access to all agendas and reports that are not ruled private under the Act. To ensure access, the Council will endeavour to webcast all appropriate meetings that are open to the public.

19. **Order of Debates**

19.1 A member who wishes to speak, when called on, will address the Lord Provost or Convener. The member will speak directly on the motion or amendment that is being proposed, seconded or discussed, or on a question of order. No member can speak more than once on any subject that is being discussed, except for a point of order or, with the permission of the Lord Provost or Convener, to give an explanation. The person proposing the motion has a right of reply.

20. **Length of Speeches**

20.1 Except with the Lord Provost or Convener's permission the proposer and seconder of a motion or an amendment must not speak for more than five minutes, and all other speakers for not more than three minutes. The proposer of the original motion may speak for up to five minutes in reply, and the reply must not introduce any new matter into the debate. After that, the discussion will finish and the Lord Provost or Convener will direct that a vote be taken.

21. **Motion for Adjournment**

21.1 A motion to adjourn the meeting may be put at any time, except if a member is speaking, and will have precedence over all other motions. It must be moved and seconded without discussion and must at once be put by the Lord Provost or Convener in the form of 'adjourn' or 'not adjourn.'

21.2 A second or subsequent motion to adjourn may not be made within half an hour unless it is moved by the Lord Provost or Convener when it will be dealt with as in Standing Order 21.1.

22. **Debate**

22.1 A member wishing to speak will address the Lord Provost or Convener. He/she will speak only on the matter under consideration or on a question of order.

- 22.2 A member proposing to submit a motion or amendment on any subject under discussion will before addressing the meeting state the terms of the motion or amendment. If he/she fails to do so the Lord Provost or Convener will ask him/her to state the terms. Every motion or amendment must be moved and seconded and will, when required by the Lord Provost or Convener, be put in writing and submitted electronically to the Clerk. Members will be only permitted to move or second one motion/amendment for each item of business.
- 22.3 That any motion or amendment, to any subject under discussion be provided to the clerk no later than 2pm on the working day before the meeting unless the motion or amendment:
- a) Moves the recommendations of the report; or
 - b) Calls for a continuation of consideration of the item to a future meeting; or
 - c) Moves no action; or
 - d) Has been ruled urgent by the Lord Provost or Convener; or
 - e) Can be submitted verbally at the meeting and with the consent of the Lord Provost or Convener.
- 22.4 Clause 22.3 will not apply to any agenda items where the final report or reports were not issued alongside the notice of the meeting.
- 22.5 Minor changes to motions and amendments are permitted but these should be able to be verbally altered at the meeting.
- 22.6 The Council or Committee can agree that in exceptional circumstances the requirements of this standing order can be ignored.
- 22.7 The mover and seconder of any motion or amendment or adjustment thereof may speak in support of the motion or amendment for not more than five minutes. No other speaker may speak for more than three minutes or more than once in the same discussion except to call attention to a point of order.
- 22.8 Notwithstanding the provisions in Standing Order 22.7, if an individual member is named by another speaker during debate, that member will be permitted to speak, even if having already spoken, but only in response to the specific reference made and only to correct any apparent or actual misrepresentation.
- 22.9 The mover of the original motion will have the right to speak for a further five minutes in reply to the debate after which the discussion will be closed. The mover of the motion must, in his/her reply, strictly confine himself/herself to answering previous speakers and not introducing any new matter. No member will be permitted to offer an opinion or to ask a question or otherwise to interrupt the proceedings. The motion and amendment(s) will then be voted on by members.

- 22.10 The limits of time specified in Standing Orders 22.7 and 22.4 to 22.9 may be exceeded with the consent of the majority of members present and the Lord Provost or Convener may determine, without taking a vote, whether such consent has been obtained.
- 22.11 When a motion and two or more amendments are before the meeting, the Lord Provost or Convener will decide the order and manner for putting the motion and amendments to the meeting. The Lord Provost or Convener (or nominee) will have the right to move a minute or report, as the original motion, with all alternative proposals considered as amendments.
- 22.12 The mover of the motion or amendment may agree to add all or part of an amendment moved and seconded by other members, provided that:
- (a) His/her seconder consents;
 - (b) The mover and seconder of the other amendment consents; and
 - (c) The agreement takes place before the mover of the motion has replied.
- 22.13 The mover of an amendment, which is not seconded, may have his/her dissent to the decision of the Council or Committee recorded in the minute.
- 22.14 If a motion is moved and seconded and no amendments are put forward, no other speaker may speak on this item of business except to call attention to a point of order.
- 22.15 Individual agenda items, (excluding the budget and quasi-judicial items) will be subject to a 40-minute time limit, unless specifically agreed by Council or committee at the order of business by a straightforward majority vote if required. This will include time for any questions to officers', proposing and seconding speeches and general debate but not including time to conduct voting or officers presenting their report. In the event of no express agreement by committee, the Lord Provost or Convener will have the discretion to allow proceedings to continue but should explain why they are doing so.
23. **Closure of Debate**
- 23.1 Any member who has not spoken on the question before the meeting may propose 'that the matter now be decided'. If this is seconded and the Lord Provost or Convener thinks the question has been discussed enough, he or she will order that a vote on the motion be taken, without amendment or discussion. If the motion that the matter now be decided is carried, the proposer of the original motion will have a right to reply, and the question itself will then be put to the meeting. If the motion that the matter be now decided is not carried, a similar motion may be made after every two further members have spoken.
24. **Voting**
- 24.1 All votes will be taken by roll call vote or by electronic voting and with a clear public audit trail from vote to Member.
- 24.2 The minutes will record how each individual member voted.

- 24.3 When a motion and amendment are before the Council or Committee the proposal receiving the support of a majority of members present and voting will be declared to be a decision of the Council or Committee.
- 24.4 When a motion and two or more amendments are before the Council or Committee and the adoption of one or more of the proposals would result in either the continuation of a decision or no action, a vote will firstly be taken on the proposal(s) involving continuation or no action as soon as the discussion is completed. This vote will be taken 'for or against' either continuation or no action. Any vote necessary on the remaining proposals will be taken in terms of Standing Order 24.1.
- 24.5 When a motion and two or more amendments, none of which involves continuation or no action, are before the Council or Committee, the vote will be taken on all proposals, each member having one vote. If a proposal receives the support of a majority of members voting it will be declared to be the decision of the Council or Committee. If none of the proposals receives the support of a majority of those voting, the one which has received the fewest votes will be dropped and a fresh vote taken on the remaining proposals. If there is an equal number of votes between the proposals with the fewest votes the Lord Provost will have a casting vote to determine which proposal should be dropped. If the Lord Provost does not exercise his/her casting vote, the decision will be by lot. This process of elimination will continue until one proposal has received majority support from those voting which will be declared the decision of the Council or Committee.
- 24.6 If there are equal numbers of votes, the Lord Provost or Convener will have a casting vote except where the vote relates to appointing a member of the Council to any particular office or committee. In this case, the decision will be by lot.
- 24.7 If a vote has been taken and a member immediately challenges the accuracy of the count, the Lord Provost or Convener will decide whether to have a recount. If there is a recount, the Lord Provost or Convener will decide how this should be taken.

25. **End of Session Decisions**

- 25.1 At 5pm for Council and committee meetings excluding quasi-judicial committees and items, and meetings that begin in the afternoon, unless the Council or committee expressly agrees otherwise, motions and amendments will be moved and seconded formally with no debate, before a vote is then taken for each remaining item of business.

26. **Appointments**

- 26.1 When appointing a member of the Council or any person to office where the number of candidates is more than the number of vacancies, the person to be selected may be decided by ballot. In each case, members can vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies but in any vote, they may only vote once for any one candidate.
- 26.2 If only one vacancy is to be filled and one candidate has an absolute majority of the votes cast, that candidate will be declared appointed. If this is not the case, the name of the candidate with the fewest votes will be taken off the list of candidates. This process of elimination will continue until the number of remaining candidates equals

the number of vacancies or one candidate has a majority and there is only one vacancy. That candidate or those candidates will be declared to be appointed.

26.3 If there is a vote between more than two candidates and there are an equal number of votes for candidates with fewest votes, there will be an extra vote by ballot of those candidates. The name of the candidate with the fewest votes will be taken off the list. If there are an equal number of votes between two candidates, the candidate to be taken off the list will be decided by lot.

26.4 Subject to law, appointments to outside bodies are for the life of the Council unless the person appointed resigns from the appointment or the outside body's constitution specifies a different time period.

27. **Point of Order**

27.1 Any member may raise a point of order at any time during a meeting. Any member who is addressing the meeting when a question of order is raised will resume his/her seat until the question has been decided by the Lord Provost or Convener. The member raising the point of order will advise which Standing Order he/she considers is being infringed and thereafter, without debate, await the Lord Provost or Convener's decision. No other member may speak to the point of order unless with the permission of the Lord Provost or Convener. The decision of the Lord Provost or Convener will be final and cannot be discussed.

28. **Suspension of Standing Orders**

28.1 The Council may on a motion duly moved and seconded, and with the consent of two thirds of members voting, suspend any Standing Order specified in the motion. Any such motion may be submitted, without previous notice, and will be voted on electronically or by roll call without discussion.

28.2 Standing Orders 2, 8, 26, 27, 28 and 34 will not be capable of suspension.

28.3 The Pensions Committee and Pensions Audit Sub-Committee, with external membership and participation are subject to their own Standing Orders approved by the Pensions Committee from time to time. In the absence of the aforementioned Standing Orders the City of Edinburgh Council Standing Orders will continue to apply to the Pensions Committee and Pensions Audit Sub-Committee.

28.4 The Pension Board is a body constituted under the Public Services Pensions Act 2013 and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Governance) (Scotland) Regulations 2014 and with powers regulated by the United Kingdom Pensions Regulator. The constitution and operations of the Pensions Board will be determined in accordance with regulation and, where appropriate, considered and approved by the Pensions Boards and/or the Pensions Committee.

29. **Obstructive or offensive conduct by members**

29.1 If any member at any meeting disregards the authority of the Lord Provost or Convener, or behaves obstructively or offensively, a motion may then be proposed and seconded to suspend the member for the rest or any part of the meeting. The motion will be put without discussion. If it is carried, the Clerk will act on any orders

received from the Lord Provost or Convener to carry out the decision.

30. **Changing a Council decision**

30.1 Subject to law, a decision of the Council or committee cannot be changed by the Council or committee within six months unless notice has been given of the proposed item in the summons for the meeting and:

- (a) the Lord Provost or Convener rules there has been a material change of circumstances; or
- (b) the Council or committee agrees the decision was based on erroneous, incorrect or incomplete information.

31. **Referring a decision to Council**

31.1 Subject to Standing Order 31.2, where a decision is taken at the Executive Committees, Governance, Risk & Best Value Committee, or the Regulatory Committee, not less than one third of the members present may ask for it to be passed to Council as a recommendation.

31.2 A decision will not be sent to the Council in terms of Standing Order 31.1 where the Convener considers that a final decision must be made before the next meeting of the Council, in order to avoid material prejudice to the interests of the Council. The Convener will give clear reasons for this decision.

32. **Committee – non-member motion**

32.1 Any member may raise with the relevant committee a matter of new business by submitting a motion in writing to the Clerk by noon on the seventh working day before the meeting. If accepted by the Convener the matter will be placed on the agenda of business for the next meeting. The member raising the matter will be entitled to appear at that meeting to move his/her motion, which will require to be seconded by another member, but may not vote unless he/she is a member of the Committee.

32.2 Any member may raise an amendment to an item of business to a Committee they are not a member of. They will not though be permitted to move or second or speak to the amendment at the meeting.

33. **Ward or members with special interest**

33.1 A member of the Council who is not a member of a particular committee may be invited by the Convener, or Vice-Convener to attend a meeting where there is under discussion any item in which that member has a local or other special interest. The member will be entitled to speak on that item but may not vote. This Standing Order does not apply to the Regulatory or the Planning Committee or any of their sub-committees.

34. **Freedom of the City**

34.1 Any member of the Council who wishes to propose that the Freedom of the City be offered to any distinguished person or organisation will first consult the Lord Provost before submitting any motion to the Council.

34.2 Any motion to give Freedom of the City will be stated in the notice of the meeting of the Council and will need to be passed by at least two thirds of members at the meeting.

35. **Variation and revocation of Standing Orders**

35.1 Any motion to vary or revoke these Standing Orders will, when voted on, be approved by a majority of members of the Council present and voting. Any such motion must be by formal notice as provided in Standing Order 17.

36. **Review of Standing Orders**

36.1 These Standing Orders will be in place until 31 ~~December~~ July 2021 unless otherwise determined by the Council or appropriate Committee.

Appendix 2 - Future working arrangements at City Chambers Survey (questions related to formal Council meetings).

How would you like policy committees to happen after the pandemic?

Response	Total	Percentage
Generally, everyone attending the committee will be in one physical location	17	36.17%
Meetings will take place in a physical location but individuals will have the option to join online	22	46.81%
Meetings will take place online but Council buildings will have physical meeting facilities that can connect to online meetings	4	8.51%
Generally, everyone attending the committee will be online	3	6.38%
Don't know / no preference	1	2.13%
Not Answered	1	0.00%

How would you like quasi-judicial committees to happen after the pandemic?

Response	Total	Percentage
Generally, everyone attending the committee will be in one physical location	16	34.04%
Meetings will take place in a physical location but individuals will have the option to join online	20	42.55%
Meetings will take place online but Council buildings will have physical meeting facilities that can connect to online meetings	2	4.26%
Generally, everyone attending the committee will be online	3	6.38%
Don't know / no preference	6	12.77%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Appendix 3 - Time comparison - roll call voting and electronic voting

Policy and Sustainability

	April Meeting - Roll Call Vote	June Meeting – Electronic Vote
Vote 1	52 seconds	2 minutes 37 seconds
Vote 2	49 seconds	40 seconds
Vote 3	48 seconds	59 seconds
Vote 4	N/A	34 seconds

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10am, Thursday 24 June 2021

Council Outline Diary 2022/23

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To agree the recess and Council meeting dates for August 2022 to August 2023 as set out in appendix 1.
- 1.2 To note the current position in relation to the Spring Bank Holiday 2022.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Hayley Barnett, Corporate Governance Manager

E-mail: Hayley.barnett@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 3996

Council Outline Diary 2022/23

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report proposes meeting dates for The City of Edinburgh Council and recess dates from August 2022 to August 2023. School term dates for this period have already been considered and agreed to at the Education, Children and Families Committee at 18 May 2021.
- 2.2 The report also notes the current position in relation to progress made to agree the Spring Bank Holiday 2022.

3. Background

- 3.1 Standing Order 3.1 states that, if circumstances allow, a meeting of the Council will be held at 10am on every fourth Thursday.
- 3.2 Standing Order 3.4 states that during any recess, no meetings of the Council, Executive Committees or the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee will be held.

4. Main report

Council Outline Diary

- 4.1 It is normal practice for the Council to agree the timing of recess periods and Council meetings a year in advance. The proposed recess periods and Council meeting dates for August 2022 to August 2023 are included at appendix 1.
- 4.2 In February 2021, Council agreed the Council Diary 2021/22. The Council outline diary for the following year would normally be presented alongside this report.
- 4.3 Due to a delay in the consultation with parents/carers, pupils and staff as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, this paper was not presented as usual

alongside the Council Diary 2021/22 Report at the Council's February meeting.

- 4.4 School term dates for 2022/23 (and 2023/24, 2024/25) have been agreed by the Education, Children and Families Committee at their May meeting and the recess periods reflect these.
- 4.5 The proposed Council meeting dates broadly follow the standard cycle of being held at 10am on every fourth Thursday, as per Standing Order 3.1.

Public Holiday 2022

- 4.6 In November 2020, Council agreed the Public Holidays 2021 – 2027. The report noted that further work was required to consider the full implications of the UK Government announcement (November 2020) regarding the May Bank Holiday Weekend in 2022 to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- 4.7 In Edinburgh, the May Bank holiday noted above has traditionally not been observed at the end of May. The equivalent Spring Holiday in Edinburgh is normally the third Monday in April and this date still requires to be agreed for 2022.
- 4.8 It is normal practice for public holidays to be agreed one year in advance however, to date there is still no national position agreed. Officers have engaged with COSLA on this matter and subsequently, a survey is currently being carried out with other authorities to determine implications.
- 4.9 Officers will continue to engage with COSLA and a further report on this matter will be brought to Council in due course.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The meeting schedule will be implemented from August 2022.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 None

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Consultation was undertaken with parents/carers, staff and pupils to agree the proposed recess periods.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 The City of Edinburgh Council – [Council Diary 2021/22](#)
- 8.2 Education, Children and Families Committee 18 May 2021 – [School Session Dates 2022 – 2025](#)
- 8.3 The City of Edinburgh Council – [Public Holidays 2021-2027](#)

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Proposed Outline Diary 2022/23

Outline Diary 2022-23			
W/C	Month	Year	Week
1	August	2022	5
8	August	2022	6
15	August	2022	7
22	August	2022	8 Council Meeting on 25 August
29	August	2022	1
5	September	2022	2
12	September	2022	3
19	September	2022	4 Council Meeting on 22 September
26	September	2022	5
3	October	2022	6
10	October	2022	7
17	October	2022	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
24	October	2022	8 Council Meeting on 27 October
31	October	2022	1
7	November	2022	2
14	November	2022	3
21	November	2022	4 Council Meeting on 24 November
28	November	2022	5
5	December	2022	6
12	December	2022	7 Council Meeting on 15 December
19	December	2022	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
26	December	2022	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
2	January	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
9	January	2023	8
16	January	2023	1
23	January	2023	2 Council Meeting (Budget) on 26 January
30	January	2023	3
6	February	2023	4 Council Meeting on 9 February
13	February	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
20	February	2023	5
27	February	2023	6
6	March	2023	7
13	March	2023	8 Council Meeting on 16 March
20	March	2023	1
27	March	2023	2
3	April	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
10	April	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
17	April	2023	3
24	April	2023	4 Council Meeting on 27 April
1	May	2023	5
8	May	2023	6
15	May	2023	7
22	May	2023	8 Council Meeting on 25 May
29	May	2023	1
5	June	2023	2
12	June	2023	3
19	June	2023	4 Council Meeting on 22 June
26	June	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
3	July	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
10	July	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
17	July	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>
24	July	2023	<i>Recess (Schools Week)</i>

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Unaudited Annual Accounts 2020/21

Executive/routine Wards Council Commitments	Executive All Not applicable
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1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Members of Council are asked to note:
- 1.1.1 that the unaudited annual accounts for 2020/21 will be submitted to the external auditor by the statutory date;
 - 1.1.2 that, following the receipt of significant additional grant funding late in the year, the provisional outturn position shows an overall underspend of £8.080m and that this sum has been set aside in reserves, with £7m used to fund the service investment approved by Council on 27 May 2021;
 - 1.1.3 that a more detailed revenue and capital outturn analysis will be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee on 12 August 2021; and,
 - 1.1.4 the intention to submit the audited annual accounts and annual auditor's report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee and thereafter to the Finance and Resources Committee in November 2021, for approval.

Stephen S. Moir
Executive Director of Resources

Contact: Hugh Dunn, Head of Finance
Finance Division, Resources Directorate
E-mail: hugh.dunn@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 3150

Unaudited Annual Accounts 2020/21

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The report presents to members the Council's 2020/21 Unaudited Annual Accounts prior to their submission to the external auditor. These statements detail the financial position and performance of the Council, together with that of the wider Council Group, for the year ending 31 March 2021. The report includes a summary of the draft outturn position and notes that more detailed reports will be brought to the Finance and Resources Committee in August 2021.

3. Background

- 3.1 The report presents the unaudited annual accounts for the 2020/21 financial year for Council's consideration.
- 3.2 The Council's unaudited annual accounts, included in Appendix 1, have been completed in accordance with proper accounting practice and will be submitted to the external auditor by 30 June, as required by the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, following this meeting.
- 3.3 The supplementary provisions contained within the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 have been extended until 30 September 2021 and allow local authorities, in consultation with their external auditors, to defer submission of their unaudited annual accounts by up to two months. As for the 2019/20 audit year, however, the Council will adhere to the statutory deadline. It is likely, nonetheless, that the two-month permitted extension will be requested by the external auditor at the audit stage, meaning that the audited accounts will be considered initially by the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee (and subsequently presented to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval) in November 2021.
- 3.4 Members should note that the unaudited annual accounts must be published on the Council's website no later than 30 June 2021 and thereafter made available for public inspection for a period of 15 working days. This inspection period will run from Thursday 1 July to Wednesday 21 July 2021 inclusive. Due to the on-going pandemic, however, and as permitted by the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act, this year's inspection process will again be undertaken largely by electronic means.

4. Main report

4.1 The financial position of the Council and its wider Group is presented in the following statements:

- Movement in Reserves Statement (pages 19 and 20);
- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) for the Group (pages 21) and the Council (page 22); and,
- Balance Sheet (page 23)

4.2 The consolidated Group accounts include the results for the following subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures:

Subsidiaries – CEC Holdings Ltd (including EDI Group Ltd and Edinburgh International Conference Centre Ltd), Transport for Edinburgh Ltd and Edinburgh Living Mid-Market Rent LLP.

Associates and Joint Ventures – Edinburgh Leisure, Capital Theatres, Common Good, Lothian Valuation Joint Board and Edinburgh Integration Joint Board.

4.3 A number of smaller entities, listed on page 42 of the Unaudited Annual Accounts, have not been consolidated on the grounds of low materiality.

4.4 The annual remuneration report is included in the Unaudited Annual Accounts on pages 129 to 137. This covers the Council's Leader, Civic Head, Senior Councillors, Conveners of Joint Boards and senior employees within both the Council and its wider group.

Outturn Summary

Revenue

4.5 While the initial financial impacts of the pandemic were felt in 2019/20, the extent of this additional expenditure, and in particular loss of income, increased greatly in 2020/21. By the end of the year, the net cost to the Council, including exposure through its Arm's-Length External Organisations (ALEOs), had reached nearly £80m, with some £70m of these impacts relating to 2020/21.

4.6 Given the unprecedented scale of these pressures, elected members considered detailed financial reports on a monthly basis during 2020/21 and through a combination of savings identified in corporate budgets and significant additional grant funding received late in the financial year, expenditure and income were brought back into balance, with an overall underspend of £8.080m recorded. Members should note, however, that £0.148m of this total relates to unrealised IFRS 9-related gains and is thus not available to fund additional investment in services.

4.7 This net underspend has been set aside in reserves. As approved by Council on 27 May 2021, £7m of this sum will be applied to fund a range of largely one-off service investments in 2021/22.

4.8 Additional detail of both the revenue and capital outturn will be presented to the Finance and Resources Committee on 12 August 2021. A reconciliation between the CIES for the Council and the General Fund outturn is also included as Appendix 2.

Reserves

4.9 As at 31 March 2021, the General Fund reserves had increased substantially to £217.827m, a movement of £96.842m from the preceding year. This sum includes, however, £101.124m of COVID-related funding received during 2020/21 but to be applied against additional expenditure (and income losses) in 2021/22 and subsequent years.

4.10 The unallocated General Fund stands at £25.025m as of 31 March 2021, an increase of £11.098m relative to the balance the previous year. This increase reflects the realignment of the Council's reserves approved as part of setting the Council's 2021/22 budget on 18 February 2021. The remaining balance of £192.802m is earmarked for specific purposes, these being:

- Balances set aside to manage financial risks and for specific investment which are likely to arise in the medium-term future, including maintenance of an insurance fund, dilapidations and workforce transformation. The Council holds £137.982m against these future risks, including £78.635m of COVID-related funding to be applied against expenditure and income losses in future years;
- Balances set aside from income received in advance, including the Council Tax Discount Fund and City Strategic Investment Fund. The Council holds £46.412m of such income, including £22.489m of service-specific COVID-related funding carried forward to be offset against expenditure in 2021/22;
- Balances set aside to support investment in specific projects, such as Spend to Save, which will deliver savings in future years. The Council holds £3.720m for such projects; and
- Balances held under the Devolved School Management Scheme and unallocated Pupil Equity Funding. The Council holds £4.688m of these funds.

4.11 Further details of these earmarked balances are shown in Appendix 3.

5. Next Steps

5.1 The Unaudited Annual Accounts will be submitted to the external auditor by 30 June 2021, as required by the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The report identifies a provisional underspend of £8.080m in the year to 31 March 2021. This sum has been set aside in reserves, pending drawdown of £7m to support a range of largely one-off service investments in 2021/22.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 There are no impacts arising directly from this report.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 None.

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 - Unaudited Annual Accounts 2020/21
- 9.2 Appendix 2 - Reconciliation of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- 9.3 Appendix 3 - Reserve balances, 31 March 2021

2020/21

UNAUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The City of Edinburgh Council

Annual Accounts

Year to 31 March 2021

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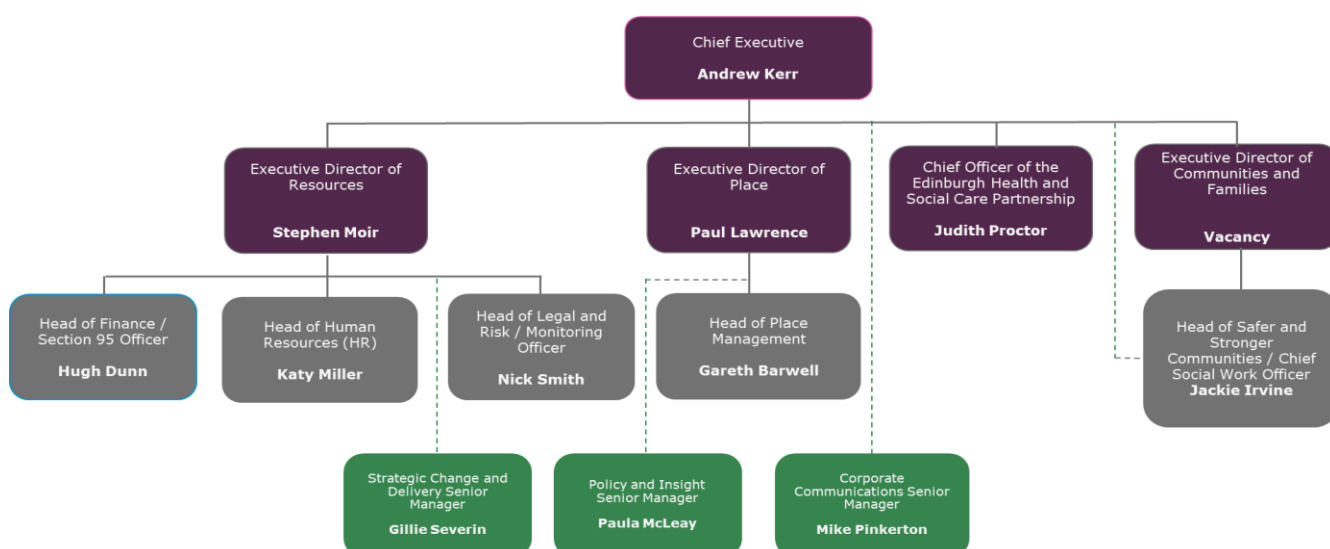
MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Introduction

The Unaudited Annual Accounts present the provisional financial position and performance of the Council, together with the wider Council Group, for the year to 31 March 2021. They have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 using the Council's management structure as a reporting basis, the same as in the previous year.

The City of Edinburgh Council was constituted under the Local Government, etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 and became the unitary local authority to Scotland's capital city in April 1996. The Council brought together most of the services delivered by the previous regional and district councils, with its primary current frontline functions being the provision of education to school-age children within the city, social care services, economic development, a range of community-based services such as roads maintenance, street lighting and refuse collection and quality of life functions such as libraries, culture, recreation and parks. Services are delivered to some 527,000 citizens across the 102 square mile Council area. As of March 2021, the Council employed 14,898 FTE staff, compared to 14,754 FTE in March 2020.

The structure of the Council continues to evolve but the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) organisational chart and tables below indicate the latest position, with the constituent services with an Executive Director or Chief Officer highlighted in bold. A revised Senior Management structure was approved by Council on 27 May 2021 and a detailed structure is currently in the process of being formalised. The structure shown is the position at the date the accounts were approved.



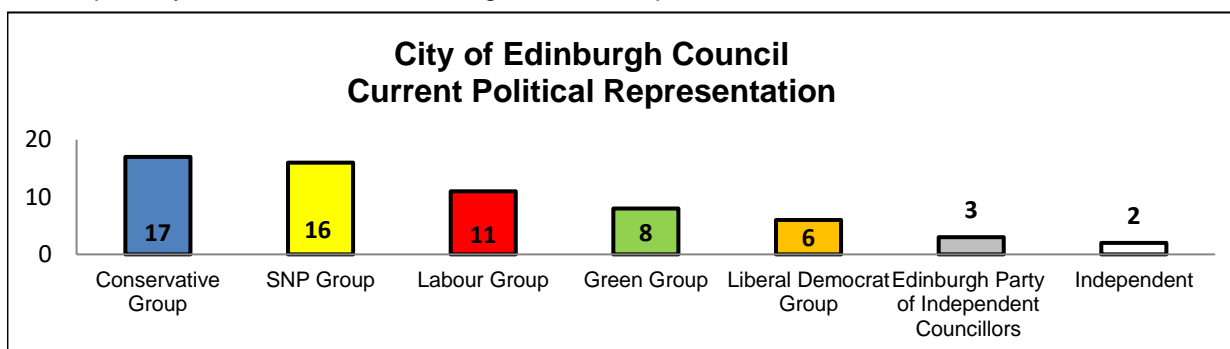
Resources	Health and Social Care	Place
Customer and Digital Services	Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	Environment (inc. waste and parks)
Finance	Older people's services	Transport (inc. parking)
Legal and Risk	Learning and Physical disabilities	Roads, bridges and flood prevention
Human Resources	Mental Health	Housing and Regulatory Services
Property and Facilities Management	Substance Misuse	Planning and building standards
	Communities and Families	Culture, Museums and Galleries
	Schools and Lifelong Learning	
	Children's social work	
	Community education	
	Libraries and Sports	
	Early Years	
	Community Justice	
	Homelessness services	
	Family and Household Support	

Further comprehensive detail of the services provided by the Council is included on its [website](#) and within the annual **Key Facts and Figures** publication.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

There was a Local Government Election on 4 May 2017 which resulted in a change in political representation for the Council, with a new minority SNP and Labour administration formed.

The Council currently has **63 Councillors** representing 17 wards within the city. Taking into account subsequent by-elections and other changes, current representation is as follows:



The Full Council meets once a month and also delegates decisions to **committees** which meet regularly throughout the year.

Details of the senior councillors' remuneration and committee roles, for those in office during the financial year, are disclosed in the Remuneration Report from page 129 of these financial statements.

Edinburgh and the Council's Role

2020/2021 has been a year like no other and throughout the pandemic, we have worked hard to keep services running, and to deliver vital help to those citizens and businesses who need it most.

Edinburgh continues to see significant population growth, with a 13.3% increase between 2009 and 2019 compared to a national rise of 4.4% over the same period. The majority of this growth is due to net overseas migration. Analysis of population trends suggests that the total number of residents will increase by at least 64,000 people by 2043, with a 72% increase in those aged 75 and over. It is also projected that by 2030 the number of pupils in our primary and secondary schools will increase by 9%. This growth will place further demands on a range of frontline services and as a result, the Council's budget framework continues to provide additional annual sums in respect of growing numbers of school pupils, at-risk children, older people and those with physical and/or learning disabilities.

City of Edinburgh Council's Corporate Strategy and Vision

In February 2021, the Council approved **a new Business Plan** which set out the Council's priorities and how the aims set out in the **Community Plan** would be taken forward.

The Business Plan covers a three-year period and provides an overarching focus for the Council in terms of its priorities and the delivery of its aims. It provides an opportunity to deliver a future organisation to meet the changing needs of citizens.

The Business Plan sets out the three main priorities the Council will focus on in the coming years:

1. Ending poverty by 2030;
2. Becoming a sustainable and net zero city; and
3. Promoting wellbeing and equalities

The Business Plan describes the approach the Council will take to deliver its priorities in the form of 15 outcomes with 55 actions. This plan stands as one part of a golden thread linking and guiding operations through to the shared goals and commitments of the Edinburgh Partnership and towards the long term ambitions for Edinburgh to be a fair, welcoming, pioneering, and thriving city, as outlined in the **2050 Edinburgh City Vision**.

The Business Plan also meets the Accounts Commission's Best Value Report recommendations on aligning the Council's strategic direction.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

The 15 outcomes of the Business Plans are as follows:

Ending poverty by 2030

- 1 On track to end poverty in Edinburgh by 2030 by meeting the targets set by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission
- 2 On track to deliver new prevention service models
- 3 More residents experience fair work and receive the living wage
- 4 Intervene before the point of crisis to prevent homelessness
- 5 Ongoing delivery of our 20,000 affordable homes programme
- 6 Increasing attainment for all and reducing the poverty-related attainment gap
- 7 Edinburgh's economy recovers from recession and supports businesses to thrive

Becoming a sustainable and net zero city

- 8 On track to deliver our 2030 net zero target
- 9 Citizens are engaged and empowered to respond to the climate emergency
- 10 Develop key strategic sites and projects to meet the needs of a diverse and growing city
- 11 The city has a well-connected and sustainable transport and active travel network

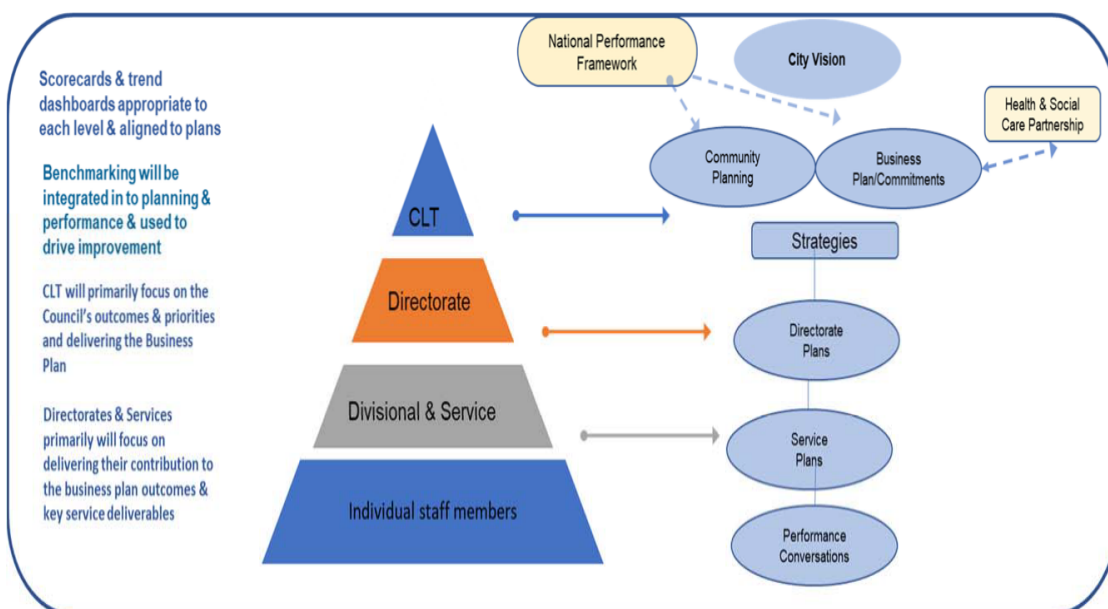
Enhancing Wellbeing and equalities

- 12 People can access the support they need in the place they live and work
- 13 Improved safety and wellbeing for vulnerable citizens
- 14 Core services are maintained or improved
- 15 Make better use of the Council estate and resources to meet our strategic priorities

The Business Plan forms the central part of the strategic Planning and Performance Framework and sits within the wider ecosystem of strategic planning for the Council as shown in the diagram below.

The framework has been designed to ensure that our priorities and outcomes are translated into clear actions and performance measures which are appropriately monitored, actioned and delivered. It will be underpinned by the “Plan, Do, Check, Act/Review” continuous improvement model and delivered through a robust annual cycle.

The approach embeds a “golden thread” between the three-year Council Business Plan, strategies, annual Directorate/ Divisional plans and colleague annual performance conversations, ensuring a clear understanding of our key deliverables across all our services.



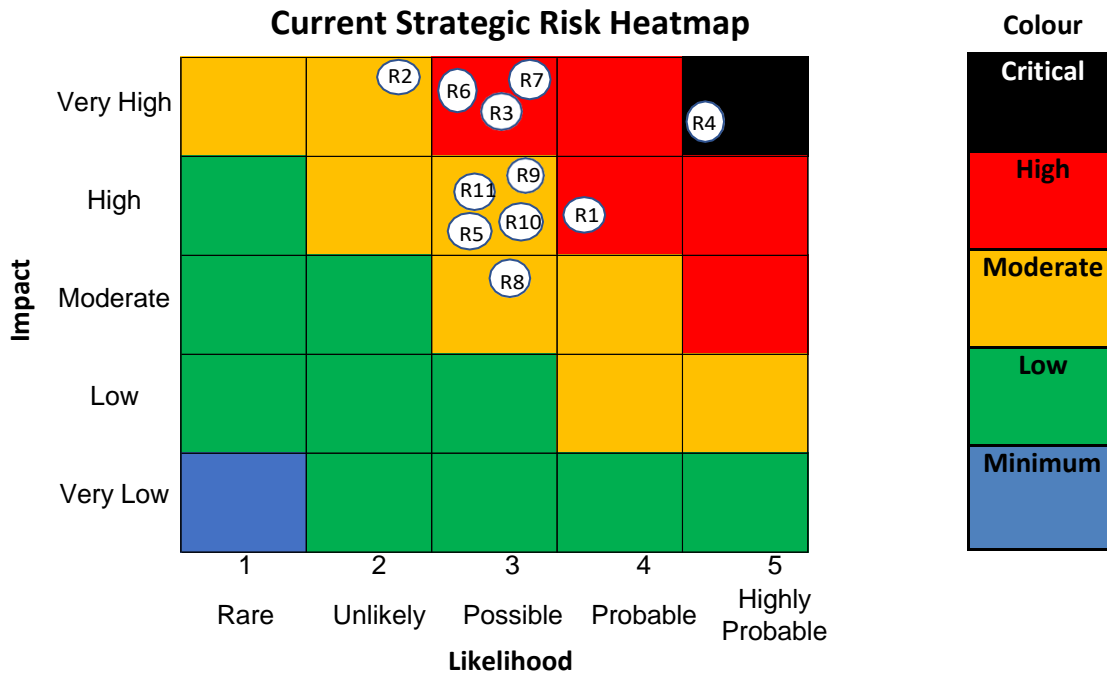
Risks and Uncertainty

The Corporate Leadership Team's (CLT) highest-prioritised risks as reported to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee (GRBV) on 8 June 2021 are outlined below, along with the key controls in place to mitigate them.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council developed a detailed risk management plan that identifies and tracks key risks, along with associated mitigating actions. These are discussed at weekly risk forum meetings with cross-Directorate representation, and fortnightly at the Council Incident Management Team (CIMT).

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Risks and Uncertainty - continued



R1	Strategic Delivery	R7	Technology and Information
R2	Financial and Budget Management	R8	Governance and Decision Making
R3	Programme and Project Delivery	R9	Service Delivery
R4	Health and Safety (including Public Safety)	R10	Regulatory and Statutory Compliance
R5	Resilience	R11	Reputational
R6	Supplier, Contractor and Partnership Management		

Five of the Council's eleven strategic risks are currently outwith approved risk appetite ranges, mainly due to the ongoing impacts of Covid-19, with Health and Safety (including public safety) remaining the most significant current risk for the Council, which continues to be assessed as critical. The following mitigating actions are in progress in respect of these five risks, with further details available in **Appendix 2 of the plan**:

R1	Strategic Delivery	- Develop and implement new performance framework
R3	Programme and Project Delivery	- Consolidation of all major projects into the Adaptation and Renewal Programme
R4	Health and Safety (including Public Safety)	- Implementation of Life Safety audit actions - Corporate (2nd Line) Health and Safety recruitment
R6	Supplier, Contractor, and Partnership Management	- Understand impacts of the new Brexit legislation on significant (Tier 1 and 2) contracts
R7	Technology and Information	- Resolution of vulnerability scanning outcomes

Quarterly CLT and Directorate risk committees were paused during Covid-19 to enable focus on the Council's Covid-19 resilience response. Both CLT and Directorate risk quarterly committees have now been reinstated.

Appropriate risk management arrangements have been established to support ongoing identification; assessment; recording; and management of the new Covid-19 risks faced by the Council. These new risks are recorded together with mitigating actions in the Covid-19 Risk Management Plan (RMP) that is regularly reviewed and refreshed and presented monthly to the CIMT for review and discussion.

The Council's **Enterprise Risk Management Policy** is reviewed and approved annually by the Policy and Sustainability Committee.

Once approved by the Committee, the Policy is shared and communicated across the Council, with the refreshed version published on the policy register maintained on the Council's website. The next review will be carried out in October 2021.

The Council's **Risk Appetite Statement** (covering its attitude to service delivery, infrastructure, compliance and financial risks) was approved at the meeting of the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 6 October 2020.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Other Risks, Challenges and Uncertainties

On 27 May 2021, the Accounts Commission published its annual **Local Government in Scotland Overview**. This report sets out a number of challenges common to all councils in Scotland, mainly relating to the impact of the pandemic, and the key characteristics of the response:

- Communities and people. Community wellbeing and the role of communities in responding to the crisis: differing impacts of Covid-19 on demographic groups; the impact of the pandemic on inequalities; communities' contributions in responding to the crisis.
- Service delivery and partnership working. The adaptation of service provision and working with partners: reduced service provision and prioritised services; innovation and digital delivery; enhanced collaboration and more positive working relationships.
- Resources and governance. The financial impact of responding to Covid-19, use of resources and changes to governance arrangements: challenging financial outlook– additional spending and lost income; new funding and financial flexibilities; staff redeployed to fulfil essential roles; virtual decision-making; changes to governance arrangements.

On 1 December 2020, in response to the Poverty Commission's final report, the City of Edinburgh Council became the first UK local authority to set a target date for ending poverty by agreeing the proposals set out in the **End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan 2020-30**.

The Edinburgh Partnership has also published a **paper** setting out how partners will collectively work towards the aim of ending poverty in the city by 2030.

Performance Overview

While the Council is required by statute to report publicly on its performance across a range of areas set out by the Accounts Commission, a suite of measures is reported quarterly to the Corporate Leadership Team, using a balanced scorecard approach analysing performance across a complementary range of service outcome, delivery, capability and financial sustainability perspectives.

An **Adaptation and Renewal Programme** update report, outlining the Council's on-going response to the pandemic, was considered by the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 10 June 2021 including a Covid-19 Response Dashboard detailing Edinburgh case numbers, vaccinations, Public Health and Safety, vulnerable groups and economic indicators.

Edinburgh specific performance data has also been provided through a range of other channels, including the **Capital Residents Survey** which took place between 12 October and 2 December 2020. The survey was jointly funded with NHS Lothian and focused on resident experience of services during Covid-19 and areas of mutual interest to both organisations, such as alternative service delivery mechanisms. Since March 2020, when the UK first went into lockdown, 80% of Edinburgh residents said they were satisfied with the services provided by the Council.

Council Performance and Best Value

The Council's **2020/21 Annual Performance Report**, along with a progress assessment against the 52 commitments underpinning the Council's Business Plan, was considered by the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 10 June 2021. A separate report included an analysis of the comparative indicators comprising the 2019/20 Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF). Initial analysis points to a slight improvement in the Council's performance compared to other local authorities in both relative and absolute terms, particularly in Environmental services.

The Council's **2019/20 Annual Audit Report** concluded that the Council had appropriate arrangements in place for managing its financial position during 2019/20 despite reporting an unplanned net overspend of £4.9million due to the impact of COVID-19, which was met from a drawdown of earmarked reserves. It was noted that the Council's three-year revenue budget strategy and 10 year capital budget strategy were developed prior to the impact of COVID-19 becoming known, and that these strategies therefore required to be updated given the significant cost impact of COVID-19 on council services and income levels over the short and medium term.

It was found that the Council had demonstrated improvements in performance in several areas including waste and cleaning, school education and processing times for benefits and grant claims. Performance declined in five of the nine adult social care indicators however the 2018/19 Local Government Benchmarking Framework information showed that the Council performed better than other councils in around half of national benchmarking indicators in overall terms.

The Council's **Best Value Assurance Report** was considered by the Accounts Commission on 12 November 2020. The Accounts Commission accepted the Controller of Audit's report and endorsed his recommendations. The final report was published by the Accounts Commission on 26 November 2020.

The report noted that mixed progress had been made since the 2016 Best Value report but that services continued to perform relatively well. Much of the work for the Best Value audit was undertaken before the Covid-19 pandemic and did not consider the additional and sizeable pressure that Covid-19 has placed on the Council, especially on its finances, however, it was recommended that the Council implement a longer-term financial plan to show how it will address such future pressures. The Council was commended for its commitment to reducing inequalities, including the work of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission.

Actions were agreed at the Edinburgh Partnership Board on 23 March 2021 in response to the partnership working and empowerment findings of the Council Best Value Assurance Audit and updates are reported to the **Policy and Sustainability Committee**.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance

Comparative Performance

Under Section (1) (1) (a) of the Local Government Act 1992, the Accounts Commission has a statutory power to define the performance and outcome information that councils must publish locally in the following financial year with a view to facilitating comparison over time within, and across, authorities, including their effectiveness in working with partners and communities. Councils also require to assess how they are performing against the duty of best value, including actions taken in response to audit recommendations for improvement.

The Council's **2020/21 Annual Performance Report** provides an overview of council performance in 2020/21 against the Change Strategy themes, drawing on corporate performance indicators and benchmarking data including the Local Government Benchmarking Framework. The report provides a detailed analysis of performance in the year of the COVID-19 pandemic using a Red Amber Green (RAG) assessment. The impact of COVID-19 has been varied across Council services so a Blue RAG status has been added to indicate where comparison with performance in previous years or against targets is not appropriate (37 out of 87 indicators). Of the remaining indicators where a RAG status has been assigned, 37 show improved or maintained performance and nine show a decline. The indicators that show a decline in performance in 2020/21 was spread across a number of services rather than being focused in a single service area.

Revenue - General Fund

The Council's financial performance is presented in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, which can be seen on page 22. This statement has been prepared using International Financial Reporting Standards. To show the net position of the Council, it is necessary to adjust the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for statutory items that require to be taken into account in determining the position on the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account for the year. These are summarised in the Movement in Reserves Statement (page 19).

An Expenditure and Funding Analysis has been provided to reconcile adjustments between the Council's financial performance under the funding position and the surplus on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis can be found in Note 2 and the Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature in Note 3.

The outturn position for the General Fund, excluding accounting practice adjustments, compared to budget is summarised below. This basis of presentation is the main one adopted for reporting purposes as it is consistent with both budget-setting and in-year monitoring and also best aligned to the Council's statutory responsibilities.

	Revised Budget 2020/21 £000	Actual 2020/21 £000	(Under) / Over Spend £000
General Fund services	991,291	986,792	(4,499)
Non-service specific areas			
Loans charges / interest on revenue balances	90,650	79,064	(11,586)
Other non-service specific costs	77,471	33,214	(44,257)
Council Tax Reduction Scheme*	28,470	28,075	(395)
Net Cost of Benefits	(127)	(127)	0
Dividend and other interest received	(7,021)	(2,638)	4,383
Non-service specific areas total	189,443	137,588	(51,855)
Movements in Reserves			
Net contribution to / (from) earmarked funds	3,280	56,362	53,082
Contribution to / (from) Renewal and Repairs Fund	0	0	0
Contribution to / (from) Capital Fund	(885)	(885)	0
Movements in Reserves total	2,395	55,477	53,082
Sources of funding			
General Revenue Grant	(637,444)	(637,444)	0
Distribution from Non-Domestic Rate pool	(238,922)	(238,922)	0
Council Tax **	(306,763)	(311,571)	(4,808)
Sources of funding total	(1,183,129)	(1,187,937)	(4,808)
Transfer (to) / from earmarked reserves	0	(8,080)	(8,080)

Fees and charges levied by the Council have been offset against the cost of providing services and are included within the actual cost of General Fund Services shown above.

*uncommitted funds linked to the in-year underspend in respect of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme of £0.395m were transferred to an earmarked reserve.

** gross Council Tax (excluding Council Tax Reduction Scheme)

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - continued

Budget performance - General Fund - continued

On 20 February 2020, the Council set a **balanced budget for 2020/21** but with the delivery of approved savings and the prompt identification and management of underlying or emerging pressures key to maintaining financial stability in the year. In total, the approved budget was predicated on the delivery of some £35.845m of directorate-specific and corporate savings.

While the initial financial impacts of the pandemic were felt in 2019/20, the extent of this additional expenditure, and in particular loss of income, increased greatly in 2020/21. By the end of the year, the net cost to the Council, including exposure through its Arm's-Length External Organisations (ALEOs), had reached nearly £80m, with some £70m of this relating to 2020/21. The largest single contributors during the year were loss of parking income, net of reduced enforcement costs, of £13.4m, additional homelessness expenditure of £8.8m, loss of commercial rental income of £7.1m, loss of £6m of dividend income from Lothian Buses and reduced income from cultural venues of £3.9m.

Given the unprecedented scale of these impacts, elected members considered detailed financial reports on a monthly basis during 2020/21 and through a combination of savings identified in corporate budgets and significant additional grant funding received late in the financial year, expenditure and income were brought back into balance, with an overall underspend of £8.1m recorded.

Looking forward, in order to provide resilience against the longer-lasting financial impacts of the pandemic and other budget framework risks, the 2021/22 budget set aside further monies for these impacts and almost doubled the size of the Council's unallocated reserves. Significant additional service investment was also approved across a number of priority areas in February 2021, with these sums supplemented by further targeted service funding following approval by Council in May 2021.

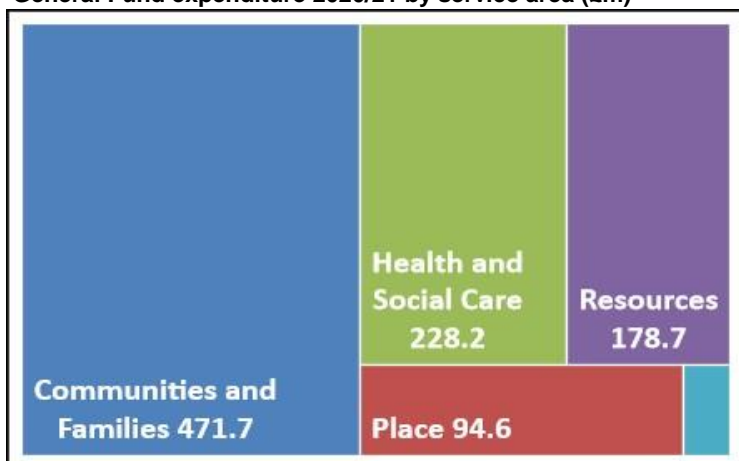
In overall terms, 82% of approved savings were delivered during the year. This marked a continuing improvement on the equivalent figures for 2019/20 (77%) and 2018/19 (60%).

Principal Sources of Funding - General Fund

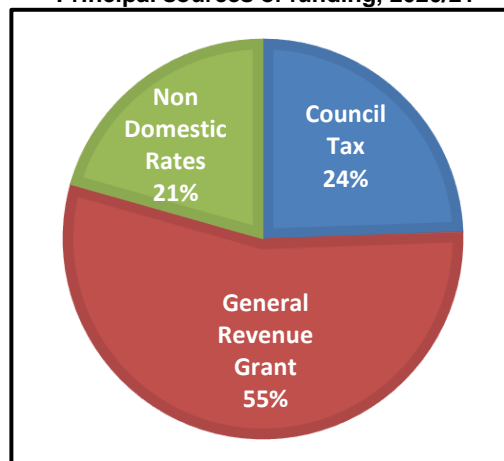
The principal sources of funding used by the Council during the year were:

	£000
Council Tax, net of Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) <i>(property-related tax from households)</i>	283,496
General Revenue Grant <i>(Government revenue grant funding based on city's relative needs assessment)</i>	637,444
Distribution from Non-Domestic Rates pool <i>(property-related tax primarily from businesses)</i>	238,922
Total	<u>1,159,862</u>

General Fund expenditure 2020/21 by service area (£m)*



Principal sources of funding, 2020/21



* - The light blue-shaded box on the expenditure diagram represents Other Expenditure, comprising the net cost of the Chief Executive's Service and the Council's requisition for the Lothian Valuation Joint Board.

Following the onset of the pandemic and recognising significant in-year relief granted to affected businesses, the Scottish Government revised the relative balance of funding between General Revenue Grant and Non-Domestic Rates and thus the proportions are significantly different from past years.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - continued

Reserves

General Fund

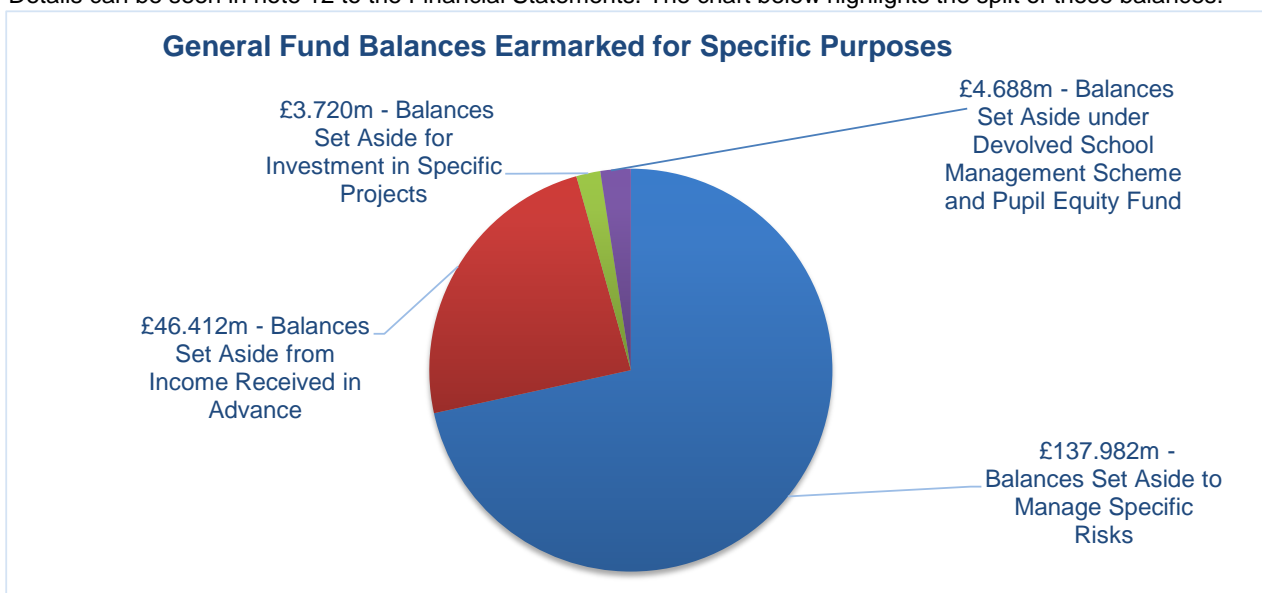
The Council's General Fund reserves comprise two elements:

- The unallocated General Fund; and
- Balances earmarked for specific purposes.

The unallocated General Fund is held against the risk of unanticipated expenditure and/or reduced income arising in any particular year. The level of this reserve is reviewed annually by the Council as part of the revenue budget-setting process. This review considers the level of balances held, the financial risks which could be realised and the arrangements in place to manage these.

The **latest review** was in February 2021, as part of the 2021/22 budget-setting process. The unallocated General Fund balance at 31 March 2021 was £25.025m, which equates to 2.127% of the annual budgeted net expenditure.

In addition, the Council has a further £192.802m (2019/20 £106.185m) of balances earmarked for specific purposes. Details can be seen in note 12 to the Financial Statements. The chart below highlights the split of these balances.



These balances are held for a number of reasons:

- Balances set aside for specific financial risks which are likely to arise in the medium-term future. Examples include monies earmarked for staff release costs, dilapidations and other related contractual commitments and the insurance fund. The sums shown above include £78.635 of non-service specific COVID-related funding received in-year to be applied against expenditure and income losses in future years;
- Balances set aside from income received in advance are primarily from grant income, due to timing differences between the receipt of the grant income and the planned expenditure thereof. The sums above include £22.489m of service-specific COVID-related funding carried forward to be offset against expenditure in 2021/22;
- Balances set aside to enable the Council to undertake investment in specific projects which will deliver savings in future years, such as Spend to Save. These savings are used, initially, to reimburse the earmarked balances.
- Balances held under the School Board Delegation Scheme (DSM) and Pupil Equity Fund (PEF), which permits balances on individual school budgets to be carried forward to the following financial year and academic years.

As noted above, the most recent review of the Council's earmarked and unallocated reserves resulted in a realignment and reprioritisation of these sums based on the risks it faces. In addition to increasing the size of the Council's unallocated reserve to a level closer to that of other Scottish local authorities, a £16m dedicated reserve was created to provide an additional contingency against the on-going financial impacts of the pandemic. This reserve, when combined with additional COVID-related grant funding received late in 2020/21, allowed the Council to increase from £18m to £39m the level of provision made for these impacts in 2021/22, as well as increasing the corresponding sum in 2022/23 whilst still addressing the majority of that year's residual funding gap. Receipt of these sums also allowed the Council to defer use of the planned loans fund repayment financial flexibility, with the position to be reviewed in the autumn.

Other Reserves

The Council holds other usable reserves; these are the Capital Grants Unapplied Account with a balance of £47.949m, the Capital Fund with a balance of £49.731m and the Renewal and Repairs Fund with a balance of £41.162m, including £3.293m of monies for schools prepaid under PPP arrangements.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - continued

Financial Ratios

Financial ratios relating to Council Tax, debt and borrowing are shown below.

Re-stated

Council Tax	2020/21	2019/20	Notes on interpretation of ratios
In-year collection rate	95.96%	96.95%	This shows the % of Council Tax collected during the financial year that relates to bills issued for that year. It does not include collection of sums billed relating to previous financial years. The collection rate is stated on a line-by-line basis, adjusted for the impact of water-only debt in the joint collection of Council Tax and water charges. The indicator shows that the in-year collection levels dropped slightly, which reflects the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Council Tax collection, including rescheduling of recovery actions.
Council Tax income as a percentage of overall funding	24.44%	27.18%	This shows the proportion of total funding that is derived from Council Tax, net of Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) support. While Council Tax levels increased by 4.79% in 2020/21, this was outweighed by the provision of significant additional (mainly COVID-related) funding during the year.
Debt and Borrowing - Prudence			Notes on interpretation of ratios
Capital Financing Requirement	£1,802.2m	£1,709.9m	The capital financing requirement represents the underlying need to borrow to fund expenditure on assets and shows an increase of around 5% during the year. Financing costs are provided for within the Council's Long-Term Financial Plan. Further details of the capital financing requirement can be seen in note 38 to the Financial Statements.
External debt levels	£1,614.2m	£1,616.1m	External debt levels include long-term commitments in respect of finance leases (mainly schools provided through PPP schemes) together with borrowing undertaken to finance capital expenditure. External debt levels are lower than the capital financing requirement as the Council has adopted a position of under borrowing, as set out in the Treasury Strategy.
Debt and Borrowing - Affordability			Notes on interpretation of ratios
Financing costs to net revenue stream - General Fund	6.82%	10.50%	These ratios show the proportion of total revenue funding that is used to meet financing costs. In each case, the impact of the Loans Fund review and other treasury-related savings has reduced the nominator whilst, particularly in the case of the General Fund, receipt of additional funding has resulted in a significant increase in the denominator.
Financing costs to net revenue stream - HRA	32.92%	37.65%	
Impact of capital investment on Council Tax	-8.23%	-0.95%	These ratios show incremental impact of financing costs, the increase or (decrease) in financing costs from the previous financial year, as a percentage of Council Tax, in respect of costs payable through the General Fund and house rents for the HRA.
Impact of capital investment on house rents	-4.59%	-0.02%	

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - continued

Treasury Management Strategy

The Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2021/22 was approved on 11 March 2021. The key points are:

- the Council's total capital expenditure is forecast to be £1.987 billion between 2020/21 and 2024/25;
- the Council's underlying need to borrow at 31 March 2025 is forecast to be £2.327 billion;
- the opportunity to mitigate future interest rate risk with alternatives to the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) will continue to be sought and the risk locked out where appropriate; and
- the Council will continue to fund its Capital Financing Requirement from temporary investment balances over the next year.

Capital Strategy

The Sustainable Capital Strategy 2021-31 - Annual Report was approved at Full Council on 11 March 2021.

The report provides a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of Council services and is linked to a number of other key plans and policies such as the Annual Treasury Strategy, the Capital Investment Programme and HRA Budget Strategy.

The Capital Budget Strategy has been reviewed in light of COVID-19 and the Council's priorities and approach proposed under the Adaptation and Renewal Programme outlined in the new Council Business Plan.

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure is controlled through the Prudential Code that provides the framework for investing in infrastructure. In Scotland, local authorities are required by regulation to comply with the Prudential Code under Part 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003. The key objectives of the Prudential Code are to ensure that capital plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable and that treasury decisions are taken in accordance with professional guidance and best practice.

The 2020/21 outturn position for capital expenditure is summarised below:

	Budget 2020/21 £000	Actual 2020/21 £000	(Slippage) / Acceleration* £000
Capital expenditure			
General Fund services	341,182	316,551	(24,631)
Housing Revenue Account	<u>56,969</u>	<u>41,456</u>	<u>(15,513)</u>
Total capital expenditure	<u><u>398,151</u></u>	<u><u>358,007</u></u>	<u><u>(40,144)</u></u>
Capital receipts and other contributions			
- General Fund services	(50,059)	(52,887)	(2,828)
- Housing Revenue Account	(26,100)	(36,674)	(10,574)
Government and other grants			
- General Fund services	(119,331)	(113,058)	6,273
- Housing Revenue Account	<u>(6,933)</u>	<u>(6,361)</u>	<u>572</u>
Total capital income	<u><u>(202,423)</u></u>	<u><u>(208,980)</u></u>	<u><u>(6,557)</u></u>
Balance to be funded through borrowing			
- General Fund services	171,792	150,606	(21,186)
- Housing Revenue Account	<u>23,936</u>	<u>(1,579)</u>	<u>(25,515)</u>
Total advances from loans fund	<u><u>195,728</u></u>	<u><u>149,027</u></u>	<u><u>(46,701)</u></u>

* - in the case of income, a positive figure indicates an under-recovery relative to budget, a negative figure an over-recovery.

Expenditure on General Fund services slipped in total by £24.631m. The majority of slippage was caused by COVID-19 related delays, including the construction lockdown and restrictions on internal works. Within Place, the main slippage was from On-Lending for the provision of mid-market homes (£11.760m) which is offset by a delay in the need to borrow. Within Communities and Families, the main slippage was on construction of learning estates, such as Canaan Lane and Leith Victoria Primary Schools and Darroch Refurbishment. Expenditure on Housing Revenue Account slipped in total by £15.513m, primarily as a result of the acquisition of Liberton Hospital for £12m not completing in the financial year. The remaining slippage was caused by COVID-19 related delays, primarily due to restrictions on internal works.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - continued

Capital Expenditure

The Council received £38.129m of general capital grant during 2020/21. The support provided through general capital grant enables the Council to direct resources to its own priorities.

Capital expenditure for the year totalled £358.007m. Major capital projects undertaken during the year included:

- Creation and expansion of educational properties - £67.639m;
- Trams to Newhaven project - £53.071m;
- Social housing through the housing development fund - £49.143m;
- Roads, carriageways and other transport infrastructure - £44.353m;
- Investing in new council homes and enhancing existing assets through the Housing Revenue Account programme - £41.456m;
- Millerhill Recycling and Energy Recovery Centre (RERC) capital contribution - £29.520m;
- Providing funding for homes for mid-market rent from the Housing Revenue Account through the Edinburgh Living LLP - £19.313m;
- Sports facilities - £17.229m; and
- Asset Management Works at operational properties - £14.517m.

Housing Revenue Account

The Council has a statutory obligation to maintain a housing revenue account (HRA) which records all income and expenditure for the management of, and investment in, Council homes. The HRA is entirely self-financing and receives no funding from the general Council budget. All expenditure is funded through the tenants' rent, related service charges, and interests gained through HRA assets.

The Council approved the Housing Revenue Account Budget Strategy 2020 – 2030 in February 2020 (pre-Covid 19). It set out an ambitious strategy to deliver £2.5 billion investment over ten years in building and improving Council homes to deliver our commitments on affordable housing and net zero carbon. The aspiring capital investment was accompanied by the Housing Service Improvement Plan (HSIP), which aims to improve customer satisfaction, operating performance and ensure value for money.

The HRA revenue account secured £104.8234 million of income in 2020/21. Many social landlords have seen rent arrears increase in 2020/21, this is partly due to the financial impact of the Covid pandemic on households and restrictions on formal actions for rent arrears recovery (courts closure and increased notice period for new court actions under the Coronavirus legislation).

Around £160 million has been invested to improve existing homes and estates over the last five years, resulting in over 20,000 improvement measures delivered. The capital programme was paused for most of the first quarter in 2020/21 during the first lockdown but resumed as soon as government restrictions allowed to do so. As a result, the programme was revised down by 41% to £56.969 million and mainly focused on the improvements on the wider estates and external fabric and communal areas of buildings.

The year-end outturn for 2020/21 was £41.456 million; £12.000m of the £15.513 million slippage was due to the delay in concluding the land acquisition of Liberton Hospital. The land acquisition was previously expected to take place in the last quarter of 2020/21 but is now expected to conclude in early 2021/22. Improvements requiring access to tenants' homes were postponed for most of the year, with the suspended works to be carried out over the next two years, as restrictions are lifted.

The Housebuilding Programme delivered over 270 affordable homes completed in 2020/21 at Craigmillar Town Centre, Crewe Road Gardens, and North Sighthill. This included 172 mid-market rented homes that were purchased by Edinburgh Living LLP. Handovers were delayed in both Pennywell and North Sighthill; and will now take place up until autumn 2021.

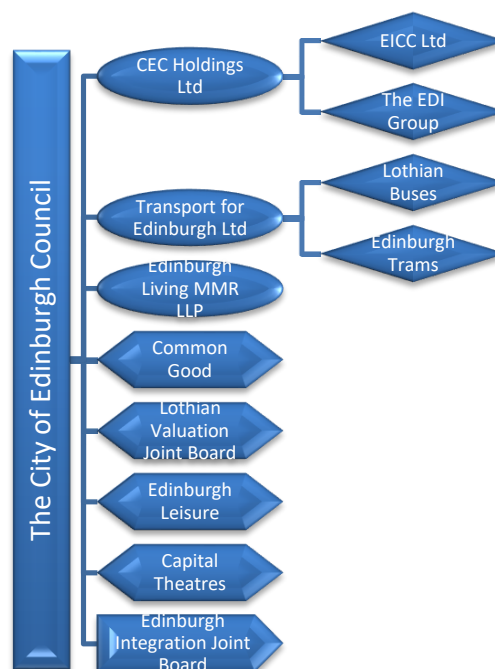
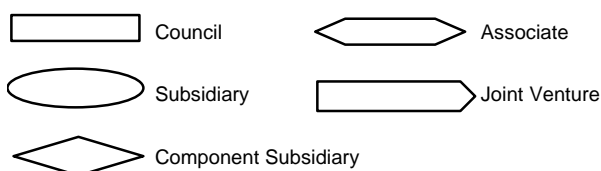
MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - continued

Group Accounts

In accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, Group Accounts have been prepared, which consolidate the financial interests the Council has in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures, where the interest is considered material. Note 9 details the interests the Council holds and further financial details about the entities. The adjacent chart shows the components in the structure of the Group. Information on the Common Good can be found on page 113.

Key:



CEC Holdings Ltd

EDI Group Ltd (subsidiary of CEC Holdings Ltd)

The EDI Group was established in 1988 by The City of Edinburgh Council to carry out the development of Edinburgh Park, now regarded as one of the principal business parks in Europe. In early 2017, the Council conducted a review of its approach to the use of surplus land and its interactions with the property market and concluded that the default position will be that the land or buildings are used to deliver affordable housing, meaning that EDI has no future pipeline of projects. As a result, in the longer term the Council decided it should not have an arm's length development company. The Council therefore instructed the directors to begin a process of closure, with the majority of land transferring to the Council and all staff leaving by October 2018, with the company's activities now overseen by Council officers under the governance of a scheme of delegation and service level agreement. The company will continue to trade into 2021 and beyond until such time as all projects currently being undertaken by EDI have either concluded or have been transferred to the Council.

Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) Ltd (subsidiary of CEC Holdings Ltd)

EICC Ltd operates a prime conference venue in the centre of Edinburgh. The Centre was built in 1995 and since that time has welcomed 1.5 million delegates from more than 120 countries, generating £660m of economic impact for the city region.

At the outset of 2020, the Centre anticipated a strong financial year and continuation of the growth shown in the previous five years, however, due to the global Covid-19 pandemic the Centre closed on 18th March 2020 which had a negative impact on the Centre's traditional client base. To retain as much business as possible, the Centre developed an alternative virtual events platform "Make it Edinburgh Live" and delivered 15 virtual events during the year. This together with robust client contracts had a significant impact on the Centre's revenue which amounted to £3.188m, which was a significant decrease from the previous year of £9.359m but revenues generated were much greater than expected earlier in the year.

Transport for Edinburgh Ltd

The core purpose of Transport for Edinburgh Ltd (TfE) is to deliver a high-quality and integrated transport service for the city. It also delivers profit through a strong commercial focus and drive for efficiency across all of its activities. TfE's long-term vision is to be an integral part of the future success of the city and the Lothians, by providing world-class, environmentally-friendly and socially-inclusive public transport.

The Group retained a substantial share of the local public transport market in Edinburgh and the Lothians. Revenue has decreased by 22.6% from the previous year to £143.6m although this was in line with expectations due to the significant downturn in patronage due to Covid-19 restrictions on travel. The Group continued to face significant operating and cost pressures in 2020, with the Covid-19 outbreak in March 2020 and the ongoing restrictions meaning the Group had to be extremely proactive to address and mitigate the impact of the revenue decline and cost pressures in order to maintain its business. Edinburgh Trams also received £6m of in-year support from the Council.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - Group Accounts - continued

Edinburgh Living MMR LLP

Edinburgh Living MMR LLP was established as a housing delivery partnership to address housing needs in Edinburgh. The initiative is a partnership between The Council and Scottish Futures Trust. The partnership delivers homes for mid-market rent to let to households in housing need.

Edinburgh Living MMR LLP bought its first homes in January 2019 and over the course of 2020/21 purchased 149 homes across three developments in the city, bringing the total number of homes the LLP owns to 299.

Lothian Valuation Joint Board (LVJB)

The Board reported core expenditure of £6.208m for 2020/21 which was within the approved budget. The approved revenue budget included a planned drawdown of reserves of £0.657m to meet both Transformation Programme severance costs and running costs. Due mainly to underspends in employee costs and additional Scottish Government funding received during 2020/21, there was only a requirement to draw down £0.113m from Reserve to achieve a balanced budget. The reduction in reserve drawdown will be retained as part of the Board's Unallocated Reserve to support Transformation Programme costs in future years.

Edinburgh Leisure

Edinburgh Leisure operates over fifty sport and leisure facilities across the city on behalf of the Council, attracting over four million visits each year, with the aim of inspiring Edinburgh to become a more active and healthy city. The range of facilities includes sport and leisure centres, swim centres, golf courses, tennis courts, bowling greens and sports pitches.

During 2020/21, the Covid-19 pandemic had a significant impact on Edinburgh Leisure income, particularly when all venues and services were closed during lockdown from 20 March 2020. The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme provided support to 92% of the workforce who were furloughed under the Scheme and alongside £3m of additional in-year support received from the City of Edinburgh Council has enabled the charity to continue and report an underlying surplus on unrestricted funds of £1.583m.

Edinburgh Leisure continued to work with the Council and other stakeholders on a range of projects during the year, including Active Communities which encouraged communities to keep active during the pandemic as a way to benefit physical and mental health and Get Active classes which were livestreamed during Level 3 and 4 restrictions.

Capital Theatres

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all Capital Theatre's buildings were closed on 20th March 2020 and at the end of 2020/21 they remained closed, although awaiting clearance to hold performances in the near future.

On closing on 20th March, 90% of Capital Theatre's regular income disappeared overnight, however, support has been available from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, the City of Edinburgh Council, the Scottish Government, Creative Scotland and the National Lottery Heritage Fund together with donated funds from many hundreds of audience members.

The Trust's Learning and Participation work has continued in 2020/21, with much of the Creative Learning activities moving to a virtual world. Additionally the Life Changes Trust, which ensures people with dementia and their carers can continue to be part of the theatre-going community, continues to hold events remotely including the popular Tea Party.

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) was formally delegated the functions and resources of the Council's Health and Social Care Service and NHS Lothian's Community Health Partnership, with effect from 1 April 2016. At that time an assessment was undertaken on the relationship of the Council with the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board and on the basis of level of control, being fifty percent Board representation, and wider materiality levels, this Joint Venture has been consolidated into the Group accounts for the year to 31 March 2021, see note 9.3.

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board agreed its strategic plan for 2019-22 in August 2019. The Board is now engaged in the next planning cycle, remaining focussed on four key areas: redefining the Edinburgh Pact, embracing the three conversations approach, adopting the principle of home first and advancing our transformation programme. A comprehensive programme of redesign and transformation was designed to deliver the vision set out in the strategic plan, working in tandem with other core strategies such as Carers, Thrive Edinburgh (mental health) and the Primary Care Improvement Plan. The transformation programme remains a key element of the strategy, and is a wide-ranging and ambitious programme of change and innovation which aims to deliver high quality and sustainable health and social care services for our citizens.

For the year to 31 March 2021, the EIJB is reporting a surplus of £22.2m in the annual accounts, largely as a result of the additional funding made available by the Scottish Government. All funding received during the year but not yet spent has been transferred to reserves, bringing total reserves to £25.4m. The vast majority of these reserves is 'ring fenced' for specific purposes, with the balance of £1.0m being held in general reserve.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Financial Performance - Group Accounts - continued

Group Summary

Net assets for 2020/21 include a combined group pension liability of £698.144m (2019/20 £462.327m), as shown in note 42.9. This reflects the inclusion of pension liabilities relating to the Council, other employees (including subsidiary companies) and the incorporation of Lothian and Borders Valuation Joint Board as an associate within the group. This exceeds the value of distributable reserves held by the Group. It should be noted that this is a snapshot of the position at 31 March 2021. The actuarial valuation, which takes a longer term view, will consider the appropriate employers' contribution rates and these, together with employee contributions and revenues generated from fund investments, will be utilised to meet the financing of these liabilities. It is therefore appropriate to adopt a going concern basis for the preparation of the group financial statements.

COVID-19

Council and its Group's role and response

The Council continues to provide ongoing support to communities and businesses during the pandemic. In the first weeks of the initial lockdown, the Contact Centre team handled 12,000 calls, providing guidance and support to vulnerable and shielded residents. Council Resilience Centres meant appropriate face to face services could be continued, with almost 6,000 citizens making use of these essential services between April and September. Over 8,000 applications for crisis support were processed, which was a 76% increase on the same period in 2019 and there was a 100% increase in the take-up of free school meals, with direct payments made to families throughout lockdown and school holidays. During 2020/21, over £186 million of grants were also processed, to support the city's businesses, individuals and the economy, including Strategic Framework grants, Business Support Grants, Taxi and Private Hire Support, Self Employed Grants, Retail and Hospitality Support, and Hardship Grants. The Council continues to respond to new challenges quickly, to ensure that services are maintained, businesses are supported and the most vulnerable people in the city get the help they need. This work can only be done in close partnership with the third sector, volunteers and our communities. Locality Operation Groups have been set up to provide practical and professional support to the children and families most in need of assistance. Barriers that have prevented collaboration in the past have been overcome in the face of a crisis. As plans are made for recovery, these changes will be embraced, be that in working in new ways with the third and voluntary sector, or simply equipping and supporting residents and local businesses to play a more active role in maintaining their local environment and helping each other out.

The Council's Arm's-Length External Organisations (ALEOs) have also been severely impacted, with the closure of all of Edinburgh Leisure's sports facilities and the Edinburgh International Conference Centre for much of the year, and passenger numbers on buses and trams running at a fraction of normal levels whilst adhering to strict guidelines on social distancing.

Immediate and on-going financial impacts

Given the unprecedented nature and scale of the financial challenges facing the Council in 2020/21, the frequency of reporting to the Corporate Leadership Team and elected members (through the Leadership and Advisory Panel, Policy and Sustainability Committee and Finance and Resources Committee) was greatly increased, with a focus not only on the immediate in-year position but estimated implications for the budget framework in future years.

A series of assessments of the financial position has been reported to elected members. The **most recent** of these was considered by the Finance and Resources Committee on 20 May 2021.

While an unprecedented level of overspend had been forecast early in the year, through a combination of savings in corporate budgets and the receipt of additional grant funding late in the year, a provisional in-year underspend of £8.1m was achieved. An element of this underspend relates to an IFRS9-related gain and, as such, is not available for spending on frontline services. This sum, alongside additional carried-forward COVID-related funding and a COVID contingency created through re-alignment of the Council's reserves, has been used to increase the budget framework's provision for the pandemic's on-going impacts. Despite the impacts of the pandemic, it was also encouraging to note the continuing increase in the in-year proportion of savings delivered.

Income losses included those relating to parking fees and fines, property rental income, licensing and planning applications, building warrants and cultural venues. Current disruption also resulted in a slight drop in in-year Council Tax collection rates. There was a significant loss of dividend income from Lothian Buses in 2019/20 and 2020/21, and this position is expected to continue in 2021/22 and potentially beyond.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

COVID-19 - continued

A preliminary assessment has been undertaken as to the extent to which the Council's financial management arrangements comply with the principles set out within the CIPFA Financial Management (FM) Code. The Code is designed to support good practice and assist councils in demonstrating their financial sustainability and resilience by setting out expected standards of financial management. While 2020/21 is only a "shadow" year for implementation of the Code, all councils are encouraged to undertake an early assessment in preparation for full adoption during 2021/22. This assessment has highlighted a number of recent improvements contributing positively to the Council's financial resilience and stability, including:

- realigning and reprioritising the Council's reserves to enable the creation of a £16m COVID-specific contingency whilst also increasing the level of the unallocated general reserve to £25m;
- incorporating within the budget framework explicit provision for underlying service pressures and anticipated shortfalls in savings delivery, all based on detailed discussion with members of the Corporate Leadership Team;
- reflecting within the budget framework, insofar as is practicable at this stage given the on-going nature of the pandemic, increased provision for its continuing impacts, particularly for losses of income; and
- dedicated investment in prevention-related resource which, if used effectively, should make a contribution towards future years' savings requirements, as well as improving outcomes for service users.

While the above position reflects a number of positive aspects, it has been impressed upon elected members that there is a need for additional savings proposals to be brought forward if the Council's financial sustainability is to be maintained. With this in mind, the revenue budget update report considered by Council on 27 May 2021 pointed to an anticipated incremental savings requirement of more than £50m in 2023/24 with, at this stage, no specific proposals as to how this gap will be bridged. The capital programme is projecting a funding shortfall of around £172m over the next ten years.

The case will therefore continue to be made for greater use of service prioritisation aligned to the three principles within the **Business Plan**:

- ending poverty and preventing adverse outcomes such as homelessness and unemployment
- becoming a net zero city
- ensuring wellbeing and equalities are enhanced for all

The **Sustainable Capital Budget Strategy 2021 - 2031** details the priorities for council capital investment in alignment with the Business Plan, over the medium to long-term and sets out a plan on how they could be funded. While the plan is affordable in the short-term, thereafter a funding gap develops from 2024/25 onwards, which future budgets will need to address. This strategy should therefore be seen as setting out aspirations for future investment rather than making long-term commitments. The Capital Budget Strategy is expected to come under significant financial pressure as a result of higher tender prices caused by social distancing requirements and associated construction industry changes arising from COVID-19 guidance. There is also renewed focus on embedding the ambitions of a net-zero carbon City contribution from the Council by 2030 into the restart of major capital investment projects, which has had further financial consequences on previous assumptions. The capital budget strategy can only be funded if the Council is able to balance its revenue budget over the medium to long-term to comply with the terms of the Prudential Code. Moreover, the strategy assumes that some priorities, such as the City Centre Transformation and wider transport initiatives, will be funded from a combination of external funding and realignment of existing budgets.

Adaptation and Renewal Programme

In recognising the need for a fundamental re-assessment of service operating models as the city emerges from the pandemic, an **Adaptation and Renewal programme** was established, co-ordinating all aspects of the Council and city's response. Five officer working groups were established, four of which continue to be active as follows:

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

COVID-19 - continued

Adaptation and Renewal Programme - continued

- **Public Health Advisory Group** – bringing together Council, NHS Lothian and Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership colleagues to ensure effective communication and implementation of national advice concerning public health within an Edinburgh context;
- **Service Operations** – facilitating cross-Council co-ordination to enable a phased and prioritised plan for resumption and adaptation where possible, guided by the Scottish Government's route map;
- **Change, People and Finance** – enabling the adaptation and renewal of the Council as an organisation and ensuring that clear direction for the Council's own requirements for change in a post COVID-19 world is aligned with the resources available to deliver these changes. This group has recently reached conclusion and delivered against its original scope so has now been stepped down;
- **Sustainable Economic Recovery** – allowing key sectors of the city to survive and thrive thereafter, with a focus on investment and development, employability, business support and resilience, our future cultural capital and fostering innovation; and
- **Life Chances** – aligning the Council's recovery activity to the key themes of addressing poverty, promoting sustainability and improving well-being.

Progress on this complex but vital programme continues to be reported to elected members, wider stakeholders and to the **Policy and Sustainability Committee**.

Change Strategy and Business Plan

A Best Value Assurance Audit was carried out by a team from Audit Scotland and the Council's external auditor, Azets. The resulting **Best Value Assurance Report (BVAR)** was published by the Accounts Commission on 26 November 2020.

As recommended in the report, the Council amalgamated its Change Strategy into its **Business Plan**.

The other recommended improvement actions included in the BVAR were also addressed in the Business Plan.

The report highlighted a number of key achievements and areas for the Council to improve since the 2016 Best Value Audit, and reflects on this as mixed progress.

The key achievements include:

- The Council's ambitious plans for the City. Specifically, referencing the Council's Sustainability Programme, approach to tackling poverty, major housing and community regeneration projects in Fountainbridge, Meadowbank and at Granton Waterfront; retail, hospitality and cultural developments, such as the St James Quarter; and extending the tram network;
- The Council's long track record of maintaining revenue expenditure within budget;
- Aspects of leadership and service performance. Specifically, referencing improved performance across many KPIs – schools and education, waste and cleansing and time taken to process benefit and grant claims; and
- Improvements in asset management, procurement and risk management.

The report also notes areas where further progress is required:

- Alignment of strategic priorities;
- Implementation of effective community planning governance arrangements, the pace of change within the CPP and community empowerment;
- The Council's approach to self-assessment, continuous improvement and public performance reporting; and
- Long-term financial planning and workforce planning.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Authority's Responsibilities

The Authority is required:

- to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs, including group interests, and to secure that the proper officer of the authority has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs (section 95 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973). In this Authority, that officer is the Head of Finance.
- to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of its resources and safeguard its assets.
- to ensure the Annual Accounts are prepared in accordance with legislation (The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014), and so far as is compatible with that legislation, in accordance with proper accounting practices (section 12 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003).
- to approve the Annual Accounts for signature.

The Section 95 Officer's responsibilities

The Section 95 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Annual Accounts in accordance with proper practices as required by legislation and as set out in the CIPFA / LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Accounting Code).

In preparing the Annual Accounts, the Section 95 Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with legislation; and
- complied with the Local Authority Accounting Code (insofar as it is compatible with legislation), except where stated in the Policies and Notes to the Accounts.

The Section 95 Officer has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date; and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Annual Accounts

I certify that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council and its Group at the reporting date and the transactions of the Council and its Group for the year ended 31 March 2021.

HUGH DUNN, CPFA
Head of Finance
Section 95 Officer

18 June 2021

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT

This statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other 'unusable reserves'. The Movement in Reserves Statement shows how the movements in year of the authority's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to Council Tax or rents for the year. The net increase/decrease line shows the statutory General Fund balance and Housing Revenue Account balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

Council 2020/21	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account Balance	Renewal and Repairs Fund	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Capital Fund	Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves
2020/21	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 31 March 2020	121,345	0	29,748	28,452	48,934	228,479	2,664,396	2,892,875
Movement during 2020/21								
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	50,135	22,914	0	0	0	73,049	316,220	389,269
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 11)	47,258	(12,411)	0	19,497	797	55,141	(55,141)	0
Net increase / (decrease) before transfers to statutory reserves	97,393	10,503	0	19,497	797	128,190	261,079	389,269
Transfer (to) / from other statutory reserves (Note 12.3)	(911)	(10,503)	11,414	0	0	0	(0)	0
Increase / (decrease) in year	96,482	0	11,414	19,497	797	128,190	261,079	389,269
Balance at 31 March 2021	217,827	0	41,162	47,949	49,731	356,669	2,925,476	3,282,145

Group - 2020/21	Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Council Total Reserves	Group Reserves	Total Reserves
2020/21	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 31 March 2020	228,479	2,664,396	2,892,875	209,615	3,102,490
Movement during 2020/21					
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	73,049	316,220	389,269	(51,217)	338,052
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 11)	55,141	(55,141)	0	0	0
Net increase / (decrease) before transfers to statutory reserves	128,190	261,079	389,269	(51,217)	338,052
Transfer (to) / from other statutory reserves (Note 12.3)	0	(0)	0	0	0
Adjustments between group and authority accounts	0	0	0	(39,663)	(39,663)
Increase / (decrease) in year	128,190	261,079	389,269	(90,880)	298,389
Balance at 31 March 2021	356,669	2,925,476	3,282,145	118,734	3,400,879

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT

Re-stated Council	General Fund Balance £000	Housing Revenue Account Balance £000	Renewal and Repairs Fund £000	Capital Grants Unapplied Account £000	Capital Fund £000	Total Usable Reserves £000	Total Unusable Reserves £000	Total Reserves £000
2019/20 Comparative Data								
Balance at 31 March 2019	144,845	0	26,346	15,784	55,908	242,883	2,386,886	2,629,769
Movement during 2019/20								
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(87,200)	17,694	0	0	0	(69,506)	332,612	263,106
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 11)	82,557	(33,149)	0	12,668	(6,974)	55,102	(55,102)	0
Net increase / (decrease) before transfers to statutory reserves	(4,643)	(15,455)	0	12,668	(6,974)	(14,403)	277,510	263,107
Transfer (to) / from other statutory reserves (Note 12.3)	(18,857)	15,455	3,402	0	(0)	0	(0)	0
Increase / (decrease) in year	(23,500)	0	3,402	12,668	(6,974)	(14,403)	277,510	263,107
Balance at 31 March 2020	121,345	0	29,748	28,452	48,934	228,479	2,664,396	2,892,876

Re-stated Group - 2019/20	Total Unusable Reserves £000	Total Unusable Reserves £000	Council Total Reserves £000	Group Reserves £000	Total Reserves £000
Balance at 31 March 2019	242,883	2,386,886	2,629,769	197,522	2,827,291
Movement during 2019/20					
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(69,506)	332,612	263,106	20,891	283,997
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 11)	55,102	(55,102)	0	0	0
Net increase / (decrease) before transfers to statutory reserves	(14,404)	277,510	263,106	20,891	283,997
Transfer (to) / from other statutory reserves (Note 12.3)	0	(0)	0	(8,800)	(8,800)
Increase / (decrease) in year	(14,404)	277,510	263,106	12,091	275,197
Balance at 31 March 2020	228,480	2,664,397	2,892,877	209,613	3,102,490

GROUP COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services for the Group in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. The Council raises taxation to cover its expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Re-stated 2019/20 £000		Notes	Gross Expend. £000	Income £000	Net Expend. £000
	SERVICES				
436,054	Communities and Families		598,523	(134,681)	463,842
136,414	Place		336,205	(167,482)	168,723
(15,308)	Housing Revenue Account		88,700	(104,828)	(16,128)
228,111	Health and Social Care		581,698	(346,643)	235,055
270,917	Resources		268,928	(39,809)	229,119
10,588	Chief Executive		13,483	(2,787)	10,696
3,678	Lothian Valuation Joint Board		3,805	0	3,805
(277)	Net cost of benefits		178,083	(178,210)	(127)
(1,208)	Other non-service specific costs		12,407	12,481	24,888
16,852	Subsidiary Companies		163,595	(138,655)	24,940
1,085,821	COST OF SERVICES		<u>2,245,427</u>	<u>(1,100,614)</u>	1,144,813
(5,331)	Gains on disposal of non-current assets				(6,525)
127,518	Financing and Investment Income and Exp.	13.			81,731
(1,124,640)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	14.			(1,267,902)
83,368	(SURPLUS) / DEFICIT ON PROVISION OF SERVICES				(47,883)
4,729	Associates and Joint Ventures Accounted for on an Equity Basis				(12,295)
374	Taxation of Group entities	14.			(321)
88,471	GROUP (SURPLUS) / DEFICIT				<u>(60,499)</u>
(147,821)	Surplus on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets			(417,803)	
195,313	Return on assets excluding amounts incl. in Financing and Investment Inc / Exp			(398,990)	
(379,337)	Changes in Financial and Demographic Assumptions / Other Experience			500,655	
(40,623)	Other Unrealised (Gains) / Losses			38,585	
(372,468)	Other Comprehensive Income				(277,553)
<u>(283,997)</u>	TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				<u>(338,052)</u>

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing Council services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. The Council raises taxation to cover its expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Re-stated 2019/20		Notes	Gross Expend. £000	Income £000	Net Expend. £000
£000	SERVICES				
436,054	Communities and Families		598,523	(134,681)	463,842
136,414	Place		336,205	(167,482)	168,723
(15,308)	Housing Revenue Account		88,700	(104,828)	(16,128)
228,111	Health and Social Care		581,698	(346,643)	235,055
270,917	Resources		268,928	(39,809)	229,119
10,588	Chief Executive		13,483	(2,787)	10,696
3,678	Lothian Valuation Joint Board		3,805	0	3,805
(277)	Net cost of benefits		178,083	(178,210)	(127)
(1,208)	Other non-service specific costs		12,407	12,481	24,888
<u>1,068,969</u>	COST OF SERVICES		<u>2,081,832</u>	<u>(961,959)</u>	1,119,873
(5,464)	Gains on disposal of non-current assets				(6,499)
130,641	Financing and Investment Income and Exp.	13.			81,479
(1,124,640)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	14.			(1,267,902)
<u>69,506</u>	(SURPLUS) / DEFICIT ON PROVISION OF SERVICES				(73,049)
(147,821)	Surplus on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets			(417,803)	
195,313	Return on assets excluding amounts incl. in Financing and Investment Inc / Exp			(398,990)	
(379,337)	Changes in Financial and Demographic Assumptions / Other Experience			500,655	
(767)	Other Unrealised (Gains) / Losses			(82)	
<u>(332,612)</u>	Other Comprehensive Income				<u>(316,220)</u>
<u>(263,106)</u>	TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				<u>(389,269)</u>

RECONCILIATION OF THE COUNCIL'S POSITION TO THE GROUP POSITION

£000		£000
(263,106)	Total Comprehensive Income on the Council's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)	(389,269)
(21,319)	Subsidiary and associate transactions included in the Council's CIES	(10,840)
(1,338)	(Surplus) / deficit arising from other entities included in the Group Accounts Subsidiaries	73,436
<u>1,766</u>	Associates and Joint Ventures	<u>(11,379)</u>
<u>(283,997)</u>	Group total Comprehensive Income for the year	<u>(338,052)</u>

BALANCE SHEET

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council and Group. The net assets (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council and Group. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first is usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that may be used to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use. The second category are those that are not able to be used to provide services. This includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example, the revaluation reserve) where amounts would only become available if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

Re-stated				31 March 2021	
31 March 2020				Group	Council
Group	Council			£000	£000
£000	£000		Notes	£000	£000
444	444	Intangible Assets	17.	295	295
4,916,729	4,777,745	Property, Plant and Equipment	15.	5,340,432	5,213,017
47,221	19,225	Investment Properties	16.	65,631	19,239
32,077	32,077	Heritage Assets	18.	31,391	31,391
1,254	1,254	Assets Held for Sale	23.	1,271	1,271
66,190	0	Other Long-Term Assets (Pension)		0	0
11,698	23,690	Long-Term Investments	22.	661	21,455
29,531	0	Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures		41,814	0
128,492	158,755	Long-Term Debtors	20.	148,001	190,594
5,233,636	5,013,190	Long-Term Assets		5,629,496	5,477,262
45,798	45,563	Short-Term Investments	22.	31,571	31,571
21,139	21,139	Assets Held for Sale	23.	21,124	21,124
67,936	67,936	Financial Assets	43.	85,691	85,691
13,472	3,451	Inventories	19.	10,671	3,448
137,395	123,276	Short-Term Debtors	20.	141,235	124,571
110,204	81,177	Cash and Cash Equivalents	21.	195,977	165,558
395,944	342,542	Current Assets		486,269	431,963
(77,396)	(75,288)	Short-Term Borrowing	43.	(70,695)	(68,588)
(248,249)	(203,938)	Short-Term Creditors	24.	(274,530)	(218,439)
(36,960)	(34,512)	Provisions	25.	(44,826)	(42,658)
(362,605)	(313,738)	Current Liabilities		(390,051)	(329,685)
(1,270,552)	(1,285,886)	Long-Term Borrowing	43.	(1,287,954)	(1,303,005)
(311,129)	(297,618)	Other Long-Term Liabilities	40.1	(300,361)	(286,008)
(10,932)	0	Deferred Tax		(247)	0
(44,865)	(42,079)	Deferred Liability	43.	(39,964)	(39,964)
(3,472)	0	Liabilities in Associates and Joint Ventures		(4,377)	0
(523,535)	(523,535)	Other Long-Term Liabilities (Pensions)	27.5	(691,932)	(668,418)
(2,164,485)	(2,149,118)	Long-Term Liabilities		(2,324,835)	(2,297,395)
3,102,490	2,892,876	Net Assets		3,400,879	3,282,145
2,802,246	2,664,397	Unusable Reserves	27.	3,057,559	2,925,476
300,244	228,479	Usable Reserves	12.	343,320	356,669
3,102,490	2,892,876	Total Reserves		3,400,879	3,282,145

The unaudited accounts were issued on 18 June 2021.

HUGH DUNN, CPFA
Head of Finance
18 June 2021

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council and Group during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council and Group generate and use cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council and Group are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council and Group. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council and Group's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council and Group.

Re-stated

Year to 31 March 2020			Year to 31 March 2021	
Group	Council		Group	Council
£000	£000	Notes	£000	£000
Operating Activities				
83,368	69,506	Surplus on the Provision of Services	(47,883)	(73,049)
374	0	Adjustment to Surplus / (Deficit) for Taxation of Group entities	(321)	0
(258,499)	(217,449)	Adjustments to Surplus on the Provision of Services for non-cash movements	(276,045)	(235,284)
(153)	(3,277)	Adjustments for items included in the Surplus on the Provision of Services that are investing or Financing Activities	96,369	96,621
<u>(174,910)</u>	<u>(151,220)</u>	Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>(227,880)</u>	<u>(211,712)</u>
Investing Activities				
303,438	268,656	Net cash flows from investing activities	140,459	119,947
Financing Activities				
<u>(102,888)</u>	<u>(91,934)</u>	Net cash flows from financing activities	<u>1,648</u>	<u>7,384</u>
<u>25,640</u>	<u>25,502</u>	Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(85,773)</u>	<u>(84,381)</u>
<u>(135,844)</u>	<u>(106,679)</u>	Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April	<u>(110,204)</u>	<u>(81,177)</u>
<u>(110,204)</u>	<u>(81,177)</u>	Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	<u>(195,977)</u>	<u>(165,558)</u>
<u>25,640</u>	<u>25,502</u>	Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(85,773)</u>	<u>(84,381)</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting Policies

The Annual Accounts summarise the authority's and the authority's group transactions for the 2020/21 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2021. The authority is required to prepare Annual Accounts by the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, which Section 12 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 requires to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 (the Code) and supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

1.1 Material Items

Items of income and expenditure are material if individually or collectively they could influence the decisions or assessments of users of the financial statements, by omission or misstatement. Materiality is an expression of the relative significance of a matter in the context of the annual accounts as a whole.

The assessment of materiality is based on 1% of gross expenditure, at net cost of services level, as this is considered to be the principal consideration for users when assessing the Group and Council's performance. The materiality assessment is set out in the table below.

Specific levels of materiality are considered appropriate for the Housing Revenue Account. The Housing Revenue Account has been assessed on 1% of gross expenditure.

Group	Council	HRA
£m	£m	£m
22.237	20.261	0.887

The principle of materiality does not, however, override the need for relevant statutory disclosures (such as those included within the remuneration report), even if the amounts concerned would otherwise fall below the materiality threshold. Similarly, the assessment of materiality also considers the nature of transactions, irrespective of amount, insofar as these might influence a user of the financial statements.

1.2 Recognition of Income and Expenditure

- The revenue and capital accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with the Code of Practice. Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

Income from service recipients is recognised when the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient.

Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed. Where there is a gap between the date the supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.

- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded on the Balance Sheet.
- Provision has been made in the relevant accounts for bad and doubtful debts.
- Revenue from Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits will flow and the amount of revenue can be measured reliably. Revenue is measured at the full amount receivable (net of any bad debt provision) as they are non-contractual, non-exchange transactions.

1.3 Value Added Tax

Value added tax (VAT) is excluded from the financial statements unless it is non-recoverable from HM Revenue and Customs.

1.4 Overheads

The costs of support services are reported in accordance with the current management structure. Certain support service costs are recovered through direct charges during the year.

1.5 Events after the balance sheet date

Events after the balance sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Annual Accounts are authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting Policies - continued

1.5 Events after the balance sheet date - continued

- those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period - the Annual Accounts are adjusted to reflect such events.
- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period - the Annual Accounts are not adjusted to reflect such events, but where the effect would have been material, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the event and its estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Annual Accounts.

1.6 Prior period adjustments, changes in accounting policies and estimates

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policy or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting policy are only made when required by proper accounting practice or to provide more reliable or relevant information on the Council's financial position. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period, as if the new policy had always been applied. Changes in accounting estimation techniques are applied in the current and future years and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

1.7 Public Private Partnership - School Buildings, Maintenance and Other Facilities

Public Private Partnership (PPP) contracts are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the non-current assets required to provide the services passes to the PPP contractor. As the Council is deemed to control the services that are provided under this scheme and as ownership of the schools and other facilities will pass to the Council at the end of the contracts for no additional charge, the Council carries the non-current assets used under the contracts on its Balance Sheet.

Non-current assets recognised on the Balance Sheet are revalued and depreciated in the same way as other assets owned by the Council.

The amounts payable to the PPP operators each year are analysed into five elements:

- fair value of the services received during the year - debited to services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- finance cost - an interest charge of 8.968% (PPP1 scheme), 5.895% (PPP2 scheme), 8.197% (James Gillespie's High School), 4.36% (Queensferry High School) and 6.84% (Millerhill Residual Waste Facility) on the outstanding balance sheet liability - debited to 'financing and investment income and expenditure' in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- contingent rent - increases in the amount to be paid for the property arising during the contract - debited to 'financing and investment income and expenditure' in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- payment towards liability - applied to write down the value of the finance lease on the Balance Sheet.
- lifecycle replacement costs - recognised as non-current assets on the Balance Sheet.

Service Concession Agreements are accounted for in accordance with IFRIC 12 'Service Concession Arrangements'. The Standard recognises that the Council is in control of services provided under the PPP scheme. As ownership of the long-term assets will pass to the Council at the end of the contract for no additional charge, the Council carries the assets on the Balance Sheet.

1.8 Fair Value measurement - surplus assets and investment properties

Surplus assets, investment properties and relevant financial instruments are measured at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The fair value of an asset or liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting Policies - continued

1.8 Fair Value measurement - surplus assets and investment properties - continued

In measuring the fair value, the market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use is taken into account.

Appropriate valuation techniques have been applied, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy as:

- Level 1 - quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the authority can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 - inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 - unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

1.9 Property, Plant and Equipment

• Categories of Assets

Property, plant and equipment is categorised into the following classes:

Council dwellings	Other land and buildings
Vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment	Infrastructure assets, e.g. roads and footways
Community assets, e.g. parks	Assets under construction
Surplus assets (assets that are surplus to requirements, but there are no clear plans to sell these at the current time)	

• Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of non-current assets has been capitalised on an accruals basis. Expenditure lower than £10,000 on individual assets is charged to revenue.

A change in accounting policy was approved at Finance and Resources Committee on 21 January 2021, enabling interest costs with qualifying assets to be capitalised to better match costs to income streams. A de minimis limit of £2m for interest costs has been approved.

• Measurement

Infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction are initially measured at historic cost, comprising their purchase price and any costs attributable to bringing the assets into use for their intended purpose.

All other classes of property, plant and equipment are measured at fair value.

- Other land and buildings - fair value is the amount that would be paid for the assets in their existing use.
- Council dwellings - fair value is measured at existing use value - social housing.
- Vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment - fair value is the amount equivalent to depreciated historical cost for short life and/or low value assets. For assets with longer lives and/or high values, fair value is the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use or depreciated replacement cost for specialised /rarely sold assets where insufficient market-based evidence exists.
- Surplus assets - fair value is the price that would be paid for an asset in its highest and best use.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting Policies - continued

1.9 Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

- **Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on all property, plant and equipment, other than freehold land, community assets and assets under construction.

The Council depreciates its non-current assets in the year of acquisition. The Council operates a five-year rolling revaluation programme for assets and provides for depreciation on a straight line basis on the opening book value plus the cost of acquisitions and enhancements during the year over the remaining useful life of the asset. Thus the charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the year is impacted by changes in asset value during the year arising from enhancements but not revaluation.

Component accounting is applied as part of the revaluation process. As a result, where a building asset is split down into further components for the first time in year, the depreciation charge is based on the opening book value over the opening remaining useful life of the asset rather than subsequent component values and associated lives. The difference is not considered material.

- **Charges to Revenue for use of Non-Current Assets**

Service revenue accounts, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service.
- impairment losses attributable to the clear consumption of economic benefits on property, plant and equipment used by the service and other losses where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which they can be written off.

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to cover depreciation or impairment losses. Depreciation and impairment losses are therefore a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account by way of an adjusting transaction with the capital adjustment account.

- **Revaluations**

Where assets are included in the Balance Sheet at fair value, revaluations are carried out at intervals of no more than five years. The Council operates a rolling programme for revaluations. The determination of fair value of land and buildings is undertaken by the Council's Operational Estate Manager.

- **De-recognition**

An asset is de-recognised either on its disposal, or where no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal. The gain or loss arising from de-recognition of an asset is included in 'surplus or deficit on the provision of services' within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the asset is de-recognised.

The gain or loss on de-recognition of property, plant and equipment assets is a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

- **Components**

Component accounting is applied to all assets that comprise land and buildings. Land and buildings are treated as separate components of an asset and accounted for separately.

The building component of an asset is separated into further components primarily to those with a carrying value of over £5 million. This policy is also applied to buildings with a carrying value of less than £5 million where enhancement expenditure is considered significant in relation to the overall carrying value of the building component.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting Policies - continued

1.9 Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

Where it is necessary to break a building down into further components, the following categories are applied:

- Structural - includes external and internal walls, traditional roofing, doors, etc.
- Non-traditional roofing - includes flat roof, non-traditional roof coverings and industrial type roofs.
- Finishes - includes doors, windows and room finishes.
- Mechanical and electrical services - includes water, heat, ventilation, electrical, lifts, fire and communications.
- Fittings and furnishings - includes fittings, furnishings and sanitary appliances.

1.10 Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute

Expenditure that may be capitalised under statutory provisions that does not result in the creation of assets for the Council has been charged to the 'cost of services' in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

These costs are a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the General Fund by way of an adjusting transaction with the capital adjustment account.

1.11 Group Account Consolidation

The group has reviewed its investments in other entities to assess whether the conclusion to consolidate is different under IFRS 10 than under IAS 27. No differences were found.

Group accounts have been prepared on the following basis:

- Accounting policies for group members have been aligned where possible.
- The following methods of consolidation have been used:
 - Subsidiaries - line-by-line basis;
 - Associates - equity method.
- Transport for Edinburgh Limited's, CEC Holdings Limited's and Edinburgh Living MMR LLP's reporting periods are to 31 December. As this is within three months of the Council's reporting period (to 31 March) a review was undertaken to establish the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the financial position of the companies. An adjustment will be made for the pension valuation of Transport for Edinburgh, as a result of this review, but no other consolidation adjustments have been assessed as being required.
- Transport for Edinburgh Limited and CEC Holdings Limited have adopted Accounting Standard IFRS 16 Finance Leases for the year to 31 December 2020. The Council is not required to adopt this standard until 1 April 2022 and therefore consolidation adjustments have been made.
- Inter-company transactions have been eliminated on consolidation.
- Group members' financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council

The objective of the Expenditure and Funding Analysis is to demonstrate to Council Tax and rent payers how the funding available to the authority (i.e. government and other grants, rents, fees and charges, Council Tax and business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's services. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on Page 22.

2020/21	Net Expend. Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances £000	Adjustments £000	Net Expenditure in the CIES £000
Communities and Families Place	471,737	(7,895)	463,842
Housing Revenue Account	94,630	74,093	168,723
Health and Social Care Resources	0	(16,128)	(16,128)
Chief Executive	228,156	6,899	235,055
Lothian Valuation Joint Board	178,740	50,379	229,119
	9,725	971	10,696
	3,805	0	3,805
Cost of Services	986,793	108,319	1,095,112
Other income and expenditure			
Net cost of benefits	(127)	0	(127)
Other non-service specific costs	33,214	(8,326)	24,888
Net income and changes in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	0	(811)	(811)
Interest and investment income	(2,638)	(1,173)	(3,811)
Interest payable and similar charges (<i>loan charges in management reporting</i>)	79,064	(5,191)	73,873
Net pension interest cost	0	12,385	12,385
Gains on disposal of assets	0	(6,499)	(6,499)
Gains on derecognition or revaluation of financial assets	0	(156)	(156)
Contribution from Capital Fund	(885)	885	0
Contribution to General Fund	56,362	(56,362)	0
Income from Council Tax	(283,497)	0	(283,497)
Government Grants	(637,444)	0	(637,444)
Distribution from NDR1 pool	(238,922)	0	(238,922)
Movement in donated assets	0	1,008	1,008
Capital grants and contributions	0	(109,048)	(109,048)
(Surplus) / Deficit on the provision of services	(8,080)	(64,969)	(73,049)
Opening General Fund and HRA Balance	121,345		
Contributions to / (from) reserves, including those within services (<i>see notes 12.1 and 12.3 for detail</i>)	88,402		
Surplus on the provision of services	8,080		
Closing General Fund and HRA Balance at 31 March	217,827		

For a split of the balance between the General Fund and the HRA, see the Movement in Reserves Statement on page 19.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council - continued Re-stated

2019/20 Comparative Data	Net Expend. Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA		Net Expenditure in the CIES £000
	Balances £000	Adjustments £000	
Communities and Families Place	423,570	12,484	436,054
Housing Revenue Account	53,269	83,145	136,414
Health and Social Care Resources	0	(15,308)	(15,308)
Chief Executive	218,472	9,639	228,111
Lothian Valuation Joint Board	167,555	103,362	270,917
	9,050	1,538	10,588
	3,678	0	3,678
Cost of Services	875,594	194,860	1,070,454
Other income and expenditure			
Net cost of benefits	(277)	0	(277)
Other non-service specific costs	25,112	(26,320)	(1,208)
Net deficit on trading activities	0	48	48
Net income and changes in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	0	(1,967)	(1,967)
Interest and investment income	(3,204)	(1,433)	(4,637)
Interest payable and similar charges (<i>loan charges in management reporting</i>)	104,710	16,167	120,877
Net pension interest cost	0	16,410	16,410
Gains on disposal of assets	0	(5,464)	(5,464)
Gains on derecognition or revaluation of financial assets	0	(90)	(90)
Contribution from Capital Fund	(334)	334	0
Contribution from General Fund	581	(581)	0
Income from Council tax	(271,044)	0	(271,044)
Government Grants	(360,206)	0	(360,206)
Distribution from NDR1 pool	(366,025)	0	(366,025)
Movement in donated assets	0	441	441
Capital grants and contributions	0	(127,806)	(127,806)
Surplus on the provision of services	4,907	64,599	69,506
Opening General Fund and HRA Balance	144,845		
Contributions to / (from) reserves, including those within services (<i>see notes 12.1 and 12.3 for detail</i>)	(18,593)		
Deficit on the provision of services	(4,907)		
Closing General Fund and HRA Balance at 31 March	121,345		

For a split of the balance between the General Fund and the HRA, see the Movement in Reserves Statement on page 20.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council

2.1 Adjustments from the General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure

Statement amounts

2020/21	Adjusts. For Capital Purposes £000	Net Change for Pensions Adjusts. £000	Other Differences £000	Total Statutory Adjusts. £000
Communities and Families Place	(10,943)	12,344	952	2,353
Housing Revenue Account	81,004	7,345	444	88,793
Health and Social Care Resources	(5,699)	911	(837)	(5,625)
Chief Executive	111	6,701	525	7,337
	70,649	6,137	412	77,198
	1	671	47	719
Cost of Services	135,123	34,109	1,543	170,775
Other income and expenditure				
Other non-service specific costs	(2,563)	(3,276)	(11)	(5,850)
Net income and changes in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	0	0	(14)	(14)
Interest and investment income	(1,164)	0	0	(1,164)
Interest payable and similar charges	(25,821)	0	(2,129)	(27,950)
Net pension interest cost	0	12,385	0	12,385
Gains on disposal of assets	(6,499)	0	0	(6,499)
Gains on derecognition or revaluation of financial assets	0	0	0	0
Capital grants and contributions	(109,048)	0	0	(109,048)
Income from donated assets	1,008	0	0	1,008
Total Adjustments	(8,964)	43,218	(611)	33,643

Notes -

Adjustments for capital purposes include the replacement of depreciation and impairment costs with repayment of borrowing to the Loans Fund.

Net changes for pensions adjustment relate to the adjustment made for the removal of IAS19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income with the pension contributions.

Other differences include reversal of the value of entitlement to accrued leave, the revaluation of investment properties and the timing differences for premiums and discounts associated with borrowing within the Loans Fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council - continued

2.1 Adjustments from the General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts

2020/21	Total Statutory Adjusts. b/fwd £000	Presentation Adjusts. £000	Use of Reserves £000	Total Adjusts. £000
Communities and Families Place	2,353	(26)	(10,222)	(7,895)
Housing Revenue Account	88,793	25	(14,725)	74,093
Health and Social Care Resources	(5,625)	0	(10,503)	(16,128)
Chief Executive	7,337	(438)	0	6,899
	77,198	(18,666)	(8,153)	50,379
	719	(1)	253	971
Cost of Services	170,775	(19,106)	(43,350)	108,319
Other income and expenditure				
Other non-service specific costs	(5,850)	(2,691)	215	(8,326)
Net income and changes in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(14)	(797)	0	(811)
Interest and investment income	(1,164)	(9)	0	(1,173)
Interest payable and similar charges	(27,950)	22,759	0	(5,191)
Net pension interest cost	12,385	0	0	12,385
Gains on disposal of assets	(6,499)	0	0	(6,499)
Gains on derecognition or revaluation of financial assets	0	(156)	0	(156)
Use of reserves	0	0	(55,477)	(55,477)
Capital grants and contributions	(109,048)	0	0	(109,048)
Income from donated assets	1,008	0	0	1,008
Total Adjustments	33,643	0	(98,612)	(64,969)

Notes -

Presentational adjustments relate primarily to the presentation of interest payments on finance leases (including PPP schemes), trading operations, internal recharges and income and expenditure on investment properties for decision making purposes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council - continued

2.1 Adjustments from the General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts

Re-stated

2019/20 Comparative Data	Adjusts. For Capital Purposes £000	Net Change for Pensions Adjusts. £000	Other Differences £000	Total Statutory Adjusts. £000
Communities and Families Place	(5,735)	17,964	(311)	11,918
Housing Revenue Account	75,240	10,873	(842)	85,271
Health and Social Care	(44,544)	811	12,970	(30,763)
Resources	72	9,981	26	10,079
Chief Executive	108,327	9,050	(898)	116,479
	1	1,046	(81)	966
Cost of Services	133,361	49,725	10,864	193,950
Other income and expenditure				
Other non-service specific costs	(5,473)	(18,046)	(1)	(23,520)
Net income and changes in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	0	0	(309)	(309)
Interest and investment income	(1,189)	0	0	(1,189)
Interest payable and similar charges	(35,114)	0	31,346	(3,768)
Net pension interest cost	0	16,410	0	16,410
Gains on disposal of assets	(5,464)	0	0	(5,464)
Gains on derecognition or revaluation of financial assets	0	0	0	0
Capital grants and contributions	(127,806)	0	0	(127,806)
Income from donated assets	441	0	0	441
Total Adjustments	(41,244)	48,089	41,900	48,745

Notes -

Adjustments for capital purposes include the replacement of depreciation and impairment costs with repayment of borrowing to the Loans Fund.

Net changes for pensions adjustment relates to the adjustment made for the removal of IAS19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income with the pension contributions.

Other differences include reversal of the value of entitlement to accrued leave, the revaluation of investment properties and the timing differences for premiums and discounts associated with borrowing within the Loans Fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council - continued

2.1 Adjustments from the General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts

Re-stated

2019/20 Comparative Data	Total Statutory Adjusts. b/fwd £000	Presentation Adjusts. £000	Use of Reserves £000	Total Adjusts. £000
Communities and Families Place	11,918	(81)	647	12,484
Housing Revenue Account	85,271	53	(2,179)	83,145
Health and Social Care Resources	(30,763)	0	15,455	(15,308)
Chief Executive	10,079	(440)	0	9,639
	116,479	(16,586)	3,469	103,362
	966	0	572	1,538
Cost of Services	193,950	(17,054)	17,964	194,860
Other income and expenditure				
Other non-service specific costs	(23,520)	(1,149)	(1,651)	(26,320)
Net deficit on trading activities	0	48	0	48
Net income and changes in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(309)	(1,658)	0	(1,967)
Interest and investment income	(1,189)	(32)	(212)	(1,433)
Interest payable and similar charges	(3,768)	19,935	0	16,167
Net pension interest cost	16,410	0	0	16,410
Gains on disposal of assets	(5,464)	0	0	(5,464)
Gains on derecognition or revaluation of financial assets	0	(90)	0	(90)
Use of reserves	0	0	(247)	(247)
Capital grants and contributions	(127,806)	0	0	(127,806)
Income from donated assets	441	0	0	441
Total Adjustments	48,745	0	15,854	64,599

Notes -

Presentational adjustments relate primarily to the presentation of interest payments on finance leases (*including PPP schemes*), trading operations, internal recharges and income and expenditure on investment properties for decision making purposes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council

2.2 Segmental Analysis of Expenditure and Income included in Expenditure and Funding Analysis

2020/21	Communities	Place	Housing	Health and
	and Families		Revenue	Social Care
Expenditure	£000	£000	Account	£000
Employee expenses	362,517	86,561	11,156	88,029
Other service expenses	251,162	189,009	42,093	266,926
Support service recharges	0	18	6,893	0
Interest payments	21	0	17,414	0
Debt repayments (<i>HRA only</i>)	0	0	17,130	0
Total Expenditure	613,700	275,588	94,686	354,955
Income				
Revenues from external customers	(54,212)	(111,913)	(91,397)	(17,925)
Income from recharges for services	0	(165)	(254)	0
Government grants and other contribs.	(87,751)	(68,880)	(1,871)	(108,874)
Interest and investment income	0	0	(1,164)	0
Total Income	(141,963)	(180,958)	(94,686)	(126,799)
Cost of Services	471,737	94,630	0	228,156

Expenditure	Resources	Chief	Lothian	Council Total
	£000	Executive	Valuation	
Expenditure	£000	£000	Joint Board	£000
Employee expenses	75,510	8,034	0	631,807
Other service expenses	127,512	4,847	3,805	885,354
Support service recharges	(873)	0	0	6,038
Interest payments	19,464	0	0	36,899
Debt repayments (<i>HRA only</i>)	0	0	0	17,130
Total Expenditure	221,613	12,881	3,805	1,577,228
Income				
Revenues from external customers	(16,792)	(574)	0	(292,813)
Income from recharges for services	(8,772)	(477)	0	(9,668)
Government grants and other contribs.	(17,309)	(2,105)	0	(286,790)
Interest and investment income	0	0	0	(1,164)
Total Income	(42,873)	(3,156)	0	(590,435)
Cost of Services	178,740	9,725	3,805	986,793

Expenditure	Subsidiaries	Associates	Group Total
	£000	and Joint	
Expenditure	£000	Ventures	£000
Employee expenses	97,733	0	729,540
Other service expenses	41,751	0	927,105
Support service recharges	0	0	6,038
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	24,111	0	24,111
Interest payments	0	0	36,899
Debt repayments (<i>HRA only</i>)	0	0	17,130
Net expend from Associates and Joint Ventures	0	395	395
Total Expenditure	163,595	395	1,741,218
Income			
Revenues from external customers	(176,703)	0	(469,516)
Income from recharges for services	0	0	(9,668)
Government grants and other contribs.	38,048	0	(248,742)
Interest and investment income	0	0	(1,164)
Net income from Associates and Joint Ventures	0	(12,690)	(12,690)
Total Income	(138,655)	(12,690)	(741,780)
Cost of Services	24,940	(12,295)	999,438

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Expenditure and Funding Analysis - Council - continued

2.2 Segmental Analysis of Expenditure and Income included in Expenditure and Funding Analysis

2019/20 Comparative Data	Communities and Families		Housing Revenue Account	Health and Social Care
	£000	Place £000	£000	£000
Expenditure				
Employee expenses	343,850	84,015	10,242	87,256
Other service expenses	199,027	179,689	42,509	232,390
Support service recharges	0	0	7,023	0
Interest payments	77	0	18,001	0
Debt repayments (<i>HRA only</i>)	0	0	43,695	0
Total Expenditure	542,954	263,704	121,470	319,646
Income				
Revenues from external customers	(53,075)	(141,768)	(98,098)	(19,432)
Income from recharges for services	(16)	(435)	(166)	0
Government grants and other contribs.	(66,293)	(68,232)	(22,018)	(81,742)
Interest and investment income	0	0	(1,188)	0
Total Income	(119,384)	(210,435)	(121,470)	(101,174)
Cost of Services	423,570	53,269	0	218,472

Expenditure	Resources		Lothian Chief Executive	Lothian Valuation Joint Board	Council Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employee expenses	73,940	7,966	0	0	607,269
Other service expenses	133,520	5,576	3,678	3,678	796,389
Support service recharges	37	0	0	0	7,060
Interest payments	18,196	0	0	0	36,274
Debt repayments (<i>HRA only</i>)	0	0	0	0	43,695
Total Expenditure	225,693	13,542	3,678	3,678	1,490,687
Income					
Revenues from external customers	(29,342)	(780)	0	0	(342,495)
Income from recharges for services	(9,938)	(475)	0	0	(11,030)
Government grants and other contribs.	(18,858)	(3,237)	0	0	(260,380)
Interest and investment income	0	0	0	0	(1,188)
Total Income	(58,138)	(4,492)	0	0	(615,093)
Cost of Services	167,555	9,050	3,678	3,678	875,594

Expenditure	Subsidiaries		Associates and Joint Ventures	Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employee expenses	119,178	0	0	726,447
Other service expenses	53,813	0	0	850,202
Support service recharges	0	0	0	7,060
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	24,433	0	0	24,433
Interest payments	0	0	0	36,274
Debt repayments (<i>HRA only</i>)	0	0	0	43,695
Net expend from Associates and Joint Ventures	0	0	5,190	5,190
Total Expenditure	197,424	197,424	5,190	1,693,301
Income				
Revenues from external customers	(214,640)	0	0	(557,135)
Income from recharges for services	0	0	0	(11,030)
Government grants and other contribs.	34,068	0	0	(226,312)
Interest and investment income	0	0	0	(1,188)
Net income from Associates and Joint Ventures	0	0	(461)	(461)
Total Income	(180,572)	(180,572)	(461)	(796,126)
Cost of Services	16,852	16,852	4,729	897,175

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature Group

3.1 The authority's expenditure and income, as set out within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is analysed as follows;

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Expenditure		
Employee expenses	770,603	764,758
Other service expenses	1,253,172	1,204,985
Support service recharges	6,038	7,059
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	215,292	247,166
Interest payments	162,882	224,478
Net Interest in the (profit) / loss of associates and joint ventures	<u>(12,296)</u>	<u>4,729</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>2,395,691</u>	<u>2,453,175</u>
Income		
Fees, charges and other service income	(860,495)	(927,817)
Gain on the disposal of assets	(6,525)	(5,331)
Movement on donated assets	1,008	441
Interest and investment income	(80,995)	(96,918)
Income from Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates	(522,419)	(637,068)
Government grants and other contributions	(877,716)	(570,205)
Recognised capital income	<u>(109,048)</u>	<u>(127,806)</u>
Total Income	<u>(2,456,190)</u>	<u>(2,364,704)</u>
Group (Surplus) / Deficit	<u>(60,499)</u>	<u>88,471</u>

Council

3.2 The authority's expenditure and income, as set out within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is analysed as follows

	2020/21	Re-stated 2019/20
	£000	£000
Re-stated Expenditure		
Employee expenses	672,870	645,580
Other service expenses	1,211,742	1,150,799
Support service recharges	6,038	7,059
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	191,181	222,733
Interest payments	<u>151,506</u>	<u>208,545</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>2,233,337</u>	<u>2,234,716</u>
Income		
Fees, charges and other service income	(683,791)	(713,178)
(Gain) / Loss on the disposal of assets	(6,499)	(5,464)
Interest and investment income	(69,870)	(77,861)
Income from Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates	(522,419)	(637,069)
Government grants and other contributions	(915,767)	(604,273)
Recognised capital income	(109,048)	(127,806)
Donated asset income	<u>1,008</u>	<u>441</u>
Total Income	<u>(2,306,386)</u>	<u>(2,165,210)</u>
(Surplus) / Deficit on the Provision of Services	<u>(73,049)</u>	<u>69,506</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4. Accounting Standards that have been issued but not yet adopted

The Code requires the disclosure of information relating to the impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted. This applies to the adoption of the following new or amended standards within the 2021/22 Code:

The Code requires implementation from 1 April 2021 and there is therefore no impact on the 2020/21 financial statements.

- Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations
- Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39 and IFRS 7 - interest rate benchmark reform
- Amendments to IAS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16 - interest rate benchmark reform phase 2

5. Judgements Made in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 1 and elsewhere in the accounts to the Financial Statements, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The most significant judgements made in these Financial Statements are detailed below:

5.1 Provision of School Buildings and Waste Facility

The Council is deemed to control the services provided under the Public Private Partnership agreements (PPP1 and PPP2) and the Design, Build, Finance and Maintain (DBFM) for James Gillespie's High School (JHGS) and Queensferry High School (QHS), for the provision of school buildings, maintenance and other facilities with Edinburgh Schools Partnership (PPP1), Axiom Education Limited (PPP2), Hub South East Scotland (JGHS) and QHS DBFMCO Ltd (QHS).

The Council is deemed to control 80% of the services provided under the DBFM for Millerhill Residual Waste Facility (20% controlled by Midlothian Council).

The accounting policies for public private partnerships have been applied to these arrangements and the schools and waste facility (valued at net book value of £527.216m and £97.488m respectively at 31 March 2021) are recognised as Property, Plant and Equipment on the Council's Balance Sheet.

5.2 Group Membership

The Council has an interest in a number of subsidiary and associate companies and trusts. Full details of these interests are shown in note 9 to the Financial Statements. The most significant of these companies in terms of the size of trading operations and other factors are included in the Group Accounts.

6. Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Financial Statements contain estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

6. Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The following table details uncertainties on assumptions and estimates, and outlines the potential effect if actual results differ from the assumptions made.

Item	Uncertainty	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Property, Plant and Equipment	Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. A reduction in spending on repairs and maintenance would bring into doubt the useful lives assigned to the assets. Council dwellings are valued using the Beacon Method which aggregates the vacant possession values of each unit of housing stock. The beacon discount factor is determined by applying a capitalisation yield to the gross rental income and comparing this to the aggregate value. This methodology takes account of regional variations in capital values, stock condition, rent arrears and voids. The discount factor applied in the 2020-21 revaluations is 37% with a 4.5% uplift (38% previously).	If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying value of the assets falls.
		It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge would increase and the carrying value would fall by £10.942m for each year that useful lives were reduced.
		If the discount factor is increased by 1%, this would lead to a corresponding reduction in the total value of council dwellings of £26.210m.
Pensions Liability	<p>Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.</p> <p>The interim solution to avoid inequalities between men and women's benefits following the introduction of the Single Status Pension in 2016 has resulted in a recalculation of pension liabilities related to the estimated impact of Guaranteed minimum pension (GMP) indexation changes.</p> <p>A further recent ruling on GMP has been made, in relation to past transfers.</p> <p>Legislation requires the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) to undertake periodic valuations to monitor the cost of the LGPS to ensure it remains sustainable and affordable. The costs management process has been paused following the Court of Appeal ruling that the transitional arrangements in both the Judges' Pension Scheme (McCloud) and Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Sargeant) were age discriminatory. These cases could have knock on implications for the LGPS (potentially increasing the liabilities).</p> <p>The Goodwin case judgement, in respect of deemed discrimination in spousal transfer on death of a member, may also result in the potential increasing of the pension liabilities.</p> <p>The Walker and O'Brien cases, may impact LGPS benefits in the future, in respect of retrospective discrimination in spousal transfer of benefits for same sex couples.</p>	<p>The effects on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured.</p> <p>Note 42.6 provides further information on the Council's pension liability.</p> <p>The increased liability has been reflected in the pension liability as a past service cost.</p> <p>The Council's actuary has not included any allowance for this as they deem it unlikely to have a significant impact on the pension obligations of a typical Employer.</p> <p>The Council's actuary has included an estimate within the pension liability as a past service cost.</p> <p>The Council's actuary has not included an estimate of the impact of the Goodwin case in the valuation due to the uncertainty of the final outcome. The estimated impact on the Employer's future obligations may be around 0.13% higher.</p> <p>The Council's actuary has not included an estimated of the impact of these cases as they are unlikely to result in significant impact on the pension obligations.</p>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

6. Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty - continued

Arrears	At 31 March, the Council had a balance of sundry debtors of £43.984m. A review of significant balances suggested that an impairment of doubtful debts of £9.1m (20.7%) was appropriate. In the current economic climate it is not certain that this will be sufficient.	If collection rates were to deteriorate, a 5% increase in the rate of the impairment of doubtful debts would require an additional £2.199m to be set aside as an allowance.
House Rent Arrears	At 31 March, the Council had a balance of housing rent arrears of £10.447m. A review of significant balances suggested that an impairment of doubtful debts of £9.035m (86.5%) was appropriate. In the current economic climate it is not certain that this will be sufficient.	There is a relatively high level of arrears and the impairment set aside should help protect against potential loss of income to the Council arising from welfare reforms such as Universal Credit and the reduction in the benefits cap which will potentially impact on the level of rent arrears.

This list does not include assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value based on recently observed market prices.

7. Material Items of Income and Expense

There has been material income and expense during this financial year related to the Covid 19 pandemic, further details of this are contained in the Management Commentary page 15.

8. Events After the Balance Sheet Date

There have been no material events to disclose after the Balance Sheet date.

9. Subsidiaries and Associates

The Council holds shares in various trading companies, either as a controlling or minority shareholder.

The Council is also represented on the Boards of various companies that are limited by guarantee and have no share capital. It participates in these companies by means of Board membership and the provision of funding and management support.

The following entities have a significant impact on the Council's operations and have been consolidated into the Group Accounts:

Subsidiaries:	Shareholding	
• CEC Holdings Limited	100.00%	
• Transport for Edinburgh Limited	100.00%	
• Edinburgh Living MMR LLP	99.999%	
Associates:		
• Edinburgh Leisure	33.33%	Board representation
• Capital Theatres	33.33%	Board representation
• Lothian Valuation Joint Board	61.29%	Funding percentage
• Common Good	100.00%	
Joint Venture	Interest	
• Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	50.00%	Board representation

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

9. Subsidiaries and Associates - continued

The following companies are not consolidated into the Group Accounts. An assessment has been carried out on these companies, their activities and the level of Council control. These companies are not considered to be a material part of the Group and have therefore been excluded from the Group Accounts:

	Shareholding
• Capital City Partnership Limited	100.00%
• CEC Recovery Limited (formerly tie Limited)	100.00%
• Marketing Edinburgh Limited	100.00%
• Energy for Edinburgh Limited	100.00%
• Edinburgh Living MR LLP	99.00% (dormant to 31.12.20)
• Telford NHT LLP	> 75% controlling interest

In January 2019 the Council bought out the developer's share in Telford NHT LLP and held majority control of this associate during the financial year, in conjunction with the Scottish Futures Trust. The properties held were sold on 4 May 2021, however the controlling interest has been retained.

LFPE Limited and LPFI Limited are consolidated in the annual accounts of Lothian Pension Fund.

Unless otherwise stated, the accounts of these bodies may be accessed, as they become available, through [the Council's website](#).

9.1 Subsidiary Companies

• CEC Holdings Limited

The principal activities of the company are property development and the operation of an international conference centre. The company is wholly owned by the City of Edinburgh Council.

The most recent unaudited results of the company are as follows:	31.12.20	31.12.19
	£000	£000
Net assets	13,833	20,416
Net (profit) / loss before taxation	4,941	(3,058)
Retained profit / (loss) carried forward	(56,111)	(49,497)

The Council inherited its interest in CEC Holdings Limited following the local government reorganisation in 1996. It is considered that this was on an acquisition basis, however, as no consideration was given for these interests, there was no goodwill involved in these transactions.

• Transport for Edinburgh Limited

The principal activities of the company are as a holding company for the City of Edinburgh Council's interest in public transport companies; Lothian Buses Limited and Edinburgh Trams Limited. The company is wholly owned by the City of Edinburgh Council.

The Council's major shareholding in Lothian Buses of 5,824,139 (91.01%) £1 ordinary shares (fully paid) was transferred to Transport for Edinburgh Limited in 2014.

The Council inherited its interest in Lothian Buses Limited, following the reorganisation of local government in 1996. It is considered that this was on an acquisition basis, however, as no consideration was given for these interests, there was no goodwill involved in these transactions.

Edinburgh Trams Limited commenced a fare paying revenue service on 31 May 2014.

The most recent audited results of the company are as follows:

	31.12.20	31.12.19
Transport for Edinburgh Limited (Consolidated Group)	£000	£000
Net assets	70,310	129,486
Net loss before taxation	21,271	16,873
Retained earnings	(38,230)	22,223
Dividend paid in March 2020 and March 2019	0	7,000

A copy of the latest accounts can be obtained by writing to the Finance Director, Lothian Buses Limited, Annandale Street, Edinburgh, EH7 4AZ.

• Edinburgh Living MMR LLP

The limited liability partnership (LLP) members are the City of Edinburgh Council and Scottish Futures Trust (SFT). The principal activities of the partnership are to acquire and manage homes for mid-market rent.

The most recent unaudited results of the partnership are as follows:	31.12.20	Re-stated 31.12.19
	£000	£000
Net assets	542	113
Net profit before taxation	(2,765)	(8,252)
Retained profit carried forward	(280)	(17)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

9. Subsidiaries and Associates - continued

9.2 Associates

- **Edinburgh Leisure**

This is a non-profit-distributing company limited by guarantee and registered as a Charity. Each member has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards any deficit arising in the event of the company being wound up.

The principal activity of the company is the provision of recreation and leisure facilities.

The City of Edinburgh Council is represented on the company's Board of Directors and contributes a substantial sum to the company towards the cost of operating sport and leisure facilities.

The City of Edinburgh Council leases its sport and leisure centres to the company.

The most recent unaudited results of the company are as follows:	31.03.21	31.03.20
	£000	£000
Net assets / (liabilities)	3,171	(1,223)
Net operating (profit) / loss	(4,394)	4,901
Earnings / (Losses) carried forward	3,171	(1,223)

Although Edinburgh Leisure is included in the Group Accounts, as the nature of its activities is a core part of Council policy, the Council has no legal interest in the assets or liabilities of the company.

- **Capital Theatres**

This is a non-profit-distributing company limited by guarantee and registered as a Charity.

The City of Edinburgh Council is represented on the trust's board of directors and gives substantial financial assistance. The City of Edinburgh Council leases the King's Theatre and the Festival Theatre to the trust.

The most recent audited results of the company are as follows:	31.03.21	31.03.20
	£000	£000
Net assets	5,626	5,323
Net operational (profit) / loss	82	(561)
Fund balances carried forward	5,626	5,323

Although Capital Theatres is included in the Group Accounts, due to its activities being a core part of the Council's policy, the Council has no legal interest in the assets or liabilities of the company.

- **Lothian Valuation Joint Board**

The Lothian Valuation Joint Board provides Valuation Appeals, Lands Valuation, Electoral Registration and Council Tax Valuation Services.

The Board comprises 16 members of whom nine are elected by the City of Edinburgh, three by West Lothian and two each by East and Midlothian Councils. Costs incurred by the Lothian Valuation Joint Board are apportioned in accordance with the non-domestic rateable subjects and dwellings valued for Council Tax within the areas of each constituent authority.

	31.03.21	31.03.20
	£000	£000
Deficit for the year	645	478
Net Liabilities	(7,142)	(5,002)
Usable reserves	784	897
Unusable reserves	(7,926)	(5,899)
Total reserves	<u>(7,142)</u>	<u>(5,002)</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

9.3 Joint Ventures

• Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) was established by order of Scottish Ministers on 27 June 2015 under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.

The Board comprises 10 voting members, made up of five elected members appointed by the City of Edinburgh Council and five NHS non-executive directors appointed by NHS Lothian, along with a number of non voting members.

The expenditure incurred by the EIJB is covered in full by income received from the partner bodies, NHS Lothian and the City of Edinburgh Council. EIJB therefore commission services from the parent bodies based on the approved strategic plan.

The most recent unaudited results of the Board are as follows:

	31.03.21	31.03.20
	£000	£000
Gross expenditure	850,054	762,032
(Surplus) / Deficit for the year	(22,244)	6,528
Usable reserves	25,410	3,166

9.4 Audit Opinions noted on the Accounts of the Companies

Unless otherwise indicated, the companies' accounts are audited.

9.5 Shareholder Support to Council Companies

A number of companies within the group are currently dependent on the continued financial support of the Council. The companies are EICC Limited, a subsidiary of CEC Holdings Limited - (the Council owns 100% of the shares in CEC Holdings Limited), Transport for Edinburgh Ltd - (including Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Trams Ltd), Capital Theatres and Edinburgh Leisure.

9.6 Financial Impact of Consolidation

The effect of inclusion of subsidiaries and associates on the Group Balance Sheet is to increase both reserves and net assets by £118.734m (2019/20 £209.614m) representing the Council's share of the realisable surpluses or deficits in these companies.

10. Contingent Liabilities

Contingent Assets and Liabilities are not recognised in the accounting statements. Where there is probable inflow or outflow of economic benefits or service potential, these are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

There may be outstanding liability claims or claims to be submitted against the Council in relation to insured and uninsured losses or incidents. The actual cost and timing of any claims cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy and consequently no specific provision has been made in the financial statements in respect of any such claims.

The work of the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry, which began in 2015, is continuing under Lady Smith. With the imminent introduction of the Redress scheme for survivors of historical child abuse and the introduction of Qualified One-Way Costs Shifting (QOCS) from June 2021, there will be increased avenues for survivors to seek compensation for abuse which took place whilst in the care of an organisation. The Council's project team continues to support the inquiry, review historic records and respond to requests from the Inquiry for information. Local authorities across Scotland will be presented with claims, however the extent of the exposure remains unknown in 2021 as there is no time bar on the presentation of claims.

The Inquiry has identified a number of Council operated or commissioned facilities which it wishes to review as part of their investigation. Separately, some civil litigation claims have been submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council, as successor authority to Lothian Regional Council. Where claims are ongoing, it is impossible to confirm the likely cost to the Council as reserves change regularly and accurate costs are only known when a claim is settled. The total cost to the Council will include any settlement amount, fees (both first and third party), which may be offset by the insurance coverage in force at the time of the alleged abuse. It is worth noting that discussions are due to take place to ensure an equitable distribution of legacy claims across all Lothian councils which will further impact the exposure to the Council.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

11. Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

2020/21	Usable Reserves		
	General Fund Balance £000	Housing Revenue Account Balance £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account			
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)			
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	164,257	26,776	0
Movements in the market value of investment properties	(14)	0	0
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	148	0	0
Capital grants and contributions applied	(86,798)	(22,249)	0
Capital funded from revenue	(13,658)	0	0
Donated assets	1,008	0	0
Capital fund used to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	0
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	51,107	0	0
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES			
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	(53,616)	(17,130)	0
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund and HRA balances	(51,107)	0	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grant Unapplied Account			
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	0	0	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve			
Net (gain) / loss on sale of property, plant and equipment and assets held for sale	(6,251)	(248)	27,388
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	(27,388)
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account			
Amount by which finance costs charged are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(2,129)	(906)	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve			
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	113,240	2,993	0
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(71,300)	(1,715)	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account			
Amount by which officer remuneration charges to the CIES are different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	2,371	68	0
Total Adjustments	47,258	(12,411)	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

11. Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations - continued

2020/21	Usable Reserves		Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
	Capital Grants Unapplied Account £000	Capital Fund £000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account			
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)			
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	0	0	(191,033)
Movements in the market value of investment properties	0	0	14
Amortisation of intangible assets	0	0	(148)
Capital grants and contributions applied	19,645	0	89,402
Capital funded from revenue	0	0	13,658
Donated assets	0	0	(1,008)
Capital fund used to finance new capital expenditure	0	2,000	(2,000)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	0	0	(51,107)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES			
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	0	(1,203)	71,949
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund and HRA balances	0	0	51,107
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grant Unapplied Account			
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	(148)	0	148
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve			
Net gain / (loss) on sale of property, plant and equipment and assets held for sale	0	0	(20,889)
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	27,388
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account			
Amount by which finance costs charged are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0	0	3,035
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve			
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	0	0	(116,233)
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	0	0	73,015
Adjustments primarily involving the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account			
Amount by which officer remuneration charges to the CIES are different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0	0	(2,439)
Total Adjustments	19,497	797	(55,141)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

11. Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations - continued

Re-stated 2019/20 Comparative Data	Usable Reserves		
	General Fund Balance £000	Housing Revenue Account Balance £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account			
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)			
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	193,597	29,078	0
Movements in the market value of investment properties	(351)	42	0
Amortisation of intangible assets	58	0	0
Capital grants and contributions applied	(98,544)	(29,262)	0
Capital funded from revenue	(6,581)	(23,000)	0
Donated assets	441	0	0
Capital fund used to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	0
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	52,778	0	0
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES			
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	(80,210)	(20,695)	0
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund and HRA balances	(52,778)	0	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grant Unapplied Account			
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	0	0	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve			
Net loss / (gain) on sale of property, plant and equipment and assets held for sale	(1,910)	(3,554)	9,640
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	(9,640)
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account			
Amount by which finance costs charged are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	31,346	13,113	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve			
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	114,743	2,803	0
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(67,925)	(1,530)	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account			
Amount by which officer remuneration charges to the CIES are different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(2,107)	(144)	0
Total Adjustments	82,557	(33,149)	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

11. Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations - continued

Re-stated 2019/20 Comparative Data	Usable Reserves		Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
	Capital Grants Unapplied Account £000	Capital Fund £000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account			
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)			
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	0	0	(222,674)
Movements in the market value of investment properties	0	0	309
Amortisation of intangible assets	0	0	(58)
Capital grants and contributions applied	13,473	0	114,333
Capital funded from revenue	0	0	29,581
Donated assets	0	0	(441)
Capital fund used to finance new capital expenditure	0	(6,311)	6,311
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	0	0	(52,778)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES			
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	0	(663)	101,568
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund and HRA balances	0	0	52,778
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grant Unapplied Account			
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	(805)	0	805
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve			
Net (loss) / gain on sale of property, plant and equipment and assets held for sale	0	0	(4,176)
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	9,640
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account			
Amount by which finance costs charged are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0	0	(44,459)
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve			
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	0	0	(117,546)
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	0	0	69,455
Adjustments primarily involving the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account			
Amount by which officer remuneration charges to the CIES are different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0	0	2,251
Total Adjustments	12,668	(6,974)	(55,102)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12. Usable Reserves

12.1 Transfers to and from Usable Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside in the Group's and the Council's usable reserves and the amounts posted back from these reserves to meet expenditure during the year.

	Balance at 01.04.20 £000	Net Transfers Out 2020/21 £000	Net Transfers In 2020/21 £000	Balance at 31.03.21 £000
Group Reserves				
Subsidiaries				
CEC Holdings Limited				
Revenue reserves	(49,323)	(6,711)	0	(56,034)
Capital grants unapplied account	1,305	(92)	0	1,213
Transport for Edinburgh Limited				
Revenue reserves	113,602	(91,196)	0	22,406
Edinburgh Living MMR LLP				
Revenue reserves	17	0	263	280
Total Usable Reserves - Subsidiaries	65,601	(97,999)	263	(32,135)
Associates and Joint Ventures				
Common Good Fund - Reserves	2,665	0	4	2,669
Edinburgh Leisure - Reserves	(408)	0	1,465	1,057
Capital Theatres - Reserves	1,774	0	101	1,875
Lothian Valuation Joint Board - Reserves	550	(70)	0	480
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board - Reserves	1,583	0	11,122	12,705
Total Usable Reserves - Associates and Joint Ventures	6,164	(70)	12,692	18,786
Total Usable Reserves - Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	71,765	(98,069)	12,955	(13,349)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12. Usable Reserves - continued

12.1 Transfers to and from Usable Reserves - continued

	Balance at 01.04.19 £000	Net Transfers Out 2019/20 £000	Net Transfers In 2019/20 £000	Balance at 31.03.20 £000
Group Reserves				
Subsidiaries				
CEC Holdings Limited				
Revenue reserves	(51,059)	0	1,736	(49,323)
Capital grants unapplied account	1,521	(216)	0	1,305
Transport for Edinburgh				
Revenue reserves	118,718	(5,116)	0	113,602
Edinburgh Living MMR LLP				
Revenue reserves	0	0	17	17
Total Usable Reserves - Subsidiaries	69,180	(5,332)	1,753	65,601
Associates and Joint Ventures				
Common Good Fund - Reserves	2,352	0	313	2,665
Edinburgh Leisure - Reserves	203	(611)	0	(408)
Capital Theatres - Reserves	1,626	0	148	1,774
Lothian Valuation Joint Board - Reserves	548	0	2	550
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board - Reserves	4,847	(3,264)	0	1,583
Total Usable Reserves - Associates and Joint Ventures	9,576	(3,875)	463	6,164
Total Usable Reserves - Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	78,756	(9,207)	2,216	71,765

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12. Usable Reserves - continued

12.1 Transfers to and from Usable Reserves - continued

	Balance at 01.04.20 £000	Transfers Out 2020/21 £000	Transfers In 2020/21 £000	Balance at 31.03.21 £000
Council's Usable Reserves				
General Fund				
Balances Set Aside to Manage Financial Risks and for Specific Investment				
Balances set aside for specific inv.	44,690	(35,815)	17,155	26,030
Council Priorities Fund	757	(757)	0	0
Contingency funding, Workforce Transformation	13,588	(2,500)	148	11,236
Dilapidations Fund	3,228	(777)	50	2,501
Insurance Funds	20,097	(1,572)	1,055	19,580
Covid Funds	0	0	78,635	78,635
	<u>82,360</u>	<u>(41,421)</u>	<u>97,043</u>	<u>137,982</u>
Balances Set Aside from Income Received in Advance				
Licensing and Registration Income	2,982	0	991	3,973
Revenue grants and contributions received in advance of planned expenditure	6,801	(2,420)	7,297	11,678
Council Tax Discount Fund	4,304	(520)	2,279	6,063
Other earmarked balances	204	(29)	0	175
City Strategic Investment Fund	2,795	(906)	145	2,034
Covid advance funding	0	0	22,489	22,489
	<u>17,086</u>	<u>(3,875)</u>	<u>33,201</u>	<u>46,412</u>
Balances Set Aside for Investment in Specific Projects which will Generate Future Savings				
Energy Efficiency Fund	295	(28)	44	311
Spend to Save Fund and similar projects	3,006	(148)	551	3,409
	<u>3,301</u>	<u>(176)</u>	<u>595</u>	<u>3,720</u>
Balances Set Aside under Devolved School Management Scheme and Pupil Equity Fund				
Balances held by schools under Devolved School Management (DSM) and Pupil Equity Fund (PEF)	4,671	(4,671)	4,688	4,688
Surplus on Housing Revenue Account transferred to Renewal and Repairs Fund	0	0	0	0
Unallocated General Fund	13,927	0	11,098	25,025
Total General Fund	<u>121,345</u>	<u>(50,143)</u>	<u>146,625</u>	<u>217,827</u>
Housing Revenue Account Balance	0	0	0	0
Renewal and Repairs Fund	29,748	(3,537)	14,951	41,162
Capital Fund	48,934	(1,203)	2,000	49,731
Capital Receipts Reserve	0	(27,388)	27,388	0
Capital Grants Unapplied Account	28,452	(148)	19,645	47,949
Total Usable Reserves - Council	<u>228,479</u>	<u>(82,419)</u>	<u>210,609</u>	<u>356,669</u>
Total Usable Reserves - Group	<u>300,244</u>	<u>(180,488)</u>	<u>223,564</u>	<u>343,320</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12. Usable Reserves - continued

12.1 Transfers to and from Usable Reserves - continued

Re-stated	Balance at 01.04.19 £000	Transfers Out 2019/20 £000	Transfers In 2019/20 £000	Balance at 31.03.20 £000
General Fund				
Balances Set Aside to Manage Financial Risks and for Specific Investment				
Balances set aside for specific inv.	42,296	(10,876)	13,270	44,690
Council Priorities Fund	6,625	(9,154)	3,286	757
Contingency funding, Workforce Transformation	18,194	(7,160)	2,554	13,588
Dilapidations Fund	5,721	(2,493)	0	3,228
Insurance Funds	19,585	(841)	1,353	20,097
	<u>92,421</u>	<u>(30,524)</u>	<u>20,463</u>	<u>82,360</u>
Balances Set Aside from Income Received in Advance				
Licensing Income	2,584	(118)	516	2,982
Revenue grants and contributions received in advance of planned expend.	5,394	(1,680)	3,087	6,801
Council Tax Discount Fund	18,631	(18,000)	3,673	4,304
Other earmarked balances	203	0	1	204
City Strategic Investment Fund	3,552	(902)	145	2,795
	<u>30,364</u>	<u>(20,700)</u>	<u>7,422</u>	<u>17,086</u>
Balances Set Aside for Investment in Specific Projects which will Generate Future Savings				
Energy Efficiency Fund	244	0	51	295
Spend to Save Fund and similar projects	2,718	(245)	533	3,006
	<u>2,962</u>	<u>(245)</u>	<u>584</u>	<u>3,301</u>
Balances Set Aside under Devolved School Management Scheme				
Balances held by schools under Devolved School Management (DSM) and Pupil Equity Fund (PEF)	6,073	(6,034)	4,632	4,671
Surplus on Housing Revenue Account transferred to Renewal and Repairs Fund				
	0	0	0	0
Unallocated General Fund	<u>13,025</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>902</u>	<u>13,927</u>
Total General Fund	<u>144,845</u>	<u>(57,503)</u>	<u>34,003</u>	<u>121,345</u>
Housing Revenue Account Balance	0	0	0	0
Renewal and Repairs Fund	26,346	(5,123)	8,525	29,748
Capital Fund	55,908	(8,453)	1,479	48,934
Capital Receipts Reserve	0	(279,048)	279,048	0
Capital Grants Unapplied Account	15,784	(805)	13,473	28,452
Total Usable Reserves - Council	<u>242,883</u>	<u>(350,932)</u>	<u>336,528</u>	<u>228,479</u>
Total Usable Reserves - Group	<u>321,639</u>	<u>(360,139)</u>	<u>338,744</u>	<u>300,244</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12. Usable Reserves - continued

12.2 Devolved School Management and Pupil Equity Funding

A net credit balance of £4.688m (2019/20 £4.671m) is held within the General Fund in accordance with the Devolved School Management scheme and permitted carry forward of the Pupil Equity Fund.

12.3 Reconciliation of transfers to and from earmarked reserves in Movement of Reserves Statement to Transfers to and from Usable Reserves

2020/21

	General Fund £000	HRA Balance £000	Renewal / Repairs Fund £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000
Transfers out	(50,143)	0	(3,537)	(27,388)
Transfers in	146,625	0	14,951	27,388
Total movements in fund	<u>96,482</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,414</u>	<u>0</u>
Recognised in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	97,393	10,503	0	0
Transfers to other earmarked reserves	(911)	(10,503)	11,414	0
Total movements in fund	<u>96,482</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,414</u>	<u>0</u>
	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Capital Fund £000	Group Usable Reserves £000	Total £000
Transfers out	(148)	(1,203)	(98,069)	(180,488)
Transfers in	19,645	2,000	12,955	223,564
Total movements in fund	<u>19,497</u>	<u>797</u>	<u>(85,114)</u>	<u>43,076</u>
Recognised in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	19,497	797	(71,810)	56,380
Transfers to other earmarked reserves	0	0	0	0
Group account adjustments unusable reserves	0	0	(13,304)	(13,304)
Total movements in fund	<u>19,497</u>	<u>797</u>	<u>(85,114)</u>	<u>43,076</u>

2019/20 Comparative Data

	General Fund £000	HRA Balance £000	Renewal / Repairs Fund £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000
Transfers out	(57,503)	0	(5,123)	(279,048)
Transfers in	34,003	0	8,525	279,048
Total movements in fund	<u>(23,500)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,402</u>	<u>0</u>
Recognised in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(4,643)	(15,455)	0	0
Transfers to other earmarked reserves	(18,857)	15,455	3,402	0
Total movements in fund	<u>(23,500)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,402</u>	<u>0</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12. Usable Reserves - continued

12.3 Reconciliation of transfers to and from earmarked reserves in Movement of Reserves Statement to Transfers to and from Usable Reserves - continued

2019/20 Comparative Data	Capital	Capital	Re-stated	Total
	Grants Unapplied £000	Fund £000	Group Usable Reserves £000	
Transfers out	(805)	(8,453)	(9,207)	(360,139)
Transfers in	13,473	1,479	2,216	338,744
Total movements in fund	<u>12,668</u>	<u>(6,974)</u>	<u>(6,991)</u>	<u>(21,395)</u>
Recognised in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	12,668	(6,974)	22,011	7,608
Transfers to other earmarked reserves	0	(0)	(29,002)	(29,003)
Total movements in fund	<u>12,668</u>	<u>(6,974)</u>	<u>(6,991)</u>	<u>(21,395)</u>

13. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

	2020/21		Re-stated 2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Interest payable and similar charges	74,374	73,873	74,014	73,933
Premiums arising from refinancing	0	0	46,943	46,943
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	88,508	77,633	103,520	87,668
Interest receivable and similar income	(3,394)	(3,812)	(5,792)	(4,636)
Interest income on plan assets	(76,790)	(65,248)	(89,130)	(71,258)
Net income in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(811)	(811)	(1,995)	(1,967)
Net income in relation to financial assets derecognised or revalued	(156)	(156)	(90)	(90)
Net deficit from trading activities	0	0	48	48
	<u>81,731</u>	<u>81,479</u>	<u>127,518</u>	<u>130,641</u>

14. Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Council Tax income	(283,496)	(283,496)	(271,044)	(271,044)
Non-domestic rates	(238,922)	(238,922)	(366,025)	(366,025)
Non-ring fenced government grants	(637,444)	(637,444)	(360,206)	(360,206)
Capital grants and contributions	(109,048)	(109,048)	(127,806)	(127,806)
Movement on donated assets	1,008	1,008	441	441
Taxation expenses / (refund)	(321)	0	374	0
	<u>(1,268,223)</u>	<u>(1,267,902)</u>	<u>(1,124,266)</u>	<u>(1,124,640)</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment

15.1 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided in the year of an asset's purchase. Assets in the course of construction are not depreciated until they are brought into use. Where depreciation is provided for, assets are depreciated using the straight line method over the following periods:

Council dwellings	50 years
Buildings	Up to 80 years (assets not subject to component accounting)
Buildings - structural	50 years
Buildings - non-traditional roofing	35 years
Buildings - finishes	25 years
Buildings - mechanical and electrical	20 years
Buildings - fittings and furnishings	15 years
PPP - Millerhill Residual Waste Facility	30 years
PPP - Schools	40 years (PPP1 schools) and 35 years (PPP2 schools) 50 years (JGHS and QHS)
Infrastructure assets	20 years
Vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment	5 years to 30 years, to reflect estimated useful life 3 years to 15 years, Group Companies

15.2 Capital Commitments

At 31 March 2021, the Council had entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of property, plant and equipment. These are budgeted to cost £243.090m. A number of these amounts relate to contract retentions, as projects are now complete. Similar commitments at 31 March 2020 were £192.129m.

	£000	Expected Completion Date
Trams to Newhaven	81,583	23/24
St James Redevelopment - Growth Accelerator Model	61,400	21/22
Picardy Place Public Realm *	1,500	21/22
General Fund - Asset Management Works Programme	13,967	21/22
Trinity High School Phase 1 - Bangholm	13,590	21/22
Castlebrae High School	11,117	21/22
HRA - Pennywell Town Centre	10,345	22/23
Darroch School Refurbishment	8,853	22/23
New South Edinburgh Primary School	7,939	21/22
General Fund - Other	7,464	22/23
HRA - Other	6,840	23/24
North Bridge Refurbishment	6,240	23/24
Energy Efficiency Street Lighting Project	3,904	21/22
St Crispin's Special School	3,511	21/22
HRA - Pennywell Phase 3	3,481	22/23
Meadowbank Sports Centre	1,356	21/22
	<u>243,090</u>	

* The Picardy Place public realm payment will be made following the completion of the wider St James Redevelopment.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.3 Movements on Balances - Group Movements in 2020/21

	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April 2020	1,569,110	2,346,880	359,048	1,543,665
Additions	21,437	22,462	12,350	99,085
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	46,591	286,332	0	0
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(17)	(7,378)	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	(2,849)	(442)	(18,602)	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	20,875	39,408	0	0
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,655,147</u>	<u>2,687,262</u>	<u>352,796</u>	<u>1,642,750</u>
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment				
At 1 April 2020	(9,012)	(150,974)	(172,255)	(771,663)
Depreciation charge	(31,651)	(70,043)	(27,970)	(73,851)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	35,672	0	0	0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	4,958	49,336	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	75	0	17,207	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0
Depreciation on assets transferred to Held for Sale	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2021	<u>42</u>	<u>(171,681)</u>	<u>(183,018)</u>	<u>(845,514)</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,655,189</u>	<u>2,515,581</u>	<u>169,778</u>	<u>797,236</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,560,098</u>	<u>2,195,906</u>	<u>186,793</u>	<u>772,002</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.3 Movements on Balances - Group Movements in 2020/21

	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April 2020	7,195	20	194,715	6,020,633
Additions	601	0	77,890	233,825
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(145)	0	225	333,003
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(32)	0	0	(7,427)
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	(17,763)	(39,656)
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	0	0	(60,058)	225
At 31 March 2021	<u>7,619</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>195,009</u>	<u>6,540,603</u>
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment				
At 1 April 2020	0	0	0	(1,103,904)
Depreciation charge	0	0	0	(203,515)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	35,672
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	54,294
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	0	17,282
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0
Depreciation on assets transferred to Held for Sale	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2021	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,200,171)</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	<u>7,619</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>195,009</u>	<u>5,340,432</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>7,195</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>194,715</u>	<u>4,916,729</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.4 Movements on Balances - Group Accounts

2019/20 Comparative Data

	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April 2019	1,484,507	2,155,479	335,320	1,465,451
Additions	35,034	180,542	37,627	78,214
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	39,167	92,703	0	0
Revaluation decreases recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	137	(44,531)	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	(2,684)	(1,540)	(13,899)	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	12,949	(35,773)	0	0
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,569,110</u>	<u>2,346,880</u>	<u>359,048</u>	<u>1,543,665</u>
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment				
At 1 April 2019	(141)	(97,601)	(160,162)	(701,660)
Depreciation charge	(29,510)	(69,576)	(24,895)	(70,003)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	20,604	14,627	0	0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	1,576	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	35	0	12,802	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2020	<u>(9,012)</u>	<u>(150,974)</u>	<u>(172,255)</u>	<u>(771,663)</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2020	<u><u>1,560,098</u></u>	<u><u>2,195,906</u></u>	<u><u>186,793</u></u>	<u><u>772,002</u></u>
At 31 March 2019	<u><u>1,484,366</u></u>	<u><u>2,057,878</u></u>	<u><u>175,158</u></u>	<u><u>763,791</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.4 Movements on Balances - Group 2019/20 Comparative Data

	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Right of Use Asset £000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation					
At 1 April 2019	8,987	1,421	109,161	0	5,560,326
Additions	2,055	0	76,756	0	410,228
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	347	0	0	0	132,217
Revaluation decreases recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(4,195)	0	0	0	(48,589)
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	(14,986)	0	(33,109)
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	1	(1,401)	23,784	0	(440)
At 31 March 2020	7,195	20	194,715	0	6,020,633
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment					
At 1 April 2019	0	0	0	0	(959,564)
Depreciation charge	0	0	0	0	(193,984)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	0	35,231
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0	1,576
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	0	0	12,837
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2020	0	0	0	0	(1,103,904)
Net book value					
At 31 March 2020	7,195	20	194,715	0	4,916,729
At 31 March 2019	8,987	1,421	109,161	0	4,600,762

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.5 Movements on Balances - Council Movements in 2020/21

	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April 2020	1,569,110	2,273,975	169,398	1,536,995
Additions	21,437	22,433	6,301	99,085
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	46,591	286,332	0	0
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(17)	(7,378)	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	(2,849)	(362)	(419)	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	20,875	39,408	0	0
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,655,147</u>	<u>2,614,408</u>	<u>175,280</u>	<u>1,636,080</u>
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment				
At 1 April 2020	(9,012)	(119,293)	(80,290)	(765,068)
Depreciation charge	(31,651)	(69,807)	(12,109)	(73,776)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	35,672	0	0	0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	4,958	49,336	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	75	0	419	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2021	<u>42</u>	<u>(139,764)</u>	<u>(91,980)</u>	<u>(838,844)</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,655,189</u>	<u>2,474,644</u>	<u>83,300</u>	<u>797,236</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,560,098</u>	<u>2,154,682</u>	<u>89,108</u>	<u>771,927</u>

Included within Other Land and Buildings is £1.833m for donated assets related to timing of PPP lifecycle maintenance spend by the contract provider, ahead of the planned programme.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.5 Movements on Balances - Council

Movements in 2020/21

Cost or Valuation	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £000	PPP and similar Assets £000
At 1 April 2020	7,195	20	194,715	5,751,408	642,189
Additions	601	0	77,890	227,747	1,574
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(145)	0	225	333,003	0
Revaluation decreases recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(32)	0	0	(7,427)	40,588
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	(17,763)	(21,393)	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	225	225	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	0	0	(60,283)	0	(34,256)
At 31 March 2021	<u>7,619</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>195,009</u>	<u>6,283,563</u>	<u>650,095</u>
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment					
At 1 April 2020	0	0	0	(973,663)	(21,286)
Depreciation charge	0	0	0	(187,343)	(12,761)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	35,672	8,656
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	54,294	0
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	0	494	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2021	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,070,546)</u>	<u>(25,391)</u>
Net book value					
At 31 March 2021	<u>7,619</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>195,009</u>	<u>5,213,017</u>	<u>624,704</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>7,195</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>194,715</u>	<u>4,777,745</u>	<u>620,903</u>

The disclosure for PPP and similar assets is for information only. The costs and depreciation are included in 'Other Land and Buildings' and 'Assets Under Construction'.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.6 Movements on Balances - Council 2019/20 Comparative Data

Cost or Valuation	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000
At 1 April 2019	1,484,507	2,093,576	163,562	1,458,781
Additions	35,034	179,458	7,069	78,214
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	39,167	83,677	0	0
Revaluation decreases recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	137	(45,423)	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	(2,684)	(1,540)	(1,233)	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	12,949	(35,773)	0	0
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,569,110</u>	<u>2,273,975</u>	<u>169,398</u>	<u>1,536,995</u>
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment				
At 1 April 2019	(141)	(66,106)	(72,866)	(695,177)
Depreciation charge	(29,510)	(69,390)	(8,656)	(69,891)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	20,604	14,627	0	0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	1,576	0	0
Derecognition - disposals	35	0	1,232	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2020	<u>(9,012)</u>	<u>(119,293)</u>	<u>(80,290)</u>	<u>(765,068)</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,560,098</u>	<u>2,154,682</u>	<u>89,108</u>	<u>771,927</u>
At 31 March 2019	<u>1,484,366</u>	<u>2,027,470</u>	<u>90,696</u>	<u>763,604</u>

Included within Other Land and Buildings is £1.833m for donated assets related to timing of PPP lifecycle maintenance spend by the contract provider, ahead of the planned programme.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.6 Movements on Balances - Council

2019/20 Comparative Data

	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Total Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £000	PPP and similar Assets £000
Cost or Valuation					
At 1 April 2019	8,987	1,421	109,161	5,319,995	520,170
Additions	2,055	0	76,756	378,586	129,974
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	347	0	0	123,191	0
Revaluation decreases recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(4,195)	0	0	(49,481)	(7,955)
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	(14,986)	(20,443)	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from held for sale	0	0	0	0	0
Other increases / (decreases) in cost or valuation	1	(1,401)	23,784	(440)	0
At 31 March 2020	7,195	20	194,715	5,751,408	642,189
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment					
At 1 April 2019	0	0	0	(834,290)	(8,542)
Depreciation charge	0	0	0	(177,447)	(12,744)
Depreciation charge written out to Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	35,231	0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	1,576	0
Derecognition - disposals	0	0	0	1,267	0
Derecognition - other	0	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses recognised in in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2020	0	0	0	(973,663)	(21,286)
Net book value					
At 31 March 2020	7,195	20	194,715	4,777,745	620,903
At 31 March 2019	8,987	1,421	109,161	4,485,705	511,628

The disclosure for PPP and similar assets is for information only. The costs and depreciation are included in 'Other Land and Buildings' and 'Assets Under Construction'.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.7 Council Dwellings, Other Land and Buildings and Investment Properties

The Council carries out a rolling programme of revaluations that ensures that all property, plant and equipment required to be measured at fair value is revalued at least every five years. All valuations were carried out internally. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out under the direction of the Council's Operational Estate Manager, L. Turner RICS, in accordance with the Statements of Asset Valuation Practice and Guidance Notes of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Fixtures and fittings are included in the valuation of the buildings where appropriate.

In 2019/20, the Valuation Certificate that accompanied the asset valuations contained a Material Valuation Uncertainty clause in line with RICS guidance. The RICS has set up a Material Valuation Uncertainty Leaders Forum (UK) in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. On 9 September 2020, the forum recommended a general "lifting" of material valuation uncertainty excluding assets valued with reference to trading potential. This recommendation was reaffirmed on 3 November 2020 and 5 January 2021. On 11 May 2021, the recommendation was amended to lift the exclusion of assets valued with reference to trading potential.

In line with the RICS recommendations, no material valuation uncertainty declaration is made for the asset valuations this year. The Valuation Certificate contains a statement to this effect in line with the RICS Covid 19 practice alert supplement "Impact of Covid 19 on Valuation" dated 6 November 2020.

The significant assumptions applied in estimating fair value are:

- Unless otherwise stated, all properties with a greater than de minimis value were taken into account based on the actual condition of the property and its actual residual useful life. Where the Council has a planned replacement programme asset life is reviewed accordingly;
- The valuations were prepared using information from the Council's internal records, together with the valuation roll produced by Lothian Valuation Joint Board; and
- Not all properties were inspected.

The following statement shows the progress of the Council's five-year rolling programme for the revaluation of property, plant and equipment.

Council assets	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000
Carried at historical cost	204	202,551	175,280	1,636,080
Valued at fair value as at:				
31 March 2021	1,653,448	689,156	0	0
31 March 2020	630	245,658	0	0
31 March 2019	363	700,593	0	0
31 March 2018	502	590,195	0	0
31 March 2017	0	186,255	0	0
Total cost or valuation	1,655,147	2,614,408	175,280	1,636,080

Council assets	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total £000
Carried at historical cost	7,619	0	195,009	2,216,743
Valued at fair value as at:				
31 March 2021	0	0	0	2,342,604
31 March 2020	0	0	0	246,288
31 March 2019	0	0	0	700,956
31 March 2018	0	0	0	590,697
31 March 2017	0	20	0	186,275
Total cost or valuation	7,619	20	195,009	6,283,563

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. Property, Plant and Equipment - continued

15.8 Surplus Assets and Investment Properties - Fair Value Disclosure

Recurring fair value measurements using:	Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	Fair Value as at 31 March 2021
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Surplus assets	0	20	0	20
Investment properties - advertising hoardings	0	19,239	0	19,239
Total cost or valuation	0	19,259	0	19,259

- There were no transfers between levels during the year.
- The fair value for surplus assets has been based on the market approach using current market conditions and recent sales prices and other relevant information for similar assets in similar locations. Market conditions are such that similar properties are actively purchased and sold and the level of observable inputs is significant, leading to the properties being categorised at level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. In estimating the fair value of the Council's surplus assets, the assumption has been made that these would be disposed of for highest and best use consideration.
- The fair value for investment properties has been based on the market approach using current rent receivable with a capitalisation rate applied. The rate reflects the return that an investor would expect from the capital employed. There is evidence of lettings from the Council's property information systems which have been used to determine valuation parameters and the level of observable inputs is significant, leading to the investment properties being categorised at level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. In estimating the fair value of the Council's investment properties, the highest and best use of the properties is their current use.

16. Investment Properties

Policy

Investment properties are initially measured at cost. After initial recognition, investment properties are measured at fair value (the price that would be received for the asset in its highest and best use).

Any gains or losses arising from a change in the fair value of investment properties are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the period in which they arise.

Investment properties are revalued annually.

Investment properties held at fair value are not depreciated.

Investment properties are de-recognised on disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its disposal.

The gain or loss arising from the retirement or disposal of an investment property is recognised in the 'surplus or deficit on provision of services' within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the period of the retirement or disposal.

Note

16.1 Income and Expenses on Investment Properties

Income of £0.798m (£1.658m 2019/20) and expense £Nil (£Nil 2019/20) have been accounted for in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment properties or on the Council's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

16. Investment Properties - continued

16.2 Movement in Fair Value - continued

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year.

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Value at 1 April	47,221	19,225	19,136	18,916
Additions	18,396	0	19,513	0
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Net (loss) / gain from fair value adjustments	14	14	8,572	309
	<u>65,631</u>	<u>19,239</u>	<u>47,221</u>	<u>19,225</u>
Value at 31 March	65,631	19,239	47,221	19,225

17. Intangible Assets

Policy

Intangible fixed assets represent software licences purchased by the Council.

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of intangible fixed assets has been capitalised on an accruals basis.

Intangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost. Software licences are depreciated over the period of the licence, commencing in the year of acquisition.

Note

The carrying value of intangible assets of the Group and the Council is £0.295m in 2020/21 (£0.444m in 2019/20).

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis. The amortisation of £0.148m in 2020/21 (2019/20 £0.58m) was charged to Resources.

18. Heritage Assets

Policy

Heritage assets comprise the following:

Monuments and statues	Civic regalia and artefacts
Archival collections	Libraries' special collections
Museum and gallery collections	

Intangible heritage assets represent three private vehicle registration plates.

It has not been practical or possible to split out all heritage assets belonging to the common good fund, charities or trusts. Therefore, the Council's Balance Sheet may hold elements of heritage assets that belong to other entities. Work is on-going to establish and maintain a common good register, in accordance with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of heritage assets has been capitalised on an accruals basis.

Heritage asset valuations may be made by any method that is appropriate and relevant. Furthermore valuations need not be carried out by external valuers and there is no prescribed period between valuations.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

18. Heritage Assets - continued

The following measurement bases have been applied, based on the most relevant and appropriate information available. This is set in the context where it is not practicable to obtain up to date valuations for all heritage assets at a cost which is commensurate with the benefits to users of the Council's financial statements.

Monuments and statues	Historic value
Civic regalia and artefacts	Insurance purposes valuation
Archival collections	Insurance purposes valuation, based on restoration costs
Libraries' special collections	Insurance purposes valuation
Museum and gallery collections	Insurance purposes valuation
Private vehicle registration plates	Cost or current value information is not readily available, therefore these assets have not been recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet

Heritage assets are deemed to have indeterminate lives and a high residual value; hence it is not considered appropriate to charge depreciation.

18.1 Reconciliation of the Carrying Value of Heritage Assets

Note

Movements in 2020/21

	Monuments and Statues £000	Civic Regalia and Artefacts £000	Archival Collections £000
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2020	1,615	2,047	6,797
Additions	672	0	0
Revaluation decreases recognised in the Surplus / Deficit on the Provision of Services	(1,358)	0	0
At 31 March 2021	<u>929</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>6,797</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	<u>929</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>6,797</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,615</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>6,797</u>
		Museum and Gallery Collections £000	Total Heritage Assets £000
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2020	1,975	19,643	32,077
Additions	0	0	672
Revaluation decreases recognised in the Surplus / Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	0	(1,358)
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,975</u>	<u>19,643</u>	<u>31,391</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,975</u>	<u>19,643</u>	<u>31,391</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,975</u>	<u>19,643</u>	<u>32,077</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

18. Heritage Assets - continued

18.1 Reconciliation of the Carrying Value of Heritage Assets - continued 2019/20 Comparative Data

	Monuments and Statues £000	Civic Regalia and Artefacts £000	Archival Collections £000
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2019	842	2,047	6,797
Additions	773	0	0
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,615</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>6,797</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,615</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>6,797</u>
At 31 March 2019	<u>842</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>6,797</u>
	Libraries' Special Collections £000	Museum and Gallery Collections £000	Total Heritage Assets £000
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2019	1,975	19,643	31,304
Additions	0	0	773
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,975</u>	<u>19,643</u>	<u>32,077</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,975</u>	<u>19,643</u>	<u>32,077</u>
At 31 March 2019	<u>1,975</u>	<u>19,643</u>	<u>31,304</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

18. Heritage Assets - continued

18.2 Details of Heritage Assets

- Valuations on Monuments and Statues are carried out under the direction of the Council's Operational Estate Manager. Monuments and Statues are valued on a historic basis.
- Civic Regalia and artefacts include items such as the Lord Provost's Badge and Chain of Office and the Rosebery Jewel. The value of these assets is based on an insurance purposes valuation carried out in 1998.
- Archival collections include historical records which relate to the history of Edinburgh and its surrounding areas. The value of these assets is based on a current insurance purposes valuation based on restoration costs only. This valuation has not changed since 2008/09.
- Libraries' special collections include items such as rare book collections and pictures in Calotype. The value of these assets is based on an insurance purposes valuation carried out in 2007 with a minor proportions valuation being updated in 2014.
- Museums and Gallery collections include various collections held at a number of museums across Edinburgh. They include items held within the Social History, Applied Art, Writers' Museum, Childhood, City Art Centre and Picture Loan Scheme. The value of these assets is based on insurance purposes valuations carried out in 2003 along with a minor proportions valuation being updated in 2014. A small minority of the assets are based on insurance purposes valuations carried out in 1996.
- The valuations for heritage assets have all been carried out internally and although they are from earlier periods, they are considered the most appropriate and relevant. Carrying out valuations for the majority of collections held is very costly and time consuming so it is not practicable to obtain recent valuations at a cost which is commensurate with the benefits to users of the financial statements. The carrying amounts of these heritage assets will be reviewed with sufficient regularity in the future to ensure they are brought up to date and remain appropriate.
- It has not been practical or possible to split out all heritage assets belonging to common good, charities or trusts. Therefore, the Council's balance sheet may hold this element of heritage assets that belong to other entities.
- The Council has three private vehicle registration plates which meet the definition of intangible heritage assets. These have not been recognised on the balance sheet due to lack of information on cost or current value. They are limited registration numbers that rarely become available for sale and therefore no relevant or appropriate current value can be placed on these. It is also almost certain they are below the materiality threshold for the Council.

19. Inventories

Policy

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Inventories acquired through a non-exchange transaction are measured at their fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Inventories held for distribution at no charge or a nominal charge are measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost.

Note	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Total				
Balance at 1 April	13,472	3,451	13,285	2,984
Purchases	60,675	13,901	62,285	15,437
Held by a third party	169	169	62	62
Recognised as an expense in the year	(63,643)	(14,071)	(62,127)	(14,999)
Stock written off	(2)	(2)	(33)	(33)
Balance at 31 March	<u>10,671</u>	<u>3,448</u>	<u>13,472</u>	<u>3,451</u>

The majority of the Council inventory transactions and balances relate to fuel and building materials, with catering supplies, community equipment and clothing making up the remainder. The Group inventory mainly relates to fuel and work in progress.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

20. Debtors

20.1 Long-term Debtors

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Council Tax	99,556	99,556	87,063	87,063
Trade Debtors	54,607	54,607	44,516	44,516
Other Debtors	151,949	194,542	127,956	158,219
Total long-term debtors before provision for impairment	306,112	348,705	259,535	289,798
Less: Provision for impairment	(158,111)	(158,111)	(131,043)	(131,043)
Total net long-term debtors	148,001	190,594	128,492	158,755

Long-term debtors include £10.123m (2019/20 £10.667m) for sums recoverable from Police Scotland. These sums relate to monies advanced to the former joint board for capital expenditure.

20.2 Short-term Debtors

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Council Tax	120,690	120,690	120,416	120,416
Trade Debtors	48,566	44,909	35,260	32,092
Prepayments	7,534	4,470	6,265	3,469
Other Debtors	86,209	76,266	97,911	89,756
Total current debtors before provision for impairment	262,999	246,335	259,852	245,733
Less: Provision for impairment	(121,764)	(121,764)	(122,457)	(122,457)
Total net current debtors	141,235	124,571	137,395	123,276

20.3 Provision for Impairment

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Long-term provision for impairment				
Council Tax	(91,685)	(91,685)	(81,340)	(81,340)
Trade Debtors	(28,520)	(28,520)	(25,856)	(25,856)
Other Debtors	(37,906)	(37,906)	(23,847)	(23,847)
Total long-term provision for impairment	(158,111)	(158,111)	(131,043)	(131,043)
Current provision for impairment	£000	£000	£000	£000
Council Tax	(108,562)	(108,562)	(109,827)	(109,827)
Trade Debtors	(581)	(581)	(12,451)	(12,451)
Other Debtors	(12,621)	(12,621)	(179)	(179)
Total current provision for impairment	(121,764)	(121,764)	(122,457)	(122,457)

21. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The balance of cash and cash equivalents comprises the following elements. Investments maturing within three months of the balance sheet are deemed to be cash and cash equivalents.

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Cash held	352	352	351	351
Bank current accounts	8,244	(22,175)	14,022	(15,005)
Short-term deposits:				
With banks or building societies	112,212	112,212	28,364	28,364
With other local authorities	75,169	75,169	67,467	67,467
	195,977	165,558	110,204	81,177

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

22. Investments

22.1 Long-Term Investments

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Transport for Edinburgh	(8,800)	5,824	0	5,824
Tudor Trust	350	350	350	350
TIE	1	1	1	1
CEC Holdings	7,874	14,044	7,876	14,044
Telford NHT	1,236	1,236	3,471	3,471
	<u>661</u>	<u>21,455</u>	<u>11,698</u>	<u>23,690</u>

22.2 Short-Term Investments

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Local Authority Loans	31,571	31,571	45,563	45,563
Other short-term investments	0	0	235	0
	<u>31,571</u>	<u>31,571</u>	<u>45,798</u>	<u>45,563</u>

23. Assets Held for Sale

Policy

Current assets held for sale are assets that the Council has identified as surplus to requirements, are being actively marketed and it is expected that the sale will be realised within twelve months of the Balance Sheet date.

Non-current assets held for sale are assets that the Council has identified as surplus to requirements, are being actively marketed, but it is not expected that the sale will be realised within twelve months of the Balance Sheet date.

Assets held for sale are measured at the lower of carrying value and fair value less costs to sell at the Balance Sheet date. Where the sale is expected to occur in more than twelve months, the cost is measured at present value.

Current and non-current assets held for sale are not depreciated.

Note

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
23.1 Non-Current Assets - Held for Sale				
Balance at 1 April	1,254	1,254	1,586	1,586
Additions	17	17	2	2
Revaluation gains/(losses) recognised in the revaluation reserve	0	0	(316)	(316)
Revaluation gains/(losses) recognised in Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	(18)	(18)
	<u>1,271</u>	<u>1,271</u>	<u>1,254</u>	<u>1,254</u>

23.2 Current Assets - Held for Sale

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Balance at 1 April	21,139	21,139	17,606	17,606
Additions	210	210	296	296
Revaluation gains/(losses) recognised in the revaluation reserve	0	0	2,631	2,631
Revaluation gains/(losses) recognised in Surplus on the Provision of Services	0	0	606	606
Assets declassified as held for sale: Property, Plant and Equipment	(225)	(225)	0	0
	<u>21,124</u>	<u>21,124</u>	<u>21,139</u>	<u>21,139</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

24. Creditors	2020/21		Re-stated 2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Trade Creditors	(112,899)	(110,138)	(101,372)	(98,434)
Council Tax refundable to taxpayer	(6,958)	(6,958)	(5,029)	(5,029)
Other Tax payable	(13,924)	(11,239)	(13,068)	(10,282)
Other Creditors	(118,383)	(77,798)	(78,073)	(48,318)
PPP Creditor (Note 40.1)	(10,369)	(10,369)	(40,007)	(40,007)
Finance Leases (non PPP - Note 39.1)	(11,997)	(1,937)	(10,700)	(1,868)
	<u>(274,530)</u>	<u>(218,439)</u>	<u>(248,249)</u>	<u>(203,938)</u>

25. Provisions Policy

The value of provisions is based upon the Council's obligations arising from past events, the probability that a transfer of economic benefit will take place and a reasonable estimate of the obligation.

Note

Provision has been made within the Group Financial Statements for outstanding payments of £44.826m (2019/20 £36.960m).

Of this amount, £42.658m (2019/20 £34.512m) relates to the Council. These include estimates of settlements on outstanding equal pay, compensation, insurance and other claims, contract arrangements, land acquisition costs for the tram project and Council Tax discounts that require to be set aside for housing projects. The precise amount of these payments is unknown, however, provision has been made in the accounts, based on the Council's assessment of the costs.

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Balance at 1 April	(36,960)	(34,512)	(36,710)	(33,810)
Additional provisions made in year	(12,552)	(11,857)	(7,755)	(5,878)
Amounts used during the year	4,618	3,643	4,397	2,067
Unused amounts reversed during year	68	68	3,108	3,109
Balance at 31 March	<u>(44,826)</u>	<u>(42,658)</u>	<u>(36,960)</u>	<u>(34,512)</u>

26. Reserves

Policy

Reserves held on the Balance Sheet are classified as either usable or unusable reserves.

Usable reserves hold monies that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce Council Tax.

Unusable reserves cannot be applied to fund expenditure.

Usable Reserves

The Council operates the following usable reserves:

- Capital receipts reserve - this represents capital receipts available to finance capital expenditure in future years.
- Capital grants unapplied account - holds capital grants and contributions that have been received towards specific works that have yet to be completed.
- Capital fund - under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1975, certain receipts derived from the sale of property may also be used to create a capital fund "to be used for defraying any expenditure of the authority to which capital is properly applicable, or in providing money for repayment of the principal of loans".
- Renewal and repairs fund - holds monies set aside for the renewal and repair of Council property and funds for PPP school lifecycle maintenance. This fund is operated under the terms of Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1975.
- General Fund - held to mitigate financial consequences of risks and other events impacting on the Council's resources. Monies within the General Fund can be earmarked for specific purposes.

Note

Movements in the Group and the Council's usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement (on pages 19 to 20) and Note 12.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

27. Unusable Reserves

Policy

The Council operates the following unusable reserves:

- Revaluation reserve - holds unrealised gains arising since 1 April 2007 from holding non-current assets.
- Capital adjustment account - provides a mechanism between the different rates at which assets are depreciated and are financed through the capital controls system.
- Financial instruments adjustment account - provides a mechanism between the different rates at which gains and losses (such as premiums on the early repayment of debt) are recognised under the Code and are required by statute to be met from the General Fund.
- Available for sale financial assets - provides a mechanism to recognise the unrealised gains and losses on the revaluation of financial assets (such as investment bonds).
- Pensions reserve - represents the net monies which the Council requires to meet its pension liability, as calculated under IAS19, Employee Benefits. The Council operates a pensions reserve fund under the terms of the Local Government Pension Reserve Fund (Scotland) Regulations 2003.
- Employee statutory adjustment account - represents the net monies which the Council requires to meet its short-term compensated absences for employees under IAS19.

27.1 Summary of Unusable Reserves

	Balance as at:	
	31 March 2021 £000	31 March 2020 £000
Revaluation Reserve	2,124,452	1,758,446
Capital Adjustment Account	1,568,617	1,529,257
Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	(82,929)	(85,964)
Pensions Reserve	(668,418)	(523,535)
Employee Statutory Adjustment Account	(16,246)	(13,807)
Total Council Unusable Reserves	2,925,476	2,664,397
Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	132,083	137,850
Total Group Unusable Reserves	<u>3,057,559</u>	<u>2,802,246</u>

27.2 Revaluation Reserve

The revaluation reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its property, plant and equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are: revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost; used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; or disposed of and the gains are realised.

The reserve contains unrealised gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date the reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before 1 April 2007 were consolidated into the capital adjustment account.

	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
Balance at 1 April	1,758,446	1,666,037
Upward revaluation of assets	456,652	178,646
Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(38,848)	(30,825)
Surplus on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus on the Provision of Service	417,804	147,821
Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	(50,012)	(53,963)
Accumulated gains on assets sold	(1,786)	(1,449)
Amount written off to the capital adjustment account	(51,798)	(55,412)
Balance at 31 March	<u>2,124,452</u>	<u>1,758,446</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

27. Unusable Reserves - continued

27.3 Capital Adjustment Account

The capital adjustment account provides a balancing mechanism for timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) (with reconciling postings from the revaluation reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council to finance the costs for acquisition, construction and enhancement of non-current assets. The account also holds accumulated gains and losses on investment properties and revaluation gains accumulated on property, plant and equipment prior to 1 April 2007.

Note 11 provides details of the source of the transactions posted to this account, except those involving the revaluation reserve.

	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
Balance at 1 April	1,529,257	1,437,923
<u>Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the CIES</u>		
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(185,456)	(183,849)
Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment heritage assets and assets held for sale	(3,691)	(37,272)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	(148)	(58)
Capital funded from revenue	13,658	29,581
Revenue exp. funded from capital under statute	(51,107)	(52,778)
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain / loss on disposal to the CIES	(20,889)	(3,847)
	<u>(247,633)</u>	<u>(248,223)</u>
Adjusting amounts written out of the revaluation reserve	51,798	55,412
Net written out amount of the costs of non-current assets consumed in the year	(195,835)	(192,811)
<u>Capital financing applied in the year:</u>		
Use of the capital receipts reserve to finance new capital expenditure	27,388	9,640
Donated assets	(1,008)	(440)
Use of capital fund for new capital expenditure	(2,000)	6,311
Capital grants and contributions credited to the CIES that have been applied to capital financing	89,402	114,333
Application of grants from the capital grants unapplied account / capital fund	148	805
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	70,063	100,014
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	51,107	52,778
	<u>235,100</u>	<u>283,441</u>
Movements in the market value of investment properties credited to the CIES	14	309
Other unrealised losses debited to the CIES	81	395
Balance at 31 March	<u><u>1,568,617</u></u>	<u><u>1,529,257</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

27. Unusable Reserves - continued

27.4 Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The financial instruments adjustment account provides a balancing mechanism between the different rates at which gains and losses (such as premiums on the early repayment of debt) are recognised under the Code and are required by statute to be met from the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account. This account also holds the equivalent interest rate adjustment on lender option / borrower option loans.

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April	(85,964)	(41,548)
Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund and HRA balances in accordance with statutory requirements	3,009	2,376
Premium on refinancing of loans	0	(46,900)
Proportion of equivalent interest rate calculation on lender option / borrower option loans (LOBOs)	26	108
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in accordance with statutory requirements	3,035	(44,416)
Balance at 31 March	<u>(82,929)</u>	<u>(85,964)</u>

The Council operates a loans pool on behalf of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account. With the transfer of responsibility for Police and Fire services to the new national bodies, all movements are now reflected on the Council's Balance Sheet. An element of the cost, however, is recovered through the pooled interest rate and therefore there is no financial impact on the Council.

27.5 Pensions Reserve

The pensions reserve provides a balancing mechanism arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post employment benefits (pension costs) and for funding pensions in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for pensions in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs.

Statutory arrangements, however, require benefits to be financed as the Council makes its contributions to Lothian Pension Fund or pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

27. Unusable Reserves - continued

27.5 Pensions Reserve - continued

The debit balance on the pension reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall between the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources that the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits require to be paid.

	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
Balance at 1 April	(523,535)	(659,468)
Actuarial gains or (losses) on pension assets and liabilities	(101,665)	184,024
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(116,233)	(117,546)
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	73,015	69,455
Balance at 31 March	<u>(668,418)</u>	<u>(523,535)</u>

27.6 Employee Statutory Adjustment Account

The employee statutory adjustment account provides a balancing mechanism arising from the different arrangements that would otherwise impact on the General Fund and HRA balances from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year (annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March). Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund and HRA balances is mitigated by transfers to or from this account.

	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
Balance at 1 April	(13,807)	(16,058)
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	13,807	16,058
Amount accrued at the end of the current year	<u>(16,246)</u>	<u>(13,807)</u>
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(2,439)	2,251
Balance at 31 March	<u>(16,246)</u>	<u>(13,807)</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

27. Unusable Reserves - continued

27.7 Unusable Reserves - Group Members

	Balance as at:	
	31 March 2021 £000	31 March 2020 £000
Subsidiaries		
CEC Holdings Limited	77,040	77,010
Transport for Edinburgh	25,656	32,710
Edinburgh Living MMR LLP	10,737	8,236
Associates and Joint Ventures		
Common Good	23,509	23,509
Lothian Valuation Joint Board	(4,859)	(3,615)
Total Unusable Reserves - Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	<u>132,083</u>	<u>137,850</u>

28. Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Cash paid to and on behalf of employees	646,145	646,145	641,666	641,666
General Revenue Grant	(637,444)	(637,444)	(360,206)	(360,206)
Non-Domestic Rates receipts from national pool	(238,922)	(238,922)	(366,025)	(366,025)
Other net operating cash payments / (receipts)	18,509	18,509	(66,654)	(66,654)
Net cash flows from subsidiary companies	(16,168)	0	(23,691)	0
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>(227,880)</u>	<u>(211,712)</u>	<u>(174,910)</u>	<u>(151,219)</u>

29. Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities - continued

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Interest received	(2,129)	(2,062)	(4,219)	(4,093)
Interest paid	74,727	73,429	78,156	77,504
Investment income received	(1,750)	(1,750)	(1,047)	(1,047)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30. Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	346,033	324,026	308,038	279,213
Proceeds from the Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	(26,835)	(25,384)	(77,873)	(76,910)
Net purchase of Short-Term and Long-Term Investments	3,763	3,763	70,439	70,439
Other payments for investing activities	(599)	(555)	53,510	46,510
Other receipts from investing activities	(181,903)	(181,903)	(50,676)	(50,596)
Net cash flows from investing activities	140,459	119,947	303,438	268,656

31. Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Cash Receipts of Short- and Long-Term Borrowing	(68,250)	(70,000)	(236,129)	(236,348)
Other Receipts for Financing Activities	5,770	5,770	31,132	31,133
Cash Payments for the Reduction of the Outstanding Liability relating to Finance Leases and on-Balance Sheet PPP Contracts	26,126	12,488	28,896	14,644
Repayment of short-term and long-term borrowing	38,002	59,126	73,213	98,637
Net cash flows from financing activities	1,648	7,384	(102,888)	(91,934)

32. Trading Operations

Edinburgh Catering Services - Other Catering no longer meets the definition of a significant trading operation under the terms of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, as amended. It ceased to operate as such from 1 April 2020, with formal "de-badging" **approved by the Finance and Resources Committee** on 4 March 2021.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

33. Financial Support and Guarantees

33.1 Loans and guarantees

The Council has made loans to the following organisations at less than market interest rates (soft loans).

	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
	Spartans Community Football Academy	Spartans Community Football Academy
Opening Balance	58	57
New Loans	0	0
Increase in the Discounted Amount	5	4
Fair Value Adjustment	0	0
Loan Repayment	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(3)</u>
Balance Carried Forward	<u>60</u>	<u>58</u>
Nominal Value Carried Forward	<u>90</u>	<u>93</u>

Adjustments have been made under the requirements of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, as required by the Code.

The Spartans loan relates to the lease of an area of ground lying immediately to the west of Ainslie Park Leisure Centre, Pilton Drive, Edinburgh. The original outstanding payment was £120,000, with £3,000 to be paid on or before 31 March each year for ten consecutive years from 31 March 2012 and £9,000 to be paid for ten consecutive years on or before 31 March from 31 March 2022.

33.2 Guarantees

In February 2018 the Council agreed to provide a formal pension guarantee to Lothian Pension Fund on behalf of Edinburgh Leisure.

From 1 April 2018 Lothian Pension Fund introduced a new investment strategy, whereby those employers closed to new entrants but who do not meet the criteria for the Fund's low-risk strategy, would be moved to a medium risk strategy.

Edinburgh Leisure would fall into this category and the impact would be a considerable increase in contribution rates and would likely result in a significant impact on services provided by this entity.

The Council approved providing a pension guarantee which enabled Edinburgh Leisure to be moved back to a low-risk strategy, avoiding the additional financial costs.

In June 2018 the Council also approved to provide a pension guarantee to Lothian Pension Fund on behalf of Lothian Buses, to enable them to merge their existing pension fund into Lothian Pension Fund, to streamline the pension portfolio and bring associated financial efficiencies.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

33. Financial Support and Guarantees - continued

33.3 Shared Equity Scheme / Scheme of Assistance

In 2010/11, the Council approved a shared equity scheme to help buyers purchase homes from PARC. The Council provided assistance to sixteen purchasers, at a cost of £0.484m. No further assistance has been provided since 2012/13.

The monies are required to be repaid to the Council either on sale of the property or after twenty years, whichever occurs earlier.

Purchasers have the option to pay interest annually or accumulate charges on the same terms as the original equity. Sums due to the Council, including accrued interest, where owners have opted to defer interest, are included in long-term debtors.

The assisted purchase scheme was an initiative administered on behalf of the Council to allow home owners to enter into a lifetime mortgage agreement to finance repairs to their properties. Forty loans were made between 2007 and 2012, with an original loan principal value of £0.762m. These sums are included in long-term debtors.

The loans are repayable on sale of the property or on the death of the home owner. The amount repayable is a minimum of the original loan principal and a maximum of the original loan as a percentage of the property value on signing the agreement, as applied to the value on redeeming the loan.

In June 2018 the Council purchased the interest in a shared equity loan scheme from PARC for £0.512m. The scheme provided assistance to buyers to purchase homes from PARC and twenty two loans remain in the scheme. These sums are included in long-term debtors.

The loans are repayable on sale of the property or on the death of the home owner. The amount repayable is a minimum of the original loan principal and a maximum of the original loan as a percentage of the property value on signing the agreement, as applied to the value on redeeming the loan.

33.4 National Housing Trust

The National Housing Trust (NHT) is a housing initiative developed by the Scottish Government, in partnership with the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) and local authorities. The aim is to deliver new homes for mid-market rent while at the same time stimulating the housing market. The scheme is underwritten by the Scottish Government, by way of a guarantee against the borrowing and associated interest costs. The Council works with the Scottish Government and SFT to procure private developers to build homes for mid-market rent and enter into joint ventures with the Council, by way of Limited Liability Partnerships through the NHT initiative.

Phase 1 and 2 of NHT are now complete and have delivered 518 new homes.

Phase 1 NHT developments are now in the latter stages of their investment, and in accordance with the scheme, are now making arrangements to repay their borrowing.

The Telford NHT LLP with Miller Homes was bought over by the Council in January 2019. The Council agreed, in October 2020, to approve the sale of the homes in the Telford North LLP to LAR Housing Trust. The sale took place in May 2021.

NHT Phase 3 is to deliver up to 368 mid-market rent homes across three separate sites. The total required budget for NHT3 is £50.1m for the three projects. Fruitmarket NHT3 has completed, with investment totalling £9.153m and delivery of 80 homes. Western Harbour has also completed, with investment totalling £17.284m and 138 homes delivered. The final project under NHT Phase 3 (Shrubhill) commenced in 2018/19 and 93 homes have been delivered to date, with an investment of £14.923m. The final two phases at Shrubhill (57 homes in total) will no longer be part of the NHT Programme, as works are due to be completed outwith the approved timeframe. There will therefore be no further Council investment in NHT Phase 3.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

33. Financial Support and Guarantees - continued

33.4 National Housing Trust - continued

The Council has advanced and had repaid the following sums through the NHT scheme:

Developer	Development Site	Phase	Total No. of Units	Advanced 2020/21 £000	Repaid 2020/21 £000	Prior Years £000	Total £000
Places for People	Lochend North	1	79	0	(4,692)	9,751	5,059
Places for People	Lighthouse Court	1	44	0	(2,021)	5,396	3,375
Teague Homes Limited	Salamander Place / Leith Links	1	145	0	0	15,551	15,551
City of Edinburgh Council	Telford North	1	89	0	0	10,299	10,299
FP Newhaven Ltd	Sandpiper Road	2	96	0	0	11,908	11,908
Ediston Homes Ltd	Fruitmarket	3	80	0	0	9,153	9,153
Cruden Homes	Western Harbour	3	138	0	0	17,284	17,284
Places for People	Shrubhill	3	93	0	0	14,923	14,923
			764	0	(6,713)	94,265	87,552

These sums are included within long-term debtors, as detailed in note 20.1.

34. Agency Income and Expenditure

The Council has entered into agency agreements with other local public bodies to provide and receive services, the income and expenditure for which is included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

During the financial year the total Agency income was £283.225m (2019/20 £101.877m) and Agency Expenditure £274.777m (2019/20 £96.167m).

During the financial year the Council undertook the administration of several Covid-19 related funding streams on behalf of the Scottish Government, on an agency basis. During the year income and expenditure amounted to £211.8m.

The council also undertakes, on an agency basis, the financial administration on behalf of the Scottish Cities Alliance. During the year £0.231m (2019/20 £0.323m) was paid out to the respective lead authorities of the projects concerned, included in the totals above.

The Council acts as the Billing Authority for a number of Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). The Council collects a levy from the business rate payers on behalf of the BID bodies, Essential Edinburgh and Edinburgh West End. During the year income of £1.071m (2019/20 £1.195m) was collected and £0.401m (2019/20 £1.240m) paid out to BID schemes, included in the totals above.

In August 2018 the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal (ESES CR Deal) was signed and committed a total of £600m of funding from both the Scottish and UK Governments, over 15 years. The Council has undertaken, on an agency basis, to act as the accountable body for the management of the Deal. During the year income and expenditure amounted to £58.659m (2019/20 £89.159m).

35. Audit Costs

The fees payable to Azets Audit Services in respect of external audit services undertaken in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice are £0.638m (2019/20 £0.623m).

In addition, the Council paid audit fees to Azets Audit Services for the audit of CEC Recovery Limited's (formerly tie Limited) accounts. The Council paid £0.002m during 2020/21 (2019/20 £0.003m) for the audit of the 2019/20 financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

36. Grant Income

Policy

• Revenue

Revenue grants and contributions have been included in the financial statements on an accruals basis.

Where such funds remain unapplied at the Balance Sheet date, but approval has been given to carry these funds forward to the next financial year, these amounts have been set aside in the General Fund.

• Capital

Capital grants and contributions are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement except to the extent there are conditions attached to them that have not been met.

Where there are no conditions attached to capital grants and contributions, these funds are a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account by way of an adjusting transaction with the capital adjustment account, where expenditure has been incurred, and the unapplied capital grants account, where expenditure has not been incurred.

Where there are outstanding conditions attached to capital grants and contributions that have not been met at the Balance Sheet date, the grant or contribution will be recognised as part of capital grants receipts in advance. Once the condition has been met, the grant or contribution will be transferred from capital grants received in advance and recognised as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, as above.

Note

Grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement include the following:

	2020/21		2019/20	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Credited to taxation and non-specific grant income				
General revenue funding	(637,444)		(360,206)	
Non-domestic rates	(238,922)		(366,025)	
Capital grants and contributions	<u>(109,048)</u>		<u>(127,806)</u>	
		(985,414)		(854,037)
Credited to services				
Central Government Bodies	(285,120)		(225,700)	
Other Local Authorities	(3,059)		(2,907)	
NHS bodies	(75,403)		(78,050)	
Other entities and individuals	<u>(14,269)</u>		<u>(23,419)</u>	
		<u>(377,851)</u>		<u>(330,076)</u>
Total		<u><u>(1,363,265)</u></u>		<u><u>(1,184,113)</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

37. Related Parties

During the year, the Council entered into a number of transactions with related parties. The most material of these transactions, not disclosed elsewhere, are shown below.

	2020/21 Expenditure	2020/21 Income	2020/21 Debtor / (Creditor)	2019/20 Net Expenditure / (Income)	2019/20 Debtor / (Creditor)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Capital City Partnership	4,484	(47)	225	3,377	(7)
Capital Theatres	588	(279)	0	(482)	0
CEC Holdings (incl. EDI Group, EICC)	76	(292)	5,985	(184)	4,723
Edinburgh Leisure Limited	13,395	(269)	2,299	8,065	99
Edinburgh Living MMR	19,313	(21)	38,089	16,348	19,212
Edinburgh Trams Ltd	1,403	(24,076)	(117)	(31,595)	4,110
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	252,021	(251,744)	(27,898)	(28,434)	(3,992)
HMRC	0	0	6,071	0	1,862
Lothian Buses	1,033	(62)	(6)	1,443	5,911
Lothian Pension Fund	2	(339)	(6,081)	(346)	(4,943)
Lothian Valuation Joint Board	3,806	(394)	(1,695)	3,632	(1,437)
NHS Bodies	3,815	(31,687)	29,852	(24,067)	1,527
Other Local Authorities	2,458	(2,205)	93	1,550	76
Scottish Government	468	(77,330)	40,984	10,002	59,826
Scottish Police Authority	1,206	(1)	0	2,245	0
Scottish Qualifications Authority	1,504	0	0	1,523	0
Telford NHT	0	(11)	17	0	3
<u>Other</u>					
Audit Scotland	606	0	(448)	652	(388)
Autism Initiative UK	5,219	0	0	4,423	0
Bethany Christian Trust	979	0	(72)	969	0
Criminal Justice Bodies	590	0	0	591	0
Dean and Cauvin Charitable Trust	906	(1)	(4)	1,028	0
Edinburgh International Festival Society	2,026	0	0	2,133	0
Edinburgh Military Tattoo	0	(401)	0	(406)	0
Edinburgh School Partnership	17,778	0	(46,894)	14,359	(49,475)
Edinburgh Vol. Org. Council	810	0	(62)	526	0
Festivals Edinburgh Ltd	125	0	0	149	0
Handicab	499	0	248	620	248
Hubco	10,482	0	(1,635)	3,223	0
Lifecare Edinburgh	404	0	0	388	0
Marketing Edinburgh	374	0	0	695	0
Police Scotland	38	(1,058)	10,138	(1,040)	10,684
Port of Leith Housing	2,190	(1)	0	10,525	0
Royal Blind Asylum and School	1,142	(159)	0	1,186	0
Royal Lyceum Theatre Co Ltd	329	(88)	0	356	0
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	0	0	(86)	93	0
Scottish Water	7	(12)	73	794	70
SESTRAN	0	(12)	483	(15)	163
Spartans	150	(5)	0	89	0
SUSTRANS	0	(7,981)	6,212	3,566	2,746
Transport Scotland	0	(14)	635	2	1,811
Total	350,226	(398,489)	56,406	7,983	52,829

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

38. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred during the year is shown below (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases and PPP contracts), together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed in future years through charges to revenue (loan charges), capital expenditure results in an increase in the capital financing requirement. This shows the amount of capital expenditure that has yet to be financed. The capital financing requirement is analysed below.

	2020/21		Re-stated 2019/20	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Opening capital financing requirement		1,709,950		1,567,368
Capital Investment				
Property, plant and equipment	227,747		378,586	
Heritage Assets	672		773	
Assets held for sale	227		298	
Intangible assets	0		168	
Capital Receipts transferred to Capital Fund	2,000		0	
National Housing Trust - Consent to borrow (see note 33.4)	0		11,789	
Edinburgh Living LLP - Consent to borrow	19,313		16,348	
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	51,107		52,778	
PPP Lease Agreements Recognised In-Year	<u>1,983</u>		<u>16,691</u>	
		303,049		477,431
Sources of Finance				
Capital receipts	(27,388)		(9,640)	
Capital Funded from Current Revenue	(13,658)		(29,581)	
Government grants and other contributions	(139,363)		(174,227)	
PPP schools - - under construction and lifecycle additions	(1,983)		(16,691)	
Loans fund / finance lease repayments	<u>(28,356)</u>		<u>(104,710)</u>	
		(210,748)		(334,849)
Closing capital financing requirement		<u><u>1,802,251</u></u>		<u><u>1,709,950</u></u>
Explanation of movements in year				
(Decrease) / increase in underlying need to borrow or fund from credit arrangements		90,177		10,660
Assets acquired under finance leases		2,124		131,922
(Decrease) / Increase in capital financing requirement		<u><u>92,301</u></u>		<u><u>142,582</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

39. Leases

39.1 Assets Leased in - Finance Leases

Policy

Finance leases, which have substantially transferred to the authority the benefits and risks of ownership of a non-current asset, are treated as if the asset had been purchased outright.

Assets acquired under finance leases are included in non-current assets at the lower of the fair value or the present value of the minimum lease payments. The capital element of the lease is included as obligations under finance leases / creditors.

The lease rentals comprise capital and interest elements. The capital element is applied to reduce the outstanding obligation and the interest element is charged to revenue on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

Note

The Council has acquired a waste treatment facility and its IT equipment under finance leases. The assets classified under these leases are included in property, plant and equipment in the Balance Sheet.

The Group subsidiaries Edinburgh Trams Ltd and CEC Holdings Ltd have adopted the new standard IFRS 16 - Finance Leases, from 1 January 2019, in accordance with company accounting standards. The Council is not required to adopt IFRS 16 until 1 April 2022, therefore consolidation adjustments have been made to the finance lease disclosures to adjust for right of use assets and related lease liabilities in connection with all former operating leases.

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Value at 1 April	37,906	9,986	17,867	8,683
Additions during the year	141	141	23,506	2,856
Depreciation charge for the year	(4,435)	(1,887)	(3,467)	(1,553)
Value at 31 March	<u>33,612</u>	<u>8,240</u>	<u>37,906</u>	<u>9,986</u>
Vehicles, plant, equipment and furniture	<u>33,612</u>	<u>8,240</u>	<u>37,906</u>	<u>9,986</u>
Value at 31 March	<u><u>33,612</u></u>	<u><u>8,240</u></u>	<u><u>37,906</u></u>	<u><u>9,986</u></u>
Analysed by:	£000	£000	£000	£000
Current	11,997	1,937	10,700	1,868
Non-Current	13,535	6,303	21,302	8,118
Finance costs payable in future years	1,391	774	1,615	985
	<u>26,923</u>	<u>9,014</u>	<u>33,617</u>	<u>10,971</u>
Finance Lease Liabilities	£000	£000	£000	£000
Within one year	12,526	2,117	11,167	2,082
Between 2 and 5 years	11,050	3,550	18,618	5,057
Over 5 years	3,347	3,347	3,832	3,832
Total liabilities	<u>26,923</u>	<u>9,014</u>	<u>33,617</u>	<u>10,971</u>

39.2 Assets Leased in - Operating Leases

Policy

Leases that do not meet the definition of a finance lease are accounted for as operating leases.

Rental payments, net of benefits received, under operating leases are charged to the relevant service on a straight line basis over the life of the lease.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

39. Leases - continued

39.2 Assets Leased in - Operating Leases - continued

Note

The Group subsidiaries Edinburgh Trams Ltd and CEC Holdings Ltd adopted the new accounting standard IFRS 16 - Finance Leases, from 1 January 2019, in accordance with company accounting standards. The Council is not required to adopt IFRS 16 until 1 April 2022, therefore consolidation adjustments have been made to the operating lease disclosures to adjust for right of use assets and related lease liabilities in connection with all former operating leases.

The Group leases in property, vehicles and copying equipment. The amount charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement under these arrangements and the value of future payments under operating leases is shown below.

Under these operating leases, the Group and Council is committed to paying the following sums:

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Future Repayment Period				
Not later than one year	10,072	845	9,910	870
Later than one year and not later than five years	38,371	1,590	37,949	1,977
Later than five years	62,962	915	71,897	1,190
	111,405	3,350	119,756	4,037
Value at 31 March				
Other land and buildings	13,459	2,919	13,691	3,637
Vehicles, plant, equipment and furniture	97,946	431	106,065	400
	111,405	3,350	119,756	4,037
Recognised as an expense during the year	10,576	1,313	10,252	1,216

39.3 Assets Leased Out by the Council - Operating Leases

Policy

Rental income received under operating leases is credited to the relevant service in accordance with the terms specified in the lease agreement.

Note

The Council leases out property, equipment and infrastructure under operating leases for a number of purposes, including:

- for economic development purposes, including regeneration and to provide suitable affordable accommodation for local businesses.
- to arm's-length companies for the provision of services such as sport and leisure and theatres.
- an operating lease arrangement with Edinburgh Trams for the lease of the tram infrastructure.

The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
Not later than one year	21,133	22,486
Later than one year and not later than five years	74,149	78,534
Later than five years	324,515	339,362
Total liabilities	419,797	440,382

The Council has a number of leases that are agreed for a period of over 100 years, the majority of which relate to land.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

40. Public Private Partnerships and Similar Contracts

40.1 PPP, Finance Lease and Other Liabilities

	Note	2020/21		Re-stated 2019/20	
		Group £000	Council £000	Group £000	Council £000
Short Term Creditors					
PPP Residual Waste	40.2	1,052	1,052	30,584	30,584
PPP Education	40.3	9,318	9,318	9,423	9,423
Finance Leases	39.1	11,997	1,937	10,700	1,868
		<u>22,367</u>	<u>12,307</u>	<u>50,707</u>	<u>41,875</u>
Other Long-Term Liabilities					
PPP Residual Waste	40.2	43,047	43,047	44,099	44,099
PPP Residual Waste Donated Asset	40.2	31,078	31,078	32,373	32,373
PPP Education	40.3	203,597	203,597	213,028	213,028
PPP Queensferry High School - Phase 2		1,983	1,983	0	0
Finance Leases	39.1	13,535	6,303	21,302	8,118
Group other liabilities		7,120	0	327	0
		<u>300,360</u>	<u>286,008</u>	<u>311,129</u>	<u>297,618</u>

40.2 PPP - Residual Waste

In 2016, the Council entered into a twenty five year contract with FCC to supply residual waste treatment at Millerhill. The contract is a joint arrangement between the Council and Midlothian Council on an 80:20 split respectively. This contract became operational in April 2019. The Council's 80% share of the facility value is included in the Fixed Assets on the balance sheet.

Under the agreements the Council is committed to paying the following sums as detailed in the contractor's final bid model:

	Payment for Services £000	Reimburse. of Capital Expenditure £000	Interest £000	Total £000
Payable in 2021/22	4,151	1,052	2,999	8,202
Within two to five years	18,032	4,465	11,264	33,761
Within six to ten years	25,659	6,641	12,241	44,541
Within eleven to fifteen years	28,485	9,391	9,582	47,458
Within sixteen to twenty years	32,308	12,578	5,873	50,759
Within twenty one to twenty five years	22,067	9,972	1,254	33,293
	<u>130,702</u>	<u>44,099</u>	<u>43,213</u>	<u>218,014</u>

Payments due under the scheme have been inflated by 1.06% per annum, reflecting the terms of the contracts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

40. Public Private Partnerships and Similar Contracts - continued

40.3 PPP - Education Projects

In 2001, the Council entered into a Public Private Partnership (PPP1) for the provision of school buildings, maintenance and other facilities with Edinburgh Schools Partnership. This agreement was supplemented by a further agreement in April 2004, which now requires Edinburgh Schools Partnership either to replace or substantially renovate ten primary, five secondary and two special schools, together with one close support unit and a community wing, and to maintain these schools to an agreed standard. When the agreement ends in July 2033 the schools will be handed to the Council with a guaranteed maintenance-free life of five years.

In April 2007, the Council entered into a second Public Private Partnership (PPP2) for the provision of school buildings, maintenance and other facilities with Axiom Education Limited. This required Axiom Education Limited to replace six secondary schools and two primary schools and to maintain these schools to a high standard. When the agreement ends in July 2038 the schools will be handed to the Council with an agreed major maintenance-free life of five years.

In December 2013, the Council entered in to an agreement with Hub South East Scotland for the provision of a new building for James Gillespie's High School. This has been procured using a Design, Build, Finance and Maintain (DBFM) agreement with Hub South East Scotland. The concession is due to terminate in July 2041.

In June 2018, the Council entered in to an agreement with QHS DBFMCO Ltd for the provision of a new building for Queensferry High School. This has been procured using a Design, Build, Finance and Maintain (DBFM) agreement with QHS DBFMCO Ltd. The concession is due to terminate in March 2045. Capital expenditure of £1.983m related to Phase 2 of the school project is reported as Assets Under Construction within the balance sheet and as a future finance lease liability.

Under the agreements the Council is committed to paying the following sums as detailed in the contractor's final bid model:

	Payment for Services £000	Reimburse. of Capital Expenditure £000	Interest £000	Total £000
Payable in 2021/22	21,296	9,318	19,769	50,383
Payable within two to five years	98,198	36,053	73,910	208,161
Payable within six to ten years	137,230	56,828	81,844	275,902
Payable within eleven to fifteen years	119,051	60,560	60,731	240,342
Payable within sixteen to twenty years	50,370	38,944	24,168	113,482
Payable within twenty one to twenty five years	2,929	11,212	2,917	17,058
	<u>429,074</u>	<u>212,915</u>	<u>263,339</u>	<u>905,328</u>

Payments due under the following schemes have been inflated by: 1.11% per annum for the PPP1 scheme, 1.67% per annum for the PPP2 scheme and 2.5% per annum for the James Gillespie's High School scheme, reflecting the terms of the separate contracts and assumed inflation of 2.5% per annum.

The amounts disclosed as reimbursement of capital expenditure are included in creditors and other long-term liabilities on the Balance Sheet. These are not subject to the above inflationary uplifts.

The unitary charges paid to the service providers include amounts to compensate them for the capital expenditure incurred and interest payable whilst the capital expenditure remains to be reimbursed. The liability outstanding to pay the service providers for capital expenditure incurred is as follows:

	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
Balance at 1 April	187,859	196,065
Additions during the year	34,594	0
Repayments during the year	<u>(9,538)</u>	<u>(8,206)</u>
Balance at 31 March	<u>212,915</u>	<u>187,859</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

40. Public Private Partnerships and Similar Contracts - continued

40.4 Provision of Information Technology services

In 2015 the Council entered into a seven year contract with CGI for the provision of information technology services. This contract became operational on 1 April 2016. During the financial year a seven year contract extension was approved to 31 March 2029.

Under the agreement the Council is committed to paying the following sums in cash terms (assuming an inflationary uplift). These sums exclude amounts disclosed under finance leases for ICT asset additions.

Future Repayment Period	£000	Inflationary Uplift
2021/22	25,531	0.4%
2022/23 - 2028/29	156,613	2.0%
	<u>182,144</u>	

40.5 Provision of Parking Enforcement

The Council entered into a five year contract with NSL for the provision of parking enforcement on 1 October 2014 which ended on 30 September 2019. There was a five year extension clause which has been approved with the contract extended to 30 September 2024.

The Council is committed to paying the following sums in cash terms (renegotiated annually):

Future Repayment Period	£000
2021/22	7,000
2022/23 - 2024/25	17,500
	<u>24,500</u>

40.6 Other Rolling Contracts

The Council has entered into a number of rolling contracts to provide services, which are mainly care orientated through 'Supporting People'. The annual value of these contracts is £33.404m.

41. Pension schemes accounted for as defined contribution schemes

The Scottish Teachers' Superannuation Scheme is an unfunded scheme administered by the Scottish Public Pensions Agency. The scheme is excluded from the accounting requirements of IAS 19 as it is a national scheme which does not allow for the identification of pension liabilities consistently and reliably between participating authorities. The accounts, therefore, only include the payments made by the Council to the scheme in year and do not reflect the estimated pension assets or liabilities of the scheme. The exception to this are payments in relation to unfunded pension enhancements for members of the scheme as they are administered through the Local Government Pension Scheme and are taken into consideration in accounting for pension costs under IAS 19.

	2020/21		2019/20	
	£000	%	£000	%
Amount paid to Scottish Government in respect of teachers' pension costs	36,657		31,974	
As a percentage of teachers' pensionable pay Apr - Aug		23.00		17.20
As a percentage of teachers' pensionable pay Sep - Mar		23.00		23.00
Amount paid in respect of added years	0		0	
As a percentage of teachers' pensionable pay		0.00		0.00
Capitalised value of discretionary awards entered into prior to 2018/19	15,012		15,978	

At 31 March 2021, creditors include £4.292m (2019/20 £4.166m) in respect of teachers' superannuation.

42. Defined Pension Schemes

42.1 Participation in Pension Scheme

The Council makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make payment for those benefits and to disclose them at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

Employees other than teachers are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme. The pension costs charged to Services in respect of these employees have been calculated under IAS 19 - Employee Benefits.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

42. Defined Pension Schemes - continued

42.1 Participation in Pension Scheme - continued

In terms of this scheme, in 2020/21 the Council paid an employer's contribution of £66.934m (2019/20 £63.062m) into the Lothian Pension Fund, representing 22.7% (2019/20 22.3%) of pensionable pay. Contribution rates are determined by the Fund's Actuary based on triennial actuarial valuations of the pension fund. The data is based on the latest available valuations as at March 2017.

The Fund's Actuary is unable to provide an analysis of IAS19 pension costs by individual service. The charge in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement applied against each service included in 'Cost of Services' reflects an apportionment of costs in line with the actual cash payments made by the Council to Lothian Pension Fund.

42.2 Transactions Relating to Post-Employment Benefits

The cost of pension benefits, as assessed by the Fund's Actuary and reflected within 'Cost of Services', differed from the cash payment to the Fund charged against Council Tax. The following summarises the entries reflected within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in respect of accounting for pensions under IAS19. The amount by which pension costs calculated in accordance with IAS19 are different from the contributions due under the pension scheme regulations is included in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2020/21		2019/20	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
<i>Cost of services:</i>				
Service cost, comprising:				
Current service costs	103,848		117,983	
Past service costs	0		(16,847)	
		103,848		101,136
<i>Financing and investment income:</i>				
Net interest expense		12,385		16,410
Total post employee benefit charged to the surplus on the provision of services		116,233		117,546
<i>Other post-employment benefits charges to the Comprehensive Income / Expenditure Statement</i>				
Re-measurement of the net defined liability, comprising:				
Return on plan assets, excluding the amount incl. in the net interest expense above.	(398,990)		195,313	
Actuarial (gains) and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	712,967		(354,198)	
Actuarial (gains) and losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions	(167,065)		0	
Other experience	(45,247)		(25,139)	
		101,665		(184,024)
Total post-employment benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income / Expenditure Statement		217,898		(66,478)
Movement in Reserves Statement				
Reversal of net charges made to the surplus on the provision of services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code.		(116,233)		(117,546)
Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year:				
Employer's contributions payable to the scheme		67,814		64,097
Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits		5,201		5,358
		73,015		69,455

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

42. Defined Pension Schemes - continued

42.3 Pension Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Council's obligations in respect of its defined benefit plan is as follows:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Fair value of employer assets	3,250,556	2,843,437
Present value of funded liabilities	(3,851,035)	(3,296,740)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	<u>(67,939)</u>	<u>(70,232)</u>
Net liability arising from defined benefit obligation	<u><u>(668,418)</u></u>	<u><u>(523,535)</u></u>

42.4 Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of Scheme Assets

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	2,843,437	2,970,647
Effect of settlements	0	0
Interest income	65,248	71,258
Re-measurement gain / (loss):		
Return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense	398,990	(195,313)
Contributions from employer	67,814	64,097
Contributions from employees into the scheme	18,249	17,430
Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	5,201	5,358
Other Experience	(47,851)	0
Benefits paid	(95,331)	(84,682)
Unfunded benefits paid	<u>(5,201)</u>	<u>(5,358)</u>
Closing fair value of scheme assets	<u><u>3,250,556</u></u>	<u><u>2,843,437</u></u>

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Present value of funded liabilities	(3,296,740)	(3,548,983)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	<u>(70,232)</u>	<u>(81,132)</u>
Opening balance at 1 April	(3,366,972)	(3,630,115)
Current service cost	(103,848)	(117,983)
Interest cost	(77,633)	(87,668)
Contributions from employees into the scheme	(18,249)	(17,430)
Re-measurement gain / (loss):		
Change in financial assumptions	(712,967)	354,198
Change in demographic assumptions	167,065	0
Other experience	93,098	25,139
Past service (cost) / gain	0	16,847
Benefits paid	95,331	84,682
Unfunded benefits paid	<u>5,201</u>	<u>5,358</u>
Closing balance at 31 March	<u><u>(3,918,974)</u></u>	<u><u>(3,366,972)</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

42. Defined Pension Schemes - continued

42.5 Fair Value of Employer Assets

The following asset values are at bid value as required under IAS19.

	2020/21 £000	%	2019/20 £000	%
Consumer *	422,675	13	271,003	10
Manufacturing *	468,702	14	410,093	15
Energy and Utilities *	165,599	5	181,357	6
Financial Institutions *	199,232	6	184,931	7
Health and Care *	203,102	6	196,766	7
Information technology *	154,038	5	122,907	4
Other *	<u>258,079</u>	8	<u>207,594</u>	7
Sub-total Equity Securities	<u>1,871,427</u>		<u>1,574,651</u>	
Debt Securities:				
UK Government *	110,879	4	175,051	6
Corporate Bonds (investment grade) *	0	0	47,625	2
Corporate Bonds (investment grade)	<u>260,788</u>	8	<u>104,649</u>	4
Sub-total Debt Securities	<u>371,667</u>		<u>327,325</u>	
Private Equity				
All	<u>19,905</u>	1	<u>24,740</u>	1
Sub-total Private Equity	<u>19,905</u>		<u>24,740</u>	
Real Estate:				
UK Property *	0	0	32,704	1
UK Property	169,521	5	153,614	5
Overseas Property	<u>381</u>	0	<u>2,505</u>	0
Sub-total Real Estate	<u>169,902</u>		<u>188,823</u>	
Investment Funds and Unit Trusts:				
Equities *	45,932	1	34,815	1
Bonds	66,903	2	12,205	0
Infrastructure	<u>372,094</u>	12	<u>399,797</u>	14
Sub-total Investment Funds and Unit Trusts	<u>484,929</u>		<u>446,817</u>	
Derivatives:				
Foreign Exchange *	<u>172</u>	0	<u>5,801</u>	0
Sub-total Derivatives	<u>172</u>		<u>5,801</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents				
All *	<u>332,554</u>	10	<u>275,280</u>	10
Sub-total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>332,554</u>		<u>275,280</u>	
Total Fair Value of Employer Assets	<u>3,250,556</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>2,843,437</u>	<u>100</u>

Scheme assets marked with an asterisk (*) have quoted prices in active markets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

42. Defined Pension Schemes - continued

42.6 Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Hymans Robertson, the independent actuaries to Lothian Pension Fund, have advised that the financial assumptions used to calculate the components of the pension expense for the year ended 31 March 2021 were those from the beginning of the year (i.e. 31 March 2020) and have not been changed during the year. The main assumptions in the calculations are:

Investment returns

Actual return for period from 31 March 2020 to 31 March 2021	(16.40%)
Total return for period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021	(16.40%)

Average future life expectancies at age 65:

	31.03.21	31.03.20
Current pensioners male	20.5 years	21.7 years
Current pensioners female	23.3 years	24.3 years
Future pensioners male	21.9 years	24.7 years
Future pensioners female	25.2 years	27.5 years

Period ended	31.03.21	31.03.20
Pension increase rate	2.85%	1.90%
Salary Increase rate	3.35%	3.50%
Discount rate	2.00%	2.30%

Estimation of defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out above. In order to quantify the impact of a change in the financial assumptions used, the Actuary has calculated and compared the value of the scheme liabilities as at 31 March 2021 on varying bases. The approach taken by the Actuary is consistent with that adopted to derive the IAS19 figures.

For example, to quantify the uncertainty around life expectancy, the Actuary has calculated the difference in cost to the Employer of a one year increase in life expectancy. For sensitivity purposes, this is assumed to be an increase in the cost of benefits of broadly 3-5%. In practice the actual cost of a one year increase in life expectancy will depend on the structure of the revised assumption and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated.

Change in assumptions at 31 March 2021	Approximate % Increase to Employer	Approximate Monetary Amount £000
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	10%	373,206
0.5% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	1%	36,988
0.5% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	8%	328,344

42.7 Impact on the Council's Cash Flows

The objectives of the scheme are to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. The Council agreed a contribution stability mechanism with the scheme's actuary until 31 March 2024. The rate will be increased by 1.1% from 1 April 2021 and thereafter, for the remainder of the actuarial valuation period, rates will remain fixed.

42.8 Information about the defined benefit obligation

	£000	%
Active members	1,749,800	45.4%
Deferred members	598,084	15.5%
Pensioner members	1,503,151	39.0%
Total	3,851,035	100.0%

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

42. Defined Pension Schemes - continued

42.8 Information about the defined benefit obligation - continued

The figures are for funded obligations only and do not include the unfunded pensioner liabilities. The durations are effective as at the previous formal valuation of 31 March 2020.

The unfunded pensioner liability at 31 March 2021 comprises approximately £52.927m (2019/20 £54.254m) in respect of LGPS unfunded pensions and £15.012m (2019/20 £15.978m) in respect of teachers' unfunded pensions. For unfunded liabilities as at 31 March 2021, it is assumed that all unfunded pensions are payable for the remainder of the member's life. It is further assumed that 90% of pensioners are married (or cohabiting) at death and that their spouse (cohabitee) will receive a pension between 37.5% and 50% of the member's pension as at the date of the member's death.

42.9 Pension Reserves - Group Position

The pension reserves shown in the Group Balance Sheet relate to the Council. Pension reserves for the Lothian Valuation Joint Board are included in unusable reserves. Pension reserves for other companies in the group are included in usable reserves. The value of the pension reserves is shown separately below;

	2020/21	2019/20
	Pension	Pension
	Reserve	Reserve
	£000	£000
Unusable Reserves		
Council	(668,418)	(523,535)
Lothian Valuation Joint Board	(4,980)	(3,750)
	<u>(673,398)</u>	<u>(527,285)</u>
	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Usable Reserves		
Edinburgh Leisure	(1,232)	(1,232)
Transport for Edinburgh Ltd	(23,514)	66,190
	<u>(24,746)</u>	<u>64,958</u>
Net Pension Reserves	<u>(698,144)</u>	<u>(462,327)</u>

42.10 Analysis of projected amount to be charged to profit or loss for the period to 31 March 2022

	Assets	Obligations	Net (liability) / asset	
	£000	£000	£000	% of pay
Current service cost	0	(144,239)	(144,239)	(51.4%)
Past service cost including curtailments	0	0	0	0.0%
Effect of settlements	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Service Cost	0	(144,239)	(144,239)	(51.4%)
Interest income on plan assets	64,892	0	64,892	23.1%
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	0	(79,009)	(79,009)	(28.2%)
Total Net Interest Cost	64,892	(79,009)	(14,117)	(5.1%)
Total included in Profit or Loss	<u>64,892</u>	<u>(223,248)</u>	<u>(158,356)</u>	<u>(56.5%)</u>

The Council's estimated contribution to Lothian Pension Fund for 2021/22 is £63.712m.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

42. Defined Pension Schemes - continued

42.11 Strain on the Pension Fund

Lothian Pension Fund has the right to require the Council to make additional payments to the pension fund to reflect the extra cost to the pension fund of immediate payment of benefits to employees who retire early on efficiency, redundancy or voluntary grounds. This amounted to £1.147m, including accrued payments (2019/20 £1.186m).

42.12 Further Information

Further information on Lothian Pension Fund can be found in the Council's Pension Fund's Annual Report which is available upon application to the Chief Executive Officer, Lothian Pension Fund, Atria One, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EX.

43. Financial Instruments

Policy

Classifications

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Non-exchange transactions, such as those relating to taxes, benefits and government grants, do not give rise to financial instruments.

Financial Liabilities

A financial liability is an obligation to transfer economic benefits controlled by the Council and can be represented by a contractual obligation to deliver cash or financial assets or an obligation to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially unfavourable to the Council.

All of the Council's financial liabilities held during the year are measured at amortised cost and comprised:

- long-term loans from the Public Works Loan Board and commercial lenders,
- lease payables detailed in note 39,
- PPP contracts detailed in note 40, and
- trade payables for goods and services received.

Financial Assets

A financial asset is a right to future economic benefits controlled by the Council that is represented by cash, equity instruments or a contractual right to receive cash or other financial assets or a right to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially favourable to the Council. The financial assets held by the Council during the year are accounted for under the following classifications:

Amortised cost (where cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest and the Council's business model is to collect those cash flow) comprising:

- cash in hand,
- current, call and notice accounts with banks
- fixed term deposits with banks and building societies,
- loans to other local authorities,
- certificates of deposit and covered bonds issued by banks and building societies,
- treasury bills and gilts issued by the UK Government,
- trade receivables for goods and services provided.

Fair value through other comprehensive income (where cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest and the Council's business model is to both collect those cash flows and sell the instrument; and equity investments that the Council has elected into this category) comprising:

- money market funds

Financial assets held at amortised cost are shown net of a loss allowance reflecting the statistical likelihood that the borrower or debtor will be unable to meet their contractual commitments to the Council.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

43. Financial Instruments - continued

43.1 Categories of Financial Instruments

The following categories of financial instrument are carried on the Council's Balance Sheet:

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Long-Term £000	Current £000	Long-Term £000	Current £000
Assets				
At amortised cost				
- Bank Call Accounts (Note 21)	0	112,212	0	28,364
- Local Authority Loans - S-T (Note 22)	0	31,571	0	45,563
- Local Authority Loans - S-T (Note 21)	0	75,169	0	67,467
		<u>218,952</u>		<u>141,394</u>
At fair value through profit and loss				
- Money Market Funds	0	85,691	0	67,935
		<u>85,691</u>		<u>67,935</u>
Total Financial Instruments - Assets	0	304,643	0	209,329
The Investment total does not include £21.1m (2019/20 £23.34m) in unquoted equity in subsidiary companies which are not deemed to be Financial Instruments.				
Debtors				
At amortised cost	209,994	85,677	160,515	103,164
Total debtors	<u>209,994</u>	<u>85,677</u>	<u>160,515</u>	<u>103,164</u>
Borrowings				
- Public Works Loans Board	(1,000,544)	(62,672)	(1,041,404)	(71,783)
- Salix	(454)	(268)	(722)	(302)
- Market debt	(302,007)	(5,648)	(243,760)	(3,203)
Total borrowings	<u>(1,303,005)</u>	<u>(68,588)</u>	<u>(1,285,886)</u>	<u>(75,288)</u>
Other Liabilities				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	0	(19,217)	0	(19,008)
PPP and finance lease liabilities	(254,930)	(12,307)	(241,440)	(38,516)
Deferred liability	(39,964)	0	(42,078)	0
Total other long-term liabilities	<u>(294,894)</u>	<u>(31,524)</u>	<u>(283,518)</u>	<u>(57,524)</u>

In August 2018, the Council undertook a fixed rate forward starting loan transaction. The Council drew down a £60m loan in October 2020 repayable over 25 years on a semi annual annuity basis.

Lothian Regional Council entered into an agreement for the disposal of Norton Park Annex to the Tudor Trust. The terms of the disposal included the creation of a Title Company with share capital of 100 ordinary shares, held by the Tudor Trust, and 350,000 £1 preference shares held by City of Edinburgh Council. The preference shares carry rights that, in the event of the company being wound up or the property sold, the Council will receive the first £0.35m of the sale proceeds. This is included in the Balance Sheet as a 'Deferred Liability' of £0.35m, and as a long-term investment.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

43. Financial Instruments - continued

43.1 Categories of Financial Instruments - continued

Other deferred liabilities relate to income received in advance, which is required to be put on interest bearing deposit.

Further detail on the finance lease and PPP liabilities can be seen in notes 39 and 40.

43.2 Income, Expenses, Gains and Losses

	Financial Liabilities: Measured at Amortised Cost £000	Financial Assets: Measured at Amortised Cost £000	Fair Value through Profit / Loss £000	Total £000
Interest expense	59,083	0	0	59,083
Interest on leases	21,111	0	0	21,111
Total expense in Surplus on the Provision of Services	80,194	0	0	80,194
Interest income	0	(491)	(119)	(610)
Total Interest and investment income	0	(491)	(119)	(610)
Net (gain) / loss for the year	80,194	(491)	(119)	79,584

In addition to the above interest expense, £3.008m (2019/20 £2.419m) was charged to the loans pool from the financial instruments adjustment account during the year, but not reflected in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The increase relates to the charging of premiums incurred on the restructuring of the Council's Inverse LOBO loans. It also excludes £0.118m (2019/20 £0.232m) of loans fund expenses charged to the Council.

Dividend income of £1.75m (2019/20 £1.047m) was received from a subsidiary council company but not included in the table above as the holding is not classified as a financial instrument.

43.3 Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities

The Council has adopted IFRS 13 for the calculation of fair values. Financial assets classified as available for sale are carried in the Balance Sheet at fair value. For Treasury Bills and shares in Money Market Funds, the fair value is taken from the market price. Financial assets classified as loans and receivables and all financial liabilities are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Their fair values have been estimated by calculating the net present value of the remaining contractual cash flows at 31 March 2021, using the following methods and assumptions:

- Loans, including PWLB loans, borrowed by the Council have been valued by discounting the contractual cash flows over the whole life of the instrument at the appropriate market rate for local authority loans.
- The value of "Lender's Option Borrower's Option" (LOBO) loans has been increased by the value of the embedded options.
- The fair values of other long-term loans and investments have been discounted at the market rates for similar instruments with similar remaining terms to maturity on 31 March.
- The fair values of finance lease assets and liabilities and of PFI scheme liabilities have been calculated by discounting the contractual cash flows (excluding service charge elements) at the appropriate AA-rated corporate bond yield.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

43. Financial Instruments - continued

43.3 Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities - continued

- The fair value of soft loan assets has been calculated using the cash flows implied by the appropriate market interest rate which has been deemed to be the appropriate PWLB rate plus a credit spread of between 2% and 5% depending on the party to whom the advance has been made.
- The fair value of short-term instruments, including trade payables and receivables, is assumed to approximate to the carrying amount.

Fair values are shown in the table below, split by their level in the fair value hierarchy:

- Level 1 – fair value is only derived from quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, e.g. bond prices.
- Level 2 – fair value is calculated from inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, e.g. interest rates or yields for similar instruments.
- Level 3 – fair value is determined using unobservable inputs, e.g. non-market data such as cash flow forecasts or estimated creditworthiness.

The fair values are calculated as follows:

	Fair Value Level	2020/21		2019/20		
		Principal Outstanding £000	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000
Public Works Loans Board	2	(1,051,404)	(1,063,216)	(1,345,200)	(1,113,186)	(1,400,813)
Salix	2	(741)	(722)	(736)	(1,024)	(1,003)
Market debt	2	(294,900)	(307,654)	(513,134)	(246,964)	(456,213)
Borrowings		(1,347,045)	(1,371,592)	(1,859,070)	(1,361,174)	(1,858,029)
Other long-term liabilities	n/a	(39,964)	(39,964)	(39,964)	(42,078)	(42,078)
Trade creditors	n/a	(19,218)	(19,218)	(19,218)	(19,008)	(19,008)
PPP and Finance Leases	3	(267,237)	(267,237)	(351,337)	(279,956)	(355,129)
Financial liabilities		<u>(1,673,464)</u>	<u>(1,698,011)</u>	<u>(2,269,589)</u>	<u>(1,702,216)</u>	<u>(2,274,244)</u>

The fair value is higher than the carrying amount because the authority's portfolio of loans includes a number of fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date.

	Fair Value Level	2020/21		2019/20	
		Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000
Investments held at Fair Value through Profit and Loss					
Money Market Funds	1	85,691	85,691	67,936	67,936
		<u>85,691</u>	<u>85,691</u>	<u>67,936</u>	<u>67,936</u>
Investment held at Amortised Cost					
Bank Call Accounts	n/a	112,212	112,211	28,364	28,361
Local Authority Loans	2	106,740	106,749	113,030	113,125
		<u>218,952</u>	<u>218,960</u>	<u>141,394</u>	<u>141,486</u>
Debtors					
Loan Stock	n/a	2,240	2,240	2,240	2,240
Soft Loans	3	58	58	56	56
Other trade debtors	n/a	85,677	85,677	103,164	103,164
		<u>87,975</u>	<u>87,975</u>	<u>105,460</u>	<u>105,460</u>
Total Investments		<u>392,618</u>	<u>392,626</u>	<u>314,790</u>	<u>314,882</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

43. Financial Instruments - continued

43.4 Financial Assets classified as Fair Value through Profit and Loss

	Fair Value Level	2020/21		2019/20	
		Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000
Investments held at Fair Value through Profit and Loss					
Money Market Funds	1	85,691	85,691	67,936	67,936
		<u>85,691</u>	<u>85,691</u>	<u>67,936</u>	<u>67,936</u>

There was no unrealised gain on the available for sale financial assets (2019/20 £nil).

44. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

44.1 Overall Procedures for Managing Risk

The Council's overall risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets, and implementing restrictions to minimise these risks. The Council complies with the CIPFA Prudential Code and has adopted the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice. Overall these procedures require the Council to manage risk in the following ways:

- by formally adopting the requirements of the Code of Practice;
- by approving annually in advance prudential indicators for the following three years limiting:
 - the Council's overall borrowing;
 - its maximum and minimum exposures to fixed and variable rates;
 - its maximum and minimum exposures in the maturity structure of its debt;
- by selecting investment counterparties in compliance with the Council's Treasury Policy Statement.

The annual treasury management strategy which incorporates the prudential indicators was approved by the Council on 11 March 2021 and is available on the Council website. The key issues within the strategy are:

- The authorised limit for 2021/22 has been set at £2.814bn. This is the maximum limit for external borrowings and other short and long term liabilities.
- The operational boundary for 2021/22 has been set at £2.207bn. This is the expected upper level of borrowing and other short and long term liabilities during the year.

The prudential indicators are reported and approved as part of the Council's annual budget setting process. Actual performance is also reported annually to members of the Council.

44.2 Key Risks

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, the key risks are:

- Credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council;
- Liquidity risk – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments;
- Re-financing risk – the possibility that the Council might be requiring to renew a financial instrument on maturity at disadvantageous interest rates or terms;
- Market risk - the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates movements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

44. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments - continued

44.3 Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers. Deposits are with banks, building societies, and other institutions in line with the Council's prevailing counterparty limits as set out in the Council's treasury policy statement. Investment decisions are considered daily as part of the daily cash flow management by the Council's Treasury Team who can, and do, restrict the list further in light of market conditions.

The Council's funds are managed along with those of Lothian Pension Fund and some other related organisations which are pooled for investment purposes as a treasury cash fund. Management of the cash fund is on a low risk, low return basis, with security of the investments the key consideration while at the same time seeking innovative and secure cash investment opportunities. This arrangement has allowed a better management of the Council's risk in the exceptional financial and market circumstances in recent years.

As well as lending monies to other local authorities, the Council purchases UK Government Treasury Bills and has previously purchased Bonds and Floating Rate Notes with an explicit UK Government Guarantee. At 31 March 2021, the Council had £31.6m in short term investments, all of which were loans to other local authorities. Of the net Cash and Cash Equivalents, 27.5% were loans to other local authorities, a further 31.4% was held in three AAA rated Money Market Funds, leaving only 41.1% with banks. All of the monies held on deposit with banks at 31 March 2021 were in call or near call accounts.

The principal outstanding on monies held by the Council under its treasury management arrangements at 31 March 2021 was £255.0m (31 March 2020: £209.3m). This was held with the following institutions:

Summary	Standard and Poor's Rating	Principal Outstanding 31.03.21 £000	Carry Value 31.03.21 £000	Fair Value 31.03.21 £000	Carry Value 31.03.20 £000
Money Market Funds					
Deutsche Bank AG, London	AAAm	39,523	39,523	39,523	25,141
Goldman Sachs	AAAm	3	3	3	15,022
Standard Life	AAAm	2,868	2,870	2,870	27,772
Bank Call Accounts					
Bank of Scotland	A+	30,575	30,576	30,576	5,789
Royal Bank of Scotland	A-	23,473	23,473	23,473	11,630
Santander UK	A	30,579	30,581	30,581	1
Barclays Bank	A	16	16	16	14
Svenska Handelsbanken	AA-	0	0	0	7
HSBC Bank Plc 31 dn	AA-	27,561	27,561	27,561	10,918
HSBC Bank Plc	AA-	5	5	5	5
UK Pseudo-Sovereign Risk Instruments					
Local Authorities (see below)	n/a	106,720	106,740	106,749	113,030
Total		261,323	261,348	261,357	209,329

Local Authorities are generally assumed to have a pseudo-sovereign credit rating (which in the UK at 31 March 2021 would have been 'AA' from S&P) due to their tax raising powers and the perceived government support. Very few have their own credit rating.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its direct investments in banks and building societies of £112.2m cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments. A risk of irrecoverability applies to all of the Council's deposits, but the Council takes a low risk approach to investment. There was no evidence at 31 March 2021 that this risk was likely to crystallise.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

44. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments - continued

44.3 Credit Risk - continued

No breaches of the Council's counterparty criteria occurred during the reporting period and the Council does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits.

In line with the Investment Regulations governing local authorities introduced in 2010, the Council approved an annual investment strategy and treasury policy statement for both the Council and the Cash Fund at its March 2021 meeting. The papers are available on the Council's website. A full list of the deposits outstanding at 31 March 2021 is contained in the Treasury Cash Fund Investment Report for Quarter 1 2021. This is available on request from corporate.finance2@edinburgh.gov.uk, marked for the attention of Treasury.

All Council invoices become due for payment on issue. Excluding pre-payments of £4.088m (2019/20 £0.569m), trade debtors past due date can be analysed by age as follows:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Less than two months	20,330	15,170
Two to four months	3,498	1,662
Four to six months	2,360	699
Six months to one year	5,164	1,609
More than one year	9,919	7,212
Total	<u>41,271</u>	<u>26,352</u>

Collateral – During the reporting period the Council held no collateral as security.

Credit Risk: Trade Debtors

Loss allowances on debtors have been calculated by reference to the Council's historic experience of default.

Debtors are collectively assessed for credit risk in the following groups:

31.03.21			
		Gross	Loss
	Range	Receivable	Allowance
Council Tax	3% - 100%	220,246	(200,246)
Non Domestic Rates	1% - 100%	4,579	(3,122)
HRA tenants and other debtors	5% - 95%	10,432	(7,424)
Housing Benefits	75% - 80%	27,785	(21,863)
Trade and Other Debtors	10% - 100%	89,353	(47,219)
Total		<u>352,395</u>	<u>(279,874)</u>

44.4 Liquidity risk

The Council carries out short and medium term cash flow management to ensure that it will have sufficient liquidity to cover all of its payment obligations. This includes monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure sufficient liquidity is available for the Council's day to day cash flow needs. The Council also has ready access to borrowings from the money markets to cover any day to day cash flow needs. It is anticipated that some short to medium term borrowing may be required within the next financial year to meet cashflow and working capital requirements. This will be managed as part of the Council's short- and medium-term cashflow monitoring as required.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

44. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments - continued

44.4 Liquidity risk - continued

Whilst the PWLB provides access to longer term funds, it also acts as a lender of last resort to the Council. The Council is also required by statute to achieve a balanced budget, which ensures sufficient monies are raised to cover annual expenditure. There is therefore no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The Council manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures above (the setting and approval of prudential indicators and the approval of the treasury and investment strategy reports), as well as through cash flow management procedures required by the Code of Practice.

44.5 Re-financing and Maturity Risk

The Council maintains significant debt and investment portfolios. The re-financing risk to the Council relates to managing the exposure to replacing financial instruments as they mature. As shown in the chart in 44.6, the majority of the Council's debt portfolio consists of fixed rate longer term loans, and as such, the Council has a relatively low re-financing risk on its liabilities. However, the Council has market debt which allows the lender the option to ask for a rate increase at set dates and at that point the Council may choose to repay the loan at no additional cost. This gives a potential re-financing risk which the Council monitors and manages.

The Council's approved treasury strategy addresses the main risks and the treasury team address the operational risks within approved parameters. This includes monitoring the maturity profile of financial liabilities and amending the profile through either new borrowing or the rescheduling of the existing debt. With the margin on new borrowing rates and a separate rate for the premature repayment of loans, it is unlikely that there will be much scope for any substantial rescheduling of PWLB debt. However the Council is in on-going discussion with institutions over the potential to restructure some of the Council's market debt. In 2019/20 the Council repaid its £40m Inverse LOBO loans and replaced them with a £40m fixed rate loan from the PWLB.

The maturity analysis of the principal outstanding on the Council's debt is as follows:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Less than one year	(65,172)	(97,643)
Between one and two years	(63,527)	(62,676)
Between two and five years	(179,978)	(159,292)
Between five and ten years	(229,603)	(258,677)
More than ten years	<u>(1,076,002)</u>	<u>(1,037,841)</u>
Financial Liabilities	<u>(1,614,282)</u>	<u>(1,616,129)</u>

All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year and trade creditors of £19.218m (2019/20 £19.008m) are not shown in the table above. The above figures show the principal outstanding, therefore, neither accrued interest of £15.733m (2019/20 £16.176m) nor net equivalent interest rate (EIR) adjustments of £8.834m (2019/20 £8.825m) to the carrying amounts of market debt shown in the financial liabilities are included.

The only investment which the Council has with a maturity of greater than one year is £2.24m in EDI loan stock.

44.6 Market risk

Interest rate risk

The Council is exposed to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council, depending on how variable and fixed interest rates move across differing financial instrument periods. For instance, a rise in variable and fixed interest rates would have the following effects:

- borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will rise;
- borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the borrowing liability will fall;
- investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will rise; and
- investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

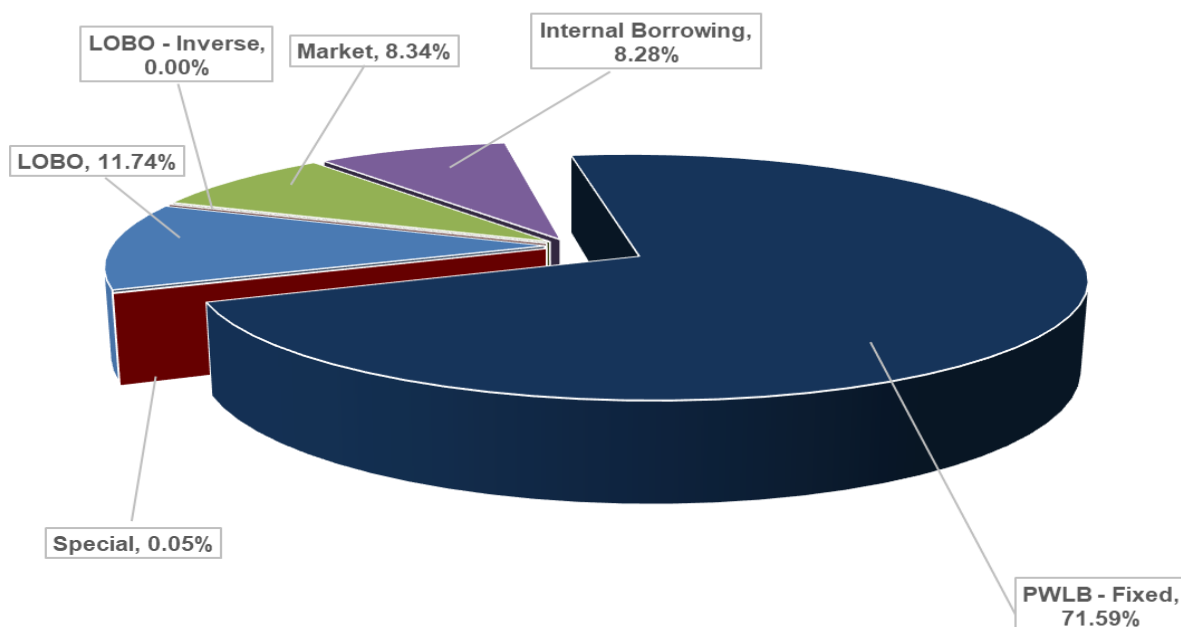
44. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments - continued

44.6 Market risk - continued

Borrowings are not carried at fair value on the Balance Sheet, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or Movement in Reserves Statement. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and affect the General Fund Balance, subject to influences from Government grants. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments will be reflected in the Movement in Reserves Statement, unless the investments have been designated as fair value through the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The annual treasury management strategy includes a forecast for short and longer term interest rates. The treasury team continue to monitor market and forecast interest rates during the year and adjust investment policies accordingly. For instance during periods of falling interest rates, and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate investments may be taken for longer periods to secure better long term returns. Any such strategy is run within the short and medium term liquidity requirements of the Council.

The following chart shows the source of the Council's borrowing. Most of the Council's borrowings are from the Government by way of the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB). As interest rates are historically low, none of the PWLB borrowing was variable rate.



Sources of Borrowing 2020/21

In addition to the borrowing in the chart above, in August 2018, the Council undertook a fixed rate forward starting loan transaction. The Council drew down a £60m loan in October 2020 repayable over 25 years on a semi annual annuity basis. The purpose of the transaction was to mitigate the interest rate risk on the Council's future capital financing requirement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

44. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments - continued

44.6 Market risk - continued

If all interest rates had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be:

	£000
Increase in interest receivable on variable rate investments	(1,718)
Impact on Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(1,718)
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowings liabilities	(280,242)

Price Risk

The Council does not generally invest in equity shares but does have shareholdings of £21.105m (2019/20 £23.340m) in a number of Council owned Companies and joint ventures. Whilst these holdings are generally illiquid, the Council is exposed to losses arising from movements in the prices of the shares.

As the shareholdings have arisen in the acquisition of specific interests, the Council is not in a position to limit its exposure to price movements by diversifying its portfolio.

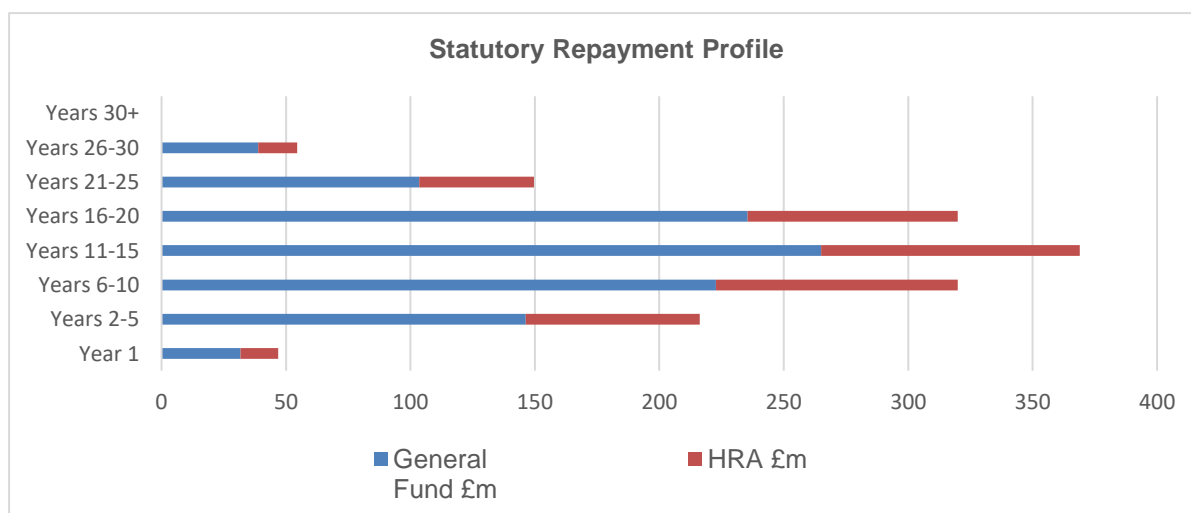
Foreign exchange risk

The Council has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. It therefore has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

44.7 Repayment Profile

The Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Scotland) Regulations 2016 require the statutory loans fund to be administered in accordance with the 2016 Regulations, proper accounting practices and prudent financial management.

The Council operates a consolidated loans fund under the terms of these Regulations. Capital payments made by services are financed by capital advances from the loans fund. As part of the 2019/20 budget process the Council received a report on the review carried out on the loans fund. The report recommended changes in the method of calculating loans fund repayments for current and historical capital advances. Those changes mean that the repayments for both historical and new capital advances (with the exception of those detailed below) will be calculated using the Asset Life method. For capital advances relating to loans to the Edinburgh Living LLPs and capital advances for the "Trams to Newhaven" project, all advances from the loans fund in the current year have a repayment profile set out using the funding/income method and these capital advances will be repaid using an annuity structure with fixed interest rate and principal repayments. The business cases brought forward for other projects involving major capital expenditure funded by borrowing will consider the appropriate repayment method depending on the structure of the business case. The Council operates the loans fund to manage historic debt and the balance therefore represents historic borrowing for capital spend.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

45. The City of Edinburgh Council Charitable Funds

The City of Edinburgh Council administers a number of charitable funds. Over the last few years, the Council has rationalised the number of charitable trusts down from over a hundred to six, with further plans in place to wind up the Boyd Anderson Trust in 2021/22.

45.1 The funds are:

	Scottish Charity Registration Number	Market Value 31.03.21 £000	Market Value 31.03.20 £000
Scottish Registered Charities			
Lauriston Castle	SC020737	7,660	7,043
Jean F. Watson	SC018971	6,641	6,450
Edinburgh Education Trust	SC042754	1,191	1,012
Nelson Halls	SC018946	271	235
The Royal Scots Trust	SC018945	33	35
Boyd Anderson	SC025067	96	100
Total market value		<u>15,892</u>	<u>14,875</u>

These funds do not represent assets of the Council and are not included in the Consolidated Balance Sheet.

45.2 Financial Position of the Scottish Registered Charity Funds

2019/20 Income and Expenditure Account		2020/21
£000		£000
Income		
71	Investment income	71
28	Other non-investment income	9
<u>99</u>		<u>80</u>
Expenditure		
(19)	Prizes, awards and other expenses	(20)
(15)	Governance Costs	(16)
<u>(34)</u>		<u>(36)</u>
<u>65</u>	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<u>44</u>
2019/20 Balance Sheet		
£000		2020/21
Long-Term Assets		£000
2,143	Investments	2,505
5,374	Artworks - Jean F Watson Trust	5,383
7,021	Heritable property	7,632
<u>14,538</u>	Total Long-Term Assets	<u>15,520</u>
Current Assets		
361	Cash and bank	387
16	Debtors	15
<u>377</u>		<u>402</u>
Current Liabilities		
(40)	Creditors	(30)
<u>(40)</u>		<u>(30)</u>
<u>14,875</u>	Total Assets less Liabilities	<u>15,892</u>
Funds		
3,490	Capital at 1 April	3,497
65	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	44
0	Unrealised gains on investments	361
(58)	Unrealised losses on investments	0
<u>3,497</u>		<u>3,903</u>
<u>11,378</u>	Revaluation reserve	<u>11,989</u>
<u>14,875</u>	Funds at 31 March	<u>15,892</u>

A separate Trustee's Report and Accounts have been prepared which give further information on the Scottish registered charities in the trusteeship of the Council. A copy of this document may be obtained on the [Council's website](#) as part of the public inspection period.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

46. Prior Period Adjustment

Capitalisation of Tram Interest

The Finance and Resources Committee at its meeting on 21 January 2021 approved the adoption of a change in accounting policy to enable the capitalisation of interest on qualifying assets. It further gave approval to apply this policy retrospectively on the Trams to Newhaven project. The 2019/20 financial statements have been restated to reflect this change.

Accounting treatment of Residual Waste Facility donated asset

The residual waste facility at Millerhill became operational during 2019/20 and was accounted for as a PPP service concession with the inclusion of an element of a donated asset. The accounting treatment for the donated asset element and a deferred capital payment has subsequently been reviewed and amended to better reflect the nature of these transactions. The donated asset reserve created in 2019/20 of £61m has therefore been removed and treated as a non-current liability within the balance sheet. In addition the change in accounting treatment has impacted on the financial repayment profile on the asset.

Edinburgh Living

Edinburgh Living MMR LLP provides mid-market homes for rent and became operational during 2019/20. The Scottish Government has provided grant funding towards the costs of acquiring properties. The accounting treatment for the government grant has been reviewed and amended. The grant is now treated as deferred income and released to the Income and Expenditure Statement over the lifetime of the assets. This has also had an impact on the Balance Sheet.

CEC Holdings

CEC Holdings consolidated accounts comprise the results for the EDI Group and Edinburgh International Conference Centre Ltd (EICC). Each of these companies adopted the new IFRS 16 for Leases as of 1 January 2019 and the CEC Holdings consolidated accounts reflect this. As the City of Edinburgh Council's annual accounts are not required to adopt the standard IFRS 16 Leases until 1st April 2022, consolidation adjustments are required to bring the lease accounting in-line with the City of Edinburgh Council treatment. The EICC accounts also contained a lease which had not been identified in the City of Edinburgh Council audited accounts, an adjustment has therefore also been recognised for this.

	2019/20 Statements £000	Tram Interest £000	Residual Waste PPP £000	Edinburgh Living £000	CEC Holdings IFRS16 £000	2019/20 Re-stated £000
Movement in Reserves						
Statement						
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure						
Total Usable Reserves	(11,202)	1,234	(59,539)	0	0	(69,507)
Total Reserves	321,410	1,234	(59,539)	0	0	263,105
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis						
General Fund	23,019	0	59,539	0	0	82,558
Donated Asset Fund	61,893	0	(61,893)	0	0	0
Total Usable Reserves	57,457	0	(2,355)	0	0	55,102
Net increase / (Decrease) before transfers to statutory reserves						
Total Usable Reserves	46,255	1,234	(61,893)	0	0	(14,403)
Total Reserves	321,410	1,234	0	0	0	322,644
Group Total Reserves						
Balance at 31 March 2020						
General Fund	120,111	1,234	0	0	0	121,345
Total Usable Reserves	289,138	1,234	(61,893)	0	0	228,480
Total Reserves	2,951,180	1,234	(59,539)	0	0	2,892,877
Group Total Reserves						

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

46. Prior Period Adjustment - Continued

	2019/20 Statements £000	Tram Interest £000	Residual Waste PPP £000	Edinburgh Living £000	CEC Holdings IFRS16 £000	2019/20 Re-stated £000
Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement						
Cost of Services - Subsidiary Companies	16,980	0	0	(23)	(28)	16,929
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (Surplus) / Deficit on Provision of Services	131,178	(1,234)	(2,355)	0	(70)	127,519
Total Comprehensive (Income) / Expenditure	25,262	(1,234)	59,539	(23)	(97)	83,447
	(342,104)	(1,234)	59,539	(23)	(97)	(283,919)
Council Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement						
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (Surplus) / Deficit on Provision of Services	134,231	(1,234)	(2,355)	0	0	130,642
Total Comprehensive (Income) / Expenditure	11,202	(1,234)	59,539	0	0	69,507
	(321,410)	(1,234)	59,539	0	0	(263,105)
Group Balance Sheet						
Property, Plant and Equipment	4,916,529	1,234	0	0	(1,036)	4,916,727
Long-Term Assets	5,233,436	1,234	0	0	(1,036)	5,233,634
Net Assets	3,160,595	1,234	(59,539)	(72)	192	3,102,410
Short Term Creditors	(244,988)	0	(3,359)	(72)	94	(248,326)
Other Long-Term Liabilities	(255,989)	0	(56,178)	0	1,039	(311,128)
Deferred Liability	(44,960)	0	0	0	95	(44,865)
Usable Reserves	360,706	1,234	(61,893)	23	97	300,167
Total Reserves	3,160,595	1,234	(59,539)	23	97	3,102,410
Council Balance Sheet						
Property, Plant and Equipment	4,776,511	1,234	0	0	0	4,777,745
Long-Term Assets	5,011,956	1,234	0	0	0	5,013,190
Net Assets	2,951,180	1,234	(59,539)	0	0	2,892,876
Short Term Creditors	(200,580)	0	(3,359)	0	0	(203,939)
Other Long-Term Liabilities	(241,440)	0	(56,178)	0	0	(297,618)
Usable Reserves	289,138	1,234	(61,893)	0	0	228,481
Total Reserves	2,951,180	1,234	(59,539)	0	0	2,892,877

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Income and Expenditure Statement shows in more detail the income and expenditure on HRA services included in the Council's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2019/20		2020/21	
£000	EXPENDITURE	£000	£000
29,616	Repairs and maintenance	24,749	
20,993	Supervision and management	22,706	
29,078	Depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	26,776	
7,133	Other expenditure	10,347	
613	Impairment of debtors	2,662	
<u>87,433</u>			87,240
	INCOME		
(99,592)	Dwelling rents	(100,924)	
(22)	Non-Dwelling rents (gross)	(29)	
(4,366)	Other income	(3,870)	
<u>(103,980)</u>			<u>(104,823)</u>
(16,547)	Net income for HRA Services (as included in the Council's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement)		(17,583)
166	HRA share of corporate and democratic core		254
1,073	HRA share of other amounts included in the Council's Net Cost of Services but not allocated to specific services		<u>1,201</u>
(15,308)	Net income for HRA Services		(16,128)
	HRA share of other operating expenditure included in the Council's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
(3,554)	(Gain) / loss on sale of HRA fixed assets	(248)	
42	Investment Property changes in fair value	0	
31,114	Interest payable and similar charges	16,509	
2,467	Interest cost on defined benefit obligation (<i>pension-related</i>)	2,299	
(1,188)	Interest and investment income	(1,164)	
(2,005)	Interest income on plan assets (<i>pension-related</i>)	(1,933)	
<u>(29,262)</u>	Capital grants and contributions	<u>(22,249)</u>	
(2,386)			(6,786)
<u>(17,694)</u>	Surplus for the year on HRA services		<u>(22,914)</u>

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

MOVEMENT ON THE HRA STATEMENT

2019/20 £000		2020/21 £000
0	Balance on the HRA at the end of the previous year	0
17,694	Surplus for the year on the HRA Income and Exp Account	22,914
(33,149)	Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute	(12,411)
<u>(15,455)</u>	Net increase before transfers to reserves	<u>10,503</u>
15,455	Contribution (to) / from renewal and repairs fund, via the General Fund	<u>(10,503)</u>
<u><u>0</u></u>	Balance on the HRA at the end of the current year	<u><u>0</u></u>

Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations

£000		£000
	Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account	
	Reversal of items debited or credited to the Income and Expenditure Statement	
29,078	Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	26,776
(29,262)	Capital grants and contributions applied	(22,249)
42	Movement in the market value of investment properties	0
	Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Income and Expenditure Statement	
(20,695)	Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	(17,130)
(23,000)	Capital funded from revenue	0
	Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve	
(3,554)	Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain / loss on disposal of assets	(248)
	Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	
13,113	Amount by which finance costs charged are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(906)
	Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve	
2,803	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Income and Expenditure Statement	2,993
(1,530)	Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(1,715)
	Adjustments primarily involving the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account	
(144)	Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	68
<u><u>(33,149)</u></u>		<u><u>(12,411)</u></u>

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

1. The number and types of dwellings in the authority's housing stock at 31 March 2021 are as follows:

Types of Houses	2021		2020	
	Number	Annual Average Rent (£)	Number	Annual Average Rent (£)
Main provision Council dwellings				
1 Apartment	285	4,132.00	285	4,051.00
2 Apartment	5,610	4,619.00	5,610	4,532.00
3 Apartment	10,207	5,353.00	10,207	5,262.00
4 Apartment	3,512	6,168.00	3,512	6,069.00
5 Apartment	521	6,655.00	521	6,496.00
6 Apartment	10	6,672.00	10	6,557.00
7 Apartment	4	6,463.00	4	6,336.00
8 Apartment	1	6,463.00	1	6,336.00
Mid-market rent dwellings				
2 Apartment	23	6,005.00	23	5,896.00
3 Apartment	84	7,378.00	84	7,240.00
4 Apartment	22	9,307.00	22	9,125.00
	<u>20,279</u>		<u>20,279</u>	

The stock figure represents all types of residential properties, including furnished tenancies, sheltered housing and homelessness units. The housing types and numbers at 31 March 2021 are still to be confirmed.

- The amount of rent arrears included as debtors in the Council's Consolidated Balance Sheet was £10.447m (£7.569m 2019/20) against which a provision amounting to £9.035m (£6.386m 2019/20), has been created in respect of non collectable debts.
- The total value of uncollectable void rents for main provision properties was £0.948m (2019/20 £0.648m). This has been netted against rental income.

COUNCIL TAX INCOME ACCOUNT

The Council Tax Income Account (Scotland) shows the gross income raised from council taxes levied and deductions made under Statute. The resultant net income is transferred to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2019/20 £000		2020/21 £000	£000
(366,569)	Gross council tax levied and contributions in lieu		(387,802)
58,696	Less: - Exemptions and other discounts	62,682	
9,207	- Provision for bad debts	11,344	
24,070	- Council Tax Reduction Scheme	28,075	
4,457	- Other reductions	5,044	
<u>96,430</u>			<u>107,145</u>
(270,139)			(280,657)
<u>(905)</u>	Previous years' adjustments		<u>(2,839)</u>
<u>(271,044)</u>	Total transferred to General Fund		<u>(283,496)</u>

Notes to the Council Tax Income Account

The in-year collection rate for Council Tax was 96.0% (2019/20 97.0%).

Each household or occupied dwelling is allocated to a Council Tax band by the Assessor. The charge per Council Tax band is calculated as a proportion of band D - these proportions are determined by legislation. Bands E to H were rebased in 2017/18 by the Scottish Government as per the Council Tax Base table below, with a 4.79% increase applied to Council Tax in 2020/21 (2019/20 3%).

Unoccupied properties are eligible for 10% discount for up to 12 months, from the date the property was last occupied, thereafter 100% additional charge, with certain exceptions. For Council Tax purposes, students and certain other categories of people are not regarded as occupants. Reductions in Council Tax payable are also granted to properties, with certain attributes, that are the sole and main residence of permanently disabled persons.

Charges in respect of water and sewerage are the responsibility of Scottish Water. The Council collects both water and sewerage charges and makes payment to the Water Authority.

Calculation of the Council Tax Base 2020/21

Band	Number of Properties	Disabled Relief	Exemptions	Discounts	Effective Properties	Ratio to Band D	Band D Equivalents	Charges per Band
A Up to £27,000	24,417	79	3,882	3,522	17,092	6/9	11,395	£892.39
B £27,001 - £35,000	48,226	60	3,747	7,056	37,483	7/9	29,153	£1,041.12
C £35,001 - £45,000	45,320	(2)	2,896	5,667	36,755	8/9	32,671	£1,189.86
D £45,001 - £58,000	41,159	71	2,609	4,574	34,047	9/9	34,047	£1,338.59
E £58,001 - £80,000	43,141	(16)	3,588	3,909	35,628	473/360	46,811	£1,758.76
F £80,001 - £106,000	26,054	(32)	1,518	2,035	22,469	585/360	36,512	£2,175.20
G £106,001 - £212,000	22,429	(127)	491	1,334	20,477	705/360	40,101	£2,621.40
H Over £212,000	4,183	(33)	134	205	3,811	882/360	9,337	£3,279.54
							Total	240,027
							Add: Contributions in Lieu	500
							Less: Provision for Non-Payment	(8,418)
							Council Tax Base	<u>232,109</u>

NON-DOMESTIC RATES INCOME ACCOUNT

The Non-Domestic Rate Account is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Non-Domestic Rate Account. The statement shows the gross income from the rates and deductions made under statute. The net income is paid to the Scottish Government as a contribution to the national Non-Domestic Rate pool.

2019/20 £000		2020/21 £000	£000
(477,545)	Gross rates levied and contributions in lieu		(478,952)
104,041	Less: - Reliefs and other deductions	290,727	
5,095	- Uncollectable debt written off and provision for impairment	<u>2,644</u>	
<u>109,136</u>			<u>293,371</u>
(368,409)			(185,581)
<u>25,591</u>	Previous years' adjustments		<u>17,665</u>
(342,818)	Net Non-Domestic Rates Income		(167,916)
<u>775</u>	Non-domestic rate income retained by authority		<u>0</u>
<u>(342,043)</u>	Non-Domestic Rate Income		<u>(167,916)</u>
	Allocated to:		
(342,740)	Contribution to Non-Domestic Rate Pool		(168,636)
<u>697</u>	City of Edinburgh Council		<u>720</u>
<u>(342,043)</u>			<u>(167,916)</u>

Notes to the Non-Domestic Rates Income Account

Rateable Values as at 1 April 2020	Number	Rateable Value £000
Shops, offices and other commercial subjects	16,108	637,703
Industrial and freight transport	2,797	80,549
Telecommunications	6	23
Public service subjects	361	50,217
Miscellaneous	<u>3,955</u>	<u>170,732</u>
	<u>23,227</u>	<u>939,224</u>

1. The amount distributed to the council from the national non-domestic rate income pool in the year was £238.922m (2019/20 £365.250m).

2. Occupiers of non-domestic property pay rates based on the valuation of the property within the valuation roll for Edinburgh. The non-domestic rate poundage is determined by the Scottish Ministers, and was 49.8p per £ in 2020/21 (2019/20 49.0p per £).

Properties with a rateable value between £51,001 and £95,000 (2019/20 greater than £51,000) had their rate charges calculated using the poundage of 51.1p per £ (2019/20 51.6p per £). Properties with rateable value greater than £95,000 had their rate charges calculated using the poundage of 52.4p per £ (2019/20 51.6p).

3. From 1 April 2008, the Scottish Government introduced the small business bonus scheme. Business properties with a rateable value of £18,000 or less may receive relief as set out below.

100% relief	below	£ 15,000
25% relief	£ 15,001 to	£ 18,000
Upper limit for combined rateable value *		£ 35,000

* Businesses with multiple properties whose combined rateable value is £35,000 or less will be eligible for relief of 25% for each property with a rateable value of £18,000 or less.

4 Due to Covid-19 a number of sectors including retail, hospitality, aviation and leisure were given additional rates reliefs and this accounts for the significant increase in the above figures.

COMMON GOOD FUND

Common Good Fund Foreword

The Common Good Fund stands separate from the Council's accounts and has been described as "the ancient patrimony of the community". It was originally derived from the grants by the Sovereigns of Scotland at various times. The present fund is an amalgam of the funds of the City and Royal Burgh of Edinburgh and the Royal Burgh of South Queensferry.

A report on the (Edinburgh) Common Good prepared by the Town Clerk and City Chamberlain in 1905 set out the historical background of the fund and listed its then assets in some detail. The report also stated a "General Principle" that the Fund should be administered "for the purpose of upholding the dignity and suitable hospitality of the City; performing the duties incumbent upon a Royal Burgh maintaining the municipal establishment and managing the municipal affairs; vindicating or extending the corporate rights of the community and defending its interests; acquiring additional land or property for the corporate benefit, or improving existing corporation property, and generally for any purpose which, in the bona fide judgement of the Town Council, is for the good of the community as a whole, or in which the inhabitants at large may share, as distinct from the separate interests or benefit of any particular individual or class, however deserving or needy. The purpose must be limited to those which concern the City and its interests".

The Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 confirms this interpretation that use of the Fund shall "have regard to the interests of all the inhabitants" of the area.

The Common Good accounts are prepared in accordance with the Council's accounting policies as detailed in Note 1.

In 2015/16, £2m of the Common Good Fund was earmarked to be utilised to fund a planned property maintenance programme. £123,000 of this funding has been used to fund Scott Monument lighting work and surveys, £33,000 on surveys and work at the City Observatory, £16,400 on engineering consultancy at the Queensferry Harbour, and £12,600 on surveys and work for the Portobello Municipal Clock.

The balance of the Common Good Fund is £2.669m as at 31 March 2021 (£2.665m 2019/20). This is split £0.854m in the fund and £1.815m in the planned property maintenance fund.

During 2020/21, the Common Good made a surplus of £0.003m.

The lease of 329 High Street was completed in January 2020 with a lease premium of £3.036m received in the Common Good. The lease premium is being amortised over the lease term of 125 years. The in-year surplus, as mentioned above, includes a lease premium of £0.024m for 2020/21. Recommendations for the use of the funds from the lease will be presented to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval.

The Common Good Annual Performance Report will be considered by the Finance and Resources Committee in November 2021, along with the Audited Annual Accounts.

COMMON GOOD FUND - INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

2019/20	2020/21	
£000	£000	£000
Income		
(24) Investment income	(13)	
(1,160) Rent Income	(271)	
(71) Capital Funding	(142)	
(338) Sale of Fixed Assets	0	
(5) Lease Premium	(24)	
<u>(2,175) Recharges Income</u>	<u>(2,566)</u>	
(3,773) Total Income	(3,016)	
Expenditure		
67 Common Good Fund	30	
<u>3,394 Common Good Property Costs</u>	<u>2,983</u>	
3,461 Total Expenditure		3,013
<u>(312) (Surplus) / Deficit for the Year</u>		<u>(3)</u>

COMMON GOOD FUND - BALANCE SHEET

31 March 2020 £000		31 March 2021 £000 £000	
<u>2,558</u>	Community Assets	<u>2,558</u>	
<u>2,558</u>	Property, Plant and Equipment		2,558
17,798	Long-Term Debtors	17,823	
<u>146</u>	Heritage Assets	<u>146</u>	
<u>17,944</u>	Long-Term Assets		17,969
1,616	Short-Term Investments	989	
4	Debtors	9	
<u>4,052</u>	Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>4,653</u>	
<u>5,672</u>	Current Assets		<u>5,651</u>
<u>26,174</u>	Net Assets		<u>26,178</u>
23,522	Capital Contribution	23,522	
<u>(13)</u>	Capital Adjustment Account	<u>(13)</u>	
<u>23,509</u>	Unusable Reserves		23,509
842	Common Good Fund	854	
<u>1,823</u>	Earmarked Reserve	<u>1,815</u>	
<u>2,665</u>	Usable Reserves		<u>2,669</u>
<u>26,174</u>	Total Reserves		<u>26,178</u>

The unaudited accounts were issued on 18 June 2021.

HUGH DUNN, CPFA
Head of Finance
18 June 2021

COMMON GOOD FUND - NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Property, Plant and Equipment and Heritage Assets

1.1 Movements on Balances

	Community Assets £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000	Heritage Assets £000
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2020	2,558	2,558	146
	2,558	2,558	146
At 31 March 2021	2,558	2,558	146
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2021	2,558	2,558	146
At 31 March 2020	2,558	2,558	146
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2020	2,558	2,558	146
	2,558	2,558	146
At 31 March 2020	2,558	2,558	146
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2020	2,558	2,558	146
At 31 March 2019	2,558	2,558	146

These asset categories are not depreciated.

1.2 Developing a Common Good Register

Significant progress has been made to collate information regarding properties considered by the Council to be Common Good.

A response to the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 consultation on Common Good matters was approved by the Finance and Resources Committee on 28 September 2017 and submitted to the Scottish Government.

The relevant provisions came into force on 27 June 2018, and the Scottish Government published the accompanying guidance in July 2018. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 places a duty on Local Authorities to “establish and maintain a register of property which is held by the authority as part of the Common Good” (a Common Good Register).

Before establishing a Common Good Register, the Act requires a Local Authority to prepare and publish a list of properties that it proposes to include in the register. The Common Good Asset Register for **public consultation** was approved for issuing at the 27 September 2018 Finance and Resources Committee. The consultation closed on 31 December 2018.

The first version of the Common Good Register was published on the Council's Common Good webpage on 28 June 2019, complying with Scottish Government guidance. The Register was subsequently presented and approved by the Finance and Resources Committee on 26 September 2019 as part of the 2018-19 Common Good Annual Performance Report.

The Council maintains a **web page** with a link to the latest Common Good Register on its website.

A further updated draft of the Common Good Asset Register is yet to be finalised because work had to be put on hold due to the imposed COVID-19 lockdown. Therefore, at the balance sheet date, the Council's balance sheet may hold heritage assets that belong to the Common Good and vice versa.

COMMON GOOD FUND - NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Unusable Reserves

2.1 Capital Contribution

This balance contains the gains made by the Common Good Fund arising from increases in the value of its property, plant and equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- transferred from Common Good;
- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost;
- used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; or
- disposed of and the gains are realised.

The reserve contains unrealised gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date the reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before 1 April 2007 were consolidated into the capital adjustment account.

	2020/21		2019/20	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April		23,522		23,523
Movement of assets	0		(1)	
Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	0		0	
Surplus / (Deficit) on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus on the Provision of Service		0		(1)
Derecognition of asset disposals		0		0
Balance at 31 March		<u>23,522</u>		<u>23,522</u>

2.2 Capital Adjustment Account

The capital adjustment account provides a balancing mechanism for timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) (with reconciling postings from the revaluation reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis).

The account also holds revaluation gains accumulated on property, plant and equipment prior to 1 April 2007, the date the revaluation reserve was created to hold such gains.

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April	(13)	(13)
Movement in Year	0	0
Balance at 31 March	<u>(13)</u>	<u>(13)</u>

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Introduction

2020/21 has been an unprecedented year for the City of Edinburgh Council, responding to the demands of a global pandemic and fundamental changes to people's freedoms and way of life. As a direct consequence of the Council's response to Covid-19, governance, both political and operational, had to adapt and evolve rapidly to ensure that the Council fulfilled its statutory duties arising from the Civil Contingencies Act and was able to work directly and with partners to address the safety of vulnerable people, the continuity of essential public services and the safety of our employees alike. Recognising the importance of democratic leadership and oversight of the Council's response to the pandemic, a rapid transition back to the full operation of our executive committees as soon as practicable was also managed. The past year has been challenging for elected members and officers alike and has placed a significant strain upon Council finances, the workforce, digital and physical assets, along with our supply chain and partners. Through robust and effective governance, the Council has been able to respond well to these challenges, to adapt and evolve the provision of its services and, importantly, to take on additional responsibilities to support local and national responses to Covid-19.

Scope of Responsibility

The City of Edinburgh Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and appropriate standards, and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently, effectively and ethically. The Council also has a statutory duty under the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, to make arrangements to secure best value, which is demonstrated by continuous improvement in the way its functions are carried out.

In discharging these responsibilities, Elected Members and senior officers are responsible for implementing effective arrangements for governing the Council's affairs, and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, including arrangements for the management of risk.

This statement also covers the organisations included in the Council's Group Accounts, a list of which is included on page 41 of the Accounts.

Council's Strategy and Vision

In February 2021 the Council approved a new Council Business Plan: Our Future Council, Our Future City which set out the Council's strategic priorities and how the aims set out in the Community Plan would be taken forward over the next 3 years.

The Business Plan covers a three year period and provides an overarching focus for the Council in terms of its priorities and the delivery of its aims. It provides an opportunity to deliver a future organisation to meet the changing needs of citizens.

The Business Plan set out the three main priorities the Council would focus on in the coming years:

- Ending poverty by 2030;
- Becoming a sustainable and net zero city; and
- Wellbeing and Equalities

The Business Plan describes the approach the Council will take to deliver its priorities in the form of 15 outcomes with actions. This plan stands as one part of a golden thread linking and guiding operations, through to the shared goals and commitments of the Edinburgh Partnership and towards the long term ambitions for Edinburgh to be a fair, welcoming, pioneering, and thriving city, as outlined in the 2050 Edinburgh City Vision.

The Business Plan addressed the Accounts Commission's Best Value Report recommendations on aligning the Council's strategic direction.

Decision making structures

Political Governance Arrangements

The Council operates an executive committee structure (see figure 1.1). This consists of six executive committees which are responsible for policy and financial decision making and scrutiny in their designated areas of responsibility. These committees are Policy and Sustainability; Culture and Communities; Education, Children and Families; Finance and Resources; Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work; and Transport and Environment.

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee seeks assurance over the adequacy of governance and risk management frameworks and the internal control environment. It also scrutinises the Council's financial and nonfinancial performance, approves and monitors progress against the internal audit risk-based plan, and monitors performance of the internal audit service.

The Council also operates a range of other committees, some of which are quasi-judicial such as the Development Management Sub-Committee and the Licensing Sub-Committee, to consider individual applications.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

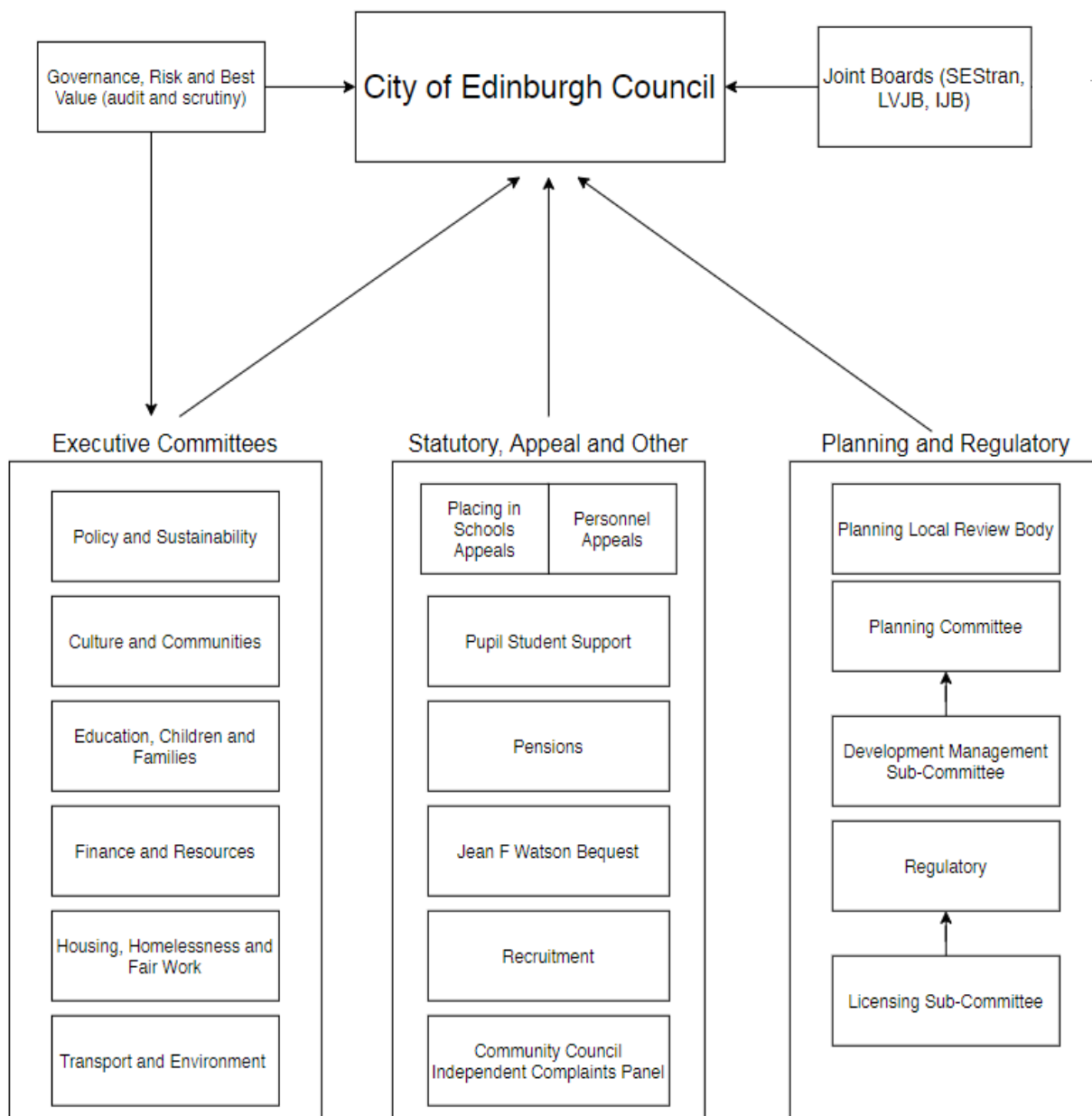


Figure 1.1 Executive Committee Structure

Political Decision Making in Covid-19

To date the Council has implemented three phases of political governance arrangements in response to the Covid-19 emergency. The first phase, agreed by the Chief Executive under emergency powers, was to extend the recess period of the City of Edinburgh Council from Friday 20 March 2020 to Sunday 29 March 2020 inclusive and from Monday 20 April 2020 to Sunday 26 April 2020 inclusive. The Leadership Advisory Panel was an existing committee that had the authority to take all decisions during recess periods. This was stood up and met twice during this period.

The second phase followed a report considered by the Leadership Advisory Panel on 23 April 2020 and agreed that the Policy and Sustainability Committee would meet every two weeks from May 2020 and would have the authority to make decisions on all matters of business. This committee has a larger number of elected members, includes a number of the executive committee conveners and is chaired by the Council Leader. All business, with the exception of quasi-judicial matters, was submitted to this committee. The Development Sub-Committee and the Local Review Bodies met from May 2020 as required and the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee met again from 9 June 2020. This re-established independent committee scrutiny and allowed audit activity to re-commence.

The third phase from 7 August 2020 re-introduced the Finance and Resources Committee to provide financial scrutiny and then all other executive committees from 1 September 2020; meaning the Council's political management arrangements were back operating normally (and remotely) from that date.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Officer Decision Making

The Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) meets weekly, led by the Chief Executive, and includes all Executive Directors and key statutory officers including the Section 95 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Chief Social Work Officer.

It is supported by a range of groups covering key matters such as risk, health and safety and programme management. There is a robust health and safety reporting structure which includes directorate health and safety groups, a quarterly Council health and safety group and a quarterly consultative forum involving the trade unions. Health and safety working groups are in place for key life safety issues including: fire; water safety; and, asbestos. All directorates have risk and assurance committee meetings at least quarterly and ensure escalation of risks. The CLT also has a specific risk committee meeting which reviews the corporate risk register on a quarterly basis.

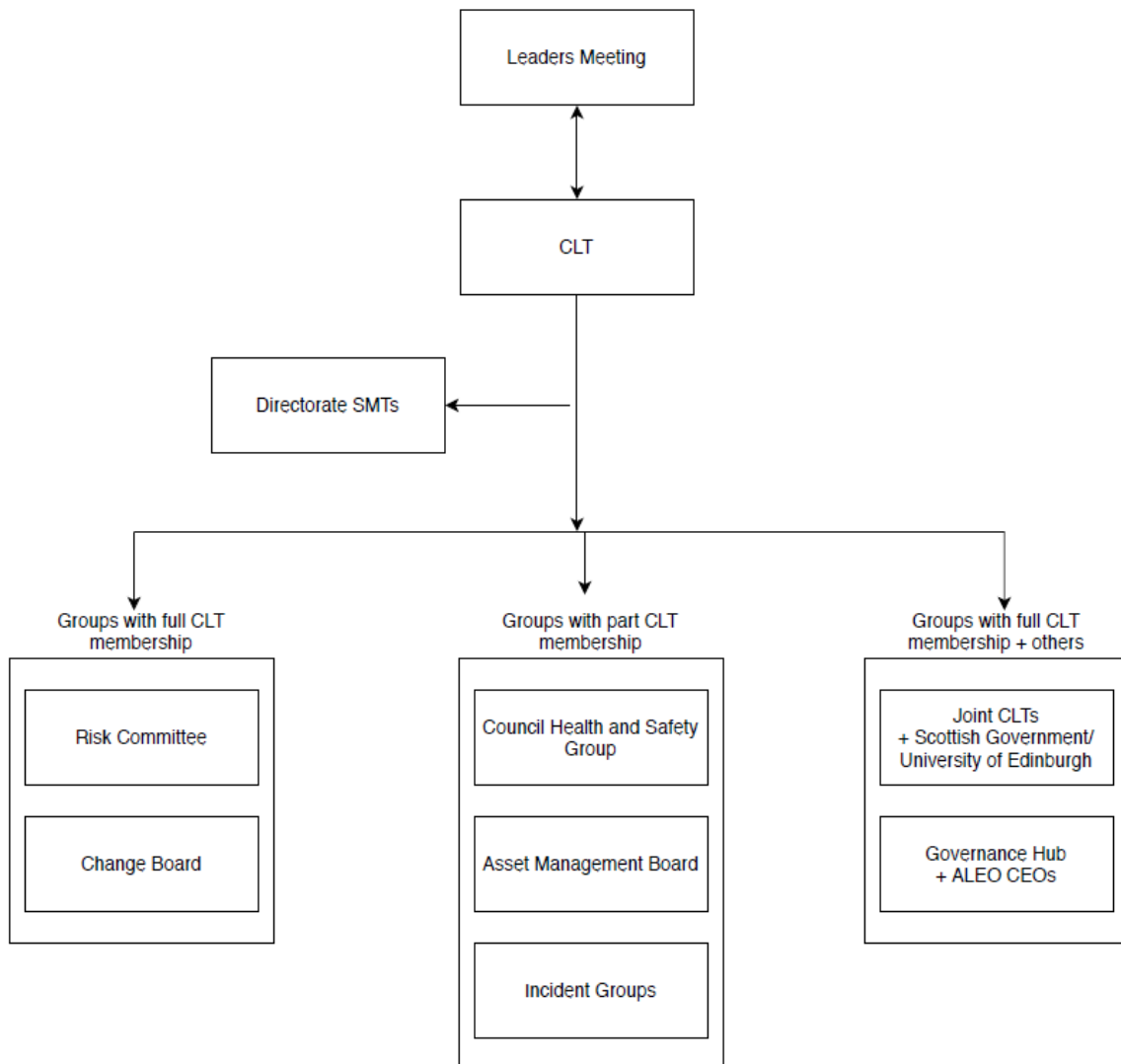


Figure 1.2 - CLT and Senior Management Team (SMTs) Structure

A key area of governance for the Council is its involvement in national, regional and city wide bodies. The Chief Executive and members of CLT represent the Council on a number of groups. Examples of these include SOLACE, Scottish Government Directors, City Deal Executive, Edinburgh Guarantee and Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce Council. Partnership working has increased during the Pandemic, building on strong relationships and the need to work together to provide holistic solutions for the City and its region.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Covid-19 Officer Decision Making

The groups below were all established to respond to Covid-19:

- Council Incident Management Team (CIMT), chaired by the Chief Executive
- Directorate Incident Management Teams, with escalation to CIMT
- Specialist Incident Management Teams:
 - Health and Social Care Command, chaired by Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership
 - (EHSCP) Head of Operations
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), chaired by the Chief Procurement Officer
 - Shielding, chaired by the Executive Director of Resources
 - Vulnerable and Volunteering, chaired by the Executive Director of Communities and Families
- Cross-Council Risk Forum, convened and chaired by the Head of Legal and Risk
- Weekly meetings with the Trade Unions, including on specialist subjects such as PPE

The CIMT and directorate IMTs have provided a clear, easy to understand and effective governance structure for organising services during the emergency. They have met with differing frequency during the pandemic, operating flexibly to ensure the Council could react rapidly to any arising issues.

The three principles that were set out at the beginning of the response have been the framework for every decision taken:

- to protect the most vulnerable in our city;
- to minimise the risks to our colleagues; and
- to continue to provide services in challenging circumstances.

The Chief Executive established measures to ensure that decision making was as transparent as possible and that decisions were taken only by officers where absolutely necessary. The following principles were applied:

- The Chief Executive would be the only officer to take decisions in response to the Covid-19 emergency using powers outlined in the Scheme of Delegation to Officers;
- The Chief Executive would consult on all these decisions with the Leader and Depute Leader;
- Decisions would be considered and discussed at the Council's Incident Management Team;
- If possible, Executive Directors would discuss matters at their directorate incident management teams before escalating to the CIMT;
- Decisions would only be taken by the Chief Executive where urgent and where they could not be considered in good time by the Leadership Advisory Panel;
- Decisions would be reported to the Leadership Advisory Panel for information; and
- When making decisions, the potential risk and impact of those decisions, whether existing controls are effective and what new measures or controls may be required should be considered. This process should be as efficient and streamlined as possible.

The Council has reduced both the number and frequency of its Covid-19 meetings, but the Council's Incident Management Team continues to meet twice a week and other meetings have been stood back up depending on the changing situation of the pandemic.

In May 2020 the Council, recognising the significant long term impact and challenges caused by the pandemic, commenced a programme of work titled Adaptation and Renewal, focussed on post-Covid new ways of working. It aimed to set a clear long term vision, feeding into the business plan, on how the City would recover while retaining the flexibility to adapt to the changing public health situation.

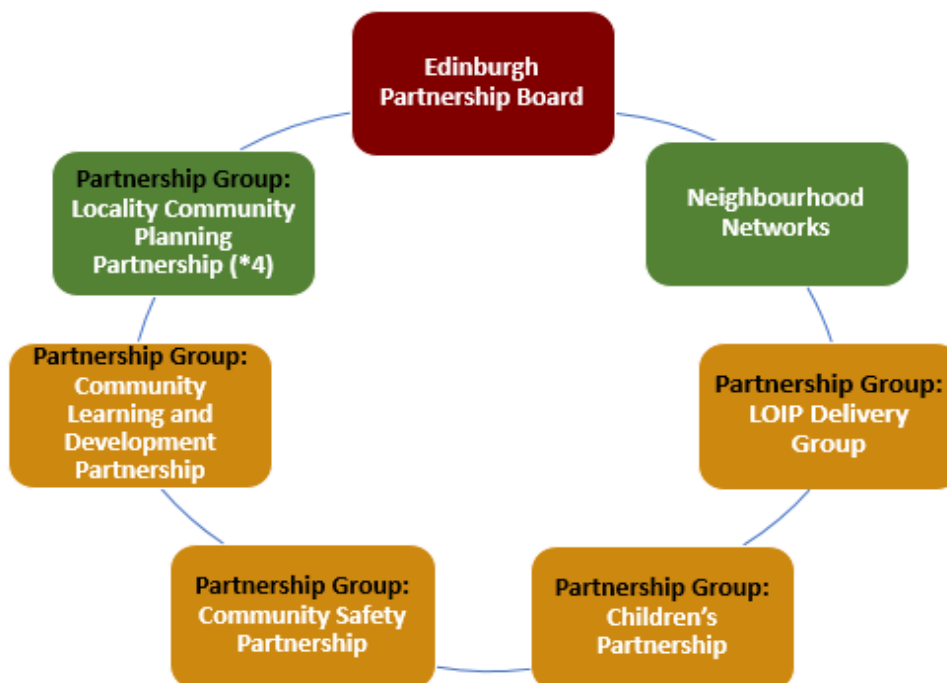
Its five work programmes were as follows:

- Public Health Advisory Board - This board brought together NHS Lothian and the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) to ensure the effective communication and implementation of national advice concerning public health.
- Service Operations – To consider how to reintroduce services and adapt to new ways of working.
- Change, People and Finance – To evolve the Council's current Change Strategy and financial framework and the impact of the pandemic on our workforce, our digital strategy and governance arrangements.
- Sustainable Economic Recovery – To work closely with the Scottish and UK Governments, the business community and the third sector, to respond to the challenging economic circumstances facing the city and the nation.
- Life Chances - To consider the provision of education and to ensure the Council is supporting people who are vulnerable or need support because of the impact of Covid-19.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Partnership Working

The Council plays an important role in the Edinburgh Partnership, the Community Planning Partnership in Edinburgh, and its new community planning structure. The new framework agreed by the Edinburgh Partnership comprises a Board, four city wide partnerships, four locality partnerships and thirteen neighbourhood networks. The new arrangements are designed to support a different way of working and to support the delivery of the Partnership's priorities for the city as set out in the new community plan. The plan focuses on reducing poverty and inequality in the city through making sure people have enough money to live on; access to work, learning and training opportunities; and have a good place to live.



The Council, NHS Lothian and the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board work closely together to work towards a more caring, healthier and safer Edinburgh. The responsibility for the budget does not sit with the Council but it plays a key role in supporting the processes in place to ensure sound financial management and budget control.

Internal Controls

A significant part of the governance framework is the system of internal controls in place to ensure that risks are being identified and managed effectively. The Council has adopted a local Corporate Governance Code (CGC). The CGC is based on the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE) model framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. The CGC outlines how the Council embeds good governance throughout the organisation and is available on the Council's website.

Review of Effectiveness

An assurance statement on the effectiveness of the system of internal controls has been provided and was informed by:

- the work of the Corporate Leadership Team which develops and maintains the governance environment;
- the certified annual assurance statements provided by all Executive Directors;
- the certified assurance statements provided by the Chief Executives and Directors of Finance of the Council's group companies;
- council officers' management activities;
- the Chief Internal Auditor's annual report and internal audit reports, risk-based, across a range of Council services;
- reports from the Council's external auditor; and
- reports by external, statutory inspection agencies.

The Accounts Commission in November 2020 published their Best Value Assurance report into the City of Edinburgh Council. The report highlights a number of key achievements and areas for the Council to improve since the 2016 Best Value Audit and reflects on this as mixed progress.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Review of Effectiveness - continued

The key achievements outlined in the Best Value Assurance report include:

- The Council's ambitious plans for the City. Specifically, referencing the Council's Sustainability Programme, approach to tackling poverty, major housing and community regeneration projects in Fountainbridge, Meadowbank and at Granton Waterfront; retail, hospitality and cultural developments, such as the St James Quarter; and extending the tram network;
- The Council's long track record of maintaining revenue expenditure within budget;
- Aspects of leadership and service performance. Specifically, referencing improved performance across many of KPIs – schools and education, waste and cleansing and time taken to process benefit and grant claims;
- Improvements in asset management, procurement and risk management.

The Best Value Assurance report also notes areas where further progress is required:

- To align strategic priorities;
- The implementation of effective community planning governance arrangements, the pace of change within the CPP and community empowerment;
- The Council's approach to self-assessment, continuous improvement and public performance reporting; and
- Long-term financial planning and workforce planning.

The Chief Executive put into place an improvement plan for all the areas of improvement outlined in the Best Value Assurance report. As outlined above the Business Plan has been created to ensure strategic priorities are aligned under a set of key priorities. Changes have been made to ensure the Council is working to the business plan including senior management structural change and work will continue throughout 2021 to align work streams and governance with the business plan and the priorities within.

As outlined earlier the Best Value report highlighted that the Council and its partners had not established effective community planning governance arrangements. The report acknowledged that it was too early to conclude if the review undertaken in 2019 would effectively support the Partnership to deliver the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). There was further commentary on the Partnership not delivering effective Local Improvement Plans. The Edinburgh Partnership has considered the recommendations outlined in the Best Value report and has agreed a series of actions to address the concerns, with a number of these being led by the Council. This includes a partnership plan to deliver the 20 minute neighbourhood model, strengthening the resourcing and capacity to support neighbourhood networks and developing a framework for collaboration with the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils and Community Councils themselves.

Following approval of the Council Business Plan in February 2021, work was outlined to develop a new integrated planning and performance framework. This aims to ensure that the Council's priorities and outcomes are translated into clear actions and performance measures which are monitored, actioned and delivered. This is expected to be delivered in June 2021.

The Council agreed a new People Strategy in April 2021, supporting the new Business Plan and aligned to the key priorities. The Plan sets out what employees should expect from the Council as their employer and what the Council expects from its workforce. The Plan has three strategic themes:

- Living our behaviours;
- Maximising our capacity and performance; and
- Enhancing our colleague experience.

The People Strategy should also be cross-referenced with the Strategic Workforce Plan 2021-2024 which sets out how the Council addresses the gaps between its current workforce and the future workforce needed to meet the priorities of the Business Plan.

The impact of the Council's review of its political management arrangements was disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic but had been in place six months before committees were paused. The full committee system did recommence in September 2020 and has operated remotely during that period. Meetings have taken longer than pre-Covid but the system has continued to run effectively, with meetings continuing to be filmed and available to the public in the archive. To reduce the impact on staff and elected members, changes were made to Standing Orders to manage the time taken at committee whilst still ensuring that effective scrutiny could take place.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Review of Effectiveness - continued

The Council was faced with having to make important decisions quickly in response to the pandemic but also ensure good governance was still being applied. An example of this is support to local businesses that was approved in August 2020. This streamlined the process to allow businesses to apply to use outdoor space, created a champions network and waived fees. This work was done quickly with the first report going to Council on 28 July and then followed up on 6 August. It showed the Council could make urgent decisions efficiently but also still with full democratic oversight and transparency.

The Council's political management arrangements consider a significant amount of business and that puts pressure on resources in terms of elected members and officers. The system could potentially be improved by freeing up more time for the most significant items of business and by reducing reports on more straightforward business matters. However, as a whole, current arrangements provide a transparent and robust decision-making structure with clear democratic accountability. The Best Value report by the Accounts Commission highlighted that the Council had been able to make important decisions despite there being a difficult political environment, demonstrating the effectiveness of the structure.

The Internal Audit team operates in accordance with CIPFA's Code of Practice for Internal Audit and the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS). The team undertakes an annual work programme based on an agreed audit strategy and formal assessments of risk that are reviewed regularly. During the year, the Chief Internal Auditor reported to the Head of Legal and Risk but had free access to the Chief Executive, all Executive Directors and Elected Members along with direct reporting to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.

Each Executive Director has reviewed the arrangements in their directorate and reported on their assessment of the effectiveness of control arrangements, together with any potential areas requiring improvement, to the Chief Executive. Where improvement actions are identified, an action plan will be developed and will be subject to regular monitoring. In reviewing the overall governance framework, the Council has also considered relevant thirdparty reviews and recommendations. Assurance has also been taken from each organisation's most recent audited accounts, together with the Council's detailed knowledge of these organisations as a consequence of their continued involvement.

Covid-19 has created, and continues to set, a very challenging environment for the Council which has resulted in decisions being made at pace but never without efficient and effective governance at the core. Although there was a reduction in the number of committee meetings for a period at the start of the pandemic, the Chief Executive tried to ensure that delegated decisions taken by him under emergency powers were kept to a minimum and that the democratic decision making structures were re-instated as soon as they could safely be re-introduced. External Audit concluded in the annual report that the Council had responded promptly and effectively in its political management arrangements during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Council has extensive governance at officer level to support operational decision making. The current system has evolved through custom and practice and can be sometimes be unwieldy and difficult to navigate. Although it can be resource intensive, it does ensure that there is sufficient oversight of major decisions. However, improvements should be made to ensure there is a structure in place that is more efficient and encourages cross-directorate working. Work is ongoing to create a new officer governance structure that will align with the business plan and the new senior management structures.

External Audit had previously highlighted the importance of adhering to approved member-officer protocols in respect of sensitive information and the importance of all Councillors and senior officers having a clear understanding of their respective rights and responsibilities in relation to information held by the Council. A review of the Member/Officer protocol had commenced but completion of the revised document was delayed by Covid-19 and a subsequent delay to the revised Councillors' Code of Conduct. Work has recommenced on the document and is expected to be considered by the Council in Summer 2021.

The Council agreed a new Consultation Policy in April 2021, recognising the need to strengthen community engagement but also introduce more robust controls to manage significant consultations. The policy strengthens the management and governance of consultation activity by introducing a sign off process to ensure oversight and challenge at an early stage.

External Audit concluded that the Council's arrangements in relation to standards of conduct and the prevention of bribery and corruption were adequate.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Review of Effectiveness - continued

In compliance with standard accounting practice, the Section 95 Chief Financial Officer has provided the Chief Executive with a statement of the effectiveness of the Group's internal financial control system for the year ended 31 March 2021. It is the Chief Financial Officer's opinion that although a degree of assurance can be placed upon the adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's systems of internal financial control, further improvements, including some embedding of actions taken in response to previous recommendations, are still required. This said, while some aspects of the financial control framework have had to be adapted to a home-working environment following the COVID-19 pandemic, the emphasis has consistently been on obtaining assurance in a different way rather than compromising or relaxing existing controls. Responsible managers have also worked closely with Internal Audit colleagues in developing a proportionate system of internal control for payment of business grants with a view to detecting fraudulent claims.

While full implementation of the CIPFA Financial Management (FM) Code does not fall due until the 2021/22 reporting year, the Chief Financial Officer has also undertaken a preliminary assessment of the extent to which the Council's arrangements comply with its principles. This assessment, carried out with reference to the 2021/22 budget process and involving interviews with a range of key stakeholders including service directors, elected members and colleagues within partner services, has highlighted a number of improvements contributing positively to the Council's financial resilience and stability, including realignment of its reserves (including significantly increasing the size of the unallocated General Fund reserve), additional investment in preventative services and explicit recognition within the budget framework of underlying service pressures and assessments of likely savings delivery. While the unprecedented current level of uncertainty has been widely acknowledged to make planning much more difficult, the assessment also highlighted steps undertaken thus far to adopt a longer financial planning timeframe, the detail of which will be added once the likely recurring implications of the pandemic become clearer.

The Chief Internal Auditor's Annual Opinion for the year ended 31 March 2020 stated that significant improvement was required as significant and/or numerous control weaknesses were identified in the design and/effectiveness of the control environment and/or governance and risk management frameworks across the Council. The report also noted that the weaknesses identified and highlighted in Internal Audit (IA) reports supporting the 2019/20 annual opinion were predominantly attributable to lack of capacity and skills within first line divisions and directorates to ensure that key controls; governance; and risk management processes were consistently and effectively applied to support effective ongoing management of service delivery and projects. In response the Chief Executive instructed the Executive Directors to deploy temporary additional resource to directorates to assist in the completion of internal audit actions and instructed that a plan be put in place to look at current assurance capacity and structures and operational governance structures. Work has been carried out in these areas and further improvements are expected later in 2021.

Meeting the demands of new data protection legislation has led to significant increases in the volume of data protection work. The work necessary to deal with complex subject access requests has increased significantly reducing the number of staff working on Freedom of Information requests. This has resulted in several resource and operational challenges which have had a detrimental effect on statutory obligations and associated timescales. Remedial plans continue to be maintained to reduce risks in this area and to ensure that statutory obligations are met.

The Council's whistleblowing arrangements continue to operate with oversight from an independent external service provider with the autonomy to decide who investigates the concerns raised, the Council or the service provider. The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee receives a quarterly update on whistleblowing and the whistleblowing policy is reviewed annually by committee. In October 2020, the Council agreed to commission an independent review of its whistleblowing culture. At the time of writing this review is in progress but has not yet been published.

Work is still outstanding on reviewing how the Council works with its ALEOs, in particular examining the shareholder agreements and Service Level Agreements in place to ensure a greater degree of consistency, alignment with key outcomes and clarity of relationship.

Following concerns raised at committee, the Council began looking into its governance arrangements regarding the Trusts where it is sole trustee. This is expected to report later in 2021.

Each directorate's assurance schedule is scrutinised by the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.

There are established, well exercised, resilience incident management processes and protocols in place to effectively plan for and respond to emergencies. The Council Resilience Group and Council Counter Terrorism Group are the two main groups that drive and monitor the Council Resilience Management Programme, reporting to CLT, with the flexibility to convene working groups as required, for example, for Brexit planning. In the event of an incident there is a flexible framework, including directorate and Council-wide levels, that can be stood up as required, reporting to CLT and the appropriate committee(s). The Council feeds into Scotland's resilience structures on a multi-agency basis, through the Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership and East of Scotland Regional Resilience Partnership. The incident management used for Covid-19 is a good example of the effectiveness and agility of these structures.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Review of Effectiveness - continued

The Council is aligning its operational risk management arrangements with the ‘three lines of defence’ model and good practice. A series of phased improvements over a three-year period were set out in November 2020. It was specifically highlighted that to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of the Council risk management framework, it was essential that there was sufficient capacity with the skills and experience to support the changes. These arrangements are supported by a refreshed enterprise risk management policy and risk appetite statement approved in September 2020.

Work has been ongoing to address previously identified control weaknesses in the Council’s policy management framework. Renewed processes, responsibilities and definitions have been agreed by CLT and a review of the public facing policy register was undertaken. Software solutions are currently being explored that could be used to assist with the communication of policies to the Council’s workforce.

The Council has adapted how it works on some of its key priorities enabling it to work flexibly with its partners with a view to achieving its ambitious objectives. An example of this is the Poverty Commission where the Council has worked with a newly created independent body and chair and agreed that recommendations proposed by the Commission will be used to inform future Council policies and actions to prevent, reduce, and mitigate poverty in Edinburgh. A further example is the partnership with the University of Edinburgh to appoint a climate commission. The flexible governance approach taken in these two examples has allowed the Council to be informed by external experts from across a range of sectors with the aim of achieving better outcomes, however final decision making remains with the Council and partner organisations.

Although partnership working has strengthened over the pandemic, engagement with local communities has been more challenging. The Council is though aware of the need to improve how it empowers communities and is reviewing its locality arrangements.

During the Covid-19 emergency, the Council’s role in providing governance oversight and support for Community Councils has included the provision of guidance on key issues including the submission of accounts, the use of meetings software and Annual General Meeting responsibilities. A consultation was conducted on the Community Councillors’ Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure and a revised version was approved by the Culture and Communities Committee in March 2021.

The status of the previous year’s actions is outlined below:

	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action	Responsible Party	Status
1	I have internal controls and procedures in place throughout my directorate that are proportionate, robust, monitored and operate effectively	Development of Business Forums for Finance/ Property/HR to provide a risk based approach to business management	Executive Director for Communities and Families	Completed except for the Property Group which is to be established.
2	I have risk management arrangements in place to identify the key risks to my directorate (and the Council).	Roll out risk management framework across wider leadership teams and Partnership teams	Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership	Started - This work has been delayed as Partnership Services were and continue to be impacted by Covid19, however, the Partnership have now agreed their integrated risk framework and risk governance structure and are starting to develop plans to roll this across the Partnership.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action	Responsible Party	Reporting Date
3	I have robust controls in place to manage new starts, movers and leavers, including induction and mandatory training, IT systems security (access and removal) and access to buildings and service users' homes.	The creation of the Edinburgh Learns Risk Board is to involve school colleagues in the management of relevant risks. It will act as a gatekeeper in terms of what is included in risk management and will provide isomorphic learning here the Service learns from within to manage the risks jointly, efficiently and effectively	Executive Director for Communities and Families	Managed through Headteacher Executive Lite weekly meetings
4	I have arrangements in place for the annual review of policies owned by my directorate, via the relevant executive committee, to ensure these comply with the Council's policy framework.	All Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) and Place policies on the Policy Register will be reviewed with the support of the Governance team. A review framework will be introduced to ensure that the register is updated, and relevant changes are applied accordingly.	Executive Director of Place and Chief Officer, EHSCP	Started – This work has been delayed as Partnership Services were and continue to be impacted by Covid19. The Partnership have started to develop an approach to developing their policy framework.
5	I have competencies, processes and controls in place to ensure that all service areas in my directorate, and other areas of responsibility, operate in compliance with all applicable Health & Safety laws and regulations.	Directorate to review SHE and the Essential Learning matrix and mechanism within the Service to be undertaken with Corporate Health and Safety to ensure that the portal is being used efficiently, effectively and necessary improvements are made.	Executive Director for Communities and Families	HR reviewing essential learning system Council wide
6	I have appropriate arrangements in place throughout my service area for recording, monitoring and managing customer service complaints and customer satisfaction.	Development of a carbon scenario tool with ECCI as part of the sustainability programme	Chief Executive	Complete
7	All projects and programmes have a clear business justification, as a minimum this should articulate outcomes and benefits; have appropriate governance in place to support delivery; effective controls in place to track delivery progress and to take corrective action if required; have a robust benefits management framework in place; and ensure that a formal closure process is undertaken.	There will be a development of a new Roads and Transport Infrastructure Improvement Plan. This will require the realignment of roads and transport services to implement the plan. This will ensure clear accountability for all programmes and projects.	Executive Director of Place	The Roads and Transport Infrastructure Improvement Plan was approved by Transport and Environment Committee on 1 October 2020.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action	Responsible Party	Reporting Date
8	The operation of financial controls in my directorate is effective in ensuring the valid authorisation of financial transactions and maintenance of accurate accounting records.	The Finance Service will work with the Schools and Lifelong Learning Service to review the issues with the forecasting spreadsheet used in schools. This review will address the causal effects and seek to mitigate them.	Executive Director for Communities and Families	Being addressed through Finance Group
9	All outstanding issues or recommendations arising from this exercise, commissioned reviews, committee reports and other initiatives in previous years have been addressed satisfactorily.	A Consolidated decision tracker for ensuring the implementation of Best Value, Assurance and Annual Accounts recommendations is created.	Chief Executive	The additional resource to solve assurance capacity issues is designed to provide the consolidated monitoring, tracking and review of Best Value, Assurance and Annual Accounts
10	All outstanding issues or recommendations arising from this exercise, commissioned reviews, committee reports and other initiatives in previous years have been addressed satisfactorily.	To ensure that a framework is in place for directorates to understand the requirements of the Annual Assurance Schedule and the Corporate Governance Framework.	Chief Executive	Completed

Following the review of effectiveness and the assurance statements from directorates and ALEOs, the following actions have been identified to improve the Council's governance arrangements:

	Action	Action Owner	Action Deadline
1	To review, design and implement an officer governance structure for the Council aligned to the Council Business Plan.	Head of Legal and Risk/ Strategic Change and Delivery Senior Manager	August 2021
2	To review and propose a revised Scheme of Delegation to take into account senior management restructures.	Head of Legal and Risk	October 2021
3	To create a revised planning and performance framework linked to the Business Plan	Strategic Change and Delivery Senior Manager	June 2021
4	Implementation of the new Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025	Chief Executive	Ongoing
5	Review of the governance arrangements regarding the Council's trusts	Executive Director of Resources	December 2021
6	Initiate development of a cross-Council savings programme, aligned to the priorities set out within the Business Plan, to address significant estimated funding gaps in 2023/24 and 2024/25	Head of Finance and Strategic Change and Delivery Senior Manager	November 2021
7	Review of the Council's service level agreements and shareholder agreements with its ALEOs	Executive Director of Resources	April 2022
8	Review of the political management arrangements of the Council	Chief Executive	August 2022

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Council's governance and controls framework provides a satisfactory level of assurance. The Council understands its areas for improvement and there are robust arrangements to deal with issues when they do arise. Improvements are needed in certain areas to ensure that the Council's controls are implemented and embedded fully and in particular capacity issues in services has to be overcome. Covid-19 has put considerable strain on services but the Council has put in strong processes to manage these pressures. However, the Council must continue to be ambitious and committed to improving its governance to ensure that it continues to operate effectively.

We are satisfied that the actions highlighted in this Statement reflect the Council's commitment to continuous improvement and will further enhance our corporate governance and internal control arrangements.

Certification

It is our opinion that, in light of the foregoing, assurance can be placed upon the adequacy and effectiveness of City of Edinburgh Council and its Group's systems of governance. The annual review demonstrates sufficient evidence that the Code is operated effectively, and the Council and its Group comply with the Local Code of Corporate Governance in all significant respects.

REMUNERATION REPORT

The Council is required under statute to provide information on the remuneration of each senior officer and each senior elected member, together with any other officer not otherwise included whose remuneration was over £150,000 during the year covered by these accounts. In addition, the Council is required to provide information for the most senior employee within each of its subsidiary companies, together with all other employees whose remuneration exceeds £150,000 in that year.

Remuneration Arrangements

Councillors

The remuneration of Councillors is regulated by the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007 (SSI No. 2007/183) as amended by the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration and Severance Payments) Amendment Regulations 2017. The Regulations provide for the grading of councillors for the purposes of remuneration arrangements, as either the Leader of the Council, the Civic Head (the Lord Provost), senior councillors or councillors. The Leader of the Council and the Civic Head cannot be the same person for the purposes of payment of remuneration. A senior councillor is a councillor who holds a significant position of responsibility in the Council's political management structure.

When determining the level of Councillors' remuneration, Scottish Ministers consider the recommendations of the Scottish Local Authority Remuneration Committee (SLARC). SLARC's recommendations were first implemented for councillors elected in the local government elections in May 2007. SLARC was stood down as a committee in February 2013, but the principles of its work continue.

The salary that is to be paid to the Leader of the Council is set out in the Regulations. For 2020/21, the remuneration for the Leader of the City of Edinburgh Council was £53,567. The Regulations permit the Council to remunerate one Civic Head. The Regulations set out the maximum remuneration that may be paid to the Civic Head (the Lord Provost). For 2020/21 this was £40,175. The Council's policy is to pay the Lord Provost at the national maximum.

The Regulations also set out the remuneration that may be paid to Senior Councillors and the total number of Senior Councillors the Council may have (24 for the City of Edinburgh Council). The maximum yearly amount that may be paid to a Senior Councillor is 75% of the total yearly amount payable to the Leader of the Council. The total yearly amount payable by the Council for remuneration of all Senior Councillors shall not exceed £696,351. The Council is able to exercise local flexibility in the determination of the precise number of Senior Councillors and their remuneration within these maximum limits. The Council's current policy is summarised below:

	No. of Posts	% of amount payable to Leader of the Council
Depute Leader of the Council	1	75%
Depute Convener	1	50%
Conveners of Culture and Communities, Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work, Education, Children and Families, Finance and Resources, Planning, Regulatory, Transport and Environment, Licensing Board and Integration Joint Board Committees	9	62.5%
Convener of Governance, Risk and Best Value	1	50%
Vice-Conveners of Culture and Communities, Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work, Education, Children and Families, Finance and Resources, Planning, Regulatory and Transport and Environment Committees	7	50%
Opposition Group Leaders - Conservative, Green and Liberal Democrat Groups	3	50%

In addition, the Council has an arrangement with the Joint Boards to reimburse the Council for any additional costs for councillors that arise from their being a Convener or Vice Convener of the Joint Boards.

REMUNERATION REPORT

Remuneration Paid

The following tables provide details of the remuneration paid to the Council's Senior Councillors, Senior Employees and the remuneration paid to the Chief Executive (or the most senior manager of that body) of each of the Council's subsidiary bodies. Where a Councillor has held more than one post during the year, he/she is only included once within the following table. Salary, fees and allowances represents the total amount received during the year, where the individual was a Senior Councillor for part or all of the year.

Council's Leader, Civic Head and Senior Councillors	Salary, Fees and Allowances	Taxable Expenses	Non-Cash Expenses / Benefits-in-kind	Total Remun. 2020/21	Total Remun. 2019/20
	£	£	£	£	£
A. McVey, Leader of the Council	53,567	0	722	54,289	53,234
F. Ross, Lord Provost	40,175	0	117	40,292	44,063
C. Day, Deputy Leader of the Council	40,175	0	117	40,292	39,426
J. Griffiths, Depute Convener	26,785	0	116	26,901	26,424
<u>Conveners</u>					
D. Wilson, Convener Culture and Communities	33,480	0	116	33,596	33,293
I. Perry, Convener Education, Children and Families	33,480	0	123	33,603	33,199
A. Rankin, Convener Finance and Resources (to 25.08.20)	33,480	0	117	33,597	32,929
R. Munn, Convener Finance and Resources (from 25.08.20)	27,263	0	717	27,980	17,718
K. Campbell, Convener Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work	33,480	0	117	33,597	33,613
L. Macinnes, Convener Transport and Environment	33,480	0	116	33,596	32,893
J. Mowat, Convener Governance, Risk and Best Value	26,785	0	117	26,902	26,987
N. Work, Convener Licensing Board	33,480	0	131	33,611	32,294
N. Gardiner, Convener Planning	33,480	0	117	33,597	33,520
C. Fullerton, Convener Regulatory	33,480	0	116	33,596	32,880
<u>Vice-Conveners</u>					
A. McNeese-Mechan, Vice Convener Culture and Communities	26,785	0	187	26,971	27,145
A. Dickie, Vice Convener Education, Children and Families	26,785	0	116	26,901	26,408
M. Watt, Vice Convener Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work	26,785	0	717	27,502	26,874
K. Doran, Vice Convener Transport and Environment	26,785	0	117	26,902	26,974
R. Henderson, Vice Chair Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	33,480	0	716	34,196	33,515
M. Child, Vice Convener Planning	26,785	0	142	26,927	26,316
D. Dixon, Vice Convener Regulatory	26,785	0	117	26,902	26,085

REMUNERATION REPORT

Remuneration Paid - continued

	Salary, Fees and Allowances £	Taxable Expenses £	Non-Cash Expenses / Benefits- -in-kind £	Total Remun. 2020/21 £	Total Remun. 2019/20 £
Council's Leader, Civic Head and Senior Councillors					
<u>Opposition Group Leaders</u>					
I. Whyte, Conservative Group Leader	26,785	0	692	27,477	26,121
R. Aldridge, Liberal Democrat Group Leader	26,785	0	0	26,785	25,993
M. Main, Green Group Leader (to 27.07.2020 and from 29.01.2021)	22,295	0	125	22,420	19,819
A. Staniforth, Green Group Leader (from 28.07.2020 to 28.01.2021)	22,343	0	118	22,461	21,974
<u>Councillors</u>					
D. Key, Convener to the Lothian Valuation Joint Board (Note 1)	22,320	0	96	22,416	21,936

Notes:

1. The amount recharged to Lothian Valuation Joint Board in 2020/21 was £4,488.40 (2019/20 £4,391.88). Expenses relate to Councillor role.
2. For Councillors whose role has covered part-year, the Salary, Fees and Allowances disclosed relates to the full year appointment, not just the current appointment.
3. The full year equivalent under Salary, Fees and Allowances represents the Senior Responsibility Allowance at the year end for the position.

Members' Salaries and Expenses

The Council paid the following amounts to members of the Council during the year (these sums include the totals shown above):

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Salaries	1,455,259	1,422,542
Expenses		
<i>Claimed by councillors</i>	0	387
<i>Paid directly by the Council</i>	13,286	39,635
Total	<u>1,468,544</u>	<u>1,462,564</u>

Remuneration paid to Senior Officers

	Salary, Fees and Allowances £	Compensation for Loss of Office £	Total Remun. 2020/21 £	Total Remun. 2019/20 £
Council's Senior Officers				
A. Kerr, Chief Executive (Note 1)	179,364	0	179,364	175,740
A. Gaw, Executive Director of Communities and Families (to 13.10.20) <i>(full year equivalent)</i>	127,072	0	127,072	158,150
J. Proctor, Integration Joint Board Chief Officer (Note 2)	80,624	0	80,624	79,009
P. Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	161,247	0	161,247	158,150
J. Irvine, Chief Social Work Officer	111,266	0	111,266	109,100
S. Moir, Executive Director of Resources	161,247	0	161,247	158,150
H. Dunn, Head of Finance	117,039	0	117,039	115,230
Total	<u>937,859</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>937,859</u>	<u>953,529</u>

Notes:

1. Remuneration shown above excludes any fees payable in respect of returning officer or other election duties. The approved remuneration for A Kerr for Returning Officer Duties in 2020/21 amounted to £234.
2. J. Proctor took up the position of Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board in May 2018. J Proctor is employed by the City of Edinburgh Council and 50% of her salary costs are recharged to the EIJB and NHS Lothian. The above figures therefore show the Council's share.

REMUNERATION REPORT

Remuneration Paid - continued

Remuneration paid to Senior Officers - continued

Council Subsidiary Companies

EICC is a subsidiary company of CEC Holdings Limited. Figures shown for this company, Edinburgh Trams Ltd. and Lothian Buses Ltd. are for the years ended 31 December 2020 and 2019 respectively.

	Salary, Fees and Allowances	Bonus	Compensation Other Benefits	for Loss of Office	Total Remun. 2020/21	Total Remun. 2019/20
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Council's Subsidiary Companies						
M. Dallas, Chief Executive, EICC	161,380	0	0	0	161,380	183,779
R. Hunter, Chief Executive, Capital City Partnership	64,240	0	0	0	64,240	58,767
<u>Transport for Edinburgh</u>						
G. Lowder, Chief Executive	150,834	0	1,516	0	152,350	146,441
<u>Lothian Buses Ltd.</u>						
R. Hall, Managing Director (Note 1)	53,446	0	1,071	0	54,517	323,091
N. Serafini, Interim Managing Director (Note 2)	125,498	0	2,120	0	127,618	0
<u>Edinburgh Trams Ltd.</u>						
L. Harrison, Managing Director (Note 3)	150,523	0	16,037	0	166,560	198,920
	<u>705,921</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,744</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>726,665</u>	<u>910,998</u>

Notes:

1. Prior-year figure includes compensation for loss of office and contractually-due payment in lieu of six-month notice period agreed at the end of March 2020.
2. N. Serafini was appointed Interim Managing Director on 24 February 2020.
3. L. Harrison's 2019/20 Total Remuneration has been restated.
4. Edinburgh Living MMR LLP is a subsidiary of the Council however there are no employees and therefore no remuneration disclosures.

REMUNERATION REPORT

Remuneration Paid - continued

Number of Employees by Pay Band

The total number of Council employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (including early retirement / voluntary release costs) is shown below.

	2020/21	2019/20		2020/21	2019/20
£50,000 - £54,999	426	410	£115,000 - £119,999	3	2
£55,000 - £59,999	203	218	£120,000 - £124,999	1	1
£60,000 - £64,999	146	134	£125,000 - £129,999	1	1
£65,000 - £69,999	92	70	£130,000 - £134,999	1	1
£70,000 - £74,999	22	16	£135,000 - £139,999	1	0
£75,000 - £79,999	20	34	£140,000 - £144,999	0	0
£80,000 - £84,999	23	20	£145,000 - £149,999	0	0
£85,000 - £89,999	21	17	£150,000 - £154,999	0	0
£90,000 - £94,999	2	2	£155,000 - £159,999	0	4
£95,000 - £99,999	1	2	£160,000 - £164,999	3	1
£100,000 - £104,999	3	2	£165,000 - £169,999	0	0
£105,000 - £109,999	2	11	£170,000 - £174,999	0	0
£110,000 - £114,999	9	1	£175,000 - £179,999	1	1
			Total No. of Employees	981	948

Notes:

- The 2019/20 remuneration includes the back dated pay awards for 2018/19 (3.5% for local government employees and 3% for teachers) which were paid in April/May 2019 and the subsequent pay increases for the 2019/20 tax year (3% for local government employees and 7% for teachers).

Exit Packages

The number of exit packages provided for by the Council and the Group during the year, together with the total cost of those packages is shown in the table below. The total cost shown includes pension strain costs and the capitalised value of compensatory added years payments.

Exit package cost band	Number of Compulsory Redundancies		Number of Other Departures Agreed		Total Number of Exit Packages by Cost Band		Total Cost of Exit Packages in Each Band	
	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21 £000	2019/20 £000
£0 - £20,000								
- Council	0	0	7	30	7	30	60	245
- Group companies	31	0	7	1	38	1	210	6
£20,001 - £40,000								
- Council	0	0	12	28	12	28	366	788
- Group companies	0	1	8	2	8	3	229	88
£40,001 - £60,000								
- Council	0	0	4	13	4	13	223	675
- Group companies	0	0	2	1	2	1	98	50
£60,001 - £80,000								
- Council	0	0	5	5	5	5	350	344
- Group companies	0	0	1	0	1	0	66	54
£80,001 - £100,000								
- Council	0	0	4	3	4	3	360	276
- Group companies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
£100,001 - £150,000								
- Council	0	0	1	3	1	3	123	358
- Group companies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
£150,001 - £200,000								
- Council	0	0	6	1	6	1	1,150	151
- Group companies	0	0	1	0	1	0	157	0
£200,001 - £250,000								
- Council	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	458
- Group companies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	31	1	58	89	89	90	3,392	3,493

REMUNERATION REPORT

Pension Rights

Pension benefits for councillors and local government employees are provided through the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

Councillors' pension benefits are based on career average pay. For Pre April 2015 benefits, the councillor's pay for each year or part year ending 31 March (other than the pay in the final year commencing 1 April) is increased by the increase in the cost of living, as measured by the appropriate index (or indices) between the end of that year and the last day of the month in which their membership of the scheme ends. The total revalued pay is then divided by the period of membership to calculate the career average pay. This is the value used to calculate the pension benefits. The Post April 2015 benefits are calculated in the same way as Local Government employees.

For local government employees the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) became a career average pay scheme on 1 April 2015. Benefits built up to 31 March 2015 are protected and based on final salary. Accrued benefits from 1 April 2015 will be based on career average salary.

The scheme's normal retirement age for both councillors and employees is linked to the state pension age (but with a minimum of age 65).

From 1 April 2009 a five tier contribution system was introduced with contributions from scheme members being based on how much pay falls into each tier. This is designed to give more equality between the cost and benefits of scheme membership. Prior to 2009 contributions rates were set at 6% for all non-manual employees.

The tiers and members' contribution rates for 2020/21 were as follows:

Whole Time Pay	Contribution rate
On earnings up to and including £22,200 (2019/20 £21,800)	5.50%
On earnings above £22,201 and up to £27,100 (2019/20 £21,801 to £26,700)	7.25%
On earnings above £27,101 and up to £37,200 (2019/20 £26,701 to £36,600)	8.50%
On earnings above £37,201 and up to £49,600 (2019/20 £36,601 to £48,800)	9.50%
On earnings above £49,601 (2019/20 £48,801)	12.00%

From April 2015, when allocating contribution rates to members, pensionable pay means the actual pensionable pay, regardless of hours worked.

There is no automatic entitlement to a lump sum for members who joined the scheme post April 2009. Members may opt to give up (commute) pension for lump sum or bigger lump sum up to the limit set by the Finance Act 2004.

The value of the accrued benefits has been calculated on the basis of the age at which the person will first become entitled to receive a pension on retirement without reduction on account of its payment at that age; without exercising any option to commute pension entitlement into a lump sum; and without any adjustment for the effects of future inflation - assuming that the person left the related employment or service as at 31st March in the year to which the value relates.

The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the person has accrued as consequence of their total local government service, and not just their current appointment.

Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017

The Council is required to report from 1 April 2017 a range of information on facility time made available to its employees who are trade union representatives.

For the reporting year 2020/21, the equivalent of 7.2 FTE (across 19 individuals) of paid facility time was made available, with an associated cost of £0.22m. This sum equates to 0.05% of the Council's overall paybill.

Of the total time made available, four individuals spent 100% of time during the year on trade union-related activities, one between 51% and 99%, and the remaining fourteen between 1% and 50%.

REMUNERATION REPORT

Pension Rights - continued

Council's Leader, Civic Head and Senior Councillors

The pension entitlements of senior councillors for the year to 31 March 2021 are shown in the table below, together with the contribution made by the Council to each senior councillor's pension during the year.

	In-year pension contribs.			Accrued Pension Benefits	
	For year to 31.03.2021	For year to 31.03.2020		As at 31.03.2021	Difference from 31.03.2020
	£	£		£000	£000
<u>Council's Leader and Civic Head</u>					
A. McVey, Leader of the Council	12,213	11,688	Pension	7	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
F. Ross, Lord Provost	9,160	8,766	Pension	7	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
C. Day, Deputy Leader of the Council	9,160	8,766	Pension	3	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
J. Griffiths, Depute Convener	6,107	5,844	Pension	4	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
<u>Conveners</u>					
D. Wilson, Convener Culture and Communities	7,633	7,305	Pension	8	0
			Lump Sum	2	0
I. Perry, Convener Education, Children and Families	7,633	7,305	Pension	8	1
			Lump Sum	2	0
A. Rankin, Convener Finance and Resources (to 25.08.20)	7,633	7,305	Pension	6	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
R. Munn, Convener Finance and Resources (from 25.08.20)	6,216	3,247	Pension	1	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
K. Campbell, Convener Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work	7,633	7,305	Pension	2	0
			Lump Sum	0	0
L. Macinnes, Convener Transport and Environment	7,633	7,305	Pension	3	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
J. Mowat, Convener Governance, Risk and Best Value	6,107	5,844	Pension	4	0
			Lump Sum	0	0
N. Work, Convener Licensing Board	7,633	7,162	Pension	7	1
			Lump Sum	2	0
N. Gardiner, Convener Planning	7,633	7,305	Pension	2	0
			Lump Sum	0	0
<u>Vice-Conveners</u>					
A. McNeese-Mechan, Vice Convener Culture and Communities	6,107	5,844	Pension	2	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
A. Dickie, Vice Convener Education, Children and Families	6,107	5,844	Pension	2	0
			Lump Sum	0	0
M. Watt, Vice Convener Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work	6,107	5,819	Pension	2	0
			Lump Sum	0	0
K. Doran, Vice Convener Transport and Environment	6,107	5,844	Pension	4	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
R. Henderson, Vice Chair Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	7,633	7,305	Pension	8	1
			Lump Sum	2	0
M. Child, Vice Convener Planning	6,107	5,844	Pension	11	0
			Lump Sum	17	0
D. Dixon, Vice Convener Regulatory	6,107	5,796	Pension	3	0
			Lump Sum	0	0

REMUNERATION REPORT

Pension Rights - continued

Council's Leader, Civic Head and Senior Councillors

	In-year pension contribs.			Accrued Pension Benefits	
	For year to 31.03.2021 £	For year to 31.03.2020 £		As at 31.03.2021 £000	Difference from 31.03.2020 £000
<u>Opposition Group Leaders</u>					
I. Whyte, Conservative Group Leader	6,107	5,796	Pension	7	1
			Lump Sum	2	0
R. Aldridge, Liberal Democrat Group Leader	6,107	5,796	Pension	6	1
			Lump Sum	2	0
M. Main, Green Group Leader (to 27.07.2020 and from 29.01.2021)	5,192	4,399	Pension	3	0
			Lump Sum	0	0
A. Staniforth, Green Group Leader (from 28.07.2020 to 28.01.2021)	5,094	5,373	Pension	2	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
<u>Councillors</u>					
D. Key (including role as Convener of Lothian Valuation Joint Board)	5,089	4,870	Pension	4	1
			Lump Sum	0	0

All senior councillors shown in the above table are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme. Not all senior councillors are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the person has accrued as a consequence of their total local government service, including any service with a Council subsidiary body, and not just their current position.

Senior Employees

The pension entitlements of senior employees for the year to 31 March 2021 are shown in the table below, together with the contribution made by the Council to each senior employee's pension during the year.

	In-year pension contribs.			Accrued Pension Benefits	
	For year to 31.03.2021 £	For year to 31.03.2020 £		As at 31.03.2021 £000	Difference from 31.03.2020 £000
A. Kerr, Chief Executive	n/a	n/a	Pension	9	0
			Lump Sum	0	0
A. Gaw, Executive Director of Communities and Families (to 13.10.20)	19,667	35,267	Pension	80	2
			Lump Sum	150	2
J. Proctor, Integration Joint Board Chief Officer (Note 1)	36,764	35,238	Pension	6	6
			Lump Sum	0	0
P. Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	36,764	35,267	Pension	32	3
			Lump Sum	0	0
J. Irvine, Chief Social Work Officer	25,369	24,329	Pension	36	3
			Lump Sum	38	1
S. Moir, Executive Director of Resources	9,191	35,267	Pension	10	1
			Lump Sum	0	0
H. Dunn, Head of Finance	26,685	25,696	Pension	83	4
			Lump Sum	151	0
Total	<u>154,440</u>	<u>191,064</u>			

REMUNERATION REPORT

Pension Rights - continued Senior Employees - continued

Notes:

The pension figures shown for senior employees relate to the benefits that the person has accrued as consequence of their total local government / public service and not just their current appointment. Accrued pension benefits relate to the position as at 31 March 2021, or the date of leaving, if that is earlier. Employees contribute towards their pensions in accordance with the rates set out on page 134.

There are no accrued pension benefits included in the table above if the employee has been a member of the pension scheme for less than 2 years.

The in-year pension contributions include pension strain costs where applicable.

Council's Subsidiary Companies

The pension entitlements of senior employees within the Council's subsidiary bodies for the year to 31 March 2021 are shown below, together with the contribution made to each senior employee's pension during the year.

	In-year pension contribs.			Accrued Pension Benefits	
	For year to 31.03.2021 £	For year to 31.03.2020 £		As at 31.03.2021 £000	Difference from 31.03.2020 £000
M. Dallas, Chief Executive, EICC	5,693	9,617	Pension Lump Sum	n/a n/a	n/a n/a
<u>Lothian Buses Ltd.</u>					
R. Hall, Managing Director	4,397	17,462	Pension Lump Sum	n/a n/a	n/a n/a
N. Serafini, Interim Managing Director	35,161	0	Pension Lump Sum	n/a n/a	n/a n/a
<u>Edinburgh Trams Ltd.</u>					
L. Harrison, Managing Director	19,971	13,203	Pension Lump Sum	n/a n/a	n/a n/a
<u>Capital City Partnership</u>					
R. Hunter, Chief Executive	14,904	12,929	Pension Lump Sum	16 13	2 2
Total	<u>80,126</u>	<u>53,211</u>			

EICC is a subsidiary company of CEC Holdings Limited. Figures shown for this company, Edinburgh Trams Ltd. and Lothian Buses Ltd. are for the years ended 31 December 2020 and 2019 respectively.

R. Hunter and N Serafini are the only current members of the Local Government Pension Scheme in the above table. The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the person has accrued as a consequence of their total relevant service and not just their current appointment.

There are no accrued pension benefits included in the table above if the employee has been a member of the pension scheme for less than 2 years.

The in-year pension contributions include pension strain costs where applicable.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Statement of Accounts is subject to audit in accordance with the requirements of Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The Auditor appointed for this purpose by the Accounts Commission for Scotland is:

Azets
Exchange Place 3
Semple Street
Edinburgh
EH3 8BL

RECONCILIATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
(as shown on page 22 of the Unaudited Financial Statements)

	£000	2020/21 £000	£000
Total Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure			(389,269)
Deduct (gains) or losses credited to the CIES			
Surplus on revaluation of non-current assets		(417,804)	
Gains and losses relating to pension liability		101,665	
Other unrealised losses		(82)	
		<u> </u>	<u>(316,221)</u>
Surplus on provision of services, per CIES			(73,048)
<u>Amounts included in the CIES but required by statute to be excluded when determining the General Fund surplus for the year</u>			
Depreciation and impairment of fixed assets	(191,181)		
Net loss on sale of fixed assets	6,499		
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	51,107		
Income from donated assets	(1,008)		
Finance costs - statutory adjustments	3,035		
Net charges made for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS 19	(116,233)		
		<u> </u>	(247,781)
<u>Amounts not included in the CIES but required to be included by statute when determining the General Fund surplus for the year</u>			
Statutory provision for repayment of debt (includes voluntary repayments)	59,461		
Lease repayments (including element relating to PPP contracts)	12,488		
Capital expenditure charged to the General Fund balance	(51,107)		
Capital expenditure funded from revenue	13,658		
Change in fair value of Investment Properties	14		
Capital grants and contributions credited to the CIES	109,047		
Net transfer for holiday pay accrual	(2,439)		
Employer's contributions payable to Lothian Pension Fund and retirement benefits payable direct to pensioners	73,015		
		<u> </u>	214,137
<u>Transfers to / or from the General Fund Balance that are required to be taken into account when determining the General Fund surplus for the year</u>			
Statutory transfer of HRA surplus to Renewal and Repairs Fund	11,103		
Net Transfer from earmarked reserves	(892)		
		<u> </u>	10,211
			<u>(23,433)</u>
General Fund Surplus reported in Financial Statements			(96,481)
Consolidation Adjustments			
Funds (drawn down from) / contributed to earmarked balances:			
- Unallocated General Fund		11,098	
- Balances set aside for specific investment		(20,775)	
- City Strategic Investment Fund		(761)	
- Council Priorities Fund		(757)	
- Council Tax Discount Fund		1,758	
- Covid Contingency (net of 20/21 surplus set aside)		70,555	
- Covid Advances		22,490	
- Devolved School Management and Pupil Equity Fund		17	
- Dilapidation fund		(727)	
- Energy efficiency		16	
- IFRS 9 gains		148	
- Insurance fund		(517)	
- Licensing income		991	
- Lothian Buses		(308)	
- Other minor funds		(29)	
- Pre-paid PPP monies		351	
- Salix / CEEF		167	
- Spend to save		236	
- Trams to Newhaven		2,115	
- Unspent grants		4,833	
- Workforce transformation		(2,500)	
		<u> </u>	88,401
General Fund (Surplus)/Deficit			<u>(8,080)</u>

Reserve balances, 31 March 2021

	Balance at 31-Mar-20 £000	Inter-Fund Transfers 2020/21 £000	Transfers Out 2020/21 £000	Transfers In 2020/21 £000	Balance at 31-Mar-21 £000
Balances Set Aside to Manage Financial Risks and for Specific Investment					
Balances set aside for specific inv.	44,690	(33,148)	(2,667)	17,155	26,030
Workforce management	13,358	(2,500)	0	0	10,858
Council Priorities Fund	757	(757)	0	0	0
IFRS9 Gains	230	0	0	148	378
Dilapidations fund	3,228	(710)	(67)	50	2,501
Insurance funds	20,097	0	(1,572)	1,055	19,580
Covid Contingency	0	26,017	0	52,618	78,635
	<u>82,360</u>	<u>(11,098)</u>	<u>(4,306)</u>	<u>71,026</u>	<u>137,982</u>
Balances Set Aside from Income Received in Advance					
Licensing and Registration income	2,982	0	0	991	3,973
Lothian Buses	308	0	(308)	0	0
Pre-paid PPP monies	3,318	0	0	351	3,669
Unspent grants	3,175	0	(2,112)	6,946	8,009
Council Tax Discount Fund	4,304	0	(520)	2,279	6,063
Other minor funds	204	0	(29)	0	175
City Strategic Investment Fund	2,795	0	(906)	145	2,034
Covid Fund	0	0	0	22,489	22,489
	<u>17,086</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,875)</u>	<u>33,201</u>	<u>46,412</u>
Balances Set Aside for Investment in Specific Projects which will Generate Future Savings					
Energy efficiency	295	0	(28)	44	311
Salix / CEEF	271	0	(98)	265	438
Spend to save	2,735	0	(50)	286	2,971
	<u>3,301</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(176)</u>	<u>595</u>	<u>3,720</u>
Balances Set Aside under Devolved School Management Scheme and Pupil Equity Fund					
Devolved School Management	<u>4,671</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(4,671)</u>	<u>4,688</u>	<u>4,688</u>
Unallocated General Reserve	<u>13,927</u>	<u>11,098</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,025</u>
Total General Reserve	<u>121,345</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(13,028)</u>	<u>109,510</u>	<u>217,827</u>

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Edinburgh Slavery and Colonialism Legacy Review

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Committee is asked to note the work of the Independent Review as it reaches its midway point, and to support the objectives planned over the remainder of its term.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Gillian Findlay, Acting Cultural Venues Manager (Museums & Galleries)

E-mail: gillian.findlay1@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 07874 884913

Edinburgh Slavery and Colonialism Legacy Review

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report summarises the progress of the independent Edinburgh Slavery and Colonialism Legacy Review Group since it was convened in November 2020.
- 2.2 The report also sets out anticipated milestones for the next six months of the Review, including plans for a public consultation to inform recommendations about redressing this legacy.

3. Background

- 3.1 In [July 2020](#), Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed a set of actions to address historic racial injustice and stem modern day discrimination.
- 3.2 This included a commitment to the establishment of an Independent Review to consider and make recommendations on Edinburgh's slavery and colonialism legacy in the civic realm.
- 3.3 The Independent Review Group met for the first time in December 2020 with Sir Geoff Palmer OBE having been appointed by the Council as its Chair.
- 3.4 Sir Geoff is the Chancellor of Heriot-Watt University, Professor Emeritus in the School of Life Sciences at Heriot-Watt University, and a well-known human rights activist. He has worked closely with the Council, academic representatives, and other stakeholders in recent years to review and revise the interpretation for the Melville Monument in St Andrews Square. He regularly speaks on contemporary anti-racist issues and publishes on Edinburgh's historic links with the transatlantic slave trade
- 3.5 To ensure representation from people of diverse backgrounds, a comprehensive approach, and to encompass multiple viewpoints, membership of the Review Group has been by invitation to people from, living or working in Edinburgh.
- 3.6 Members include community leaders, arts professionals and academic representatives, as well as people working in equalities and justice, and built heritage conservation. All are contributing their time, experience and knowledge in a voluntary capacity.

- 3.7 The terms of reference agreed by the Group are based upon Committee's original premise that the primary focus of the Review would be a consideration of features within the Council boundary which commemorate those with close links to slavery and colonialism, including, but not limited to, public statues and monuments, street or building names.
- 3.8 As result of the Review, the Group will produce a set of recommendations, featuring both short and long term measures to address the issue of commemorations in the city which ignore or glorify the role of individuals and the city more widely in slavery and colonialism which are basis of racial inequality in present-day Edinburgh.
- 3.9 An Advisory Group has been established by the Council, with input from the Chair, to support and resource the work of the Review Group as required. It is composed of local volunteers and council officers who provide a range of functions including planning, equalities, communications and secretariat support.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The Review Group has met twice more since its inaugural meeting, in March and June 2021, and has considered criteria for determining which features to include in the Review, and the different methods that might be adopted to present information about them in a concise and accessible format.
- 4.2 The Group has decided to follow the UNESCO approach to interpretation. This method relates an individual heritage object to its wider context, and then to broader issues which are still relevant today.
- 4.3 This is highly relevant to the work of the Review, where individual objects associated with slavery and colonialism can be related to broader themes within eighteenth and nineteenth century Edinburgh, and then to the issues caused by its legacy today, as highlighted through the Black Lives Matter movement.
- 4.4 This methodology was also agreed to be suitable as it is designed to include public engagement or consultation. Features can be presented thematically under categories which are familiar to us all, and discussed as representative examples, negating the need for an exhaustive approach to include every individual street name, public building or monument.
- 4.5 40 features, categorised under 12 themes, have now been identified by the Group as being not only representative, but illustrative of the degree to which slavery and colonialism were connected to most aspects of city life between 1750-1850.
- 4.6 These will be publicised on launch of the public consultation, and the Group recognises and anticipates the list will evolve further through the process of public engagement.

- 4.7 The Group has actively developed links with the University of Edinburgh which has recently announced plans for an assessment of its past associations with the Transatlantic slave trade, colonialism and other aspects of race and racism. The University's steering group is also chaired by Sir Geoff Palmer.
- 4.8 The Advisory Group has been working to produce a safeguarding policy and supports for Group members, after concern was expressed about the potential for online and offline abuse should their personal details be made public. Police Scotland provided a Cyber Security workshop and have offered ongoing guidance and support for all involved in the work of the Review.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 A key element of the Review will be a public consultation which will be managed online through the Council's Consultation Hub and a series of meetings with target groups.
- 5.2 The consultation is planned as the next phase of the Review, and will be designed to hear the voices, concerns and interests of all Edinburgh citizens on these matters.
- 5.3 With many shared public realm features of interest, the Group will continue to liaise with the University of Edinburgh to ensure the process and outcomes of both Reviews align wherever this is useful, for example, through joint communications, public awareness-raising and engagement. University internships to work in support of both Reviews are also being developed.
- 5.4 It is currently anticipated that the Review will complete within one calendar year, finishing in December 2021. A written report will then be submitted for consideration by Policy and Sustainability Committee. The Chair will also report publicly on the Review's findings.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The work of the Independent Review is supported by the City of Edinburgh Council with no additional financial cost.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 The work of the Review features as a priority outcome under the Inclusive Communities theme of the Council's Equality and Diversity Framework 2021 to 2025.
- 7.2 This addresses the need for safe, welcoming and more inclusive communities, enhancing the equality and diversity of our city.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 [Response to Motion](#) – Black Lives Matter, Policy and Sustainability dated 23 July 2020 (item 6.7)
- 8.2 [Equality and diversity framework 2021 to 2025 – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)

9. Appendices

- 9.1 None.

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday 24 June 2021

Office of Lord Provost: Year 4 Report 2020/21

Item number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All wards
Council Commitments	2, 6, 7, 9, 15, 18, 31, 46, 47, 51, 52

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Council:

- 1.1 notes the impact of COVID restrictions and the closure of the City Chambers on the operation of the civic diary;
- 1.2 commends the Civic Leadership for the adoption of alternative means of engagement and range of undertaken activity, described in paragraphs 4.7 to 4.16;
- 1.3 welcomes the early planning that is underway for future civic events, including a Lord Provost Community Garden Party, as set out in paragraphs 4.17 to 4.23;
- 1.4 agrees that all Council initiated proposals to the Royal Household should be routed through the Lord Provost's Office, as specified in paragraph 4.20;
- 1.5 agrees to receive a final report on the findings and recommendations of the Lord Provost's Commission 'The Strategy for Our Ex Forces Personnel'; and,
- 1.6 agrees to receive a final report before the end of the current administration, setting out clear protocols for the future operation of the Civic Office as set out in paragraphs 4.3 to 4.6 of this report.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Norma Cuthbertson, Executive Assistant to the Lord Provost/ Clerk to the Lieutenancy, Email: norma.cuthbertson@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 3816

Graeme McKechnie, Senior Corporate Policy and Strategy Officer,
E-mail: graeme.mckechnie@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 553 3861

Office of Lord Provost: Year 4 Report 2020/21

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This annual report profiles the work and commitments of the Civic Leadership from June 2020 to May 2021, a period of significant restriction in the daily life of the city.
- 2.2 The range of activity undertaken is described in the context of new measures to support civic life in the city and a clearer definition of the role of the Depute Lord Provost and Bailies of the Council.
- 2.3 It is proposed that these changes are captured in a set of protocols to be presented to Council in the shape of a final report prior to the end of this Administration.

3. Background

- 3.1 Following the Council meeting on 30 June 2020, the Lord Provost's Office was tasked with adopting new working methods and technologies to enable the continued support of civic life in the city whilst COVID -19 Regulations applied.
- 3.2 Further detail was also called for on how best the Depute Lord Provost and Bailies could assist with these new approaches.
- 3.3 This work resulted in two further reports:
 - Support of Civic Life in the Capital City: Report to Council on 25 August 2020; and,
 - Civic Hospitality Policy and Budget Adjustments: Report to Finance and Resources Committee 21 January 2021.
- 3.4 This Year 4 Annual Report is set out in the context of these practical and policy developments, elements of which need to be adopted for the future function of the civic role.

4 Main report

- 4.1 Against a backdrop of COVID restrictions and the closure of the City Chambers, early measures were put in place to maintain the civic profile of the city.
- 4.2 These were presented to Council on 25 August 2021 and included:
- using the Lord Provost's Twitter account to convey key civic messages;
 - recording video messages for transmission at main events and for thanking key service providers during the pandemic;
 - delivering speeches at virtual conferences;
 - holding on-line meetings with key partners to progress major initiatives across the city; and,
 - developing the galaxy website www.edinburghlordprovost.com

Enhancement of Depute Lord Provost and Bailie Roles

- 4.3 A more defined role in the recovery process for the Depute Lord Provost and the five Bailies was also approved by Council. The focus was on greater support for the Lord Provost and participation at key civic events throughout the year.
- 4.4 With regard to the Depute Lord Provost, there was a further extension of this role to include co-consultee under the terms of the Council's Civic Hospitality Policy. This change was implemented following the Finance and Resources Committee on 21 January 2021 when the Civic Hospitality Policy Statement was amended accordingly.
- 4.5 Throughout this period the Lord Provost and Depute Lord Provost have met on a regular basis, following Full Council, to determine the action lines from Motions and other decisions impacting on the civic office. This has proved to be a highly effective way of co-ordinating diaries and distributing the workload between the Civic Leaders of the Council.
- 4.6 These important changes are being encapsulated in a revised set of protocols which will be presented to Council for approval before the end of the current administration. This will ensure that current good practice is retained and implemented by the future civic leadership of the Council.

Summary of Civic Activity in 2020/21

- 4.7 It is not appropriate to provide a direct comparison of the output of the Civic Office in 2020/21 with previous years. This is because whole swathes of normal business such as Citizenship Ceremonies, Church Services, and Royal Visits to the city could not be conducted during the lockdown.
- 4.8 The summary of civic activity at appendix one confirms that there has been a significant reduction in the volume of civic events undertaken in 2020/21. A total of 106 civic events were cancelled in the last twelve months, with the City Chambers remaining closed for use throughout this period.

- 4.9 Nonetheless, what can still be demonstrated is a high level of activity throughout the year. This has been achieved using alternative forms of engagement and communication in line with COVID-19 restrictions. With the co-operation of the various bodies concerned, suitable adjustments have been made to hold on-line or outside socially distanced events.
- 4.10 In total 156 civic events went ahead during the year with 107 of those taking place virtually. A lesser number of 56 speeches were also made in a variety of settings but mostly on-line.
- 4.11 Beyond the statistics, it is important to recall the death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and the Lord Provost's Motion of Condolence to the specially convened meeting of Council on 16 April 2021. This recalled HRH's immense contribution to the civic life and international reputation of Edinburgh throughout his life of public service. The Depute Lord Provost and Bailies also paid tribute to the legacy of The Duke, in particular his support for young people and the environment.
- 4.12 Other civic events that took place in 2020/21 include:
- the unveiling of the Floral Clock tribute to NHS and other key workers, including Council staff, on 17 July 2020;
 - Bailie support for the Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi at Saughton Park and the Consulate General of India on 2 October;
 - the Lord Provost's visit to Full Hearts Empty Kitchens on 6 November 2020 to meet and thank volunteers;
 - the Depute Lord Provost's unveiling of the 'Inspiring Volunteers of the Year Award' plaque, recognising all volunteers during the pandemic, at the City Chambers on 17 December 2020; and,
 - the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visit to Starbank Park on 27 May 2021 and launch of the Council's Green Space Index.
- 4.13 It was also possible to progress key pieces of work in 2020/21 through a mix of on-line meetings or seminars and the sharing of necessary documentation. These initiatives included detailed succession planning for the Monarchy, in close working with main partners such as Police Scotland.
- 4.14 Through the OneCity Trust, the Lord Provost promoted the findings of the Poverty Commission report 'A Just Capital: Actions to End Poverty in Edinburgh'. The Trust's own investment in community projects amounted to £113,397 in 2020/21, with funds allocated to 23 projects tackling poverty and inequality locally.
- 4.15 In supporting improved services for people experiencing poor mental health and wellbeing, the Lord Provost chaired the second Edinburgh Thrive Conference. This involved some 200 delegates on-line to use data and evidence in driving forward necessary change.
- 4.16 With four key priorities emerging from the consultation exercise, the Lord Provost launched digitally the Edinburgh 2050 City Vision Charter on behalf of the Council in July 2020. Engagement with key stakeholders continues and to date some twenty organisations have signed up to the Charter.

Looking Ahead

- 4.17 With the gradual easing of lockdown restrictions, the scope for civic activity and undertakings increases. Now that the City Chambers is reopening to the public, it is planned that events such as the presentation of the annual Edinburgh Science Medal will take place from the end of June onwards. This allows agreed Motions to Council and other commitments to be fulfilled, albeit in compliance with the relevant COVID regulations as they apply at the time.
- 4.18 There is potential for some additional spend on civic occasions and hospitality due to the carry forward of fifty per cent of underspend in the 2020/21 Civic Hospitality Budget. This was approved by the Finance and Resources Committee on 21 January 2021 and, as a result, a £30,000 budget was put to a reserve that can be drawn down from in future years.
- 4.19 A specific plan is to hold a Lord Provost Community Garden Party later in 2021, with invited guests from the NHS, Carer and voluntary sectors, at the refurbished Saughton Walled Garden. A bid for The Princess Royal (who opened the restored Garden in June 2019) to attend and meet guests from the community has been submitted to the Palace for the next round of engagements.
- 4.20 Requests for Members of the Royal Household to participate in key city events can stem from any part of the Council. It is important though that the Lord Provost's Office is sighted on all such proposals from the outset. This is to avoid confusion and overlap, and to ensure that the Lord Provost's role as Lord Lieutenant is not compromised. Council is asked to agree that Officers should adhere to this protocol in future, as a matter of good governance.
- 4.21 Moving into the final year of this administration, it will also be important to bring the Lord Provost's Commission 'The Strategy for Our Ex Forces Personnel' to a meaningful conclusion. Commissioners have been meeting over a series of themed workshops to examine the issues and barriers faced by personnel and their families in making the transition from military to civilian life. Council is asked to receive a full report on this Commission later in the year.
- 4.22 Finally, it is pertinent to raise the likelihood of COP26 going ahead in early November 2021. Although the main event is taking place in Glasgow, there are major implications for Edinburgh. Clearly the policy focus on climate change is of major import to the city and to the Council and aligns wholly with the Council's own strategic priorities, as set out in the Council Business Plan and supporting strategies and plans. There is also a major role for the city in accommodating delegates for the conference and hosting those from the Ambassadorial and Consular Corps.
- 4.23 This is likely to create a high level of civic activity and interaction in the Capital City, involving potentially Members of the Royal Family as well. These matters are under scrutiny by the Edinburgh Working Group and Council will be kept informed as the COP 26 plans develop.

5 Financial impact

- 5.1 The Office of the Lord Provost operates within the budget allocated in the Council's previous Financial Plan 2017-21. This amounts to a total budget of £507,891 in 2020/21, including £67,000 for Civic Hospitality.

6 Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 6.1 The Office of the Lord Provost routinely undertakes engagement and co-production with a broad range of stakeholders, leading community representatives and business organisations.
- 6.2 Speeches and other inputs for events are developed in consultation with the organisers.
- 6.3 The Office of the Lord Provost assists both the Council and city partners to deliver key equality and rights outcomes, and to meet the Equality Act 2010 public sector equality duties to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation, (ii) advance equality of opportunity, and (iii) foster good relations.
- 6.4 The Lord Provost's stewardship of the One City Trust is also an important lever in helping to mitigate the negative impacts of poverty and inequality across the Capital.
- 6.5 The Office of the Lord Provost endeavours to mitigate carbon impacts by utilising public transport where and when appropriate, where any long-distance travelling is required.
- 6.6 The Office of the Lord Provost contributes to the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 public sector duties and contributes to the delivery of Sustainable Edinburgh 2020 objectives, the advancement of vibrant flourishing communities, social and economic wellbeing and an efficient and effectively managed city.

7 Background reading/external references

- 7.1.1 See www.edinburghlordprovost.com

8 Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix One: Summary of Civic Activity June 2020 to May 2021

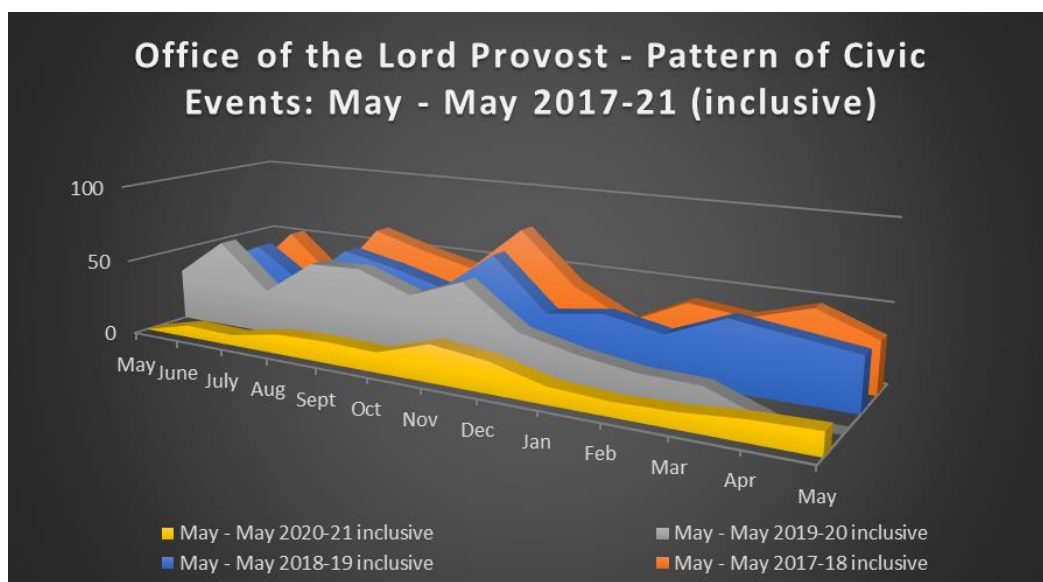
Summary of Civic Activity June 2020 to May 2021

1 Civic Activity

From March 2020, civic events were impacted negatively by the COVID lockdown and other restrictions, and this continued throughout 2020/21.

Across the year, a total of 455 civic commitments were fulfilled, comprising 156 civic events and 299 routine business meetings.

The graph below illustrates the volume of civic events across the four years of the current Lord Provost, from May 2017.



This shows that:

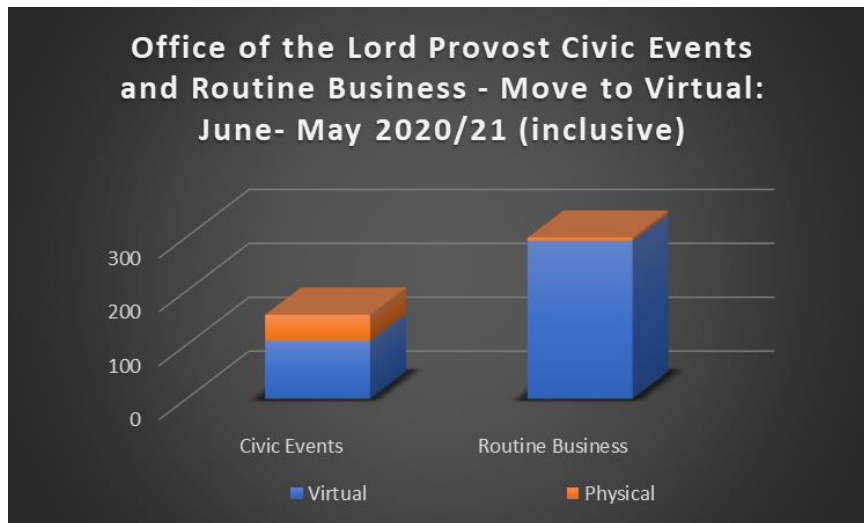
- compared with the most recent year of “normal business” i.e. 2018/19, there has been a reduction of 370 (70%) in the number of civic events undertaken in 2020/21; and
- compared with the previous year 2019/20, when COVID took hold and the city went into lockdown, there has been a reduction of 208 (57%) in the number civic events undertaken over the last year.

2 Move to Virtual Events

In managing the impact of COVID lockdown and safety mitigation measures, many civic events and meetings have taken place on-line, rather than in person.

The graphic below indicates that for the year 2020/21 there were:

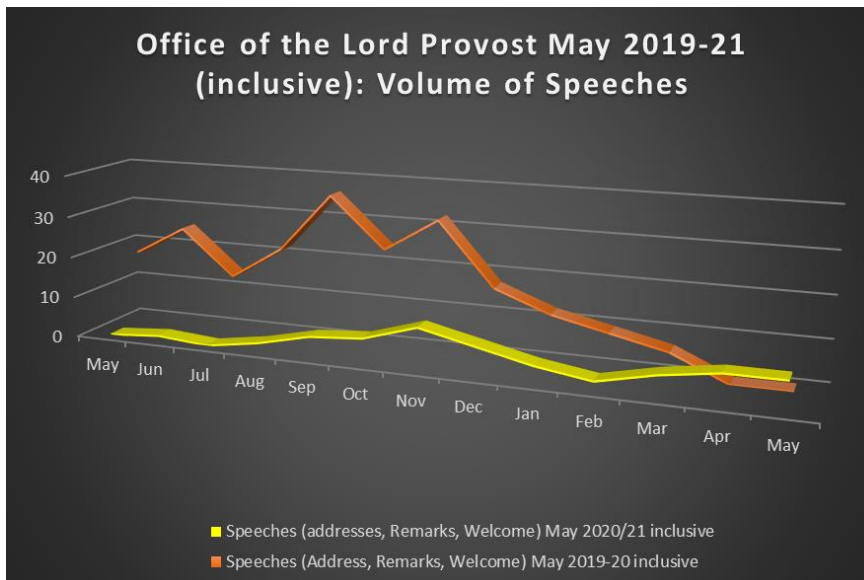
- 107 virtual civic events, comprising 68.5% of this activity; and
- 292 (97.6%) virtual routine business meetings.



3 Speeches

On average, the city's Civic Leaders make some 200 speeches annually, at a highly diverse range of gatherings and events.

The graph below shows that for 2020/21 only 56 speeches were given, due to the lower volume of civic events and nature of on-line occasions.



This represents a reduction of 141 (72%) compared with the previous year 2019/20 when 197 speeches were made.

4 **Lieutenancy Activity**

The Lord Provost is Ex Officio the Lord Lieutenant of Edinburgh with an established role to represent The Queen and support other Members of the Royal Family when visiting Edinburgh.

Owing to COVID lockdown and mitigation measures, working Royal Visits were severely curtailed across the UK.

In 2020/21, there have been 15 Lieutenancy events in Edinburgh, including occasions when the Lord Lieutenant or a Deputy Lieutenant has met and assisted Royal visitors.

This type of activity was reduced by 66% when compared to 2019/20 levels.

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City of Edinburgh Council

10am, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Children's Rights, Participation and Delivery

Executive/routine	All
Wards	All
Council Commitments	All

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 This report is submitted for consideration and review.
- 1.2 This report identifies work already planned for and being taken forward and makes no further recommendations.
- 1.3 That there will be a progress report provided to Council in June of 2022.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Jackie Irvine, Chief Social Work Officer, Head of Safer and Stronger Communities and Interim Head of Children's Services

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Children's Rights, Participation and Delivery

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report identifies the range of activities in place to ensure that Children's Rights are respected, known of and understood. The report also identifies where children and young people's participation in decision making affecting their and other children's lives, and the delivery of services influenced and shaped by that participation continues to cement and build on recent work undertaken in Edinburgh by the Council and Children's Partnership.

3. Background

- 3.1 This paper responds to the Council Motion raised by Councillor Alison Dickie in February 2020:
- 3.2 The City of Edinburgh Council welcomes, the Children's Parliament 'Year of Childhood 2021' to celebrate the forthcoming United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child into Scots law, and their own 25th birthday.
- 3.3 Commends, the work of the Children's Parliament to progress the rights of children, recognising them as citizens in their own right, and working to ensure their human rights and voice are embedded across all aspects of our society.
- 3.4 Further commends, the 'What Kind of Edinburgh?' partnership work in 2019 to influence children's services and acknowledges how it has now shaped the 3Bs (Best Start; Bridging the Gap; Being Everything You Can Be) of our new Children's Services Plan.
- 3.5 Celebrates the Scottish Parliament's unanimous agreement to the general principles of the UNCRC Bill at Stage One and notes the Deputy First Minister's expectation that readiness for commencement of the Bill should be a priority for all public authorities (no date has yet been identified for when this Bill will become an Act).

- 3.6 Recognises, the ongoing hard work and increasingly collaborative approach of our own services and partners to deliver for children, including our new Corporate Parenting Plan, Children's Services Plan and our second Child Poverty Action Plan.
- 3.7 Further recognises, the outcomes of last year's governance review of Children's Services, particularly the importance of a whole system approach to the involvement and participation of children, and the creation of an independent 'One Edinburgh', children and young people's board.
- 3.8 Council therefore,
- 3.9 Acknowledges 2021 as a year to maximise on the right and participation of children, and our delivery with and for them.
- 3.10 Agrees that this needs holistic commitment by Council and partner organisations.
- 3.11 Requests that the Chief Executive works with all Council Directors to establish how the impact of children's rights, particularly the rights of care experienced children as Corporate Parents, and children experiencing poverty are considered in relevant decisions as the Council drives its agenda forward of reducing poverty, becoming more sustainable and improving wellbeing for all citizens.
- 3.12 Agrees that the Chief Executive report to Full Council in two cycles on the readiness of the Council for the commencement of the UNCRC Bill; progress with 'One Edinburgh'; and, building on 'What Kind of Edinburgh?' work, the assigning of children Ambassadors across all Council services.
- 3.13 Agrees that a further report comes to the first Full Council in 2022, highlighting the impact of the UNCRC on Council wide services delivering for children in Edinburgh."

4. Main report

- 4.1 The Edinburgh Children's Partnership, which the City of Edinburgh Council is a key partner in, produced the Children's Rights Report 2017-2020 earlier this year.
- 4.2 The [report](#) highlights many areas of Children's lives which involve and require sensitivity and awareness of Children's Rights. The Children's Right's Report is a far-ranging report, covering bullying, children's planning, education curriculum, child protection, parenting support programmes, physical health, mental health and wellbeing, environment, youth justice as well as the impact of the Pandemic.
- 4.3 Taking a strengths-based approach, the report highlights what is working well in Edinburgh, including multiple case examples of where Children's Rights are being respected and promoted across Edinburgh's services.
- 4.4 However, the report also identifies gaps set against the eight Cluster areas that the report is written against. Colleagues working on this, from the Council and from partner agencies, are now formulating a delivery plan from the areas that the report identifies. This has involved colleagues from the Scottish Government's Children's

Rights Unit being requested to become involved in exploring how best to ensure that colleagues can access training and education opportunities connected to Children's Rights. Future Council reporting will articulate how this work is being taken forward.

- 4.5 To support the Council in addressing our responsibilities of the new Children's Rights legislation and fulfil the ambitions within the Children's Rights Report 2017-2020, the new job descriptions for both Executive and Service Directors, following Council approval of the new structure, set requirements in terms of officers duties in respect of children's rights. The statement in these job descriptions state the need for officers to:

Consider the Council's responsibility in supporting children's rights when planning and developing services that may impact on children and their families.

- 4.6 As Scotland moves towards legislating for Children's Rights, the Council's transformation programme has adopted this into its planning. New job descriptions for both Executive and Service Directors contain explicit accountability relating to corporate parenting that means that all Chief Officers within the Council will collectively work to support our responsibilities in this area:

Executive Directors and Service Directors will..... Fulfil their Corporate Parenting responsibility through the collective responsibility for looked after children in Edinburgh and for listening to and acting upon the views of care experienced children and young people.

This helpfully ensures that these responsibilities and any policy related implications take account of the impact on looked after children and care experienced children and young people in the City. These responsibilities for Council, are set out in the '[These are Our Bairns](#)' Guidance and further emphasised within the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 which defines corporate parenting as "*the formal and local partnerships between all services responsible for working together to meet the needs of looked after children, young people and care leavers*".

- 4.7 In early 2020 The Good Governance Institute were commissioned by the Edinburgh Children's Partnership to review its Governance arrangements. This resulting report and its considerations landed at a time of mid-Pandemic as well as a series of departures of senior officers from the Council and NHS Lothian. Further work is therefore required to review the report's findings, including the suggestion of a One Edinburgh Board.
- 4.8 [What Kind of Edinburgh](#) was a series of participatory events that took place between March 2018 and August 2019. The report that these events produced, with the same title, became the foundation for the Edinburgh Children's Partnership Children's Plan 2020-2023. Further What Kind of Edinburgh events are currently not planned. However, further opportunities to replicate this clear linkage between children's voice and views, and service strategy and delivery exist.

- 4.9 [The Promise](#) is a Scottish Government programme of nine years (3 cycles of 3-year planning) of transformation for children’s services as a result of the Independent Care Review. The Promise deals mainly with Scotland’s Care System.
- 4.10 The Promise is clear in its expectation that children and young people are to be included and have a voice in the decisions and designing of services that affect them and their families.
- 4.11 Published in 2020, with the first 3-year plan, [2021-2024](#) being published in April 2021. Edinburgh’s Promise is the response to this. Edinburgh’s Promise will see children’s participation and consultation at its heart, as the Promise will affect many, if not all areas of service delivery and strategic planning i.e. Corporate Parenting, Children’s Social Work, Education, Secure Care, Fostering, staff support, training, Poverty Commission, Children’s Services Strategic Planning, etc.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Creation of a Children’s Rights plan, including staff training in preparation for UNCRC legislation.
- 5.2 Incorporation of new job descriptions detailing explicit accountability for corporate parenting.
- 5.3 Review of Good Governance Institute findings.
- 5.4 Planning and prioritisation of Edinburgh’s Promise and associated involvement and participation of children and young people.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 This report covers many areas of Council service delivery, as referenced in the Council’s Business Plan, as well as that of the Edinburgh Children’s Partnership 2020-2023 Service’s Plan. Any financial impact regarding children’s rights, participation and delivery are contained in existing financial and budget planning.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 This report references consultations which are or are yet to be planned for, and these all align to the Council’s Business Plan, as well as existing developments at Edinburgh Children’s Partnership and Edinburgh Partnership levels.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 All background papers are hyperlinked in the document – indicated when font is [blue](#) and underlined.

9. Appendices

9.1 None.

The City of Edinburgh Council

10:00, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Youth work in Community Centres and other locations

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That Council notes progress made to resume youth work in community centres and other locations
- 1.2 To agree that a further update be provided for Culture and Communities Committee 14 September 2021, on progress of community centre services resumption - including youth work.
- 1.3 Council agrees to ask Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC) and Lothian Association of Youth Clubs (LAYC) to work with Council officers to produce a Youth Work Recovery Plan for the city that will highlight the excellent practice that already exists but also sets out the challenges and actions required going forward.
- 1.4 Council agrees to note that the scale of the contribution of the voluntary sector is significant and it will require a co-ordinated effort, over some weeks, to produce a recovery plan for Youth Work
- 1.5 Council notes the commitment and work being undertaken to coordinate and deliver the Get into Summer programme, which will result in more opportunities for greater numbers of young people across the city.

Julien Kramer

Interim Director of Communities and Families

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E-mail: paul.mccloskey@edinburgh.gov.uk

Youth work in Community Centres and other locations

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 Council sponsored outdoor youth work, including detached work with young people in the city, has been taking place in line with national guidance.
- 2.2 Officers are working with community centre management committees to identify opportunities to resume activity, including youth work, in line with national guidance.
- 2.3 A community centre reopening plan has been developed, including location specific assessments to ensure services resumption is managed as safely as possible.
- 2.4 Services adaptation and resumption has taken into consideration children's rights in relation to youth work.
- 2.5 Council officers are prioritising the organisation and delivery of the Get into Summer programme for children, young people and families across the city. This programme will result in a wide range of additional opportunities for young people to participate in throughout the Summer.

3. Background

- 3.1 The [Covid-19 Guiding framework for Youth work](#) defines youth work as 'an educational practice contributing to young people's learning and development. Youth work engages young people within their communities: it acknowledges the wider networks of peers, community and culture, it supports the young person to realise their potential and to address life's challenges critically and creatively, and it takes account of all strands of diversity' (p.4).
- 3.2 The framework identifies four essential and definitive features:
 - 3.2.1 Young people choose to participate;
 - 3.2.2 The work must build from where young people are;
 - 3.2.3 Youth Work recognises the young person and the youth worker as partners in a learning process.

- 3.2.4 Youth work's focus is on the 11-25 year age group with particular emphasis on 11-18 year olds.
- 3.3 It further adds that as 'youth work is considered to be an educational activity, it is therefore subject to specific guidance to support safe delivery within schools, community centres, buildings and facilities in line with the permitted purposes allowed in the Scottish Government Route Map'.
- 3.4 Lifelong Learning Service has adapted its approach and developed safe ways of working to develop youth work in a number of community settings. It is actively engaged with community centre management committees to identify ways in which their ambitions to resume activity, including youth work, can be supported and resourced, as far as possible, in line with public health guidance. In line with Scottish Government/YouthLink Scotland guidance – Lifelong Learning Service's youth work focus will be on the 11 – 25 year age group with particular emphasis on 11 – 18 year olds'.
- 3.5 Council officers from Lifelong Learning Service, Facilities Management, Business Support, Environmental Services, Health and Safety, Fire Safety, Management Committee representatives have been assessing each building, to develop risk assessments, method statements, define occupancy levels, establish track and trace procedures etc specific to each location. A community centres visit timetable and, where known at this stage, intended opening dates, is attached at Appendix 1. Any resumption of indoor youth work will be predicated on the ability to put in place safe operational public health practices.
- 3.6 Council officers have published H&S guidance for management committees to access and held training sessions on COVID procedures [Community centre reopening guidance – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)
- 3.7 Officers continue to meet all management committees every six weeks, with Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council and Lothian Association of Youth Clubs, to discuss services resumption.

4. Main report

- 4.1 National guidance states that up until Level 2, indoor youth work should only take place under highly restricted and controlled conditions. At all stages, the resumption of Council sponsored youth work activities in Edinburgh has closely followed this guidance.
- 4.2 The default position has been to deliver youth work online or outdoors (under strict conditions around social distancing and infection control). Indoor youth work was highly restricted under levels 3 and 4, with gradual easing of restrictions under levels 1 and 2.
- 4.3 Levels 1 and 2 allow for maximum numbers dependent upon an assessment of the specific space being used and the nature of the activity.
- 4.4 The guidance has emphasised the importance of ensuring the safety of all involved and being able to meet a series of strict 'expectations before delivery'. This

stresses that if these expectations cannot be met, the activity should not progress. The recommended position which we have adopted has been to deliver youth work online or outdoors (under strict conditions around social distancing and infection control).

Current picture of Council sponsored youth work

- 4.5 In addition to online, digital youth work, the Lifelong Learning Service is currently delivering three forms of youth work: detached, outdoor and in schools. All of these began in late summer 2020 but had to be significantly scaled back or stopped from January to March 2021 as Edinburgh was moved into above level 4 restrictions.
- 4.6 Detached work (in which youth workers engage with young people, usually the most marginalised and vulnerable, where they gather in their communities) is taking place regularly again in the city.
- 4.7 Outdoor youth work (in which youth workers organise activities outdoors and invite young people to attend) is also being delivered across the city and as the weather improves, this work will increase. Youth work will play a prominent role, for example, in the Scottish Government-sponsored 'Get into Summer' programme.
- 4.8 Youth work is taking place in a limited number of high schools and transition work involving some P7 pupils is planned for primary schools across the city. This tends to be one-to-one support or work with small groups in order to comply with the current guidance concerning 'bubbles' and the number of permitted contacts per day and week.
- 4.9 In May 2021, the Lifelong Learning Service received approval to re-start Open All Hours youth work in five Edinburgh Leisure venues: Royal Commonwealth Pool, Gracemount Leisure Centre, WHEC, Jack Kane Centre sports hall and Ainslie Park (due to refurbishment works in Ainslie Park, this may move to Drumbrae Leisure Centre). Programmes will begin at the start of July.
- 4.10 Open All Hours (OAH) offers young people access to Edinburgh Leisure facilities on Friday evenings for a nominal fee (which will be waived for the foreseeable future). Small groups (maximum number 12) of largely P7 children identified as vulnerable and disadvantaged will be invited to attend. Provision will run over summer and into term time.
- 4.11 The Service Resumption Group is considering two proposals – one to deliver youth work in five libraries (Kirkliston, Wester Hailes, Craigmillar, Drumbrae Hub and Gilmerton) and the other for Lifelong Learning workers to deliver youth work in venues not owned or run by the Council (except Community Centres).
- 4.12 Lifelong Learning Service Managers have confirmed that historically any youth work that they have funded indoors in community centres has mostly been during term time and that the priority for them for the Summer is to support outdoor activity. As a result of the need to restrict occupancy levels in the use of spaces in community centres, aligned with the preferred option of working outdoors, Council

officers will be working with greater numbers of young people. For Summer 2021 Lifelong Learning Service Officers are prioritising their contribution to the Scottish Government requirement to deliver a citywide programme of support for children, young people and families. This Get into Summer programme will involve the provision of youth work alongside other activities throughout the Summer with an emphasis on outdoor activity.

- 4.13 Lifelong Service Managers will work with voluntary sector Youth Work partners who would like to provide some indoor Youth Work in CEC community centres but that will be very limited because of building restrictions and the need for compliance with safety measures.

Children's rights

- 4.15 Children's rights: When making these plans, the importance of youth work and children's rights have been taken into consideration through the following four articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child:

- 4.15.1 Article 3 (best interests of the child) The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.** Youth work plays a central role in supporting young people, particularly those who are most vulnerable, marginalised and disadvantaged. All current decisions regarding planned activity for children and young people including indoor youth work are influenced by the need to keep children safe and protect them from harm.
- 4.15.2 Article 12 (respect for the views of the child) Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.** Youth Work recognises the young person and the youth worker as partners in a learning process and that the work must build from where young people are. Central to that is the need to listen to young people and take their views seriously.
- 4.15.3 Article 29 (goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.** The national outcomes for youth work include ensuring that young people are confident, resilient and optimistic for the future and that they create, describe and apply their learning and skills. They should also broaden their perspectives through new experiences and thinking.
- 4.15.4 Article 31 (leisure, play and culture) Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.** Youth work in its broadest sense provides access to all of these.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 To continue to work with partners, including with Community Centre management committees, to plan for the resumption of youth work as, where and when possible.
- 5.2 To produce an update for Culture and Communities Committee 14 September 2021 on progress in community centre services resumption (including youth work).
- 5.3 To initiate the discussions with EVOC and LAYC about the co-ordination and delivery of a partnership plan for Youth Work Recovery for the city

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The estimated cost of COVID – 19 related signage, guiding, infection control, hand sanitiser, PPE, face coverings is circa £2500.00 per centre (based on library reopening costs).
- 6.2 The estimated costs of other Council support including Facilities Management:

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Lifelong Learning service continues to engage regularly with Community Centre Management Committees to plan for service resumption within a challenging operational context.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 [Covid-19 Guiding framework for Youth work](#)

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1: Community Centre Reopening Plan

Appendix 1 – Community centres visits programme including youth work. All centres will have a follow up visit to confirm that all H&S measures are in place prior to reopening.

Visit to assess	Community Centre	Management Committee contacted	MC to attend	Visit completed	Youth Work	Opening date
7th June	South Bridge	Canongate	Yes	Yes	Yes- this would be delivered by 1. Canongate Youth Project and targeted at vulnerable young people /focussed on health and wellbeing/plus their school leavers work - CYP have a summer programme in place for outdoors/trips for summer 21 2. Summer Sounds – in partnership with Totally Sound/Lifelong Learning Service/CYP- 2 week programme of music /creative arts on site – 2 nd - 13 th Aug 2021	TBC Substantial clearing/reconfiguration required
9th	Jack Kane	yes	yes	yes	yes	
9th	Craigtinny	yes	Yes	Yes		
11th	Leith	yes	yes	Yes		
14th	Royston Wardieburn	yes & Granton YC	no	yes	Limited small group for vulnerable young people delivered by Granton Youth	
14th	West Pilton	yes	no	yes		
14th	Ratho	yes	yes	yes		

14th	Clovenstone	yes	Yes	yes	Yes – targeted work and employability sessions	
15th	Cameron House	yes	yes	yes	yes	
16th	Gilmerton	yes	yes		No – not until autumn term	TBC – FM access as of 21/6 -substantial cleaning/decluttering
16th	Pentland	yes	yes			
23rd	Kirkliston					
25th	South Side	yes	yes		No - committee looking for limited office access over summer to begin work with a newly funded creative Art programme- i.e. planning	
25th	Valley Park	yes			Potential use by Dunedin Canmore YP in partnership with Lifelong Learning Service – they have a summer activities programme already planned outdoors/trip based-ages 15+	Following Primary hosting on site, Building will not be cleaned and returned to pre centre state until 19/7/21 TBC
28th	Inch					CEC let agreed for Out Of School Care (Liberton After School Club) summer Site open for OOSC
28th	Goodtrees				Yes – Goodtrees employs own YW development staff – they would use centre if permitted to open	Site open AMEY/PP2 Committee run food services
29th	Juniper Green					
30th	Gorgie Mem					
30th	Carrickvale					
1st July	Magdalene					

1st July	Portobello					
2nd	Northfield					
2nd	Sandys					

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday 24 June 2021

Monitoring Officer Report

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To note that a report by the SPSO into the Council's handling of a specific matter has resulted in a finding of maladministration due to undue delay on the part of the Council.
- 1.2 To note that the Council's Monitoring Officer is required, under s.5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to report to Council if they consider that in the course of the discharge of the Council's functions any proposal, decision or omission has resulted in maladministration.
- 1.3 To note that the Council has already taken action to resolve this matter and the SPSO has asked the Council to provide evidence of agreed actions by 6 September 2021 (as noted in the SPSO's final Decision Notice).

Nick Smith

Council Monitoring Officer

Contact: Kevin McKee, Senior Legal Manager, Deputy Monitoring Officer

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Monitoring Officer Report

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (the “SPSO”) has issued a Decision Notice (attached as an appendix to this report) in relation to a matter involving Social Services and Legal Services. The Decision Notice states that in the opinion of the SPSO there has been undue delay on the part of the Council. Given the finding of undue delay, the Monitoring Officer considers that he is required to report this as maladministration to Council in terms of section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

3. Background

- 3.1 The relevant background to the matter is set out in the SPSO’s final Decision Notice, provided as an appendix to this report.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Elected Members are referred to the SPSO’s final Decision Notice, as provided in the appendix to this report.
- 4.2 The subject matter of the finding is a complex cross-border legal transaction concerning the potential transfer of property in England to dependents of a person who lacks legal capacity. The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (“EHSCP”) was appointed to act on behalf of the incapacitated person by an Intervention Order granted in August 2019. Council Legal Services acted on behalf of EHSCP.
- 4.3 In parallel to the SPSO looking at the matter, the delays to the transaction were investigated by the Council’s Senior Legal Manager at Stage 2 of the Council’s Complaints Procedure in March 2021. The Senior Legal Manager provided a detailed response to the complainant and implemented increased oversight arrangements to ensure that the matter was brought to a conclusion as efficiently and quickly as possible. Both the complainant and the SPSO were satisfied with this response.

- 4.4 The matter has now concluded to the extent that all actions required by the Council have been discharged and the Council's involvement is now at an end. Evidence of this will be provided to the SPSO.
- 4.5 The matter was highly complex and delays on the part of the Council should be placed in the context of:
- 4.5.1 comparable delays on both sides of the transaction, (i.e. including on the part of the complainant's solicitor); and
 - 4.5.2 competing priorities of those involved in the transactions (notably in relation to community protection actions), which were exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 4.6 However, the Council accepts the SPSO's finding on the basis that there were periods of delay on the part of the Council (specifically in relation to chasing the activities of our instructed English solicitors) which had an adverse impact on the timely completion of the transaction.
- 4.7 Given the finding of undue delay, the Monitoring Officer considers that he is required to report this as maladministration to Council in terms of section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 4.8 The Council is required to provide evidence of improvement actions to the SPSO by 6 September 2021.
- 4.9 The staff involved have been spoken to in accordance with the recommendations of the SPSO.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The actions taken by the Council after a thorough investigation by the Senior Legal Manager demonstrated that it had taken this matter seriously and has taken steps to prevent a reoccurrence.
- 5.2 Undertaking the actions implemented by the Senior Legal Manager, which were endorsed by the SPSO, has provided additional oversight on this matter. The transaction has now concluded in terms of the EHSCP's involvement.
- 5.3 The Council will provide evidence of improvement actions to the SPSO, including feeding back the SPSO's findings to relevant staff, by the stated deadline.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 No direct impact.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 No direct impact.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 None.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 - SPSO Decision Notice

Decision notice

Complaint about Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership - 202001087

Date: 4 June 2021

- a) There was an unreasonable delay in the HSCP executing the Intervention Order (upheld).

Summary for publication

This summary (subject to change) will be laid before parliament and published online. Please note that it is a high-level summary which does not include the full detail of our investigation. To protect your personal information, we have anonymised it and removed both gender-specific pronouns and titles.

C is an executor of their late parent's estate and they were seeking to sell a property in line with their parent's will. However, there is a charge on the property which relates to legal costs incurred many years ago by their other parent, A. A did not have capacity to agree that the sum should be paid, and as such, an Intervention Order was granted by the Sheriff Court for social work (with the support of the Council's legal services) to act on behalf of A regarding the charges. C complained about the length of time being taken to execute the Intervention Order.

We found that there were delays in correspondence regarding the execution of the intervention order. We noted that both the HSCP and the Council had acknowledged and apologised to C for this. Some of the delays were outwith the HSCP/Council's control due to awaiting responses from C's solicitors and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, some of the delays could have been avoided (by having clear lines of responsibility between social work and legal services and by escalating the matter internally). We considered that on balance, there had been an unreasonable delay in executing the Intervention Order. As such, we upheld C's complaint.

Comments



We sought comments on a draft of this decision from both parties. We received comments from both the complainant and Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership. This resulted in some minor changes to the following paragraph. However, the substance of the decisions remains unchanged.

Paragraph 3 has been updated to more accurately reflect the nature of Mr C's dissatisfaction, following comments from the Council that Mr C was satisfied with the manner in which the Council dealt with the complaint (following the complaint response of 3 March 2021). The Council provided me with email correspondence to evidence that Mr C was satisfied.

1. Mr C and his sibling are the executors of their late mother's estate and they are seeking to sell a property in line with her will. However, there is a charge on the property which relates to legal costs incurred many years ago by their father, Mr A, in relation to their parents' divorce and arrangements for their care and maintenance as children. Mr A does not have the mental capacity to make legal or financial decisions, including in relation to the charge over the property. On 29 August 2019 a Senior Social Worker for the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) was appointed to act on Mr A's behalf through an Intervention Order (to act as 'Intervener') granted by the Sheriff Court. This order was granted for a Senior Social Worker:
 - to seek legal advice, if necessary on behalf of the adult with regard to charges relating to the property.
 - to sign all documents necessary to take any other steps required to discharge any charges relating to the property.
2. The City of Edinburgh Council's (the Council) Legal Services team has been providing advice to the Intervener and acting on behalf of the Intervener regarding this matter.
3. Mr C requires the actions of the Intervention Order to be executed before he can complete the sale of the property. On 12 January 2020 and 20 January 2020 Mr C made complaints to the HSCP about the lack of progress in relation to the Intervention Order. The HSCP responded to these complaints on 6 March 2020. On 8 February 2021 Mr C made a further complaint to the Council's Legal Services team. The Council responded to the complaint on 3 March 2021. Mr C was dissatisfied with the overall length of time taken to execute the Intervention Order and brought his complaints to the SPSO.
4. The complaint agreed with Mr C was that:
 - a) There was an unreasonable delay in the HSCP executing the Intervention Order (upheld).



5. Mr C told us he was seeking to achieve the following outcomes through our investigation of his complaint:
 - i. For the Intervention Order to be executed so that he can sell his late mother's property to release funds to settle his inheritance tax liability.

Investigation

6. In investigating Mr C's complaint, I have carefully reviewed the documentation provided by Mr C in support of his complaints and by Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership and the City of Edinburgh Council in response to enquiries I made of them.
7. This letter includes the information that is required for me to explain the reasons for my decision on Mr C's case. While I have carefully reviewed all of the evidence provided during the course of my investigation, this report does not include every detail of the information I have considered.
8. The HSCP delivers services under the delegated authority of the Council and ultimately the Council is responsible for those services. I have considered both the role of the social work service and the legal department as part of this complaint.
9. Regarding complaints about the Council's legal services, we can consider complaints of maladministration or service failure. These are broad terms which are difficult to conclusively define. However, in simpler, more general terms, we investigate complaints where someone alleges fault or failure on the part of the organisation they are complaining about which has negatively impacted them. Public bodies have discretion to make a wide range of decisions, and generally we cannot comment on the merits of those decisions unless we find evidence of maladministration or service failure.

Complaint a) - There was an unreasonable delay in the HSCP executing the Intervention Order

Mr C's position

10. Mr C is concerned about the delay in the process of executing the Intervention Order, including the role of the social work service and that of the Legal Services team. As part of my investigation of this complaint I agreed to focus on the time period of 29 August 2019 to 13 January 2021. However, I



acknowledged that there may be further developments during the course of my investigation and I agreed to consider all the information that Mr C, the HSCP and the Council provided.

Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership's and the City of Edinburgh Council's position

11. In the HSCP's complaint response of 6 March 2020, they:
 - i. acknowledged that it took over three months between 19 July 2019 until 21 October 2019 for Mr A to be allocated a new social worker. The HSCP apologised to Mr C for this and they explained that this was due to pressures on the service and the need to prioritise Adult Support and Protection investigations.
 - ii. acknowledged that communication from social work staff with Mr C should have been better and they apologised for this. They explained that this was due to sickness absence and annual leave.
 - iii. said this is a complex legal situation which is in itself time consuming. They said that a social worker had been receiving advice from Legal Services within the Council as to the necessary steps which require to be taken to reach a resolution. They said awaiting advice from Legal Services in itself had caused delays.

12. On 28 July 2020, in response to my enquiries, the HSCP:
 - i. said the following actions had been implemented to improve communication going forward:
 - the transfer outcome between teams is to be clearly communicated to the service user and their family. These decisions and discussions are also to be recorded on their service user database.
 - through supervision, workers and service-users' records are being reviewed to ensure regular contact with individuals and their families is maintained.
 - ii. said that the stipulated actions of the Intervention Order were being progressed, but had not yet concluded.
 - iii. explained that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on their services due to key staff being deployed at very short notice and/or being



personally subject themselves to some of the COVID-19 restrictions. They said this had subsequently impacted the progression of the Intervention Order.

- iv. said that they had continued to engage in conversations with both the Council solicitor and Mr C's solicitor to gather the required information. They said this was in order to clarify and confirm that agreeing and signing to the terms is of benefit to Mr A.
- v. explained what needed to happen next and the timescale for this. They said that:
 - the Council's solicitor was to review the financial information and follow up with Mr C's solicitor if any further financial information was required by 31 July 2020.
 - the Council's solicitor was to advise the allocated worker on any terms and signing of paperwork, on behalf of Mr A, with the use of the Intervention Order, ensuring that any decisions by the social worker were being made in the best interests of Mr A. They said they hoped this would be completed by 14 August 2020.
 - finalising the required documentation with guidance from the Council's solicitor was expected to conclude by 31 August 2020.

13. In the Council's complaint response to Mr C of 3 March 2021, they:

- i. acknowledged that the estimated timescale for conclusion (31 August 2020) had not been met.
- ii. explained the timeline of events from March 2020 to October 2020 and identified two significant time gaps in the file. They stated that during the first significant period of delay (between April 2020 and July 2020), they were primarily waiting for Mr C's solicitor to confirm their instructions relating to the Legal Aid debt. They said the next period of any significant delay (from 6 July 2020 to 30 July 2020) fell on the Council's side. They explained that following Mr C's solicitor's confirmation of instructions in relation to the Legal Aid debt on 6 July 2020, it was not until 30 July 2020 that Social Services sought approval from the Legal Aid board for Mr C's solicitor to deal directly with them. Regarding this second period of delay, they said it was not apparent from the file which service area of the Council or the HSCP was to be responsible for particular actions. They acknowledged that it ought to have been clearer whether Legal Services or Social Care were to be responsible for chasing up elements of this matter and, in their view, this lack of clarity



contributed to delay. They said they had discussed this aspect with their Senior Solicitor and Principal Solicitor in order that this is clearer in the future.

- iii. said it was apparent from the correspondence on file that their solicitor sought to have an initial understanding for himself of the process for dealing with the charge before seeking to instruct English solicitors. They did not agree that their solicitor had been responsible for significant delay in relation to this matter as a whole. They considered their solicitor's approach to gain an understanding of the agreement between the parties was not unreasonable. In the main, they considered that their solicitor had regularly sought to move matters forward, including chasing the English Solicitors for their estimate of cost. They noted that while this chasing could have been more intensive, this approach needs to be considered in context. They explained that their solicitor has a busy workload of often urgent community protection cases and, by this time, the matter at hand had progressed slowly (and there had been previous delay from Mr C's side).
- iv. acknowledged there were several periods of delay between September 2020 and mid-January 2021 on the part of the English Solicitors in responding to emails from their Senior Solicitor and Mr C's solicitor. They noted that their Senior Solicitor chased the English solicitor regularly seeking engagement. They stated that although Legal Services cannot directly control a third party, the matter should have been escalated to the Principle Solicitor to make it clear that it should be prioritised and to seek better responsiveness from the English solicitors.
- v. said it was clear from the correspondence on file that Mr C's solicitor had to send the same documentation to the Council (or its English Solicitors) on a number of occasions. They considered that document storage and sharing by the Council/HSCP could have been better managed. However, they did not consider this to have been a significant factor in terms of delay and stated that matters did not appear to have been held up significantly due to a lack of provision of documentation.
- vi. apologised for the delay and inconvenience caused to Mr C.
- vii. said the Principal Solicitor would take a more prominent role in relation to resolving any future delays, escalating issues to the Senior Legal Manager as appropriate. Secondly, they said they had asked for an update on the matter from the Senior Solicitor by close of business each Wednesday and Friday



until it was resolved. In turn, the Senior Legal Manager would provide a summary update to the Council's Head of Legal and Risk by close of business each Friday. They said they hoped these steps would assure Mr C that the matter would have ongoing attention of senior members of the Legal Services team, with a view to resolution as soon as possible.

14. In response to my enquiries, on 15 March 2021 the HSCP also said that:
 - i. in February 2020, the case was passed to the Council's Senior Solicitor to progress.
 - ii. from 4 November 2020 the English solicitors and Mr C's solicitor had been dealing directly with each other. They didn't come to an agreement until 3 February 2021. They said the Council cannot sign documentation until the English solicitors and Mr C's solicitor have agreed terms of discharging the charging orders.
 - iii. following an agreement being reached between all parties on 3 February 2021, confirmation of costs connected to the charging order linked to legal aid fees was to be requested by Mr A's social worker. They said this request was made to the Legal Aid Board by email on 25 February 2021. A response was received on 9 March 2021 and was passed forward to Mr C's solicitor the same day. They noted that final confirmation is required from Mr C's solicitor to accept the final charging order of the legal aid cost, before the relevant charging orders documentation can be signed off.

Code of practice for anyone authorised under an intervention or guardianship order, published by the Scottish Government, April 2008

15. This sets out the principles to be followed when making decisions on behalf of an adult. In particular it states that:
 - i. the code is for anyone who is authorised under an intervention order or guardianship order.
 - ii. the code applies equally to a lay person and to a professional such as a solicitor or accountant.
 - iii. whilst these codes of practice are guidance and therefore not binding, failure to comply with them may be one of the factors considered by the Public Guardian, the Mental Welfare Commission, the local authority or the sheriff in considering matters such as the continuing suitability of the person to exercise



those functions, in investigating circumstances in which the adult appears to be at risk or in applications before the court.

- iv. it is good practice to draw up a plan to implement the order, specifying when action will start, when it will be completed, and what steps have to be taken in between.
- v. if someone has a complaint against an intervener, he/she has recourse to the local authority or Public Guardian. The local authority has a duty to receive and investigate all complaints received regarding the exercise of functions relating to the personal welfare of an adult made in relation to interveners. The Public Guardian has a duty, while the adult is alive, to receive and investigate all complaints regarding the exercise of functions relating to the property or financial affairs of an adult made in relation to interveners.
- vi. a person who is dissatisfied with the actions of an intervener has recourse to the sheriff. An application to the sheriff may be made by any person claiming an interest in the property, financial affairs or personal welfare of the adult. You can also apply to the sheriff for directions under section 3(3)
- vii. the sheriff may dismiss such an application from a person challenging an interveners actions, or may give the applicant or the intervener directions. Everything will depend on the case which is put to the sheriff and his or her view of what is required by the principles in the situation which has been set out. If necessary the sheriff can vary or recall the intervention order.

Decision

16. First, as noted above, the HSCP delivers services under the delegated authority of the Council and ultimately the Council is responsible for those services. I have considered both the role of the social work service and the legal department as part of this complaint.
17. I also need to explain that it is not the role of the SPSO to determine what actions are required to execute the Intervention Order or to instruct the intervener to carry out certain actions. As detailed above, the sheriff may give the intervener directions in the event that an application is brought to them. I am considering whether there have been delays which would amount to maladministration or service failure and, if so, whether there are actions that the HSCP and/or the Council should take to reduce the likelihood of further delays occurring.



18. There is no specific timescale by which the Intervention Order has to be executed. However, I have considered whether the HSCP and the Council have taken reasonable steps to progress matters.

Action taken between August 2019 to December 2019

19. Although the Intervention Order was granted on 29 August 2019, it appears that the HSCP did not receive the Intervention Order from the court until after 19 September 2019. I recognise that the delay in receiving the Intervention Order from the court would have been outwith the HSCP's control. In Mid-November 2019 there were discussions between social workers and Mr C's sister regarding getting the details of the charges on the house as a starting point. I have not seen evidence that any significant progress was made regarding this until 9 January 2020 when social work contacted the Legal Aid Agency to request the redemption figure.
20. I note that the HSCP have acknowledged that during this period their communication with Mr C (and his sister) could have been better. They have also acknowledged that there was a delay in allocating a new social worker to Mr A between 9 July 2019 until 21 October 2019. The HSCP apologised to Mr C for the failings identified and explained that these delays occurred due to the need to prioritise Adult Support and Protection investigations, staff sickness absence and annual leave.

Action taken between January 2020 to August 2020

21. I note that the HSCP received information from the Legal Aid Agency on 24 January 2020. Between 24 January 2020 and 17 February 2020 there was regular and timely communication between the HSCP and Mr C's solicitor.
22. On 17 February 2020 a social worker emailed Mr C's solicitor and chased a response on 26 February 2020 and 27 March 2020. Mr C's solicitor then got in contact on 30 March 2020. Mr C's solicitor confirmed that she intended to take instruction from Mr C and advised that she would get back in contact with the social worker and the Council's solicitor as soon as she could.
23. In a telephone call with the social worker on 30 June 2020, Mr C's solicitor confirmed that she had written to Mr C and his sister to establish if they would be able/willing to pay the legal aid charge and was waiting to hear back from them. The next written communication from Mr C's solicitor was on 6 July 2020 confirming that Mr C would be able to assist by way of advancing the sum to pay the legal aid charge.



24. On 10 July 2020 the social worker advised Mr C's solicitor that they would make contact with the Legal Aid Agency. I note that the social worker does not appear to have contacted the Legal Aid Agency until 29 July 2020. The Council have acknowledged this period of delay and that it should have been clearer whether Legal Services or Social Care were to be responsible for chasing up elements of this matter.
25. Between 30 July 2020 and 14 August 2020 there appears to have been timely communication between the social worker, Mr C's solicitor, the Legal Aid Agency, the Council's Senior Solicitor and Mr C.

Length of time to contact an English solicitor and obtain quotes between August 2020 to October 2020

26. Although I recognise that Mr C's solicitor advised the HSCP to appoint a solicitor from the England and Wales Jurisdiction in January 2020, it was a discretionary matter for the HSCP/Council whether to do this or not. The Council have explained that their Senior Solicitor sought to have an understanding of the charge themselves before seeking to instruct English Solicitors. This is a decision they were entitled to make and does not amount to maladministration or service failure. The Council were not under an obligation to follow the advice of Mr C's solicitor because Mr C's solicitor was not acting on the Council's behalf.
27. As detailed above, between January 2020 and August 2020 I have seen evidence that steps were being taken by the HSCP to progress matters. In particular, on the advice of the Council's solicitor, social work obtained information from the Legal Aid Agency regarding the charges and were awaiting information from Mr C's solicitor (which they did not receive until 6 July 2020). It is apparent that the social worker and the Council's solicitor then undertook a review of the paperwork and discussed the financial aspects of the matter. On 11 August 2020 the Council's solicitor confirmed to the social worker that they would obtain a quote from English Solicitors.
28. The Council first contacted an English solicitor to obtain a quote on 14 August 2020. I have seen evidence in the records that the Council's solicitor was in contact with the English solicitor regarding this matter on 19 August 2020, 26 August 2020, 14 September 2020 and 29 September 2020. A quote was received from the English solicitor on 30 September 2020.



29. I also note that Mr C's solicitor was updated by the social worker and the Council's solicitor on 20 August 2020, 27 August 2020, 14 September 2020 and 7 October 2020 (when she was notified of the quote obtained).
30. The Council have acknowledged that:
- the chasing could have been more intensive. However, the approach has to be considered in context given that the Council solicitor has a busy workload of often urgent community protection cases.
 - given the subsequent delays on the part of the English Solicitors to provide a quote, it may have been beneficial to seek their quote at an earlier stage. However, they noted that this conclusion involved hindsight.
31. I would note that SPSO investigations are based on the information known to the Council at the time of events and without hindsight. The Council could not have known that there would be a delay in receiving a quote from the English Solicitors and, for the reasons set out above, I am not critical of the length of time before they decided to seek a quote.
32. Overall, I have not seen evidence of an administrative or procedural failure regarding the length of time to contact an English solicitor and obtain quotes. While the Council could have chased the English Solicitor again between 26 August 2020 and 14 September 2020, I do not consider that this amounts to an unreasonable delay.

Delay in the English Solicitor communicating with Mr C's solicitor between October 2020 to January 2021

33. Mr C's solicitor was informed of the quote from the English solicitor on 7 October 2020. Mr C's solicitor got back to the Council on 14 October 2020 with a proposed approach and the Council passed this on to the English Solicitor on 20 October 2020.
34. The Council's solicitor chased the English solicitors for a response on 2 November 2020. On 3 November 2020 the English solicitor asked for further information from the Council. The Council provided this information on 4 November 2020 and asked if the English solicitors would be willing to correspond with Mr C's solicitor directly.
35. On 4 November 2020, the English Solicitor contacted Mr C's solicitor directly. On 23 November 2020 Mr C's solicitor contacted the English solicitor to advise that she had left a voicemail a number of weeks ago and another one that day.



Mr C's solicitor asked for them to call her back. On the same day the English solicitor called Mr C's solicitor back. On 27 November 2020 Mr C's solicitor provided information that had been requested by the English solicitor.

36. On 9 December 2020 and 13 January 2021, Mr C's solicitor chased the English solicitor for a response. On 13 January 2021 the English solicitor asked Mr C's solicitor to set out in clear terms what she was proposing. On 26 January 2021 the English Solicitor chased Mr C's solicitor for a response. On 3 February 2021 Mr C's solicitor responded to the English Solicitor.
37. The Council have acknowledged there were periods of delay between September 2020 and mid-January 2021 on the part of the English solicitors (acting on the Council's behalf) in responding to emails from their Senior Solicitor and Mr C's solicitor. I have seen evidence in the records that the Council's Senior Solicitor did regularly chase this matter up with the English solicitors. Nevertheless this does not appear to have been effective as I note Mr C's solicitors also had to chase the English solicitors on a number of occasions. Given the English solicitors are acting on behalf of the Council it is ultimately the Council's responsibility to ensure timely responses are received and I am critical this has not always happened. The Council have also identified that this matter should have been escalated to the Principal Solicitor to make it clear that it should be prioritised. Had this been escalated to the Principal Solicitor at an earlier point, this may have helped matters to progress.

Conclusions

38. This is clearly a complex legal case. Given the complexity and number of parties involved, this will undoubtedly impact on timescales. Nevertheless my investigation has identified some delays in progressing the actions set out in the Intervention Order on the part of the HSCP/Council. Both the HSCP and the Council have acknowledged and apologised to Mr C for this. Some of these delays appear to have been outwith the HSCP and the Council's control (awaiting on responses from Mr C's solicitors and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic). However, some of the delays could have been avoided (by having clear lines of responsibility between Social Care and Legal Services and by escalating the matter internally), I consider that, on balance, there has been an unreasonable delay in executing the Intervention Order. As such, I uphold this complaint.
39. I note that the Code of practice for anyone authorised under an intervention or guardianship order states it is good practice to draw up a plan to implement the order, specifying when action will start, when it will be completed and the steps



to be taken in between. While this does not place an obligation on the HSCP or the Council to have a written plan, it may have been helpful to have had a written plan in the circumstances of this case. It was known from the outset that implementing the order was going to involve the input from both social services and legal services. A written plan may have helped to identify clear lines of responsibility between Social Work and Legal Services and in relation to the management and storage of documents regarding this matter (which the Council have already identified as an area for improvement). I have included this point in my feedback for the HSCP and the Council at the end of this decision notice.

40. Given that HSCP and the Council have already apologised to Mr C for the delays, I have not recommended that they issue a further apology to Mr C.
41. The Council have also taken action to ensure that senior members of the Legal Services team will have ongoing oversight of this matter until it is resolved. In particular that:
 - i. the Principal Solicitor will take a more prominent role in relation to resolving any future delays, escalating issues to the Senior Legal Manager as appropriate.
 - ii. the Senior Legal Manager will receive updates on this matter every Wednesday and Friday until the matter is resolved.
 - iii. the Senior Legal Manager will provide a summary update to the Council's Head of Legal and Risk by close of business each Friday.
42. These are the kind of actions that the SPSO would usually recommend in a situation like this. While it appears that matters are now at an advanced stage, the HSCP/Council should ensure there are no further avoidable delays on their part in relation to discharging the order. I have therefore asked for evidence in relation to the ongoing oversight of this matter until final confirmation is received in my recommendations at the end of this decision notice.



Organisation: Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

SPSO ref: 202001087

Recommendations

Learning from complaints

The Ombudsman expects all organisations to learn from complaints, and the findings from this report should be shared throughout the organisation. The learning should be shared with those responsible for the operational delivery of the service as well as the relevant internal and external decision-makers who make up the governance arrangements for the organisation, for example elected members, audit or quality assurance committee or clinical governance team.

Evidence of action already taken

Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership told us they had already taken action to fix the problem. We will ask them for evidence that this has happened:

Rec. number	What we found	What the organisation say they have done	What we need to see
	<p>Under complaint (a) we found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it was unclear whether Legal Services or Social Care were responsible for chasing up elements of this matter. 	<p>The Council said they had discussed this matter with their Senior Solicitor and Principal Solicitor in order that this is clearer in the future.</p>	<p>Evidence that the findings on these complaints have been fed back to relevant staff in a supportive way (e.g. a record of a meeting with staff; or feedback given at on-to-one sessions).</p>



Rec. number	What we found	What the organisation say they have done	What we need to see
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this matter should have been escalated internally to the Principal Solicitor. 		By: 6 September 2021
	Under complaint (a) we found that there were delays in correspondence regarding the execution of the intervention order.	<p>The Council's Legal Services Team said that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Principal Solicitor will take a more prominent role in relation to resolving any future delays, escalating issues to the Senior Legal Manager as appropriate. the Senior Legal Manager will receive updates on this matter every Wednesday and Friday until the matter is resolved. the Senior Legal Manager will provide a summary update to the Council's Head of Legal and Risk by close of business each Friday. 	<p>Evidence that the Principal Solicitor is taking a prominent role in relation to resolving any future delays, escalating issues to the Senior Legal Manager as appropriate.</p> <p>Evidence that the Senior Legal Manager has received updates on this matter every Wednesday and Friday.</p> <p>Evidence that Senior Legal Manager has provided a summary update to the Council's Head of Legal and Risk by close of business each Friday.</p> <p>By: 6 September 2021</p>



Feedback for Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

Points to note:

The Code of practice for anyone authorised under an intervention or guardianship order states it is good practice to draw up a plan to implement the intervention order, specifying when action will start, when it will be completed and the steps to be taken in between. In circumstances of this case it may have been helpful to have a written plan and the HSCP and the Council may want to reflect on this.

The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Annual Performance Report, 2020/21 – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. For Decision/Action

- 1.1 The Policy and Sustainability Committee has referred a report on the Annual Performance Report, 2020/21 to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Louise Williamson, Committee Services, Strategy and Communications Division,
Chief Executive Services

E-mail: louise.p.williamson@edinburgh.gov.uk

Referral Report

Annual Performance Report, 2020/21 – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

2. Terms of Referral

- 2.1 On 10 June 2021 the Policy and Sustainability Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive which provided an overview of the council performance in 2020/21 against the Change Strategy themes, drawing on corporate performance indicators and benchmarking data including the Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 data.
- 2.2 The Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed to refer the report by the Chief Executive to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

3. Background Reading/ External References

Minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 10 June 2021.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Report by the Chief Executive

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Thursday 10 June 2021

Annual Performance Report, 20/21

Executive
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That members of the Policy and Sustainability Committee note the annual performance report for the 2020/21 financial year.
- 1.2 Refer the annual performance report to the City of Edinburgh Council on 24 June.
- 1.3 Note that a revised performance framework will be implemented from April 2021 which aligns to the new Council Business Plan.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Gillie Severin, Strategic Change and Delivery Senior Management

E-mail: Gillie.Severin@edinburgh.gov.uk

Annual Performance Report, 2020/21

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides an overview of council performance in 2020/21 against the Change Strategy themes, drawing on corporate performance indicators and benchmarking data including the Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 data.
- 2.2 The report provides a detailed analysis of performance for members consideration in the year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact of COVID-19 has been varied across Council services so a Blue RAG has been added to show where this impact makes comparison with performance in previous years or against targets not appropriate (37 out of 87 indicators). Of the remaining indicators where a RAG status has been assigned, 37 show improved or maintained performance and nine show a decline. The indicators that show a decline in performance in 2020/21 are found across the services rather than are focused in a single service area.
- 2.3 The report also identifies areas where performance challenges remain. The report sets out how the Council is focusing on these areas and identifies next steps being put in place to addresses these areas.

3. Background

- 3.1 Each year the Council is required to report to citizens on performance. This report fulfils that duty and considers performance within the Council from April 2020 to March 2021.
- 3.2 The suite of performance indicators reported has changed slightly from last year, with one indicator re-introduced; 5 indicators revised; 2 indicators added; and one indicator removed.
- 3.3 The 'percentage of children living in a low-income household' indicator has been re-introduced as the timeseries of data, using the new methodology, has now been published by [End Child Poverty](#).
- 3.4 Five indicators have been revised including:

- the anti-social behaviour indicator to better reflect the change in focus of the service following a review last year;
- the two planning application indicators now align with indicators published at a national level;
- and the two emission indicators now reflect the new target of net zero carbon by 2030.

- 3.5 The two additional indicators are ‘Bed days lost due to delayed discharge’ and ‘Air Quality Management Areas improvement’ and have been included to give a wider view of performance in those areas.
- 3.6 Finally, the ‘percentage of people who feel they have a say on local issues and services’ indicator has been removed as the Edinburgh People Survey has been revised into the Peoples Survey and this question is no longer included.
- 3.7 The impact of COVID-19 on many services means that performance this year is not comparable to previous years. A Blue RAG status has been included to show where COVID-19 has had an impact on performance regardless of whether than change shows improving or decreasing performance.
- 3.8 Some of indicators refer to the latest academic school year (running from August 2019 to June 2020) and trend analysis and RAG status has been reported on this data.
- 3.9 The lag time in the publication of some national reports (delayed by the impact of COVID-19) means there are some indicators where full year data for 2020/21 is not available.

4. Main report

- 4.1 This report contains analysis of our suite of Corporate Key Performance indicators (KPIs) shown over the last three years. Benchmarking data is also included from a number of datasets including the Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 dataset and Scottish Government national publications.
- 4.2 COVID-19 has had a large impact on our services over the last 12 months and some of the ways in which services have adapted throughout the year is included to provide a holistic picture of how the Council has performed this year.

Performance Overview

- 4.3 Within the report, a RAG status, which compares performance against the target, has been assigned to the indicators. The RAG status is summarised below:

RAG Status	Definition	Count
Blue	COVID-19 impact, not comparable to previous years/target	37
Green	Performance is on or ahead of target	35

Amber	Performance is behind target by 5% or less	6
Red	Performance is behind target by more than 5%	4
-	RAG status could not be assigned	5

4.4 A high-level analysis comparing performance this year with last year has been added where possible. For those services where COVID-19 has had an impact, narrative has been added to provide to describe the impact and our response.

4.5 A comparison of 2019/20 to 2021/21 performance for 39 indicators, where COVID-19 hasn't had a sustained impact and data is available for 2020/21, is summarised below:

Trend	Definition	Count
Improving	Performance has improved on last year	27
Maintaining	Performance has remained the same as last year	10
Declining	Performance has declined on last year	8
Not appropriate	Comparing performance to last year is not appropriate	42

4.6 A full and detailed analysis of performance is shown in Appendix A showing the impact of COVID-19 on our services and performance and how we have adapted as well as outlining where progress has been made. The Annual Performance report also highlights those areas that remain challenging and provides commentary on the efforts being made and the improvement plans which are in place to address these issues.

4.7 An analysis of our complaints performance for 2020/21 is shown in Appendix B and will be published alongside the Annual Performance Report.

Performance Scrutiny, 2020/21

4.8 It is proposed that:

- the KPIs have been reviewed as part of the development of the new Planning and Performance Framework (PPF) to align with the new Business Plan. The initial suite of KPIs will be reported to Policy and Sustainability as part of the final PPF report.
- Scrutiny of any revised set of KPIs in future will be undertaken by the Policy and Sustainability Committee as part of the regular performance reporting as outlined in the PPF.
- KPIs will be scrutinised by the Corporate Leadership Team via internal Performance Scorecards and Dashboards on a tri-annual basis to align with performance reporting to the Policy and Sustainability Committee.

- 4.9 We are also working to further improve the performance reporting available to the Public via our website as recommended in our recent Best Value Audit report. The Annual Performance Report (Appendix A) is part of our public performance reporting and will be made available on the Strategy, Performance and Research pages of [our website](#) following consideration at Council Committee. We will further enhance this with the publication of additional performance and data, for example, quarterly core performance measures, Best Value reports and Edinburgh By Numbers.
- 4.10 This will ensure compliance with our statutory reporting as set out by the Accounts Commission, Statutory Performance Information 2018 Direction.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The Annual Performance Report, 2020/21 will be published on the Council website and promoted through our social media channels.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Given that this report is retrospective, there is neither a financial nor procurement impact.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 A communications plan has been put together to promote the Annual Performance Report both within the Council and externally.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Programme for the Capital - The City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan 2017-22, The City of Edinburgh Council, 24 August 2017

Appendices

Appendix A: Annual Performance Report, 2020/21

Appendix B: Annual Complaints Report, 2020/21

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

2020/21

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Foreword



Adam McVey
Council Leader



Cammy Day
Council Depute Leader



Andrew Kerr
Chief Executive

We're pleased to present our Annual Performance Report for 2020–2021, which has been a year like no other.

This report captures our work amidst a period of global crisis, which for Edinburgh began in March 2020. Our city and our lives changed very suddenly, and the scale of the Council's involvement to sustain lifeline services and keep our communities safe quickly became clear.

Since then, we've worked hard to keep services running and deliver vital help for those citizens and businesses who need it most. Our teams continue to have pride in working for our Capital City and a willingness to embrace new, innovative ways of working to deliver for the people of Edinburgh. Colleagues across all services have adapted to working differently and employed new technology to ensure the essential work of the Council can continue. Irrespective of our role in the Council, we've all had to change how we work to respond to the needs of our residents.

Yet, while we had to pause or slow down delivery in some areas; in others we've been able to make real progress. The number of children receiving 1,140 hours of early learning and childcare continues to grow, we've successfully reduced our carbon emissions and our parks have more green flags than ever before. Our performance on building warrants has improved despite the need to allocate resources elsewhere, while vital services such as bin collections continued thanks to early actions taken to ensure our colleagues could work safely. This impacted our recycling rates but we're glad to report that these are starting to show an improving trend again.

The recovery from the pandemic will dominate most of our lives for some time to come and we've been honest in this report where our performance has been impacted by COVID-19 and, where possible, set out how we're going to get back on track.

This report fulfils our statutory duty to report on our performance but, more importantly, it provides a holistic picture. It demonstrates how we'll drive forward Edinburgh's continued recovery and the changes we need to make together if we're to make Edinburgh an even better city for our residents.

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Our response to COVID-19

Scotland was placed in lockdown on 23 March 2020. We quickly put in place many services to support our most vulnerable communities and businesses while maintaining essential public services. We also provided essential support throughout the pandemic working with several partners including the Scottish Government, NHS, EVOC and third sector organisations.

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Supporting shielding and vulnerable people



- 13,000 shielding people contacted to offer support
- 29,000 calls and emails from shielding and vulnerable people
- 28,000 people supported through our Community Resilience Centres
- 10,840 calls to test and protect contacts

Working with EVOC and third sector



Together, we supported:

- 5,195 people to get food
- 615 people get their medicines

Supporting young people and families



- Made more than 68,000 school meals payments worth over £1.5 million between March and August 2020
- 11,700 boxes delivered to schools and 2,160 to early years centres and distributed to families from June to the end of school term
- 3,587 iPads distributed to pupils and 1,140 data packages
- 19 schools on average kept open each week during the first lockdown up until August 2021
- An average of 281 key workers' and/or vulnerable children that attended hub schools across the city each week



Keeping in touch



- 185,326 messages handled on social media by our customer care team
- 39 million views of our website and 917,445 views of our coronavirus homepage

Financial support to people and businesses



- £370,000 worth of isolation support grants awarded to 740 people from October 2020
- £5.5 million+ of Scottish welfare grants awarded to 27,750 people
- £250 million+ grants awarded to 19,000 business

Protecting our frontline staff



10.53 million PPE items (masks, aprons, gloves) issued to keep frontline workers safe and make sure that they could continue to deliver vital public services

Finding temporary homes



30% more temporary accommodation provided and we also worked with third sector partners to support people who were homeless.

Strategic overview

This year we have put extensive resources into supporting the residents of Edinburgh and adapting our services as we live and work through COVID-19 restrictions along with taking forward our long-term strategic priorities. However, the impact of COVID-19 on the city over the last 12 months has been huge, and we need to focus on how we support the city to recover.

We have started to do this through our Adaptation and Renewal programme with five working groups:

- public health
- service operations
- change, people and finance
- sustainable economic recovery
- and life chances.

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Through this work and our learning from our response to COVID-19, we have refreshed our Business Plan ([Our Future Council, Our Future City](#)) and we are implementing a new Planning and Performance Framework.

Our 2050 Edinburgh City Vision continues to underpin our work ensuring that Edinburgh recovers to be the fair, pioneering, welcoming and thriving city that residents told us they wanted their city to be.

However, this performance report covers the period between April 2020 and March 2021 and so is aligned to the previous Business Plan, [The Programme for the Capital](#), which sets our strategic direction over the period of the current administration, 2017 - 2022. It includes the 52 Commitments that the Coalition will deliver, and splits our work under three themes that we have focused on:



- targeting investment on prevention and early intervention to reduce long-term reliance on services and allowing citizens to lead active, independent lives
- driving improvements to deliver the high-quality services that our citizens expect and deserve
- delivering growth within the city that is sustainable and inclusive.

You can read more about our progress in our annual Commitments Report.

This annual performance report sets out a summary of our performance under these three themes, and also brings together data on how we have managed our services in 2020/21. We have included our key performance indicators for 2020/21 in this report, along with data from the previous two years to provide a comparison.

Prevention and early intervention

We support people to live healthier, longer, more independent lives and to improve life chances for all children; especially our most vulnerable. We place the needs of the individual at the centre of our services and supports which we provide at the earliest stage possible. We also want citizens to be involved in designing how their needs are met and for us to be able to respond quickly if these change.

Below are some key performance indicators that give an indication of how we are performing.



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Schools and education	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Percentage of early years settings providing 1140 hours of funded early learning and childcare	51%	55%	75%	51%	B
Schools (most recent education data)	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Target	Status
Percentage of primary 1 pupils achieving CfE early Level reading	83%	84%	-	84%	-
Percentage of all leavers achieving literacy and numeracy Level 5	66.70%	67.1%	71.7%	67%	B
Percentage of all leavers from deprived areas achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or higher	38.00%	40.4%	49.2%*	40%	B
Percentage of all leavers achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher	37.50%	40.4%	44.1%*	37%	B
Percentage of all school leavers in positive initial destination	94.30%	95.1%	92.5%*	94%	B

School Attendance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Percentage of primary pupils with low attendance	6.50%	8.0%	10.6%**	6%	B
Percentage of secondary pupils with low attendance	13.30%	15.2%	17.2%**	13%	B
Children Services	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Looked After Children					
Number of looked after children (rate per 1,000)	14.5	13.7	12.5	15.4	G
Fostering and adoption	-				
Percentage of placements with Council foster carers	65.20%	67.4%	67.4%	67.0%	G
Homelessness	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Homeless case management					
Average homeless case length (days)	365.3	380.4	476.3	340	B
% repeat homeless presentations	7.0%	5.5%	6.6%***	6.0%	B
% of support referrals made for households with a recognised support need	44.10%	54.10%	64.1%***	55%	B
Homeless accommodation					
% use of B&B as total of all temporary accommodation usage	39.8%	6.7%	13.3%	5.0%	B
No of families in B&Bs (at end March)	21	1	4	0	B
No of 16-17 year olds in B&Bs (at end March)	3	1	0	0	B
Non-contractual spend on B&Bs/shared houses	£3.34M	£2.71M	£7.20M	£2.75M	B
Family and household support	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Antisocial behaviour					
Number of antisocial behaviour complaints per 10k population	32.01	29.86	32.56	30	B
Criminal Justice social work	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Criminal justice orders					
% of criminal justice orders successfully completed	63.6%	65.4%	77.8%	65%	B

% of orders with unpaid work requirements with work placement offered within timescale (5 days)	95.4%	95.1%	70.3%	85%	B
Adult social care services	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Unmet care (at end of March)					
Number of people delayed awaiting discharge from hospital (18+)	150	136	122	Decreasing	G
Bed days lost due to delayed discharge (18+, full year figure)	81,071	62,120	32,798	Decreasing	G
Number of people waiting for a package of care in the community	440	586	355	Decreasing	G
Number of people waiting for a package of care in hospital	40	48	53	Decreasing	A
Balance of care					
Percentage of adults 18+ years receiving care in their home, rather than a residential setting or hospital	57.2%	57.4%	60.4%	Increasing	G
Assessment and care management (at end of March)					
Total number of people waiting for assessment	1,375	1016	697	Decreasing	G
Total number of people with an overdue review	3,828	5239	3790	Decreasing	G
Average assessment waiting time (days)	37	42.8	25.2	Decreasing	G
Number of carer assessments/adult carer support plans completed	909	936	518	Increasing	B
Substance misuse support					
Substance misuse – timely treatment (percentage within three weeks)	85.5%	80.4%	80.6%	90%	R

Notes:

- * *Attainment data is for academic year 2019/20 where a new method of assessment was used to give grades. Figure for 2019/20 cannot be directly compared with previous year's performance*
- ** *Attendance data is only up to December 2020*
- Due to the move to a new recording system for Homelessness on 25 January 2021 and the reporting system still being finalised, the Homeless data is only available for April to December 2020.*
- Substance misuse figures are for Oct – Dec 2020 (latest data published)*

Status **B** – COVID-19 impact, not comparable to previous years

G – on or ahead of target

A – within 5% of target

R – greater than 5% behind target

Schools and early learning

We educate over 51,300 children in our 89 primary, 23 secondary and 11 special schools. We also have 99 early years settings. The number of children in Edinburgh continues to grow and so we continue to invest in our learning estate to be ready to meet expanding rolls in the years to come.

We had to close all our schools and early years provision in response to COVID-19. Throughout the year we have adapted how we provide learning to all pupils depending on the COVID restrictions in place. We quickly developed online learning for the first lockdown, adapted our schools to make them COVID safe for both pupils and staff to return, and also implemented a blended approach to learning for early 2021. Our staff have worked hard to ensure pupils continued to learn during this most challenging of years.

To support home learning, we delivered 3,587 iPads and 1,140 data packages to vulnerable children ensure that all had equal access to the online learning put in place this year. We also had to train staff quickly on how to deliver learning and teaching remotely. Our work with Teaching Unions paved the way for major advances in digital learning, overcoming issues including reporting to parents remotely.

Despite COVID restrictions we continue to increase the **hours of early learning and childcare provided** across all settings and at December 2020 three-quarters of all eligible children had a 1140 hours placement. We continue to work to meet the new Scottish Government deadline of August 2021.

Significant strategic plans had to be paused, including the raising of attainment of Numeracy and Mathematics. With the schools closed there was no standardised testing undertaken for pupils in Broad General Education and the Scottish Government cancelled the collection of Curriculum for Excellence levels in June 2020. For pupils in our senior phase an alternative certification model was developed for the assessment of SQA attainment courses in 2020 and 2021.

In terms of **educational attainment**, this year's cohort have had a more disjointed experience due to lockdowns, partial reopening of schools and home learning and we continue to monitor the situation carefully. There is clear evidence of an impact in terms of positive destinations for the 2019-20 cohort and so this is an area where we are increasing support for schools. This support includes earlier and more effective tracking of pupil destinations, more effective partnership working with Skills Development Scotland staff, and support visits to schools as required. We have focused efforts on identifying pupils originally listed as "unknown" in terms of Positive Destinations and are working to reduce these numbers.

COVID-19 has impacted on our ability to continue to **reduce the number of pupils with low attendance**. To support schools with home learning in 2021, Guidance in Monitoring or Engagement in Remote Learning was developed and shared with schools via an Additional Support for Learning Briefing. A Home Link Team was set up to support school's early intervention to engage children and young people in remote learning and returning to school post lockdown.

Only three special schools remained open for the children of keyworkers and children with complex needs whose parents needed ongoing day care support. Our Additional Support for Learning and Psychological services continued to operate during the period of school closures with direct support provided through Forest Schools and Outdoor Learning or support and advice to schools and families online. We delivered food parcels to vulnerable families, co-ordinated through a central team.

Children's services

We support children and young people when they need care and protection by making sure they receive the right help, at the right time, from the right people.

We have invested in preventative, strength-based approaches that focus on relationships which has allowed more children and young people to remain in their families and communities. This has resulted in our rate of children being looked after falling from a peak of over 17 per 1,000

population in 2014 to 12.5 in 2020/21 and are now below the national figure for the first time.

We have continued to have a high **proportion of children in foster care placed with an Edinburgh Council foster carer**. At the end of March 2021 over 67% of all foster care placements are now with Council foster carers and the number placed with agency carers is the lowest in over ten years. We have aligned various teams working on supporting carers under one manager for greater sharing of resources and improved the range of training and development opportunities for all carers.

Child Protection related activity has been at levels similar to last year and the number of children on the Child Protection Register remains low.

We have maintained our support services for Looked After Children during the pandemic with assessment, support and direct care being delivered in accordance with Health and Safety guidance. Since March 2020, all staff have worked from home and we adapted intake processes quickly to reflect this new way of working. All face to face interactions with carers and children including the movement of children into and out of foster care placements were assessed to ensure everyone was COVID safe. Residential and Secure care have provided the same level of care delivered prior to March 2020. We have received additional funding to employ a full-time coordinator to enhance collaborative working across the Children's Partnership and assist with the implementation of the Promise.

We have been expanding our residential capacity by identifying supported accommodation options for unaccompanied asylum seekers. In the coming year supported accommodation options will continued to be expanded for care experienced young people and unaccompanied asylum seekers. We have also put in place contingency arrangements in case of COVID related closure of accommodations and arranged for third sector providers to provide placements for emergency admissions. We have developed a comprehensive fostering framework with 16 providers that will start from April 2021.

We've decided to separate responsibility for the recruitment and support of permanent foster carers to address an identified trend of children requiring this type of care to be placed with out of authority carers. A strategy to build on the strengths of Council carers offering permanent placements to children they currently care for will be developed.

Disability Team

With COVID-19 and the lockdown restrictions from the Scottish Government, we have had to move to working from home and consider the best way to continue supporting families and managing contact for children who are accommodated.

We worked alongside the Locality practice teams to help deliver food and essential medical items to those shielding and to consider the safest way to support the families who were struggling with the care of their disabled child/ren alongside caring for siblings and also having to work from home themselves.

During the first lockdown we worked with our partners to develop a range of bespoke supports for those most in need, as well as managing the key worker hub at Braidburn school. We ensured that all children who were offered support could be kept safe as well as ensuring the safety for our staff. These supports worked well, and we were able to continue with these over the summer and autumn months.

We also worked with our partners who offer short overnight breaks to ensure that the children being offered this were those most in need and all units were following the same guidance. The staff from our behavioural support service have also helped support two special schools who were struggling with support staff for some classes.

We continued to respond to crisis situations and contacted all our families in the summer of 2020 to check that they were managing and to see what support was needed. This process is currently being repeated.

We continue to ensure that children aren't waiting for an assessment starting for more than two weeks. This has been more challenging over this last year as we know families are stressed with children being at home and often assessments have had to be delayed. To reduce delays, we have adapted the format of the assessment of need and risk form to make it shorter and focus on the key areas for families. Also, where possible we have offered support for three years which allows families to plan better and have consistency of care for their children.

We have accessed Scottish Government funding to support families through purchases such as IT and play equipment. We have also enabled families in using their Self-Directed Support funding flexibly where direct support could not take place, while ensuring that this would meet the same outcomes.

Our transitions teams have now been co-located with the Young People with a Disability team for over a year which has increased our understanding of each other's roles and allowed for enhanced partnership working. This has been additionally helpful due to staff working at home as links and relationships were already in place and communication between the two teams continues to improve.

Homelessness services

Our aim continues to be to prevent homelessness from happening in the first place, but when it happens, we work with individuals to support them into accommodation.

We continued to support vulnerable tenants throughout COVID restrictions by setting up Council Resilience Centres (CRC's) offering emergency assistance for people who required temporary accommodation or homelessness assistance. People were offered support through, COVID safe, face to face and remote appointments. We worked with third party agencies to procure approximately 600 bedspaces which ensured that all rough sleepers were provided with accommodation and support away from the streets in late March and early April 2020. By

continuing this joint working during the year, we have reduced the number of people sleeping rough in the city from a pre-COVID average of 80 -120 people per night to under 10. In addition, we worked with partners to set up accommodation facilities to allow isolation and testing facilities for people who may be infected with COVID living in homeless accommodation.

We have also housed a number of families that would not normally be eligible for accommodation and so met public health requirements and current Scottish Government / COSLA guidance setting out the expectation that local authorities assist people with no eligibility for service to prevent destitution and rough sleeping.

One of the impacts of COVID restrictions has been fewer long-term suitable accommodation vacancies as people are moving less. This means that people in temporary accommodation cannot move into longer term accommodation. This reduced through put of individuals is seen in our performance for 2020/21 (Apr to Dec):

- **Average homeless case length** has increased from 380 in 2019/20 to 476.3 days in 2020/21
- **Percentage of repeat homeless presentations** after decreasing in 19/20 to 5.5% has risen to 6.6% in 2020/21
- **Percentage use of B&B as a total of all temporary accommodation** usage increased to 13.3%, up from 6.7% in 2019/20.
- The **total number of families in B&Bs** on 31 March 2020 was one, due to focused work undertaken to ensure people could safely isolate themselves and their families during the Coronavirus outbreak. This has risen during the year, with a high of 17 as we accommodated families who would not normally be eligible for accommodation (those with no recourse to public funds). As at 31 March 2021, only four families remained in B&Bs.
- Our **non-contractual spend on B&Bs/shared houses** has also increased from £2.75 million in 2019/20 to £7.2 million in 2020/21. In

total, the pandemic has resulted in a net additional cost of £9.3m to homelessness services.

- However, we have maintained the 2019/20 **number of 16 – 17s in B&B accommodation** and continued to show improvement in the **proportion of support referrals made for households with a recognised support need** (from 44.1% in 2018/19, to 54.6% in 2019/20 to 64.1% in 2020/21).

We have developed the second iteration of our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) which was agreed by the Housing, Homelessness & Fair Work Committee on 18 September 2020. Our plan is aligned around four key objectives:

- preventing homelessness in the first place
- where temporary accommodation is required this will meet the needs of the household
- supporting people to access settled accommodation as quickly as possible
- reducing the number of people sleeping rough.

Our RRTP aims to increase prevention activity with a focus on earlier interventions. This work will be helped by the introduction of the Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme supported by Council investment agreed as part of the budget setting process for 2021/22. This will see the introduction of 28 additional posts focusing on prevention, early intervention, income maximisation and supporting people to move out of temporary accommodation into permanent housing. We will also establish a multi-disciplinary response team which will explore ways to work across our services to identify trigger points that may put someone at risk of homelessness in the future and offer joined up support.

Antisocial behaviour

We aim to keep the **number of antisocial behaviour complaints** received per 10,000 population below 30.0 per year. Our performance in 2020/21 was just above our target at 32.56 per 10,000 population which was similar to our rate in 2018/19 at 32.01 and higher than our rate in 2019/20 of 29.86. Most of our anti-social behaviour complaints are for noise or nuisance behaviour. We saw an increase in complaints in both of these categories in 2020/21 which are largely attributable to the restrictions placed on households as a result of COVID-19, resulting in more time at home for families and those who would normally be out at work. We saw a significant reduction in complaints about short term lets, with many of these sitting vacant during 2020/21 due to COVID related travel bans and holiday restrictions.

We have developed innovative and resilient community safety and justice services, such as online digital and telephone mediation services, to ensure people continued to access the support they require in COVID safe ways. These new approaches have both shortened the time taken to bring people in dispute together, as well as increased accessibility for those who have a disability, mobility or impairment.

Since April 2020, we have used a flexible model of mediation and shuttle mediation (in response to COVID-19) allowing a rapid response to neighbour disputes, such as noise, to seek early resolution and avoiding escalation. We have also continued to work jointly with Police, using our new formal review process, for all individuals with active ASBOs. As part of our three-year Community Safety Strategy (2020-2023) we continue to work jointly with partners to address community safety issues under our three themes of:

- response to noise
- young people who offend and those who become the victims of crime
- ASB - digital and social media.

Community justice

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on community justice services. While most of our services moved to being provided remotely, such as assessments, supervision of people on community orders, post-release licences and groupwork activities, our face to face unpaid work activity stopped between April and October.

The gradual restart of **unpaid work services** is seen in our monthly figures with performance levels rising in October to pre-pandemic performance by December 2020 before face to face work was suspended again in December as we went back into lockdown. Performance over the six-month period has averaged out at 70.3% for offering work placements within five days. However, our adapted ways of working have allowed us to exceed the target and in March 2021 it was 96.2%.

The impact of COVID-19 on the courts has also had an impact. We saw considerably fewer requests for assessments and new orders being made. In addition, courts prioritised cases where urgent breaches of orders or extensions were needed. Furthermore, all unpaid work requirements were automatically extended by 12 months. This results in a higher than normal percentage of **successful completed orders** through April to September 2020 with performance returning to normal levels in October to December as services restarted.

There is a significant backlog of court cases and as services restart, we expect a significant increase in our workload with higher numbers of reports being requested resulting in increased numbers of individuals requiring supervision in the community, as well as managing the ongoing supervision and groupwork intervention of the orders that were extended last year.

While most of our staff moved to working from home, we ensured that essential services remained open including our supported accommodation for those convicted of violent offences and our clinical

prescribing service for those being supported on Drug Treatment and Testing Orders.

We have developed new ways of supporting individuals ensuring physical distancing is the basis for all interactions. For group work services, support and supervision was delivered through video conferencing, workbook activities and telephone calls or where appropriate delivered in person at much reduced capacity. At the same time, we have made sure that appropriate supervision of medium and high-risk individuals has been maintained throughout such as risk managed home visits for supervision purposes for cases where the home environment was crucial to effective order management.

The Scottish Government's decision to release a limited number of eligible short term sentenced prisoners to support a safe custodial environment, ran smoothly in Edinburgh. Individuals were released with the support they required in place.

Other services funded by us also continued to support people throughout the pandemic. For example:

- Victim Support supporting victims and witnesses of crime during lockdown through telephone, email and using technology to ensure victims received the support they required and were encouraged to participate fully in the justice system. Victims were able to access the Victims Fund which provided goods and services to victims where they were unable to meet the cost.
- The Edinburgh and Midlothian Offender Recovery Service supporting eligible people being released from prison to access the supports they need remotely through phone contact. This increases their likelihood of successful rehabilitation into the community.
- The Travel Service, which normally transports eligible friends and family to visit their loved ones in prison, continued to support people looking to contact their family member in prison through an 'email a prisoner' scheme and provided updates on changes to prison visits as restrictions eased.

We have also progressed actions under the Edinburgh's Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2019-22. Work embedding the Sustainable Housing on Release for Everyone (SHORE) standards continued and a prison-based housing options officer was recruited into the Access to Housing and Support Services Team in January 2021. We have continued developing our trauma informed leadership through providing specific development and mentoring sessions for senior social workers and team leaders; delivering training relating to mental health in the context of trauma; developing materials to support staff in delivering trauma informed interventions and delivered regular trauma informed group supervisions.

Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

We continue to focus on supporting people to live as independently as possible. COVID-19 has made 2020/21 a challenging year for all and the work of the Health and Social Care Partnership has been no exception. The way we work and engage with people has changed. We have been focusing on ensuring ongoing support for those most frail and vulnerable; those people whose health and lives are at greatest risk if they do not receive support. These changes to the way we, and our partners, worked are evident in measures throughout the system, for example less activity at A&E and reduced numbers of delayed discharges.

The **numbers of people waiting to be discharged from hospital** has followed a downward trend in the last four years. Throughout 2020/21 we have worked to facilitate timely, safe discharges from hospital as well as working to prevent unnecessary hospital admissions through our Home First programme. By looking additionally at the number of bed days lost it is possible to better understand the impact of delayed discharge. The number of bed days lost during 2020/21, at 28,230 days, is less than half the number lost during 2019/20 (at 62,120 days).

As an early response to the COVID-19 pandemic, measures were put in places to increase hospital capacity. This resulted in the number of people whose discharge was delayed falling by three quarters (74%) from

189 at the January 2020 census to 49 at the April 2020 census. Edinburgh was not alone in seeing a large reduction; across Scotland the number of people delayed fell by 65% in the same period. However, as activity in hospitals increased during the year so did the number of delays. Progress was made over the winter and at March 2021 there were 122 people delayed.

The **number of people waiting for a package of care** in their own home has been following a downward trend in 2020/21. From a peak of 634 people awaiting a package of care in March 2020, a downward trend has followed during the rest of the year and 408 people were waiting for a package of care at the end of March 2021. There have been fewer than 500 people waiting for a package of care in eight out of the last nine months. Some of this reduction will be from constrained demand due to COVID-19, but work has continued to ensure that capacity remains strong for this type of support.

The **number of people waiting for assessment** fell substantially again this year. The latest data show there were 697 people waiting for an assessment at the end of March, down from 1,016 at the same time last year. This reduction has been driven by several factors including changes in people going on the waiting list due to COVID-19. Improvement work such as a focus on prioritising assessments and the rollout of the Three Conversations approach will also have had an impact on these figures. Three Conversations is a preventative approach building on the person's strengths and resilience and is currently being rolled out across different teams. The **average waiting time** for people to have their first conversation with a worker between December 2020 and February 2021 was 2.5 days. This compares with an average of 37.3 days for those working in the traditional assessment model over the same time period.

Carers are a vital partner to the Partnership in supporting people who require help. The Edinburgh Joint Carer's Strategy was approved in the summer of 2019 by the IJB and the City of Edinburgh Council. Due to restrictions on the ability for staff to meet with carers, the **number of Adult Carer Support Plans completed** has been lower this year,

however, the Partnership and Carer Centres continued to offer emotional support, information and practical advice to carers including connecting carers with a service that's right for them.

We aim to ensure that everyone has a regular review to ensure that their social care support continues to meet their needs. Again, this has proved challenging to do in person due to COVID-19 but we have been able to adapt our processes so staff who have been shielding can carry out reviews virtually. From early 2021 we have focused on ensuring all older people who have been in care homes for longer than six months are reviewed by summer 2021. More broadly, the **number of people awaiting a review** at the end of March 2021 was 3,790. This was 1,449 fewer than in March 2020, a reduction of over a quarter (27.7%).

The proportion of **people who started substance misuse treatment within three weeks** was similar in 2020/21 at 80.6% compared to 80.4% and remains behind our target. The challenges to provide consistently rapid treatment access in NHS services continues and was exacerbated by COVID-19. We have worked hard to prioritise the highest risk patients over the last year (mitigating the impact of the average waits), but demand has been high, and the core community treatment services are now seeing approximately a sixth more patients than last year.

You can find more details on the Health and Social Care Partnership's [performance in their Annual Performance report](#).

Key strategic/service developments

COVID-19 created significant challenges for the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, however, throughout we have strived to keep staff and the people we support safe including redeploying staff where extra resources were required, for example to enhance staff levels in care homes. Our Transformation Programme continues with some

amendments to accommodate the COVID-19 situation and we are considering how best to embed the positive changes that have been made in our response to COVID-19.

The Home First approach was accelerated in the spring of 2020. A focus on Discharge to Assess and the utilisation of 'Safe Haven' beds meant that fewer people were delayed in hospital and have been able to move home, or if their needs require it, move to a care home. These actions supported the aim in April 2020 of increasing hospital capacity. Discharges to care homes have continued through the year, with two negative COVID tests required to ensure the safety, not only of the person moving to the care home, but the residents and staff in the care home.

The rollout of the Three Conversations approach continued throughout the year. The ethos was spread more widely across all teams as they worked to connect people with their existing networks of support when it wasn't possible for them to be supported by more formal supports such as day care or lunch clubs. The rollout of formal innovation sites continues and, as well as people being seen in a more timely fashion with less need for formal support, staff reported feeling better able to support those requiring help.

We also started a conversation with the people of Edinburgh to develop the Edinburgh Pact, an agreement on expectations between the Partnership and Edinburgh citizens. In the summer of 2020 hundreds of people shared their views on what health and social care meant to them and this resulted in an [online exhibition](#). The Edinburgh Pact will shape the way we deliver services in the future, with a focus on enabling community mobilisation so services can be provided effectively within local communities.

High quality services

We aim to make our residents' lives better by improving the places where they live, work and visit. We take pride in providing high quality services to residents, businesses, and visitors of Edinburgh. It is essential that all our services, from collecting bins, to providing housing and street lighting, are accessible to all. We are taking advantage of new technology to make sure that services make best value of public money.

Below are some key performance indicators that give an indication of how we are performing.



Waste and cleansing	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Waste Management					
% of waste recycled	41.1%	41.1%	39.6%	Increasing	A
Individual domestic missed bin service requests	33,621	17,690	19,887	21,180	G
Communal Domestic Overflowing and Missed Bin Service Requests	21,868	17,004	19,484	22,020	G
Street Cleansing					
% of streets clean (LEAMS)	92%	92.8%	81.8%	93%	B

Planning and building standards	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Planning					
Average no. of weeks to determine major planning applications (new measure)	61.1	45.7	64	33.5	R
Average no. of weeks to determine non-householder planning applications (new measure)	16.8	15.7	12.2	10.9	G
Building Standards					
% first report building warrants issued within 20 days	80%	96%	98%	95%	G
% of building warrants issued in 10 days after receipt of all satisfactory information	63%	83%	95%	90%	G
Roads	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
% of customer defect enquiries completed within five working days	73%	75%	68%	85%	R
% of emergency road defects made safe within 24 hours	95%	98%	100%	90%	G
% of priority road defects repaired within five days	81%	94%	96%	90%	G
Road condition index (RCI)	36.40%	33.5%	37.1%	Decreasing	A
Housing services	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Housing					
Home completions (all tenures)	2,813	3,127	-	Increasing	-
Number of affordable homes approved	1,626	1,930	1,285	1,574	R
Rent arrears					
Average level of debt of tenants in arrears	£878	£967	£1,184	£900	B
Current rent arrears (end of year)	£5.7M	£6.3M	£9.4M	Decreasing	B
Income collected as a percentage of the total rent due	99.8%	99.6%	96%	n/a	B
Parks, greenspace and cemeteries	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Number of parks achieving green flag award status	32	32	34	32	G

Lifelong learning	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Target	Status
Number of adults achieving personal learning goals through participation in targeted education programmes	1,946	1,882	1,929	2,067	B
Number of young people participating in music, arts, cultural and creative learning activities	22,775	27,216	-	24,300	B
Number of young people participating in sport, physical activity, and outdoor learning (includes Active Schools)	24,086	27,015	28971	25,800	B
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Number of library customer transactions	6.66M	6.38M	3.50M	6.99M	B

Note: the lifelong learning indicators are based on Academic year so latest data is up to August 2020.

Status **B** – COVID-19 impact, not comparable to previous years

G – on or ahead of target

A – within 5% of target

R – greater than 5% behind target

Waste services

Our waste services have continued throughout 2020/21 as we have adapted how we collect bins to ensure that our staff work in COVID safe ways. As we adjusted to the first lockdown, we had to stop blue box (glass) and brown bin (garden waste) collections, as well as closing recycling centres. This had a significant effect on **our recycling rates** which were unable to reach previous years' levels until June but have since shown an improving trend. As most Councils had to prioritise their essential collection services, our recycling rates is likely to remain in line with the national trend. Over 110,000 tonnes of waste was treated to generate energy rather than end up in landfill in 2020 at the 'Energy from Waste' plant at Millerhill. Early engagement on the Communal Bin Review has been carried out however the full completion of the review has been delayed until 2021/22, due to COVID-19.

Our performance remains positive for **service requests for missed individual bins**. Although there has been a slight increase from 2019/20, requests are almost 40% lower than the level in 2018/19 and ahead of our target. There has also been an increase in the **number of missed and overflowing bin requests for communal services**, though we have

outperformed the target, despite significant changes having to be made through the year. This included suspending services as explained above, reducing crew numbers in cabs, which in turn meant running separate vehicles to accompany collection crews. Also, the rise in home working and people spending more time at home is creating additional pressure on our service as people are generating more household waste.

Street cleanliness

We have had to cope with significant disruption in 2020/21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including redeploying some staff to support other services in waste and cleansing. Monitoring through the year by Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) does reflect the difficulties in providing a citywide service. This is reflected in the street cleanliness score which has dropped significantly from previous years. Initial feedback from KSB indicates that this is primarily due to the prevalence of domestic waste in high density residential areas. A full analysis of the data is required to fully understand the reasons behind the score. The report is due to be circulated at the end of May. The report will also allow comparison with the other Scottish Authorities, meanwhile KSB have indicated that the urban authority benchmarking family group as a whole has seen a

significant drop in cleanliness score since last year with the average score, although yet to be confirmed, to be around 85%.

For the programme in 2021/22 an integrated approach will be taken whereby the new Litter Monitoring System platform and technology will be used but the current LEAMs (Local Environment Audit & Management System) methodology will also continue to be used. Litter counts which align with the new code will be undertaken but they won't be used for the KPI in 2021/22. This approach is being taken to provide a reliable transition between the two monitoring regimes and allows those Local Authorities who haven't done so already, time to complete the digitisation of their zones.

Planning and building standards

We have changed our performance indicators for processing planning applications, so we align with the Scottish Government indicators published each year. Our new indicators measure decision making times by the average number of weeks in which applications without processing agreements or agreed time extensions are determined. Our determining of both major planning applications and non-household applications is improving.

For **major planning**, our average time has increased from 61.1 weeks in 2018/19 to 64 weeks in 2020/21. Timescales for major applications had shown a large improvement in 2020/21 until the last quarter. Performance in quarter 4 was affected by the closure of a legacy case which was first received in 2014 but had been inactive for several periods of time since. Although clearing these types of cases has impacted on average decision times, this is a necessary step to support sustained improvements moving forward. For **non-household applications**, our average time has decreased from 16.8 weeks in 2018/19 to 12.2 weeks in 2020/21. This significant improvement has been achieved at the same time as we have adapted to new ways of working and the number of applications received in the final quarter of 2020/21 was higher than any other quarter in the last two years.

The first two years of our Planning Improvement Plan saw progress in several areas:

- investment in developing leadership and management,
- handling 3,900 planning applications while adapting to COVID-19
- embedding a 'Delivering Excellence' programme of continuous improvement to processes.

Our improvement plan received an interim refresh in February 2021 with the aim of continuing to improve processes and time performance for legal agreements. This will impact on the timescales for major and non-household applications going forward.

We continue to show improvements in our building standards performance with an increase in the **issuing of 1st Reports within 20 days**, up to 98% in 2020/21 from 96% in 2019/20. We are also continuing to increase the **proportion of building warrants issued within 10 days of receiving satisfactory information**, up to 95% in 2020/21 from 83% in 2019/20. The COVID-19 pandemic has meant that we have adapted our systems to enable all staff to successfully work from home. We have also had to change our site inspection process by introducing live video inspections, ensuring that building works continue, helping aid the economic recovery.

We have recently been re-appointed as building standards verifier for this council area for a period of a further two years from 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2023. This is due to the sustained improvements that the service has made in performance, investment in staff and IT and the steps taken to improve customer satisfaction. We remain focused on our Building Standards Improvement Plan in the coming year, to ensure that further improvements are made, and our performance is maintained.

Roads

Throughout 2020/21 we have shown consistently strong performance in the **percentage of emergency and 5-day priority road defects** that are

repaired within target timescales. During the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic we were only carrying out this type of work, and it was not until late 2020 that we were able to increase it to all defects.

We have also completed our service re-structure which combines services that maintain the safety and performance of all the city's road and transport assets. Our **customer enquires completed within five working days** shows variable performance across the year although performance improved significantly from November onwards, with average for the last 5 months of the year at 78%. The restructure of the teams has allowed inspectors to focus on improving performance and this will remain a priority. Changes have been made to the timescales for repairing minor defects which is expected to allow the Roads Operations team to increase the number that can be permanent repairs, as opposed to temporary make safe repairs.

COVID-19 has had and continues to have an effect on the delivery of road maintenance schemes. However, on the 20th of May 2021 Finance and Resources Committee agreed the one-off allocation of £6m of investment in our roads and pavements which (subject to Council approval of this budget) will significantly increase the delivery of maintenance of the city's road network and improve **our Road Condition Index (RCI) score**. Although the RCI increased from 33.5% to 37.1% in the last year, we are one of the few councils who has extensive data on the full road network that allows delivery of the capital projects to be targeted at the roads that most require it. It is expected that this continued level of investment into the future will reduce the proportion of the adopted road network that requires maintenance.

Housing

In response to COVID-19, we have had to adapt our working practices quickly to keep our tenants and staff safe through responsive, coordinated, and localised service delivery. This included a new service model for repairs, beginning with a critical service and then adapting to an essential service, taking individual tenant circumstances into account to

ensure tenant and staff safety at all times. There has been an acceleration in digital and remote working, with officers adapting well to new ways of working, whether at home, in the Council Resilience Centres or remote working to carry out essential repairs in tenant's homes.

Our focus over this period has been to maintain as many services as possible to support tenants, to repair and let homes and to maintain collection of Housing Revenue Account (HRA) income. Proactive contact has been made with tenants on an ongoing basis. Housing Officers mobilised quickly to carry out regular wellbeing check-ins with their tenants over the phone and to make them aware of where to get information on the range of advice and assistance that has been available, including foodbank referrals and support for tenants who were shielding.

Our Housing Service Improvement Plan (HSIP) was introduced in 2019 with the aim of significantly increasing customer satisfaction, improving operating performance and reducing costs, with a specific focus on developing more effective and responsive services for customers. The COVID-19 restrictions have reinforced the objectives of the HSIP and has highlighted some emerging priorities which will shape the way the programme is taken forward. The HSIP is driving improvements across several workstreams, centred around digital improvements, enhancements to customer communication, service resilience and efficiencies. We have prioritised improvement projects within the repairs service, to address legacy systems issues and inefficient processes which have a detrimental impact on performance, customer satisfaction, and cost. In response to the pandemic, the accelerated rollout of a new mobile working system, Total Mobile, has been a vital enabler for safe remote working for staff.

We also maintained our rent service throughout lockdown with early intervention, advice and support continuing to be provided to help tenants to meet their rent payment responsibilities and avoid getting into debt. During 2020/21 the cash value **of rent arrears** has, not unexpectedly, increased due to changes in a significant number of household financial

circumstances and the suspension of formal debt recovery measures, to ensure tenants were not at increased risk of losing their home during the pandemic. For those tenants in rent arrears, **the average level of debt** has risen from £938 at the end of March 2020 to £1,184 at the end of March 2021. Overall **collection of rental income** remains positive with 96% of income collected of total due in 2020/21. A contingency has been set aside in the HRA to account for an increase in rent arrears due to the transition of tenants to Universal Credit (UC). The number of tenants with a change in their financial circumstances and moving on to UC during the COVID pandemic saw a sharp increase in the early stages of lockdown, but the rate of increase has levelled in line with business planning assumptions.

Edinburgh continues to see the largest number of new homes built in any council area in Scotland. The 3,127 homes completed in 2019/20 is over twice the number in any other council area. As set out in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2021-2026, a record number of affordable homes were approved for site start in 2019/20 (1,930) and 1,443 homes have been completed.

We continue our ambitious house building programme which sets out a programme to deliver 20,000 new affordable homes by 2027. Over 6,300 homes have been approved during the first four years, and over 4,600 affordable homes have been completed. Construction across the city was paused due to the pandemic, with sites adjusting work practices to ensure workers could work in COVID-19 safe ways. Despite these delays, almost 1,300 homes were approved, and 1,100 homes completed in 2020/21. The Strategic Housing Improvement Plan approved by Housing, Homelessness & Fair Work Committee in January 2021 estimated that 2,000 approvals and almost 1,500 completions in 2021/22, however due to COVID some homes that were expected to complete or be approved for site start in 2020/21 will be delivered in 2021/22. Overall, we remain on target to have 10,000 homes approved for site start, under construction or complete by the end of 2022. There are over 2,000 affordable homes under construction on over 30 sites across the city.

There are almost 1,400 new homes in development and construction on Council owned sites including, Pennywell, North Sighthill, Dumbryden, Bingham and Parkview, as well as, homes in the Granton masterplan area. A contractor has been appointed to design and build around 150 new affordable homes and a new home for Craigmyle Community Youth Football Club on the former Silverlea care home site, with construction expected to commence in Summer 2022.

We continue to invest in the Council's existing and new build housing to ensure all our homes have a very high energy efficiency standard. In the last five years £165m has been invested in improving existing homes and neighbourhoods. We have delivered more than 28,000 individual improvements, with an emphasis on making homes easier and more affordable to heat. This includes 7,100 homes with new modern heating systems and 1,600 homes with new doors and window upgrades. Much of this work was put on hold as planned works, particularly those inside tenants' homes, were severely impacted by COVID-19. Other programmes faced significant delays as a result of site closures and contractor furloughed staff. A further report will be taken to Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work committee in June, which will set out a detailed two year investment programme taking into the taking account slippage from 2020/21 and seeking to accelerate energy efficiency works as we develop a roadmap to net zero carbon by 2030.

Parks and green spaces

A further two parks have been **awarded a green flag** in the 2020 national Green Flag Award scheme, which recognises high quality green spaces. We have received almost half of the 77 flags issued in Scotland. Saughton Park and St Katharine's Park, received the status for the first time, joining the other 32 parks already waving their Green Flag. Corstorphine Walled Garden has successfully retained its Green Flag Community Award.

Our parks have proven invaluable to residents this year and we have worked extremely hard to continue to care for them through challenging

times and restrictive operations. The COVID-19 pandemic has heightened the importance of local outdoor places for people's health and wellbeing, daily exercise and for making the city resilient to the growing global environmental and societal challenges it has had to face.

We opened new cycling facilities at Hunter's Hall Park with the completion of a pump track. Riders of all ages and abilities can use the track for free which is open all year round. This project forms part of the wider masterplan for new sports facilities within Hunter's Hall Park.

The latest benchmarking data (LGBF 2019/20) shows we continue to provide a high-quality service with high customer satisfaction levels and low cost. The £4M investment in our parks and green spaces which was agreed as part of The Sustainable Capital Budget 2021-31, will ensure we continue to provide this top performing service.

We are leading a project to increase tree cover to help Edinburgh fulfil its Climate Emergency commitments and become a Million Tree City by 2030. To achieve this, some 250,000 trees will need to be planted over the next decade across a wide range of public and private land. As our ability to plant trees has been impacted by COVID-19, time has been spent determining existing tree numbers, identifying the means through which tree planting can be funded and encouraged across the city, and ascertaining how we can more effectively monitor, record and communicate tree data. The Woodland Trust has granted nearly £300k to the project and a Project Manager has recently been appointed. A project launch has been re-timetabled to October 2021.

Lifelong learning services

Libraries

We had to close our libraries due to COVID-19 in March 2020. We worked to make going to libraries COVID safe and opened six libraries (at least one in each Locality) in October 2020 and a further four libraries reopened on 14th December. We had plans to open another library in

each Locality in January 2021 which had to be paused as we went back into lockdown and all libraries closed again.

Although physical issues and **visits to Libraries** dropped sharply this year, we expanded our online library available free to all citizens. Over two and a half million online books were accessed between April 2020 and March 2021 and issues of e-newspapers have increased by over 105% this year. Edinburgh Libraries won the PressReader award for Most Newspapers Read Online in the World in 2020. In addition, we've offered online library services to all school children to support their online learning as well as allow them to enjoy reading books for leisure.

In the coming year, we will develop our 20-Minute Neighbourhood and Hub models by:

- replacing old library building with a purpose-built library space with community partners in Muirhouse
- building a new combined facility at Ratho co-locating Ratho Library and Early Years Centre nursery provision
- Contributing to development and design process of Community Library spaces within new Liberton Learning Community campus and new Currie High School

Adult learning

Face to face classes were suspended from April 2020 due to COVID-19 and have been unable to resume within community centres as priority was given to restarting primary and secondary learning first. However, we developed online **Adult Education classes** over the summer months and offered a reduced number of Adult Education classes from October 2020. From January 2021, we have 150 weekly courses running including ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages), Literacies, Syrian ESOL, Family Learning; and Outlook.

In October 2020, we responded to emerging needs of adults in the Granton area and worked with locality and voluntary partners to put in place the Granton Recovery Programme. Family learning workers worked

closely with English as an Additional Language staff to simplify e-learning messaging from schools to parents whose first language is not English and offered home learning sessions for parents unable to access the school's portal.

YouTube channels and resources were developed for adults and families including 58 ESOL Snacks to improve speaking and listening in English and Family Learning Time for a Story and shared with ESOL practitioners at a local and national level.

We have created alternative online learning options for adult learners who didn't have digital devices and other barriers including low literacy and English language skills. Whilst the numbers of learners reached remains good (13,200), capacity and the overall the number of learning hours has been reduced significantly (smaller class numbers, number of classes offered and high levels of staff time to provide online support to adults to

access and navigate TEAMS). Resumption of face to face classes for more vulnerable learners e.g. literacies and ESOL remains a priority and is dependent on Facilities Management and cleaning resources being available.

Arts and creative learning

The COVID pandemic resulted in all schools closing except for vulnerable children and the children of key workers. School staff focused their efforts to ensure the schools were COVID safe for the return of pupils and the roll out of online learning.

Until March 2020 Youth Music Initiatives (YMI) staff delivered in-person lessons. All YMI programmes were re-arranged for October 2020 (remote) moving to a mix of remote and in-person in 2021. Restrictions on staff movement and in-person delivery has resulted in a reduction in numbers of pupils accessing YMI. Resources have all been adapted for remote delivery and numbers began to increase when instructors were issued with iPads enabling delivery of live remote lessons. Specific restrictions on brass, wind and voice coupled with limits on the number of schools

visited in a week, continues to impact on the Instrumental Music Service. Priority has been given to Music SQA students.

Sport, physical activity and outdoor learning

During the COVID pandemic face to face Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit (SOLU) ceased including the closure of Benmore and Lagganlia outdoor residential centres. In response, SOLU has targeted and adapted its resources and services including:

- deploying staff to support the delivery of outdoor physical activity in schools and hubs (curriculum and holiday); and Additional Support for Learning hubs (partnership working with Barnardo's).
- led or supported the development of Council guidance and route maps to enable safe and incremental reintroduction of services. Examples include outdoor onsite learning, offsite visits, physical education, and extra-curricular activity.
- developed online learning and teaching resources.
- switched from in-person to online training.
- undertaken wider responsibilities including co-managing and part-staffing the school COVID positive case management process

We have expanded existing services including the Primary 6 Holyrood Park Outdoor Learning Challenge Days and Games @ the Hub. We have continued to target resources to young people with protected characteristics and so reduce inequalities. For example, primary curriculum swimming programme and Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Sustainable and inclusive growth

We want Edinburgh to be a sustainable and inclusive city, where good growth means all our citizens can benefit for generations to come. This means promoting environmental, economic and social sustainability as part of a long-term commitment to tackling climate change, delivering good growth, and building resilient communities. We are ambitious in planning how the city's infrastructure needs to develop accordingly and need to make sure that this development is shared by everyone across the city.

Below are some key performance indicators that give an indication of how we are performing. Some of these indicators are from national statistics with lag times for publication so the latest data is shown below.



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Emissions reductions	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Target	Status
Total city's emissions – All greenhouse gases (MtCO ₂ e)	2.721	2.595	2.428	0 by 2030	G
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Target	Status
Total Council's emissions – All greenhouse gases (MtCO ₂ e)	151	122	74	0 by 2030	G
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Air Quality Management Areas improvement	6	6	6	Decreasing	A
Fair work and economic growth	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Number of households with no adult in employment	24,700	28,700	-	Decreasing	-
Number of clients supported by employability and skills services		2,156	1,515	-	B
Number of employers in the Edinburgh region accredited as Living Wage Foundation employers	416	494	545	Increasing	G

Culture					
Museums and Galleries					
Attendances at museums and galleries	785,427	820,083	12,927	750,000	B
Communities	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Target	Status
% of children living in a low-income household	21.3%	18.9%	20.3%	Not applicable	-

Note: * status provided based on latest data

Status **B** – COVID-19 impact, not comparable to previous years

G – on or ahead of target

A – within 5% of target

R – greater than 5% behind target

Sustainability

In May 2019, we committed to the ambitious target of making Edinburgh net zero by 2030.

Target 2030

The 2019 Short Window Improvement Plan set out immediate actions for delivery in 2019 and 2020; and a final progress report was published in [November 2020](#). Also in 2020, several strategic decisions were taken to mainstream the 2030 target into major city-shaping strategies, for example the City Mobility Plan and City Plan 2030. Most recently, the [2021-2024 Council Business Plan](#) has identified sustainability as one of the three core priorities for the Council.

Carbon Scenario Tool and our emissions

To evaluate the projected emissions impact of key strategies, decisions, and work programmes, we have been working with the University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Climate Change Institute to develop a Carbon Scenario Tool. The tool has been used to inform our pathway to net zero 2030. A draft Council Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) and a 2030 city target monitoring approach have been developed and reported to Committee in April 2021.

The tool has been recognised in the Scottish Government’s Climate Change Plan and there are plans to adopt its use across the Scottish Cities Alliance membership.

City net zero 2030 strategy

During 2020 work commenced on a city net zero strategy. A draft strategy identifying the actions and approaches to be taken by citizens and public and private organisations is scheduled for public consultation over the summer of 2021. The final strategy is due for publication in October 2021 to coincide with CoP26 being hosted in Scotland.

As we are responsible for just three percent of the city’s overall emissions, a significant focus of the strategy has been on developing partnerships, collaboration and agreement to address net zero actions, by:

- hosting city partner forums - made up of the public and private organisations that collectively have the power, resources and solutions necessary to achieve net zero by 2030. Engagement has shown a strong appetite for co-production of the strategy and for partners to sign up to significant commitments to change.

- establishing a third sector roundtable – regular meetings to draw on expertise and experience of key community organisations in Edinburgh that can support the change required to meet net zero.
- co-sponsoring the independent Edinburgh Climate Commission – providing the city with expert, authoritative advice on how to accelerate city action on climate change.
- [adopting the Edinburgh Climate Compact as a founding member](#) in December 2020 – developed by the Edinburgh Climate Commission the compact sets organisational climate commitments for Climate Champions to adopt as part of their leadership on climate action.

Developing innovative solutions for Edinburgh

Edinburgh is one of only 15 European cities that are part of the [Climate-KIC Healthy, Clean Cities Deep Demonstrator](#) programme. Funding in 2020 has allowed us to work with the Climate Knowledge Innovation Community and its partners to learn from other European cities and design a series of ‘tests of change’. This work will help us work with partners to develop innovative solutions to the complex system change required in key areas to deliver net zero for the city. These include:

- ‘Shortening local value chains’ – focussing on circular economy approaches, regulatory, financial, and social models that build local resilience. Pilots have been tested in the construction sector and are delivering 41,000 homes.
- ‘Whole Community Retrofit’ – testing a model that would enable the decarbonisation of homes in mixed tenure settings. The model seeks to create financial and governance structures that go beyond fabric retrofit and renewable energy to create ‘Green Neighbourhoods as a Service’ that includes climate resilience using ecosystem services, active travel, and community amenities.
- ‘Future Transport Infrastructure’ - collaborating with internal and external partners to develop approaches to roll out of Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure

- ‘Build-to-live’ – testing how the built environment (housing, urban spaces, private spaces) can become a piece of health infrastructure for Edinburgh as well as meeting net zero. This ‘whole system vision’ approach aims to maximise the potential of public land to deliver multiple benefits and will be taken forward subject to the identification of further external funding streams.
- ‘Funding Change’ – helping to develop understanding of the short-term solutions and long-term opportunities for funding major urban transformation to make net zero achievable by 2030. This work will support future funding bids and the development of innovative mixed models of finance to take forward a range of emission reduction and climate adaptation projects

Air quality and Low Emission Zones (LEZs) development

The latest data for our Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) shows concentrations of pollutants at most locations are decreasing. As data shows no breach of air quality requirements, we are considering the potential revocation of several AQMA declarations (Great Junction Street, St John’s Road Hourly declaration).

To address remaining areas of poor air quality, we will continue to work alongside the Scottish Government and the other Scottish cities to ensure LEZs are introduced across Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow between February and May 2022.

Poverty

Last Autumn, the Edinburgh Poverty Commission published its [final report](#) on the actions needed to end poverty in Edinburgh. The Council’s response, the End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan 2020-30, was published in December 2020, and implementation is underway. Ending poverty is central to the Council’s ambitions as one of its three priorities for the Council in the coming years, as described in the Business Plan. You can find out more about the work of [the Poverty Commission](#) and the

work of End Poverty Edinburgh, the independent group of citizens formed in 2020 to hold the city to account.

Economy

Our business and employment services have had to undergo several changes this year due to COVID-19 and the impact it has had on the economy. We adapted new ways of working to provide quick and essential support to businesses and citizens, working with partners across all sectors and industries. We administered over £181.4M in grants to more than 19,000 businesses through several Scottish Government business support schemes, including the Business Grant scheme, Break Restrictions Fund, Furlough Support, Strategic Framework Business Fund, and the Taxi & Private Hire Driver fund as well as many more smaller schemes for specific sectors. We also distributed over £12M to businesses that had not been eligible for other Scottish Government funded support through the Edinburgh Discretionary Business Support Fund. We continue to work with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development Group (SLAED) and the Scottish Government on new schemes. This has helped to ensure that Edinburgh is more involved in the early framing of these and the related administrative tasks.

We have been able to maintain core business support and employability services including Business Gateway, No One Left Behind support and all our Third Party funded services. Although some services, such as Project SEARCH, were reduced or suspended for health and safety reasons during the pandemic. We have also extended our Edinburgh Employer Recruitment Incentives and grant funded specific projects for supporting parents into employment, in response to additional funding from the Scottish Government. We have also expanded our Edinburgh Guarantee from a youth only employability provision to now supporting all citizens but with a specific focus on those with barriers to employment.

City centre transformation

The final proposed concept designs for the transformation of Edinburgh's historic George Street were unveiled in February 2021. These included artist's impressions and a 3D fly-through illustrating how the street and surrounding area, within the UNESCO World Heritage Site, could look under the George Street and First New Town Public Realm Improvements Project. The changes include:

- significantly widened pavements
- landscaped spaces for play and relaxation
- a cycling thoroughfare, where motor traffic is largely removed
- removal of street clutter alongside 'urban greening' through shrubs and hedging.

Improvements are being delivered as part of a coordinated package of projects under Edinburgh City Centre Transformation. This includes the forthcoming Meadows to George Street and City Centre West to East Link schemes, which will transform walking, wheeling and cycling routes and connections across the city centre.

City mobility plan

The ten-year plan to deliver a better connected, net zero carbon transport system, a healthier environment and a thriving, inclusive Capital was agreed in February 2021. The plan has been inspired by forward-thinking cities around the world embracing challenges posed by climate change, poverty and inequality. It sets out our approach to the sustainable and effective movement of people and goods to and around the city over the next decade. The Plan aims to encourage a change in public behaviour towards the use of sustainable transport through:

- expansion of the tram and mass rapid transit network
- improvements to bus routes
- creation of 'mobility hubs' in existing communities and new developments

- introducing a city operations centre to monitor traffic
- create more liveable places less dominated by motor traffic
- build on the city's network of walking, wheeling and cycling routes.

The final plan follows several years of engagement with the public, stakeholders and partners. A consultation in 2020 gathered more than 1,800 comments on draft proposals with support demonstrated for all policy measures. The plan acknowledges the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on transport demands and mobility patterns, and how a green recovery can harness the associated effects of lower traffic levels. It also champions 20-minute neighbourhoods, an internationally recognised concept where local services are within a 20-minute walk of your front door. It goes even further to envision neighbourhoods where people's daily needs can be met within a 10-minute walk or wheel from their house.

Trams

The Trams to Newhaven site preparation works re-started on Monday 1 June 2020. New ways of working to ensure the sites were COVID-19 safe included the introduction of infection control stations, additional water stations and toilet facilities for workers within the site, ensuring all office workspaces and facilities were set up appropriately, and the removal of the protective in-fill material that was used. As a result of COVID-19, the project experienced a 13 week delay due to the construction site shut down. In order to take this delay and new physical distancing working guidelines into account the programme has been reviewed and updated. Although the project has faced significant challenges, we are still on track to deliver Trams to Newhaven by spring 2023. The project was allocated £207.3m as part of the final business case presented to committee on 18 March 2019. We continue to work within that budget.

Support continues to be provided to local business affected by the tram works. Over £2.4m of funding to support local business via a series of measures intended to maintain the accessibility, vibrancy and desirability of the affected streets. The primary aim is to provide support to the

diverse range of independent businesses along the route. Recognising that the tram works have the potential to affect business as usual in the local area, we previously invited feedback from the local business community on a set of measures. These measures have now been developed following feedback from local traders, members of the public and interest groups.

City Region Deal

Since the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal (CRD) was signed in August 2018, £165m of the UK and Scottish Government grant of £600m has been drawn down and projects worth 61% of the full Deal allocation have had business cases approved for implementation by Joint Committee. The City of Edinburgh Council acts as the Accountable Body for the Deal and has worked well to ensure that spend is aligned to profile.

All six projects in the Data-Driven Innovation Programme have now had business cases approved. Thirty industry partners are working with world-leading researchers in the University of Edinburgh's data-driven innovation hub, the Bayes Centre, with industrial innovation zones in Fife and the Scottish Borders also underway.

Our regional skills programme is progressing well. It comprises seven skills and employability projects for school pupils, people facing barriers to work, and those looking to learn new skills. The programme includes an intensive family support project and initiatives to promote skills development in housing, construction, renewables, and digital sectors. This work has been supported by our Arms-Length External Organisation (ALEO), the Capital City Partnership (CCP), who are in a unique position to facilitate wider regional working beyond the Deal. Following the COVID-19 outbreak, the CRD partners re-purposed and fast-tracked the launch of a job-matching portal to help employees and employers impacted by the pandemic. 3,650 jobs have been advertised, plus training opportunities. An employee grant scheme was also rolled-out with 77

micro-businesses across the city region, of which 18 are in Edinburgh, receiving grants of £500-£1,000 to help retain staff.

The West Edinburgh project is underway with the West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme Board established. Consultation on draft orders for Sheriffhall has closed. Discussions are ongoing with stakeholders including the City of Edinburgh Council on public and active travel provision.

Progress has also been made on the Dunard Centre, Edinburgh's first purpose-built music venue in 100 years. A revised planning application will be submitted in May and a revised business case is scheduled for consideration in September.

In terms of Housing, Edinburgh Living has been operational for two years. All £16.1M in available Scottish Government grant funding has been claimed. So far 299 homes have been completed to date with over 100 more due to be completed this year.

Work to finalise the outline business case for Edinburgh's Waterfront is underway. This will be reported to Council in Autumn. A number of early action projects are currently underway including the renovation of Granton Station building for use as a creative hub and three housing sites that will deliver around 650 mixed tenure net zero carbon homes.

Regional partners continue to work well together to develop a Regional Growth Framework, which seeks to articulate the long-term aspirational goals for the region and guide the future direction of regional partners and a range of other public sector organisations over the next 20 years. Non-statutory in nature, it will be a public statement of aligned vision, ambition and priorities for South East Scotland, seeking to influence and be influenced by plans and strategies developed at national, regional and local levels. Joint Committee will consider a draft Regional Growth Framework for consultation in June, and the final framework is scheduled to be considered by Joint Committee in September and constituent councils immediately thereafter.

Granton Waterfront

The first phase of housing for the development of Granton Waterfront was given the go ahead by Councillors in May 2020. The Granton Waterfront regeneration is expected to lead the way in sustainable development as part of Edinburgh's commitment to be net zero carbon by 2030. A £1.5m contract was awarded to CCG (Scotland) Ltd to take forward designs for planning approval for an affordable housing development to include around 450 high quality homes. We are engaging with the community to develop the designs for the site.

The wider proposals will create one of Europe's largest coastal city parks linking Granton Harbour to Cramond and Lauriston Castle, reconnecting the city with its waterfront and providing the opportunity for residents and visitors to enjoy spectacular views across the Forth while experiencing enhanced leisure and outdoor activity. The plan is also set to deliver an exemplar urban design centred around climate resilience, leading the way in future sustainable development and growing the economy in an inclusive way.

The proposals will bring around 3,500 new homes of which at least 35% will be affordable, a school, medical centre, creative and commercial space, new cycling and walking routes and enhanced sustainable transport connections with the city, making a significant contribution to Edinburgh's target to become a net zero carbon city by 2030. With an overall gross development value of around £1.3 billion, we are committed to investing around £196m to accelerate the regeneration, attracting significant public and private sector funding to deliver the vision.

The Edwardian B-listed former Granton Station, set in the heart of the city's planned new sustainable Granton Waterfront district, is to be restored by us at a cost of up to £4.75m. Work will commence to bring the historic former Granton Station building back into use by early 2022 as a high-quality creative workspace and the derelict land in front of the building will once again be used as a public square for community events and recreation to be enjoyed by residents and visitors to the area.

Culture

Museums and galleries

In line with Scottish Government guidance, all Museums and Galleries closed when lockdown was introduced in March 2020. The City Art Centre was approved for COVID-19 secure re-opening briefly during the autumn. Whilst open, for 14 weeks before the second lockdown at Christmas, 8,924 people visited who enjoyed four exhibitions: Bright Shadows, City Art Centre at 40, Jock Mcfadyen goes to the Pictures (in partnership with the artist) and E A Hornel; From Camera to Canvas (in partnership with the National Trust for Scotland). This figure equates to 1.1% of total visits to museums and galleries in 2019/20. Museums Galleries Scotland contributed a grant towards re-opening costs in September 2020 of £7,211.

To assess visitor reaction and support future venue re-opening, two online visitor surveys were carried out between September and December 2020. Results were extremely encouraging.

- 99% of respondents said that they felt safe visiting the gallery,
- 85% rated their overall experience as very good
- 88% rated the staff as very welcoming and helpful.

While it was open, the City Art Centre generated £21,125 in retail revenue. Mimi's café generated over £85,000 in takings of which we receive a percentage. With the introduction of a new EPOS system, online donations can now be made and visitors encouraged to give when booking entry. This generated 300% more than the previous year's donations.

Donations were received to the City's Art Collection from the family of photographer Robert Blomfield and from photographer Colin Maclean. The Jean F Watson Bequest Committee met twice in 2020. In February they approved the purchase of a suite of 29 prints from Edinburgh Printmakers at a cost of £13,024, and works by James Lumsden, Michael Craik and Eric Cruikshank. In the autumn the Committee approved the

purchase of three prints by artist Rachel MacLean. National Fund for Acquisitions Grants were awarded for all the above acquisitions. Within the past year loans of museum collections have been made to the Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Fife Contemporary and a museum in the South of France.

Given the unprecedented impact of the pandemic on the people of Edinburgh, we began a contemporary collecting programme in Spring 2020 with a call for objects reflecting experiences of lockdown across the city, to be added to the city's [social history collections](#). This attracted wide community and press interest, and has also resulted in partnership with University of Edinburgh to [record and preserve personal testimonies and oral history recordings](#).

Monuments

The circumstances of the past year have prevented a lot of work on the monument estate. One item of note is that the Meadows Jawbones have now been restored, electronically scanned, and are now back in Edinburgh awaiting the completion of the support fixings. Installation is planned for later this year. Work has been progressed on a reinterpretation and improvements plan for the Stone of Remembrance at the City Chambers, and conservation surveys have been undertaken on a number of key statues with a view to future restoration. The installation of a new bronze plaque on the Melville Monument is also in final planning stages.

Travelling Gallery

Travelling Gallery secured £2,606 from Scotland's Events Recovery Fund which has been used to deliver remote learning activities to engage national partners and audiences while the Gallery is unable to tour. The fund also enabled three films to be commissioned. These films demonstrated creative learning activities and provided an introduction to the organisation and to the exhibition '*Shaped of Water*'. [These are now available on our website](#).

Learning and public programme

We delivered 74 virtual events in 2020/21 to many thousands of people both locally and internationally. These include lectures as well as live streamed dance, music and choir sessions, bringing people together from home.

Digital exhibitions

The *Adjust/Adapt* exhibition in partnership with the Scottish Furniture Makers Association and Visual Arts Scotland was due to be staged at the City Art Centre, but has gone online, opening March 2021. We worked with LGBT Youth Scotland to create a digital version of the Proud City exhibition that opened at Queensferry Museum in March 2020, just days before lockdown. The exhibition celebrates the lives of LGBTQIA+ people and was co-created with young people who are part of the LGBT youth group in Queensferry. [It is available to view on the Museums and Galleries Edinburgh website](#). Black Lives Matter protests were held in Edinburgh in 2020 from which Museums and Galleries staff acquired a large donation of placards, banners and signs. We produced a [digital exhibition for the Capital Collections platform using these donations](#). They demonstrate the importance of the Black Lives Matter movement to Edinburgh residents and the wide-ranging impact the movement is having in the city.

Archaeology

All construction work was stopped during the first COVID lockdown. Nonetheless during 2020 we had input into a record 375 planning and listed building applications (up 11% from last year), 186 of which needed further archaeological mitigation. The year also saw a five-fold increase in responses to major utilities projects requiring archaeological work. As an integral part of the tram project's management team, a significant focus of the service's work has been helping to deliver the Trams to Newhaven project, centred upon the taking down and rebuilding of South Leith Parish Kirk's Constitution Graveyard wall and the burials associated with its medieval graveyard. COVID-19 restrictions required development and

implementation, with the main contractors (GUARD Archaeology and MUS Utilities Services), of new ways of safely excavating on site. The excavations lasted six months and unearthed c.360 burials including a possible plague pit, evidence of disabilities and a pre-graveyard ditch containing a possible murder victim. The planned programme of community engagement also had to be significantly altered. As a result, a [programme of social media outreach](#) was produced, principally through regular weekly Vlogs on YouTube and on the Trams to Newhaven website.

Key strategic developments

Auld Reekie Retold

This three-year project to undertake a detailed inventory and condition review of the Museum and Galleries collections has progressed well despite significant challenges for the team in being able to access collections and undertake community engagement activity as planned.

Inclusion Working Group and Digital Engagement Strategy

The pandemic experience has highlighted areas where Museums and Galleries require to develop skills and resource. The need to connect, innovate and engage digitally led to a successful grant application to Museums Galleries Scotland for £55,000 to create the Service's first Digital Engagement Strategy.

Cultural venues

In line with Scottish Government public health guidelines, the Cultural Venues - Usher Hall, Assembly Rooms, Church Hill Theatre and Ross Bandstand have been closed for events since the first lockdown in March 2020. This has had a serious impact on service delivery, seeing attendance figures fall to zero from over 662,000 in 2019/2020.

During the past year we have been managing busy venue schedules, with the main aim of initially maintaining bookings. The majority of concert and events chose to roll forward to future dates as lockdown continued to

impact trading. All the Cultural venues continue to receive new enquiries and bookings for the Autumn of 2021 onwards, although the impact on income and business in year has been severe.

We have worked with internal and external industry colleagues, Scottish and UK Governments and sectoral groups to lobby and inform the ongoing plans to reopen venues. Service plans and risk assessments have subsequently been developed where performances and events can be managed while adhering to public health and government guidelines. The Usher Hall was successful in achieving £240,000 of financial support from Creative Scotland's Performing Arts Venues Relief Fund to help offset the cost of staff and maintaining audience development work.

Staff from across our venues have also supported other areas of our response to COVID-19 such as:

- driving and managing Facilities food deliveries to people shielding and schools during lockdowns
- supporting the Symptomatic Testing Centre at Usher Hall
- administrative support for Spaces for People
- election support for postal votes
- leading roles in setting up and running Asymptomatic Testing Centres.

Festival 2020

Assembly Rooms played host to the Edinburgh International Book Festival first ever fully virtual event in August 2020. The event ran throughout August 2020 and included 146 talks viewed 210,000 times by

a worldwide audience – this figure continues to grow as audiences continue to watch the events on demand. The Usher Hall and Ross Bandstand infrastructure were utilised by Edinburgh International Festival in August 2020 to facilitate a series of activities throughout the month under the headline of My Light Shines On.

Looking forward to how we deliver the summer festivals has had to be revisited and conversations are ongoing in order to deliver activities in summer 2021.

By working with the city's myriad cultural ecosystem representatives, we have been contributing to the work citywide to ensure sector retention and recovery going forward – including the city's strategic positioning as a cultural destination and host to events, and home to festivals.

The core challenge in the year ahead is to safely reopen our venues and services in line with Scottish Government guidelines. This will involve the recommissioning of buildings with appropriate measures in place to manage the post-pandemic environment, restoring supply chain networks, rebuilding audience confidence in taking part in public activities and balancing the financial requirements of income maximisation and budget pressures. The post-COVID environment will also require innovation within our digital offering, rescoping and redesigning our ICT infrastructure to provide the offer of hybrid and streamed events on a more regular basis.

Delivering effective and efficient corporate services

As a large and complex organisation, we rely upon a range of professional and enabling corporate services such as finance, property, human resources, legal services and digital services. These teams make sure that we have robust internal controls and governance arrangements, allow us to manage our assets well, support our teams and achieve value for money across our operations. These functions also provide a range of key services and support to citizens through our customer contact and transactions team and manage the administration of welfare and benefit services.

Below are some key performance indicators that give an indication of how we are performing.



Customer services	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Citizen and service user contact					
Calls answered within 60 Seconds	65.0%*	64.9%	71.0%	60%	G
User satisfaction with contact centre	75.0%	76.0%	72.0%	75%	A
Call abandonment in contact centre	6%	7%	5%	10%	G
Shared repairs (essential works) case resolution % closed (updated PI) (March 19)	85%	82%	84%	70%	G
Key processes					
Days to process new benefit claims	25.2	16.75	17.1	28	G
Days to process benefit change of circumstances	7.8	7.1	6.6	10	G

Days to process community care grants	19.1	11.5	8.9	15	G
Days to process discretionary housing payment claims	19.2	15.5	26.5	15	B
Days to process crisis grants	2	1.9	2	2	G
Compliance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Information Compliance					
FOI(S)A enquiries - % answered within statutory timescales	86%	84%	87%	90%	A
Revenue management	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) collection					
Proportion of NDR collected	96.9%	96.3%	90.5%	83.4%	B
Council Tax Collection					
Proportion of Council Tax collected	97.00%	96.95%	95.96%	95.67%	B
Commercial income					
Commercial property portfolio rental income	£14.88M	£14.35M	£8.364M	£15.416M	B
Void rate on commercial property portfolio	2.60%	3.40%	5.28%	4%	B
Our buildings and technology	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Property and asset management					
Asset management works capital expenditure	£21.29M	£47.34M	£14.13M	£30M	B
Proportion of schools in good or satisfactory condition	80.33%	90.16%	91.53%	88.3 % (national average)	G
Percentage of primary schools operating above 80% capacity	75%	70%	69%	78%	R
Percentage of Secondary Schools operating above 80% capacity	65%	74%	74%	74%	G

Digital Services					
Number of severity 1 ICT incidents where resolution is greater than four hrs	18	7	7	12	G
Our people	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Productivity and wellbeing					
Lost working time due to ill-health absence (Council)	5.18%	5.37%	3.99%	4.00%	B
RIDDOR reportable injuries rate per 100 employees	0.02	0.04	0.02	Decreasing	G
Workforce numbers					
Total employed full-time equivalent (FTE)	14,736	14,764	14,898	Not applicable	-
Total spend on flexible workforce (agency workers)	£22.5M	£19.4M	£17.7M	Decreasing	G
Financial management	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target	Status
Council-wide					
Proportion of approved budget savings delivered	60%	77%	82%	85%	B
Revenue: current year's projected outturn	99.8%	100.5%	99.2%	100%	G
Procurement and contract management					
% of invoices paid within 30 days	95%	95%	96%	95%	G
% of revenue spend placed with contracted suppliers	92%	94%	93%	93%	G

Note: COVID absences are not included in our absence figures

Status **B** – COVID-19 impact, not comparable to previous years

G – on or ahead of target

A – within 5% of target

R – greater than 5% behind target

Customer contact services

Our contact centre and transactions team continues to perform well with over 70% of **customers asked indicating they were satisfied** with the service they have received. In the last year, 73% of calls to the contact centre were **answered within 60 seconds**, above the 60% target. We have also maintained **our essential shared repairs services**, and we remain above our target of 80% in 2020/21. The COVID-19 pandemic required us to adopt new ways of working and the Contact Centre was successfully supporting a blended homeworking/office-based structure. We remained operational throughout 2020/21, providing initial support for all essential services, before reverting to a full service in the second half of the year. We have also supported a wide range of additional COVID-19 specific services, including support and advice to shielding, vulnerable and self-isolating citizens in Edinburgh and completed thousands of wellbeing calls to Edinburgh residents during 2020/21.

The last 12 months has brought significant challenges that impacted on normal service activities. We have responded to this by introducing new ways of working and additional services to mitigate the challenges faced by Edinburgh residents, businesses and service users. These include:

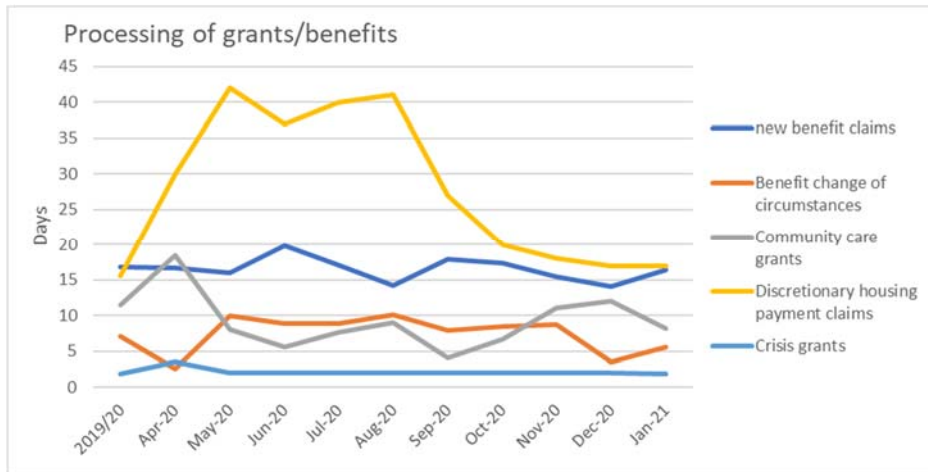
- Fully functioning home working operations for all essential services, including a 24/7 contact centre;
- Council Resilience Centres have provided emergency face to face service support in key locations in Edinburgh;
- Dedicated contact lines to support shielding, vulnerable and self-isolation queries and concerns. These have provided financial support, food and advice for people experiencing hardship;
- Ongoing welfare contact calls to vulnerable Edinburgh residents, providing advice and support;
- Administering dedicated funding to support eligible foodbanks in Edinburgh;

- Administering a range of Scottish Government schemes, including self-isolation grant scheme, £100 hardship payments and £130 Council Tax Reduction support scheme;
- Establishing and managing a major Personal Protective Equipment supply chain, storage and distribution service for the Council and partner agencies, such as the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board;
- Making compensatory free school meal payments in line with reopening plans for schools; and
- Administering a range of business support grants, including the recently announced restart grants (£200m of business grants paid to date).

Welfare

We have **maintained or improved the processing times for most welfare grants/claims during 2020/21**. This has been achieved against a backdrop of increased levels of queries and applications, related to the ongoing COVID pandemic and we have introduced new ways of working and automation to support these vital services.

Discretionary Housing Payment claims processing rose from 15 days to over 40 days during the first lockdown returned to normal levels by October 2020. The initial increase was directly related to an increase in applications, which has been mitigated through local initiatives, targeting support for temporary accommodation applicants and wider national welfare changes, including changes to personal and local housing allowance rates.



Information governance

The proportion of **Freedom of Information (FOI) requests** completed to timescale rises this year from 84% to 87% and is just behind our target of 90%. We've employed an extra Information Right Officer which has increased the support available to help those asked to respond to a FOI to do so timeously.

Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates collection

During the last 12 months Edinburgh households and businesses have experienced exceptional challenges. This has inevitably impacted on normal **collection rates for both Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates**. We suspended all recovery actions for outstanding invoices for the majority of 2020 and continue to offer extended repayment schedules for those experiencing financial hardship. We continue to promote and apply all appropriate business reliefs and grants.

The **rate of commercial properties being empty** rises this year to 5% due to the economic impact of COVID-19. We have also put in place several initiatives to give commercial tenants rental relief to support them during the COVID-19 lockdowns. As at 31 March 2021 there was a total

outstanding debt from the portfolio of £8.763M. However, there is some element within this figure of rent demands for the second quarter of the year which overlaps into 2021/22. Work is ongoing to quantify this figure. The working assumption is that the portfolio has performed better than the forecast budget shortfall of £9M. These two events mean that **our rental income** drops to £8.364M in 2020/21.

Our buildings

As the third year of a five-year **programme of targeted investment**, we have still achieved an actual spend of £14.4 million in 2020/21 to date (48% of the annual budget), with a projected year-end spend of £15.6 million (52% of the annual budget). Despite the 2020/21 spend being significantly impacted by COVID-19 restrictions which impacted the construction industry, the overall five-year programme of scheduled spend is ahead of schedule; with approximately £83 million or 70% of the five-year programme budget having been expended with 58% of the programme time elapsed. This means the overall progress of the programme to bring our buildings up to a sustainable, safe and effective state is good, prioritising this investment into our schools and learning estate.

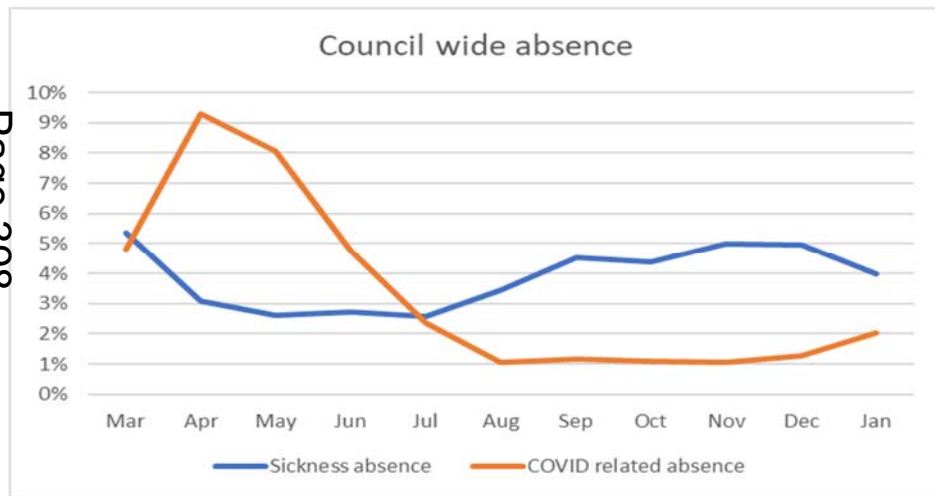
Investment in our school estate continued in 2020/21 with the completion of the new Queensferry High School. There has been advancement with the construction of three new primary schools and the replacement of one special and one secondary school. Completion of the two Wave 4 secondary schools has been delayed until later in 2021 due to the implications of COVID.

During 2020/21 75% of the floorspace was surveyed in periods that COVID-19 lockdown did not prevent activity. 48 Communities and Families properties/buildings were surveyed between April 2020 and March 2021 (10 Nursery Schools; 32 Primary Schools; 4 High Schools; 2 Community Centres) adding to the 173 between October 2017 and March 2020.

Our proportion of secondary schools operating at above 80% capacity remains on target and in line with 2019/20 at 74%. However, the proportion of our primary schools operating above 80% capacity decreases slightly to 69% remaining behind the target of 78%. This is due to the ongoing steady decrease in birth rates which results in primary schools rolls beginning to fall in certain areas of the city.

Our people

Almost 14,900 people work for us to provide the services and supports we do for Edinburgh residents and its visitors.



The time staff were off work has varied across the year. During the first lockdown, almost 10% of staff were off work due to COVID – either shielding or unwell – and this has fallen over the year to around 1%. The time people were off work unwell for other reasons fell during the first lockdown to 3% and then increased to around 4.5% by the end of the year.

If time off due to COVID-19 and other illness is added together, our level of sickness remains similar to previous years.

During 2020/21 we have continued to support our colleagues – those that have continued to deliver frontline services and those who have been working from home. We have ensured that all of our payroll & Human Resources transactions which have been operating remotely have maintained service levels and that we have continued to support the recruitment and onboarding of hundreds of new colleagues during this time. We've responded to supporting colleagues' wellbeing by rolling out virtual wellbeing roadshows, 'Be well to lead well' sessions and have enhanced our digital training, development and support for all leaders and colleagues. We've successfully rolled out a new benefits platform for our colleagues and have consolidated Scottish Local Government Living Wage which improved the take home pay for over 4,000 of our lowest paid employees.

Health and Safety

Adverse event reporting through the SHE health and safety system was maintained throughout the pandemic. With reduced services the comparative rate of events was expected to reduce the number of submitted reports, however the requirement to report COVID-19 (for statutory purposes) brought the overall number of reports to pre COVID-19 levels. It should be noted that, using the RIDDOR classification criteria we have not submitted any 'communicable disease' RIDDOR events to the Health and Safety Executive.

A safe place to work

The performance of all workplaces within Edinburgh Council boundaries derived from Health and Safety Executive statistics shows that Edinburgh across all workplaces has consistently been a high performer in Scotland in respect of non-fatal injuries (per 100,000 employees). This will be due, in part, to the high performing service provision from regulatory services, particularly Environmental Health which conduct robust and supportive inspections:

- 2016/17 Edinburgh second best performer
- 2017/18 Edinburgh best performer
- 2018/19 Edinburgh best performer
- 2019/20 Edinburgh best performer.

Financial management

While the initial financial impacts of the pandemic were felt in 2019/20, the extent of this additional expenditure, and in particular loss of income, increased greatly in 2020/21. By the end of the year, the net cost to us, including exposure through its Arm's-Length External Organisations (ALEOs), had reached nearly £80m. Given the unprecedented scale of these impacts, elected members considered detailed financial reports on a monthly basis during 2020/21 and through a combination of identifying savings in corporate budgets and receiving additional grant funding later in the financial year, expenditure and income were brought into balance.

Looking forward, in order to provide resilience against the longer-lasting financial impacts of the pandemic and other risks, the approved 2021/22 budget set aside further monies for this purpose and almost doubled the size of our unallocated reserves. Significant additional service investment was also approved across a number of priority areas.

Procurement

We understand why it is important to businesses that we pay our bills promptly and in 2020/21 we continued to pay over 95% of **our invoices within 30 days**, just as we have done in each of the past three years.

One way in which we try to ensure good value for money is by using **contracted suppliers** as often as possible. In 2020/21 93% of our orders were with contracted suppliers, similar to our reported performance in the previous two years (2018/19, 2019/20).

Digital Services

The **number of ICT Severity 1 incidents** where resolution is greater than four hours was seven for 2020/21 equalling the figure for 2019/20.

Maintaining this performance during the year of COVID where over 5,000 people were working from home, teachers were teaching remotely and learners were home schooling for much of the year highlights the stability of the service provided by both our strategic IT Partner, CGI, and ourselves as well as the responsiveness when incidents do occur. This stability is particularly of note when major upgrades of end user device software and mobile device management (MDM) were undertaken under the COVID restrictions. Following the move to lockdown last March, our end user device refresh programme was paused until we could safely distribute devices. All other components of our strategic programme of work within Digital Services continued with many delivered or moved to full implementation during the last year. CGI and Digital Services also undertook a range of additional projects to support home working and learning and teaching including the implementation of remote working for SEEMiS users and new MDM tool for learners, as well as the rapid expansion of our Corporate remote access platform, implementation of MS Teams and the rollout of Use Your Own Device access to MS365 tools for Corporate users. Services were also supported with new technology as they changed their delivery approach to adapt to COVID-19 restrictions e.g. booking systems for household waste and recycling centres and for libraries.

Key strategic developments

During the last 12 months, we have continued to progress a significant range of key strategic and service developments, in support of the whole Council. This has included major progress with our medium-term financial plan and ten year Capital Budget Strategy, revised Sustainable Procurement Strategy, the development of a coherent Digital and Smart City Strategy for the period 2020-2023, the refresh of our People Strategy for 2021-24 and the associated Strategic Workforce Plan.

Key service related developments have included the progression of a range of technology enhancements for areas like Customer Digital Enablement, Financial, HR and Payroll systems upgrades, strengthening our cyber defences and the implementation of our new print and digital mail solutions to reduction unnecessary printing and postage and also working to reduce our carbon emissions as a business.

All these improvements have been delivered whilst also reducing the cost of corporate services provision for the fourth successive year. We now spend the fourth lowest amount on corporate services out of all 32 Scottish Local Authorities and is significantly better value for money in the provision of corporate services than other city councils within the Scotland (latest LGBF dataset).

Performance reporting

Performance

Throughout the year, we use key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor how well we are delivering services. The KPIs shown in this report are only some of the indicators we use to monitor our services throughout the year.

We are also investing in Business Intelligence software which will support our performance monitoring and increase the insight gained from the data we hold.

Our new Business Plan and Performance Framework will be launched in April 2021 which includes our revised list of KPIs.

Benchmarking

We are committed to improving the services we deliver to citizens. As well as measuring ourselves against our key performance indicators, we carry out a wide range of formal and informal benchmarking across our different service areas. Benchmarking gives us a focus to share best practice and service improvement initiatives.

Benchmarking groups we participate in include various Scottish Government Local Authority Groups, the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE), Scotland's Housing Network and Keep Scotland Beautiful.



Our primary benchmarking tool, however, is the **Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF)**. The framework is applicable to all Local Authorities in Scotland and is made up of a suite of standard indicators which cover a large number of our service areas. We report annually to committee on this data.

You can also find more information on our [most recent benchmarking data \(2019/20\)](#) on My Local Council website.

Communities and partners

Partnership and localities

The Edinburgh Partnership brings together public agencies, third and private sectors with local communities to work together to reduce poverty and inequality across Edinburgh. The Partnership's strategic direction at a citywide level is set out in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) which describes three priority workstreams to ensure citizens have: enough money to live on, access to work, learning and training and a good place to live.

During this past year, the Partners have worked together to respond to COVID-19, identifying opportunities where joint working ensured that residents received the support they needed quickly and that the ways we work together continue to adapt as the COVID-19 guidance and restrictions changed. The Partnership will continue to focus on how joint working will support Edinburgh to recover ensuring reducing inequalities remains a focus for all partners.

Over the last 12 months, we have reviewed the Locality Improvement Plans (LIPs) to ensure a focus on issues where joint working is required at a local level. The partnership has also, in response to Best Value Audit findings, agreed an improvement plan to strengthen support for community planning infrastructure and community empowerment through the establishment of a new Council Community Empowerment team; develop a framework for collaboration with the Edinburgh Associations of Community Councils to support them to fulfil their statutory functions in representing local communities; agreed to develop a partnership approach to community hubs, 20 minute neighbourhoods and strengthen its role in community wealth building.



The Partnership is currently reviewing the 'a good place to live' priority to reflect a broader definition of health and wellbeing that supports the development and growth of healthy, sustainable communities across the city. This will strengthen the alignment between the Partnership's priorities and the new [Council Business Plan](#). The Partnership also sponsored the Edinburgh Poverty Commission which concluded this year, with recommendations to key partners and for community planning which the Board accepted and has agreed to reflect in the LOIP and its delivery programme – starting with a review of the city advice provision.

Consultation and engagement

The last year of necessary COVID-19 restrictions has had a significant and material impact on our ability to involve residents in decision-making. Ensuring that our colleagues and residents remain safe, and that people are able to have a fair say in issues that matter to them has meant many consultation activities were postponed. As the vaccination programme continues and Scotland emerges from lockdown, we anticipate that normal consultation activity will resume from July 2021.

In 2021 we jointly commissioned, with NHS Lothian, the Capital Residents Survey to explore experiences of life and use of public services during the pandemic, and preferences for public services in the long-term. This survey will enable us to better understand and plan together to deliver service improvements and efficiencies.

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Even during the pandemic, it has been possible to continue meaningful discussions with residents and other stakeholders on the climate emergency including through our online discussion forum Edinburgh Talks Climate, and in our first major workshop with our civil society partners. Building on the success of 2020's first youth summit on climate change, we continue to involve schools in how we make Edinburgh a net zero city by 2030.

In April 2021, we will introduce a new Consultation Policy that seeks to improve the quality of consultation and engagement across the Council, making our processes more transparent, strengthening our communications, and giving all participants more confidence that the time they invest in participation leads to positive change. The strengths and weaknesses of our consultation and engagement approach were a major component of Audit Scotland's Best Value Audit, and the Consultation Policy will help us to address those areas where we need to improve.

Edinburgh Council Complaints Analysis

1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021



A Forward Looking Council



An Empowering Council

Introduction

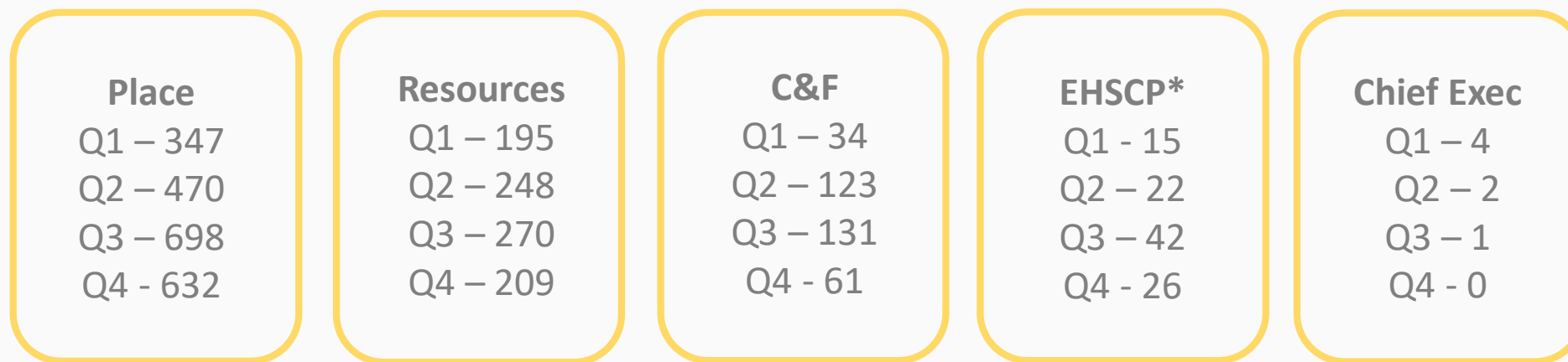
This is the review of the Council's annual complaints performance for 2020-21.

Key headlines:

- Council services closed 3530 complaints during 2020-21.
- 85% of closed complaints were resolved at Stage 1 (front line resolution).
- Council services answered 62% of complaints within time during 2020-21.
- Council services upheld or partially upheld 64% of complaints closed in 2020-21.
- The number of Edinburgh complaints referred to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman continues to decrease with 32 referrals during 2020-21.
- A revised Complaint Handling Procedure was developed throughout 2020-21 and introduced on 1 April 2021. This included the introduction of revised processes and a new e-learning module.
- The Council's Corporate Complaints Management Group continues to share best practice and identify opportunities to improve complaints management within the Council, including the need to improve service provision through learning from complaints.

Complaints closed

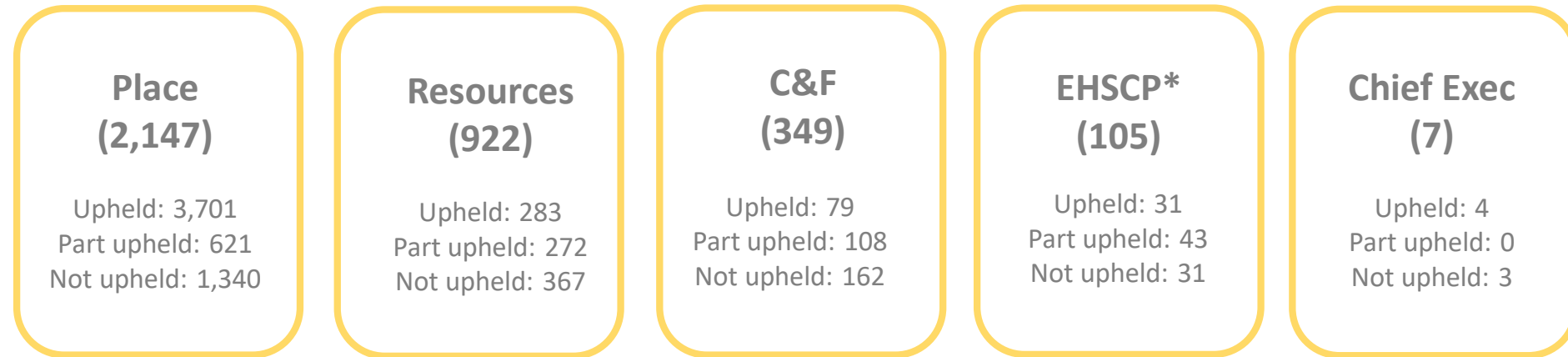
3530



- These figures provide information on the number of complaints which were processed and closed by Council services. Overall, there was a 55% decrease in the number of complaints closed during 2020-21 compared with the 7,917 complaints which were closed in 2019-20. This drop can largely be attributed to the impact of Covid which significantly reduced the number and nature of complaints received by the Council during 2020-21.
- During this period 3,947 complaints were received by the Council (7.5 per 1000 of population).
- 3004 (85%) of the total number of complaints closed were frontline resolutions (Stage 1) and 526 (15%) were investigations (Stage 2).

Complaints upheld or partially upheld

2,258



These figures set the number of complaints which were upheld, partially upheld or not upheld by Council services.

- Overall, the Council upheld or partially upheld 2258 (64%) of complaints from a total of 3530 complaints closed in 2020-21. This is an overall reduction from the 75% of complaints which were upheld or partially upheld in 2019-20.
- Following the development of the Council's revised Complaint Handling Procedure, a new complaint outcome of 'resolved' has been introduced for 2021-22. This means that it is now possible to close a complaint as 'resolved' without deciding whether the complaint should be upheld or not. This outcome can be used where it's possible to agree on an action that will satisfy the customer.

*EHSCP: Adult Social Work only

Performance against timescales

	Apr – Mar 2020	Jun – Sept 2020	Oct - Dec - 2020	Jan – Mar 2021	2020/21
Place	36% (124/347)	56% (265/470)	56% (402/698)	43% (396/922)	55% (1187/2147)
Resources	91% (178/195)	83% (209/248)	77% (207/270)	71% (148/209)	80% (742/922)
C & F	35% (12/34)	89% (110/123)	39% (51/131)	97% (59/61)	66% (232/349)
EHSCP	53% (8/15)	41% (9/22)	24% (10/42)	38% (10/26)	35% (37/105)
Chief Executive	50% (2/4)	0% (0/2)	0% (0/1)	N/A	29%(2/7)

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These figures reflect performance against the Stage 1 (5 working days) and Stage 2 (20 working days) timescales set out in the Council's Complaint Procedure. These are based on source data collected from Council recording systems and include any agreed extended timescales.

- When necessary, and with agreement of the customer, timescales can be extended at both Stages 1 and 2. Over the period, 331 (11%) extensions were agreed at Stage 1 and 118 (22.4%) extensions agreed at Stage 2.
- Overall, the Council answered 62% of complaints within time in 2020-21 - a small increase compared with 2019-20 when 58% were responded to within timescales.
- The average recorded period for providing a full response at Stage 1 was 16.6 days and 41.5 days at Stage 2. This is largely due to complaints not being closed on recording systems. Services have been reminded of the need to close complaints promptly.

Complaints during Covid

Impact of Covid on Council Complaints

The Coronavirus pandemic, and the Council's response to it, had a considerable impact on the number and nature of complaints received by the Council.

- Complaints reduced significantly in Q1 and, while increasing, have not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels. This trend accords with the experience of other Scottish local authorities.
- Some of the factors that influenced the overall drop in complaints were Council decisions made in response to the pandemic. For example, not proceeding with debt recovery for a period, the temporary abolition of parking charges, and the short-term cessation of some collection services, such as garden waste and glass.
- The nature of complaints also changed as a result of different service delivery models. For example, schools received several complaints relating to their digital delivery and virtual learning.
- The need to prioritise resources in response to the pandemic had an impact on performance figures for some services. For example, Adult Social Care Services staff had to prioritise pandemic related work over complaint responses.
- While for figures have decreased, the top three service areas receiving complaints continue to be Waste (993), Customer (958), and Place Development (937).

Complaints and referrals to the SPSO

- Once customers have been through Stage 1 and 2 of the Council's complaints process, they can take their concerns to the SPSO. The SPSO is the final stage for complaints about most Scottish public authorities.
 - During 2020-21, there were 32 referrals to the SPSO. These mostly concerned Customer (3), Safer and Stronger Communities (3), Planning and Building Standards (4) and Schools and Lifelong Learning (4). Of those 32 referrals, only one was fully investigated, resulting in an actual decision.
- Due to the coronavirus pandemic, local authority benchmarking data is not yet available for 2020-21. However, previous data revealed that the number of local authority related referrals to the SPSO increased from 1,149 in 2018-19 to 1,308 to 2019-20.

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17
Referrals:	32	129	133	162	192
Decisions:	1	3	9	27	26

- While the coronavirus pandemic has had an impact with decreased complaint totals during the last year, the figures indicate a continued trend of fewer complaints and referrals being taken to the SPSO about the Council.

Next Steps

- The Information Governance Unit and the Corporate Complaints Management Group will continue to promote the revised Complaint Handling Procedure to ensure appropriate levels of awareness and better complaint handling across the organisation.
- The Council will publish information on a quarterly basis about complaint outcomes to build public confidence and trust in the value of complaints and complaining, including the actions taken to improve services.

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- The Council will continue to contribute to the work of the Local Authority Complaint Handlers' Network to share best practice and benchmarking information to improve complaint handling and performance in Edinburgh.
- A revised and nationally agreed questionnaire will be introduced to assess customer satisfaction levels and inform improvements when required.
 - Discussions are taking place about the wider roll out of the Council's CRM system which should (through time) provide better complaints data to inform service improvements.

For more information regarding Complaints please contact:

Information.compliance@edinburgh.gov.uk



A Forward Looking Council



An Empowering Council

The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021 – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. For Decision/Action

- 1.1 The Policy and Sustainability Committee has referred a report on the Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021 to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Louise Williamson, Committee Services, Strategy and Communications Division,
Chief Executive Services

E-mail: louise.p.williamson@edinburgh.gov.uk

Referral Report

Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021 - referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

2. Terms of Referral

- 2.1 On 10 June 2021 the Policy and Sustainability Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive which provided the fourth annual update on the 52 coalition commitments with an update on the progress against each commitment. In summary, of the 52 commitments, 14 had been fully achieved, 33 partially achieved, 2 had not yet been achieved and 3 would not be achieved.
- 2.2 The Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed to refer the report by the Chief Executive to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

3. Background Reading/ External References

Minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 10 June 2021.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Report by the Chief Executive

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 10 June 2021

Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021

Item number
Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.2 That members of the Policy and Sustainability Committee note the progress at the end of 2020/21 on delivering the 52 coalition commitments that the Council has committed to deliver by end 2022 (Appendix A).
- 1.3 Notes the steps that will be taken in 2021/22 to progress delivery of the commitments.
- 1.4 Refer the Coalition Commitments progress update report to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration on 24 June 2021.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Gillie Severin, Strategic Change & Delivery Senior Manager

E-mail: gillie.severin@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 07841 823374

Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This is the fourth annual update on the 52 coalition commitments and provides an update to Council on the progress against each commitment.
- 2.2 In summary, of the 52 commitments, 14 have been fully achieved, 33 partially achieved, 2 have not yet been achieved and 3 will not be achieved.
- 2.3 This report builds on the progress update report that were presented in Full Council in August 2020.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council Business Plan ([A Programme for the Capital: The City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan 2017-22](#)) was approved in August 2017. The plan sets out the Council's priorities and what will be achieved over the five-year period.

4. Main report

- 4.1 This is the fourth annual update on progress of the coalition commitments and a full update for each commitment is contained within Appendix A.
- 4.2 Appendix A details:
 - background information
 - key achievements and delivery progress to June 2021
 - planned next steps and, where relevant, key issues for 2021/22
 - performance measures for 2020/21 and the preceding year where applicable
 - the current status of each commitment.
- 4.3 While progress continues with each commitment, there have been a number of areas to highlight work undertaken including:
 - the number of employers in the Edinburgh region accredited as Living Wage Foundation employers has increased year on year.
 - good progress is being made on the City Region Deal, drawing down capital funding of £165m from the UK and Scottish Government grant of £600m. Projects worth 61% of the full Deal have had business cases approved.
 - continued investment in our school buildings with construction commencing on a further 2 schools in 2020/21.

- significant investment is being made in transport across the city for both active travel improvements and roads infrastructure.
- work has been able to continue on the new tram line to Newhaven during the COVID-19 pandemic and it is still on track to deliver Trams to Newhaven by the revised timescale of spring 2023.
- recruitment of Pupil Support Assistants (PSA) has continued throughout the school session in mainstream and Special Schools and the number of FTE pupil support assistants employed has continued to increase.
- the roll-out of Three Conversations approach is in its second year, and it has helped reduced the time people wait to see a worker to 2.5 days.
- two new parks in the city have been awarded Green Flag status and a significant level of future investment has been agreed for future improvement work.

4.4 The status of the commitments can be summarised as follows:

Status	Meaning	Number of Commitments
Fully achieved	All elements of the commitment have been delivered.	14
Partially achieved	Some elements of the commitment have or are currently being delivered.	33
Not yet partially or fully achieved	Work to achieve the commitment has still to commence. The delay in commencing may include reasons that are beyond the Council's control.	2
Will not be achieved	The decision not to progress on all or elements of the commitment has been made. This could include reasons that are beyond the Council's control.	3

5. Next Steps

5.1 Where applicable, planned work that will be undertaken in 2021/22 is outlined in Appendix A.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The financial impact is set out within the individual commitments and the Council Business Plan and/or relevant strategies and service improvement plans.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 The commitments actions and measures continue to support transparency of Council performance and delivery.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 [Programme for the Capital - The City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan 2017-22](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 24 August 2017
- 8.2 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital - Coalition Commitments Progress to June 2018](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 28 June 2018
- 8.3 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Finance and Resources Committee, 4 December 2018
- 8.4 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee, 4 December 2018
- 8.5 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Transport and Environment Committee, 6 December 2018
- 8.6 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Education, Children and Families Committee, 11 December 2018
- 8.7 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Planning Committee, 12 December 2018
- 8.8 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Housing and Economy Committee, 24 January 2019
- 8.9 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Culture and Communities Committee, 29 January 2019
- 8.10 [Coalition Commitments annual update report](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 27 June 2019
- 8.11 [Coalition Commitments update report](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 22 August 2019
- 8.12 [Coalition Commitments update report](#), Policy and Sustainability, 20 August 2020

Appendices

Appendix A: Coalition Commitments Progress Update June 2021

Coalition Commitments Progress Update June 2021

In 2017, we published our *Programme for the Capital*, clearly setting our five-year political plan for our city and its residents. The programme consisted of 52 coalition commitments and we've reported back annually on our progress against each one. As with previous years, this report looks at what has been achieved over the last 12 months and shows where our commitments have been completed, are on a path towards completion and where there remains further work to be done

This year has been like no other, with the global pandemic impacting on every aspect of our lives. As a Council, we've had to adapt in unexpected ways to maintain lifeline services and quickly set up additional supports and our focus has rightly been on those who need our help the most. This report outlines what has been achieved despite the challenge of responding to the pandemic. We're immensely grateful of the work and dedication shown by our Council colleagues and our partners across the city. In the face of enormous challenges and uncertainty, we've still made positive progress against our commitments while our Council officers have continued to work with pride and dedication and found new ways of delivering hundreds of services for the residents of Edinburgh.

In many areas, we've already delivered what we promised to do and are on schedule for delivering many others. However, in some areas, improvement plans have rightly been put on hold to focus capacity on keeping communities safe and residents and businesses supported. We've reflected this in the accompanying narrative and, as far as possible, been clear on timings for restarting work.

We'll produce a final and definitive report setting out what we have achieved over the last five years as we approach the end of this administration next May.

Much may have changed since 2017, but our residents have been clear with us that their Capital City should be fair, thriving, welcoming and pioneering – and by tackling poverty, climate change and supporting our key growing industries in renewable energy, biomedical science and data-driven innovation as well as film, we'll continue to do everything we can over the next 12 months towards realising that Vision.



Commitment 1

Deliver a programme to build least 10,000 social and affordable homes over the next 5 years, with a plan to build 20,000 by 2027. **Status**

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Council is working with Registered Social Landlords (RSL) and other development partners to deliver 20,000 social and affordable homes by 2027. Progress is reported to Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee in the annual report on the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP).

Key Achievements

Over 6,300 affordable homes have been approved during the first four years of this commitment, and over 4,600 affordable homes have been completed.

Due to the strong pipeline and record delivery the Council has secured an additional £35m in grant funding over the last four years.

The SHIP (2021-2026) was approved by Housing Homelessness and Fair Work on 14 January 2021. It set out a pipeline of 10,036 affordable homes that could be approved for site start and 11,370 potential completions delivered over the next five years through a mix of grant funding, private finance raised by Registered Social Landlords and private developers and HRA funding. The SHIP projected that 9,200 new affordable homes would be approved by 31 March 2022; with the 10,000 target achieved later in 2022.

Since the commitment began, the number of approvals has increased year on year, an almost 25% increase on the average approvals achieved over the previous five years. In 2020/21 it was projected that 2,098 approvals could have been achieved and an additional 1,373 homes completed. However, in March 2020, all construction work was suspended due to COVID-19, as well as, a significant number of development staff being furloughed across partner organisations.

Overall the programme achieved 1,285 affordable home approvals for social rent, mid-market rent and low-cost home ownership. Almost 75% of grant funded approved homes were for social rent. 1,087 affordable homes were also completed in 2020/21. The 2020/21 Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP) grant funding allocation was increased by £3.1m to £48.209m and spent out in full.

Due to COVID-19 some homes that were expected to complete or be approved for site start in 2020/21 will be delivered in 2021/22. Overall, we remain on target to have 10,000 homes approved for site start, under construction or complete by the end of 2022. There are currently around 2,000 affordable homes under construction on over 30 sites in the city.

Design and development work has continued during lockdown on Council sites including Granton regeneration and mixed use sites at Fountainbridge, Meadowbank and Powderhall.

Next Steps

The 2021/22 AHSP grant funding allocation is £52.4 million. The impact of the pandemic on approvals and completions in 2020/21 and reprofiling into future years is being worked through. An initial target of over 2,000 approvals and almost 1,500 completions has been set for 2021/22, however this will be revised in the first quarter of 2021/22 to take account of the slippage in last year's programme as a result of the pandemic.

The Scottish Government are undertaking a review of grant subsidy benchmark levels with colleagues in the sector. The current grant subsidy benchmark for new social rented homes is between £59,000 and £72,000. The Council is represented on the working group, which will assess what adjustments are required to the current set of benchmark assumptions to account for inflation and additional quality measures. The working group will consider the impact of an adjustment in the benchmarks on the number of affordable homes that could be delivered.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Approvals of new affordable homes for the year	1,475	1,626	1,930	1,285	1,574
Completions of new affordable homes	966	1,152	1,443	1,087	956

Commitment 2

Create the conditions for businesses to thrive. Invest in supporting businesses, social enterprise, training in hi tech, creative and other key sectors including co-operatives. Help link business with young people to ensure the workforce of the future is guaranteed work, training or education on leaving school.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

[The Economy Strategy](#), which sets out how we and our partners will deliver inclusive growth across the city was agreed at the Housing and Economy Committee in 2018. The aim of the strategy is to provide a framework for creating the conditions necessary for Edinburgh to be a city that takes a lead in ensuring our economy's success is sustainable and benefits all our citizens. We have developed the Good Growth Monitoring Framework to monitor progress towards the strategy vision.

Key Achievements

[The Economy Watch bulletins](#) are published on our website to provide regular updates on the city's economic performance.

Over the past 12 months we and our partners have delivered services to support good growth in the city. These include supporting over 1,300 businesses through the Edinburgh Business

Gateway partnership and helping 1,515 employability and skills clients into work and learning. Investment has also been made in projects to improve the quality of key business facing functions such as regulatory services.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we have had to amend, suspend and add services to respond to the changing employability landscape. This has included a redesigning of the Edinburgh Guarantee, which is now available to anyone seeking employment opportunities or training, the temporary suspension of the Edinburgh Project SEARCH programme, and increased funding support for employers through Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentives (No One Left Behind and Young Person's Guarantee funding) as well as administering COVID-19 grant schemes to businesses on behalf of the Scottish Government.

Next Steps

Over the next 12 months we will continue to work with partners to deliver the actions and principles described in the Edinburgh Economy Strategy. These priorities will be taken forward within the context of new emerging challenges arising from the COVID-19 outbreak and align with our core priorities to tackle poverty promote sustainability and wellbeing. These actions and approaches will form part of the updated Economic Strategy which is currently undergoing a review and an issues and options paper will be considered by Policy & Sustainability Committee in June 2021. An engagement and consultation period will follow with a plan to finalise the Strategy in late 2021.

Key measures	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
Positive destinations of school leavers	92.6%	94.3%	95.1%	92.5%	To exceed 93.8% national average
Median gross weekly earnings	£584	£578	£617	£641	To exceed £710 by 2020

Economically active residents as a % of all residents aged 16-64	77.5%	80.9%	77.4%	77.2%	To exceed 78% by 2022
% of workers in managerial, professional and technical/scientific occupations	56%	57%	56%	63%	To maintain 56% by 2022
Ratio of workers in high skilled occupations to workers in mid skilled occupations	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.8	To minimise to 2.10 by 2022
Gross Value Added per capita	£45,443 (2016)*	£46,865 (2017)*	£48,544 (2018)*	£49,602 (2019)	To exceed £41,000 by 2021
% of children living in a low-income household	20.7% (2016/17)**	21.3% (2017/18)**	18.9% (2018/19)**	20.3% (2019/20)**	To minimise 18% by 2020

* Previous years updated as these are set at current market price figures

** These figures have changed as the methodology for calculating the % of children living in a low-income household has recently been updated

Commitment 3

Work with the business community to grow the number of Living Wage employers year on year.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Workers in Edinburgh receive one of the highest weekly earnings relative to other UK cities, yet it is estimated that around 39,600 residents are paid wages below the hourly rate recommended by the UK Living Wage Foundation (£9.50 in 2020/21).

Key Achievements

The Living Wage Foundation accreditation covers all providers of services in the Council, including care at home. As one of the largest employers in Edinburgh, the Council is setting a leading example to the business community.

The Council approved a new Sustainable Procurement Strategy with a core focus on “improving ethical employment, including suppliers paying the Living Wage”. Towards this, the Council has adopted the Fair Work First (FWF) initiative in all procurement activities to improve ethical work

practices and encourage Living Wage accreditation among suppliers.

The 2018 pay agreement included a requirement to fully consolidate the Scottish Local Government Living Wage (SLGLW) by April 2021 and this has been achieved for City of Edinburgh Council. This resulted in improved base pay for around 4,400 of our employees and reflects an investment of £8m (over 5 years) to achieve this.

Next Steps

Further consideration is now being given to explore opportunities to ensure our pay and benefits are simpler, fairer and sustainable. As an outcome of the 2021 Business Plan: Our Future Council, Our Future City, the Council will work with private sector partners, anchor institutions and Trade Unions to achieve accreditation as a Living Wage City and promote the use of living wage and fair work practices throughout the city economy.

As part of that commitment, from May 2021, the Council will lead on establishing an action group made up of representatives from businesses from throughout the city who will act as champions for promoting the Living Wage and who will be influential in developing a three-year action plan for Edinburgh. This plan will enhance Living Wage provision in the city with specific targets, for example in key sectors, such as care and construction. The action group will lead on what targets it will set in the short-, medium-, and long-term up to 2024.

During Living Wage Week in November 2021, it is anticipated that the action group will be in a position to register for the nationally recognised Living Wage Places accreditation for the city through Living Wage Scotland.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of Council suppliers of regulated tendered contracts that are committed to paying real living wage in delivering Council services *	70%	70.3%	Data not yet available	Aim to increase
Number of employers in the Edinburgh region accredited as Living Wage Foundation employers	416	497	545	Aim to increase

* This measure has been updated to best reflect what is currently monitored by Commercial & Procurement Services

Commitment 4

Direct development to growth corridors as the best way to accommodate the extra housing needed for Edinburgh’s growth and allowing the city to manage and protect green belt.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The project to develop a new local development plan - [City Plan 2030](#) – reached a key milestone in 2019/20. The project includes looking at the potential for additional housing opportunities on brownfield regeneration corridors within the city and assessing greenfield land for potential release from green belt policy. This will be done in the context of the current Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for South East Scotland (2013), following the rejection of the emerging SDP 2 by Scottish Ministers in May 2019.

Key Achievements

[Choices for City Plan 2030](#) was published in January 2020. This is the main statutory consultation for the project and informs the preparation of a Proposed Plan. A major public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020 (extended to allow additional time for responses due to the COVID-19 lockdown). Over 1,800 responses were received, several times more than the previous equivalent stage. Results of the consultation are being considered in the development of the new plan. Initial examination of the consultation responses has shown strong support for choices under the outcome ‘A city in which everyone lives in a home which they can afford’. This includes protecting

against the loss of Edinburgh’s homes to other uses, changing the affordable housing policy and the required mix of house types and tenures.

Next Steps

An updated Development Plan Scheme with timetable was published in March 2021 and sets out the timing of the Proposed Plan stage, and the opportunities for people to make formal representations supporting or seeking change to the Proposed Plan. The project’s Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021 and is on track to be delivered within the new timetable.

Measures to monitor progress will be included within the City Plan 2030.

Commitment 5

Sign Edinburgh to the Pay Fair Tax Initiative.

Background

The Fair Tax Mark certification scheme was launched in 2014 and seeks to encourage and recognise organisations that pay the right amount of corporation tax at the right time. Alongside the 'Mark' there is also a Fair Tax Pledge, designed for individual citizens and sole traders, the aim of which is to encourage people and small organisations to demonstrate their commitment to playing by the rules'.

The Council is committed to establishing Edinburgh as a leading city for work practices and socially responsible business and to encouraging businesses and individuals to commit to paying fair tax.

Key Achievements

In June 2018 we launched a new [Edinburgh Economy Strategy](#) with the aim of enabling good growth for Edinburgh. The strategy sets out eight key steps the city needs to take over the next five years to meet this aim. Each step is underpinned by the principles of innovation, inclusion, and collaboration.

In March this year the Council approved a new Sustainable Procurement Strategy with a core focus on "improving ethical employment, including suppliers paying the Living Wage". Towards this, the Council has adopted the Fair Work First (FWF) initiative in all procurement activities to improve ethical work practices and encourage Living Wage accreditation among suppliers. Among other

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

commitments, this approach ensures a minimum weighting of no less than 5% in evaluation of tenders to influence improvement in ethical practices, adopting a higher % where appropriate.

Next Steps

Work is underway to engage with businesses through Business Gateway to promote the Fair Tax Mark and Pledge (depending on the nature of the business).

Within the Council's procurement arrangements and other activities, officers are also looking at how these initiatives can be promoted. The Council's Procurement Service is seeking to build additional capacity and skills within the Council to improve sustainability and fair working practices through procurement.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of businesses accredited with the Fair Tax Mark (total premises)	Not available	Not available	75	79	Aim to increase

Commitment 6

Deliver the City Region Deal, making sure the benefits of investment are felt throughout the city and create space for new businesses to start and grow.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal, signed in 2018, covers the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian local authorities.

The Deal sets out a vision that builds on the city region's strengths to deliver transformational programmes and projects across five themes: innovation, skills, transport, culture and housing.

Together, these will deliver a step-change in inclusive growth to benefit the city region, Scotland and the UK.

The Deal confirms that the UK Government and Scottish Government will invest £600 million into the city region over the next 15 years. Alongside partners, comprising: the six member authorities; the city region's universities and colleges; and the private and third sectors, £1.3 billion of investment will be delivered.

Key Achievements

Overall

Two and a half years into the programme, good progress is being made in drawing down maximum amounts of capital funding available. £165m of the UK and Scottish Government grant of £600m has been drawn down and projects worth 61% of the full Deal allocation have had business cases approved

for implementation by Joint Committee. The City of Edinburgh Council acts as the Accountable Body for the Deal and has worked well to ensure that spend is aligned to profile.

Data-Driven Innovation (DDI)

All six business cases in DDI programme now signed off by Joint Committee. Four of these are located in Edinburgh:

- The [Bayes Centre](#) (Bristo Square) is complete and operational. Last year it demonstrated over £22 million of investment in University research funding; created more than 290 jobs; generated over £65 million of investment for DDI start-up companies; and attracted over 40 corporate R&D teams to the city region. It has also established 14 start-ups, a further 30 businesses of scale, with over 2,000 individuals attending events (further enhanced with recent online event capability).
- The [Edinburgh Futures Institute](#) (Quartermile) is under construction with completion date scheduled for September 2021.
- Construction commenced at [The National Robotarium](#) (Riccarton) in January 2021 and is scheduled to open in Spring 2022.
- The planning application for the [Usher Institute](#) (BioQuarter) was approved in December 2020.

Construction is due to commence Summer 2021 with expected completion by Spring 2023. Last year, [DataLoch](#) was launched under this programme. This is a repository of all routine health and social care data for the city region to help find solutions to current health and social care challenges. Researchers have diverted their efforts to focus on COVID-19 data and supporting NHS service managers and clinicians with immediate hospital-based improvements.

Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES)

The IRES Programme is progressing well, targeted at school pupils, people facing barriers to work, and those looking to learn new skills. It includes an intensive family support project and initiatives to promote skills development in housing, construction, renewables, and digital sectors.

Within the IRES programme, the Integrated Employer Engagement (IEE) project, led by the City of Edinburgh Council has been at the forefront of responding to COVID-19. A dedicated [jobs portal](#) was launched just 11 days after the country first went into lockdown. It is a regional offer for employers still recruiting with 3,650 jobs having been advertised, plus training opportunities. An

[employee grant scheme](#) was also rolled-out with 77 micro-businesses across the city region, of which 18 are in Edinburgh, receiving grants of £500-£1,000 to help retain staff.

Transport

The **West Edinburgh** project is underway with the West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme Board established.

Consultation on draft orders for **Sheriffhall** has closed. Discussions ongoing with stakeholders including the City of Edinburgh Council on public and active travel provision.

The Transport Appraisal Board, within the Deal's Governance structure is helping regional partners successfully bring in new funding for regional transport improvements. £1.8m was secured for bus priority measures through the Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Fund, and a regional proposal of measures is being developed for the £500m Bus Partnership Fund, to be submitted in April 2021.

Culture

Submission of the revised planning application for **Dunard Centre** is anticipated in May 2021. Subject

to planning determination, the business case is programmed for consideration at the Joint Committee in September 2021.

Housing

Edinburgh Living has been operational for two years. All £16.1m in available Scottish Government grant funding has been claimed during the construction of homes. 299 homes have been completed to date with over 100 more due to be completed this year.

Work to finalise the Outline Business Case for **Edinburgh's Waterfront** is underway. This will be reported to Council in Autumn. A number of early action projects are currently underway including the renovation of Granton Station building for use as a creative hub and three housing sites that will deliver around 650 mixed tenure net zero carbon homes.

Regional Growth Framework (RGF)

Regional partners continue to work well together to develop this Framework which seeks to articulate the long-term aspirational goals for the region and guide the future direction of the regional partners and a range of other public sector organisations

over the next 20 years. Non-statutory in nature, it will be a public statement of aligned vision, ambition and priorities for South East Scotland, seeking to influence and be influenced by plans and strategies developed at national, regional and local levels.

Next Steps

Joint Committee will consider a draft Regional Growth Framework for consultation in June, and the final framework is scheduled to be considered by Joint Committee in September and constituent councils immediately thereafter.

The final Benefits Realisation Plan is expected to be considered by Joint Committee in June.

The future schedule of business cases for approval are:

- Food and Drink Innovation Hub (QMU): June 2021
- Dunfermline Housing Business Case: June 2021
- Dunard Centre Revised Business Case: September 2021.

Commitment 7

Improve access to employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities.

Background

Nearly 50% of all new clients that access our employability services identify themselves as having a disability, or suffering from Mental Ill Health, Long Term Physical Illness or Physical Illness.

We fund services such as All in Edinburgh, Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentive and Edinburgh Project SEARCH, providing specialist employability support for Edinburgh's disabled citizens to progress towards secure, and sustained work or learning. In addition, several small grants have been awarded to specialist providers working with disabled individuals as well as other barriers to employment and we work with a range of partners to promote inclusive growth.

In 2018 the Scottish Government put in place a new Fair Start Scotland (FSS) employment support programme, which includes support for people with a disability or enduring health condition. This has impacted the number of participants engaging with the locally funded disability support services but nevertheless we have seen a large requirement for specialist services.

Key Achievements

50% of all support to clients that have a disability, or suffering from Mental Ill Health, Long Term Physical Illness or Physical Illness get specialist support,

access to training and employment as well as in-work support from either Edinburgh Project SEARCH or All in Edinburgh.

Since 2014, Edinburgh Project SEARCH has supported 152 young people with a recognised disability aged between 16-29 years old to gain over 800 hours of hands on work experience. Of those young people who have graduated from the programme, 70% have moved into meaningful sustainable employment, and 17% have moved into an alternative positive destination.

All in Edinburgh is a supported employment service to help people with a disability or long-term health condition find a suitable paid job, support them to sustain that job and, when appropriate, progress further. They also assist employers to help them support employees in the workplace.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and its impact on the employment market in general as well as service providers' ability to perform face to face meetings, there was a reduction in new registrations across all council funded employability provision in 2020/21. However, the services were still supporting many existing and new clients and managed to help citizens retain or even progress in their work, despite the number of redundancies across the country. Our specialist support services for disabled people particularly focussed on this outcome and All

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

in Edinburgh even exceeded their target in 2020/21 by 232%.

We also saw an increase in new people registered with our funded disability support services relative to new people registered with all services as well as an increase in outcomes amongst disabled people relative to all clients receiving employability support.

Between 01 April 2020 – 31st March 2021, 360 individuals secured employment thanks to council funded employability services, out of which 149 indicated disability as a barrier (41.4%). Looking at wider outcomes, such as job retention, access to training etc. the services supported 252 disabled individuals out of 679 (37.1%).

Due to the impact of COVID-19 the 2020/21 Edinburgh Project SEARCH programme was initially delivered on a reduced basis but later suspended. The 12 young people who started, but were unable to complete the programme, will be offered the opportunity to re-join in August 2021.

Next Steps

The full economic and employment impact of COVID-19 is still unknown. Although there has been additional funding made available in the employability sphere, the competition for fewer jobs is now harder and so the Council funded supported employment provision is needed more than ever to

help individuals facing barriers to employment to overcome these.

We also continue to work with partners through the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal, Joined up for Jobs network, the Edinburgh

Guarantee and Locality Partnerships to promote inclusive growth.

Key measures	2017/18*	2018/19*	2019/20*	2020/21	Target
Number of disabled people who have accessed council funded employability services	1,203	1,101	1,182	866	Increasing trend
% of all support provided to people with disabilities	46.9%	49.8%	53.9%	53.1%	Increasing trend

* Figures from these years have been restated to reflect support across all council funded employability services

Commitment 8

Explore the introduction of fair rent zones.

Background

On 1 December 2017, Section 35 of the Housing (Tenancies) Scotland Act 2016 took effect. The Act makes provision for local authorities to apply to Scottish Ministers for approval to designate an area as a Rent Pressure Zone (RPZ), sometimes known as a fair rent zone.

Research into Edinburgh's private rented sector, and proposed interventions that can assist with tackling the issue of rents rising excessively, was completed in summer 2018 and was used to inform an update to [Housing and Economy Committee in November 2018](#). The research indicated that RPZs are not a long-term solution to rapidly rising private rents and highlights the importance of responding to pressurised housing markets through increasing the supply of affordable housing, homes across all tenures and better regulation of the short term lets sector.

In August 2019, Health, Housing and Fair Work Committee received a report on the Strategic Approach to Private Rented Sector. It set out our approach to tackling key issues in the private rented sector, echoing the Scottish Government's

strategy ([A Place to Stay, A Place to Call Home](#)) and aims to:

- increase supply of homes to help meet need and demand;
- improve access to and management of homes in the sector;
- improve affordability within the sector; and
- improve quality and conditions of homes in the sector.

The Fair Rents (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 1 June 2020. An officers' response for the Stage 1 call for views was submitted.

Key Achievements

A multi-disciplinary officer working group was established in partnership with the Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers (ALACHO) to coordinate those local authorities and stakeholders interested in exploring RPZs in more detail. An officer working group with representatives from housing, homelessness, and regulatory services has been meeting regularly to develop a comprehensive strategic approach to tackling key issues facing the private rented

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

sector. A communications strategy has been rolled out which aims to empower private rented sector tenants to understand the rights and protections available to them, as well as, promoting the support, information and resources available to them by the Council and partner organisations.

Next Steps

Scotland's long-term Housing strategy 'Housing to 2040' was published on 15 March 2021. The strategy includes details on a Scottish Government commitment to reform the existing Rent Pressure Zone legislation, as well as a commitment to ensure robust data collection approaches within the private rented sector are established.

Council officers will continue to work with Scottish Government to explore the potential of a pilot RPZ along with these new commitments. The latest meeting of the Scottish Government working group took place in April 2021. The working group is expected to meet regularly over the next six months to look at data requirements and any changes to legislation to make Rent Pressure Zones more viable.

Commitment 9

Create a Homeless Task Force to investigate the growing homelessness problem in the city. The team will review the use of b&b premises and explore alternatives that better meet the needs of individuals and families with an aim to end the use of bed and breakfast facilities. Appoint a Homelessness Champion who will chair the Task Force.

Background

[The creation of the Homelessness Task Force](#) was agreed through the Housing and Economy Committee on 2 November 2017. Its remit was to:

- build on existing prevention work which further reduces homelessness assessments,
- reduce the number of people rough sleeping, accessing temporary accommodation and living in insecure accommodation,
- increase the supply of quality council led temporary accommodation provision, reducing the reliance on bed and breakfast,
- ensure that appropriate support is available for all homeless people who require it.

Key Achievements

[The actions, outcomes and recommendations of the Homelessness Task Force](#) were presented to the Housing and Economy Committee on 7 June 2018.

They established a Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme with a Council investment of £0.994m to transform preventative services with a target of reducing the number of households in temporary accommodation by 650 by March 2023. This complements the prevention activity outlined in the second iteration of the Rapid Rehousing

Transition Plan (RRTP) agreed at Committee on 18 September 2020.

Key activities we have progressed include:

- establishing a Homelessness Prevention Working Group with Council and third sector representation to take forward the preventative activity outlined in the RRTP. The group has set up a multi-disciplinary response providing joined up support to Council tenants in rent arrears who are not engaging with their Housing Officer. They are now working to update the hospital discharge and prison pathways.
- Since November 2019, our Private Rented Sector Team has prevented 186 households from entering temporary accommodation, resulting in £1.7m of avoided costs.
- Through strong partnership working with our third sector partners we have reduced the number of people sleeping rough in the city from a pre-COVID average of 80 – 120 people per night to under 10.
- We have followed public health requirements to accommodate all households, regardless of eligibility, during COVID-19. This has resulted in an increase in the usage of bed & breakfast accommodation. This is also reflected in the

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

increase in the number of families accommodated in bed & breakfast accommodation.

- We have increased the supply of self-contained properties for use as temporary accommodation. The new Private Rented Sector Leasing contract went live in April 2020. This has seen the number of properties in the scheme increase to over 1,500 at the end of February 2021.
- We continue to develop the Home Share temporary accommodation model which sees 3 to 5 residents share a kitchen, living room and bathroom, whilst having their own bedroom. This year we have increased the number of properties from 6 to 10, with a total of 40 rooms available. This will be further developed in 2021 through a procurement exercise.
- Link workers continue to be based in the Bethany Rapid Re-Accommodation Welcome Centre which provides emergency accommodation for rough sleepers. These link workers undertake provisional homelessness assessments which are then signed off by appropriate CEC staff.
- The Welcome Centre has Council, third sector and health colleagues on site to ensure that appropriate support is provided. A member of staff from the Council's temporary accommodation service is now based at the

Centre and they can allocate appropriate temporary accommodation to residents and as a result the number of people moving to more suitable accommodation has risen.

- We continue to work with partners to deliver the Edinburgh Housing First Service, providing settled homes in the community with wrap around support for people with the most complex needs and a history of rough sleeping. As at the end of February 2021, 108 people have moved into a home.

Next Steps

We will continue to develop our prevention activities through the Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme. This will see the recruitment of 28 posts focusing on prevention, early intervention, income maximisation and supporting people to move out of temporary accommodation into permanent housing and delivering new ways of working such as the establishment of a multi-disciplinary response team exploring ways to work across Council services to identify trigger points that may put someone at risk of homelessness in the future and offer joined up support.

To meet the requirements of the extended Unsuitable Accommodation Order measures, due to come into force at the end of June 2021, we will continue to work towards increasing 'suitable' temporary accommodation properties, such as self-contained properties delivered through the Private Sector Leasing Scheme and home share. A target to reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation by 600 by March 2022 and transform the mix of temporary accommodation to meet the requirements of the Order are included in the Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme. Given the scale of the challenge in Edinburgh, we will be unable to effect this from end of June 2021.

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Key measures (at end of March)		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of accommodation units	Dispersed Flats	647	785	1085	1481	Increasing trend
	Supported Accommodation	198	198	214	214	
	Hostel	175	176	176	176	
	B&B	676	123	145	457	
	Shared Houses	0	552	629	758	
Number of families accommodated in B&B		58	21	0	4	0
Number of 16/17 year olds or care leavers accommodated in B&B		13	11	1	0	0
Number of households in B&B		676	123	145	457	Decreasing trend
Average Length of stay in B&B		112.2	115.7	83.8	68.1	Decreasing trend
Number of households assessed as homeless		3,085	3,049	3,288	1,907	Decreasing trend

* All Targets to be reviewed in-line with the next update of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP)

Notes: Of the 4 households with children accommodated in a B&B on 31 March 2021, all 4 were No Recourse to Public Funds

Commitment 10

Prioritise the use of brownfield sites and work with public sector and private landowners to develop land for affordable housing.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Planning Committee on 3 October 2018 agreed the actions required to continue to increase the supply of housing within the city, as set out in the [2018 Housing Land Audit and Completions Programme](#).

Key Achievements

The 2020 Housing Land Audit and Completions programme recorded sufficient housing land to meet the current Strategic Development Plan housing land requirement. The five year completions programme (previously referred to as the five year effective land supply) was also above the five year delivery target.

The 20-26 Strategic Housing Investment Plan outlined a programme which would deliver nearly 11,400 new affordable homes over the next five years.

The project to prepare a replacement local development plan – called [City Plan 2030](#) – has set out options for the location of new developments in the period up to 2030 and beyond, including minimisation of additional greenfield developments. A major public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020 and over 1,800 responses were received, several times more than the previous equivalent stage. Results of the consultation will be considered in the development of the Proposed Plan. Initial examination of the consultation responses has shown strong support for choices under the outcome ‘A city in which everyone lives in a home which they can afford’ and this includes a brownfield strategy for building new homes and infrastructure.

Next Steps

Following the adoption of the [Local Development Plan](#), a large amount of newly allocated greenfield land became effective in pushing the proportion of land that is greenfield to its highest ever level. Most new sites to come forward over the next few years are expected to be brownfield.

Measures to monitor progress will be included within the City Plan 2030. The Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021 and is on track to be delivered within the new timetable, as set out in the Development Plan Scheme.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of capacity of units in effective land supply which are on brownfield land	55%	55%	Not available until Summer/Autumn 2021	Increasing trend

Commitment 11

Ensure that Council policies on planning, licensing and sale of Council land give substantial weight to the needs of residents while still encouraging business and tourism.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Project to develop [City Plan 2030](#) is now underway and includes work on visitor accommodation, leisure use needs and other types of development. This is intended to help develop a planning policy framework to support a balanced mix of affordable housing, private ownership, private letting and other uses.

Key Achievements

Since March 2017 the Council has agreed to the transfer of 14 sites from the General Fund account to the Housing Revenue Account and these have been included in the new build affordable housing

programme. These will deliver around 1,000 new homes.

The Council has called for additional regulation of the short term lets sector through the introduction of a licensing system. To achieve the objective of additional regulation, the Scottish Government would be required to introduce legislation. A consultation on the regulation of short-term lets in Scotland is currently underway.

The Edinburgh Tourism Strategy 2030 was agreed in January 2020, shifting from an emphasis on promoting tourism growth to one on managing tourism growth. The Strategy sets out five key priorities for action: our place, people, environment, partnerships and reputation.

Next Steps

The project to prepare a replacement local development plan – called [City Plan 2030](#)– has set out options for changes to planning policy relating to a range of land uses, with the aim of supporting an appropriate balance. Choice 9 in particular sets out proposed changes to planning policy to protect against the loss of homes to other uses, including short term lets. The project’s Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council is supporting an industry led recovery campaign centred around the five Tourism Strategy priorities, working with partners across the city on a resilience, reboot and recovery plan for the sector.

Commitment 12

Review the Council's policy on promoting mixed communities. The review should be completed by summer of 2018 and should include homes of multiple occupancy, short term temporary lets and student housing.

Background

The Project to develop [City Plan 2030](#) is now underway and includes work on housing and visitor accommodation needs. This is intended to help develop a planning policy framework to support a balanced mix of affordable housing, private ownership, private letting and other uses.

Key Achievements

The City Plan project reviewed existing Local Development Plan (LDP) policies and identified potential changes that may be required, including the mix of housing within the city. This included two statutory documents: the LDP Monitoring Statement, which set out evidence on the impact of policies in the current LDP, and the Choices for City Plan, consultation document. These were published in January 2020.

Research shows that currently there is no ability to control numbers or density of these within the licensing system. There is no evidence of a surplus of empty Houses in Multiple Occupation's

(HMO) which would justify a conclusion of over provision.

There were 20,191 purpose-built student bedspaces in Edinburgh at the end of 2020. Of which, 398 new bedspaces were completed in 2020 and 1,367 are currently under construction, consent has been granted for 2,281 and there were 320 awaiting determination. All completions, developments under construction and consents in 2020 were on brownfield sites. For the fifth year in six, the number of those completed and under construction out with the city centre exceeded those in the city centre.

The Scottish Government has brought through changes in the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 to allow local authorities to designate part of their area as a short term let control area which came into force on May 18th of this year. Within such areas, the change of use from a dwelling house to premises providing a short term let will automatically involve a change of use requiring an application for planning permission. We are

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

currently reviewing the legislative parameters of this power and how best to proceed with its implementation.

[Choices for City Plan 2030](#) was published in January 2020. A major public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020. Over 1,800 responses were received and there was strong support for protecting Edinburgh's homes from other uses, changing the affordable housing policy and the required mix of house types and tenures.

Next Steps

An updated Development Plan Scheme with timetable was published in March 2021 and sets out the timing of the Proposed Plan stage, and the opportunities for people to make formal representations supporting or seeking changes. The Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021 and is on track to be delivered within the new timetable, as set out in the Development Plan Scheme.

Commitment 13

Improve planning enforcement to ensure that all developers, large or small, conform to Edinburgh’s policies and developer’s commitments.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Planning Committee approved the revised [Planning Enforcement Charter](#) in December 2017. The Charter sets out how we will deliver the statutory planning enforcement service in the city.

Key Achievements

From April 2020 to end of March 2021, there were 711 enforcement enquiries received and only 3 enforcement notices served. The enforcement team has focused on short term lets with over 57% of cases closed within their target of 6 months, while 70% of other cases were closed within the 3 months. This equates to 66.8% for all cases. The formation of a dedicated enforcement team in 2019 allowed significant progress in handling short term let cases and a high success rate in appeals.

Financial contributions towards infrastructure, necessary to mitigate the impact of development, are secured through planning agreements. In 2020/21, over £7 million was collected from developers for education, transport (including tram) and other infrastructure. The reduction in the last year has in part been caused by the temporary pause in construction in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning that fewer sites reached development payment triggers. Contributions were also relatively high in 2018/19 and 2019/20 as a number of key sites reached their payment triggers.

An internal audit of the developer contributions process has been completed and reported to the [Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 7 May 2019](#).

Performance in terms of handling non-householder applications was by the measures introduced by, including a realigned team structure and a new approach to distributing applications.

Next Steps

As identified in a refresh of Planning Improvement Plan, decision making time monitoring indicators have been aligned with national indicators (decision making times in weeks). Further improvements to enforcement and development management processes are being identified as part of work on how the service will operate in post COVID-19.

Key measure	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Average no. of weeks to determine non-householder planning applications	14.7	16.8	15.7	12.2	10.9
Developer contributions collected	£5,211,469	£15,346,626	£15,309,750	£7,185,166	N/A
Enforcement cases resolved within timescales	collected from 18/19	51.5%	50.7%	66.8%	70%

Commitment 14

Work with the Scottish Government to review planning policy and overhaul the planning appeal system to make it shorter, more independent and give communities the right to appeal.

Background

In January 2020, the Scottish Government published a Call for Ideas for National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) as part of its engagement with Local Authorities and other stakeholders to inform a draft framework. Under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 the framework will become a statutory part of the development plan, will include housing targets and will incorporate a revised Scottish Planning Policy.

Key Achievements

The Planning Convener and planning officers worked with the Scottish Government to discuss aspects of the proposals which would affect the planning system in Edinburgh. The Planning Bill was passed by Parliament on 20 June 2019. It did not include any provisions for community rights of appeal. Instead, it introduced changes to create a more inclusive and collaborative planning system with more effective community engagement.

Planning Committee approved the response of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	✓

(ESESCR) partners to the Scottish Government's 'Call for Ideas' on the emerging NPF 4 on 18 March 2020. Planning Committee approved an interim Regional Spatial Strategy in October 2020 and CEC's response to the Scottish Government's Position Statement on NPF 4 in February 2021.

Next Steps

We will continue to work with the Government on its preparations for NPF 4 and we await the response to its recent consultation.

Commitment 15

Protect Edinburgh World Heritage Status and make sure developments maintain the vibrancy of our city in terms of placemaking, design and diversity of use.

Background

The [Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Management Plan 2017- 2022](#) was approved by the Planning Committee in December 2017. This Plan is a strategic document which sets the framework for the preservation and enhancement of the site's cultural heritage. It contains a vision for the site, the actions

necessary to protect and manage it, and how it fits alongside other strategies.

We have an ongoing commitment to ensure the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site (WHS) is taken into account in the planning process.

The WHS is managed by City of Edinburgh Council in partnership with Historic Environment Scotland and Edinburgh World Heritage Trust.

Key Achievements

The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh (ONTE) WHS Steering Group is responsible for monitoring the condition of the site (State of Conservation) and for monitoring the implementation of the actions. The Steering Group has agreed its priority short term actions. These actions support the Management Plan objectives of improving the understanding of the site, learning and engagement, and advocacy for sustainable visitor management in the city.

A start to the review of the next ONTE WHS Management Plan has been made. It will incorporate methodology for sustainable management of World Heritage Sites from a European cities partner project (that was extended as a result of COVID-19), a report on 'mainstreaming' heritage within the Council, an evaluation of the 2017-22 Management Plan.

On-going development and active travel work in relation to the ONTE WHS has continued taking in to account the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS in the relevant planning and transport processes.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Next Steps

Visit Scotland further postponed the launch of the 'UNESCO National Trail' in response to the December 2020 lockdown announcement. The WHS Management Partners also postponed delivery of the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) and Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) projects. CVI will now be delivered on-line in May/June 2021 in collaboration with James Cook University, Brisbane, and the University of Edinburgh as well as residents and wider stakeholders. This will make Edinburgh the first cultural WHS to establish a methodology for assessing climate risk in an urban World Heritage context.

A bid from Edinburgh World Heritage to the National Lottery Heritage Fund has been successful and will allow the WHS Steering Group to commence a 'Community Outreach and Resilience Project' to support the ONTE WHS Management Plan review.

Commitment 16

Invest £100m in roads and pavements over the next 5 years. This will include road and pavement maintenance, installing more pedestrian crossings, increasing the number of dropped kerbs and dedicate safer foot and cycle paths as well as introducing more pedestrian zones.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The first draft of [the Roads Asset Management Plan](#) was approved by Transport and Environment Committee on 9 March 2018. The RAMP has now been expanded to include additional transport assets (i.e. cycling infrastructure) and was re-named as the Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP). [The TAMP](#) was approved by Transport and Environment Committee in December 2018. The purpose of the TAMP is to establish future maintenance and management of the overall road network and set out options considered to take forward the management of our road assets. The plan also aims to support active travel initiatives throughout the city.

Key Achievements

Edinburgh's footway investment continues to be at some of the highest levels in Scotland with 30% of the total carriageway and footway renewal budget apportioned to footways each financial year, with an aim of improving resident satisfaction.

The TAMP sets out levels of investment in capital and revenue spend for carriageway and footway renewals and repairs, street lighting and traffic signals, road safety and active travel. Work is ongoing to establish how the TAMP can continue to best support active travel initiatives throughout Edinburgh. Work completed in the last year includes improved lighting along the Innocent Railway Path, improved signage on the National Cycle Network and technical design work for crossing at 22 different locations in the city.

Next Steps

COVID-19 is likely to continue to have an effect on delivery of road maintenance schemes in 2021/22. However, it is anticipated that there will be an increase in capital delivery in 2021/22 compared with previous years and we shall easily meet the commitment to spend £100m over five years. It is expected that the continued level of investment will reduce the proportion of the adopted road network that requires maintenance. Although the RCI increased from 33.5% to 37.1% in the last year, Edinburgh is one of the few councils who has extensive data on all their network that allows delivery of the capital projects to be targeted at the roads that most require it.

Key Measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Road Condition Index	36.4%	36.4%	33.5%	37.1%	Continual Improvement
Level of total road investment	£20.747m	£23.485m	£23.000m	£21.343m	£100m by 2022

Commitment 17

Guarantee 10% of the transport budget on improving cycling in the city.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Our budget has set aside a minimum of 10% of the Transport budget (capital and revenue) for cycling.

Key Achievements

In the last three years we have delivered a range of work to make the city a better place for people to live and travel around. This includes joining the Open Streets movement, launching a hire bike scheme and completing the conversion of the city's roads to a network to 20mph streets.

The Active Travel Investment Programme 2019-2024 (ATINP), reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 20 June 2019 involves over £61m of investment, over 60% of which will be in the form of match-funding from Sustrans /Transport Scotland.

The cycling element of the ATINP focusses on creating a joined-up city-wide network. It includes major projects such as the City Centre West East Link, Meadows to George Street, West Edinburgh Link and Roseburn to Union Canal.

Work in the last 2 years, which has seen disruption due to COVID-19, includes:

- 96 bike racks have been installed as part of the city-wide Public Bike Parking Scheme across Edinburgh, increasing capacity in some parts

and also creating parking spaces on new destinations.

- The lighting along Innocent Path tunnel, part of the National Cycle Network, got upgraded to LED lamps which has made a big difference in terms of perceived safety and place appeal.
- The signage along most of the National Cycle Network within Edinburgh got upgraded with new signs to make the network more accessible to all path users. Also, the Quiet Route of Fishwives' Causeway got its signage improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.
- Completion of a priority exercise to identify locations where improved or new crossings, extended pavements and decluttering should be delivered based on proximity to Health facilities and High footfall streets.
- The Technical designs for 22 different locations (50 crossings) have been completed with construction expected to be finished by Autumn 2021.

The biennial Sustrans Bike Life report for 2019 includes a wide variety of indicators. It shows public support for increasing investment in cycling and creating safe spaces for walking and cycling in the city.

[On 4 October 2018](#), the Transport and Environment Committee approved a roll out of 180 secure on-street cycle parking units. 108 units have subsequently been installed and work is underway to deliver the remaining 72 units. Delays to implementation have incurred in some parts of the city but work is ongoing to co-ordinate the proposals with other ongoing council projects to allow the remaining units to be installed as quickly as possible and complete the current roll out. Seven months after the first installations began, the scheme now has 591 users, representing an occupancy rate of around 91% for the 108 units installed to date. There are currently another 476 people on the waiting list for a space. A small number of units are being considered for relocation to areas where demand for spaces is highest. Requests have also been received for units at 206 new locations that are not included within the current roll out, with around 272 names on file for these sites.

Next Steps

In the next year we will focus on non-standard bike spaces, recreation parks and on-road bike parking. As well as making core parts of the National Cycle Network more accessible by removing and/or altering chicanes and barriers that do not meet current accessibility standards. A

second rollout with another 50 crossings adding more criteria for the prioritisation exercise including

proximity to public transport, schools and public facilities will begin.

We will also be working, in consultation with others, to produce a new Active Travel Action Plan covering the period to 2030.

Key Measures	2015	2017	2019	Target
Residents reporting cycling one or more time per week (NB estimate +/-3%)	21%	20%	24%	Increasing trend
Residents perception of cycling – Edinburgh is a good place to cycle (new)	Not available	Not available	47%	Increasing trend

Commitment 18

Improve Edinburgh's air quality and reduce carbon emissions. Explore the implementation of low emission zones.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Under the [Environment Act 1995](#) and the associated Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) framework, all local authorities are duty bound to review and assess air quality in their areas against national pollution objectives. Edinburgh has declared six Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) - five for the pollutant nitrogen dioxide (NO2) (St. John's Road, Great Junction Street, Glasgow Road, Inverleith Row and Central) and one for fine particulates (PM10) (Salamander Street).

The Cities Low Emission Zone proposals are being developed in conjunction with the City Mobility Plan and the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation project.

Edinburgh's Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) was launched in 2015 as a citywide five-year strategy that set a target to reduce carbon emissions by 42% by 2020 from 2005 levels.

In May 2019 Council declared a climate emergency and approved a new approach to sustainability including working towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The SEAP was concluded and any outstanding activity and reporting absorbed into the sustainability programme and the new target.

The Council's declaration and commitment for Edinburgh to be a net zero city by 2030 has placed sustainability and climate change at the centre of strategic and policy discussions. This has raised the profile of Edinburgh as one of the most ambitious cities seeking to tackle climate change to deliver a more sustainable and inclusive city.

Key Achievements

The Council has already taken several strategic and significant decisions to effectively mainstream the 2030 target into the Council's core business and budgets. Immediate action was brought forward through a Short Window Improvement Plan, with an annual report being provided to committee in [November 2020](#). Most recently, the [2021-2024 Council Business Plan](#) has identified sustainability as one of the three priorities for the Council.

Edinburgh is now one of only 15 European cities that are part of the Climate-KIC Healthy, Clean Cities Deep Demonstrator programme. Elements of the programme delivered throughout 2020/21 are supporting the Council to explore innovative solutions to the complex system change in key areas required to deliver net zero for the city.

The Council has been working with the University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Climate Change Institute (formerly Edinburgh Centre for Climate Innovation),

to develop a Carbon Scenario Tool to help evaluate the projected emissions impact of projects, proposals and programmes of activity. The tool has been used to inform and develop the Council and the City's future emissions trajectories to 2030.

Detail on the Council's pathway to net-zero 2030 has been provided in the draft Council Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) and a 2030 City target monitoring approach has been developed and was presented to [Policy and Sustainability Committee on 20 April 2021](#).

The Council is co-sponsoring, along with Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, the independent Edinburgh Climate Commission which will provide expert, authoritative advice on how to accelerate city action on climate change. The Edinburgh Climate Commission has developed a City Climate Compact which sets organisational climate commitments for Climate Champions to adopt as part of their leadership on climate action. In [December 2020](#), the Council adopted the Compact as a founding member.

The latest data for our Air Quality Management Areas shows concentrations of pollutants at most locations are decreasing. For the third consecutive year, Great Junction Street AQMA has reported no breaches of the NO2 annual objectives. A review will

be undertaken to consider the potential revocation of the AQMA, particularly in relation to changing traffic management priorities in the area.

The Inverleith Row AQMA has had no breach of the said objective for the second year in a row. Monitoring will continue to assess whether this AQMA can be revoked in the future.

The St John's Road AQMA is declared for exceedances of the NO2 1-hour objective (in addition to the annual objective). 2019 is the fourth consecutive year in which fewer than 18 hourly concentrations greater than 200µg/m3 were reported. Therefore, the Council will amend the AQMA to remove this designation. The Order will remain valid for breaches of the annual mean objective.

Next Steps

In taking forward this commitment, net zero carbon measures are being mainstreamed and integrated within all city shaping strategies delivered by the Council. Key examples include City Centre Transformation, City Mobility Plan, City Plan 2030, City Housing Strategy, as well as corporate strategies such as the Sustainable Procurement Strategy.

A key programme of work in emissions reductions will be the development of the city strategy for net zero. Work is well underway with the programme bringing together City Partners, made up of the public and private organisations that collectively have the power, resources and levers necessary to achieve net zero by 2030. Engagement with City Partners to date has found a strong appetite for co-production of the strategy and to sign up to significant commitments to change. The Council is also working with the Edinburgh Climate

Commission to gain members expertise and input to on the development of the City Strategy.

The new Carbon Scenario Tool is also being used to help evaluate the projected emissions impact of projects, proposals and programmes of activity including the SWIP.

A national Low Emission Zone (LEZ) indicative timeline has been agreed following a slowdown in the work in 2020 due to the pandemic. The Council will continue to work alongside the Scottish Government and the other Scottish cities to ensure LEZs are introduced across Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow between February and May 2022.

Key measures	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% reduction in CO2 emission from a 2005 baseline (superseded by net zero 2030 target)	33%	34.9%	35.9%	Superseded	Superseded	42% by 2020
Total city's emissions – All greenhouse gases (MtCO2e)	2.721	2.595	2.428	<i>Data available Autumn 2021</i>	<i>Data available Autumn 2022</i>	0 by 2030
Air Quality Management Areas improvement	5 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	Decreasing long term trend

Commitment 19

Keep the city moving by reducing congestion, improving public transport to rural west Edinburgh and managing road works to avoid unnecessary disruption to the public.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Public Transport Priority Plan is a five-year plan with short and medium term delivery priorities agreed with Lothian Buses aimed at reducing congestion and improving public transport.

The Edinburgh Peoples survey found that satisfaction with public transport was high, despite a small drop from 90% to 88% between 2017/18 and 2018/19.

Key Achievements

The Council has improved supported bus service provision in the rural west area within the city boundary. The Service 63 has been extended to Balerno and the Service 20 now connects to

Ingliston Park and Ride to offer an additional interchange opportunity with tram.

New bus lane enforcement cameras have been installed to help improve access for public transport and improve journey times and reliability across the city. Parking attendants are monitoring main traffic routes to assist traffic movement and prevent congestion.

The Council and all public utilities fulfil the requirement of the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner to plan and co-ordinate roadworks through the Scottish Roadworks Register with the aim of minimising disruption. Monitoring of the agreement and the planned co-ordination of works is reported to the Transport and Environment Committee.

Next Steps

Work is ongoing on a bid for bus priority funding for submission to Transport Scotland's Bus Partnership Fund. If successful, this will provide funding to implement many bus infrastructure and priority measures across Edinburgh and the wider region. The Public Transport Action Plan is due for review and content will be influenced by success of the funding bid. It may also include proposals for bus stop rationalisation and amendment of bus lane operating hours. All measures will be aimed at improving bus journey times and reliability with a focus on arresting bus use decline and assisting public transport to recover from the effects of the global pandemic.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	Target
Satisfaction with public transport*	90%	88%	Increasing trend

* Survey has not taken place since 2018/19

Commitment 20

Explore the introduction of a lane rental for utility companies to reduce traffic pressures.

Background

Lane rentals are seen as a way of making sure any essential roadworks are managed efficiently to limit the amount of disruption to road users while ensuring safe and reliable roads. Existing schemes in England work by introducing a daily charge to those companies carrying out work on the road network to encourage more efficient planning and delivery.

Key Achievements

The introduction of lane rental schemes was included within the consultation phase of the new Transport Bill, however when the final bill received royal assent in 2019 it did not set out the

necessary enabling powers to allow them to be established. It instead strengthened the powers which already exist in Scotland that allow councils to manage and coordinate roadworks. This is through the Scottish Roadworks Register and Noticing Schemes and it is monitored by the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner. This exists to encourage a right first-time approach for road work reinstatements, to provide better information about road works and to help ensure a consistent approach to safety at sites regardless of who is carrying them out.

Through the Roads Improvement Plan the council has set up a new Network Management and Enforcement service to oversee the smooth

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	✓
Will not be achieved	

running of the city's transport network for all users and all modes of transport. The service has been designed to regulate activity, undertake inspections, co-ordinate the network and take enforcement action, including for road works, where required.

Next Steps

A Network and Enforcement Management Improvement Plan has been created to take forward the specific Roads Improvement Plan actions for this new service. Regular updates will be reported to the Transport and Environment Committee.

Commitment 21

Retain Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram in public ownership.

Background

Lothian Buses is the UK's largest municipal bus company and proudly owned by the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian councils.

Key Achievements

The decision to continue discussions on governance reform of the Transport ALEO's (Arms Length External Organisations) was agreed at Transport and Environment Committee in November. Formal discussions are now underway with the ALEO Boards, Minority Shareholders and employee representatives. However, the political commitment to retain public ownership of Transport for Edinburgh remains in place. Transport for

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Edinburgh has our holding in Lothian Buses to ensure public ownership is retained.

Next Steps

We will continue to ensure that Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram are retained in public ownership. Following the conclusion of engagement on the governance reform of the Transport ALEOs, a delivery plan for the agreed option will be developed.

Commitment 22

Deliver the tram extension to Newhaven by 2022 after reviewing the business case and delivery plan to ensure they are robust.

Background

The anticipated growth of Edinburgh means the current road network and public transport provision aren't sustainable for the number of new residents expected. Trams allow greater numbers of people to travel and help to reduce traffic problems on congested roads. They also create employment during construction, boost development along the route and connect people centres of employment, leisure and retail.

Trams to Newhaven will add 4.69 kilometres/2.91 miles of track in both directions, connecting Leith and Newhaven to the current end of the Edinburgh tram line at York Place with 8 new stops.

Key Achievements

Construction of this phase commenced in November 2019 after six months of joint work by the City of Edinburgh Council, Sacyr, Farrans, Neopul (SFN), and Morrison Utility Services (MUS), to finalise the construction programme and costs for the project.

The Trams to Newhaven site preparation works re-started on Monday 1 June 2020. This consisted of, among other things, the introduction of infection control stations, additional water stations and toilet facilities for workers within the site, ensuring all office workspaces and facilities were set up appropriately, and the removal of the protective in-fill material that was used to ensure the work site remained safe and protected during the shutdown.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Over £2.4M of funding to support local business via a series of measures intended to maintain the accessibility, vibrancy and desirability of the affected streets.

Next Steps

As a result of COVID-19, the project experienced a 13 week delay due to the construction site shut down. In order to take this delay and new physical distancing working guidelines into account the programme has been reviewed and updated. Although the project has faced significant challenges, construction continues to progress and the project is still on track to deliver Trams to Newhaven by spring 2023.

Commitment 23

Implement improvement plans for Waste and Cleansing Services to improve street cleanliness in every ward. Reintroduce a free bulky item collection service to tackle fly tipping.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Waste and Cleansing service has undergone a number of service changes and improvements since [the Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan](#) was introduced. These include: staff structure and kerbside collection model changes; the introduction of garden waste charging; infrastructure investment at the new Energy from Waste plant at Millerhill and technological developments, including implementation of the new bin route system.

During 2020 the service was significantly affected by COVID-19 which meant there was a need to reprioritise services.

Key Achievements

The service has had to cope with significant disruption in 2020/21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including redeploying some staff to support other services in waste and cleansing. Monitoring through the year by Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) does reflect the difficulties in providing a citywide service. This is reflected in the street cleanliness score which has dropped significantly from previous years. Initial feedback from KSB indicates that this is primarily due to the prevalence of domestic waste in high density

residential areas. A full analysis of the data will be carried out when it is published to fully understand the reasons behind the score.

A pilot bulky item collection service was being developed with The Remakery to encourage the reuse of materials. However, they are not able to deliver this to the scale required and a different approach will be considered.

The service has worked with SHRUB over several years to target the dumping of reusable items at the end of term in Marchmont. This means that small items which would otherwise contribute to overflowing communal bins are diverted for reuse in the student and wider community.

Waste and Cleansing worked with Hubbub and Changeworks and over winter 2019/20 piloted segregated recycling points to recycle plastic bottles, cans and coffee cups at city centre locations on the go. Those led to some learning points around communications, however again demonstrated the practical barriers to providing segregated recycling for litter, primarily high levels of contamination and an increase in the carbon footprint associated with running additional vehicles to collect small amounts of material. The implementation of deposit return legislation for drinks containers and legislation to reduce the use

of disposable cups is expected to significantly reduce the recyclable elements of this waste stream.

Working with Keep Scotland Beautiful, the My Beach Your Beach campaign focussed on Portobello with a range of measures including engagement with community organisations, dog walkers and local businesses as well as improved litter bins, leading to reductions in discarded litter, food and dog fouling. This work continued to maintain the campaign at reduced level (as a result of COVID-19 restrictions) during 2020, with the intention to re-expand it in summer 2021, when it will be complemented by a separate campaign to tackle upstream sources of water pollution.

Litter prevention work with school children is delivered in partnership with schools, using a variety of means including assembly sessions and tailored workshops. Changeworks have been successfully developing a “whole school” approach which is more holistic, looking at waste prevention, recycling and litter in the round with the aim to better embed learned behaviours although this work is suspended at present as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

Following a review of the work of the Environmental Wardens and Waste Compliance

teams a single service has been established called the Street Enforcement Team which will focus on a more clearly defined list of tasks which affect the quality of the environment and the on-street experience for all. The objective of the new service will be to increase enforcement action in response to offences relating to littering, domestic and trade waste presentation and disposal, flytipping, tables and chairs permits and abandoned vehicles, however this work has been affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

During 2020, the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown has seen significant changes to patterns of consumer behaviour which have led to a national picture of displacement of litter from city and town centres to local and suburban areas, and increased scrutiny of these issues. A campaign was developed to encourage use of bins in parks and other public areas.

We continue to support community groups and individuals organising a clean-up by providing

clean up kits, including litter pickers for adults and children, and removing the litter that has been collected by them.

Next Steps

The LEAMS criteria used by authorities to assess cleanliness of relevant has been reviewed following the publication of a revised Code of Practice. The Code clarifies organisational responsibilities, supports more effective cleanliness standards and a proactive approach to litter prevention. The updated monitoring system which will now be implemented fully from 2022/23 will provide a more modern platform. All streets and public open spaces have been rezoned (where these are under Council control) and a map showing these has been published online.

More residents who use communal bin services contacted us to say that a bin was full or overflowing in 2021, probably reflecting people spending more time at home. It should be noted however that communal bin requests do not

necessarily relate to bins being missed – bins can be emptied then fill up prior to the next collection.

A full review of the communal bin collection service is being undertaken with a particular focus on those areas where waste is collected on the street. This will include reviewing servicing frequencies and capacities to improve the overall cleanliness of the city, as well as re-locating bins to enhance the overall streetscape. The timeline for this work has been reprofiled to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions so that development work has been brought forward and on-site implementation will start in summer 2021.

The My Beach, Your Beach campaign will be repeated in 2021, and complemented by a separate Love Your River campaign to tackle upstream sources of litter and pollution which then impact on water quality downstream.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Reduction in communal bin service requests	15,155	21,868	17,004	19,484	22,020
Reduction in individual domestic bin service requests	22,853	33,621	17,690	19,887	21,180
Incidences of dumping and fly tipping	5,928	8,855	9,297	11,329	Decreasing trend
LEAMS – street cleanliness index	88.7%	92.0%	92.9%	81.8%	95%

Commitment 24

Reduce the incidence of dog fouling on Edinburgh’s streets and public parks.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

We have developed a campaign to discourage anti-social behaviours such as littering, flytipping and dog fouling. The ‘Our Edinburgh’ campaign focuses on social responsibility and community participation. The campaign is ongoing and includes targeted initiatives to reduce dog fouling, however this work has been interrupted as a result of the lockdowns and social distancing requirements in 2020/21.

Key Achievements

The number of dog fouling incidents reported to us has decreased from 2,590 in 2017/18 to 1,362 in 2020/21. Over the same period, the number of fixed penalty notices given for dog fouling incidents has decreased from 17 to 0. The establishment of the new Street Enforcement

Team gives renewed focus to tackling a range of issues detrimental to citizens’ enjoyment of their local environment. This work has been significantly disrupted during COVID-19 restrictions and is currently largely reactive, however this will be kept under reviews as restrictions change. However, there has been a decreasing trend in dog fouling reports.

The ‘Our Edinburgh’ campaign has continued to tackle anti-social behaviours, including dog fouling. By using localised and targeted channels in hot spot areas, localities have been able to work with residents and community groups to personalise campaigns in their areas. For example, successful initiatives in Murrayburn and Magdalene saw residents given practical advice and information on the nearest bins and their

uses as part of packages of activity covering waste issues holistically.

Working with local communities and Keep Scotland Beautiful, The My Beach Your Beach campaign saw a reduction in dog fouling of up to 56% at parts of Portobello Beach in summer 2019. This campaign was maintained at a reduced level in 2020, taking account of COVID-19 restrictions, with a view to growing the campaign in 2021 in conjunction with the Love Your River campaign to tackle upstream sources of pollution.

Next Steps

The service will continue to roll out and expand the ‘Our Edinburgh’ campaign across the city to engage with communities about the appropriate means to prevent littering.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Fixed penalty notices for dog fouling	17	22	9	0	Increase reporting, decrease incidents
Dog fouling service requests	2,590	2,250	1,712	1,362	Increase reporting, decrease incidents

Commitment 25

Increase recycling to 60% from 46% during the lifetime of the administration. Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	✓

Background

Our [Recycling Strategy](#), published in 2010 aimed to deliver an overall recycling rate of 60% by 2017. This comprised of 50% being delivered through sorting of waste at source, with an additional 10% being delivered through thermal treatment. Since the Strategy was first published, a number of assumptions have changed. This includes: the opening of the thermal treatment facility at Millerhill, withdrawal from the collection of commercial waste and changes to the way recycling rates are calculated by SEPA.

Key Achievements

A [report](#) outlining the progress to date on our Recycling Strategy 2010-2025 was reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 9 August 2018. This report set out the challenges and opportunities to increase recycling and proposed a forward plan of actions for the coming years.

During the lifetime of the Council's current recycling strategy, recycling rates increased from 30.4% to 41.1%. Recycling rates have reduced gradually since and are now 3% lower than in 2017/18, though 2020/21 was affected by the reduction in services at the start of the year.

There are a number of projects in place which aim to increase recycling rates and these include new projects include making improvements to signage at Household Waste Recycling Centres and carrying out a review and redesign of communal bins. However, taking in to account these projects, new legislation and market changes, recycling rates will not increase to 60% by the end of the administration. Although it is always better to recycle, the opening of the energy from waste site at Millerhill has led to a large decrease in carbon emissions generated from waste decomposition in landfills.

Recycling is often influenced by a number of factors beyond the Council's control. Over the last few years the markets for recyclable materials have weakened. Reductions in the use of packaging, and behavioural changes such as the move to online newspapers, appear to have led to a reduction in materials available to recycle, while it is likely that further changes will take place. In particular, the implementation of a national deposit return scheme for drinks containers will increase recycling of these items but will also remove these from local authority waste streams. This will change the composition of the materials we collect for both waste and recycling.

The Zero Waste Leith project has developed approaches to reduce contamination of recycling bins and increase recycling in this area of the city. In particular the distribution of food caddy kits led to 31% of people to start recycling food, and the future continued distribution of caddies via libraries will be explored to encourage uptake in tenemental areas. This project is now complete and the learning points will be built into future projects.

Pilot collections to separately collect targeted litter streams (plastic bottles, cans and drinks cups) have been undertaken in the City Centre led by Hubbub. This project once again demonstrated the challenges associated with the provision of segregated bins to collect litter, particularly contamination of the recycling and the increased carbon footprint associated with collecting such small amounts of materials. The results of these will be used to support the development of litter management taking into account the implications of new legislation to place deposits on drinks containers.

Waste and Cleansing continues to support activities which prevent waste at source and has worked with a number of organisations to do so, including Shrub, The Remakery and Changeworks

who deliver this work in a number of ways including collection of reusable items, upcycling of unwanted goods and education in schools. Waste arisings managed by the Council have continued to fall as the city has grown although the impact of people spending more time at home may offset this, which will be monitored going forward.

Next Steps

Following the conclusion of pilots, notably in the Albert Street area, the service is undertaking a Communal Bin Review which will involve the redesign of the existing waste and recycling communal bin services across the city. The aims of this review are to:

- increase and improve recycling services to residents in multi-occupancy and flatted properties,
- improve overall recycling performance;

- review existing bin locations to develop more formalised collection hubs, improving the perception of the service and enhance the streetscape;
- improve service reliability and ensure it reflects changes to legislation and policies.

A programme to deliver this in phases has been approved by Committee and this will commence once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. The timeline for this has been reprofiled with development work brought forward and on-site implementation expected to start in summer 2021.

The amount of material being rejected by the sorting plants has been increasing since 2018/19. One reason for this is the increasingly challenging market conditions in the recycling sector. We're working with our reprocessing partners to reduce the amount of material that's rejected and have

recently retendered this contract and will be monitoring performance closely.

The Scottish Government are introducing a deposit return scheme for some plastics, cans and glass. This will be operated by the packaging industry and retailers, so will change the composition of the materials collected through Council streams, reducing the amount available for recycling, as well as reducing the numbers of these which appear in the residual waste stream. This is currently expected to start in summer 2022, with extended producer responsibility legislation for packaging waste potentially being implemented by 2023 (the latter is led by the UK Government and the timeline is less clear). New targets will be set for recycling rates to take in to account the large change this is going to make to what waste materials can be recycled by councils in the future.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of Waste Recycled	42.6%	41.1%	41.1%	39.6%	60% by 2022

Commitment 26

Improve parking for residents by expanding provision of park and rides for commuters.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Actions to improve usage within existing Park and Ride sites are contained within the [Local Transport Strategy 2014-19](#). Public consultation in 2018 showed that 93% favoured expansion of park and ride facilities as a good way of reducing traffic in the city centre and town centres.

Key Achievements

On the 17 May 2018 the Transport and Environment Committee agreed not to progress with a [new Park and Ride site at Lothianburn](#), but to review patronage at the existing site at Straiton. We continue to prioritise introducing measures to increase patronage there and these include trialling more regular spacing of bus stops and reducing the waiting time between bus services which would improve journeys into the city.

The Park and Ride development and expansion strategy was first approved in 2009. Expansion of

Hermiston Park and Ride is a ready to go project, but no capital funding is yet available to deliver it.

The Ingliston Park and Ride is also operating at capacity and requires expansion.

Parking improvements for residents are also proposed through extending the controlled parking zones and increasing the number of shared use parking places. This is in line with the Parking Action Plan which was approved by Transport and Environment Committee.

Next Steps

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on public transport demand and we are working on a regional transition plan to make public transport as attractive as possible in order to aid recovery.

Transport Scotland is inviting bids for a portion of a £10 million fund that will support bus priority measures. Initially these will be short term measures to improve journey times but we are

working with operators, neighbouring authorities and Transport Scotland to identify short, medium and longer term measures.

A bus priority partnership fund was about to be announced just as lockdown commenced, which could have been up to a value of £500million Scotland wide. Although COVID-19 has resulted in this fund not progressing, it is hoped that it is merely postponed, not cancelled. Should this fund be forthcoming, or anything similar, we will be well placed to make a bid based on the regional transition work currently ongoing. Included in any bid will be a request for funding to improve and expand Park and Ride provision. Further rollouts of Controlled Parking Zones will take place as approved through the Parking Action Plan.

Commitment 27

Tackle pavement parking and reduce street clutter to improve accessibility.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

In May 2018, the Transport and Environment Committee approved the proposed strategy and measures required to be put in place to deliver a citywide ban on all forms of temporary on-street advertising structures, not just 'A' Boards. The aim of the strategy is to prioritise safe movement and improve the quality of Edinburgh Streets.

The proposed new Transportation Bill has now been written in to law. The Bill introduces a national ban on pavement and double parking so roads are safer and more accessible to all.

Key Achievements

The citywide ban on all temporary on-street advertising structures came into force in November 2018. Environmental Wardens, now Street Enforcement, visit businesses to ensure awareness and maximise compliance with the ban, with formal enforcement action taken on those that remain non-compliant. Since 2018, wardens have issued Advice/ Verbal Warnings to 446 premises of which 61 have received a Final warning. This resulted in 29 A-boards/Advertising Structures being removed from 15 premises.

A range of support measures have been provided to help mitigate impacts of the ban. This includes a dedicated page on the [councils website](#) with all the guidance needed for businesses. One of the key objectives of our [Street Design Guidance](#) is to ensure that the city's streets are accessible and easy to navigate. The guidance has been updated to make businesses aware of the ban on temporary advertising and need to have storage space off street to accommodate segregated containers for trade waste.

As part of the Spaces for People programme a new project theme was created to define and schedule the removal of non-essential street furniture, reduce the danger to pedestrians and improve walking and wheeling conditions. Working in partnership with Living Streets and with contributions from Lothian Buses a package of works has been defined. A budget of £300,000 was allocated to support this work and it is estimated that the cost by the end of May will be £180,000.

Examples of items being assessed for removal are:

- Signs and poles – remove or relocate or reduce where possible;
- Pedestrian guardrail - remove or reduce where possible;

- 17 large car parking variable message signs that are no longer operating;
- Waste bins - relocate where possible;
- Bollards – remove, relocate or reduce where possible; and
- Any other street furniture not included in the above

In 2020-21 signage along most of the National Cycle Network within Edinburgh got upgraded with new signs to make the network more accessible to all path users. The Quiet Route of Fishwives' Causeway also got its signage improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.

Next Steps

Councils are still unable to enforce bans on pavement parking other than on streets where there are existing Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs). The new Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 will enable Councils to take action when the associated regulations are finalised and issued by the Scottish Government. No timescales have been provided for when the enforcement powers will be finalised, however COVID-19 is likely to cause delays.

In 2020-21 we will focus on making core parts of the National Cycle Network more accessible by removing and/or altering chicanes and barriers that do not meet current accessibility standards.

Commitment 28

Create a first-class education estate – building 2 new secondary schools and 10 new primaries by 2021. Ensure safe standards are met by rigorous inspections of new and existing school buildings.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The capacity and quality of the school estate is under continual review. The school roll projections are at the centre of the strategic planning process to ensure existing and future schools provide sufficient accommodation for catchment pupils.

A full survey of the safe standards of the school estate was completed in September 2017.

Key Achievements

The construction of the new Queensferry High School is complete and the demolition of the old school phase is progressing. Construction of three new primary schools (New South Edinburgh PS (Canaan Lane), South East Edinburgh PS (Frogston Primary School), replacement Victoria PS), one special school (replacement St Crispin's Special School) and a replacement secondary school (Castlebrae HS) has commenced.

Construction has also commenced on the Wave 4 replacement school projects for Trinity Academy and Wester Hailes Education Centre. Completion of all these projects has been delayed until later in 2021 due to the implications of COVID-19. Design for 3 further primary schools, another three replacement secondary school projects and three

significant secondary extension projects have commenced. The first of the primary schools in this phase will be completed in 2023 and the first new secondary school by 2024.

Following full estate survey completion in September 2017, the five-year resurvey programme is underway. The survey programme is informing the scope of a £120m five year capital upgrade programme approved by Council in [February 2018](#). Additional money to introduce a Planned Preventative Maintenance Programme was approved at the same time, which is now being rolled out.

The condition surveys inform the Council's asset management works programme which had a budget in 2019/20 of £30 million to invest in improving the condition of our operational properties. Focus to date has been primarily on schools. As the third of a five-year programme of targeted investment, the Council has achieved an actual spend of £14.4 million in 2020/21 (48% of annual budget) and with a projected year-end spend of £15.6 million (52% of the annual budget). Despite the 2020/21 spend being impacted by COVID-19, the overall five-year programme scheduled spend is ahead of schedule; with approximately £83 million or 70%

of the 5-year programme budget having been expended with 58% of the programme time elapsed. This means the overall progress of the programme to bring our school buildings up to a sustainable, safe and effective state is good.

During 2020/21 75% of the floorspace was surveyed in periods that COVID-19 lockdown did not prevent activity. 48 Communities and Families properties/buildings were surveyed between April 2020 and March 2021 (10 Nursery Schools; 32 Primary Schools; 4 High Schools; 2 Community Centres) adding to the 173 between October 2017 and March 2020.

Next steps

The learning estate team will continue to lead on the delivery of the Communities and Families capital programme. Full programme implications of COVID-19 are still to be provided by contractors however the estimated delay for every project is in the range of 6-9 months.

While COVID-19 has delayed the asset upgrade programme this year, performance was so successful last year and the year before that we remain on schedule to meet the overall five-year programme target.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of new schools where construction has commenced	0	2	5	7	Construction to commence for 2 secondary schools and 10 primary schools by 2021
Percentage of conditions surveys completed	100%	100%	92%	75%	100% of the school estate surveyed by Autumn 2022

Commitment 29

Improve and protect access to additional languages and music tuition and encourage more children and young people to gain vital skills in construction, engineering, digital technology, maths and science.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Key Achievements

The team around languages now comprises a Quality Improvement Officer, part-time development officer and a full-time Development Officer, supported by a Lead Teacher for secondary and a network of Lead Teachers in primary schools. This increase in capacity has allowed significant improvement in support for schools.

Communication has been enhanced through a weekly newsletter and the establishment of Microsoft Teams for various areas of activity.

Development Officers have updated the suite of resources available on Sharepoint to incorporate all relevant benchmarks and ensure all links are live and up to date. Teaching and support staff can access Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) through a suite of opportunities through CEC and external provision. Partnership work with the South East Improvement Collaborative (SEIC) colleagues has allowed colleagues access to a wider range of opportunities and to broader professional networks. Models of delivery and content have been modified to suit the current context. Uptake of on-line opportunities has been high in most cases. Notable is the participation of 20+ primary colleagues in

Open University courses. This requires significant time commitment and includes an option for GTCS Professional Recognition. This learning has resulted in significant improvement in teachers' language and pedagogy skills and confidence in previous years. Quality Improvement staff have designed a programme of support for teachers participating in this course. Development of L3 resources for Broad General Education (BGE) teaching and learning has been delayed but is nearing completion and due for launch in June 2021. Partnership models for native speaker support in primary and secondary have been modified and have operated successfully on-line. Use of digital platforms allowed pupils to access this support from home in some cases.

Engagement with some of the models has increased this session. During school closures we have supported schools and families by providing guidance and regularly updated activities for learning at home and have received positive feedback. We have taken a light-touch approach to supporting schools to encourage languages learning during school closures. There has been enthusiastic engagement in many schools, despite the circumstances. This has been reflected in social media activity and participation in events around

Languages Week Scotland. We used this as an opportunity to offer CLPL on the Scottish Government 1+2 Approach Policy, to put on additional language refresher courses and to meet with Lead Teacher networks. Training for probationers was enhanced this year, leading to increased participation. The self-evaluation tool being developed with SEIC partners and the University of Edinburgh has been delayed but is nearing completion and will be ready for use in schools in August 2021. The tool will be presented to colleagues in anticipation of city-wide engagement from August 2021. Programmes for Language Ambassadors are being developed and implemented across sectors.

Music tuition is a key deliverable within the new Lifelong Service Plan. During 2019/2020 the new Youth Music Initiative (YMI) provision for Primary 1s planned for an overall increase of 4,556 pupils was impacted from March 2020 by COVID-19. All YMI programmes were re-arranged for October 2020 (remote) and into 2021 – remote and in-person. Restrictions on staff movement and in-person delivery has resulted in a reduction in numbers of pupils accessing YMI. YMI resources have all been adapted for remote delivery.

The Instrumental Music Service (IMS) continues to deliver instrumental music lessons in every mainstream school in the city from P4/5 to S6, supporting national qualifications in the senior phase.

The 'Raising Aspirations in Science Education' (RAiSE) programme ended in December 2018; however, funding was sourced to create an Assistant Development Officer (ADO) post (0.4 FTE) to ensure networks and training continued until June 2020. The ADO has delivered effective CLPL for "STEM Developers" (primary practitioners). The ADO also developed materials for "Putting the M in STEM" with Education Scotland as well as hosting regular STEM "meet ups". The ADO also continued to work with the University of Edinburgh on outreach events until funding ceased in June 2020. The networks continue in session 2020-21, however, supported by a Lead Teacher for Primary STEM, and the STEM Developers course was delivered remotely, with significant uptake (including access by other local authorities within the South East Improvement Collaborative).

In autumn 2019 the Scottish Government made funds available for school and LA bids to promote STEM and City of Edinburgh had seven successful bids: this included authority development work on primary mathematics as well as school-based collaboration in science, technology and mathematics. Work on these projects was affected by COVID-19 but four of the projects opted to continue delivery in session 2020-21. Education Scotland have just announced a third round of funding.

Next steps

Support schools to embed 1+2 within the renewal curriculum, following narrowing of focus during school closures. Roll out L2 and L3 planners to all schools. Create and roll out example L3 plans to all schools. Support cluster engagement with the self-evaluation tool developed with SEIC and Edinburgh University as part of city-wide renewal in session 2021-22. This will include opportunities for cross-sector and inter-authority collaboration on professional enquiry. Support schools to embed teaching and learning in L3. Feed into Equalities Board work on developing the inclusive curriculum through inclusion of Heritage Languages in mainstream curriculum offer across sectors. Develop resources and training for the inclusion of Heritage Languages in L3 programmes. Pilot Heritage Languages classes for senior pupils to support pathways to national qualifications for native speakers. This will be in partnership with Esgoil and Scottish National Centre for Languages (SCILT) and incorporate enrichment activity led by pupils and families. Continue engagement with partners to provide native speaker support in schools. Develop a cross-sector Language Ambassador framework to support schools to broaden the scope of these programmes to include the full range of languages used and studied by our pupils. Explore opportunities to establish a Virtual Languages Academy to extend access to a wider range of languages for all pupils through digital learning. Develop a programme of support for probationer teachers and new colleagues to raise awareness of learner entitlement within the 1+2 Approach and to improve skills and confidence in classroom practice. Work with SEIC partners to put

in place a training framework for lead teachers in primary schools in order to increase capacity and sustainability of provision. Establish a steering group to support all areas of languages teaching and learning.

We are seeking funding via Education Scotland to restore the Primary STEM ADO post, to further develop the STEM Developers course, and enhance links to numeracy and mathematics in particular.

The impact of COVID-19 on music tuition (both IMS and YMI) has resulted in a temporary drop in numbers since the first lockdown. A combination of remote and in-person learning has been developed. Numbers began to increase when Instructors were issued with iPads and could deliver live remote lessons. The pressure on indoor ventilated space for instrumental music tuition continues to be reviewed as pupils return to school. Specific restrictions on brass, wind and voice coupled with limits on the number of schools visited in a week, continues to impact on IMS. Priority has been given to Music SQA students. YMI staff delivered in person lessons until March 2020, after which they developed online resources and remote lessons. Having now received iPads, YMI tutors are delivering remote lessons. In person delivery is restricted until Edinburgh is in Health protection Level 2. This has impacted on YMI pupil numbers. As a consequence of COVID-19. The Scottish Government has reduced its allocation of Youth Music Initiative funds which in Edinburgh represents a 14% cut to YMI (not IMS).

More on-line content, lessons and resources are being developed to mitigate this. The planned increase of 4,556 P1 YMI pupils did not take place

as the programme was due to begin immediately after the Easter holidays. This programme has been protected in the new YMI plans for 2020/21.

Key measures	2016/17*	2017/18*	2018/19*	2019/20*	Target
% of Primary Schools delivering Language 2 progressively	Collected from 17/18	90%	97%	98%	100% by 2020
% of schools engaging with the RAiSE programme	Collected from 17/18	86%	91%	**	Target met
Number of children and young people accessing music tuition	19,822	19,128	24,358	23,579	21,000 for 20/21
% of children achieving expected CfE level for numeracy by Primary 7	75.6%	78.2%	81.0%	Not available	Increase by 2% per annum to session 21/22

* Schools performance is based on the academic year.

** The RAiSE programme ended in 2018.

Commitment 30

Increase the number of classroom assistants and support staff for children with additional needs to improve attainment and wellbeing.

Background

We aim to ensure that all pupils achieve the best possible physical and emotional wellbeing and education outcomes.

Key Achievements

Recruitment of Pupil Support Assistants (PSA) has continued throughout the school session in mainstream and Special Schools.

The additional support budget to provide additional supports via PSAs has increased year on year and we have now simplified the process for distributing this budget direct to Head Teachers to allow them to employ additional support staff and deploy them as required. This is now being evaluated to ensure that the new model is proving more efficient and streamlined support for schools.

The commitment to increase the number of support staff in schools by 50 was met for school session 2019/20. We also have growing numbers of Pupil Support Officers (PSO) in secondary schools contributing to the Wellbeing Academies. Additionally, we have invested in additional support staff in five Enhanced Support Bases and six Wellbeing Hubs in mainstream secondary schools over the course of this session. We are planning to extend these provisions across further

mainstream schools as part of a phased approach over the next five years.

This session we have used Scottish Government 'Closing the Gap' funding in a targeted way to recruit additional support staff for special schools and specialist provisions, where it was not possible to fill the teaching posts budgeted for. In addition to this we have developed a Home-Link Team to further support pupils to re-engage in learning post lockdown.

The Additional Support for Learning Service has moved to a different model of support this session with online Inclusive Practice Induction training now available for all new staff. This is different to the PSA training offered previously and therefore stands separately. Support staff were invited to access the training along with teachers. The revised Inclusive Practice Induction training has been designed to ensure it offers the most current thinking in evidence-based practice. This involves training focused on Autism, Specific Learning Difficulties and Literacy as well as Equalities, Inclusive Practice, working with care experienced learners and Promoting Positive Relationships.

The Wellbeing Academy has provided a progression pathway for PSAs with a particular focus on building capacity and experience around supporting emotional wellbeing. It has also

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

provided a framework of support to the PSOs, involving a collaborative approach, working closely with Psychologists from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the Psychological Service.

This session, by mid-April we will have trained up to 85 staff across the city with a specific focus on promoting wellbeing through resilience and Low Intensity Anxiety Management approaches. This includes school staff, home-link workers and the 25 new School Counsellors. School measures for the three years prior to lockdown showed improvement in learner health and wellbeing and a reduction in anxiety. These improvements were impacted by lockdown. Support to address these needs is being offered through ongoing work of the Wellbeing Academy along with the use of School Counsellors and Community Mental Health funding to add an additional layer of support.

Next steps

A target of 50 additional classroom assistants and support staff during the administration period was set. This target has been fully met and surpassed and numbers of classroom assistants and support staff continues to increase. In addition, we have recruited School Counsellors into 19 clusters, with 3 clusters preferring to continue accessing

support from Place2Be, funded centrally using the School Counsellor funding. We are actively recruiting to fill remaining gaps. This will be a valuable additional support for children and young people as they readjust to a return to school.

There has been a higher level of staff absence this session due to COVID-19. This has affected schools to differing degrees. We are making use of our Additional Support for Learning service and Closing the Gap team to support any significant

gaps, so this should not impact on the pledge in the longer term.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of FTE pupil support assistants employed (budgeted specific to Special Educational Needs and Special Schools)	584	607	635	646	Increase by 50 FTE by session 20/21
Number of pupil support assistants trained in wellbeing and attainment (all schools)	Collected from 18/19	800 (approx. 67%)	Not available*	Not available*	100% by session 21/22

* development of measure around Inclusive practice induction training affected by impact of COVID-19, to be confirmed next session.

Commitment 31

Expand training opportunities for adults and young people linking with colleges and expanding vocational education.

Background

We work with its partners through the Schools College Partnership (SCP) to ensure the offerings and pathways are in place for young people leaving school. Adult Education Programmes are delivered across the city.

Key Achievements

The Edinburgh Learns Pathways Strategic Board has representatives from education sectors 3-18, Skills Development Scotland, Edinburgh College and Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Regional partners. Ensuring that the Career Education Standard is embedded across all schools and that the Youth Employment strategy milestones are achieved is continuing to drive vocational opportunities.

Employer engagement with schools has the opportunity to improve with the recruitment of DYW Coordinators across all secondary schools. This has been delivered in partnership with the DYW Employer Board and the Coordinators are currently developing work-based learning projects that will improve engagement with local employers for young people who are either about to leave or are choosing pathway options. Due to COVID-19 risk mitigations it has not been

possible to provide work placements, however through virtual offers young people are continuing to have opportunities to link with industry. Some of our senior pupils are engaged in the Career Ready programme providing individual employer mentoring. An increasing number of our Care experienced young people are linked with industry mentors as part of our investment with MCR Pathways. The JET team are working directly with targeted winter and summer leavers to support transition into vocational pathways.

The School College Partnership offer is a co-constructed programme for young people with pathways at a range of SCQF Levels planning to address alternative routes to employment. The number of Foundation Apprenticeships initially increased. The FA Children and Young People delivered by the local authority's Early Years team is providing a valuable pathway to our Childcare Modern Apprenticeships. All young people engaged in the SCP have been provided with a remote learning offer, with the most vulnerable being supported with on-campus learning when the Protection Levels have allowed this. Edinburgh College is upholding the guarantee offer of a place to all school pupils who apply

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

though it may not be in the course of their first preference.

The 2020 Annual Participation Measure showed that of the 13,390 16-19 year olds in Edinburgh, City of 92.4% were in education, employment or training and personal development. A 0.2 percentage point increase compared to 2019 (August 2020).

Following the first COVID-19 lockdown face to face classes were suspended from April 2020 and have been unable to resume within community centres due to council FM and cleaning prioritised for school activity. We have adapted the use of Microsoft TEAMS over the summer months with a reduction in online Adult Education classes being offered. From October 2020 and from January 2021 we have 150 weekly ESOL, Literacies, Syrian ESOL, Family Learning; Outlook and advertised Adult Education Programme. However, many of our learners are unable to access TEAMS due to lack of digital devices and other barriers including low literacy and English language skills. Whilst the numbers of learners reached remain good, capacity and the overall the number of learning hours has been reduced significantly.

The £25m Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal includes two skills Gateways covering Housing and Construction Infrastructure (HCI) and Data Driven Innovation (DDI). These operate through the regions' universities and colleges to provide skills development in housing, construction, renewables, and digital sectors. The IRES Integrated Employer Engagement programme is creating an enhanced employability and skills service offer to employers, helping transition those with new skills into work.

Next steps

We recognise the economic impact of COVID-19 on the positive destinations of our young people, particularly on pathways such as higher and further education, training – apprenticeships - and employment. Our planning to expand our vocational education offer is adapting due to the impact of COVID-19.

The 16+ Network across all schools has collaborated with key partners to ensure that those at risk are being supported. As part of our senior transition process the Head of Schools will write to the parents/carers of all senior phase

pupils to offer reassurance and outline support. A leaflet outlining current career information, advice and guidance for school leavers will be distributed. The Youth Employment Partnership is responding to the impact of COVID-19 on increasing youth unemployment by working with Edinburgh Guarantee to revise the Activity Agreement programme so that a more sustained case managed approach is embedded for those most at risk. In particular, that the pathway to training or employment is mapped out.

The SCP will be continuing as a remote learning offer as it is unlikely that young people will be able to attend on-site at Edinburgh College until later in the year. The impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of more practical-based vocational courses is therefore being affected and Edinburgh College are working with schools to ensure that young people maintain engagement. SDS have also adapted the Foundation Apprenticeship requirements as completion of work placements is not currently feasible. There are changes imminent to the funding structure of Foundation Apprenticeships and the local authority is working closely with SDS and Scottish Funding Council to

ensure that the needs of our young people are best served.

Ensuring our young people are able to engage in positive destinations is the priority for our Youth Employment Partnership, with a revived Edinburgh Guarantee service and new Scottish Guarantee.

There is ongoing work by the Council and its partners in developing links and clear progression pathways from community based adult learning onto college and further education.

With the suspension of the Adult Education Programme after the second term due to COVID-19 the target for 2019/20 has been adjusted accordingly. From January 2021, the Adult Education Programme is running a reduced online programme of 120 classes to 1,500 adults.

The Council and Edinburgh College worked with the voluntary sector to deliver a Granton Recovery Programme to 304 adults in response to emerging needs of the community following COVID-19, from October to December 2020.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of senior phase age pupils studying vocational qualifications delivered by Edinburgh college	338	211	468	688	Increase by 2% per annum
Number of learners engaging in the Adult Education Programme	17,125	13,789	13,200	Not available	12,535 (for 2019/20)

Commitment 32

Double free early learning and childcare provision, providing 1140 hours a year for all 3 and 4 year olds and vulnerable 2 year olds by 2020.

Background

The Scottish Government published '[A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland – Action Plan](#)' in March 2017. Due to the impact of COVID 19, the Scottish Government has revised the implementation date for delivery of 1,140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare. The new date is August 2021.

Key Achievements

The City of Edinburgh Council's Early Years Service started phasing in 1,140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in August 2017. 62% of local authority settings are fully delivering 1,140 hours and 13% are partially delivering 1,140 hours. 88% of partner providers are now providing the increased funded hours to children aged 3-4 years eligible 2 year olds in their settings, enabling approximately 7,000 children and families to benefit from access to the increase funded hours in advance of August

2021, when 1,140 hours will become an entitlement.

Overall feedback from settings involved in phasing in the expansion continues to be positive.

As well as supporting the development and learning needs of the children, parents are reporting the positive impact on family life, household income opportunities for parents and carers to access work and training.

Our workforce development plan to support the delivery of the programme is on schedule with approximately 530 FTE additional staff recruited since planning for the expansion began in 2016.

[A Progress and Risk update](#) was reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in October 2020.

62% (60/96) of Local Authority (LA) settings and 88% (101/114) of partner provider settings provide 1,140 hours.

Approximately 450 eligible 2-year olds had access 1,140 hours at March 2021.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

The Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Plan continues to progress the delivery of expanded provision of 1,140 funded hours and is on track to provide all eligible children with a place from August 2021. Whilst a variety of delivery models will be available for parents across the city e.g. forest kindergarten, childminder, full year or term time settings, parents may need to travel to access their preferred model.

Next steps

Due to COVID-19, the Scottish Government published guidance for early years settings on June 2020. This guidance requires settings to operate at significantly reduced capacity and we are therefore unable to provide 1,140 hours. This has not yet been updated for August 2021. We therefore have a contingency plan in place to ensure sufficient provision is available in areas affected by the reduced capacity this creates.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of Early Years settings providing 1140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare	29%	51%	55%	75%	100% by Aug 2021
% of eligible 2-year olds accessing 1140 hours	12%	26%	75%	80%	100% by Aug 2021

Commitment 33

Make early years' provision more flexible to fit families' needs and provide additional resources to families in difficulty so that no children are educationally disadvantaged when they start formal schooling.

Background

The Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Plan continues to progress the delivery of expanded provision of 1,140 funded hours with increased flexibility being provided through a locality model.

Key Achievements

210 settings provide Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in Edinburgh. Since August 2017 we increased the options for delivering the funded entitlement by bringing 30 childminders into partnership with the local authority and established five forest kindergartens in the city.

Approximately 200 children are now able to access their ELC through these approaches.

Flexible options were set out in the [Early Learning and Childcare Strategy](#) reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2017. Flexible options are being delivered through settings providing the expanded 1,140 hours and the existing 600 hours and these are available through term time and full year options.

75% of local authority and 88% of partner settings are providing more than one option of early learning and childcare for parents. Options are

delivered through term time and full year models of delivery.

A variety of delivery models will be available for parents across the city e.g. forest kindergarten, childminder, full year or term time settings, parents may need to travel to access their preferred model.

We have a team of CEC Hanen trainers who are qualified to deliver high quality staff development sessions on Hanen approaches to supporting early language acquisition. We work closely with Hanen trained Speech Therapists to ensure a joined up approach to delivering Hanen across the city.

We target establishments with high levels of SIMD 1 & 2 initially, and we have gradually extended the offer more widely. So far 50 Early Years settings have undertaken Hanen Teacher Talk.

Since August 2018, twenty Senior Early Years Intervention Officers (SEYIOs), funded by the Scottish Government have been working with children and families in establishments with high levels of SIMD 1 & 2. The SEYIOs work with other experienced staff in settings on curriculum development with a particular focus on literacy,

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

numeracy and health and wellbeing through play based approached with identified children. They model good practice and work closely with other the staff to meet the needs of individual children.

In August 2020, ten Early Years teachers were recruited to the central early years team. This teaching team provides targeted support to settings to provide high quality early learning and childcare. The early years teacher team enhance practice by supporting a team ethos and providing opportunities for others to develop.

To do this effectively they manage change sensitively, support, mentor and coach teams and in partnership with Central SLT and Setting SLT, set realistic objectives to improve practice and experiences for children in the setting.

Next steps

We plan to recruit an additional ten Early Years teachers to the central team.

There will be a survey of parents to gather views on the level of flexibility and choice within the models of delivery available to them undertaken.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of Early Years settings providing more than one option of early learning and childcare for parents	45%	64%	64%	75%	100% by Aug 2020
% of Primary 1 pupils living in the most deprived areas achieving expected literacy level	62%	63%	63%	Not available*	Increase by 5% by session 20/21

* no Achievement of Level survey undertaken in 2020

Commitment 34

Prioritise services for vulnerable children and families and looked after children, and support organisations working to end domestic abuse.

Background

We have invested in early intervention and prevention services and works with partners in Health, Police and Third Sector to ensure the needs of vulnerable children and families are met. This includes supporting those affected by domestic abuse.

Key Achievements

We have continued to prioritise these services and there is evidence that earlier intervention and effective multi-agency working is reducing the numbers of children who need to be Looked After or are subject to child protection procedures.

The Corporate Parenting Action Plan was endorsed by full council on 18 February 2021. We have put in place a Champions Board of Looked After and care experienced young people, and we have employed two care experienced participation officers to widen the participation of care experienced children and young people in our corporate parenting planning. This has been a successful approach which has increased the number of Looked After Children who are involved in participation activities.

The number of children in Edinburgh who need to be Looked After, including those accommodated

away from home, has reduced to its lowest in 16 years and the number of children on our Child Protection Register remain at its lowest ever level.

We attribute the positive trends in Looked After and Child Protection numbers to our overall restorative and strengths-based practice approach, placing an emphasis on building positive relationships and doing things with families, not to or for them. This approach operates across our children's services including specialist services such as Family Group Decision Making and Multi Systemic Therapy which have made specific contributions to shifting the balance of care.

We have worked hard on devising alternatives to residential care for young people including the specific challenge of the large number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children arriving in Edinburgh in 2019 and requiring to be looked after. This has included the recruitment of host families and the setting up of shared flats for groups of young people aged over 16 when appropriate.

The Care Experienced Fund has been used to put a number of supports in place including the development of a mentoring scheme for children (MCR pathways) and a targeted approach

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

involving families with Looked After Children whose school attendance is low.

Edinburgh also has a robust inter-agency approach to child protection resulting in effective risk assessment and appropriate planning to address risk.

Our reduced usage of secure accommodation has allowed us to sell part of our residential estate to NHS to create an Equally Safe Multi-Agency Centre which will improve services to child and adult victims of sexual and other assaults and abuse.

Domestic Abuse targets continue to be monitored on a four-weekly basis and actioned when appropriate.

COVID-19 has raised additional concerns over sharing kitchen and bathroom facilities due to differences in hygiene and social interactions.

The Refuge Pathway to allocate spaces and move-on accommodation, to match women's needs and ensure the right support is offered at the right time, is being trialled by Four Square Keymoves.

The Domestic Abuse Housing Policy was approved at Policy and Sustainability Committee on 14 May 2020.

All Domestic Abuse service contracts have been extended again to 31 March 2022 and a procurement exercise to re-tender has begun.

Next steps

A Co-ordinator for Corporate Parenting will be recruited by July 2021 to facilitate the implementation of the Corporate Parenting action plan, support the Participation Officers and contribute to implementation of the Promise across the across the partnership. Child protection services and services for looked after children have continued to operate effectively during COVID-19 lockdown.

We have continued to offer a full social work service both at first point of contact through Social Care Direct and each Locality has a full duty system as usual. There has been no change in the screening and processing of referrals.

Staff engagement with vulnerable children and their families has been a mutual learning process as the phases of lockdown have progressed. For instance, in the early stages, nearly all contact with children and families moved to virtual, and we made a number of investments in ways of supporting this, e.g. use of the Google Duo app and provision of i-pads to families who did not

have the means to participate virtually. We have held Child protection case conferences and Looked After and accommodated care reviews virtually. Some families and young people have found the use of virtual means helpful and have felt this less intimidating than physically attending large meetings.

As things have progressed, we have gradually moved into more direct contact although this has been limited and subject to individual risk assessment in each case and the challenge of limited indoor spaces being available across the City. We have been creative in identifying available indoor spaces in the City, and this has included using Church Halls and Voluntary sector premises. We have on occasions paid for the room hire and this as contributed to the sustainability of these spaces.

We have used spaces in Council Resilience Centres to see vulnerable children and their families as well as facilitating contact for children with their family and providing space for outreach Domestic Abuse services such as Women’s Aid to support families affected by Domestic Abuse.

When it has assessed to be necessary to visit the family home in order to assess risk, we have used

personal protective equipment and social distancing.

No member of staff or children or family members have caught COVID-19 in our contacts and this is evidence that our safety protocols have been effective.

As lock down begins to ease, we will manage our contact with children and families in line with the developing situation and government guidance.

The true impact of lockdown on children and families will only become known over time but we do know that domestic abuse concerns have started to increase, and we have responded to these as per our child protection procedures.

We are in a strong position to respond to these as we have strengthened our partnership with the third sector through the formation of Locality Operational Groups which work together to provide the right help in the right way to people who need it. These are overseen by a task force group who then report to the Children’s Partnership. This provides a mechanism for emerging issues for our children and families to be fed into our planning forums and for more joined up and coordinated responses to be undertaken.

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Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Rate of Looked After Children per 1,000 population	15.5	14.5	13.6	12.5	Decrease to 15.3 by 2020
Percentage of LAC pupils with low school attendance	30%	31.4%	33.1%	Not available	Decrease by 10% by session 20/21
Funding invested by CEC in domestic abuse services	Collected from 18/19	£1,194,734	£1,194,734	£1,200,341	This funding will continue to provide accommodation and support for a further year.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
No of women and children supported in a year	Collected from 18/19	1,176 women 267 children	871 women 270 children	1,020 women 295 children	Demand for these services continues and organisations strive to engage with as many clients as possible. Short term cases have reduced which means women are being supported for longer.
% of women and children who report feeling safer	Collected from 18/19	68% of women 35% of children	76% of women 53% of children	51% of women 28% of children	Services address many different issues with clients but safety remains a priority

Commitment 35

Improve access to library services and community centres making them more digital, and delivering them in partnership with local communities.

Background

The Library and Information Service plays a vital role providing free access to a range of reading, media, IT and information services to all citizens from babies to the oldest in our communities. Services are delivered in a variety of ways to meet the needs of our customers.

Community centres provide meeting places for a variety of local clubs, classes and public forums, venues for family and children's activities and offices for community projects.

Key Achievements

Community Centres have been supported to reopen for specific essential activities including food security, homelessness, blood donation outdoor and indoor youth work, in line with Scottish Government public health guidance. Regular engagement takes place with Management Committees, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council, Lothian Association of Youth Clubs and Council officers to collaborate on how services can be adapted and renewed.

Downloads of e-books, e-magazines and e-newspapers continued to increase during 2020/21 with over 2.43 million downloads for the year. The pandemic has impacted upon library visits and

loans. Visits to library buildings reduced, from 2.74 million in 2019/20 to 14,820 in 2020/21 as library buildings were forced to closed from 19th March due to COVID-19 lockdown. Six libraries reopened with significantly reduced visitor capacity (less than 10% of normal capacity) on 6th October and a further four libraries reopened on 14th December. All library buildings closed again on 24th December due to new Government Restrictions and have remained closed since. The phased re-opening of libraries will be carried out in line with Scottish Government and public health guidance.

During COVID-19 when library buildings had to close, the 24/7 online and e-services library offer remained available and was promoted to citizens via social and other media – all digital services have seen a significant increase in use. Further investment in digital resources and services is indicated and planned after Edinburgh Libraries received the award from PressReader for Most Newspapers Read Online Worldwide in 2020 (1,905,386 issues from 2,155 unique titles).

Libraries have acted as local authority partner with SCVO in administering Connecting Scotland community programme in Edinburgh. Connecting

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Scotland is a Scottish Government programme set up in response to COVID-19.

It provides iPads, Chromebooks, connectivity and support to develop digital skills for people who are digitally excluded and on low incomes. From April 2020 – Jan 2021, two phases of Connecting Scotland and a related Winter Support Package, have resulted in over 1,000 devices being gifted to individuals in Edinburgh.

Although the ability to respond physically to this year's British Library Living Knowledge Network exhibition was hampered by lockdown, *Unfinished Business* was promoted and supported online and with our digital services e.g. [Capital Collections](#) and [Our Town Stories](#).

Edinburgh Libraries' website was tailored to reflect lockdown with signposting, links and e-resources specifically targeted to reflect home-schooling, activities to do while stuck inside, combatting loneliness and poverty etc.

A bespoke online booking system was developed and implemented to enable Libraries phased re-opening in line with Scottish Government and public health guidelines to help maintain agreed building capacity, safe social distancing and manage potential queues. Up until December 2020, 10 libraries were reopened including 4 in

SIMD areas 1 and 2. Customers could book appointments in advance to browse and borrow resources, use public computers and internet, collect hearing aid batteries and access help with NEC (bus pass) applications and renewals, collect Hey Girls free sanitary products.

Our regular Events programme moved to an online provision across a variety of digital platforms e.g. during Book Week Scotland, Edinburgh Libraries hosted the interactive *Dreams We Dream Of Dreaming* poetry event on Twitter with introduction by renowned poet Michael Pederson; also a targeted City Reads e-book promotion with unlimited downloads of *A Dark Matter* by Edinburgh crime author Doug Johnstone available, which resulted in 863 downloads of the book and hundreds of reservations on other e-book and audiobook titles by Johnstone.

This is triple the number of downloads that we've had in any previous City Read event and is representative of the increase in popularity that we've seen in downloadable usage this year.

In addition, many of the community library book and activity groups have been delivered online e.g. Bookbug Sessions, story-times, craft groups, teen book groups, gardening clubs, family history enquiry service, quiz nights etc.

A partnership with University of Edinburgh enabled delivery of STEM activity for children online with Maths circle activities being held during the latest lockdown, and more planned for March and April 2021.

This year Edinburgh Libraries delivered the annual Summer Reading Challenge for children in

partnership with The Reading Agency solely online due to public health and social distancing restrictions. Participation was lower than in previous years, with some of the loss in participation being attributable to a lack of technology and/or connectivity at home; specifically, a lack of available devices for use by children at home.

The Digital Team adapted the delivery of Get Online digital skills support from 1 to 1, face to face support with a volunteer, to a programme delivered via online platforms and telephone to reflect the necessary closure of buildings and social distancing measures. Libraries continued to support digital inclusion through free access to Wi-Fi while buildings were closed – this provision covers Children's Homes in Edinburgh.

A regular Digital Learning Newsletter has been provided throughout lockdown for all staff to provide information about learning opportunities and encourage colleagues to improve their digital skills and knowledge - both for personal development but also to better equip staff to support library users develop skills for e.g. employability.

The programme to review and refresh the self-service provision in libraries has progressed with the implementation in April 2021 of a self-service module to the existing Solus Library App. This will allow library customers to borrow, return and renew items using their own smart device (phone, tablet) with the Library App installed.

Next steps

A group of library staff volunteers are being recruited to complete the online Learn My Way or SCVO Digital Champions training to enable Edinburgh Libraries digital services team to widen the Get Online digital skills remote support.

A business case for a renewed Library Management System (LMS) has been prepared in conjunction with a proposal to join the Scottish Consortium of Public Libraries which is a collection of 14 Scottish Councils all using the same LMS and exploiting the economies of scale and a professional forum of support, experience and expertise.

A business case has been prepared for a core provision of self-service kiosks to supplement the self-service provision available via Library App. The kiosks provide a more robust service which does not rely upon WiFi or customers having their own smart device and would be required for the development and implementation of Open+ Library technology.

As part of the COVID-19 hardship fund from Scottish Government, Libraries have received funding to progress two projects addressing digital exclusion through gifting of technology: one pilot project working with Library Access Services, WRVS volunteers and Library Link customers to use their devices to engage with reading for pleasure and another working with Get Online customers and Digital Champions to support digital skills and use their devices to help employability and combat poverty.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Digital use – downloads and streaming	461,000	964,120	1.55m	2.57m	1.2m for 2019/20
Total number of library customer transactions	6.96m	6.66m	6.47m*	3.50m	Increase by 5% annually

* includes estimate for part of March 2020

Commitment 36

Support the continued development of Gaelic Medium Education.

Background

We are committed to working in partnership with Gaelic communities, Council staff, organisations who deliver Gaelic services, and importantly, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Government.

Between October and December of 2017, we held consultation with Gaelic communities around the future Gaelic Language Plan and importantly, the priorities for action moving forward.

A review of the quality and quantity of the current provision was undertaken and helped inform the [Gaelic Medium Education Strategic Growth Plan](#) presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee in October 2018.

Key Achievements

School closures and the associated move to digital and blended learning posed a specific set of challenges to our Gaelic Medium Education (GME) teaching teams. This applies to all sectors but is particularly acute for those working with Early Years and Primary aged learners. The vast majority of GME pupils have little or no Gaelic language input beyond school, so staff have had the dual challenges of keeping core learning going and supporting Gaelic language acquisition. Staff have undertaken considerable upskilling in

digital skills to support remote learning. Partnership and accessing national resources to support remote learning have been key to successful teaching and learning during closures. Additional support for vulnerable pupils and those with additional support needs has been enhanced through increased Pupil Support Assistant hours in primary. This has added to support at home and in school. Parents have been supported with Gaelic language by school staff and our Gaelic Youth worker throughout school closures, in order to minimise impact of learning away from school on Gaelic language progression.

Croileagan groups have been run through on-line platforms for the last year. Parents and carers have been surveyed to ensure groups are able to offer the support best suited to current circumstances. This has been used as a period of reflection and review of this provision, with a view to reshaping and expanding the offer over the coming months as part of our general GME expansion project.

Engagement with professional learning has been improved for play leaders through support from the CEC Early Years (EY) team and increased access to opportunities offered by partners such as Storlann, Education Scotland, BnaG and Newbattle Abbey College.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

We have begun to upgrade digital devices and improved access to CEC networks. Survey results show that on-line support has been popular with families. We plan to explore and extend our digital offer next session in order to broaden our reach across new communities. To this end, planning for additional promotion and publicity through CEC websites and library platforms has already begun.

Initial contact has been made with colleagues in Perth and Kinross to share practice, explore possible collaborative projects and expand resources available to families (Bookbug sessions first extension of offer). We plan to extend this into skill sharing and joint Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL).

Work has started to improve alignment of Croileagan curriculum with Oganan and EY at Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce (TnaP) to increase links and support families to engage with language and learning. This work will be taken forward in partnership with TnaP and Oganan. One of our Croileagan Team is employed by Oganan and has responsibility for managing the curriculum, which makes collaborative work in this area easier to manage. Oganan are now a partner provider for EY and work with our nursery at TnaP to offer 1,140 hours provision.

GME Expansion

Although the pandemic has stalled the rate of progress, we have completed an informal consultation process on GME expansion, with particular focus on creating a new setting for secondary GME. Two public engagement events were held for the community to pose questions and make comments on plans for a proposed preferred option to build a dedicated secondary school on a campus collocated with the new Liberton High School, on the existing Liberton site. Information gathered during the consultation process has led to adjustment of proposals to include provision for primary GME on the same site. Updated proposals also include the establishment of two primary units in west and south-east of the city and further EY provision

linked with city-wide learning estate expansion. The Outcome Report will be discussed with Gaelic Implementation Group (GIG) members.

Next steps

Recovery and Renewal will be supported by additional PSA hours in the primary and by a shift

in focus for the remit of our Gaelic Youth Development Officer to support transitions and language progression P6 – S2. The officer will move to a new base at James Gillespie’s HS.

Professional Development: We will work with teaching staff to reinvigorate our collegiate model of professional development provision, particularly in Gaelic language. Support for newly qualified, student and aspiring GME teachers will continue through a blend of local and national provision as part of workforce planning across sectors and curriculum expansion for secondary pupils.

Expansion of Provision: The next step will be to proceed to Statutory Consultation and take forward development planning through Learner-led Consultation, in-line with the Edinburgh Learns for Life city-wide strategy. The Edinburgh Gaelic Learning Strategy steering group will guide this work. Officers will work with a newly constituted Scottish Government network of LAs currently focussing on best practice in the development of secondary GME provision.

In preparation for secondary expansion, EY provision will be promoted and increased as an option for families across the city. The expansion of Croileagan groups will be the first step.

Cultural Activities/Promotion of GME in Edinburgh: Despite the limitation imposed by lockdown, the Corporate Gaelic Development Officer has maintained a programme of Gaelic language classes and cultural activity, in collaboration with a growing number of partners. Plans for the coming year are to strengthen and build on partnership work to reinforce the Capital Gaelic brand, providing a growing range of opportunities for engagement with Gaelic across communities and raising the profile of Gaelic activity in the city. This work will support strategy for the promotion of GME as an option for families.

Finance: GME in Edinburgh is partially funded through Scottish Government Specific Grant, and partly through CEC budget. Risk of fragile funding streams may be a factor.

Key measures	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of pupils on the rolls of Primary and Secondary GME	306 Primary 88 Secondary	348 Primary 108 Secondary	376 Primary 107 Secondary	419 Primary 124 Secondary	461 Primary 136 Secondary	Increasing trend
Number of staff trained to deliver Gaelic Learner Education as part of the strategy on 'One plus Two' Languages	12	13	13	15	16	Increasing trend

Commitment 37

Continue to integrate Health and Social Care Services. Review the Integration Joint Board's approach to support at home by 2018. Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) was set up in 2016 to lead integrated health and social care services in line with the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. The EIJB directs us and NHS Lothian on how to deliver services through a partnership model.

The partnership for Edinburgh is called the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP). The EIJB Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2022 details how integrated health and social care services will be developed and delivered.

Key Achievements

The EIJB's Transformation Programme set out a number of projects that would change the way people were supported in their own homes by the EHSCP.

Reflecting the impact of COVID-19 the IJB meeting on [21 July 2020](#) approved a rescheduled Transformation Programme, organised around the Three Conversations approach.

The roll-out of Three Conversations is in its second year, with more innovation sites engaging with people in this way. This approach has reduced the time people wait to see a worker to 2.5 days (compared to 37.3 days for other sites in the same period) and identified supports that can be put in place to enable independence within the community with less need for formal support.

In response to COVID-19, the Home First programme has accelerated over the last year to best improve how people can be supported at home instead of in hospital. A focus on Discharge to Assess and the utilisation of 'Safe Haven' beds meant that fewer people were delayed in hospital and have been able to move home, or if their needs require it, move to a care home.

The EIJB have engaged with the public and key stakeholders throughout 2020-21 to define the 'Edinburgh Pact', a reimagining of the relationship between the citizens of Edinburgh and the Health and Social Care Partnership.

Next Steps

Over 2021-22 the Three Conversation approach will be scaled up and the 'Edinburgh Pact' will be finalised and embedded through community mobilisation and other transformation projects.

Work is also underway on refreshing the Strategic Plan for the period beyond 2022 to reflect evolving priorities as we seek to maximise positive outcomes from integration.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of adults receiving personal care in the community setting (out of all adults receiving this support in a community, residential or hospital setting) <i>(as end March)</i>	57%	57%	57%	60%	60% by Apr 2019
Late discharge from hospital (as end March)	291	150	136	122	Decreasing trend*
Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that their health and care services seemed to be well co-ordinated (every 2 years)	67%	every 2 years	63%**	every 2 years	Scotland's average for 19/20 is 62%. Aim to be above the national average.

* Data used revised to align with Public Health Scotland publication.

** Due to changes in methodology figures for 2017/18 and 2019/20 are not directly comparable. Public Health Scotland are working on methodology to allow comparison so these figures may differ in later publications.

Commitment 38

Take steps to increase the length and flexibility of care visits and increase the availability of care to help people live in their own homes.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) directs us and NHS Lothian on how to deliver services through a partnership model. The partnership for Edinburgh is called the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP). The EIJB is committed to providing services which support people to live at home, in their own community, for as long as possible. In line with the EIJB Strategic Plan 2019-2022, many of the projects in the Partnership's Transformation Programme are focused on changing the way people are supported in their own homes, including the Three Conversations approach and Home First programme.

Key Achievements

Despite COVID-19 affecting volume of care, care at home continued to be delivered during the year to everyone who required support. The number of people waiting for a package of care in their own home followed a downward trend in 2020/21. Although some of this reduction will be from constrained demand due to COVID-19, capacity continues to increase with combined provision of internal and externally commissioned care at home expected to be 115,000 hours per week once full services are resumed. This excludes

provision arranged by Direct Payments and Individual Service Funds.

The provision of care at home is complex and demand for these services continues to increase so work is continuing to improve availability. The initial roll out of the Three Conversations approach has impacted wait time, with the average time to speak to a worker reduced to 2.5 days compared with an average of 37.3 days for those working in the traditional assessment model. This approach continues to be scaled up and rolled out across our services.

As part of the Home Based Care project in the Transformation Programme, EHSCP are engaging with stakeholders about what should underpin the new Care at Home contract to support a 'One Edinburgh' approach. 'One Edinburgh' is the design of a city-wide approach to homecare with the vision to maximise all available care at home and community care capacity and to work together in a collaborative way to ensure the right care is provided, at the right time and in the right place.

While many services were disrupted by COVID-19, new and adapted services allowed quality support to continue to be provided. Over 46,000 outbound calls were made through the partnership's ATEC24 (Assistive Technology

Enabled Care) service and to those with dementia. These calls provided an opportunity to check on individuals' wellbeing, provide companionship and offer advice and support on coping with lockdown. ATEC24 also established a 'click and collect' service for equipment to supplement the existing delivery service, with over 116,000 essential items provided across Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian in 2020. An estimated 66,000 of these were provided to Edinburgh residents.

As part of the Home Based Care project in the Transformation Programme, EHSCP are engaging with stakeholders about what should underpin the new Care at Home contract to support a 'One Edinburgh' approach. 'One Edinburgh' is the design of a city-wide approach to homecare with the vision to maximise all available care at home and community care capacity and to work together in a collaborative way to ensure the right care is provided, at the right time and in the right place.

Next Steps

The EHSCP will continue to engage with providers as the Home First and Hospital at Home programmes are embedded and with wider stakeholders in the development of the new Care at Home contract, which is expected to be implemented in summer 2022. Through

coproduction of the 'One Edinburgh' approach, we can highlight opportunities to deliver care

differently, and in a way that empowers, promotes flexibility and choice for individuals who require

care and better support carers, families and our partner providers.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of adults receiving personal care in the community setting (out of all adults receiving this support in a community, residential or hospital setting) (<i>as end March</i>)	57%	57%	57%	60%	60% by Apr 2019
Number of people waiting for a package of care (<i>as end March</i>)	988	480	636	408	Decreasing trend
Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that they are supported to live as independently as possible (<i>every 2 years</i>)	79%	every 2 years	68%*	every 2 years	Scotland's average for 2019/20 is 70%. Aim to be above the national average

* Due to changes in methodology figures for 2017/18 and 2019/20 are not directly comparable. Public Health Scotland are working on methodology to allow comparison so these figures may differ in later publications.

Commitment 39

Put exercise at the heart of our health strategy by increasing access to sport and leisure facilities.

Background

We are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our citizens.

Key Achievements

A key component of [Edinburgh Learns](#) published October 2018 is the Health and Wellbeing framework which details practice that should be visible in all our schools and centres, to ensure health and wellbeing across learning.

2019/20 the Active Schools Programme provided 53 different activities for pupils to participate in regularly, created 121 links between schools and clubs, and provided 860 people with the opportunity to deliver on the programme.

Physical Activity and Sport Strategy: Further to the interim report presented to Culture and Communities Committee in March 2019, work was progressed in specific areas: to support people with a disability to participate in sport, to increase female participation in sport and to improve accessibility to facilities. An annual action plan was produced to progress this work. Targeted work was delivered in Craigmoynton High School to improve community use of the facilities, and at Brunstane Primary School to aid pupil transition to Portobello High School.

We support sports clubs and community organisations through long term leases of Council owned sports facilities. Currently, over 40 organisations benefit from these arrangements.

Working with Edinburgh Leisure is critical to success in reaching individuals and communities that need support to be active and improve their health and wellbeing. Edinburgh Leisure are involved in our Community Learning & Development Strategic Partnership and are members of Edinburgh Children's Partnership. Edinburgh Leisure has over four million visits by customers per annum to its facilities. Edinburgh Leisure has taken on the management responsibility for community use of secondary schools.

The Active Communities Team in Edinburgh Leisure continue to provide a range of targeted programmes that help remove barriers to participation, for example the Looked After & Active project supported Care Experienced Children to get active and healthy.

The Positive Destinations and Young ambassadors' projects have offered educational, employment, volunteering and personal

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

development opportunities to over 300 young people.

Next steps

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated national guidance, including the closure of schools and Edinburgh Leisure sites, there has been and will be a significant impact on planned activity. With sites closed, it has not been possible to deliver planned work. This will be reflected in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 performance towards this commitment.

Service Teams will continue to show flexibility and adaptability to promote and secure sport, physical activity and outdoor learning at home and in keyworker and vulnerable persons hubs.

Whilst always reinforcing the Scottish Government's key messages to control COVID-19, we will continue to promote activities that connect the reader with nature, through bringing the outdoors inside and promoting activities that can be done during visits outdoors.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Target
Attendance at sport and leisure facilities (Edinburgh Leisure)	4,471,704	4,338,251	4,147,842*	4,393,000
Number of young people participating in sport, physical activity and outdoor learning (includes Active Schools Programme)	24,086	27,015	28,971	25,800 (18/19)

* March 2020 impacted by COVID-19

Commitment 40

Work with the Integration Joint Board (NHS & Council Social Care) and other agencies to prioritise early intervention and prevention in mental health services.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Thrive Edinburgh is the mental health stream of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) Strategic Plan. The Thrive Edinburgh Commissioning Plan has six work streams to reduce the toll of mental illness and promote and protect mental health, resilience, self-esteem, family strength, and joy.

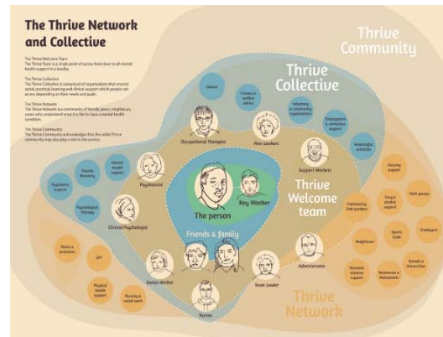
Key Achievements

Change the Conversation; Change the Culture: We launched the *i-Thrive* website in October 2020 and have circulated 25 issues of Thrive News Bulletin to circa 800 organisations and people. “Thrive on Thursday Dialogue” sessions have explored new and emerging issues and opportunities. An MSc in Mad Studies, the first in the world for people with lived experience of mental health problems, launched at Queen Margaret University in the autumn of 2020.

Partnering with Communities: We held the Thrive Fest #1 online arts festival in partnership with sister cities for World Mental Health Day on 10th October and developed an action plan to progress Rights in Mind workstream and worked with Universities and Colleges to strengthen care

pathways. The Out of Sight, Out of Mind artwork exhibition went live and online.

Act Early: We initiated a redesign of Urgent Care and prototyped Thrive Welcome Teams, which are integrated public and 3rd sector teams in four localities. We commissioned new Thrive Collective Services with an annual value of £2.8m.



Using data and evidence to drive change: We launched the Thrive Exchange Community of Practice in June 2020 and continued with partnership PhDs and Peer Review Publications.

COVID-19 Response: As part of our COVID-19 response we provided weekly e-bulletins with

information on services and supports and hints and tips during lockdown and with our Network Rail colleagues delivered over 1,800 “Bags of Thrive” delivered to people of all ages.

Next Steps

Change the Conversation; Change the Culture: Thrive Conference #2 will be held in May 2021, the programme of “Thrive on Thursday” Dialogues will be continued and Thrive book and film clubs will be introduced in 2020/21.

Act Early: We will progress with redesign of Urgent Care, move to open access with the Thrive Welcome Teams and develop Edinburgh-wide proposal for improving access to psychological therapies and to reduce people’s wait for support.

Using data and evidence to drive change: In partnership with the Data-Driven Innovation Hub at the Usher Institute at the University of Edinburgh we will define standard datasets for 3rd sector to be included in the Dataloch.

Partnering with Communities: We will progress Thrive Line, including roll out of training for staff in places and spaces for wellbeing, working with communities of interest

Commitment 41

Review the application process and increase the budget for housing adaptations with a view to supporting more disabled tenants and owners to remain in their own homes. Help older and disabled homeowners to move to more suitable housing should they wish to do so.

Background

As set out in the [Strategic Housing Investment Plan \(SHIP\) 2021-2026](#), the majority of new build properties funded through the Affordable Housing Supply Programme are designed to meet the housing for varying needs standard, which requires they are accessible or easily adapted to be accessible. The Scottish Government have committed to reviewing the guidance on housing for varying needs.

Around 13% of the homes approved in the first two years of the SHIP are specifically designed for older people and those with complex needs.

These include amenity homes, supported housing, fully wheelchair accessible homes and homes for veterans.

Key Achievements

In 2019/20, over £2 million was spent on adaptations to council homes, private homes and registered social landlord homes. Fewer adaptations were carried out in 2020/21 due to

COVID-19 restrictions. Adaptations to Council homes are funded from the HRA and grant funding is available from the Affordable Housing Supply Programme to support RSLs to meet the cost of adaptations. Grant to support private sector adaptations is funded from the General Fund and is administered through the Place directorate.

In August 2019, the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board approved its Strategic Plan 2019-22. It is a statutory requirement for IJB strategic plans to have a Housing Contribution Statement.

The Housing Contribution Statement reinforces the commitment from the affordable housing sector to ensure new affordable homes planned in the city over the next 10 years will support health and social care priorities.

Housing and health and social care partners are working together to identify sites which are suitable to support housing for people with more complex needs, both within the Council's new

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

build programme and the new build programmes of RSL partners.

Next Steps

The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) Transformation Programme workstream on housing/infrastructure will be progressed. This workstream also includes a review of adaptations. Progress was delayed in 2020/21 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Housing Service has commissioned an Accessible Housing Study to estimate the current and future requirements for adapted and accessible housing. The study will include engagement and consultation with partners, stakeholders and service users to help assess the extent and nature of unmet requirements for accessible housing. This will inform the Council's SHIP and will feed into the EHSCP Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Commitment 42

Build a new sports centre at Meadowbank by 2021.

Background

This is a major place-making project and is expected to bring opportunities to the area.

The project will see a new state-of-the-art community sports facility built on the site of the original Meadowbank, which closed in December 2017.

It is hoped the accessible new venue will become one of the top centres for community sport in the country, helping to support accessible participation in sport and physical activity for all ages and abilities for generations to come.

Key Achievements

Following public consultation, planning applications for the site were considered and approved at the Development Management Sub-Committee on 29

June 2018. [An update](#) on the position of the funding package for the new stadium was presented to the Finance and Resources Committee on 11 October 2018. Approval was also given to award the contract for the construction of the new stadium and with planning permission secured. Graham Construction Ltd was appointed as the main contractor for the new sports centre.

Ground work commenced in November 2018 with the last section of the Main Stand (nearest London Road) taken down on Sunday 10 February 2019.

Tree removal took place in February and we are committed to replanting more trees within the wider site, to outnumber those removed.

Foundation works for the new Sports Centre commenced in March 2019.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Pre COVID-19 the community sports facility project was on target for a November 2020 construction completion and a January 2021 opening of the sports centre. However, this has been delayed due to COVID-19 and the new facility is now expected to complete construction in late 2021.

Next steps

Work continues with Edinburgh Leisure to co-ordinate the fit out and reopening, which will follow once construction is complete. This has been delayed due to COVID-19 and subsequent labour and materials shortages. The expectation is that the new facility will open by the end of 2021/22, at which point this commitment will move to fully achieved.

Commitment 43

Continue to upgrade our existing parks and plant an additional 1,000 trees in communities. Protect major recreational areas such as the Meadows, Leith Links and Princes Street Gardens.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The park maintenance programme sets out the improvement work required to maintain our parks. Protection of the parks is established through the [Open Space Strategy 2021](#). The parks are assessed through annual Park Quality Assessments (PQAs).

The [Edinburgh Parks Events Manifesto](#) provides a strategic and proactive approach to the planning and managing of events within our parks and greenspaces.

Key Achievements

Parks Quality Assessments were suspended for Summer 2020 due to COVID-19 control measures being introduced. Of the 141 parks quality assessed in 2019, 2,091 issues/recommendations were identified. From these, judges highlighted three “recommendations” from each park that should be implemented. With regards to the recommendations, when comparing the 2018 PQA criterion scores against the 2019, 122

scores improved, 213 remained the same and 76 dropped.

Green Flag Award assessments by Keep Scotland Beautiful did take place in 2020, Saughton Park and St Katharine’s Park achieved a Green Flag Award as first time applicants bringing the total number of Green Flag Award parks in Edinburgh to 34 (there are a total of 77 awards across Scotland). Corstorphine Walled Garden also successfully retained its Green Flag Community Award.

A new, more challenging, Parks Quality Standard (PQA) was set in 2018. In 2019, 124 of the 141 parks assessed met the new Edinburgh Minimum Standard. This was an increase of 8 parks from 2018.

Our ability to plant trees was impacted by COVID-19. Since 2017, 39,966 trees have been planted, including 5,301 during 2019/20, significantly surpassing the commitment to plant an additional

1,000 trees. The 2019/20 trees comprise 244 replacements and 5,057 new plantings.

We are leading a project to increase tree cover to help Edinburgh fulfil its Climate Emergency commitments and become a Million Tree City by 2030. To achieve this, some 250,000 trees will need to be planted over the next decade across a wide range of public and private land.

Next Steps

A Green Flag Group Award Peer Review will take place later in 2021.

Further tree planting is planned for Autumn/Winter 2020/21, with a continued focus on replanting street tree gaps and implementation of the Edinburgh Million Tree Initiative.

The Sustainable Capital Budget 2021-31, which was agreed in February 2021, includes nearly £4M for investment in our parks and green spaces over the 10 year period.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Green flag status	30	32	32	34	32
New Parks Quality Assessment standard	76%	84%	88%	Not carried out in 2020	92%

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of additional trees planted	11,800	19,865	5,301	Tree planting suspended in 2020	Additional 1,000 by 2022
Number of events held in major parks	29 large events in total, 28 in Premier Parks	35 large events in total, 31 in Premier Parks	30 large events in total, 26 in Premier Parks	No events held	Hold number of events to maximum permitted (36 across 9 Parks)

Commitment 44

Increase allotment provision and support and expand the network and the number of community gardens and food growing initiatives.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Our third strategy 'Cultivating Communities - A Growing Success' establishes a 10-year strategic framework for allotment development in Edinburgh that supports the requirements placed upon us by part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Four key objectives are defined within the strategy:

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- ensure adequate provision of allotments
- develop a robust management system for allotment
- improve the allotment customer experience
- adoption of revised allotment regulations.

Key Achievements

[A report updating on allotment and food growing provision](#) was reported to the Culture and

Communities Committee on 26 March 2019. The report detailed the measures to increase allotment provision and expand the number of community gardens.

[A report to the Culture and Communities Committee of 28 January 2020](#) detailed draft allotment regulations, to be taken forward for public consultation.

A privately-operated allotment has been established at Lethem Park adding a further 78 allotment plots to the city's stock and a new allotment site at Piershill Square East has been opened with 9 plots. The number of sites and plots has increased in the last 4 years however figures show that the waiting list for allotment spaces has also increased significantly. This is likely to be for a number of reasons, including increased demand brought about by the stay at home regulations.

Next Steps

A final draft of replacement allotment regulations is to be considered by the Federation of Edinburgh and District Allotments and Gardens Association. It is anticipated the regulations will be reported to Council in 2021/22. A developer funded allotment at Newcraighall, with 20 plots, is due to be transferred to the Council and will be operational in 2021. Two biodiversity areas are to be developed at Baronscourt and Stenhouse Allotments and water harvesting to be trialled at Victoria Park Allotment. Areas of ground at Lismore Playing Field, Clerwood Walled Garden, Gypsy Brae, Fernieside Recreation Ground and Little France Park are being considered for allotment development. Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust will encourage groups to form to support this change.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of allotment plots	1,815 plots across 44 sites	1,833 plots across 44 sites	1,913 plots across 45 sites	1,924 plots across 46 sites	Increasing long term trend
Reductions in waiting lists	2,814 people on the waiting list	1,389 people on the waiting list (April 19)	2,310 people on the waiting list (March 20)	4,285 people on the waiting list (February 21)	Decreasing long term trend

Commitment 45

Establish a Child Poverty Action Unit to address the inequalities faced by children in poverty in our city. Its remit will look at food security and nutrition, tackle food poverty and holiday hunger and enhance nutrition in schools. Ensure that a Poverty Assessment section features in all Council reports.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Edinburgh is well recognised as an affluent and a growing city, however, is also a city with wide levels of inequality and home to some of the most deprived communities in Scotland. An estimated 22% of Edinburgh children grow up in poverty, with rates as high as 35% in some areas of the city.

Under the [Child Poverty \(Scotland\) Act](#), Local Government and Health Boards have a duty to publish an annual report describing existing and new planned actions, or measures taken, to reduce and mitigate the effects of Child Poverty.

Key Achievements

A review of the councils' report template was carried out in 2019. The review resulted in a reduction of the number of individual sections within the template. However, it strengthened the requirement for all council decisions to be made after due regard is given to several legislative requirements as part of an Integrated Impact Assessment. This includes identifying any impacts relating to poverty.

[Agreement for the creation of a Child Poverty Action Unit](#) was given at the Culture and Communities Committee on 11 September 2018.

The unit, now called the **Child Poverty Group (CPG)**, is a partnership group. This group has:

- built on existing partnerships and reporting arrangements to co-ordinate Council action to address Child Poverty in Edinburgh,
- identified Council leads for the development and publication of annual Local Child Poverty Action Reports (first published in June 2019, second published in December 2020),
- identified a point of liaison with the Edinburgh Poverty Commission on issues and actions relating to Child Poverty.
- Developed a Delivery Plan in response to the Poverty Commission Recommendations
- Developed 1 in 5 and Discover as key responses to tackling child poverty
- Continues to identify actions across Schools and Lifelong Learning and provides an update in the Business Bulletin to each Education Children and Families

The dissolution of the Strategic Outcome (SO) Groups resulted in SO4 being re-configured as the **Child Poverty Group** with the membership revised and widened. This Group links with the Edinburgh Poverty Commission and is responsible for co-ordinating Council and partner actions to

reduce child poverty. It also has oversight of and responsibility for writing the annual Local Child Poverty Action Report (LCPAR).

As one of the three 'Bs' (strategic priorities in the new Children's Services Plan), the Bridging the Gap group is developing income maximisation and employability actions for BAME families and families affected by disability. This group will link closely with the CPG as well as reporting to the Children's Partnership.

In Edinburgh, actions are underway to address Child Poverty and several key projects and initiatives that aim to increase awareness, reduce poverty related stigma, tackle the attainment gap and reduce school and holiday food and financial anxiety are further developing. These include the '1 in 5 Project', 'Discover!' and Maximise! Actions related to employability and supporting families living in poverty continue to be developed. Child poverty work in Edinburgh will be framed within the context of children's rights, given the anticipated incorporation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots Law in 2021.

The Child Poverty Group continues to make key links with other groups and the links into the

Edinburgh Poverty Commission
Recommendations and Delivery Plan.

The Edinburgh Children's Partnership provides oversight of co-ordinated actions and signs off the LCPAR each year.

The Child Poverty Group's work closely aligned with the Adaptation and Renewal Workstreams and in particular with the Life Chances and Poverty and Prevention workstreams.

Commitment 46

Continue to support the city’s major festivals which generate jobs and boost local businesses and increase the funding for local festivals and events. Support the creation of further work spaces for artists and craftspeople.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The recommended core programme of Festivals and Events 2021/22 was reported to the Culture and Communities Committee in January 2021.

The report describes the approach to continue to support and partner events important to the retention of the city’s reputation and events

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activity. The COVID-19 crisis inevitably impacts on plans, and as far as feasible they are reviewed and re-scheduled. Revenue grants have been released to festivals and repurposing towards mitigation measures agreed by the Culture and Communities Committee in March 2021.

Key Achievements

Funding commitments have been maintained for the Council’s Cultural Strategic Partners fulfilling a vital collaborative role in the retention of the city’s cultural infrastructure and talent. Related activity which can be implemented under COVID-19 restrictions ensures clear focus on opportunities for residents who are practitioners, artists and participants. Project Funding programmes have also been retained.

A well-received small grants fund to support creative practitioners’ practice was established in partnership with, and administered by, Creative Edinburgh and EPAD (Edinburgh Performing Arts Development). This has also provided first-time contact between creative freelancers and the Council on which to build.

The festivals partnership project, PLACE, with the Scottish Government and the Council, has also been maintained for a 4th year and this ensured the continuation of related festivals community, practitioner skills development and programming activity in the city.

The major public consultation exercise to explore options for Christmas and Hogmanay activity going forward was implemented for completion in May 2021.

The partnership project, led by the Council, for lighting the Granton Gasometer will be completed creating an extraordinary and very visible night-time landmark for the area, and the city. It is expected to launch Spring 2021.

Following the success of the first two years of the new multi-cultural event, it will be re-procured, and

a programme of citywide community events take place again in 2021/22.

The Diversity Officer, working to create positive partnerships, networks and permeability across sectors for ethnically diverse artists and practitioners, has established a positive programme of professional development, funding, board memberships and networks, and including the Diversity and Inclusion Fund 2020/21.

A number of projects are underway to increase the number of work spaces for artists and craftspeople. These include the soon to be refurbished Granton station, the Powderhall Stable Block and 20 West Shore Road in Granton which has just recently been let to Edinburgh Palette. During the COVID-19 pandemic business support in the form of rental assistance has been provided to tenants to help maintain their businesses.

Next Steps

Preservation of funding and infrastructure to support the retention and recovery of the sector is currently fundamental to the work of the Cultural Strategy Service. Collaborative work with community arts venues will further develop during 2021/22.

Commitment 47

Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	✓
Will not be achieved	

Background

Building on our earlier local commitment, a Scotland-wide agreement between the Scottish Government and COSLA will see local authorities working towards allocating 1% of their externally provided funding (around £8m in the Council's case) by means of participatory budgeting (PB) by April 2021. While reiterating the joint commitment to the underlying principles of PB in empowering local communities and recognising its key role in sustainable recovery, these timescales are currently being reviewed at national level due to necessary reprioritisation of activity during the COVID-19 pandemic and continuing public health restrictions.

Key Achievements

A PB Officers' Group has been established. The group has developed a framework for considering

PB options across the Council's activity and has looked at mainstream, grant and commissioning budget opportunities, comprehensively reviewing the Council budget. The approach taken focuses on discrete elements of existing budgets that may naturally lend themselves to PB.

Council officers are now undertaking work to detail proposals to implement PB in a number of service areas. This includes definition of the scope and scale, identification of the specific budget source and level of budget applicable. These areas include Parks, Active Travel, Pupil Equity Fund, Early Years and the Neighbourhood Environment Programme, Roads and Housing Revenue Account. This work was of necessity paused due to the pandemic but has recently resumed.

As in previous years, Leith Chooses continued during 2020/21 allowing people to vote for projects to receive Community Grant funding in North East

Edinburgh. This year's themes focused on food poverty and/or reduce isolation/ensure connectedness in Leith.

Next Steps

Meetings have been held and the commitment of all services secured with proposals on the nature and financial aspects of the programme now being produced by services. Once completed, a report on proposed opportunities will be brought to the Corporate Leadership Team for consideration and thereafter to the Finance and Resources and Culture and Communities Committees later in the year for approval, at which point a detailed programme of activity and the associated timescales for meeting the 1% target will be confirmed. This programme will also take account of the findings of a joint Scotland-wide assessment of progress to date by the Scottish Government and COSLA.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of annual discretionary budget allocated through participatory budgeting	0.03%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	1%

Commitment 48

Continue to make a case to the Scottish Government for the introduction of a Transient Visitor Levy and explore the possibility of introducing more flexibility in the application of business rates. Explore the possibility of introducing a workplace parking levy.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Transient Visitor Levy

Background

Tourism is an important sector to Edinburgh, employing tens of thousands of local people and supporting many other jobs indirectly. The city needs to raise long term secure income to invest sustainability in Edinburgh's offer and manage the impact of a successful tourist economy.

Key Achievements

We led the national debate on the introduction of a Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) and consulted on the shape of a local scheme in Edinburgh with key stakeholders and residents. This included:

- Reporting the public consultation results and the City of Edinburgh Council's submission to Scottish Government's national conversation on a Visitor levy in Scotland.
- Continued engagement with public bodies including the Scottish Government on the development of a Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill.
- Reporting the submission to the Scottish Government pre-legislative consultation on a Visitor Levy in November 2019.

- the Scottish Government published consultation results on the Principles of a Local Discretionary Transient Visitor Levy or Tourist Tax on 27 March 2020

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the Scottish Government agreed in March 2020 that they would pause work on bringing the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill to the Scottish Parliament.

Next Steps

We will implement the TVL in Edinburgh once the detail of the legislation is known and the powers are in place. We are continuing to work on the detail of implementation and importantly on how the TVL will be used to benefit the city, its tourism economy and the residents.

Workplace Parking Levy

Background

A Workplace Parking Levy (WPL) will raise additional income and is one of many tools which can make a positive impact on congestion, air quality and public health.

Key Achievements

An amendment to the Transport (Scotland) Bill granting enabling powers to Councils over a WPL scheme was added and agreed to with the Bill becoming the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019.

An Edinburgh workplace parking survey that was completed at the end of 2019/20. Results were reported to Committee in November 2020. This will inform future work related to the further consideration of a WPL in Edinburgh.

Next Steps

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the regulations and guidance supporting the WPL scheme was delayed. We will consult with businesses and citizens ahead of regulation and guidance being completed. Council Officers are members of the Scottish Government WPL working groups informing the development of these regulations. We will continue to advance the work of the WPL in partnership with business and other key stakeholders.

Commitment 49

Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	✓

Background

In 2018/19 and 2019/20, the Council approved annual Council Tax increases of 3%. Following changes first introduced in 2019/20 allowing councils to increase rates by up to 3% in real (i.e. inflation-adjusted) terms, the approved budget for 2020/21 then included a 4.79% increase in Council Tax to maximise the level of investment available to support delivery of a number of priority outcomes, including investment in the Wave Four schools programme.

Key Achievements

The Council used compensatory funding provided by the Scottish Government in 2021/22 [to freeze Council Tax rates at 2020/21 levels](#), resulting in an average 2.7% annual increase over the period from 2018/19 to 2021/22.

Next Steps

While an indicative increase of 3% has been assumed for 2022/23, this assumption will be kept under active review, taking into account the longer-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
% Council Tax increase approved by Council	3%	3%	4.79%	0%	At this stage, an indicative 3% increase has been assumed for 2022/23.

Commitment 50

Continue a policy of no compulsory redundancies and keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

We have agreed to retain a policy of no compulsory redundancies during this administration and to deliver our services using in-house resources.

Key Achievements

Our commitment of no compulsory redundancy remains in place and is fully adhered to by all service areas.

To support the achievement of necessary savings and the redesign of services, we continue to offer appropriate voluntary severance arrangements and redeployment support to its employees. The policy in respect of a presumption of in-house service provision continues to be carefully

monitored through the politically led budget setting process.

Next Steps

To continue to apply this commitment and ensure that this is embedded in the Adaptation and Recovery Programme, any organisational reviews and business cases that are developed in respect of future service delivery models that we need to consider.

Commitment 51

Improve community safety by protecting local policing and empowering communities to tackle long term safety issues and hate crime in all its forms including supporting restorative justice initiatives and other projects.

Background

Transformation programme saw the creation of the Family and Household Support service in 2017 whose function was to develop and deliver early and effective interventions based on the principles of the Christie Commission. This complements the continued provision of high quality, innovative criminal justice services, working towards reducing reoffending rates in the city.

Key Achievements

The Community Safety Partnership continues to oversee Edinburgh’s approach to community safety and reducing reoffending and a range of key activities have been progressed including:

- the work of the citywide multi-agency Bonfire Community Improvement Partnership which facilitates extensive planning and preparatory activities to keep communities safe in the lead up to and during ‘bonfire night’. Diversionary activities for young people, dedicated staff patrols in hotspot areas, clear up operations, educational input across Edinburgh schools, and a co-ordinated social media campaign on the potential dangers posed by bonfires and fireworks all contributed to supporting safe communities during the 2020 celebrations,

and in the absence of organised displays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Intervention work to prevent homelessness on release from prison through provision of housing support at the earliest opportunity to people serving custodial sentences, thus ensuring people have a place to stay on release from prison.
- Restorative justice (RJ) which is offered to adults on statutory supervision who have been convicted of a hate crime, and the victim of that offence (or a representative). Justice services aims to extend the availability of RJ to victims of harm (or a representative) caused by children and young people. This supports the Scottish Government’s commitment to have RJ services widely available across Scotland by 2023. We have also undertaken a large scale roll out of RJ approaches training to relevant staff.
- despite restrictions resulting from COVID 19 work has progressed to deliver Edinburgh’s three year Joint Community Safety Strategy that was launched in April 2020. In some instances, the pandemic has created new learning and reshaping of the direction of travel exposing further opportunities under the three priority themes.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Members of each priority area have developed a variety of recommendations including taking forward further supportive research.

Under the Digital and Online theme, it has been recognised that there is a need for digital safety information for those people who have learning disabilities.

Under the Noise and Antisocial Behaviour theme, the Mediation Service has been further imbedded under Family and Household Support adapting its primary face to face practices to include both telephone and digital mediation; providing a more accessible service.

In relation to Young People and Offending, consultation and awareness raising of the Stronger Edinburgh model has been progressed.

Next Steps

Services to support safer communities and reduce offending will continue to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of individuals and communities. COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have presented opportunities to further develop innovative and resilient community safety and justice services and hastened the establishment of more flexible service delivery, responding to

the need to maintain social distancing while ensuring people have access to the support and protection they require. Finding suitable ways to engage with people for example through increased use of technology where this is preferred, will continue as restrictions are eased.

Actions under the Joint Community Safety Strategy will continue to be progressed.

Digital and Online theme members will work closely with the Voluntary Sector to develop tools over the next two years that will purely focus on supporting online safety for those with learning disabilities.

In relation to Young People and Offending, the Stronger Edinburgh model will be rolled out across the whole city beginning with the young person's group. Contextual Safeguarding and its application in ASB practice continues to be explored and developed, complementing the Stronger Edinburgh methodology, bringing key stakeholders including communities together to safeguard and promote the welfare of young people.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of criminal justice orders successfully completed	65.3%	63.6%	65.4%	77.8%	65%
Number of antisocial behaviour complaints per 10k population	33.0	32.01	29.86	32.56	30.0
Reoffending rates	25.6	Data will not be available until June 2021			Scotland's average for 15/16 is 27%, aim to be below the national level

Commitment 52

Devolve local decisions to four Locality Committees. Establish the membership of each Committee and how devolved decision making will work to encourage the maximum participation for local groups. Explore the effectiveness of community councils and how they can be enhanced to represent their local communities.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Locality Committees have been established and held their first meetings in February 2018. Each committee has looked at the different circumstances in each locality to decide how they can best engage with local groups.

Following a review of their first year, [the Council](#) [on 7 February 2019](#) decided to dissolve the committees.

Key Achievements

Following a review of their first year, the Council decided to dissolve the locality committees. As an alternative to locality committees, Council agreed to explore increased partnership working at a more localised level through using Neighbourhood Networks which will have greater representation from community groups including community councils. Four new Locality Community Planning

Partnerships have also been set up to lead on delivering the locality improvement plans which aim to improve outcomes for those individuals experiencing the greatest inequality.

A significant consultation exercise was undertaken in 2019 with the key aim of improving the governance framework for Community Councils. Proposals were made to address historic gaps that had been identified in the framework and to unblock a number of procedural issues that impacted community council effectiveness. Work was also undertaken to enable Community Councils to engage more with the diversity of their local communities by introducing new office bearer posts with responsibility for engagement and redrafting key guidance documentation. This resulted in revisions being made to the Scheme for Community Councils, the Community Council

Code of Conduct and the introduction of a new complaints procedure.

Next Steps

Community empowerment will be considered on an ongoing basis as part of the wider plans to deliver on the Council Business Plan. In addition, following service resumption and the embedding of the improvement actions agreed by the Edinburgh Partnership, officers will bring back a report looking at further improvements that can be made and how community engagement can be prioritised within core skills training and as part of the work of the community team. The Council will also take account of ongoing work by the Scottish Government on the Local Governance Review and of the Accounts Commission who intend to look at community empowerment over the coming year.

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The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 – Edinburgh Overview – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. For Decision/Action

- 1.1 The Policy and Sustainability Committee has referred a report on the Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 – Edinburgh Overview to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Louise Williamson, Committee Services, Strategy and Communications Division,
Chief Executive Services

E-mail: louise.p.williamson@edinburgh.gov.uk

Referral Report

Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 – Edinburgh Overview – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

2. Terms of Referral

- 2.1 On 10 June 2021 the Policy and Sustainability Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive which provided an overview analysis of the 2019/20 benchmarking data provided by the Scottish Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF).
- 2.2 The report showed that Edinburgh had seen an overall improvement in performance over the last year and that the city's performance compared favourably to the other Scottish cities.
- 2.3 The Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed to refer the report by the Chief Executive to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

3. Background Reading/ External References

Minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 10 June 2021.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Report by the Chief Executive

Policy and Sustainability

10.00am, Thursday 10 June 2021

Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 - Edinburgh Overview

Item number
Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That Policy and Sustainability note the report setting out the detailed analysis of the LGBF benchmarking framework dataset for the 19/20 financial year.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Gillie Severin, Strategic Change and Delivery Senior Management

E-mail: Gillie.Severin@edinburgh.gov.uk

Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 – Edinburgh Overview

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides an overview analysis of the 2019/20 benchmarking data provided by the Scottish Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF).
- 2.2 In summary, the report shows that Edinburgh has seen an overall improvement in performance over the last year and that the city's performance compares favourably to the other Scottish cities. The report provides further detail and compares Edinburgh against the Scottish average, other comparable cities (Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow) and highlights changes in Edinburgh's performance over the last 5 years where data is available.

3. Background

- 3.1 Led by [SOLACE](#), with the support of the [Improvement Service](#), the Local Government Benchmarking Framework aims to provide a benchmarking toolkit for local government.
- 3.2 The publication and use of this data forms part of the Council's statutory requirements for public performance reporting as directed by the Accounts Commission.
- 3.3 It should be noted that LGBF data is always retrospective and the framework provides benchmarking data and national rankings for services that were delivered in the financial year 2019/20. In comparison, the current Annual Performance Report refers to the financial year 2020/21.
- 3.4 This is benchmarking data for all Scottish Local Authorities and where the data is relevant can present a useful analysis of us in comparison to others.
- 3.5 Currently the dataset holds data for 2019/20 for 80 out of the 97 indicators.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The Local Government Benchmarking Framework [National Benchmarking Overview Report 2019/20](#) was published by the Improvement Service in February 2021. The report provides Scotland level results and trend analysis of benchmarking data for services delivered in 2019/20.

- 4.2 In addition, an online toolkit on the [My Local Council](#) website has been created to help councils benchmark with other councils.
- 4.3 The framework allows local authorities to compare their performance across a suite of indicators of efficiency (unit cost), outputs and outcomes, covering all areas of local government activity.
- 4.4 This dataset provides information ranking Edinburgh with the other councils as well as timeseries data for each of the indicators for Edinburgh.
- 4.5 First COVID-19 lockdown started on 23 March 2020 so trend analysis should not be impacted significantly. Only exception is the educational indicators that refer to academic year (up to August 2020).
- 4.6 Direct comparisons between councils can be challenging, due to differences in local priorities, pressures and issues; service structures; and how services are delivered. This benchmarking data should be used as a tool to support collaboration and sharing between councils to better understand the differences and the approaches which may deliver improvements.
- 4.7 The Local Government Benchmarking Framework is not a comprehensive summary of all the performance of the Council in 2019/20 rather, the data complements and informs the Council's own Corporate Performance Framework.

High level Overview

- 4.8 Comparing Edinburgh's latest figures to last year (2018/19):
- Edinburgh's performance has improved in 43 of the indicators and declined in 37 indicators.
 - Edinburgh's ranking has improved in 35 indicators; remained the same in 9 indicators; and declined our ranking in 36 indicators.
- 4.9 In terms of overall ranking Edinburgh compares favourably with the other three most comparable cities of Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow:
- Edinburgh has the highest number of indicators above the Scottish average at 46, compared to Aberdeen with 38 indicators, Dundee with (31 indicators) and Glasgow (35 indicators).
 - Edinburgh has the fewest indicators in the bottom quartile at 17, with Aberdeen having 19, Dundee 24 and Glasgow 21.
- 4.10 The Appendix provides an overview of Council benchmarking performance in 2019/20 under the framework's none themes, namely:
- Children's Services
 - Adult Social Care Services
 - Environmental Services
 - Culture and Leisure Services
 - Housing Services
 - Corporate Services

- Economic Development (including Planning)
- Financial Sustainability (new)
- Tackling Climate Change (new)

- 4.11 Included in each section is a comparative overview of Edinburgh's five year trend data with the Scotland wide average, and the cities of Aberdeen, Dundee, and Glasgow.
- 4.12 In addition to the Local Government Benchmarking Framework, the Council also participates in several other benchmarking and service development groups. These include the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE), Scotland's Housing Network and Keep Scotland Beautiful.
- 4.13 Along with the Local Government Benchmarking Framework, these allow the Council to share best practice and provide a focus for service improvement initiatives.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2019/20 data analysis will be used to inform Senior Management Team discussions and the Council Planning and Performance Framework.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 There is no financial impact associated with this report.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 The publication and use of the benchmarking data forms part of the Council's statutory requirements for public performance reporting, [as directed by the Accounts Commission](#).

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 [LGBF National Overview Report 2019/20](#) published by the Improvement Service in January 2021.
- 8.2 [My Local Council](#) website.

9. Appendices

Appendix A: 2019/20 Edinburgh Overview

Appendix A: 2019/20 Edinburgh Overview

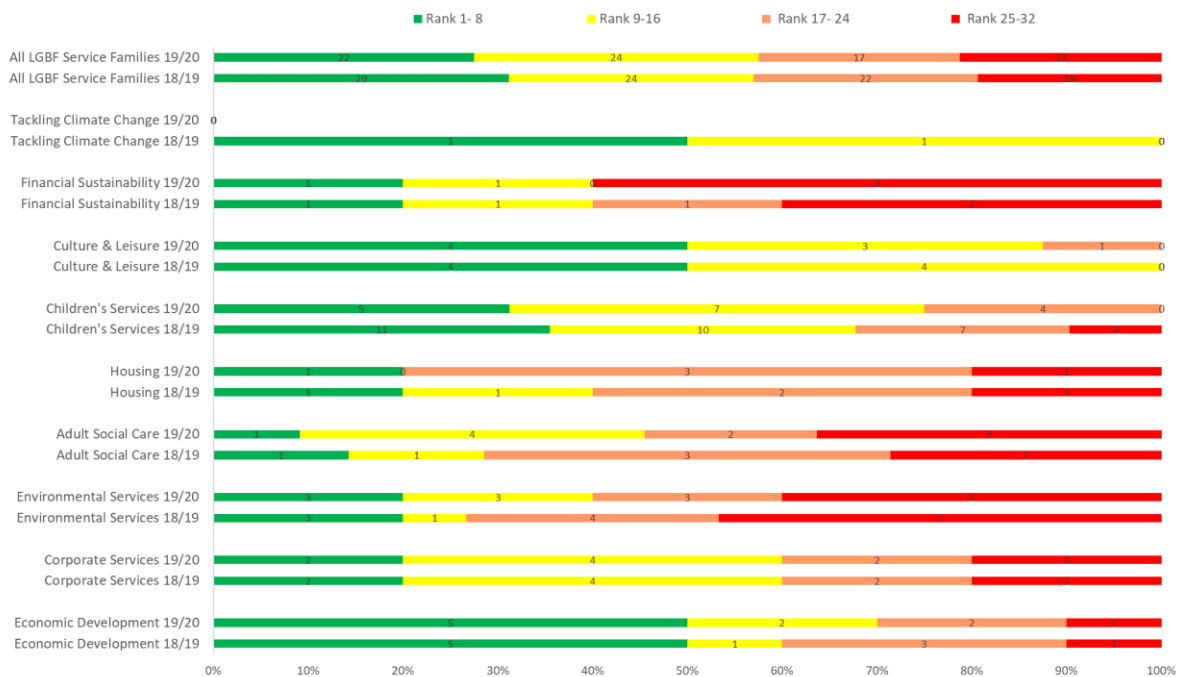
LGBF 2019/20 summary

1. This analysis of the most recent Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) data provides:
 - a. a summary of Edinburgh’s comparative ranking and indicator performance compared to the previous year, 2018/19
 - b. indicator data and the national ranking position for all LGBF indicators
 - c. urban cities and Scotland average comparative data
 - d. an overview of national performance trends and local factors.

Edinburgh – national ranking summary (latest data – 2019/20)

2. Compared to last year (18/19) we have improved our ranking in 35 of the indicators and maintained our ranking in 9 of the indicators. However, our comparative ranking position compared to other councils has declined in 36 of the indicators. This is summarised in the chart and table below:

Chart 1: Ranking improvement or decline – LGBF 19/20 compared with 18/19

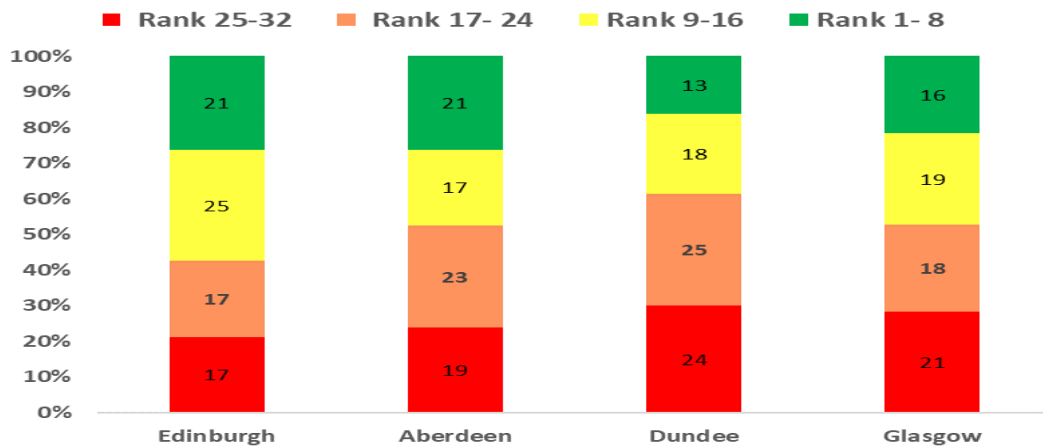


Ranking 19/20	Education	Corporate	Adult Social Care	Environmental	Housing	Econ Dev	Culture & Leisure	Financial Sustainability	Tackling Climate Change	Total	%
Improved	7	3	5	10	1	4	3	2	n/a	35	44%
Declined	7	6	6	4	3	3	4	3	n/a	36	45%
Maintained	2	1	0	1	1	3	1	0	n/a	9	11%
Total	16	10	11	15	5	10	8	5		80	100%

TABLE 1 – Summary of ranking positions 18/19 compared to 19/20

- This is a relational dataset so some of the changes in Edinburgh’s rankings will be due to changes in how the other local authorities have performed rather than changes in Edinburgh’s performance.
- Edinburgh compares favourably when considering overall rankings to the three most comparable urban cities, Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow. Edinburgh shows the highest number of indicators in the top two quartiles and the fewest in the bottom quartile of the four cities. The chart below shows the number of indicators that are ranked in each quartile for the four cities.

Chart 2: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities.



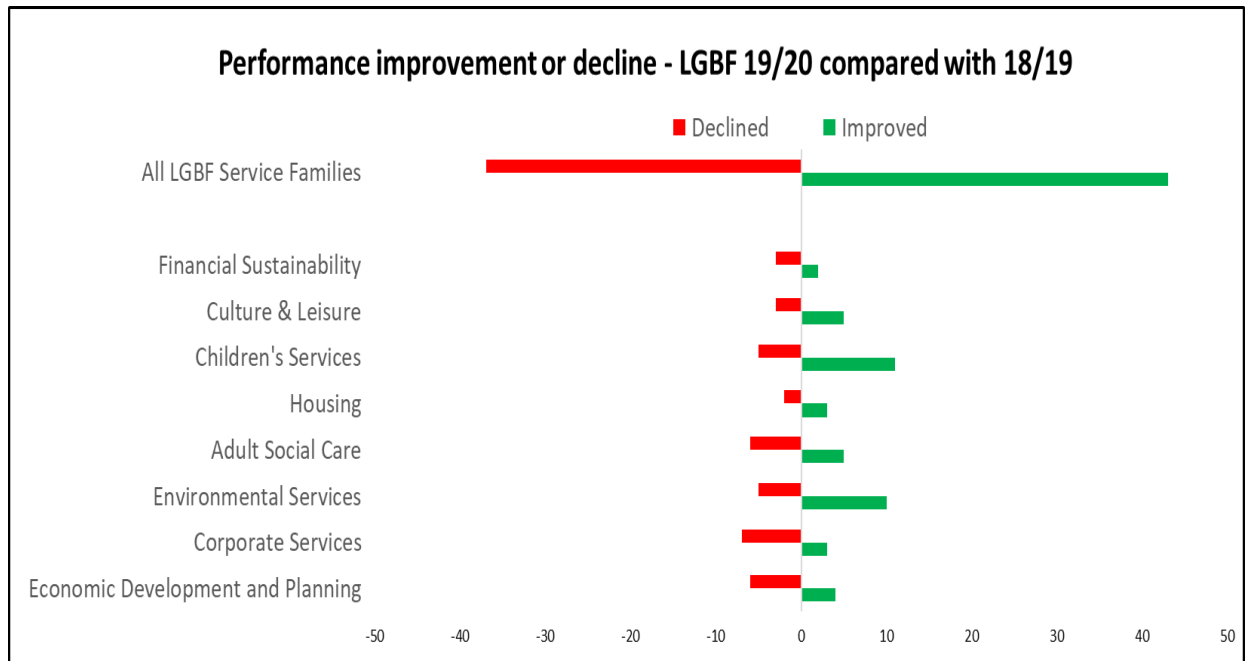
How did we perform in 19/20?

- Compared to last year (18/19) we have shown improvement in 43 of the indicators. However, our performance has declined in 37 of the indicators. This is summarised in the table and chart below:

Performance 19/20	Education	Corporate	Adult Social Care	Environmental	Housing	Econ Dev	Culture & Leisure	Financial Sustainability	Tackling Climate Change	Total	%
Improved	11	3	5	10	3	4	5	2	n/a	43	54%
Declined	5	7	6	5	2	6	3	3	n/a	37	46%
Maintained	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0%
Total	16	10	11	15	5	10	8	5		80	100%

TABLE 2 – Summary of relative indicator values 18/19 compared to 19/20

Chart 3: Performance improvement or decline – LGBF 19/20 compared with 18/19



Initial Corporate Overview for 19/20

- 6. The following sections of the report provide an overview of the 2019/20 data by the LGBF themes.
- 7. Under each theme is an overview of the five year trend for each indicator as well as a comparison with the national and 3 other cities figures.

8. There are 31 indicators in the LGBF that relate to the efficiency and effectiveness of Education Services.
9. It should be noted that data is missing for:
 - a. 7 indicators – data to be published later on in 2021
 - b. 4 indicators – data is biennial so no updated data for 2019/20
 - c. 4 indicators – data was not collated due to COVID-19 and so will not be available.
10. Compared to last year for comparative ranking, we have improved in 7, declined in 7 and maintained our ranking position in 4. For performance we have improved in 11 and declined in 5.

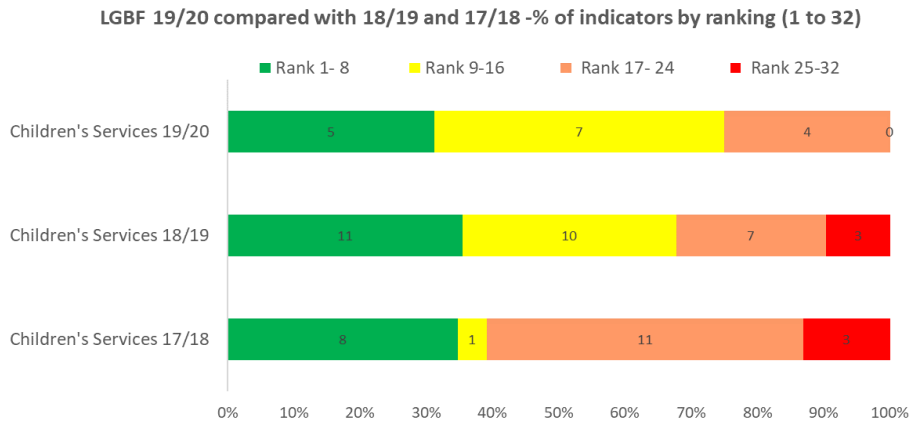
National trend summary (extract of national overview report)

11. Following reductions in spending of 2.5% between 2010/11 to 2018/19, 2019/20 saw a growth in education spend, increasing by 7.1% nationally. This reflects increased costs associated with the recent teacher pay award, access to additional monies via the Scottish Attainment Challenge and Pupil Equity Fund, and the Early Years Expansion programme.
12. Across this period, provision has grown by 4%, including a 9% increase in primary school pupil numbers and a 5% growth in early years places.
13. Measures of educational outcome have shown substantial positive progress since 2011/12 in the measures used in the LGBF, particularly for children from the most deprived areas in line with key priorities in education. As a result of COVID-19, the assessment process was changed for 2019/20 and so attainment information for 2019/20 should not be directly compared to those in previous years or future years.
14. Satisfaction with schools has fallen from 83.1% to 73.0% since 2010/11. However, following year on year reductions to 2017/18, satisfaction rates improved in the past 2 years, from 70% to 73%. The LGBF satisfaction data is drawn from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) and represents satisfaction levels for the public at large rather than for service users. Evidence shows there are differences between satisfaction levels for the wider public and service users, with satisfaction levels for service users consistently higher than those reported by the general population.

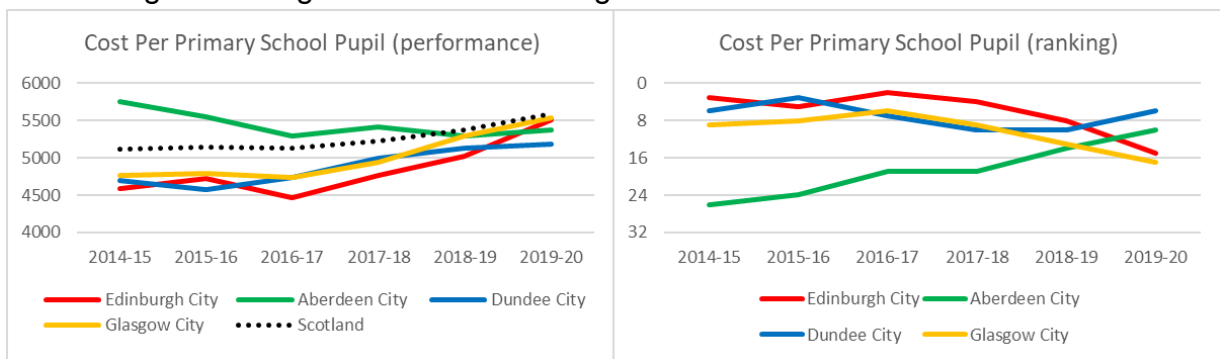
Education Services – 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

15. The proportion of Education indicators that are ranked in the top two quartiles (so above the national average) increases for the last two years as shown in the chart below.

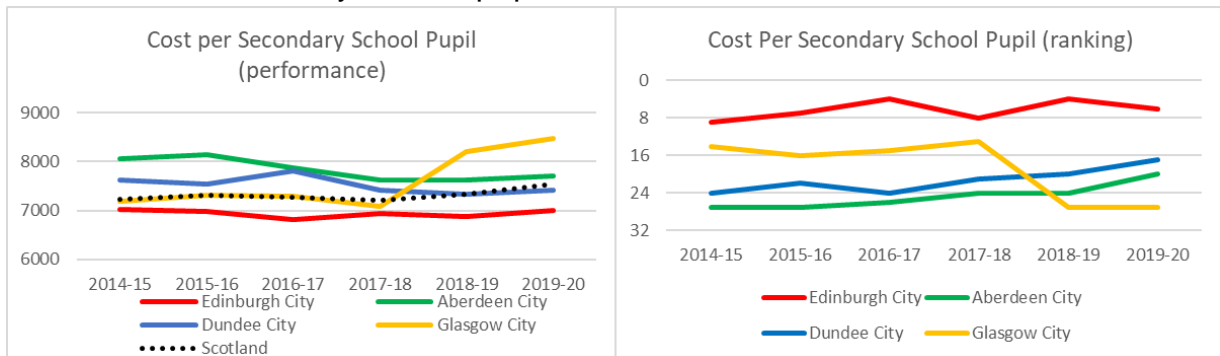
Chart 4: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities



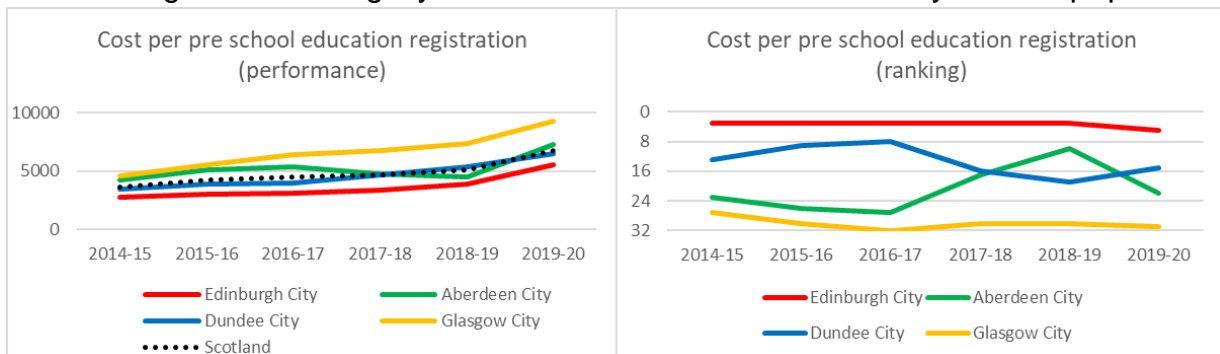
16. The Cost per Primary school pupil has continued to rise in Edinburgh for the last four years. Edinburgh is now comparable with Glasgow and just below the Scottish average. Ranking has fallen from a high of 2 in 2016/17 to 15 in 2019/10.



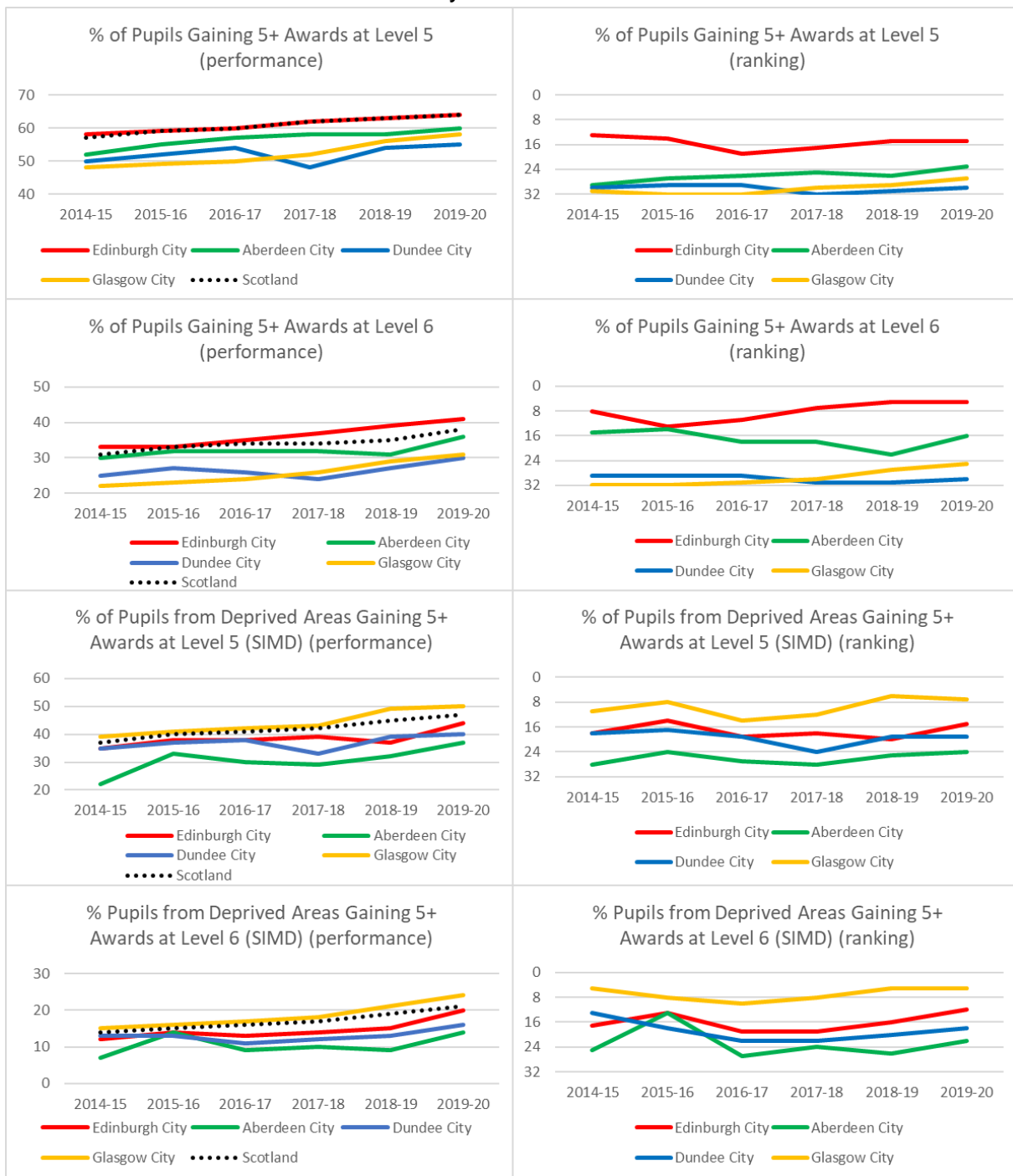
17. The cost per Secondary School Pupil in Edinburgh remains the lowest of the four cities and below the Scottish average. Ranking has fallen slightly from 4 to 6 but remains consistently in the top quartile.



18. The Cost per pre-school education registration has risen for all four cities but Edinburgh remains the most cost effective and below the Scottish average. Ranking has fallen slightly from 3 to 5 but remains consistently in the top quartile.

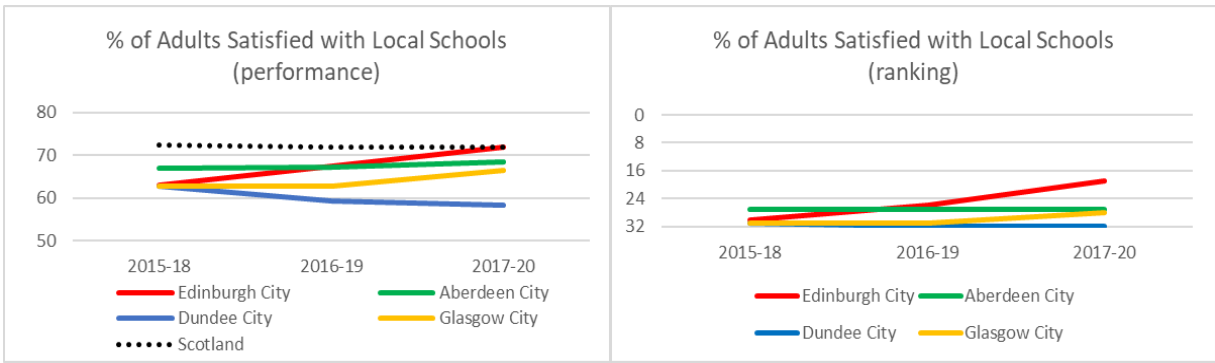


19. Direct comparison of the attainment measures with previous years cannot be undertaken this year. This is due to changes to the assessment process for the 2019/20 academic year due to COVID-19, which makes them not comparable. The trend charts are shown below for your information.

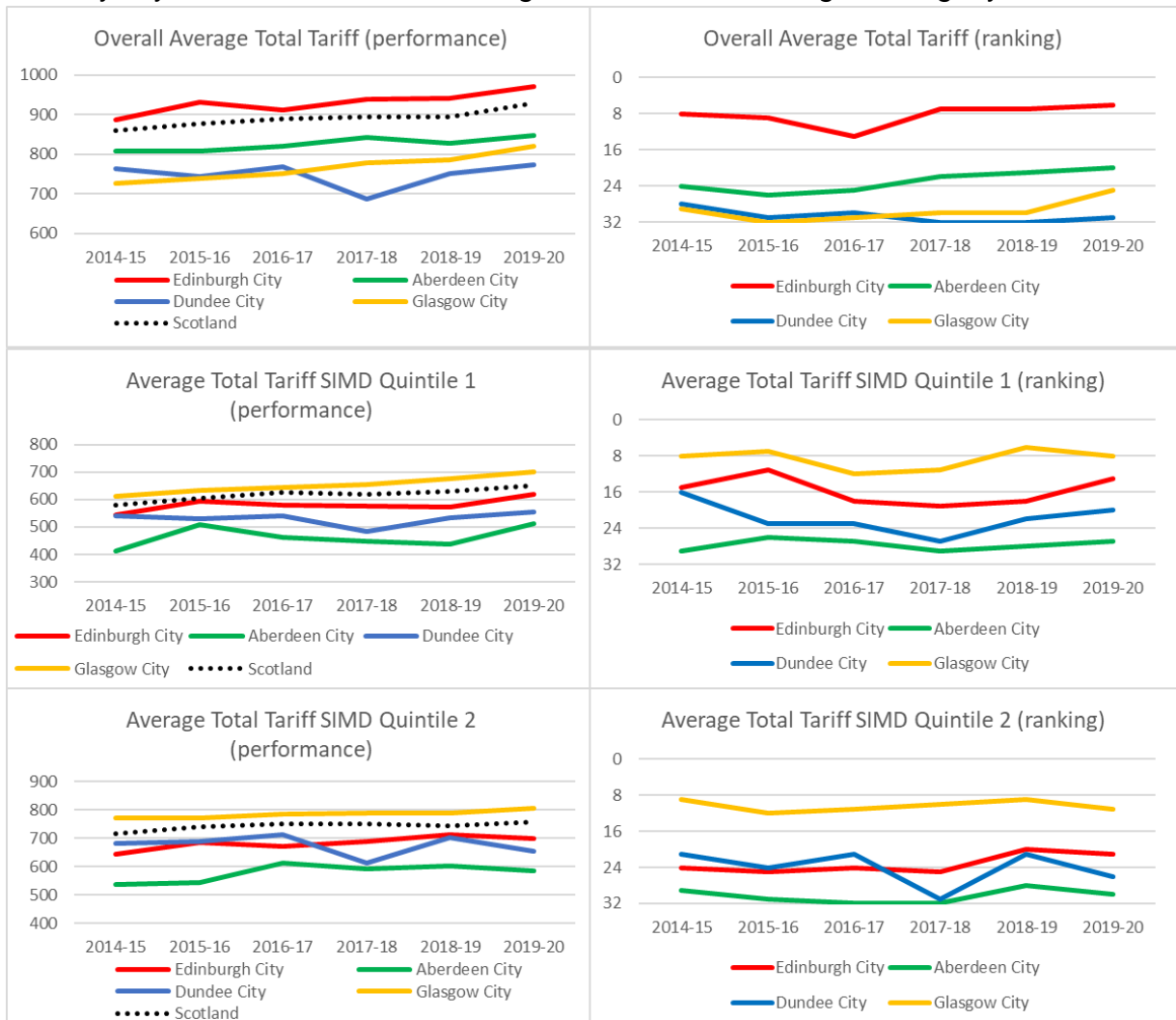


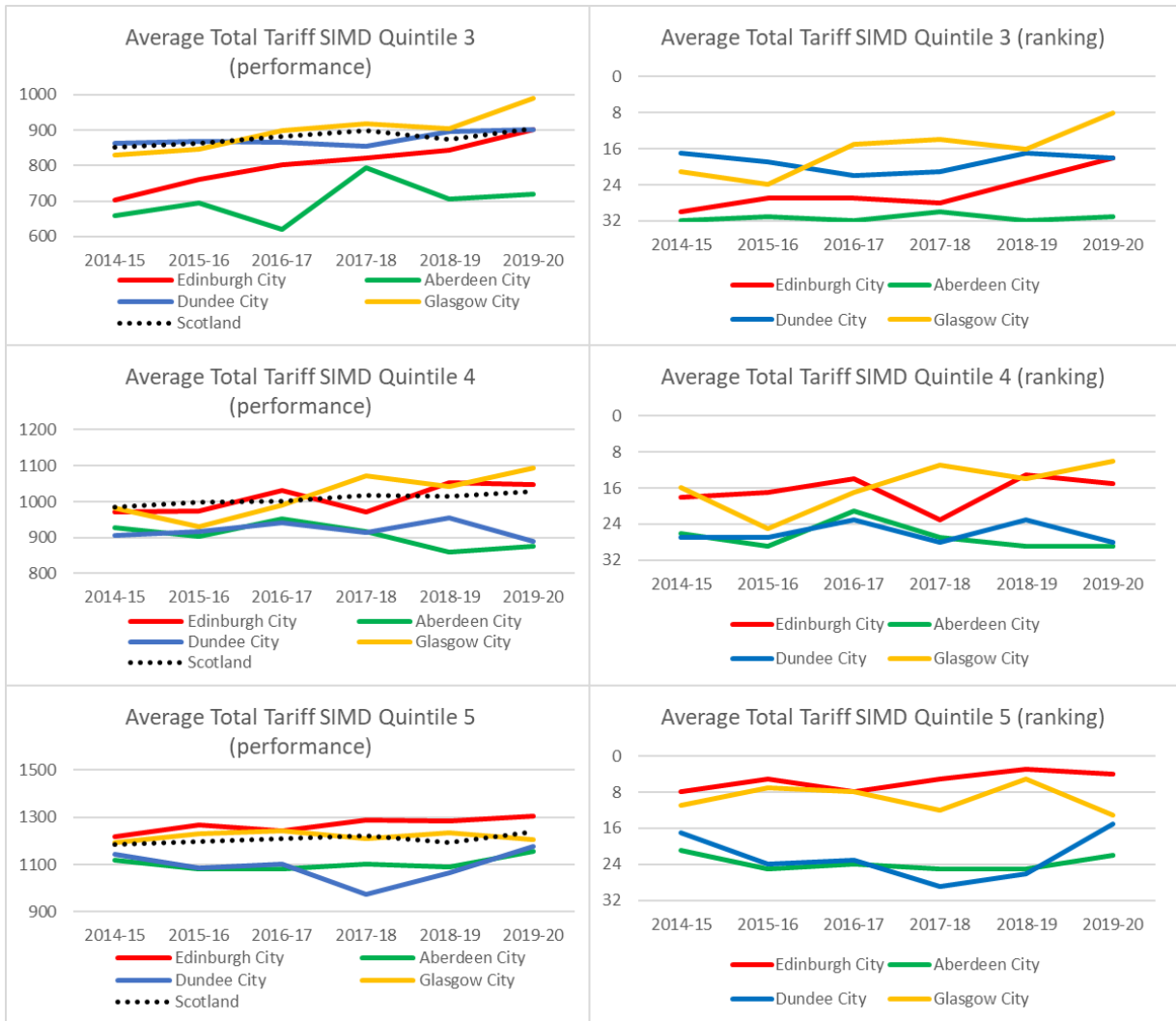
20. The [Edinburgh Learns strategy](#) (item 8.2) underpins our approach to improving performance in Schools and delivering the highest quality education, particularly for children impacted by poverty or the care system.

21. % of Adults Satisfied with Local Schools in Edinburgh has shown continuous improvement over the last five years and is now the best performer of the four cities and above the Scottish average. Ranking has risen to 19 from a low of 30.

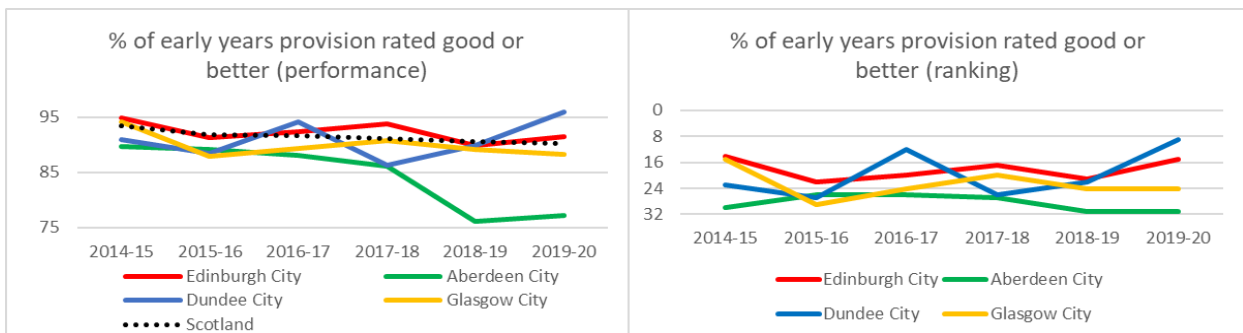


- 22. Overall Average Total Tariff remains the highest of the four cities and is still higher than the Scottish average. Ranking has been in the top quartile since 2017/18.
- 23. Edinburgh's performance for Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 1 continues to improve but continues to sit below Glasgow and the Scottish average.
- 24. Edinburgh's performance and ranking has dropped slightly for Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 2 and remains below the Scottish average.
- 25. Edinburgh has shown sustained positive performance improvement for the Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 3. Ranking has risen to the best-ever level of 18 from a low of 30.
- 26. Edinburgh continues to perform well in relation to Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 4, above the Scottish average.
- 27. Edinburgh has sustained positive trend for Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 5 and is the only city above the Scottish average in 2019/20. Ranking falls slightly from 3 to 4.

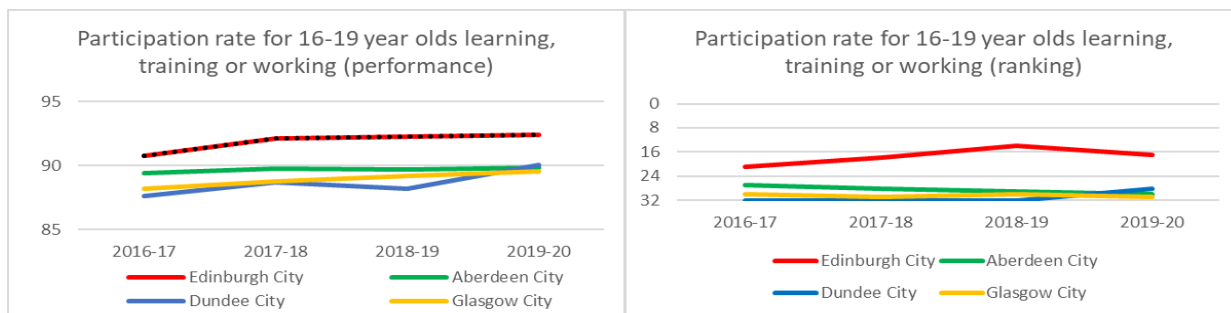




28. Edinburgh’s percentage of early years provision rated good or better is in the low 90s over the past five years, with a slight dip to 89.6% in 2018/19. Ranking has risen to 15 in 2019/20 from 21 in 2018/19.



29. Edinburgh continues to improve performance in the participation rate for 16-19 year olds learning, training or working, and performs better than the three comparison cities. Ranking has fallen slightly from 15 to 17 between 2018/19 and 2019/20.



30. The remaining Education services indicators (including attendance rates, exclusion rates, positive destinations, various looked after children indicators and developmental milestones) do not have updated data for 2019/20.

Corporate and Asset Management Services

31. There are ten LGBF indicators that relate to the efficiency and effectiveness of Corporate and Asset Management Services.

32. For comparative ranking we have improved in 3, declined in 6 and maintained our ranking position in 1. For performance we have improved in 3 and declined in 7.

National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

33. Corporate services spend has fallen by 26% in real terms since 2010/11, and now accounts for only 4.1% of total spending. This is the lowest corporate overhead ratio yet recorded and reflects councils' commitment to protect frontline services over 'back office' functions. It also reflects the maturation of councils' digital strategies.

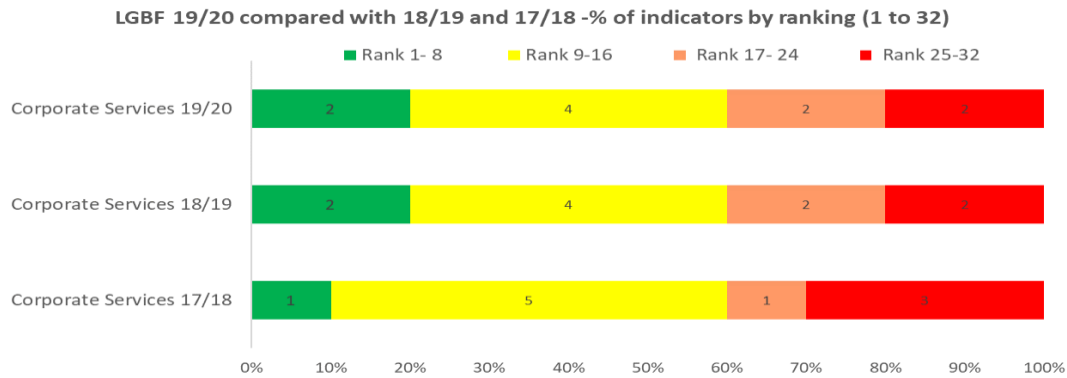
34. This reduction has been accompanied with significant improvement in key areas of performance. Council tax collection rates remain above 95%; the cost of council tax collection has reduced by 59% in real terms since 2010/11; the percentage of invoices paid within 30 days remains above 90%; the gender pay gap has narrowed across the last four years, from 4.5% to 3.4 and the proportion of the 5% highest earning staff who are female continues to rise.

35. Local Government absence levels are at their highest since 2010/11, revealing a 7% increase across the period. This reflects a 10% increase for non-teaching staff, and a 3% reduction for teaching staff.

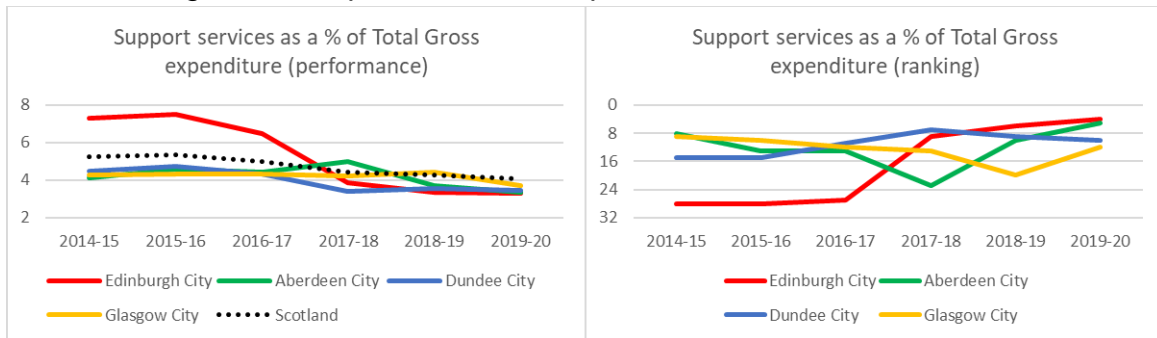
Corporate and Asset Management Services – 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

36. The proportion of Corporate indicators that are ranked in the top two quartiles (so above the national average) has been maintained for the last two years as shown in the chart below.

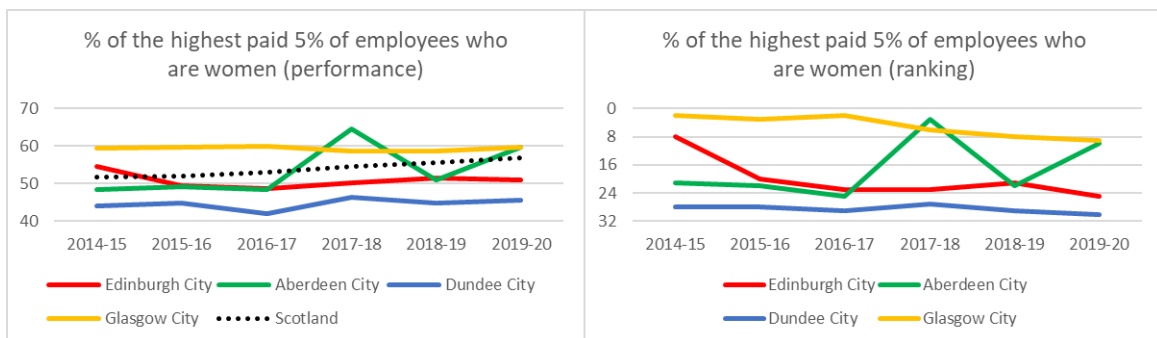
Chart 5: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities



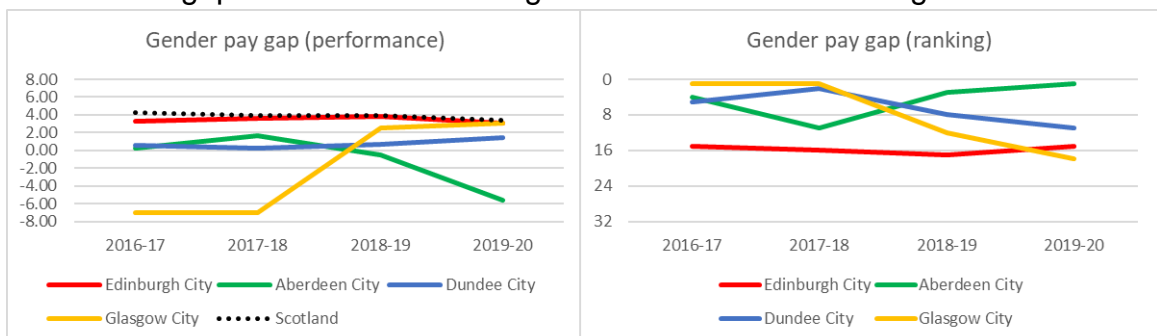
37. The cost of Support Services in Edinburgh continues to show value for money and Edinburgh is performing and ranking better than the three comparison cities and below the Scottish average. Ranking has risen from a low of 28 in 2015/16 to 4 in 2019/20. This continues to be driven by a proactive approach to centralising a wide range of corporate support services (including customer contact & transactional services), delayering and reducing management roles and the introduction of digital technologies and improved business processes.



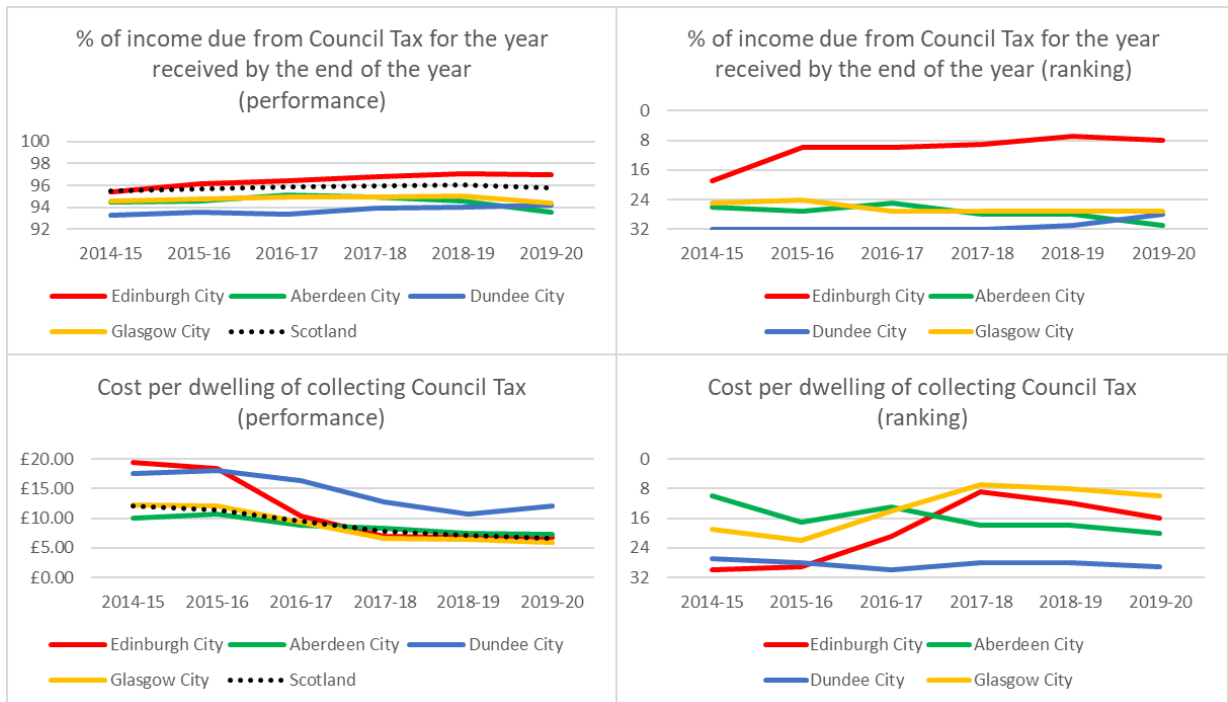
38. Edinburgh has shown consistent mid table performance for the % of the highest paid 5% of employees who are women, although ranking has fallen to 25 in 2019/20 from 21 in 2018/19.



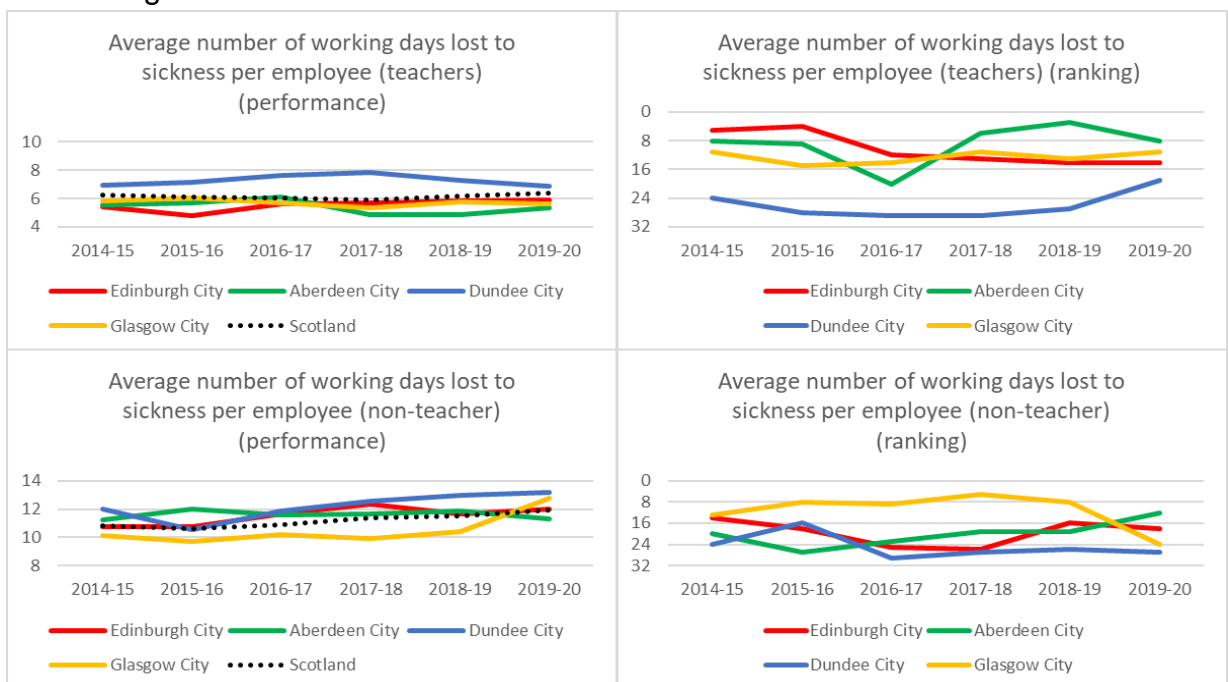
39. Edinburgh's performance and ranking for the Gender pay gap has improved slightly and our gap is smaller than Glasgow and the Scottish average.



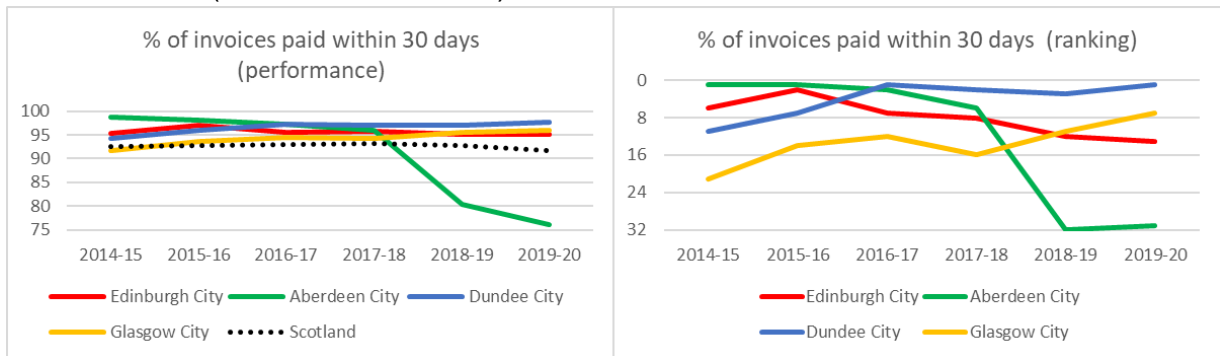
40. Council Tax collection rate in Edinburgh (at 96.95%) continues to outperform the Scottish cities and performs above the Scottish average, although ranking has fallen from 7 to 8. Overall Councils are collecting most of the income due from Council Tax with performance ranging from 93 to 98% in 2019/20.
41. The cost per dwelling of collecting Council Tax in Edinburgh increased slightly in 2019/20 and moves above the Scottish average for the first time in 3 years. Edinburgh continues to see a fall in ranking from 7 to 16 between 2017/18 and 2019/20.



42. The average number of sickness days lost to teachers has increased over the last 5 years but remains mid table of the 4 cities and below the Scottish average.
43. The average number of sickness days lost to non-teaching employees increased in 2019/20 but remains mid table of the 4 cities and marginally above the Scottish average.

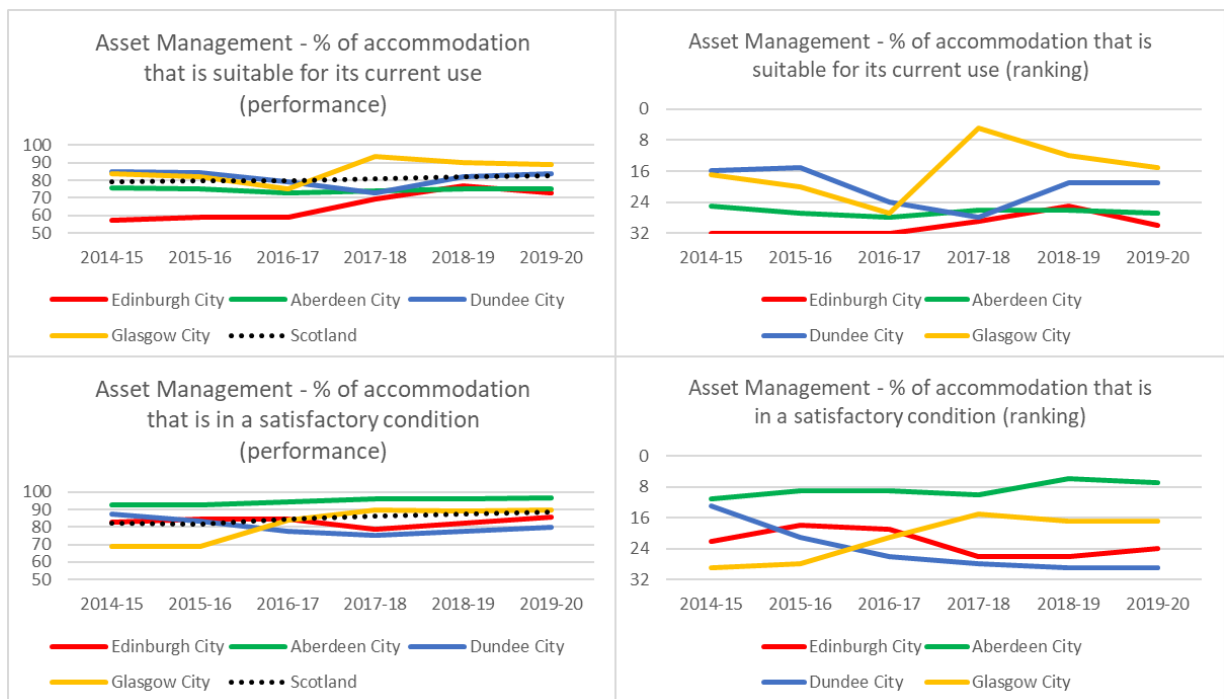


44. % of invoices paid within 30 days has marginally decreased over the last 3 years but performance has remained consistently above the Scottish average. Ranking has fallen from a high of 1 (in 15/16) to 13 although our performance decreases by under 2% (from 96.95 to 95.06).



45. % of accommodation that is suitable for its current use reduced to 72.89% and is the lowest performance of the 4 cities. Ranking has also fallen to 30 from 25 in 2018/19. It is worth noting, that suitability is assessed by services who occupy the buildings, rather than by Property & Facilities Management (PFM) who may assess it differently.

46. % of accommodation that is in a satisfactory condition has increased to 85.47% but is still below the Scottish average. Edinburgh continues to invest, approving an enhanced capital allocation of £118.9m for the Asset Management Works programme for operational properties over a five-year period in the budget process for 2018/19.



Adult Social Care

47. There are 11 LGBF indicators that relate to the efficiency and effectiveness of Adult Social Care Services.
48. For comparative ranking and performance, we have improved in 5 and declined in 6 indicators.

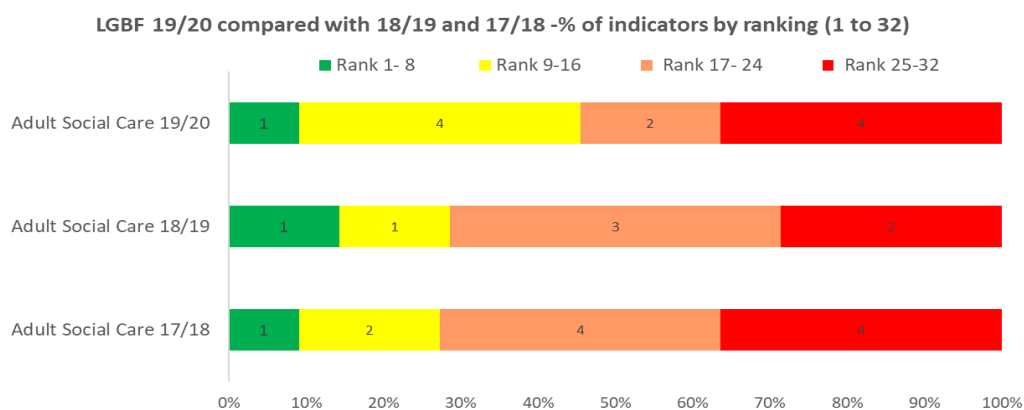
National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

49. Significant variability exists across authorities reflecting the different stages of maturity integration authorities are currently at and the different local context and population profiles they serve.
50. Councils' social care spending on adults has grown by 14.8% since 2010/11, and by 1.5% in 2019/20. Spending on home care and residential care for older people remains the most significant element of social care spend accounting for around 60% of the total. Direct payments and personalised managed budgets have grown steadily across the period from 1.6% to 9.0% of total social work spend.
51. Progress has been made across the longer period in shifting the balance of care between acute and institutional settings to home or a homely setting.
52. While there has been an overall improving picture in terms of Delayed Discharges, improvements have levelled off in more recent years. Since 13/14, the number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged has reduced by 16.1%, including a 2.4% reduction in 2019/20. However, there has been an 16.7% increase in hospital readmissions (within 28 days) across the same period. The trend has continued in 2019/20, increasing by 1.7%.
53. 'Satisfaction' measures in relation to quality of life, independent living, choice and control, and support for carers all reveal a decline across the period. The deterioration in perceived support for carers is most significant, showing an 8-percentage point reduction from 42.5% to 34.3% across the period.

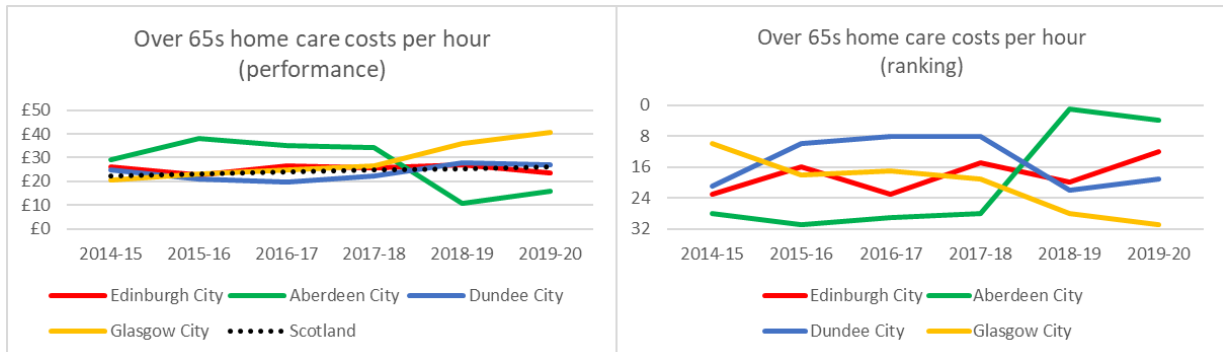
Adult Social Care – 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

54. The proportion of Adult Social Care indicators that are ranked in the top two quartiles (so above the national average) has increased in the last year as shown in the chart below.

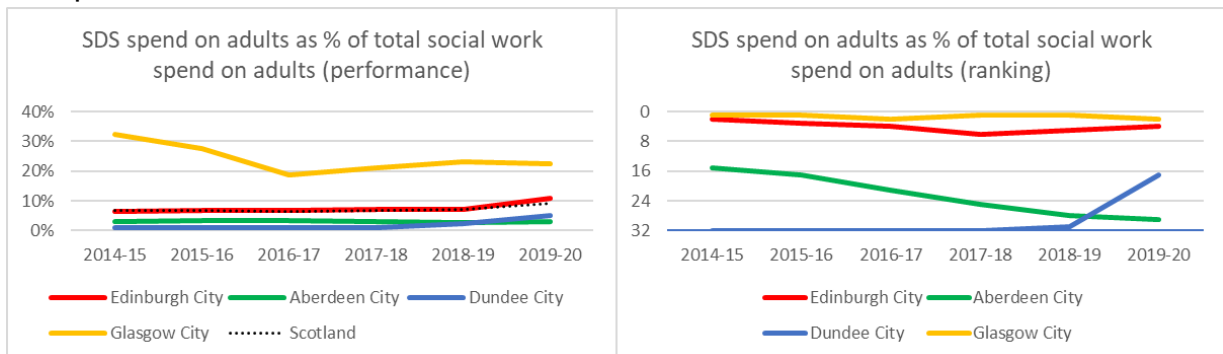
Chart 5: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities



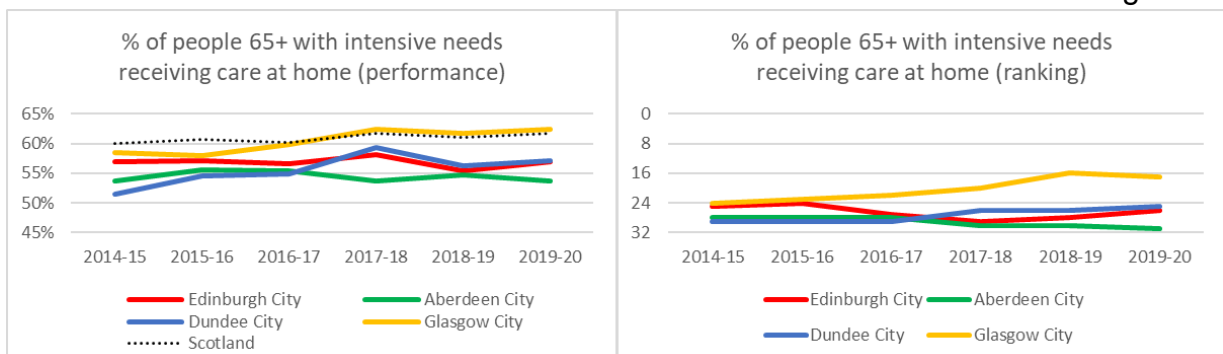
55. The different configuration of services, such as the proportion of internal to external providers of adult social care services will have an impact on how different Local Authorities perform. Edinburgh continues to retain services in house whilst other authorities have chosen to outsource.
56. The costs per hour of providing over 65s home care in Edinburgh continues to show value for money and Edinburgh is below the Scottish average. Ranking has risen from 20 to 12.



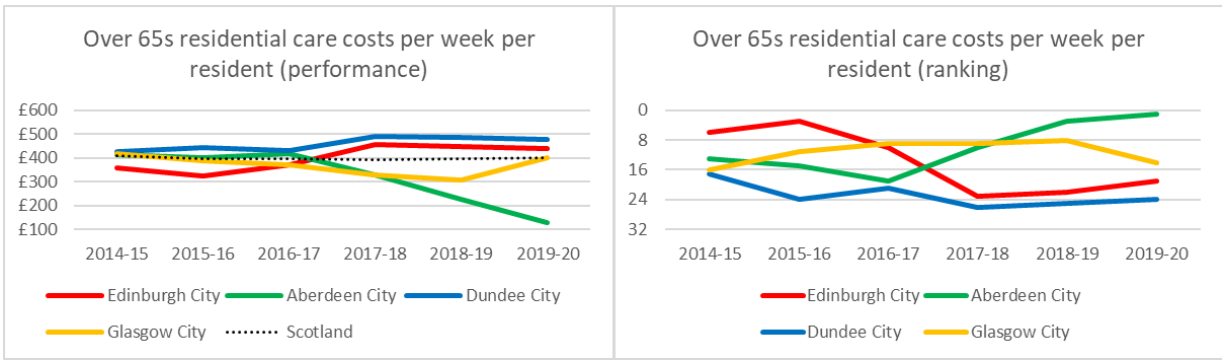
57. Edinburgh has shown an increase of almost 2% in SDS spend between 2018/19 and 2019/20 and ranking has risen to 4. Edinburgh is consistently in the top quartile.



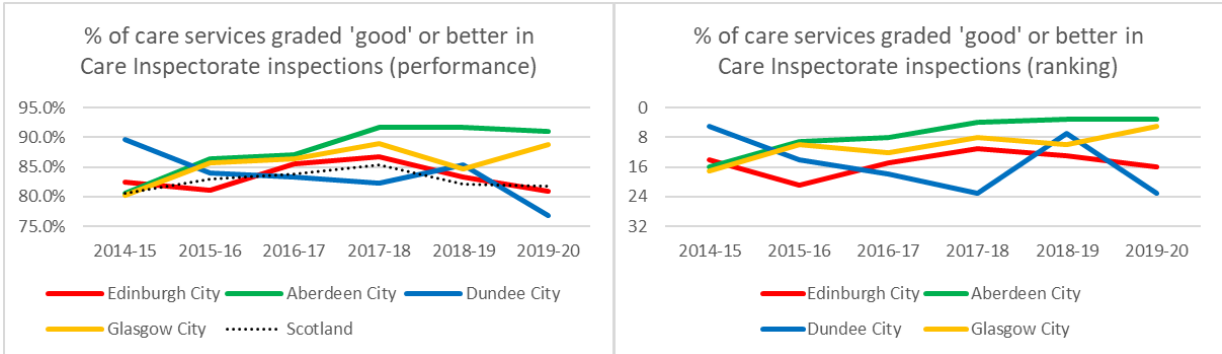
58. The % of people 65+ receiving intensive care at home has increased in Edinburgh to 56.9% in 2019/20 from 55.5% in 2018/19 but is below the Scottish average.



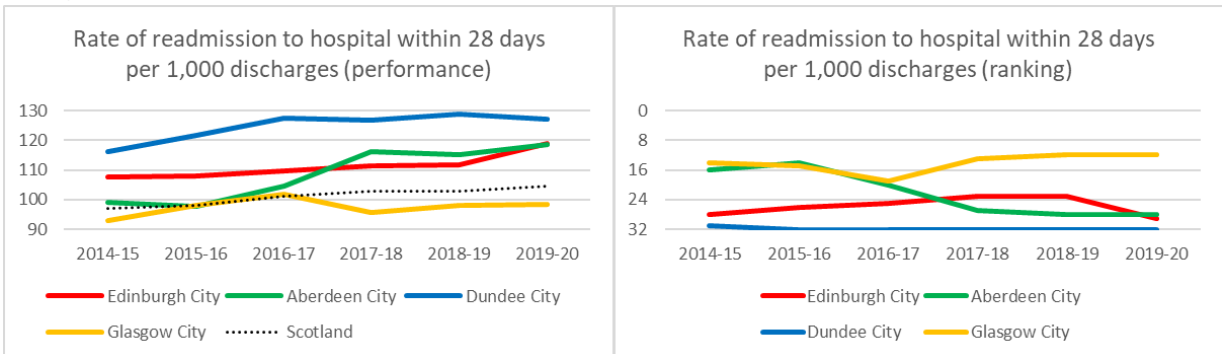
59. Over 65s residential care costs per week per resident in Edinburgh has decreased slightly from £456 in 2017/18 to £441 in 2019/20 but remains above the Scottish average (£401 in 2019/20). Edinburgh's ranking has risen for the last two years and now sits at 19 from 23 in 2017/18.



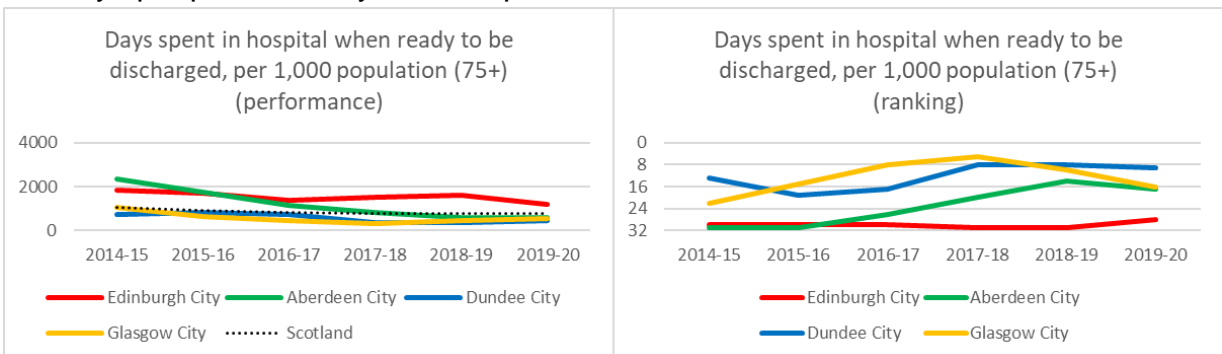
60. % of care services graded 'good' or better in Care Inspectorate inspections has decreased in Edinburgh to 80.9% from 83.3% in 2018/19 but continues to be close to the Scottish average.



61. Edinburgh follows the gradual rise seen in the Scottish average in rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges, but with a sharper rise to 111.68 in 2019/20. Edinburgh's ranking declines in 2019/20 after four years of gradual rises.

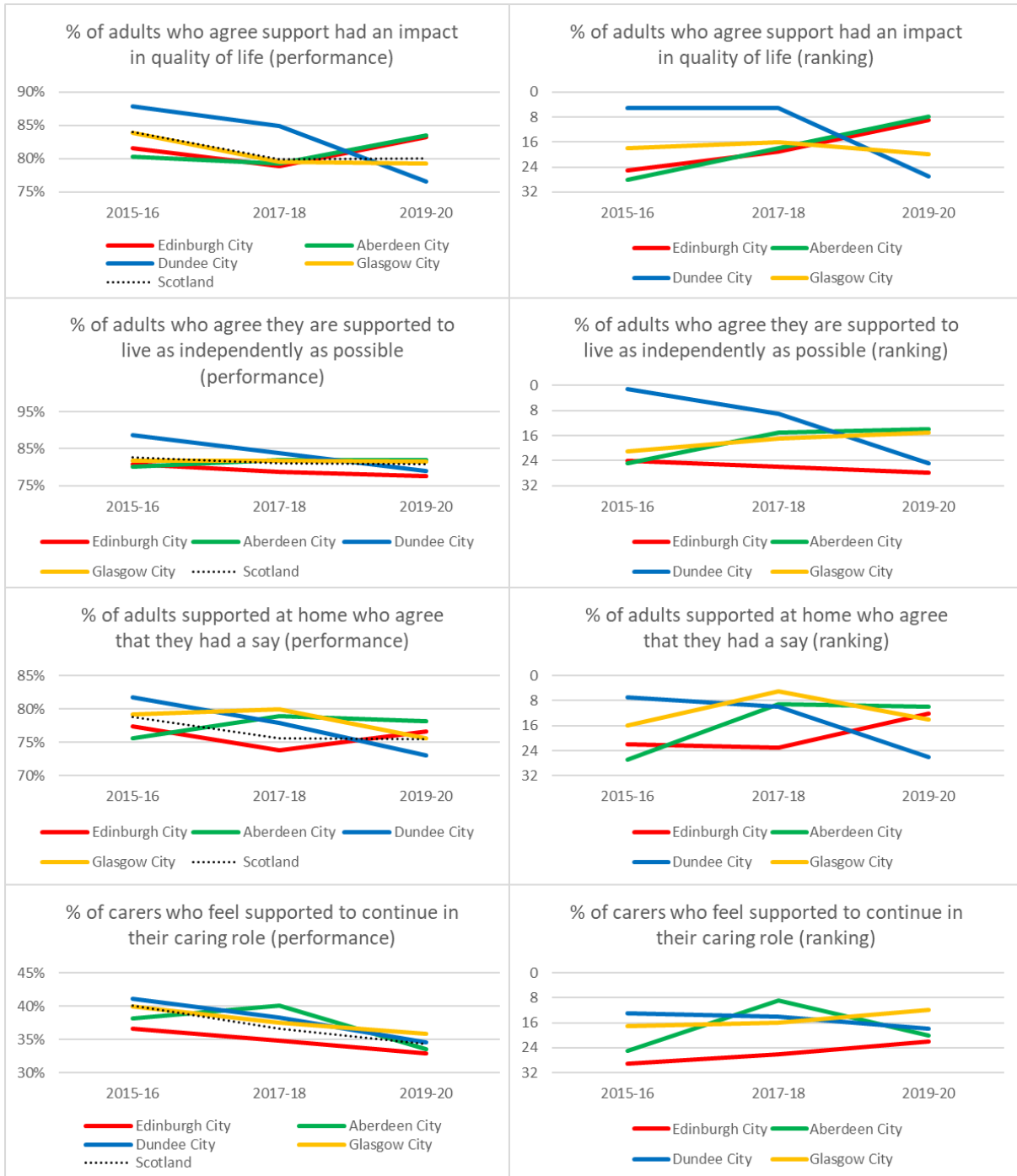


62. Days spent in hospital when ready to be discharged, per 1,000 population for over 75's has decreased in Edinburgh and this is starting to be seen in a rise in ranking in the last year, 31 to 28. However, Edinburgh remains ranked in the bottom quartile. The Health and Social care Partnership continues to advance a number of workstreams to transform services which will continue to drive down the number of days people are delayed in hospital.



63. There are increases in satisfaction Adult Social Care for % of adults who agree support had an impact in quality of life and for % of adults supported at home who agree that they had a say. The Scottish average remains the same between 2017/18 and 2019/20.

64. There is a decrease in satisfaction for % of adults who agree they are supported to live as independently as possible and % of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role which mirrors a decrease in the Scottish average.



Environmental Services

65. There are 15 LGBF indicators that relate to the efficiency and effectiveness of Environmental Services.

66. For comparative ranking we have improved in 10, declined in 4 and maintained our ranking in 1. For performance we have improved in 10 and declined in 5.

National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

67. Real spending on environmental services has reduced by 11% since 2010/11 (and by a further 0.7% in 2019/20). This includes reductions in waste management (-2%) street cleaning (-31%) and trading standards and environmental health (-28%) since 2010/11.

68. Alongside the reduction in spending, there have been reductions in satisfaction with refuse and cleaning, and reductions in street cleanliness scores.

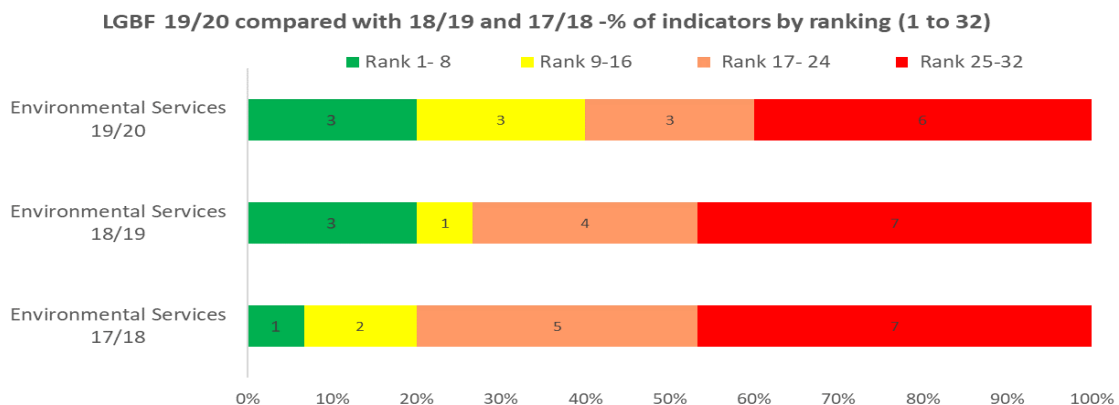
69. Following the decline in 2018/19, the rate of recycling in 2019/20 is showing a small improvement, from 44.7% to 44.9%.

70. Since 2010/11, real spending on roads has fallen by 24.2%, including a 4.5% reduction in 2019/20 (excluding outliers). Since 2010/11, the road conditions index indicates conditions have been largely maintained across all class of roads with around 30% to 35% of roads continuing to require maintenance.

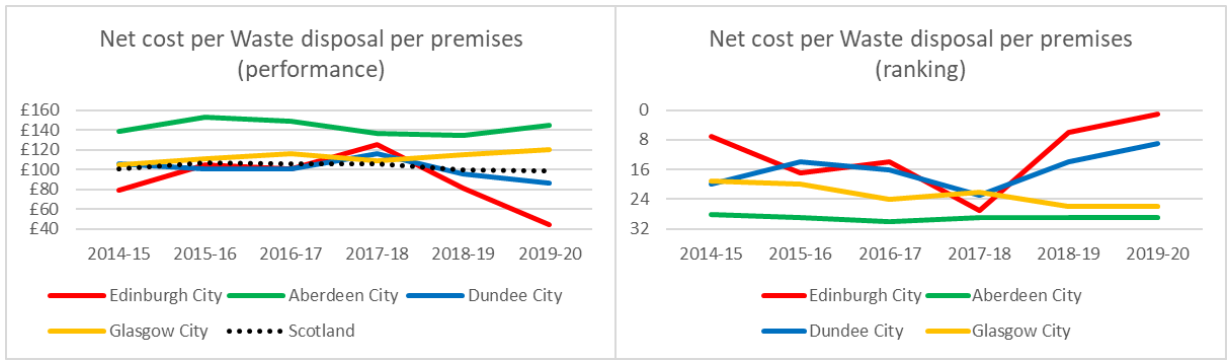
Environmental Services - 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

71. The proportion of Environmental Services indicators that are ranked in the top two quartiles (so above the national average) increases for the last two years as shown in the chart below.

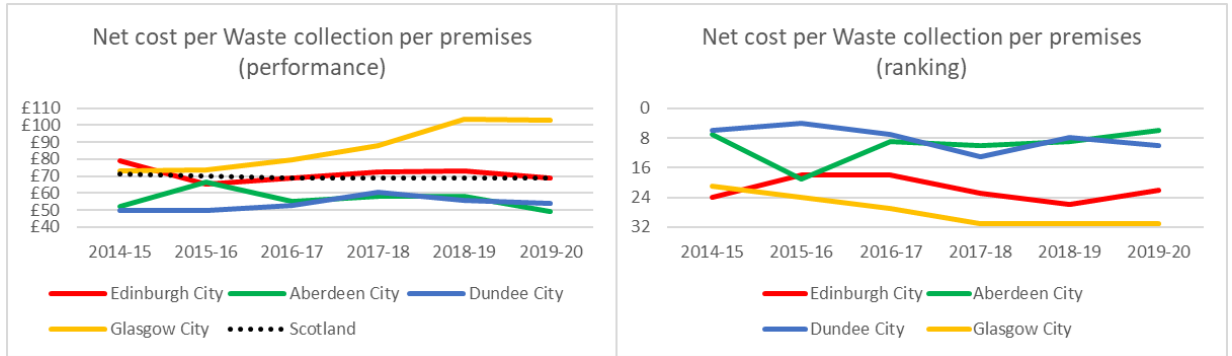
Chart 6: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities



72. In 2019/20 waste disposal costs show Edinburgh (£44.57) and Midlothian (£54.23) with Edinburgh ranking 1 and Midlothian 2, reaping the rewards of the first full operational year of Millerhill Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility. The previous year showed Edinburgh ranking 6 and Midlothian 10.

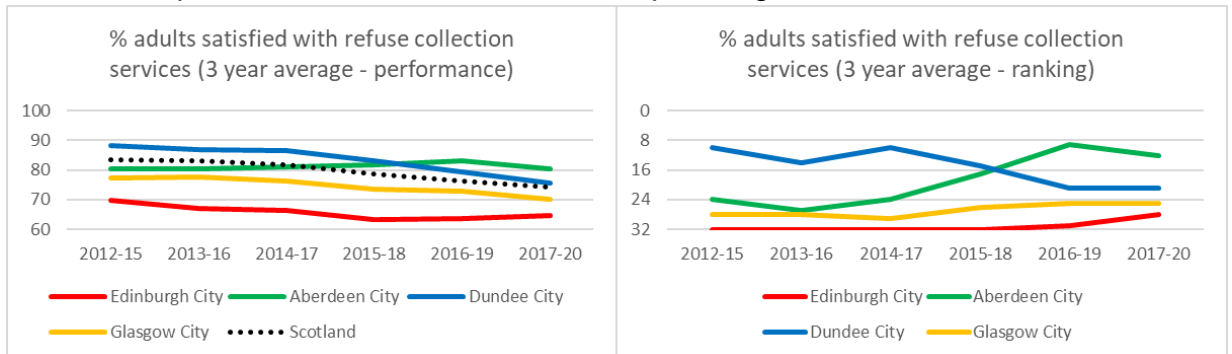


73. The net cost of collecting waste per premises has improved in Edinburgh over the last 5 years averaging £69.69 against a Scottish average of £69.20.



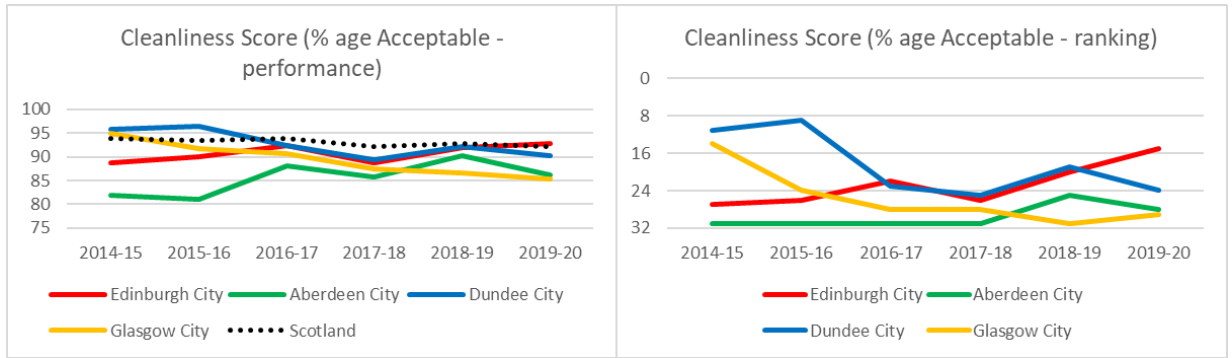
74. Satisfaction with refuse collection in Edinburgh has increased slightly in both performance and ranking but remains the lowest of all four cities. Whilst Edinburgh has shown slight increases in satisfaction over the last two years (from 63.33 to 64.6%), the Scottish average continues a 2% decline each year (from 78.67 to 74.30 over the same time period 2015-18 to 2017-20). This indicator shows average satisfaction level over 3 years (2017 to 2020) so changes in satisfaction levels following the introduction of a new individual bin collection service introduced in Autumn 2019 are only now beginning to be reflected in the data.

75. Edinburgh's costs and ranking for street cleaning have improved slightly in 2019/20 to £23,298 from £23,733 in 2018/19 and ranking to 30 from 31 in 2018/19 but are still more expensive than the other cities except Glasgow.

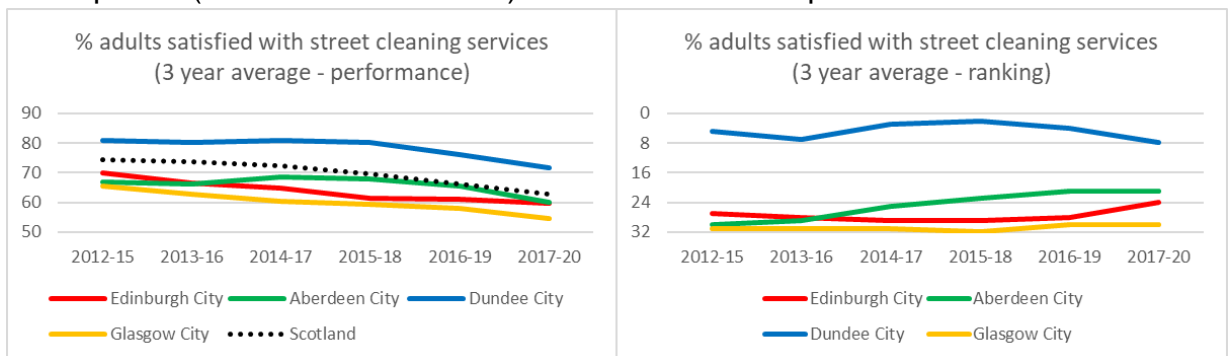


76. Edinburgh's performance and ranking for street cleanliness score have improved considerably over the last 3 years and are now the best of the four cities at 92.88

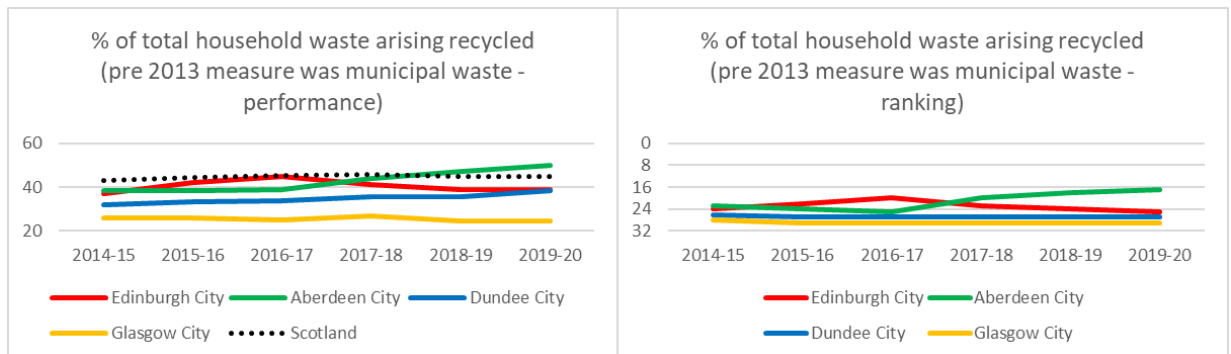
from 92 in 2018/19.



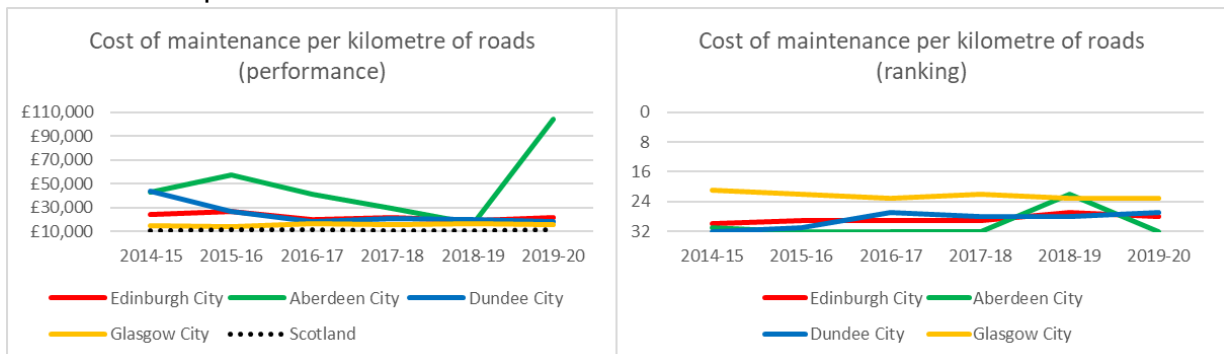
77. Satisfaction with street cleaning in Edinburgh has decreased slightly in performance, but ranking has risen and remains above Glasgow. Whilst Edinburgh has shown slight decreases in satisfaction (less than 1%) over the last two years (from 61.33% to 59.8%), the Scottish average shows a greater decline over the same period (from 69.67 to 62.63%) over the same time period.



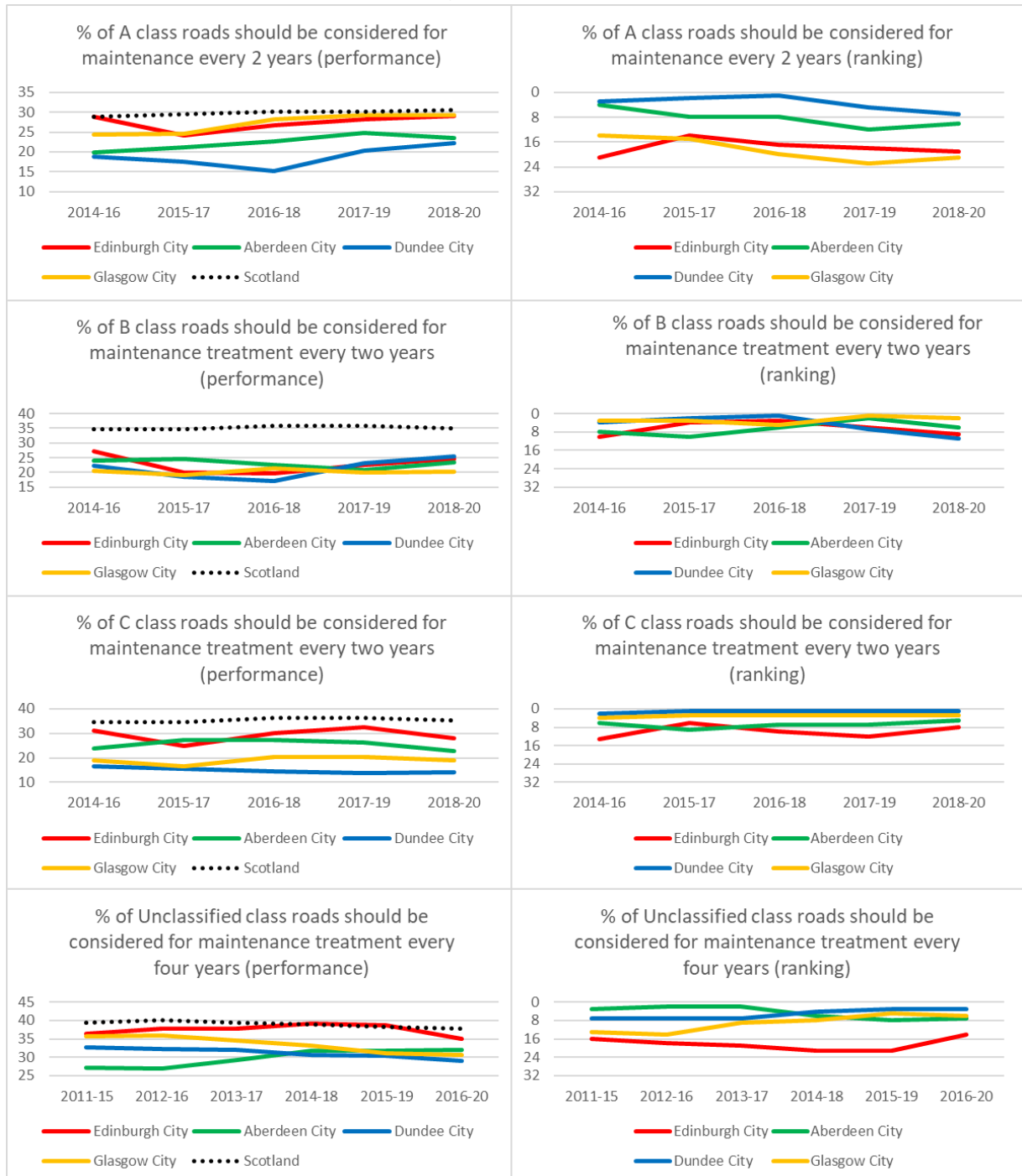
78. Although Edinburgh's household waste recycling rate has reduced to 38.62% in 2019/20, it is the second-best rate of the four cities but below the Scottish average of 44.85%.



79. The cost to maintain the road network has remained relatively stable in Edinburgh, at around £20,500, for the last six years which is a similar pattern to the other three cities except for Aberdeen in 2019/20.

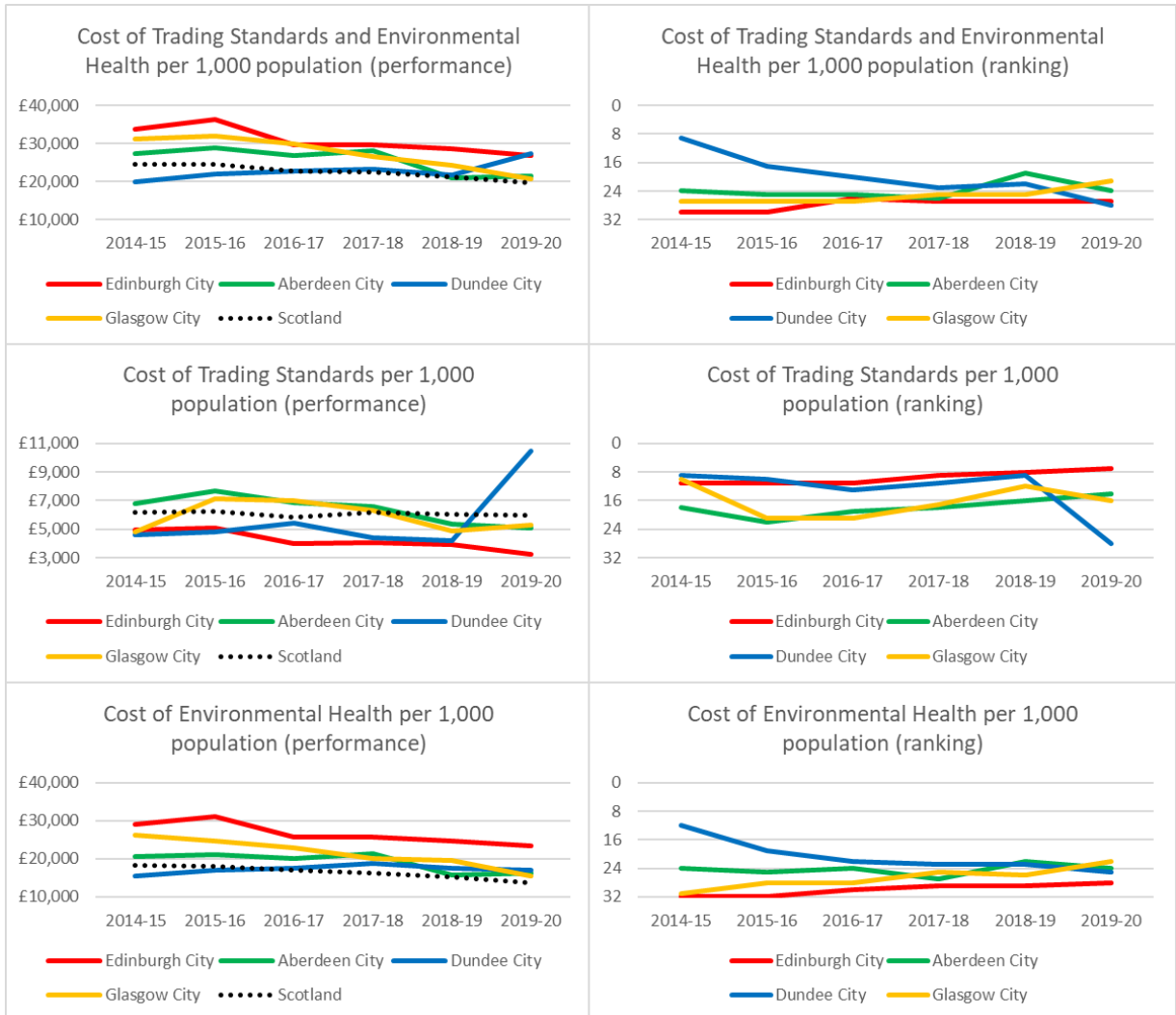


80. The % of Edinburgh's road across A, B and C classes requiring maintenance treatment sits consistently below the Scottish average for the past five years. This is the same of the other three cities.
81. For B class roads, Edinburgh continues to sit 10% below the Scottish average.
82. The % of unclassified roads in Edinburgh requiring maintenance treatment, at 35.10%, returns to below the Scottish average in 2019/20 at 35.10% after being above for the two previous years (2017/18 and 2018/19). Edinburgh's ranking has risen to 14 which is the best ranking in 9 years.



83. Edinburgh's costs for Trading Standards and Environmental Health has continued to fall over the last 3 years from £29,742 in 2017/18 to £26,745 in 2019/20 and follows the same downward trend as the Scottish average. Our ranking remains static at the lower end of the four cities.

84. Edinburgh's costs for Trading Standards has continued to fall over the last 4 years and ranking is the best of the four cities and at 7 for 2019/20, sits in the top quartile.
85. Edinburgh's costs for Environmental Health has continued to fall over the last 4 years but ranking is the lowest of the four cities.



Housing

86. There are five LGBF indicators that relate to the efficiency and effectiveness of Housing services.

87. For comparative ranking we have improved in 1, declined in 3 and maintained our ranking in 1. For performance we have improved in 3 and declined in 2.

National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

88. Councils continue to manage their housing stock well. Since 2010/11, the average time taken to complete non-emergency repairs has reduced by 28%, from 10.1 days to 7.3 days. Rent lost to voids has also reduced across this period, from 1.3% to 1.1%. However, since 2017/18 the % of rent lost has begun to increase.

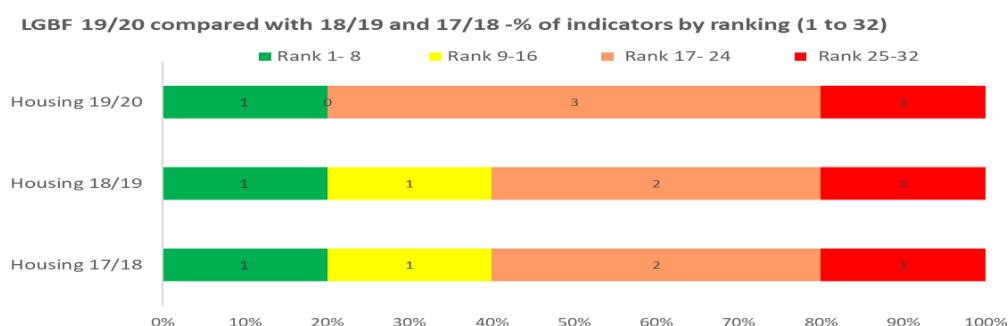
89. There have been consistent and significant improvements in terms of housing standards, with 95% of properties now meeting SHQS. Energy efficiency has also continued to improve, with the percentage of council dwellings that are energy efficient rising by 29 percentage points, from 65% to 84% between 2015/16 and 2019/20. (Note, to reflect new energy efficiency standards, the LGBF now uses the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (ESSH) as a reference).

90. At the same time, the continued rate of growth in tenants' rent arrears from 5.6% to 7.3% between 2013/14 and 2019/20 reveals evidence of the increasing financial challenges facing both housing residents and councils alike. In 2019/20, this rate stabilised for the first time since 2013/14.

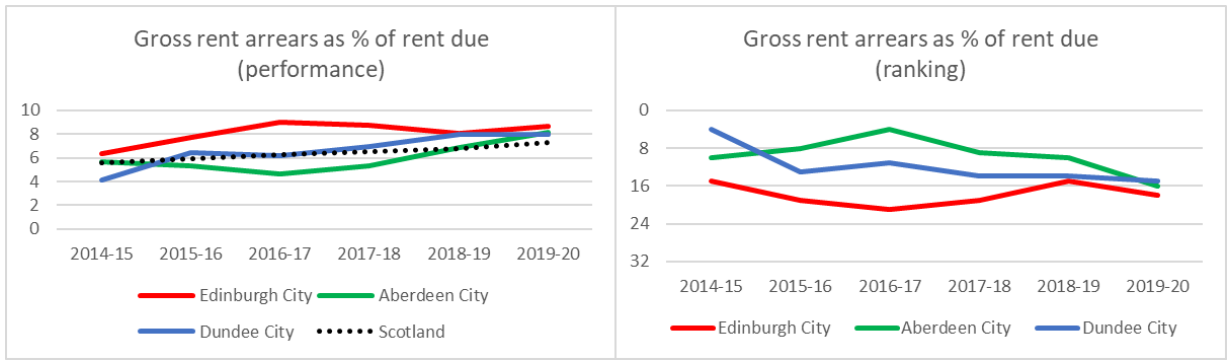
Housing - 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

91. The proportion of Housing indicators that are ranked in the top two quartiles (so above the national average) has fallen in the last year as shown in the chart below.

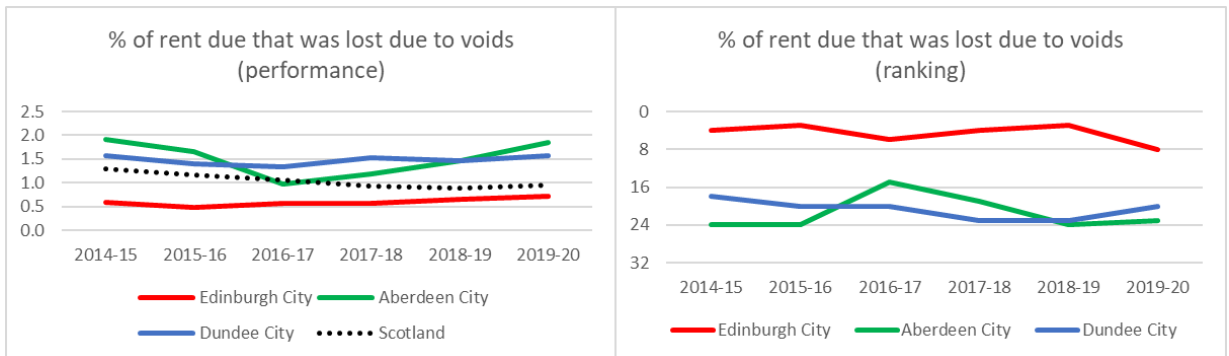
Chart 7: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with two comparable urban cities



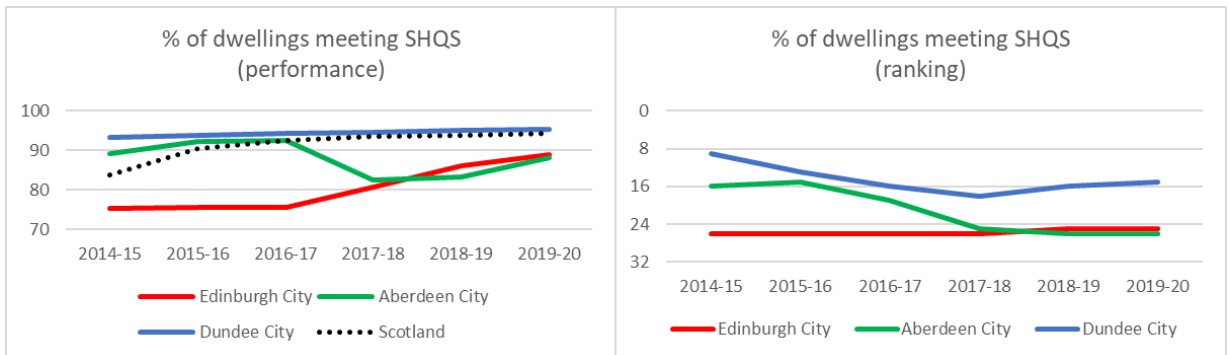
92. After showing decreases in Rent arrears as a % of rent due for the past two years, Edinburgh shows a slight rise in 2019/20. All three cities are above the Scottish average. Edinburgh's ranking declined from 15 to 18.



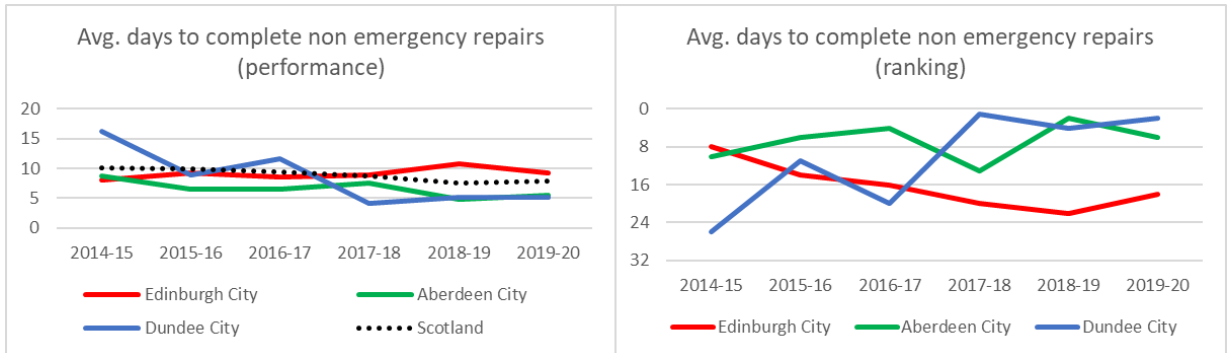
93. Void rent loss increased slightly in Edinburgh to 0.71% in 2019/20 from 0.65% in 2018/19, but performance is still below the Scottish average and is the best performance and ranking of the three cities.



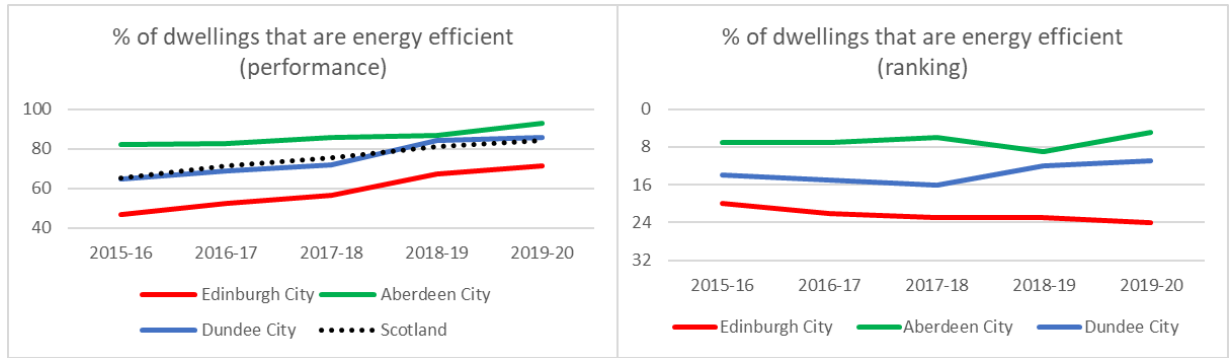
94. % of dwellings meeting SHQS has increased steadily over the last 5 years (from 75% in 15/16 to 89% in 2019/20) and matches Aberdeen's performance since 2017/18. Edinburgh is still below the Scottish average and the other city of Dundee.



95. There is an improvement on 2018/19 performance for completion of non-emergency repairs, but Edinburgh, at 9.17 days, is still above the Scottish average (of 7.8 days) and has the highest number of days of the three cities.



96. There has been steady performance over the last 5 years in % of dwellings that are energy efficient, but Edinburgh is still below the Scottish average and has the lowest performance and ranking of the three cities who have a Housing service.



Economic Development and Planning

97. There are ten LGBF indicators that relate to Economic Development and Planning.
98. For comparative ranking we have improved in 4, declined in 3 and maintained our ranking in 3. For performance we have improved in 4 and declined in 6.

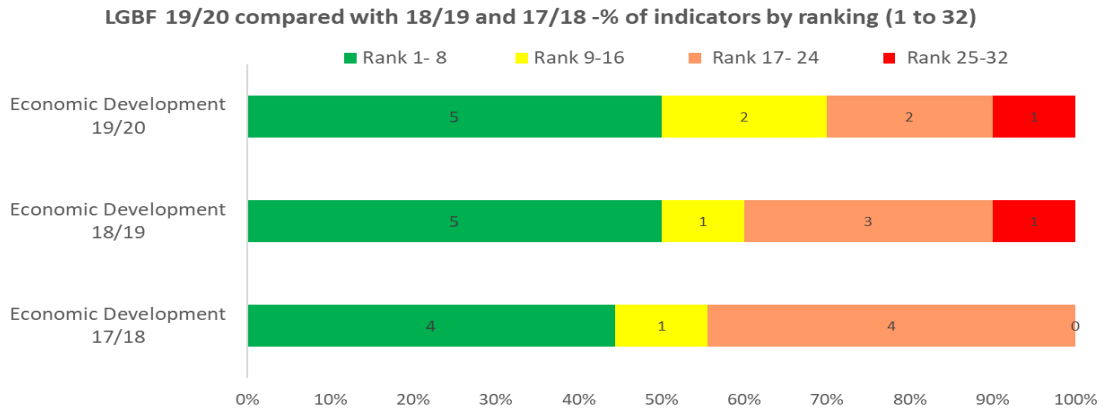
National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

99. Economic development and tourism expenditure have increased by 10% since 2010/11. This growth is driven by significant capital expenditure across this period reflecting the regional economic growth agenda. This has grown by 121% since 2010/11 but reduced by 22% in 2019/20. Capital expenditure now forms 42% of total economic development expenditure, compared to 21% in 2010/11. Since 2010/11, revenue expenditure has fallen by 19.7%, although has increased by 11.6% in 2019/20.
100. In terms of infrastructure for business, there is a 25% improvement in terms of efficiency in processing business and industry planning applications, reducing from 14 weeks to 10.5 weeks between 2012/13 and 2019/20. However, in 2019/20 this has shown a 16% increase, from 9 weeks to 10.5 weeks.
101. The cost per planning application has risen by 4.5% since 2010/11 but reduced by 3.6% in 2019/20. Across the period, the number of planning application received by local authorities has declined by 29%, including a 2.5% reduction in 2019/20. Meanwhile expenditure on planning has reduced by 26% since 2010/11, including a further 6% in 2019/20. Planning has seen some of the largest reductions in expenditure of all service areas.
102. Town vacancy rates have remained relatively stable across the period through challenging economic times, with figures currently at 11.7%. There has been a 23 percentage point increase in the availability of immediately available employment land, from 12.9% to 36.2% since 2014/15, but declining slightly in the 3 most recent years.
103. There has been continuous year-on-year improvement in the access to superfast broadband, now reaching 93% of properties.
104. The Business Gateway start-up rate has reduced from 19% to 16.4% across the period.
105. Councils continue to spend over 25% of their procurement on local enterprises. This has increased over recent years, to 28.5% in 2019/20. Given the pressures on council budgets this is a positive outcome as it suggests that the drive to reduce costs has not resulted in local enterprises being displaced by national suppliers of goods and services.

Economic Development – 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

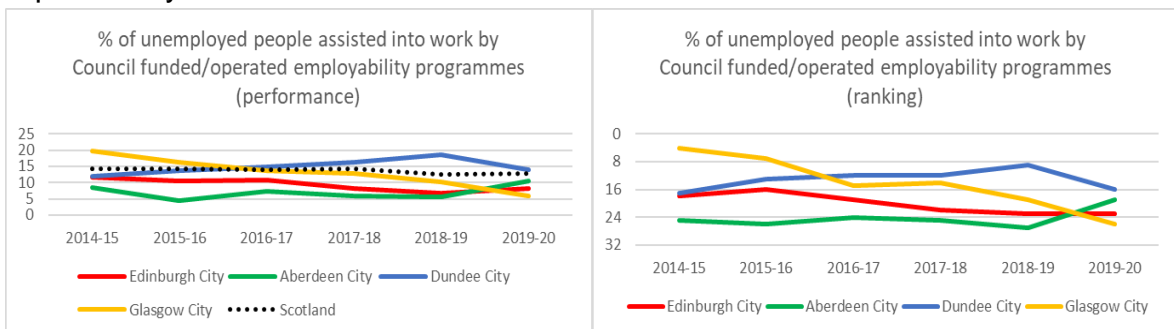
106. The proportion of Economic Development indicators that are ranked in the top two quartiles (so above the national average) increases in the last two years as shown in the chart below.

Chart 8: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities

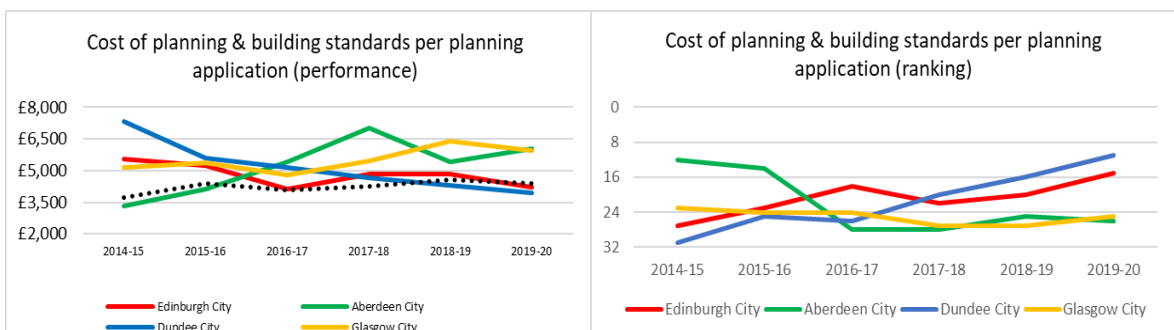


107. The indicators are part of the annual return to the Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development Group (SLAED) and it is widely recognised that Local Authorities are not responsible for delivering all of these services and performance cannot always be attributed to the actions taken by them.

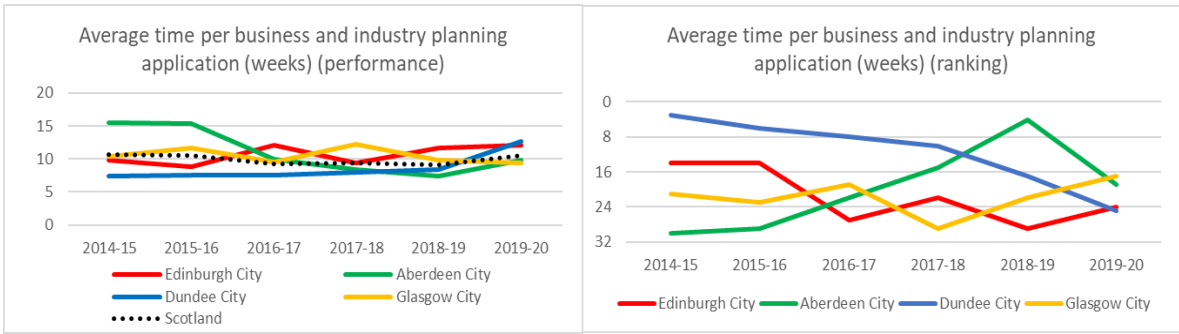
108. Performance in relation to % of unemployed people assisted into work by Council funded/operated employability programmes improved in 2019/20 but remains below the Scottish average. Ranking at 23, remained the same as the previous year.



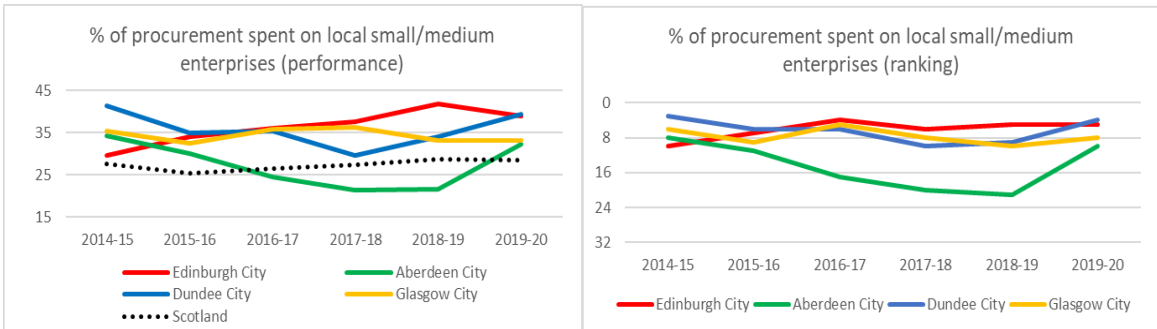
109. The Cost of planning & building standards reduced from £4,848 in 2018/19 to £4,194 in 2019/20 and is now below the Scottish average. Edinburgh's ranking continues to rise and sits in the second top quartile at 15 in 2019/20 from 20 in 2018/19.



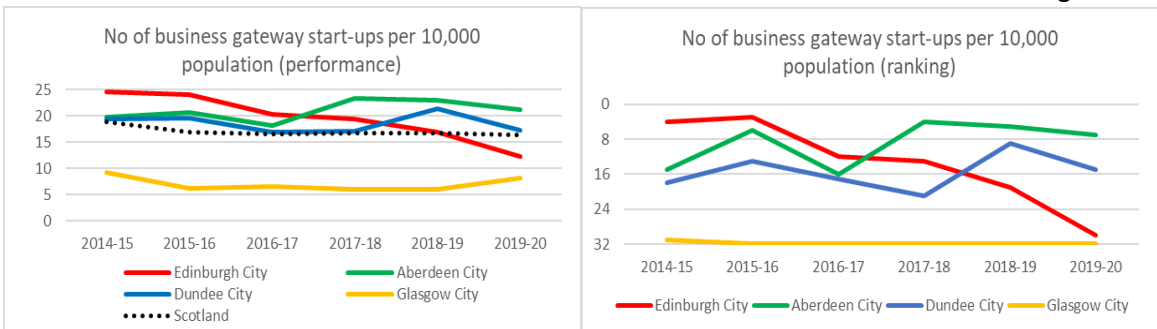
110. The average number of weeks to process business and industry planning applications increased slightly (to 12.64 weeks) and Edinburgh remains above the Scottish average (10.5 weeks). However, our ranking has risen from 29 to 24.



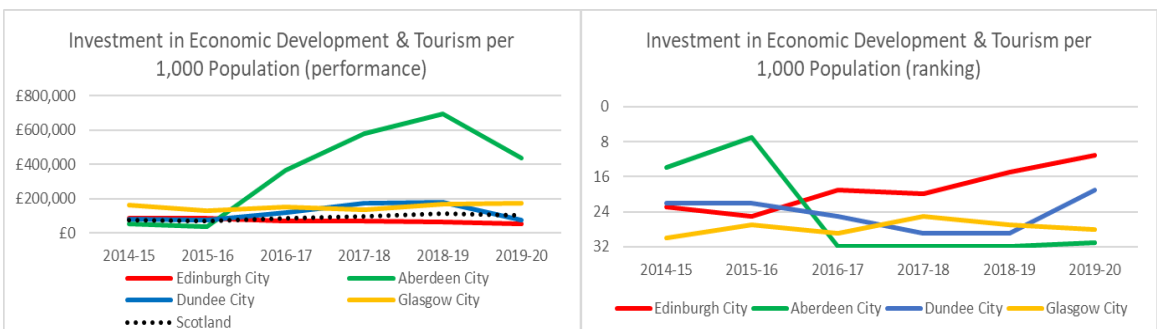
111. Edinburgh’s performance in % of procurement spent on local small/medium enterprises decreased slightly and is marginally behind Dundee but still well above the Scottish average. Ranking remains at 5 and consistently in the top quartile since 2015/16.



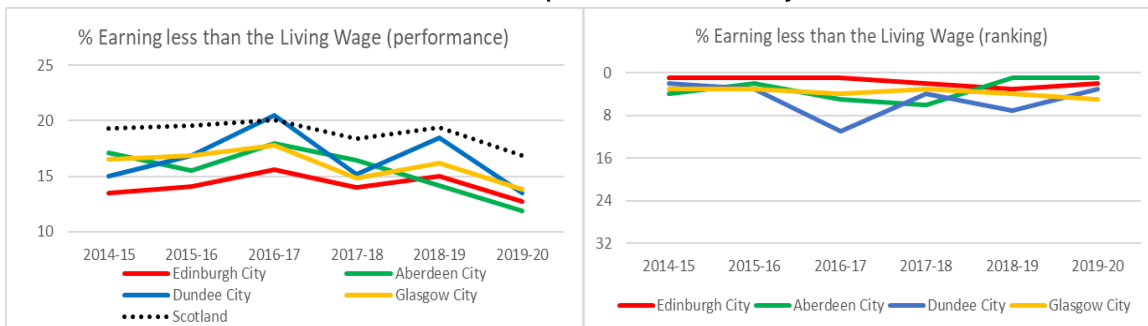
112. The number of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population in Edinburgh continues to fall at a greater rate than Aberdeen and Dundee. Edinburgh has fallen below the Scottish average for the first time but remains ahead of Glasgow. Edinburgh’s ranking has declined to 30 from a high of 3 in 2015/16. Similar to the national trend, Edinburgh diverted Business Gateway support to early stage growth companies who had the potential to innovate and create high value jobs. This coupled with a focus on providing a better ‘self-help’ service, enabling more potential start-ups to find the information they need without Advisor intervention means that recorded numbers have been decreasing.



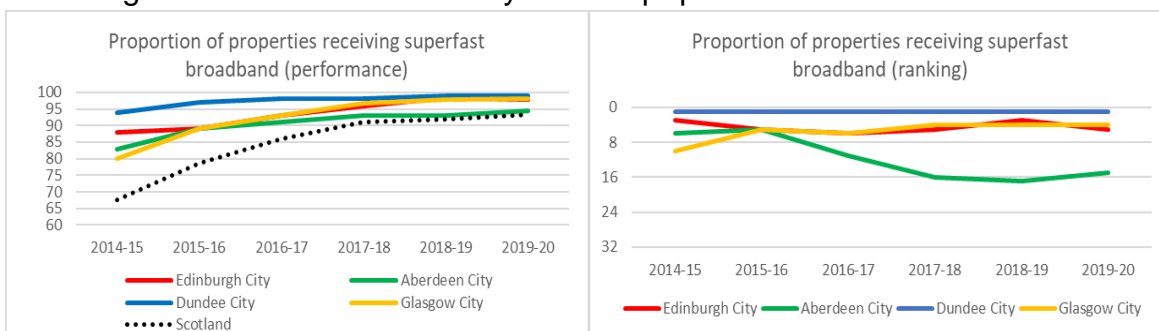
113. Investment in Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 Population in Edinburgh has reduced steadily over the last 5 years but our ranking has risen to 11 in 2019/20 from 15 in 2018/19.



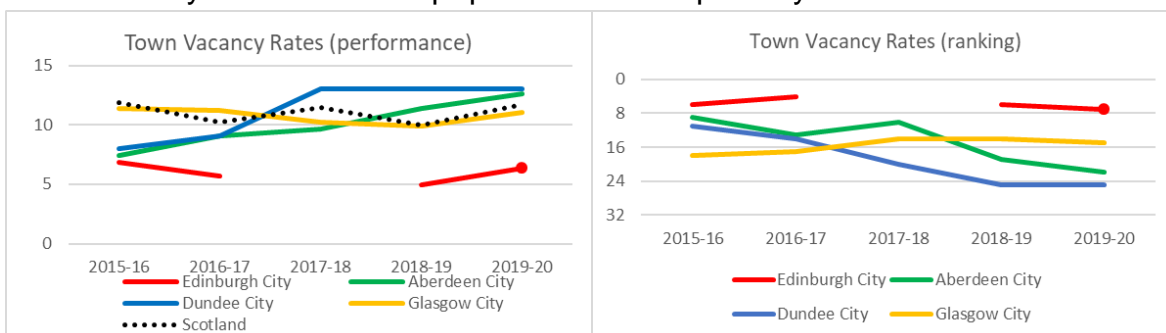
114. Performance in % Earning less than the Living Wage continues to improve in Edinburgh with only Aberdeen outperforming us out of the 4 cities. Edinburgh consistently sits below the Scottish average by around 4% (for 2019/20, Edinburgh was 12.7 compared to the Scottish average of 16.9). Edinburgh now ranks 2 and have remained in the top 3 for the last 6 years.



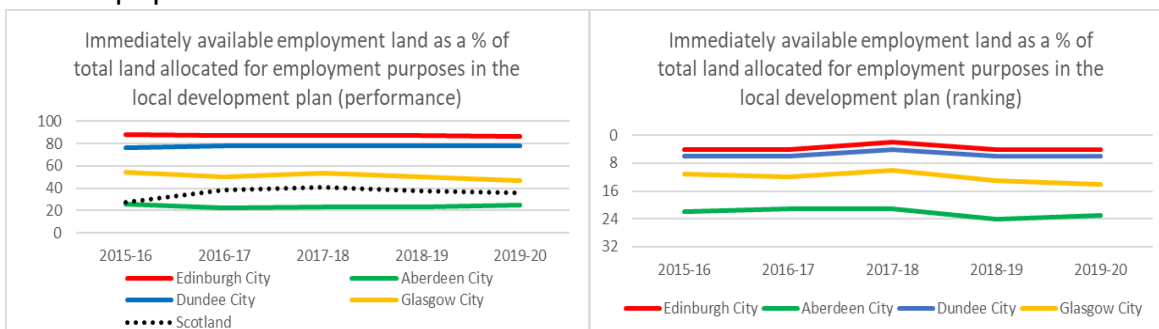
115. The trend across Scotland of the proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband has grown exponentially to 93.27% from 78.62% in 2014/15. Edinburgh has shown a continued steady increase in performance and our ranking has remained consistently in the top quartile.



116. Vacancy rates in Edinburgh increased slightly in 2019/20 but remain the lowest of the four cities and well below the Scottish average. Edinburgh is consistently ranked in the top quartile over the past 5 years.



117. Immediately available employment land has remained relatively static across all four cities over the last 6 years. Edinburgh's performance remains over 50% better than the Scottish average and ranking remains 4 and consistently in the top quartile.



Culture and Leisure Services

118. There are eight LGBF indicators that relate to the efficiency Culture and Leisure services.
119. For comparative ranking we have improved in 3, declined in 4 and maintained our ranking in 1. For performance we have improved in 5 and declined in 3.

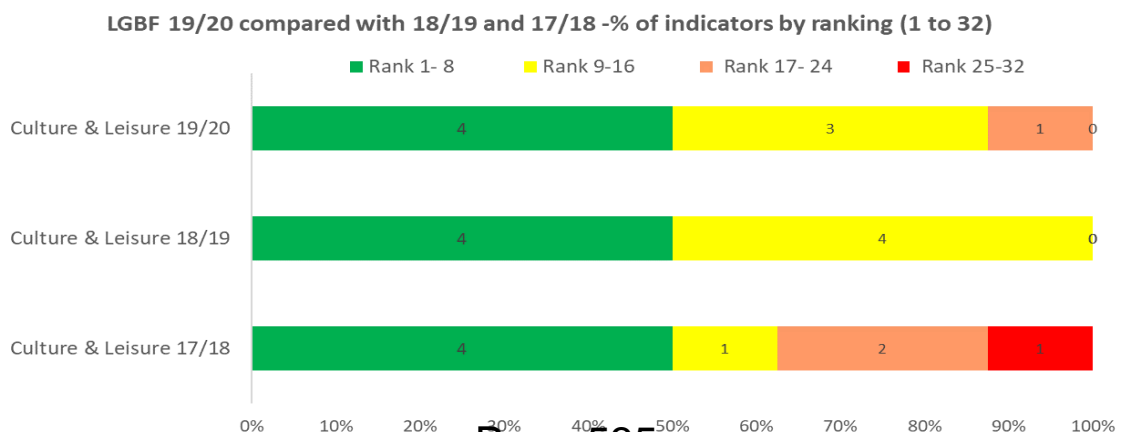
National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

120. There has been a real reduction in spend of 26.5% since 2010/11, leisure and cultural services have sharply increased their usage rates, partly driven by the expansion in digital provision, and reduced their costs per use. During this time the substantial increases in visitor numbers across sports (14%), libraries (41%), and museums (35%) have resulted in unit cost reductions of 35%, 50% and 34% respectively.
121. In the past 12 months, there has been a further 3.3% real reduction in spend, marking 8 years of reducing spend on culture and leisure services. Attendances to libraries and museums are still on the rise over the last 12 months, by 1.3% and 4% respectively, leading to a further reduction in cost per use. However, sports facilities have seen a 4.5% drop in attendances over the same period which moderates the effect of 3.2% reduction in spend and has resulted in a 1.3% increase in cost per attendance at sport facilities.
122. Public satisfaction rates have fallen for all culture and leisure services since 2010/11, except for parks and open spaces. Since the base year, satisfaction with libraries has reduced by 12 percentage points, museums and galleries by 7 percentage points, and leisure facilities by 7 percentage points. However, for the first time since 2010, satisfaction rates showed improvement in 2019/20, by 1.2 percentage points for libraries, 0.6 for parks and open spaces and 1.6 for museums and galleries.

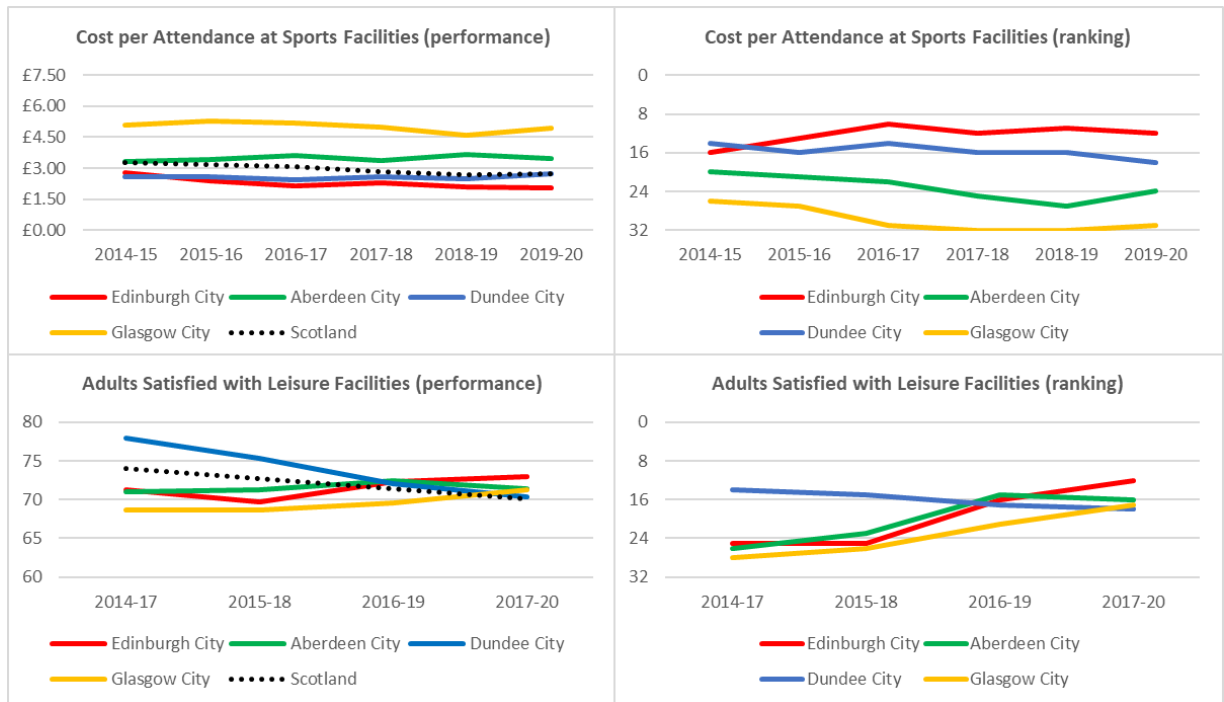
Culture and Leisure Service – 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

123. Almost all the Culture and Leisure indicators are ranked in the top two quartiles (so above the national average) for the last two years as shown in the chart below.

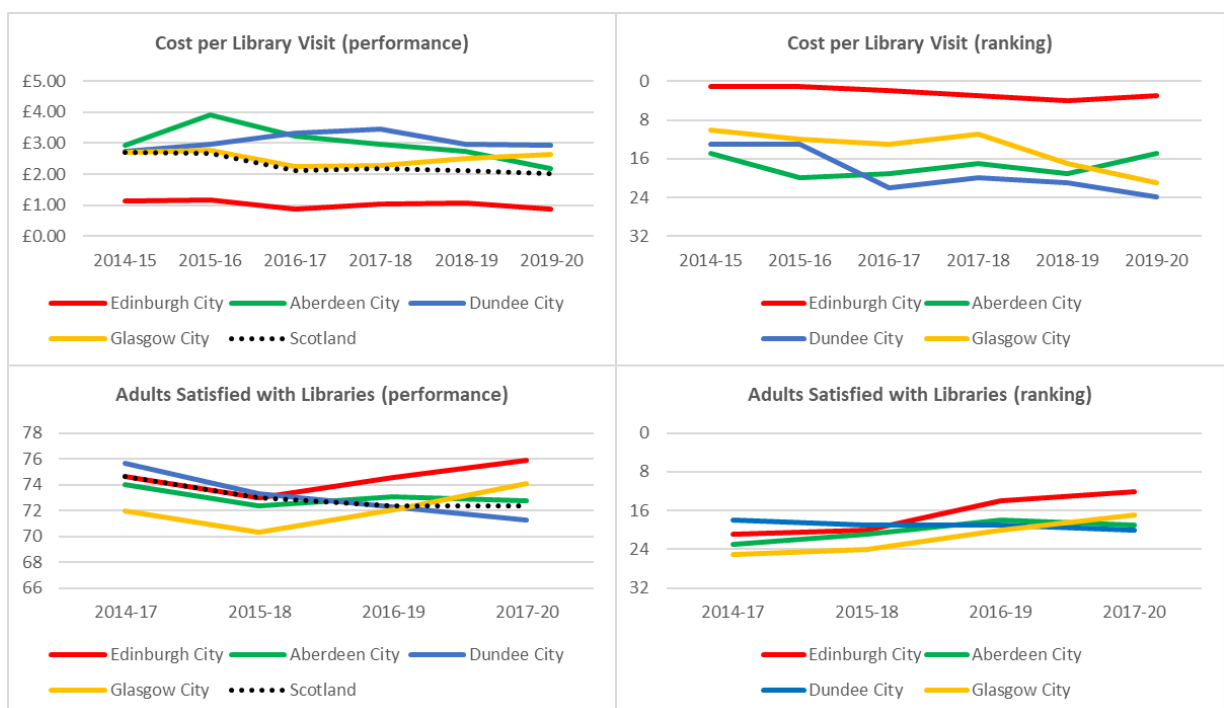
Chart 9: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities



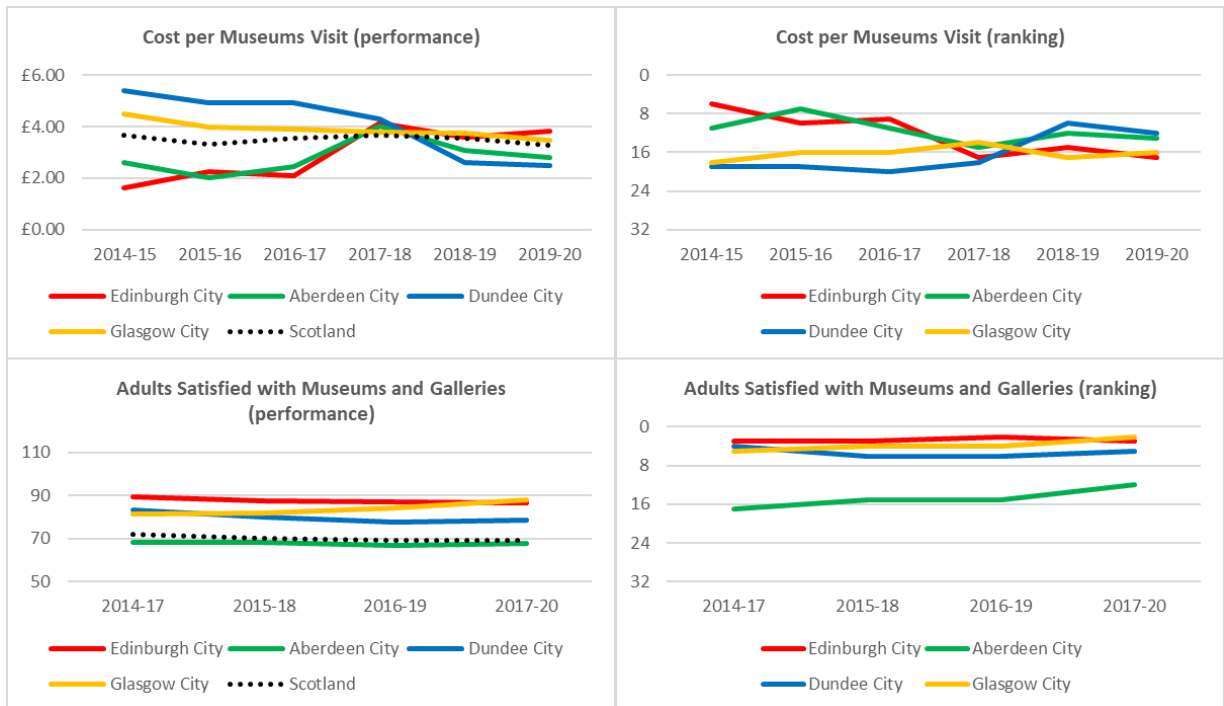
124. The cost to attend sports facilities in Edinburgh continues to show value for money and Edinburgh is performing and ranking best of all cities and below the Scottish average. Satisfaction with leisure facilities has increased over the last 5 years, and Edinburgh now leads performance in the four cities. Satisfaction is also above the Scottish average. Our ranking has risen from 25 to 12.



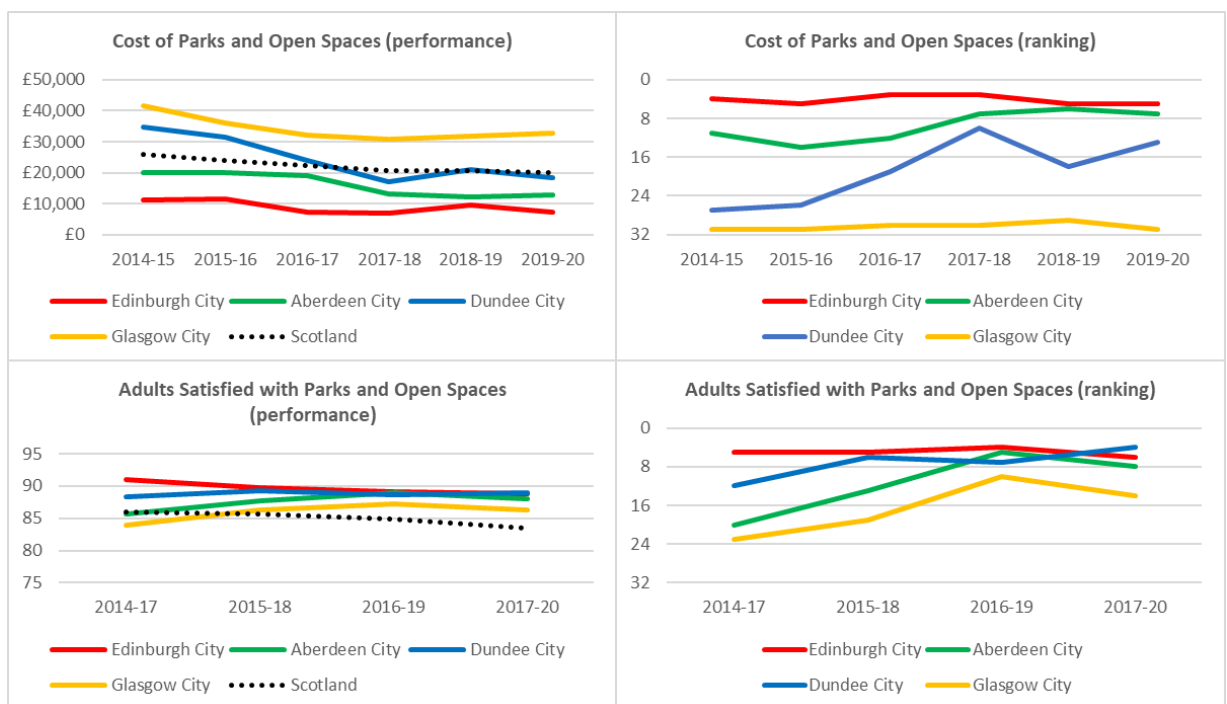
125. The cost to visit Libraries in Edinburgh continues to show value for money and Edinburgh shows the best performance and ranking of all four cities and is considerably below the Scottish average. As well as being cost efficient, there has been steady increase in satisfaction with Libraries in Edinburgh over the last 5 years, which is highest of the four cities and our ranking has risen from 20 to 12 over that time.



126. The cost to visit museums in Edinburgh is now the most expensive of the four cities and above the Scottish average. While satisfaction with Museums and Galleries has decreased slightly over the last 5 years, Edinburgh remains comparable with Glasgow with satisfaction well above the Scottish average. Edinburgh ranks consistently in the top quartile.



127. The cost of parks and open spaces in Edinburgh is still the most cost effective of all the four cities and is less than half the Scottish average. While satisfaction with parks and open spaces has decreased slightly over the last 5 years, Edinburgh remains comparable with Aberdeen and Dundee with satisfaction well above the Scottish average. Edinburgh ranks consistently in the top quartile, 5 for the last 2 years.



Financial Sustainability

128. This is a new section focusing on Council's financial sustainability and covers three areas:
- a. Reserves - giving an indication of how councils are placed to meet unforeseen events (2 indicators)
 - b. Cost of borrowing - highlighting the revenue implications of existing and proposed capital expenditure (2 indicators)
 - c. Budget management - giving an indication of financial management to ensure spending is accurately forecast and monitored within the year (1 indicator)
129. The five indicators are:
- d. Total useable reserves as a % of council annual budgeted revenue
 - e. Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue
 - f. Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream - General Fund
 - g. Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream - Housing Revenue Account
 - h. Actual outturn as a percentage of budgeted expenditure

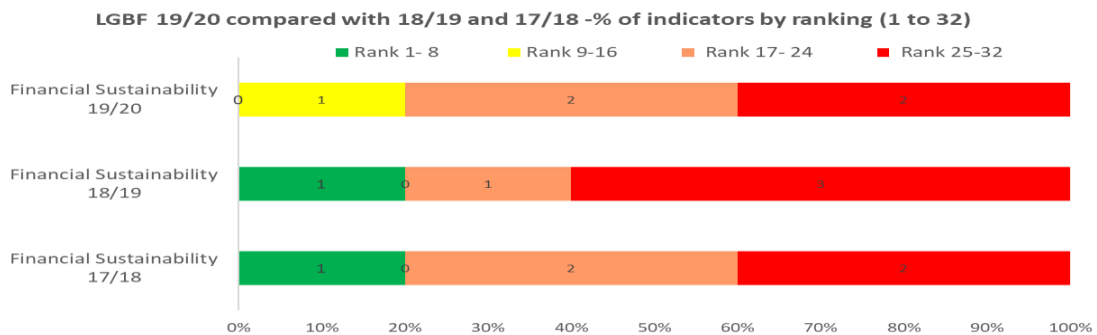
National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

130. From 2013/14, the proportion of income councils held in reserves has increased from 15.8% to 16.9%, showing that councils have added to their usable reserves across the period.
131. Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue has remained stable at around 4%, and is currently 3.8%, within the approved rate for such balances of 2% to 4%.
132. The proportion of council revenue income being used to service debt has fallen from 8.5% to 7.2% since 2013/14 (and from 25.9% to 22.6% for HRA). Factors driving this are likely to be implementation of the 2016 Loans Fund regulations which allowed the re-profiling of principal repayments over a longer period thus reducing the annual loan charges. Effective borrowing, reduced interest rates and possible reduced capital investment may also be factors.
133. Actual outturn as a percentage of budgeted expenditure has remained between 99% and 100% since 2013/14, showing slight but steady improvement across the period.

Financial Sustainability – 2019/20 Edinburgh indicator data

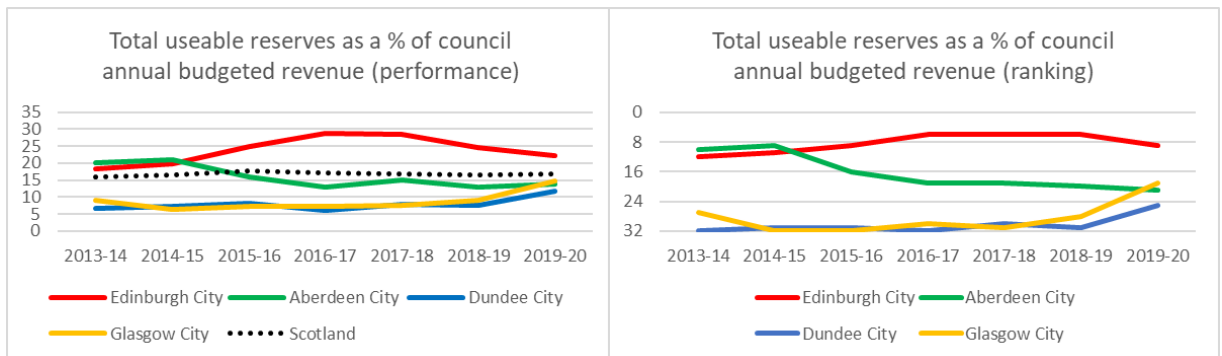
134. The rankings of the Financial Sustainability indicators are shown in the chart below.

Chart 10: 2019/20 Ranking quartiles for Edinburgh with three comparable urban cities

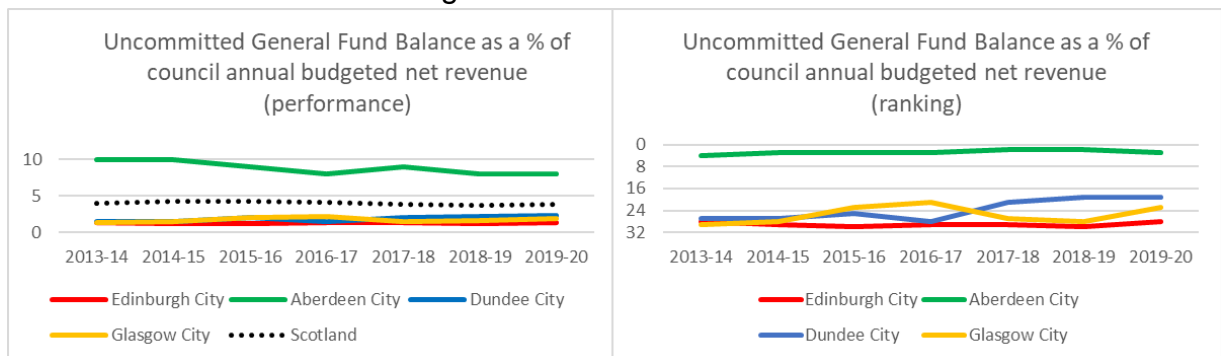


135. As this is the first year this data has been included in the LGBF dataset, the full timeseries is shown in the charts below.

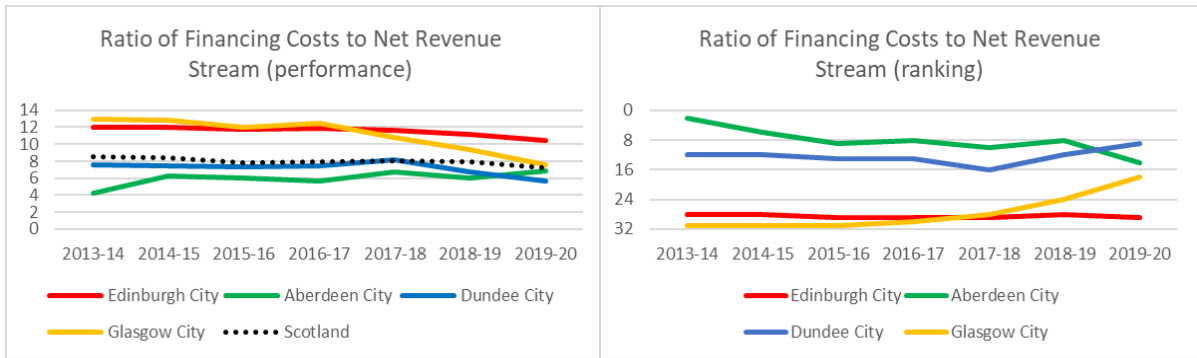
136. The total useable reserves as a % of council annual budgeted revenue indicator is ranked with closest to the median as 1 and furthest away as 32. Edinburgh shows a consistent higher proportion of Total Useable reserves as a proportion of council annual budgeted revenue than the other three cities and is above the Scottish Median.



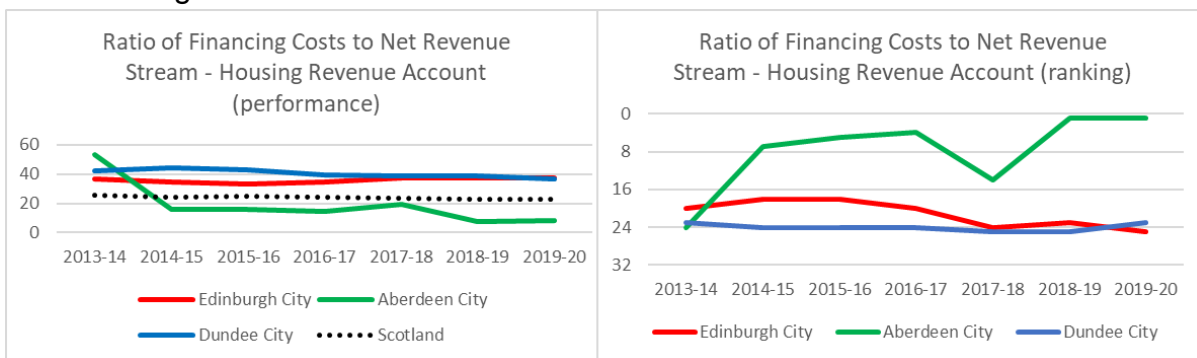
137. The Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budget net revenue indicator is ranked by closest to the approved rate for such balances of 2% to 4% (as recommended by Audit Scotland). All Councils that fall between 2 – 4% were given the rank of 1 with remaining Councils ranked using variance from this. Edinburgh, along with Glasgow and Dundee, shows a low level of Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budget net revenue, and is below the Scottish figure. As part of a wider realignment of the Council’s reserves approved in February 2021, however, the level of uncommitted balances has subsequently been increased from £13m to £25m and thus falls within the recommended range for such funds.



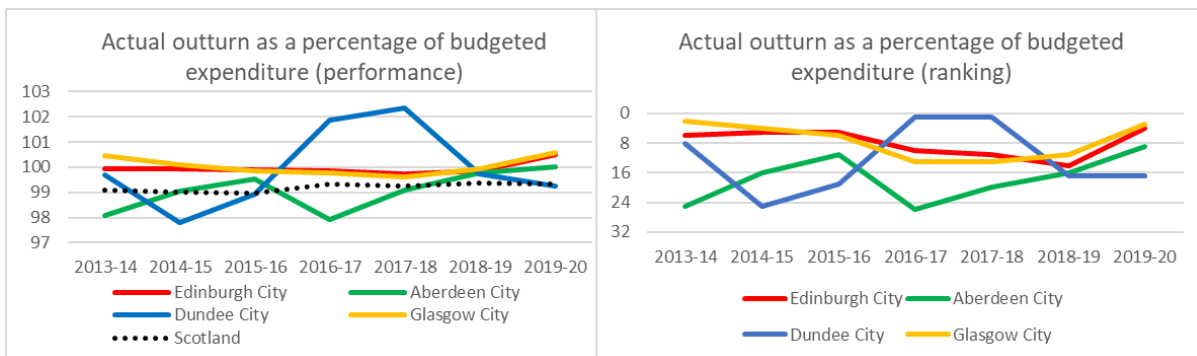
138. Edinburgh's ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue stream shows a gradual downward trend but remains above the Scottish figure. These costs are, however, fully reflected within the Council's budget framework.



139. Edinburgh's ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue stream (housing revenue account) has been level for the last three years and remains above the Scottish figure.



140. Edinburgh consistently shows close alignment between actual outturn and budgeted expenditure reporting performance between 99.75% to 100.48% across the timeseries.



Tackling Climate Change

141. This is a new section focusing on how Councils are tackling climate change.

142. Initially this section includes two high level indicators, but more indicators will be added to this section in future datasets. Data has been backdated to 2010/11 with the latest data available for 2018/19.

National trend analysis (extract of national overview report)

143. Given the significance of this major policy agenda for local government, work is underway to identify a suite of measures which could support Local Government in its efforts to contribute to national carbon reduction targets. As a starting point, two high-level measures on total CO2 emissions have been included this year – CO2 area wide emissions, and CO2 area wide emissions within scope of local authorities.

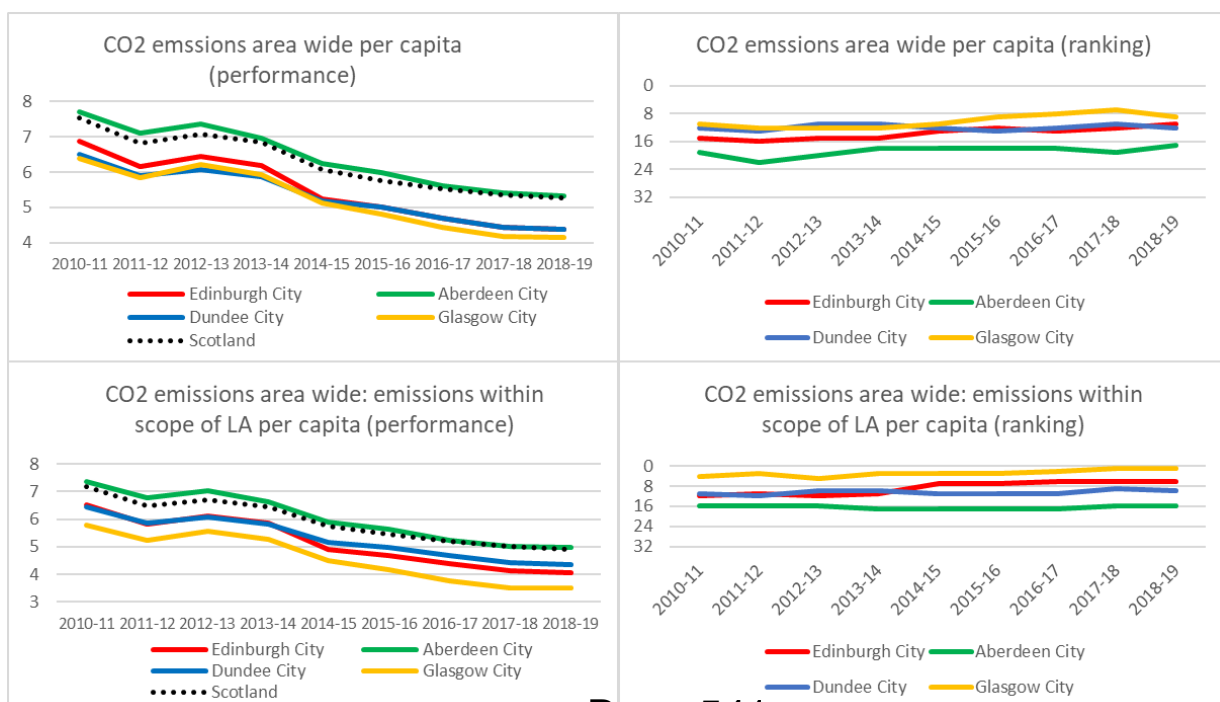
144. The area wide and within scope CO2 emissions measures follow a similar trend between 2010/11 and 2018/19, revealing a reduction in emissions of around 30%. Variation between authorities is significantly wider for area wide emissions (0.7 to 14.9) than for within scope emissions (3.5 to 7.9). Family Group analysis reveals a clear relationship with geography for within scope emissions, with rural authorities reporting significantly higher CO2 emissions. No such relationship is evident for area wide emissions.

Tackling Climate Change – 2019/20 Edinbrough indicator data

145. Edinburgh is in the top two quartiles for both the Tackling Climate Change indicators for the latest two years data (2017/18 and 2018/19).

146. As this is the first year of this data, the full timeseries is shown in the charts below.

147. Edinburgh shows a gradual reduction in both CO2 area wide emissions, and CO2 area wide emissions within scope of local authorities and sits below the Scottish average alongside Dundee. Edinburgh's ranking shows a gradual rise across the timeseries for both indicators.



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City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday 24 June 2021

Potential Retention of Spaces for People measures – referral from the Transport and Environment Committee

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. For Decision/Action

- 1.1 The City of Edinburgh Council is asked to approve the decision taken by the Transport and Environment Committee.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Veronica MacMillan, Committee Services, Strategy and Communications
Division, Chief Executive's Service

E-mail: veronica.macmillan@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 4283

Referral Report

Potential Retention of Spaces for People measures – referral from the Transport and Environment Committee

2. Terms of Referral

2.1 On 17 June 2021, the Transport and Environment Committee considered a report that set out the approach taken by the Council to consider the possible retention of Spaces for People (SfP) measures in the longer term to help meet Council priorities as set out in the recently approved Council Business Plan and City Mobility Plan.

2.2 Motion

- 1) To note that the measures introduced Note that measures introduced under the Spaces for People programme, using Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs), remained in place whilst the public health advice required physical distancing measures to manage the spread and impact of COVID-19. TTROs were kept under review in accordance with the legislation and there was ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland about the likely duration of the current measures and guidance.
- 2) To note the update in Appendix 1 of the report on the existing schemes.
- 3) To note the background to retaining some Spaces for People measures, the feedback received through the Market Research, Consultation and Stakeholder surveys carried out and the officer assessment of the existing Schemes.
- 4) To note the recommendations for each scheme, based on the categories set out in paragraphs 4.75 – 4.113 and individual schemes (as set out in Appendix 2) of the report.
- 5) To note that work would be undertaken to minimise those negative impacts on people with limited mobility, and to mitigate other impacts of schemes as appropriate.
- 6) To refer the report to the City of Edinburgh Council meeting on 24 June 2021 for approval of the recommendations on both the categories and individual schemes set out in the report, and commencement of necessary statutory processes for the schemes which were approved for retention.

- 7) To welcome the high level of public engagement through the consultation and to recognise the complexity of competing needs expressed around road space allocation, particularly in ensuring accessibility.
- 8) To note that officer recommendations were based on:
- Public consultation
 - Market Research
 - Stakeholder surveys
 - Assessment against previously agreed criteria
 - Assessment in light of existing transport policy and direction
- 9) To better reflect the consultation responses of residents and businesses, in particular where feedback had been fairly definitive in the views of respondents, Committee agreed to:
- Remove the scheme at Lanark Road, as one of this scheme's main purposes was to relieve lockdown pressure on the water of Leith paths. However requests that officers retained the speed limit at 30mph which had improved safety for all residents and considered any actions to minimise conflict for all Water of Leith path-users at this section and to improve winter travelling conditions in this location.
 - Ask officers to further engage with the local residents and community representatives ahead of an ETRO to further address resident parking pressure along the Longstone Corridor.
 - Bring a report to the September 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on options for modifications to Silverknowes Road South, including possible removal of the scheme.
 - Bring a report to the August 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on options for Comiston Road, to improve public transport connectivity and reduce impacts on local residents.
 - Bring a report to the August 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on options for modifications to Drum Brae North based on the concerns expressed through the public engagement.
 - Bring a report to the September Transport and Environment Committee on options for retaining Forrest Road and George IV Bridge, based on the support identified in the consultation, until the permanent scheme can be implemented- including options to accelerate the delivery of those schemes.
 - Bring a report to the August 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on Braid Road, with options for the reopening of the road in both directions, including analysis of impacts on traffic levels, resident connectivity and vulnerable road users walking, wheeling and cycling.
 - Improve signage at West Harbour Road/West Shore Road to more clearly inform motorists of the closure and increase disabled parking bays at the closed point to improve disabled access.

- 10) To approve the remaining recommendations for schemes as set out in the report however to also agree to:
- Continue to work with Living Streets, local businesses and the access panel to explore long term replacements for the Shopping Streets schemes being removed to give adequate safe space for pedestrians.
 - Continue to make any changes required to improve safety and accessibility for residents and disabled people for all other schemes progressing to an ETRO through those statutory processes.
 - Recognise the importance of engagement in communities as schemes go through the ETRO, particularly in protecting vulnerable road users.
- 11) To request that detail of the ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland on the duration of these measures be reported back to Committee each cycle to validate the need for the retention of the Spaces for People measures.
- 12) To note that Edinburgh had an opportunity after the pandemic to lead a green recovery, as was being seen in capitals across Europe. The measures introduced by Spaces for People were one element of our opportunity, giving Edinburgh a chance to re-think the way public spaces were allocated and utilised, experimenting with change, and working collaboratively and inclusively with all members of society to improve our city whilst responding to the climate crisis. Taking Spaces for People measures as a starting point, embracing the feedback and engagement from our residents and stakeholders, and using this moment as a chance to innovate and recover from the pandemic, would make Edinburgh a stronger, more prosperous, and greener capital city
- moved by Councillor Macinnes, seconded by Councillor Doran

Amendment 1

- 1) To note it was the intention that the measures introduced under the existing Spaces for People Programme, under Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) be retained while public health advice continued to advocate maintaining physical distancing measures.
- 2) To request that detail of the ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland on the duration of these measures be reported back to Committee each cycle to validate the need for the retention of the Spaces for People measures.
- 3) To note the update in Appendix 1 of the report on the existing schemes.

- 4) To note the concerns raised by the deputations drawing our attention to the flaws in both the citywide consultation and the City of Edinburgh Council commissioned market research.
- 5) To agree that the outcome of the city-wide consultation, which contained the clearly stated views of Edinburgh residents and businesses with over 17,600 responses, (and NOT the market research), formed the basis of the decision making on the retention or removal of the current Spaces for People Schemes as was agreed at Committee in January 2021 as noted in the Annex to this motion.
- 6) To note that to date any work to minimise the impact on people with limited mobility and other disabilities, including sensory impairments, had fallen short of what was required, and had led to incidences of isolation, loneliness and mental health issues.
- 7) To refer the report to the City of Edinburgh Council meeting on 24th June 2021 for approval of the revised recommendations as per 1.1.5 and for commencement of the statutory processes and the localised development of the necessary school schemes that gained public support.
- 8) To consider that any individual measures that officers sought to adapt or partly implement that were previously Spaces for People schemes should be brought forward through a full Traffic Regulation Order process (as opposed to further experimentation) with an assessment of impact on the overall transport network and a full equalities impact assessment.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Smith

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), paragraph 2 of Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Amendment 2

- 1) To note that the measures introduced under the Spaces for People programme, using Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs), remained in place whilst the public health advice required physical distancing measures to manage the spread and impact of COVID-19. TTROs were kept under review in accordance with the legislation and there was ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland about the likely duration of the current measures and guidance.
- 2) To note the update in Appendix 1 of the report on the existing schemes.
- 3) To note the background to retaining some Spaces for People measures, the feedback received through the Market Research, Consultation and Stakeholder surveys carried out and the officer assessment of the existing Schemes.

- 4) To note the recommendations for each scheme, based on the categories set out in paragraphs 4.75 – 4.113 and individual schemes (as set out in Appendix 2) of the report.
 - 5) To agree to refer the report and the proposed recommendations to the 24 June 2021 meeting of the Council for decision.
- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Child

Amendment 3

- 1) To note that Edinburgh had an opportunity after the pandemic to lead a green recovery, as was being seen in capitals across Europe. The measures introduced by Spaces for People were one element of our opportunity, giving Edinburgh a chance to re-think the way public spaces were allocated and utilised, experimenting with change, and working collaboratively and inclusively with all members of society to improve our city whilst responding to the climate crisis. Taking Spaces for People measures as a starting point, embracing the feedback and engagement from our residents and stakeholders, and using this moment as a chance to innovate and recover from the pandemic, would make Edinburgh a stronger, more prosperous, and greener capital city.
- 2) To note that the measures introduced Note that measures introduced under the Spaces for People programme, using Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs), remained in place whilst the public health advice required physical distancing measures to manage the spread and impact of COVID-19. TTROs were kept under review in accordance with the legislation and there was ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland about the likely duration of the current measures and guidance.
- 3) To note the update in Appendix 1 of the report on the existing schemes.
- 4) To note the background to retaining some Spaces for People measures, the feedback received through the Market Research, Consultation and Stakeholder surveys carried out and the officer assessment of the existing Schemes.
- 5) To agree, in response to officer recommendations on schemes by category (report paragraphs 4.75-4.113) :
 - Retain schools measures during the summer in locations where schools would be the venue for activities for children and young people
 - Identify solutions in collaboration with Sciennes Primary School to use Sciennes Road as per the specific issues raised by the deputation
 - Regarding city centre, in dialogue with relevant authorities, identify ways to bridge between the SFP measures and the final Meadows-

George Street scheme to avoid removal of measures on George IV Bridge and Forrest Road

- Retain shopping streets and protected cycle lanes and to commit to co-production of improvements and changes that mitigate the issues raised, prioritising accessibility and improvements benefiting disabled people
 - Retain leisure and quiet connections including Links Gardens and two-way closure of Braid Road by taking additional measures and actions to mitigate displacement
 - Retain measures that were recently implemented and scheduled for assessment, to enable complete consideration of the benefits or disbenefits
- 6) To note that work would be undertaken to minimise those negative impacts on people with limited mobility, and to mitigate other impacts of schemes as appropriate.
- 7) To refer the report to the City of Edinburgh Council meeting on 24 June 2021 for approval of the recommendations on both the categories and individual schemes set out in the report, and commencement of necessary statutory processes for the schemes which were approved for retention.
- 8) To thank organisations representing disabled people for engaging with the council, to note the issues raised, to call for officers to implement the feedback, including but not limited to Guide Dogs Scotland Covid-19 street design guidance and RNIB Coronavirus Courtesy Code with a special emphasis on the routine use of tactile paving and fully accessible consultations.
- 9) To note the previous decision to provide more pedestrian priority at signalled crossings and removal of pavement clutter, and to undertake to implement both at pace.
- 10) To agree that dedicated spaces for walking, wheeling and cycling were a priority for surface improvements and to agree regular clearing to keep free of leaves, grit and snow/ice; and for sustained enforcement to ensure vehicles were not encroaching on dedicated space.

- moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Corbett

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), paragraph 1 of Amendment 3 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

First Vote

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted) - 5 votes

- For Amendment 1 - 3 votes
For Amendment 2 - 1 vote
For Amendment 3 - 2 votes

(For the motion (as adjusted) – Councillors Bird, Child, Doran, Key and Macinnes,
For Amendment 1 (as adjusted) – Councillors Bruce, Smith and Whyte

For Amendment 2 – Councillor Lang

For Amendment 3 – Councillors Corbett and Miller)

There being no overall majority, Amendment 2 fell and a second vote was taken between the Motion, Amendment 1 and Amendment 3

Second Vote

The voting was as follows:

- For the motion (as adjusted) - 5 votes
For Amendment 1 - 3 votes
For Amendment 3 - 2 votes

(For the motion (as adjusted) – Councillors Bird, Child, Doran, Key, and Macinnes.

For Amendment 1 – Councillors Bruce, Smith and Whyte

For Amendment 3 – Councillors Corbett and Miller

Abstention - Councillor Lang)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Macinnes:

- 1) To note that the measures introduced Note that measures introduced under the Spaces for People programme, using Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs), remained in place whilst the public health advice required physical distancing measures to manage the spread and impact of COVID-19. TTROs were kept under review in accordance with the legislation and there was ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland about the likely duration of the current measures and guidance.
- 2) To note the update in Appendix 1 of the report on the existing schemes.
- 3) To note the background to retaining some Spaces for People measures, the feedback received through the Market Research, Consultation and Stakeholder surveys carried out and the officer assessment of the existing Schemes.
- 4) To note the recommendations for each scheme, based on the categories set out in paragraphs 4.75 – 4.113 and individual schemes (as set out in Appendix 2) of the report.

- 5) To note that work would be undertaken to minimise those negative impacts on people with limited mobility, and to mitigate other impacts of schemes as appropriate.
 - 6) To refer the report to the City of Edinburgh Council meeting on 24 June 2021 for approval of the recommendations on both the categories and individual schemes set out in the report, and commencement of necessary statutory processes for the schemes which were approved for retention.
 - 7) To welcome the high level of public engagement through the consultation and to recognise the complexity of competing needs expressed around road space allocation, particularly in ensuring accessibility.
 - 8) To note that officer recommendations were based on:
 - Public consultation
 - Market Research
 - Stakeholder surveys
 - Assessment against previously agreed criteria
 - Assessment in light of existing transport policy and direction
- 11) To better reflect the consultation responses of residents and businesses, in particular where feedback had been fairly definitive in the views of respondents, Committee agreed to:
- Remove the scheme at Lanark Road, as one of this scheme's main purposes was to relieve lockdown pressure on the water of Leith paths. However requests that officers retained the speed limit at 30mph which had improved safety for all residents and considered any actions to minimise conflict for all Water of Leith path-users at this section and to improve winter travelling conditions in this location.
 - Ask officers to further engage with the local residents and community representatives ahead of an ETRO to further address resident parking pressure along the Longstone Corridor.
 - Bring a report to the September 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on options for modifications to Silverknowes Road South, including possible removal of the scheme.
 - Bring a report to the August 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on options for Comiston Road, to improve public transport connectivity and reduce impacts on local residents.
 - Bring a report to the August 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on options for modifications to Drum Brae North based on the concerns expressed through the public engagement.
 - Bring a report to the September Transport and Environment Committee on options for retaining Forrest Road and George IV Bridge, based on the support identified in the consultation, until the permanent scheme can be implemented- including options to accelerate the delivery of those schemes.

- Bring a report to the August 2021 Transport and Environment Committee on Braid Road, with options for the reopening of the road in both directions, including analysis of impacts on traffic levels, resident connectivity and vulnerable road users walking, wheeling and cycling.
 - Improve signage at West Harbour Road/West Shore Road to more clearly inform motorists of the closure and increase disabled parking bays at the closed point to improve disabled access.
- 12) To approve the remaining recommendations for schemes as set out in the report however to also agree to:
- Continue to work with Living Streets, local businesses and the access panel to explore long term replacements for the Shopping Streets schemes being removed to give adequate safe space for pedestrians.
 - Continue to make any changes required to improve safety and accessibility for residents and disabled people for all other schemes progressing to an ETRO through those statutory processes.
 - Recognise the importance of engagement in communities as schemes go through the ETRO, particularly in protecting vulnerable road users.
- 13) To request that detail of the ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland on the duration of these measures be reported back to Committee each cycle to validate the need for the retention of the Spaces for People measures.
- 14) To note that Edinburgh had an opportunity after the pandemic to lead a green recovery, as was being seen in capitals across Europe. The measures introduced by Spaces for People were one element of our opportunity, giving Edinburgh a chance to re-think the way public spaces were allocated and utilised, experimenting with change, and working collaboratively and inclusively with all members of society to improve our city whilst responding to the climate crisis. Taking Spaces for People measures as a starting point, embracing the feedback and engagement from our residents and stakeholders, and using this moment as a chance to innovate and recover from the pandemic, would make Edinburgh a stronger, more prosperous, and greener capital city

3. Background Reading/ External References

- 3.1 [Webcast of the Transport and Environment Committee - 17 June 2021](#)

4. Appendices

- 4.1 Appendix 1 – Conservative Annex A
- 4.2 Appendix 2 – Report by the Executive Director of Place

Annex A – Extract from the Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport and Environment Committee of January 2021 - Appendix 1

“To note the intention to review the current measures to determine if it would be beneficial to retain or adapt them to support the Council’s wider strategic objectives. The arrangements for doing so were set out in paragraphs 4.30 – 4.33 and in Appendix 3 of the report and it was intended to update Committee on this in April 2021.

Potential Scheme Retention

4.30 There are strong strategic reasons to continue or adapt existing schemes to align with the aims and objectives of the Council’s Local Transport Strategy, draft City Mobility Plan, the Active Travel Action Plan 2016, and the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation programme to protect vulnerable road users, provide opportunities for active travel and/or improve safety on the street environment.

4.31 It is therefore proposed to assess the existing SfP measures to determine whether it is appropriate to retain or adapt measures beyond the period of the pandemic using separate legal powers.

4.32 Assessment considerations have been developed to determine if it would be appropriate to retain existing SfP projects, or elements of them. In most cases retention would initially be for a limited period on an experimental basis aligned with the economic recovery, in order to monitor how the city’s transport network is used and to ensure that there is protection for active travel modes. This is likely to mean Page 110the use of Experimental TRO (ETRO) powers as opposed to continuation of using TTRO powers. Draft considerations are set out in Appendix 3.

4.33 In parallel with the assessment of projects discussed above, it is proposed to carry out a consultation exercise to seek views on the retention or adaptation of appropriate measures. Following the consultation and assessment, it is intended to bring an update on this to Committee in April 2021.”

Moved by: Councillor Susan Webber
Seconded by: Councillor Stephanie Smith

Transport and Environment Committee

Appendix 1

10.00am, Thursday, 17 June 2021

Potential retention of Spaces for People measures

Executive/routine Wards Council Commitments	Executive All 16, 18
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1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Transport and Environment Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note that measures introduced under the Spaces for People programme, using Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs), remain in place while the public health advice requires physical distancing measures to manage the spread and impact of COVID-19. TTROs are kept under review in accordance with the legislation and there is ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland about the likely duration of the current measures and guidance;
 - 1.1.2 Note the update in Appendix 1 on the existing schemes;
 - 1.1.3 Note the background to retaining some Spaces for People measures, the feedback received through the Market Research, Consultation and Stakeholder surveys carried out and the officer assessment of the existing schemes;
 - 1.1.4 Note the recommendations for each scheme, based on the categories set out in paragraphs 4.75 – 4.113 and individual schemes (as set out in Appendix 2);
 - 1.1.5 Note that work will be undertaken to minimise those negative impacts on people with limited mobility, and to mitigate other impacts of schemes as appropriate; and

1.1.6 Refer this report to the City of Edinburgh Council meeting on 24 June 2021 for approval of the recommendations on both the categories and individual schemes set out in this report, and commencement of necessary statutory processes for the schemes which are approved for retention.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Gareth Barwell, Head of Place Management

E-mail: Gareth.barwell@edinburgh.gov.uk

Potential retention of Spaces for People measures

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report sets out the approach taken by the Council to consider the possible retention of Spaces for People (SfP) measures in the longer term to help meet Council priorities as set out in the recently approved Council Business Plan and City Mobility Plan.
- 2.2 The results of the consultation and scheme assessments are set out below and in the report Appendices with recommendations on the retention and removal of measures.

3. Background

- 3.1 On [14 May 2020](#) Policy and Sustainability Committee approved criteria to be used to create temporary walking and cycling infrastructure schemes and the notification process for the introduction of these schemes.
- 3.2 The Scottish Government's SfP programme was introduced in May 2020 to protect Public Health, reduce the likelihood of danger to the public and provide safe options for essential journeys. The City of Edinburgh Council received funding of £5.25m for SfP schemes in the city.
- 3.3 Regular updates on the introduction of schemes and on changes proposed following scheme reviews have been presented to the Transport and Environment Committee. The most recent update was in [April 2021](#).
- 3.4 The current public health guidance in response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) still includes the requirement to maintain physical distancing to prevent the spread of the virus. The measures introduced under Spaces for People (SfP) between April 2020 and May 2021 have been in place under Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs). The public health guidance, and associated guidance from Transport Scotland, remains in place. TTROs are required to be kept under review and this will continue while the public health requirements remain in place. This ongoing review will include liaising with Transport Scotland in relation to the likely duration of the guidance and the SfP programme.
- 3.5 Appendix 1 provides an update on the existing schemes and the recommendations from the recent scheme reviews.

- 3.6 On [28 January 2021](#) Transport and Environment Committee noted the intention to review the current measures to determine if it would be beneficial to retain or adapt them to support the Council's wider strategic objectives, as set out in the [report](#).

4. Main report

Strategic Context

- 4.1 The SfP schemes are temporary measures, introduced specifically to provide more space for walking, wheeling and cycling as a response to the Coronavirus pandemic. In some cases, it is considered that the design and scope of the schemes also has the potential in the longer term to support:
- 4.1.1 The Council [Business Plan](#) priorities on net zero carbon and wellbeing; and
 - 4.1.2 The aims of the [City Mobility Plan](#), the [Active Travel Action Plan 2016](#), and the [Edinburgh City Centre Transformation](#) programme which set out a path for transport in the city that helps tackle climate change, address poverty and inequality and improve safety, health and wellbeing.
- 4.2 A core aspect of the Council's response to the climate emergency is an aim for Edinburgh to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030. To achieve this, action to encourage more people to choose active travel and public transport over private car use will be required.
- 4.3 In the recently published [Edinburgh by Numbers](#) survey, 73% of people across Edinburgh are very concerned about the climate emergency, indicating that support for action amongst residents is high.
- 4.4 Within this strategic context, Transport and Environment Committee agreed to assess all of the existing SfP measures to determine whether it would be appropriate to retain or adapt measures beyond the period of the pandemic.
- 4.5 In order to assess the existing measures, there were four key elements of the review carried out:
- 4.5.1 Market Research;
 - 4.5.2 Resident Survey; and
 - 4.5.3 Business and Stakeholder Surveys; and
 - 4.5.4 Officer assessment of measures against the agreed priorities of the Council.

Approach to Consultation

- 4.6 To capture as wide a range of feedback as possible, the consultation approach included surveys of residents, businesses and stakeholders (on the Council's Consultation Hub website) as well as market research.
- 4.7 To ensure accessibility for a wide range of people, the consultation was made available in a range of formats such as regular print, large print, braille and translation into other languages. A British Sign Language video was also displayed on the project website to further widen access to people with hearing loss.
- 4.8 The consultation and market research questions focused on three key areas:

- 4.8.1 How much people supported or opposed retaining various types of measure, across a five point range from strongly support to strongly oppose;
 - 4.8.2 What people considered to be the main benefits or disadvantages of retaining measures, with equal weight and prominence given to both opposing aspects of potential responses; and
 - 4.8.3 Which measures people would especially like to see retained or removed.
- 4.9 In addition, respondents were also asked what forms of transport they had used on streets with measures in place, and how they had travelled around Edinburgh before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - 4.10 There was criticism during the consultation that some of the schemes included for feedback were not yet fully implemented. In such cases, the survey provided brief information on all of the proposed measures and the measures were also shown on a map linked from the consultation webpage.
 - 4.11 A petition against safety measures was published on www.change.org and has 16,809 signatories.

Results from Market Research and Consultation Hub Surveys

Introduction

- 4.12 The market research was carried out by independent consultants, SMG and Jump Research, on behalf of the Council in accordance with market research industry standards. 583 responses were received. The purpose of the market research was to complement the consultation responses, which are self-selecting, by securing a statistically representative sample of the views of Edinburgh residents.
- 4.13 Surveys for residents and businesses were launched on the Council's Consultation Hub. Around 17,600 people responded to the survey for residents and 179 businesses responded.
- 4.14 The results of the feedback received are summarised below and provided in more detail in the Appendix 6.

Support for/Opposition to Retaining Spaces for People Measures

- 4.15 Tables 1a to 1c summarise responses to a question about overall levels of support for retaining the various types of measure introduced under the Spaces for People programme.

Table 1: How much do you support or oppose retaining the following types of measure as a means of achieving longer term Council objectives? (%)

1A. Market research results - residents

	Support or strongly support	'Neither' or 'don't know'	Oppose or strongly oppose
Schools measures	65	19	16
Protected cycle lanes	59	14	27
Shopping streets	59	18	23
City centre	61	16	23
Leisure connections	51	20	29
Quiet connections'	45	26	29

1B. Consultation Hub responses - Individuals

	Support or strongly support	'Neither' nor 'don't know'	Oppose or strongly oppose
Schools measures	48	12	40
Protected cycle lanes	38	6	56
Shopping streets	37	9	54
City centre	42	12	46
Leisure connections	35	7	58
Quiet connections'	32	13	55

1C. Consultation Hub responses - Businesses

	Support or strongly support	'Neither' or 'don't know'	Oppose or strongly oppose
Schools measures	28	17	55
Protected cycle lanes	22	8	70
Shopping streets	19	9	72
City centre	24	13	63
Leisure connections	18	11	71
Quiet connections'	14	19	67

- 4.16 The key points to note are:
- 4.16.1 The consultation and market research surveys are slightly different in nature. This is because the consultation response only includes people who were motivated to take part in the consultation. This means that the responses provided are unlikely to be statistically representative of the whole population.
 - 4.16.2 Relating to the market research survey, the sample of 600 people gives a +/-4% with a 95% confidence level. In simple terms, this means that if the Council ran same survey again with 600 different Edinburgh residents it is expected that the result of that survey to be within 4% for 19 out of 20 questions.
 - 4.16.3 Both the Consultation Hub results for individuals and the market research results show approximately the same ranking of levels of support:
 - 4.16.3.1 Strongest support for measures at schools, followed by measures in the city centre;
 - 4.16.3.2 Lower levels of support for shopping street measures and protected cycle lanes; and
 - 4.16.3.3 Lowest levels of support for Leisure Connections and Quiet connections, with a significant proportion of market research respondents saying they weren't aware of these measures.
 - 4.16.4 The results from businesses show markedly higher levels of opposition. The highest level of opposition is to measures in shopping streets, reflecting significant concerns from businesses over effects of the measures on their viability.
- 4.17 It is worth noting that in previous cases where consultation and market research has been carried out on the same topic, for example 20mph speed limits, a similar pattern was observed, with much higher levels of opposition in consultation results compared with answers to market research.

Perceived benefits or disadvantages of retaining measures

- 4.18 The main themes on benefits and disadvantages of potentially retaining SfP measures from individuals (either in the market research or public consultation), mentioned by 33% or more of respondents, are summarised in Table 2.

Table 2: Themes

PERCEIVED BENEFITS	Market Research	Consultation
Easier and safer for children and parents to walk or cycle	54%	48%
Improvements for people walking	47%	34%
Improvements for people cycling	37%	38%
More space and better links for walking/cycling/jogging	34%	31%
Making things easier for people using wheelchairs or with mobility issues.	33%	29%

PERCEIVED DISADVANTAGES	Market Research	Consultation
Traffic increases due to diversions caused by road closures	43%	65%
Increased traffic congestion	40%	62%
Harder for residents to park or receive deliveries	38%	56%
Inconvenience to car users from roads closed to traffic	36%	42%
Harder for businesses to receive deliveries	32%	46%
Less car parking in shopping streets	23%	34%
Making things harder for people who use a wheelchair	20%	33%
Fewer people shopping locally	17%	33%

4.19 The results from individual respondents and the market research were very similar with the key perceived benefits to those walking, cycling, jogging or wheeling and the key perceived disadvantages related to traffic increases, especially related to road closures, and difficulties parking and receiving deliveries. Less parking in shopping streets, and fewer people shopping locally, were also seen as disadvantages.

4.20 The results identified that wheelchair users both benefitted from more space, but also saw the measures as making things harder for people who use a wheelchair.

Measures for Retention or Removal

4.21 People and businesses were asked which individual measures they would most like to see retained or removed. In the consultation hub survey, people were also given the option to select either retaining or removing most or all of the measures. The questions were framed slightly differently in the market research, in this case people were given a 'none' option but were asked about individual streets in a way that was not considered practical for the consultation hub survey because of the time

required to complete the survey. In the market research people were also given an 'unsure' option which was not available on the consultation hub.

- 4.22 High level results of the questions about individual streets are summarised below. Around half of consultation respondents felt that no measures should be retained/ most removed. This compares with around 25% of market research respondents. In contrast, around 27% of consultation respondents thought no measures should be removed, compared with around 36% of market research respondents.

Table 3: Retain or Remove Measures

RETAIN - measures already in place	Market Research (MR)	Consultation
None	25%	52%
Most or all	n/a	24%
Specific streets chosen	47%	19%
Unsure (MR) No answer (Cons)	28%	5%
REMOVE - measures already in place	MR	Consultation
None	35%	27%
Most or all	n/a	44%
Specific streets chosen	29%	19%
Unsure (MR) No answer (Cons)	36%	9%

RETAIN - new measures	MR	Consultation
None	28%	56%
Most or all	n/a	23%
Specific streets chosen	39%	11%
Unsure (MR) No answer (Cons)	33%	10%
REMOVE - new measures	MR	Consultation
None	37%	28%
Most or all	n/a	47%
Specific streets chosen	26%	13%
Unsure (MR) No answer (Cons)	37%	12%

- 4.23 Support for removal or retention of individual schemes in the market research, public consultation and business consultation can be seen the consultation feedback (Appendix 6). (It should be noted that the answers on retaining or removing individual schemes have been given by a relatively small proportion of those asked.

- 4.24 From the feedback it is clear that:

4.24.1 All school measures had either net support or at worst a neutral response to retention;

- 4.24.2 City centre measures, including Princes Street East End, Victoria Street, George IV Bridge and Waverley Bridge had relatively high levels of support for retention in both market research and public consultation;
- 4.24.3 In both the public and business consultation results, several of the shopping streets measures, including Morningside Road; Bruntsfield; St Johns Road, Corstorphine; and Raeburn Place attracted the highest levels of net support for removal. However, the market research showed modest net support for retention of these measures;
- 4.24.4 Support for retention versus removal of protected cycle lanes on individual streets was varied. For example, Dundee Street and Fountainbridge attracted high levels of support in both market research and public consultation and Duddingston Road saw slightly more respondents favouring retention than removal. However, on some streets, notably Drum Brae North, Lanark Road, and Comiston Road, there was significant net support for removal; and
- 4.24.5 As with protected cycle lanes, there was significant variation in the level of support for measures to facilitate leisure connections. For example, the Braid Road closure attracted the highest level of net support for removal in both the public consultation and market research, though there was also a significant level of support for retention.

General Information

- 4.25 The surveys also gathered information on the age and gender of respondents as well as information on how they travelled before and during the pandemic.
- 4.26 Both the market research and consultation saw almost equal numbers of male and female respondents.
- 4.27 Relatively few respondents to the Consultation Hub were 24 or under (4%), compared with 15% of the Edinburgh population (as estimated from the 2018 People's Survey). 44% of consultation respondents were in the 45-64 age group, compared with 28% of the Edinburgh population. 8% of market research respondents were 24 or under, with 38% in the in the 45-64 age group. Percentages in the 25-44 and 65+ age groups were close to those recorded in the People's Survey.
- 4.28 Results of the market research were weighted by age and sex to deliver results as representative as possible of the Edinburgh population.

Travelling Around Edinburgh

- 4.29 People were asked which means of transport they had used most often before and during the pandemic. A summary of this information shows:
- 4.29.1 Both people who mostly travelled most by car (+10%) and those who cycle (+7%) were more represented in the consultation responses compared to the market research. People who mostly travelled by bus pre-pandemic appear to be under-represented; and

4.29.2 Not surprisingly, walking, cycling and driving all appear to have increased as most commonly used forms of transport during the pandemic, with public transport use falling.

Table 4: Means of Transport

Means of transport most often used around Edinburgh BEFORE pandemic	Market Research	Consultation
Bus	40%	22%
Car	28%	38%
Walk	24%	27%
Cycle	3%	10%
Other	4%	3%

4.30 The survey also sought to understand the familiarity that respondents had with the measures introduced. The results show:

4.30.1 A high proportion of respondents to both market research and consultation were familiar with most Spaces for People measures;

4.30.2 Between 80% and 90% of market research respondents said they were familiar with measures on shopping streets, in the city centre, at schools and with new protected cycle lanes;

4.30.3 Even higher percentages of consultation respondents said they were familiar with measures;

4.30.4 For most of the types of measure, a majority of people said they had personally used streets that had the relevant type of measure installed;

4.30.5 People were somewhat less familiar with measures to provide more space for exercise with 79% of market research respondents were familiar with, and 47% had used, a street with this type of measure;

4.30.6 The lowest level of familiarity was with new 'quiet connections', but still 65% of market research respondents said they were familiar with this type of measure and 36% said they had used a street with this type of measure.

Response to the Business Survey

4.31 179 responses were received to the survey for businesses.

4.32 In general, the businesses feedback expressed concern about SfP measures, and their impacts and/or their retention.

4.33 One of issues businesses were most concerned about was the difficulties they had experienced with deliveries because of the removal of space for deliveries and of parking. Businesses described receiving multiple deliveries per day and having to walk significant distances in order for their delivery to be received.

4.34 Businesses also reported that customers to services such as nurseries and dental practices had reported experiences of having difficulty parking, especially those with mobility issues who depended on cars. Equality and safety issues were major

concerns highlighted by business respondents and it was felt that the Council had not taken these issues into consideration.

- 4.35 Concerns about falls in footfall and 'passing trade' were reported, along with a feeling that people are shopping at retail parks more. However, it should be noted that some other survey data suggests that alongside large increases in online shopping, shopping locally has increased during the pandemic ['Return to work research' carried out for the Council by Progressive Partnership in December 2020 showed 40% of people shopping locally more often; 46% about the same; 14% less often].

Open feedback

- 4.36 Individuals and businesses were invited to add comments to their responses, in both the market research and Consultation Hub submissions. This resulted in a nearly 30,000 comments.
- 4.37 The comments made in the market research were relatively evenly balanced between those supporting and opposing retention, whilst those made in response to the public consultation were predominantly critical of the measures/in support of removing them.
- 4.38 For those in support of measures, the comments centred around the greater priority and safety afforded to pedestrians and cyclists and recognising the positive impacts this can have on road safety, congestion, mobility, health and the environment.
- 4.39 The most common themes from those in favour of removing measures were traffic diversion and congestion, road safety, accessibility, visual impact and road maintenance.
- 4.40 There were some concerns over the aesthetics and quality of the measures, particularly in the World Heritage Site, and also that signage could be clearer to give more advanced notice for road users.
- 4.41 Respondents voiced anger that businesses and residents had not been "properly" consulted prior to the measures being implemented and it was felt that the Council had "*used pandemic as excuse to implement a lot of these measures*" with their needs and views have not been taken into account.
- 4.42 There were some who felt that there were no issues to warrant the changes made and/or that measures were a waste of money, suggesting that the Council should focus on other work such as repairing potholes etc.
- 4.43 Some respondents felt that the measures were not widely used and therefore were for the minority, disadvantaging the majority.
- 4.44 A summary analysis of the comments received has been published on the Council's website. More detailed thematic analysis work is still underway at the time of publication of this report. This analysis relates to answers on the overall benefits and disadvantages of potential retention.

4.45 In addition, analysis of comments on individual measures is underway. These comments will be considered in developing the detailed designs for each scheme in advance of making each traffic order.

Fraudulent responses to online survey

4.46 Committee is asked to note a significant attempt to unduly influence the public consultation was detected, with a single resident creating a bot which automatically submitted more than 18,000 responses to the consultation. All these responses were strongly opposed to the SfP measures. All of these responses were removed from consideration and are not reflected in results reported.

4.47 This has been reported to Police Scotland.

4.48 As part of the Council's investigation of this incident, a small number of multiple responses from the same individuals were also identified and removed from consideration.

4.49 Following the unprecedented scale of this attempt to undermine and skew the results to this consultation and in addition to the current measures which successfully identified and prevented fraudulent responses to the consultation, the Council will be taking the following actions:

4.49.1 Responses to Council consultations will now, by default, assume individuals responding must supply their name and a valid email address. Previously, the default was that consultations would be anonymous. Anonymous consultations may still be used where anonymity of respondents is clearly desirable;

4.49.2 Responses will now require individuals to supply a full postcode by default. Consultations may still waive this requirement where anonymity is clearly desirable;

4.49.3 The Council has requested changes to its consultation system which will automatically flag any similar attempts; and

4.49.4 Security of consultation processes will be considered by the newly established Consultation Advisory Panel, introduced as part of new Consultation Policy, and will be introduced into the training of staff undertaking consultations in future.

4.50 These measures are considered proportionate and will help to prevent any future activity of this kind which aims to undermine genuine local engagement with citizens. There is a risk that some of these measures may discourage a portion of residents responding to future Council consultations. This will be monitored, and Council processes may be reviewed accordingly.

4.51 There was no breach of data security and no additional data security protections are required to implement the measures outlined.

Stakeholder responses

4.52 The Convener of Transport and Environment Committee hosted briefings with stakeholders to invite feedback. Feedback was also invited through the

Consultation Hub and by email. In total, 20 submissions were made from a variety of groups and organisations.

- 4.53 Stakeholders expressed a wide range of views. Some, including The University of Edinburgh, Living Streets, Spokes and Better Edinburgh for Sustainable Travel, expressed support or strong support for keeping measures in place. Many expressed broad support for measures designed to make streets safer and more attractive and/or more specifically for measures to be made permanent.
- 4.54 The key themes of concern expressed by Stakeholders mostly related to the perceived negative impact the measures may have on those with reduced mobility and sight loss (raised by almost every stakeholder). In summary:
- 4.54.1 Reduction in parking was seen to have made it more difficult for blue badge holders to park their cars;
 - 4.54.2 Introduction of cycle lanes has raised safety concerns for those dropping off or picking up individuals with reduced mobility;
 - 4.54.3 Installation of bollards has impeded access, making it more difficult for people with disabilities to gain kerbside access;
 - 4.54.4 Where roads have been closed, stakeholders reported that this had caused issues with congestion on other roads and displaced road traffic onto adjacent streets;
 - 4.54.5 A perceived lack of enforcement of measures was mentioned by some stakeholders; and
 - 4.54.6 Some expressed concern at the structure of the consultation, believing that insufficient weight has been given to business opinion.
- 4.55 A small number of stakeholders included comments supporting or opposing the retention of individual projects or about design details. These are highlighted in the summary report of Stakeholder comments. Comments on individual design details will be considered should the relevant projects be retained.
- 4.56 Lothian Buses raised two main concerns:
- 4.56.1 The impact of the closure of Waverley Bridge on visibility, passenger facilities and additional costs; and
 - 4.56.2 The potential for increased delays to buses at certain locations, in particular where protected cycle lanes have reduced space available for other vehicles on the approach to some junctions, sometime resulting in a reduced queuing capacity.

Assessment of Measures

- 4.57 The criteria agreed by Transport and Environment Committee in January 2021 included:
- 4.57.1 Does the project encourage walking and/or cycling?
 - 4.57.2 Does the project have beneficial impacts on the street environment?

- 4.57.3 What are the project's likely impacts on public transport?
- 4.57.4 What are the project's likely impacts on traffic disturbance of communities?
- 4.57.5 What are the project's likely impacts on residents of streets that are the subject of measures?
- 4.57.6 What are the project's likely impacts on businesses?
- 4.57.7 What are the project's likely impacts on disabled street users?
- 4.58 These criteria were developed in more detail for the purposes of carrying out the scheme assessments.
- 4.59 Appendix 2 shows the scheme assessments against each criterion, noting key market research and consultation feedback on individual schemes.
- 4.60 Each criterion has been colour-coded, based on an assessment of its positive, neutral or negative impact, together with an indication of the significance of the impact.
- 4.61 For each scheme, there is a recommendation and details of the Traffic Order which would be required.
- 4.62 The following other factors were taken into consideration in formulating recommendations:
 - 4.62.1 Potential interaction between projects introduced under SfP and other planned projects. For example, SfP has introduced measures with similar effects to projects previously proposed/planned on Victoria Street and Cockburn Street under Edinburgh City Centre Transformation (ECCT), and to a local one-way/ cycle contraflow project for Braidburn Terrace;
 - 4.62.2 Street clutter and pedestrian barrier removal, while an action undertaken by SfP, was not considered as an additional pedestrian benefit during scoring as there are no plans to reinstate this street furniture (removal is fully consistent with the Council's [street design guidance](#)); and
 - 4.62.3 Retention of limited parts of schemes that are otherwise being removed, for example, sections of widened footway on local shopping streets where footways are particularly narrow.
- 4.63 There are some schemes which are proposed for retention, or in the case of the Musselburgh to Portobello connection and measures in Orchard Brae for installation, which have been identified as potentially having significant negative impacts for disabled street users. These are typically related to ability to park and/or to drop off a passenger who has a disability. Further consideration will be given as to ways in which designs can be amended to ameliorate these impacts as projects are taken forward.

Taking Projects Forward – Legal Process

- 4.64 The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 provides that the roads authority can make temporary orders (TTROs) to introduce restrictions or prohibitions on a road if the roads authority is satisfied that there is a likelihood of danger to the public. The SfP

TTROs were made on the basis that the incidence and transmission of COVID-19 presented a likelihood of danger to the public; this was in line with the Transport Scotland guidance; *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance on Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders and Notices (April 2020)*.

- 4.65 A small number of notifications of legal challenge have been received since the introduction of SfP measures in 2020. However, none of these notifications or other correspondence have resulted in formal legal challenges or proceedings being raised against the Council.
- 4.66 For most of the schemes where retention is recommended, it is proposed to do so on an experimental basis for a limited time initially, aligned to economic recovery, and in order to monitor how the city's transport network is used, to ensure that there is protection for active travel modes and to monitor any impact on public transport.

Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs)

- 4.67 The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 provides that the roads authority may make an order for the purpose of carrying out an experimental scheme of traffic control. This is an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order, or an ETRO. ETROs can continue in force for up to 18 months.
- 4.68 The process to be taken for ETROs is proposed as follows:
- 4.68.1 Drafting the required orders, following development of detailed designs for each scheme. In doing so, officers will consider the feedback on individual schemes received during the consultation and will incorporate suggestions into the detailed design where possible;
 - 4.68.2 Advertising of ETROs in accordance with legislative requirements
 - 4.68.3 Consideration of objections in accordance with legislative requirements and in line with Council Scheme of Delegation which requires a report to Committee where more than six material objections received from the public; and
 - 4.68.4 If approved for implementation, the ETROs will be monitored once installed (monitoring proposals will be reported to Committee prior to implementation).
- 4.69 The monitoring information and feedback received following implementation will be reported to Committee with recommendations on next steps. Depending on the outcome of monitoring, it may be that permanent TROs will be brought forward in the future. This will be done to ensure that there is sufficient time to make the appropriate arrangements for TROs before the ETROs expire.

Alterations to projects during ETRO period

- 4.70 The ETROs will be drafted with the objective of allowing further changes to measures during the experimental period, maximising the potential to continue to 'learn by doing'. Orders will always allow for restrictions to be relaxed, for example, for the length of a street subject to parking restrictions to be reduced. But the aim

will be to also allow other changes that might reasonably be part of an experiment, for example:

4.70.1 Enabling one-way restrictions to operate in either direction (with appropriate signing); or

4.70.2 Changing the effect of a restriction (to make it less restrictive).

4.71 Committee is asked to note that it is not possible to add new measures or increase restrictions under ETROs from those initially advertised. For example, the length of a street that is subject to parking or loading restrictions can't be increased.

Traffic Regulation Orders

4.72 For schemes which, following monitoring, are proposed for retention on a permanent basis, a report on permanent TROs will need to be brought forward at the same time as the six month review of the ETRO to allow time for this to be considered, the appropriate Orders advertised and any objections dealt with, before the time limitation on the ETRO is reached.

Consultees for Traffic Orders

4.73 The statutory consultees for Traffic Orders include Police Scotland, The Scottish Ambulance Service, The Fire Service, The Freight Transport Association, The Road Haulage Association.

4.74 In addition, the legislation indicates that the Council should consult other organisations (if any) representing persons likely to be affected by any provision in the order as the authority thinks appropriate. The Council would generally include Spokes, Living Streets, Community Councils, groups representing residents, groups representing the disabled and groups representing businesses.

Officer Recommendations on Schemes

4.75 As referenced in the background, the current public health guidance in respect of COVID-19 indicates that measures are still required to maintain physical distancing. It is therefore expected that all schemes will remain in place (subject to regular review) under the existing TTRO arrangements. This will be kept under review as the Scottish Government guidance is updated.

4.76 The recommendations in Appendix 2 are for the retention or removal of measures post-pandemic. For those schemes recommended for retention, reference to the Traffic Order most appropriate has been included.

4.77 As stated above, the assessment took into account the feedback received from residents (through the consultation survey and market research) and feedback from businesses and stakeholders.

4.78 Under each theme of the SfP programme, the recommendations can be broadly summarised as follows:

Schools

4.79 The schemes which have been implemented around many of the schools in the city have largely been well received and considered effective.

- 4.80 As with the other schemes which are proposed to be developed into an ETRO, it would seem prudent to retain those schemes that have the support of school communities when public health guidance changes.
- 4.81 This will allow the operation of these schemes to be monitored (particularly in light of potential changes in travel patterns as some parents may return to their normal working environment and be more likely to drop off children in private vehicles), prior to making a decision on whether they should become permanent. Prior to the advertisement of an ETRO, officers will engage with school management teams and will amend or remove any scheme designs where there is not the support of the school.
- 4.82 With the above in mind, it is proposed to re-prioritise the School Travel Plan review and work with schools which have had part time vehicle prohibitions under SfP, with a view to developing measures tailored to the individual schools and which have support from the school concerned and the parents.
- 4.83 It is envisaged that the review process will be completed for the relevant schools by the end of 2021.
- 4.84 The current measures are generally in place around the school gates, rather than across a wider area surrounding individual schools. It is considered that, in many cases, it is likely that experimental measures could be more extensive and would require dedicated signage to indicate the restrictions in place. Therefore, officers will progress discussions with individual schools in term 1 of school year 2021/22.
- 4.85 Consideration will be given to necessary legal orders to retain or introduce new measures in line with School Travel Plan proposals. Based on liaison with schools over the past year, it is considered likely that measures at most schools will be either retained or extended.
- 4.86 A number of waiting and loading restrictions have been introduced near schools under SfP, in most cases protecting crossing points etc. It is considered that these would be fully justified to be retained on a permanent basis (this does not include lines introduced purely to protect temporary planters). Therefore, it is proposed to bring forward full TROs (not ETROs) to make these waiting and loading restrictions permanent.
- 4.87 At some schools, localised footway widenings have been introduced in response to COVID-19. These have generally been specifically to facilitate physical distancing and may not be necessary when public health advise changes. In most cases it is proposed to remove these pending the review of School Travel Plans, however some may be retained.
- 4.88 Four new temporary access paths have been laid at Kirkliston, Liberton, Gylemuir and St Mark's Roman Catholic Primary schools. It is proposed to replace these with permanent materials.

City Centre

- 4.89 The following recommendations are made for city centre projects:

- 4.89.1 Street pedestrianisations introduced under SfP for Victoria Street and Cockburn Street are consistent with ECCT and are providing additional space for business trading. It is therefore proposed to keep these interventions in place on an experimental basis;
- 4.89.2 ECCT also included pedestrian priority on Waverley Bridge. It is therefore proposed that this should be sustained on an experimental basis but that urgent work should take place with operators and other stakeholders to identify possible alternative locations for tour bus and airport services.
- 4.89.3 The pedestrian and cycle infrastructure on Forrest Road, George IV Bridge and the Mound has provided effective extra space for road users and the measures were supported for retention. However, there are ongoing issues with business servicing on George IV Bridge and the measures on George IV Bridge and Forrest Road are very different from the Council's permanent proposals for these streets as part of the Meadows to George Street active travel project. On this basis it is proposed to remove the SfP measures on George IV Bridge and Forrest Road when the public health guidance permits, whilst retaining the uphill segregated cycle lane on The Mound (with replacement infrastructure); and
- 4.89.4 The temporary footway widening/ bus stop infrastructure at the east end of Princes Street is not considered suitable for the post-pandemic situation and should be removed when the public health guidance permits.

Shopping streets

- 4.90 The temporary infrastructure, introduced through SfP, in shopping streets has allowed, and is continuing to allow, people to maintain physical distancing while visiting local shops.
- 4.91 The City Mobility Plan sets out an approach to improving the quality of space in our town centres. Such improvements are integral to the concept of creating 20 minute neighbourhoods. Furthermore, the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance provides a practical handbook for transforming our town centres into better places, providing a greatly improved environment for both walking and cycling.
- 4.92 The assessment of the SfP measures concluded that, despite achieving some benefits for pedestrians, most of the temporary infrastructure should be removed. This is for the following principal reasons:
 - 4.92.1 There is limited ongoing benefit to the street environment, with the temporary infrastructure having a degree of negative impact;
 - 4.92.2 There are neutral or sometime negative impacts on public transport; and
 - 4.92.3 There have been some negative impacts on parking and servicing for both businesses and residents.
- 4.93 It is, however, proposed to give consideration to retaining some small lengths of footway widening, in particular where these provide extra pedestrian space in

locations where the existing pavement does not provide adequate space for people to walk e.g. for example immediately north of 'The Merlin' on the west footway of Morningside Road and on Broughton Street at Barony Street. It is also proposed to give consideration the materials used on Broughton Street roundabout to reflect the town centre location.

- 4.94 It is proposed to retain the measures introduced on Queensferry High Street under an ETRO. The one-way (except cycles) scheme has benefitted both pedestrians and people cycling, reduced traffic volumes, and had only small impacts on parking and servicing. The measures are also similar to those envisaged under a permanent project that is currently being designed and therefore an ETRO will allow lessons to be learnt to inform a future scheme.

Protected cycle lanes

- 4.95 Protected cycle lanes have been introduced during the pandemic to provide an alternative to sometimes very crowded off-road cycling and walking paths where physical distancing was challenging, particularly in light of the increase in people cycling or walking, who may otherwise have been travelling by car or bus.
- 4.96 Protected cycle lanes have an important role to play in encouraging more people to cycle. This has been evidenced by surveys conducted for the 'Bike Life' reports produced for Edinburgh in recent years (in 2015, 91% of residents who didn't cycle (but would like to) named segregated cycle lanes as the most important intervention that would help them to start; in 2017, 65% of people said they would find protected roadside cycle lanes very useful to help them cycle more, whilst 80% of residents supported building more protected roadside cycle lanes, even when this could mean less space for other road traffic; and in 2019, 82% of residents thought that more cycle tracks along roads, physically separated from traffic and pedestrians, would be useful to help them cycle more).
- 4.97 An assessment of the protected cycle lanes has been carried out, against the agreed criteria. This has identified a number where there are impacts on disabled street users. Most of these negative impacts are associated with parking restrictions and layout.
- 4.98 It is recommended that the protected cycle lanes are retained using ETROs. However, it is proposed to carefully review schemes during the development of the ETRO to minimise the impacts on disabled street users.
- 4.99 As schemes are reviewed, consideration will be given to the availability of on-street parking within a reasonable distance of properties that do not have access to parking and do not have a driveway.
- 4.100 In addition, concern has been expressed about 'floating' car parking, where parking is located outside a cycle lane. Locating parking in this way can provide a far safer environment for less confident people cycling, including children. But it can lead to interactions between people cycling and people entering and exiting vehicles by their nearside doors. The issue is likely to be more of a concern when people cycling can travel at higher speeds or where visibility is lower and/or more likely to be obstructed.

- 4.101 With this in mind, in taking projects forward careful consideration will be given to 'floating' parking, with a view to achieving the best balance in safety, comfort and convenience for all road users. This may involve:
- 4.101.1 Providing, or increasing the width of, the 'buffer' area between parked cars and the cycle lane;
 - 4.101.2 Measures to encourage/ensure people cycling proceed at modest speed; and
 - 4.101.3 In some circumstances, replacing floating parking with a new layout which places the cycle lane between parked cars and the running carriageway.
- 4.102 The feedback received since SfP schemes were introduced has enabled lessons to be learned, including about what parking and loading restrictions are needed to support this new form of infrastructure in Edinburgh. In taking forward ETROs, these lessons will be applied, in seeking a workable balance between delivering effective protected cycling infrastructure and the needs of residents and businesses on the streets concerned.
- 4.103 It is proposed to retain the protected cycle lanes on Comiston Road and Lanark Road, noting in particular that the measures on these roads have reduced the effective road width and facilitated the introduction of a 30mph speed limit.
- 4.104 On Comiston Road it is also proposed to consider extending the existing bus lane southwards, in liaison with Lothian buses and other bus operators. This is to address the recently reported queuing on the approach to the Greenbank crossroads (there is a northbound bus lane which allows buses to bypass the congestion and therefore the impact on public transport northbound is minimal).
- 4.105 Subject to funding availability, two additional projects, originally envisaged for implementation under SfP but not implemented, are proposed to be taken forward integrated into the programme for retaining SfP measures, as follows:
- 4.105.1 Portobello to Musselburgh link, which was discussed at Transport and Environment Committee in April 2021; and
 - 4.105.2 An uphill segregated cycle lane on Orchard Brae, providing a safe connection between the A90 and Crewe Road South.

Leisure and quiet connections

- 4.106 It is imperative that routes intended to be used for walking, wheeling or cycling for pleasure provide continuity of a safe, relaxing experience. A single stretch of busy road, or a difficult crossing or junction, can transform an enjoyable experience into an ordeal. This tends to particularly be the case for the most vulnerable people, children, people with disabilities, people in old age, and for those accompanying them.
- 4.107 SfP has delivered a number of new family-friendly connections, initially intended to facilitate safe physically distanced exercise, which join up recreational walking/wheeling/ cycling routes. Some of the connections also function to encourage day to day active travel.

- 4.108 Measures introduced under the Spaces for Exercise programme and now proposed for retention include:
- 4.108.1 Closure of Cammo Walk to motor vehicles, forming a connection from East Craigs, via a crossing of Maybury Road, to the Cammo Estate;
 - 4.108.2 Retaining the connection from Silverknowes Promenade to the North Edinburgh Path Network/ National Cycle Network via Silverknowes Road North, Silverknowes Parkway and Silverknowes Road South. It is proposed to review the designs for the scheme as part of the ETRO process (if approved) to improve access, particularly on Silverknowes Parkway while retaining a marked cycleway; and
 - 4.108.3 Closure of West Shore Road to motor vehicles, removing through traffic from West Shore Road and West Harbour Road and forming a much better cycling connection from Silverknowes Promenade to McKelvie Parade.
- 4.109 It is recommended to introduce the above measures via ETROs, and to retain other measures introduced under Spaces for Exercise with the exception of the closure of Links Gardens to motor vehicles.
- 4.110 It is proposed to remove the closure of Links Gardens during tram construction in the area, but to consider reinstatement, subject to consultation with local people as part of proposals for a Leith Low Traffic Neighbourhood.
- 4.111 Braid Road attracted the highest net level of demand for removal versus retention during the consultation (it is worth noting however that it was the subject of the 8th highest demand for retention as well as the 2nd highest demand for removal). However, the road has subsequently been reopened to motorised traffic southbound, with new protected cycle lanes provided. This reopening should reduce southbound congestion on Morningside Road, which had increased in association with the closure.
- 4.112 The continued southbound closure of Braid Road facilitates the Meadows to Greenbank cycling Quiet Connection, particularly at the junction of Braid Road and Braidburn Terrace. It also provides much safer and more comfortable conditions for pedestrians and people cycling on Braid Road south of Braidburn Terrace and reduces traffic on Braid Road itself.
- 4.113 With the above in mind it is proposed to retain Braid Road closed to northbound traffic.

Risk Assessment

- 4.114 The Council approved a new Risk Appetite Statement in October 2020. This sets out the risk appetite range which the Council considers acceptable under 12 strategic risk categories.
- 4.115 An officer assessment of the recommendations in this report has been carried out, against the Council's risk appetite statement. Against all of the risk categories, the

recommendations have been assessed as being within the Council's approved risk appetite.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 While it is appropriate to do so, based on the public health guidance, the existing SfP measures will be retained (subject to regular review) under TTRO arrangements. Should any future changes be proposed, these will be reported to Committee at the appropriate time.
- 5.2 If the recommendations for retaining the existing SfP measures beyond the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic are approved by Council, development of detailed plans and the necessary legal orders for each scheme will be progressed.
- 5.3 The scheme and order development will take account of the feedback received, particularly in respect of people with limited mobility, and efforts will be made to minimise the impacts of the schemes presented.
- 5.4 Installation or removal of segregation units does not of itself require a legal order—neither does the creation or removal of mandatory cycle lanes. Therefore, segregation units can be removed, installed, or retained, where appropriate and safe, without any legal orders. The impact of the units themselves will be carefully monitored, in particular in relation to any impacts on emergency services and bus service reliability, in close liaison with the relevant services and bus operators. Any removal, relocation or reinstatement of units will be considered on a case by case basis.
- 5.5 Where a Traffic Order is required, these will be advertised and reported and monitored as set out in the report. Proposals for monitoring will be brought to this Committee prior to implementation of ETROs.
- 5.6 As part of the Council's on-going street cleansing programme, arrangements will be made, where possible, to arrange for overhanging vegetation to be addressed.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 To date, all SfP measures were 100% funded by Transport Scotland (via Sustrans). This funding was intended to help the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 6.2 On the basis of the scheme assessment recommendations it is estimated that the total cost of the work required to take measures forward over the financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23 will be up to £2.6m, excluding the costs of any new 'school street measures' which will be reported to a future meeting of this Committee.
- 6.3 These costs will be spread across two financial years 2021/22 (£1.5m) and 2022/23 (£1.1m) and include provision for removing measures should this be required.
- 6.4 Funding for the expected 2021/22 costs is available through Transport Scotland/Sustrans Spaces for People and Places for Everyone allocations. Discussions are on-going with Sustrans and Transport Scotland on funding for future years.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 The scheme recommendations have been formed following feedback from individuals, businesses and stakeholders, as set out in the report above. The public consultation received over 17,000 responses, the largest response to any consultation run by the Council through the Consultation hub.
- 7.2 The integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) undertaken on the basis of the scheme recommendations made has been updated (this is attached in Appendix 4).
- 7.3 The IIA identified:
- 7.3.1 A wide range of positive impacts, including improvements to road and personal safety, improved access to schools, speed reduction, connections to deprived communities and removal of street clutter;
 - 7.3.2 Positive environmental and sustainability impacts, including the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as a result of encouraging people to substitute car use with active travel, and improved opportunities to access and experience greenspace;
 - 7.3.3 Negative impacts by groups representing disabled people, centred on restrictions on car parking and the need for people to cross cycle tracks at 'floating' bus stops and car parking; and
 - 7.3.4 Potential negative environmental impacts were identified associated with traffic displacement and visual appearance of measures.
- 7.4 As discussed in more detail in the section on protected cycle lanes above, careful consideration will be given to ameliorating identified negative impacts as designs are taken forward under ETRO. The scheme designs will include consideration of:
- 7.4.1 Relaxing loading (and therefore blue-badge parking) restrictions;
 - 7.4.2 Implementing measures and markings to reinforce the need for people cycling to give way at floating bus stops; and
 - 7.4.3 The design at floating parking locations, particularly where people cycling are on a significant downhill gradient.
- 7.5 In developing scheme designs for the proposed ETROs, it is intended to:
- 7.5.1 Make further efforts to achieve net environmental benefits from the schemes; and
 - 7.5.2 Undertake further engagement with groups representing people with disabilities. In parallel the IIA will continue to be reviewed and updated as appropriate.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Transport Scotland's [Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 \(Phase 1\)](#).
- 8.2 [End Poverty Delivery Plan 2020-30](#).

- 8.3 [Scottish Health Survey](#)
- 8.4 [Department for Transport, The Design of Pedestrian Crossing, Local Transport Note 2/95](#)
- 8.5 [Pedestrian Guardrail Assessment](#)

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – Spaces for People Update – June 2021
- 9.2 Appendix 2 – Scheme Recommendations and Assessment Criteria
- 9.3 Appendix 3 – Map of Recommendations
- 9.4 Appendix 4 – Integrated Impact Assessment
- 9.5 Appendix 5 – [Market Research and Consultation Hub Questions](#)
- 9.6 Appendix 6 – [Consultation Feedback](#)
- 9.7 Appendix 7 – [Cycle Count Data](#)

Appendix 1 – Spaces for People Update June 2021 (v1.3)

Measures Introduced Under TTRO

Ongoing review recommendations will be subject to Committee decisions regarding retention/removal/modification:

Location	Intervention (Proposed/Actual)	Review Outcome/Update
CITY CENTRE		
South Bridge – Town Centre measures	Installation of footpath widening and segregated cycle lanes on South Bridge. No cycle provision proposed on North Bridge due to bridge repair access.	Scheme not taken forward at this time
Chambers Street	Revised proposal due to programming pressure. No signals proposed	As above
Morrison Street	Footpath widening at Dalry Road junction	Scheme not taken forward at this time Footpath widening not possible due to junction layout and available lane widths
Cowgate	N/A	Scheme not taken forward at this time Temporary road layout currently in place to facilitate hotel development
Waverley Bridge	Pedestrian area with limited servicing access	Review undertaken April 21 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Forest Road	Cycle segregation	Review undertaken April 21 Recommendation to continue with no changes
George IV Bridge	Cycle segregation	Review undertaken April 21 Revisions to improve loading to be considered subject to Committee decision on retention/removal.
The Mound	Cycle segregation	Review undertaken April 21 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Princes Street East End	Bus gate on Princes Street and South St David St	Review undertaken April 21 Recommendation to continue with no changes subject to future Tram diversion route.
Victoria Street	Pedestrianised area with limited servicing access from George IV Bridge	Review undertaken April 21 Recommendation to continue with no physical changes. Ongoing dialogue regarding branding and signage

Cockburn Street	Pedestrianised area with limited servicing access from High Street	Review undertaken April 21 Recommendation to continue with no physical changes.
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TOWN CENTRES		
Queensferry High Street	Pedestrian space	First review undertaken June 21 Further signage installed following site meeting with Police Recommendation to continue with no changes
Great Junction Street	Pedestrian space	Removed September 2020
Stockbridge	Pedestrian space	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions
Gorgie / Dalry Road	Pedestrian space	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Bruntsfield	Pedestrian space	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions
Tollcross		Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions
Morningside	Pedestrian space	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions
Portobello	Pedestrian space	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions
Corstorphine	Pedestrian space	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions
Newington Corridor	Pedestrian space	Scheme not taken forward at this time
The Shore	Quiet Corridor on Queen Charlotte Street and Tolbooth Wynd	Scheme not taken forward at this time Leith LTN proposal under consultation

TRAVELLING SAFELY		
Telford Road	Cycle segregation	Proposals withdrawn due to significant impact on public transport.
Melville Drive	Cycle segregation	Scheme not taken forward at this time
Wester Hailes Road	Cycle segregation	Scheme not taken forward at this time Design constraints, conflict with distributor route and Calder Road junction.

Crewe Toll Roundabout	Cycle segregation	Scheme not taken forward at this time Risk of significant congestion
Kingston Avenue closure and connection to Gilmerton Rd via Ravenswood Ave	Road closure	Scheme not taken forward at this time Conflict with emergency services access
Meadowplace Road	Cycle segregation	Installed April 2021. Scheme revised in May following discussions with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. First review due June 21
Ladywell Road	Cycle segregation	First review due June 21
Ferry Road	Cycle segregation	Review completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Fountainbridge Dundee St	Cycle segregation	Review completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue with minor revisions
Teviot Place / Potterow	Cycle segregation	Review completed April 2021 – Recommendation to continue with minor improvements at Potterow Bus Stop and Teviot place junction.
Buccleuch St / Causewayside	Cycle segregation	Review completed April 2021 – Recommendation to continue with minor changes to loading availability (now off peak loading available)
Gilmerton Road	Cycle segregation	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Duddingston Road	Cycle segregation	Review completed April 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Craigmillar Park corridor	Cycle segregation	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with minor revisions
Crewe Road South	Cycle segregation (segregator units to be installed)	Review completed April 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Old Dalkeith Road	Cycle segregation (segregator units to be installed)	Review completed April 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Comiston Road	Cycle segregation	Review completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent revisions
Pennywell Road & Silverknowes Parkway	Cycle segregation	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions
Mayfield Road	Cycle segregation	Scheme installed April 2021 – First review TBA
Quiet Corridor - Meadows / Greenbank	Various closures	Review completed June 2021

		Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions, and ongoing monitoring.
A90 Queensferry Road	Bus Lanes and cycle segregation	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent minor revisions. Further revisions to be considered to improve driveway access
A1 Corridor	Bus Lanes and cycle segregation	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Lanark Road	Cycle segregation	Review to be completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent revisions.
Longstone Road	Cycle segregation	Review to be completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue following recent revisions.
Inglis Green Rd	Cycle segregation	Review to be completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue.
Murrayburn Road (short section at Longstone)	Cycle segregation	Review to be completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue.
Slateford Road (A70)	Cycle segregation	Installation commenced May 2021.
Orchard Brae Roundabout	Road markings	Review completed June 2021 Recommendation to continue.
SCHEMES DEVELOPED FROM LTN LIST		
Craigs Road	Crossing improvements at Craigmount High School and traffic calming on Craigs Road	Scheme installed April, First Review due June 21
Drum Brae North	Cycle segregation	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Leith	Quiet Corridor on Queen Charlotte Street and Tolbooth Wynd	Scheme not taken forward. Not taken forward due to likely impact on Tram diversion routes. Leith Connections proposal under development
Corstorphine South (Featherhall)	Filtered permeability proposal. Footpath widening and traffic calming scheme developed in partnership with the Community Council.	Scheme not taken forward. Limited legal powers to introduce under TTRO. Corstorphine High Street scheme installed March 2021 (see below)
Corstorphine High Street	Widened pavements leading to Primary School	Installed March 2021 Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with minor changes.

SPACES FOR EXERCISE		
Warriston Road	Road closure	Removed – footfall on adjacent path significantly reduced
Silverknowes Road (North section)	Road Closure	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Silverknowes Road (South section)	Part cycle segregation and quiet route due to narrow road width.	Review to be undertaken June 21
Carrington Road	Road closure	Scheme not taken forward. Conflict with emergency services access.
Braid Road	Road closure	Scheme opened to southbound traffic in May 2021. Installation of additional Quiet Route features May 2021 Monitor traffic levels and journey times on Comiston Road to inform future mitigation measures/decisions
Braidburn Terrace	One-way road closure	Review completed March 2021 – Recommendation to continue with no changes Next review due May 21, to be undertaken ASAP
Links Gardens	Road closure	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes. Subject to Tram traffic management and Leith LTN Consultation.
Cammo Walk	Road closure	Review to be undertaken June 21.
Stanley Street/ Hope Street	Road closure	Review to be undertaken June 21.
Seafield Street	Cycle segregation	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Kings Place	Link between Proms	Review completed May 2021 Recommendation to continue with no changes
Maybury Road	Temporary traffic lights	Review completed March 2021 – Recommendation to continue. Revisions requested by Police Scotland to be implemented ASAP.
Arboretum Place	Crossing point	Review to be undertaken June 21.
Granton Square to Marine Drive	Road closure and access from Forthquarter Park	Scheme installed May 2021

Public Proposals – Commonplace Consultation	Various	Scheme updates
Broughton Street	Pavement widening and uphill cycle lane	Installation completed early June 2021 due to contractor delays
Broughton St Roundabout	Improvements for pedestrian crossings	As above
Bellevue to Canonmills	Cycle segregation	As above
Restalrig Road South (Smoky Brae)	Pavement widening and uphill cycle lane. Road layout TBA	Scheme not taken forward at this time
Starbank Road	Waiting restrictions to stop pavement parking and improve pedestrian access.	Scheme Notification completed Installation expected June 2021
Fillyside Road - Crossing	Installation of temporary signalised pedestrian crossing at existing island over summer period.	Scheme under Notification Installation of temporary pedestrian crossing expected June 2021, subject to approval.
Fillyside Road	Section of pavement widening from Fillyside Road leading to pedestrian crossing	As above
West End of Princes Street	Footpath widening at Johnny Walker site	Overhead hoarding now removed, increased pedestrian space now available.
Musselburgh boundary to Portobello (Edinburgh section)	Cycle segregation from CEC boundary into Portobello	Scheme not taken forward at this time. Consider future implementation subject to available budget.
Duddingston Road West	Part cycle segregation (East end) and part road markings (due to available road width)	Installation completed April 2021 (exc. City Fibre site) Review to be undertaken June 21
Portobello Promenade	Improved signage and minor interventions to reduce speed of cyclists	Scope of signage and appropriate measures to be confirmed
Removal of Street Clutter		
Various priority locations	£300k funding package allocated to work in partnership with Living Streets to remove street clutter	Work started March 21, scheduled work almost complete. Final guardrail removal, snagging and reinstatements to be completed.
Pedestrian Priority Improvements at Controlled Crossings	Project to establish the scope of controlled pedestrian crossing improvements. Reduced pedestrian wait-times and infrastructure improvements	Project to undertake traffic modelling and upgrade pedestrian crossing infrastructure will continue into July 2021. Funding carried over from 20/21 allocation.

Greenbank Drive and Glenlockhart Road	Reduce speed limit to 20mph	Speed limit reduction to be considered by the Road Safety team
Schools	Various measures to provide traffic free areas and more space for parents, carers and children near school gates.	Planters installed in May 2021 to prohibit or restrict traffic. All measures to be set-aside or prohibition signage removed during summer school holidays (exc Sciennes and Gillespies road closures). Measures will be reinstated when schools return in August.
Additional Schemes		
Braid Hills Road/Drive & Liberton Drive	Cycle segregation	Scheme not taken forward at this time Not funded under SfP
Orchard Brae	Uphill cycle segregation	Scheme not taken forward at this time Not funded under SfP
Cramond Glebe Road	Waiting restrictions leading down to the car park to maintain access. Suggestion that the closure of Silverknowes Road (north section) has led to additional traffic on this road.	Double yellow lines installed as agreed with the Cramond & Barnton Community Council as a temporary Public Health and Emergency access response. Scheme review to be undertaken in June 21.

Note: Information contained in this appendix will be subject to change. Actual costs are tracked during the procurement and installation phases.

Each project (excluding minor interventions at schools) is considered by the Design Review Group (peer review), subject to internal approval and shared with the agreed Notification Stakeholder Group.

APPENDIX 2: SCHEME ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Key to impacts

	Significant positive
	Minor Positive
	Neutral
	Minor Negative
	Significant negative

Key to feedback

Retain minus Remove - for people or businesses nominating specific streets

	>=	MR	Pub	Bus	
	>=	20	125	4	Largest net positive
	>	5	25	1	Smaller net positive
	between	+/-5	+/-25	0	Neutral
	<	-5	-25	-1	Smaller net negative
	<=	-20	-125	-4	Largest net negative

SCHEME NAME	LOCALITY	TYPE	IMPACTS ON													FEEDBACK			RECOMMENDATION	ORDER	NOTES													
			PEDESTS		CYCLES		Str Env	PubTrans	Traffic - displace	RESIDENTS			BUSINESS			Disabled people	Market Research	Public Consultation				Business consultation												
			Pedestrian movement	Pedestrian crossing	Cycle network	Cycle local	Street Environment	Public Transport service and stops	Traffic + parking -displace	Traffic volume	Speds	Parking	Servicing	Servicing	Parking	Street space	People with mobility and other disabilities																	
Waverley Bridge	SE	City Centre																		RETAIN	ETRO													
Forest Road	SE	City Centre																					REMOVE	NA	Permanent project significantly different from current temporary measures - TRO advertisement due soon									
George IV Bridge	SE	City Centre																								REMOVE	NA	Permanent project significantly different from current temporary measures - TRO advertisement due soon						
The Mound	SE	City Centre																											RETAIN with mods	NA	Retain most of uphill lane. Reinstate bus stop at top of Playfair Steps. Would not require Order			
Princes Street East End	SE	City Centre																												RETAIN with mods	ETRO	Retain bus gate, remove footway and bus stop temporary widening		
Victoria Street	SE	City Centre																													RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Cockburn St	SE	City Centre																													RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Queensferry High Street	NW	Shopping Streets																														RETAIN	ETRO	Introduce complementary measures on Station Road
Stockbridge	NW	Shopping Streets																														REMOVE	NA	Consider removal of bollards from S footway and possible retention of measures at footway pinch point(s)
Gorgie Road	SW	Shopping Streets																														REMOVE	NA	

Where measures are retained :

1. Consideration will be given to adjusting floating parking bays to manage pedestrian/ cycle interactions and minimise conflict.
2. Consideration will be given to amendments in loading restrictions to assist businesses and residents, including to facilitate access for blue badge holders.
3. Projects will be monitored for impacts on bus services and stops in close liaison with operators, and adjustments made as necessary.

SCHEME NAME	LOCALITY	TYPE	IMPACTS ON													FEEDBACK			RECOMMENDATION	ORDER	NOTES		
			PEDESTS		CYCLES		Str Env	PubTrans	Traffic - displace	RESIDENTS				BUSINESS			Disabled people	Market Research				Public Consultation	Business consultation
			Pedestrian movement	Pedestrian crossing	Cycle network	Cycle local	Street Environment	Public Transport service and stops	Traffic + parking -displace	Traffic volume	Speds	Parking	Servicing	Servicing	Parking	Street space	People with mobility and other disabilities	Market Research				Public Consultation	Business consultation
Crewe Road South	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Old Dalkeith Road	SE	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Comiston Road	SW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN with mods	ETRO	Consider extending northbound bus lane further south. Relax loading restrictions to reduce impact for residents.	
Pennywell Road	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN with mods	ETRO	Relax loading restrictions to reduce impact on residents.	
Melrose Parkway	NW	Protected cycle lanes															NA			RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Mayfield Road	SE	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Silcockknowes Parkway	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN with mods	ETRO	Relax loading restrictions to reduce impact on residents.	
Bellevue to Cannonmills	SE	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Musselburgh to Portobello	NE	Protected cycle lanes																		NEW	ETRO	Careful consideration will be given to design of floating parking and bus stops .	
A1 - Milton Rd West	NE	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
A1- Willowbrae Road	NE	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
A1- London Rd (Dalziel Place)	NE	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
A1- London Road (Hillside)	SE	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
A90 - Dean bridge-Queensferry Ter	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
A90 - Queensferry Ter to	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
A90 - Craigleith junc to Blackhall dip	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Drum Brae North	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	

Where measures are retained :

1. Consideration will be given to adjusting floating parking bays to manage pedestrian/ cycle interactions and minimise conflict.
2. Consideration will be given to amendments in loading restrictions to assist businesses and residents, including to facilitate access for blue badge holders.
3. Projects will be monitored for impacts on bus services and stops in close liaison with operators, and adjustments made as necessary.

SCHEME NAME	LOCALITY	TYPE	IMPACTS ON													FEEDBACK			RECOMMENDATION	ORDER	NOTES		
			PEDESTS		CYCLES		Str Env	PubTrans	Traffic - displace	RESIDENTS				BUSINESS			Disabled people	Market Research				Public Consultation	Business consultation
			Pedestrian movement	Pedestrian crossing	Cycle network	Cycle local	Street Environment	Public Transport service and stops	Traffic + parking -displace	Traffic volume	Speds	Parking	Servicing	Servicing	Parking	Street space	People with mobility and other disabilities						
Lanark Road	SW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Longstone corridor	SW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Slateford Road	SW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Orchard Brae	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		NEW	ETRO	See general notes	
Orchard Brae roundabout	NW	Protected cycle lanes																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Stanley Street/ Hope Lane	NE	Liesure Connections																		RETAIN	ETRO	Additional residents parking has been added	
Cantho Walk	NW	Liesure Connections																		RETAIN	ETRO		
Maybury Road Crossing	NW	Liesure Connections																		RETAIN - see note	ETRO	Interacts with a proposed new junction. Further consideration will be given to how to deal with the transition from the temporary crossing to the permanent junction.	
Kings Place	NE	Liesure Connections																		RETAIN	ETRO		
Seafield Street	NE	Liesure Connections																		RETAIN	ETRO	See general notes	
Arboretum Place	NW	Liesure Connections																		RETAIN with mods	ETRO	Improve facilities for disabled people (eg dropped kerbs, location and No. of bays)	
Links Gardens	NE	Liesure Connections																		SEE NOTES	ETRO	Remove during tram construction. Consider reinstatement as a closure or bus gate as part of Leith LTN	
Seafield Rd at Fillyside Road - Crossing	NE	Liesure Connections																		Remove -see notes	Not required	Due to the nature of the temp intervention, remove after summer/after COVID requirement but bring forward proposals for a permanent crossing.	
Silverknowes Road (North section)	NW	Liesure Connections																		RETAIN with mods	ETRO	Retain - extend blue badge parking on Marine Drive.	
Silverknowes Road (South section)	NW	Liesure Connections																		Retain or modify	ETRO	Renewal works in area may mean modified scheme is more appropriate	
Starbank Road	NW	Liesure Connections																		Retain	ETRO		

Where measures are retained :

1. Consideration will be given to adjusting floating parking bays to manage pedestrian/ cycle interactions and minimise conflict.
2. Consideration will be given to amendments in loading restrictions to assist businesses and residents, including to facilitate access for blue badge holders.
3. Projects will be monitored for impacts on bus services and stops in close liaison with operators, and adjustments made as necessary.

Appendix 2: Assessment Considerations for retention of projects initially introduced under the Spaces for People programme

These considerations have been used to assess the merit of each scheme in a post-pandemic situation, identifying if retaining or adapting measures would be appropriate.

To provide consistency and to allow each scheme can be assessed individually, the starting point for defining a scheme has been what was included in the Spaces for People notification for each scheme. Where schemes cover very long stretches (such as the A1 and the A90), they have been assessed in sections to provide greater transparency on the impacts of each section of the scheme.

In a post-pandemic scenario, how might the project encourage walking and/or cycling?

- Will the project improve conditions for walking on the streets concerned and/or contribute to a connected network of safe and pleasant routes for walking?

Score	Description of score – impact on pedestrian movement along street	Description of score – impact on pedestrian crossing experience
Significant improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project significantly enhances the street as a pedestrian connection or destination by substantially reducing or eliminating vehicular traffic from the street and ties directly into a destination, or other high-quality pedestrian route (this may be a traffic-free street), or; • There is a substantial proportional increase in space for pedestrians (by approx. 20% or more relative to original space available) over 50% of the length of the scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The width of vehicular carriageway that pedestrians must cross is reduced by 20% or more. This reduction in carriageway width covers more than 50% of the scheme's length and/or; • distance pedestrians have to walk to a formal (signalised or zebra) crossing point is reduced by more than 100m.
Minor improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a small or modest proportional increase in space for pedestrians (less than 20% relative to original space available) or; • There is a significant increase in space available for pedestrians (20% or more relative to original space) at a significant pinch point in the footway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The width of vehicular carriageway that pedestrians have to cross is reduced. This reduction in carriageway width covers less than 50% of the scheme's length
Neutral	<p>The scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has no material positive or negative impact on pedestrians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has no material positive or negative impact on pedestrians OR • Where the carriageway has been reduced in width by the presence of segregated cycle lanes, as there is less carriageway width to cross, but still need to cross cycleways as well as vehicular carriageway
Minor negative impact	<p>The scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes any space for pedestrians 	
Significant negative impact	<p>The scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes large quantities of space available for pedestrians 	<p>The scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes a formal crossing points for pedestrians

Will/might the project:

- improve conditions for cycling on the streets concerned and/or
- contribute to a connected network of safe and pleasant routes for cycling?

Score	Description of score- conditions on the street	Description of score- network impact
Significant improvement	<p>Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creates space for cycling separated from motorised traffic for majority (over 50%) of the scheme and/or; • reduces the speed and/or; • reduces the volume of vehicular traffic on the street that people cycling are interacting with 	<p>Scheme forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • connects at one or both ends into NCN, a signed QR, another SfP scheme or a significant destination or; • by itself, provides a safe route for local journeys to school
Minor improvement	<p>Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creates space for cycling separated from motorised traffic for part (less than 50%) of the scheme 	<p>Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has the potential to connect at one or both ends into NCN, a signed QR, another SfP scheme or a significant destination but requires significant further investment to do so
Neutral	No material positive or negative impact on people cycling.	Scheme does not tie into the existing off-road cycle network or another on-street piece of infrastructure
Minor negative impact	Scheme requires people cycling to mix with vehicular traffic for short sections where previously had an advisory lane or bus lane	Scheme reduces the quality of a section of the wider cycle network
Significant negative impact	The scheme creates a more challenging/hazardous environment for someone cycling to negotiate for extended lengths (e.g. mixing with general vehicular traffic where previously had separate space).	Scheme removes a link to the wider cycling network

In a post-pandemic scenario, how might the project have beneficial impacts on the street environment?

- *Might the project make streets with measures (especially shopping streets) more attractive as places to linger by reducing traffic speeds or volume, increasing space for pedestrians, or allowing scope for environmental improvements?*

Score	Description of Score
Significant positive impact	<p>Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creates additional space for pedestrians to dwell for over 50% of length of the scheme and/or; • creates space for enhancements to the street environment for e.g. planters • likely to reduce traffic speed and/or volume
Minor positive impact	Scheme may achieve one of the above benefits
Neutral/no impact	No material positive or negative impact on the street environment.
Minor negative impact	<p>Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may marginally increase traffic speeds/volumes (less than a 20% increase, for e.g. where average speed is 20mph, this increases to between 20-23mph) or; • scheme reduces space for environmental improvements or; • scheme reduces space for pedestrians (relative to pre-existing permanent layout) • scheme detracts from the streetscape in town, city centre or World Heritage setting
Significant negative impact	<p>The scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creates a less pleasant street environment by significantly increasing traffic speeds/volumes (by more than 20%) and/or; • reduces space for environmental improvements and/or; • reduces space for pedestrians (relative to pre-existing permanent layout)

In a post-pandemic scenario, what are the project’s likely impacts on public transport?

- Is the project likely to impact positively or negatively on public transport users and services in a scenario where traffic is at pre-Covid levels?

Score	Description of Score
Significant improvement	Scheme will increase bus priority or lane on affected stretch of road by more than 20%
Minor improvement	Scheme will increase bus priority or lane on affected stretch of road by less than 20%
Neutral	No likely material positive or negative impact on public transport.
Minor negative impact	Scheme will remove short sections of less than 100m of PT priority (i.e. bus lane) or; Scheme likely to result in a delay to PT on the street or streets affected by the measure by not more than 5 minutes at the busiest times
Significant negative impact	Removal of longer sections of more than 100m of PT priority (i.e. bus lane) or; Scheme likely to result in a delay to PT on the street or streets affected by the measure by more than 5 minutes at the busiest times

In a post-pandemic scenario, what are the project’s likely impacts on traffic disturbance of communities?

- On balance, will the project impact positively or negatively on traffic disturbance of communities, or is it likely to be neutral?

Score	Description of Score
Significant positive impact	Scheme -likely to significantly reduce (by 20% or more) vehicular traffic volumes in surrounding streets and/or; -likely to significantly reduce (by 20% or more) motor vehicle parking volumes in surrounding streets and/or -likely to significantly reduce (by 20% or more) vehicular speeds in the surrounding streets to those with measures
Minor positive impact	Scheme -likely to reduce (by less than 20%) vehicular traffic volumes in surrounding streets and/or; -likely to reduce (by less than 20%) vehicular speeds in the surrounding streets to those with measures - likely to reduce (by less than 20%) motor vehicle parking volumes in surrounding streets
Neutral/no impact	No discernible increase or reduction (plus or minus 5%) in traffic volumes, speeds and/or parking likely throughout community
Minor negative impact	Scheme -likely to increase (by less than 20%) vehicular traffic volumes in surrounding streets and/or; -likely to increase (by less than 20%) vehicular speeds in the surrounding streets and/or; -likely to increase (by less than 20%) motor vehicle parking volumes in surrounding streets
Significant negative impact	Scheme -likely to significantly increase (by 20% or more) vehicular traffic volumes in surrounding streets and/or; -likely to significantly increase (by 20% or more) vehicular speeds in the surrounding streets and/or; - likely to increase (by more than 20%) motor vehicle parking volumes in surrounding streets

In a post-pandemic scenario, what are the project's likely impacts on residents of streets that are the subject of measures?

- a. On balance, how might the project impact on people living on the street/road that is the subject of measures? In particular:
- b. What is the impact on traffic volume and speeds?
- c. What is the impact on car parking?
- d. What is the impact on necessary servicing?

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Impact on st's residents	Traffic volumes	Traffic speed	Resident and visitor car parking	Servicing
Significant positive impact	Scheme likely to significantly reduce (by 20% or more) vehicular traffic volumes on street with measures	Scheme likely to significantly reduce (by 20% or more) vehicular speeds in the streets with the measures	Scheme increases residential (and/or visitor parking space on the street by 50% or more	Changes introduced by the scheme mean that deliveries/loading can legally be made directly from the street outside most properties at most times of the day
Minor positive impact	Scheme likely to reduce (by less than 20%) vehicular traffic volumes on street with the measures	Scheme likely to reduce (by less than 20%) vehicular traffic speeds on street with the measures	Scheme increases residential and/or associated visitors parking space on the street (by less than 50%)	Changes introduced by the scheme mean that deliveries/loading can legally be made directly from the street outside most properties at some times of the day
Neutral/no impact	No discernible increase or reduction (plus or minus 5%) in vehicular traffic volumes likely throughout community	No discernible increase or reduction (plus or minus 5%) in vehicular traffic speeds likely throughout community	Where most properties don't have private driveways, there is no discernible increase or reduction on parking (plus or minus 5%). Where most properties have driveways, scheme decreases residential (and their associated visitors) parking space on the street by less than 50%	Scheme has no overall impact on the loading and servicing arrangements for residents on the street relative to original layout

Minor negative impact	Scheme likely to increase (by less than 20% or more) vehicular traffic volumes on street with scheme	Scheme likely to increase (by less than 20%) vehicular speeds in the streets with the measures	Where properties do not have private driveways, scheme decreases residential (and their associated visitors) parking space on the street (by less than 50%) Where properties do have private driveways, scheme decreases residential (and their associated visitors) parking space on the street (by more than 50%)	Changes introduced by the scheme mean that deliveries/loading can't legally/practically be made directly from the street outside most properties at some times of the day (where it was previously possible to do so)
Significant negative impact	Scheme likely to increase (by less than 20% or more) vehicular traffic volumes on street with scheme	Scheme likely to increase (by less than 20%) vehicular speeds in the streets with the measures	Where properties don't have private driveways, scheme decreases residential (and their associated visitors) parking space on the street by 50% or more	Changes introduced by the scheme mean that deliveries/loading can't legally/practically be made directly from the street outside most properties at most times of the day (where it was previously possible to do so)

What are the project's impacts on businesses?

- Are any improvements to the street environment likely to be beneficial for businesses in a post-Covid scenario?
- To what extent does the project restrict or inhibit servicing of businesses?
- To what extent does the project reduce car parking availability to support businesses?

Impact of scheme on businesses	Servicing of businesses	Car parking availability for customers	Additional street space
Significant positive impact	Scheme -provides a 50% increase in space on the street dedicated to loading and/or -provides a window at least 50% longer for loading and servicing over the course of the day for businesses on the street	Scheme increases parking spaces on the street available for customers by 20%, compared to availability without the scheme	Scheme increases space available for businesses to use on the street (for example, for tables and chairs for customers) by 20% or more, compared to availability without the scheme
Minor positive impact	Scheme -provides additional space (less than 50% increase compared to st layout without scheme) on the street dedicated to loading for the businesses' benefits -provides a longer (up to 49% increase compared to st without scheme)-window for loading and servicing over the course of the day for businesses on the street	Scheme increases parking spaces on the street available for customers by less than 20%, compared to availability without the scheme	Scheme increases space available for businesses to use on the street (for example, for tables and chairs for customers) by less than 20%, compared to availability without the scheme
Neutral/no impact	Scheme has no overall impact on the loading and servicing arrangements for businesses on the street No impact considered if all businesses on the street have off-street parking/loading that meets the needs of the businesses	Scheme has no net impact on car parking available on street for customers or; No impact considered if all businesses on the street have off-street parking/loading that meets the needs of the businesses	Scheme has no net impact on street space available for businesses to use for commercial ends

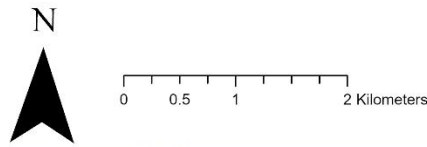
<p>Minor negative impact</p>	<p>Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -reduces space (by less than 50% compared to st layout without scheme) on the street dedicated to loading for the businesses' benefits and/or; -Scheme relocates servicing (by less than 50m), relative to location of loading in street without the scheme and/or; -reduces the window for loading and servicing over the course of the day for businesses on the street by less than 2 hours over the course of the day 	<p>Scheme decreases parking spaces on the street available for customers (by more than 50% compared to availability without the scheme), where businesses on street have some off-st parking that meets a proportion of their needs</p> <p>Where businesses do not have any off-st parking, scheme decreases parking spaces on the street available for customers (by less than 50% compared to availability without the scheme, or by more than 50% if less than 5 parking spaces available on st in original layout)</p>	<p>Scheme reduces space available for businesses to use on the street (for example, for tables and chairs for customers) by less than 50%, compared to availability without the scheme</p>
<p>Significant negative impact</p>	<p>Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -reduces space (by more than 50% compared to st layout without scheme) on the street dedicated to loading for the businesses' benefits and/or; -reduces the window for loading and servicing over the course of the day for businesses on the street by more than 2 hours over the course of the day and/or; -Scheme relocates servicing (by more than 50m), relative to location of loading in street without the scheme 	<p>Where businesses do not have any off-st parking, scheme decreases parking spaces on the street available for customers (by more than 50% compared to availability without the scheme)</p>	<p>Scheme reduces space available for businesses to use on the street (for example, for tables and chairs for customers) by 50% or more, compared to availability without the scheme</p>

What are the project's likely impacts on disabled street users?

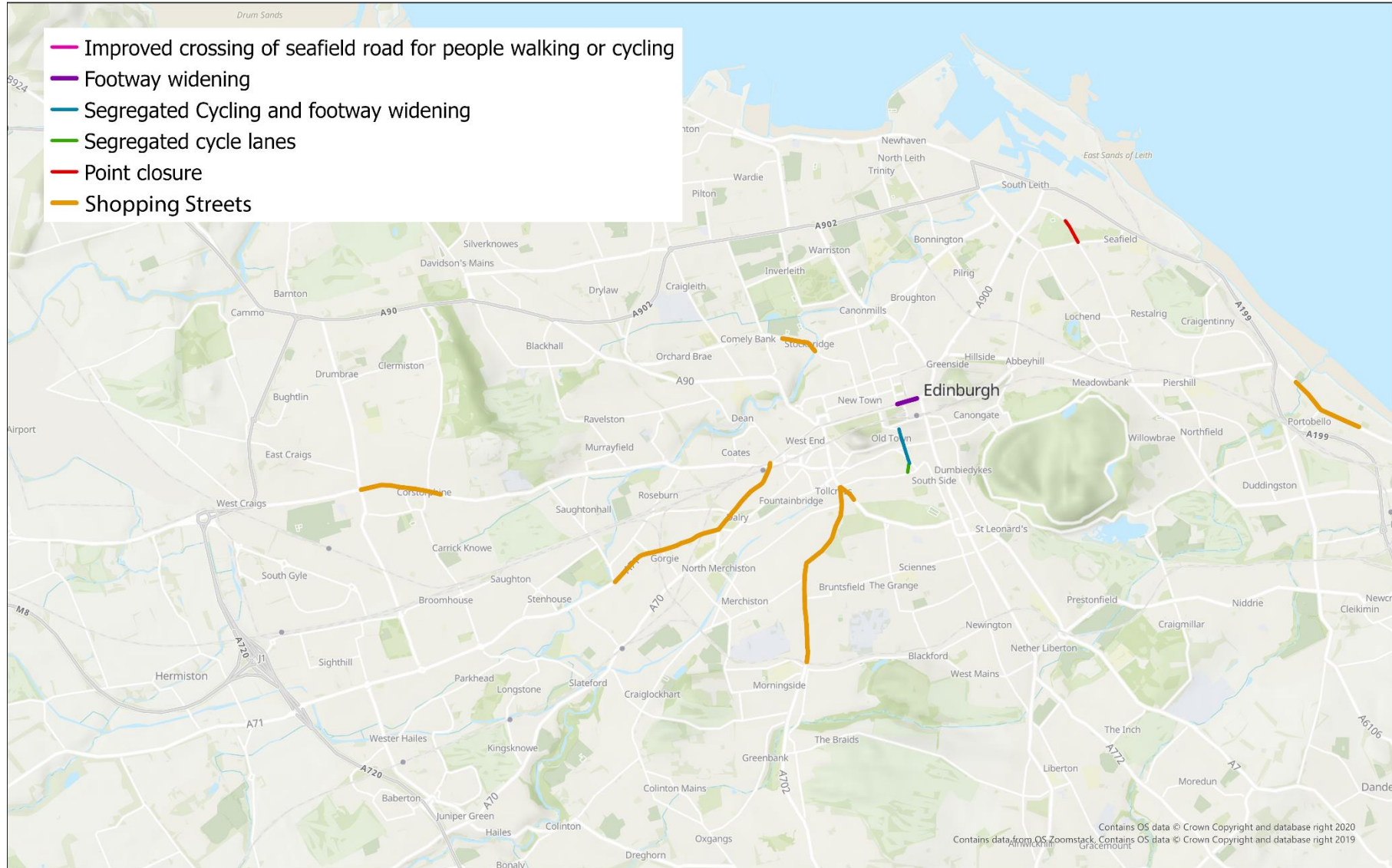
- Is the project likely to impact positively or negatively on disabled street users?

Scheme impact on disabled users	Scheme impact on disabled street users
Significant positive impact	<p>Scheme achieves at least 2 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides extra space for pedestrians for more than 50% of the length of the project and/or; • reduces vehicular carriageway crossing distance by 20% or more at a formal crossing point and/or; • Adds formal crossing point(s) to the street and; <p><i>Scheme must at least maintains ability of blue badge holders to park compared to original street layout</i></p>
Minor positive impact	<p>Scheme achieves at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides extra space for pedestrians for less than 50% of the length of the project and/or • reduces vehicular carriageway crossing distance by less than 20% at a formal crossing point and/or; • Adds formal crossing point(s) to the street and <p><i>There is no impact on Blue Badge parking</i></p>
Neutral/no impact	<p>Scheme involves marginal or no increase in pedestrian space AND does not impact blue badge parking OR Scheme has no positive or negative impact compared to original street layout</p>
Minor negative impact	<p>Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduces a segregated cycle lane where more than 90% of properties have off-st parking or; • Introduces a segregated cycle lane where it is possible to still park on st over 90% of the road length or; • Introduces floating parking spaces adjacent to the segregated cycle lane or; • Increases additional pedestrian space on street but properties/businesses/services that don't have off-st parking are more than 50m walk from a place that blue badge holders can park and/or; • Scheme involves marginal or no increase in pedestrian space and reduces the ability of blue badge holders to park on street for part of the day and/or; • Removes informal crossing of street e.g. D island
Significant negative impact	<p>Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduces segregated cycling and majority of properties don't have off-st parking and on-st parking is possible on less than 90% of the road and/or; • properties/businesses/services that don't have off-st parking are more than 50m walk from a place that blue badge holders can park and/or; • Removes a formal crossing point

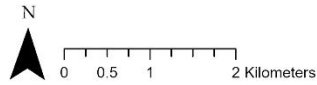
Spaces for People Interventions recommended for Removal



- Improved crossing of seafield road for people walking or cycling
- Footway widening
- Segregated Cycling and footway widening
- Segregated cycle lanes
- Point closure
- Shopping Streets



Space for People Interventions Recommended to Retain



City Centre

- Closure
- Pedestrian area with limited vehicle access for deliveries
- Bus gate
- Segregated Cycling

Protected cycle lanes/Quiet connection

- Segregated cycle lanes

- - - Quiet Connection
- Road markings to make roundabout easier for people cycling to navigate
- - - Advisory cycle lanes
- - - Segregated cycle lanes integrated with bus lanes

Leisure Connections

- 24 hour bus gate and two-way segregated cycle lane
- - - Closure between Craigs Road and the south car park

- Point closure
- New signalised crossing
- Relocation of parking at West Gate to improve crossing and access into Inverleith Park
- Segregated cycle lanes
- - - one-way street southbound with segregated cycling and widened pavement
- Shared space for walking and cycling
- Footway widening - Intervention subject to further design

Shopping Streets

- Queensferry High Street

Additional interventions under ETRO

- - - Segregated cycle lanes



Section 4 Integrated Impact Assessment

Summary Report Template

Each of the numbered sections below must be completed

Interim report	X	Final report	
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 (Tick as appropriate)

1. Title of proposal

Retention of Spaces for People measures to help meet longer-term Council objectives

2. What will change as a result of this proposal?

Spaces for People (SfP) measures were introduced utilising Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) legislation during 2020 and 2021 to help people to physically distance, travel safely and exercise during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have followed the notification and engagement process approved by Councillors in May 2020. An IIA was carried out in May 2020, and was then updated in October, and this IIA is an update to both of these.

In January, Transport and Environment Committee approved a citywide consultation and engagement exercise to begin the process of making decisions over the next course of action of whether to retain, remove or modify specific schemes. Supporting people to continue to be able to walk and cycle safely is an important policy objective in the context of the Council's long-term objectives outlined in the Local Transport Strategy; draft City Mobility Plan; Active Travel Action Plan 2016; and the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation (ECCT).

In summary, the following approach is recommended:

- Measures introduced under the existing Spaces for People programme under TTROs will be retained while public health advice continues to advocate maintaining physical distancing measures to manage of the impact of the virus and that ongoing liaison with Transport Scotland on the duration of measures will take place;
- For most of the schemes where retention is recommended, it is proposed to do so on an experimental basis for a limited time initially in order to monitor how the city's transport network is used, to ensure that there is protection for active travel modes and to monitor any impact on public transport.

Detailed recommendations:

Schools

Assessment of schools' measures indicates that certain closures and part-time vehicle prohibitions are worthy of retention. All school measures also had net support in for retention (with two exceptions where there was a balance of support for retention and removal).

In the case of street closures, it is recommended that those at Sciennes Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary are be advertised as closures (except cycles) under Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs). It is recommended that further consideration is given to a progressing a similar ETRO at St Catherine's Primary in consultation with the school and ward Councillors.

The current measures are generally in place around the school gates, rather than across a wider area surrounding individual schools. It is considered that, in many cases, it is likely that experimental measures should be more extensive and would require dedicated signage to indicate the restrictions in place. Therefore, officers would like to progress discussions with individual schools in term 1 of school year 2021/22 to establish the exact area which should be included in an experimental arrangement.

With the above in mind, it is proposed to re-prioritise School Travel Plan review and work with schools which have had part time vehicle prohibitions under SfP, with a view to developing measures tailored to the individual schools and have support from the school concerned and the parents. It is envisaged that the review process will be completed for the relevant schools by the end of 2021. The programme for implementation of measures will be included in the relevant School Travel Plans. Lessons learned from the implementation of measures under SfP will be taken into account as plans are developed for new schemes.

As part of discussions with schools, consideration will be given to necessary legal orders to either keep in place measures similar to those currently in place or revised in line with School Travel Plan proposals. Based on liaison with schools over the past year, it is considered likely that measures at most schools will be either retained or extended.

A number of waiting and loading restrictions have been introduced near schools under SfP, in most cases protecting crossing points etc that are considered fully justified on a permanent basis (this does not include lines introduced purely to protect temporary planters). It is proposed to bring forward full Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) (not ETROs) to make these waiting and loading restrictions permanent.

At some schools, localised footway widenings have been introduced in response to COVID-19. These have generally been specifically to facilitate physical distancing and may not be necessary when physical distancing restrictions ease. These will be retained until the public health guidance changes. In most cases it is proposed to remove these pending the review of School Travel Plans, however some may be retained. Examples include those on Craigs Road at Craigmount High School.

Four new temporary access paths have been laid at Kirkliston, Liberton, Gylemuir and St Mark's Roman Catholic Primary schools. It is proposed to replace these with permanent materials.

City centre

Street pedestrianisations introduced under SfP for Victoria Street and Cockburn Street are consistent with ECCT and are providing additional space for business trading. It is therefore proposed to keep these interventions in place on an experimental basis. ECCT also included pedestrian priority on Waverley Bridge. It is therefore proposed that this should be sustained on an experimental basis but that urgent work should take place with operators and other stakeholders to identify possible alternative locations for tour bus and airport services.

The pedestrian and cycle infrastructure on Forrest Road, George IV Bridge and the Mound has provided effective extra space for road users and the measures were supported for retention. However, there are ongoing issues with business servicing on George IV Bridge and the measures on George IV Bridge and Forrest Road are very different from the Council's permanent proposals for these streets as part of the Meadows to George Street active travel project. On this basis it is proposed to remove the SfP measures on George IV Bridge and Forrest Road when the public health guidance permits, whilst retaining the uphill segregated cycle lane on The Mound (with replacement infrastructure).

The temporary footway widening/ bus stop infrastructure at the east end of Princes Street is not considered suitable for the post-pandemic situation and should be removed.

Shopping streets

The assessment of the SfP measures concluded that, despite achieving some benefits for pedestrians, most of the temporary infrastructure should be removed. This is for the following principal reasons:

- There is limited ongoing benefit to the street environment, with the temporary infrastructure having a degree of negative impact;
- There are neutral or sometime negative impacts on public transport; and
- There have been some negative impacts on parking and servicing for both businesses and residents.

It is, however, proposed to give consideration to retaining some small lengths of footway widening, in particular where these provide extra pedestrian space in locations where the existing pavement does not provide adequate space for people to walk e.g. in Morningside, Portobello and Barony Street. It is also proposed to give consideration the materials used on Broughton Street roundabout to reflect the town centre location.

It is proposed to retain the measures introduced on Queensferry High Street under an ETRO. The one-way (except cycles) scheme has benefitted both pedestrians and cyclists, reduced traffic volumes, and had only small impacts on parking and servicing. The measures are also similar to those envisaged under a permanent project that is currently

being designed and therefore an ETRO will allow lessons to be learnt to inform a future scheme.

Protected cycle lanes

An assessment of the protected cycle lanes has been carried out, against the criteria agreed by the Transport and Environment Committee. This has identified a number where there are impacts on disabled street users. Most of these negative impacts are associated with parking restrictions and layout.

It is recommended that the protected cycle lanes are retained using ETROs. However, it is proposed to carefully review schemes during the development of the ETRO to minimise the impacts on disabled street users, in particular by seeking to achieve on street parking within a reasonable distance of properties that do not have such parking and do not have a driveway. This will be considered on a scheme by scheme basis.

It is proposed to retain the protected cycle lanes at Drum Brae North, Comiston Road and Lanark Road, noting in particular that the measures on Comiston Road and Lanark Road have reduced the effective road width and facilitated the introduction of a 30mph speed limit.

On Comiston Road it is also proposed to consider extending the existing bus lane southwards, in liaison with Lothian buses and other bus operators. This is to address the recently reported queuing on the approach to the Greenbank crossroads (there is a northbound bus lane which allows buses to bypass the congestion and therefore the impact on public transport northbound is minimal).

Two additional projects, originally envisaged for implementation under SfP but not implemented, are proposed to be taken forward integrated into the programme for retaining SfP measures, as follows:

- Portobello to Musselburgh link which was discussed at Transport and Environment Committee in April 2021; and
- An uphill segregated cycle lane on Orchard Brae, providing a safe connection between the A90 and Crewe Road South.

Connecting routes for walking and cycling for pleasure

Measures introduced under the Spaces for Exercise programme and now proposed for retention include:

- Closure of Cammo Walk to motor vehicles, forming a connection from East Craigs, via a crossing of Maybury Road, to the Cammo Estate;
- Retaining the connection from Silverknowes Promenade to the North Edinburgh Path Network/ National Cycle Network via Silverknowes Road North, Silverknowes Parkway and Silverknowes Road South. It is proposed to review the designs for the scheme as part of the ETRO process (if approved) to improve access, particularly on Silverknowes Parkway while retaining a marked cycleway; and

- Closure of West Shore Road to motor vehicles, removing through traffic from West Shore Road and West Harbour Road and forming a much better cycling connection from Silverknowes Promenade to McKelvie Parade.

It is recommended to introduce the above measures via ETROs, and to retain other measures introduced under Spaces for Exercise with the exception of the closure of Links Gardens to motor vehicles.

It is proposed to remove the closure of Links Gardens during tram construction in the area, but to consider reinstatement, subject to consultation with local people as part of proposals for a Leith Low Traffic Neighbourhood.

Braid Road attracted the highest net level of demand for removal versus retention during the consultation (it is worth noting however that it was the subject of the 8th highest demand for retention as well as the 2nd highest demand for removal). However, the road has subsequently been reopened to motorised traffic southbound, with new protected cycle lanes provided. This reopening should reduce southbound congestion on Morningside Road, which had increased in association with the closure.

The continued southbound closure of Braid Road facilitates the Meadows to Greenbank cycling Quiet Connection, particularly at the junction of Braid Road and Braidburn Terrace. It also provides much safer and more comfortable conditions for pedestrians and cyclists on Braid Road south of Braidburn Terrace and reduces traffic on Braid Road itself.

With the above in mind it is proposed to retain Braid Road closed to northbound traffic.

Retained measures would be subject to the normal legal processes for either Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETRO) or Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO). As this is an interim IIA, it is proposed that this IIA evolves and is updated subject to Committee approval into the next phase.

3. Briefly describe public involvement in this proposal to date and planned

We have followed the engagement process approved by councillors at the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 14 May 2020 and have notified local councillors, emergency services, access groups, community councils and other stakeholders of the new measures put in place. . A public consultation platform, Commonplace, was utilised at the beginning to gather suggestions from the public and this attracted 4,000+ responses.

An extensive consultation and engagement exercise ran from 22 February to 5 April 2021. There were three surveys, one for individuals; for businesses; and for stakeholders. In addition, there were four stakeholder presentation sessions in advance of the consultation opening: heritage; emergency services; accessibility and business.

A range of approaches were employed to ensure as wide-ranging and inclusive consultation exercise as possible, given that this took place during a period of lockdown. To ensure accessibility for a wide range of people, the consultation was made available in a range of formats such as regular print, large print, braille and translation into other

languages. A British Sign Language video was also displayed on the project website to further widen access to people with hearing loss.

In addition to the Consultation Hub survey, market research was carried out by independent Market Research consultants on behalf of the Council. The aim was to complement the consultation responses, which are intrinsically self-selecting, by securing a statistically representative sample of opinion.

The survey included a mix of closed and open-answer questions and stakeholders were able to respond by email or by completing the online survey.

The Access Panel were consulted in the production of a criteria to look at each scheme on balance going forwards. The following elements were part of the criteria:

- Does the project encourage walking and/or cycling?
- Does the project have beneficial impacts on the street environment?
- What are the project's likely impacts on public transport?
- What are the project's likely impacts on traffic disturbance of communities?
- What are the project's likely impacts on residents of streets that are the subject of measures?
- What are the project's likely impacts on businesses?
- What are the project's likely impacts on disabled street users?

4. Is the proposal considered strategic under the [Fairer Scotland Duty](#)?

No

5. Date of IIA

20 May 2021

6. Who was present at the IIA? Identify facilitator, Lead Officer, report writer and any partnership representative present and main stakeholder (e.g. NHS, Council) [names removed for data protection]

7. Evidence available at the time of the IIA

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
Data on populations in need	Census 2011 National Records for Scotland 2017 Mid year estimates Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (CEC, 2015)	<p>The City of Edinburgh has one of the fastest growing populations of any city in the UK. Although the city has a lower share of its population over 65 years of age (12%), the wider city region has a significantly higher share (22%) than Edinburgh and Scotland (19%).</p> <p>Based on 2011 Census Data the wards with the highest number of health conditions (including Deafness, Blindness, Physical, mental health, learning disabilities etc.) are Portobello/Craigmillar and Liberton/Gilmerton. Both had 31% of their total reporting health conditions. The City Centre had the lowest proportion (22%).</p> <p>The most deprived communities are in the peripheral areas of the city (e.g. Granton, Pilton, Niddrie, Saughton and Wester Hailes) furthest from the City Centre.</p>
Data on service uptake/access	Census 2011	<p>Car use in Edinburgh is the joint lowest of all Scottish cities. In 2010 of the 191,000 people living and working in Edinburgh, 63,500 commuted to work by car and a further 63,300 commuted by car from other local authority areas.</p> <p>Transport Scotland is monitoring transport trends during the COVID-19 outbreak. This information provides a snapshot of travel across main modes.</p> <p>For the period 19 - 25 April 2021, compared with the same period in 2019, we saw:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Walking journeys up by 15% •Cycling journeys up by 10% •Concessionary bus journeys down by 55% •Rail journeys down by 80% •Ferry journeys down by 75% •Air journeys down by 80% •Car journeys down by 20%.
Data on socio-economic disadvantage e.g. low income,	Scottish Index of Multiple	Transport accessibility is lowest around the periphery of the city, for example, Niddrie, Baberton, Clermiston and Granton. Many of these are areas of high deprivation as ranked by the SIMD.

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
low wealth, material deprivation, area deprivation.	Deprivation (SIMD)	<p>The temporary measures have brought in increased space for walking and cycling in the following areas which are ranked in the highest 10% SIMD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muirhouse/Pilton • Murrayburn • Gilmerton <p>Providing such space has the potential to bring increased opportunities for community members to travel actively, and to experience the benefits to physical and mental health of walking, cycling, wheeling and scooting for everyday journeys.</p>
Data on equality outcomes	Bike Life (Sustrans, 2017)	<p>In a 2017 survey, 24.5% of school pupils, stated they normally travelled to school using only private motorised mode of travel compared with 48.8% who normally use active modes.</p> <p>2017 data from Transport Scotland indicates that women were more likely than men to walk or catch the bus to work and men were more likely to cycle to work or travel by rail. In Scotland twice as many men as women cycle once or twice a week for transport.</p> <p>In addition, people in lower income households were more likely to walk or take the bus whereas people in higher income households were more likely to drive. 7.5% of commuters living in Edinburgh cycle to work with over 15.3 million trips made by bike in 2017.</p> <p>In the city black and minority ethnic (BAME) communities, women and over 65s are underrepresented when it comes to cycling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female – 37% • Over 65 – 6% • BAME – 3% (8% of City population)
Research/literature evidence	UK and International Evidence showing beneficial economic impacts to businesses where space for walking	<p>Beyond the pandemic, it is important that towns and cities adapt to the challenges associated with the climate emergency and the need to decarbonise transport and the ways people move around urban areas</p> <p>https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s25363/Item%206.10%20-%20Spaces%20for%20People%20Initiative%20-%20Response%20to%20Motion-%20FINAL.pdf</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
	and cycling is priorities	
Public/patient/client experience information	Consultation & Engagement SfP Market Research	<p>Market research shows majority support for each of the scheme types: schools; protected cycle lanes on main roads; shopping streets; city centre; space for exercise/leisure; quiet connections. Levels of overall support are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools 65% • City centre 61% • Protected cycle lanes on main roads 59% • Shopping streets 59% • Spaces for exercise/leisure 51% • Quiet connections for day to day cycling with reduced traffic 45% <p>In the consultation, there were concerns were raised over the way the temporary measures have been implemented, particularly with minimal consultation ahead of changes being made. The Council has followed standard TTRO procedures in its implementation of the measures in its response to the pandemic and would follow the necessary procedures if schemes were retained under ETRO.</p> <p>Stakeholders raised negative impacts of the measures on people with reduced mobility and sight loss, particularly those who depend on travelling by car for these reasons.</p> <p>In particular they have raised concerns over:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in on-street parking opportunities for people with disabilities • ‘floating’ car parking, where a cycle lane is located between parking and the kerb <p>It has been noted that signage could be clearer at the locations of new measures.</p> <p>Businesses reported that the measures have brought difficulties in receiving deliveries, due to a reduction in available road space for parking and loading. By using ETROs going forwards for measures which may be retained, there is a greater ability to dedicate road space for location-specific requirements.</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<p>Sample size for market research = 583. Delivers a dataset with a 95% confidence interval of no more than $\pm 4.06\%$ for questions answered by the full sample. This means there is a 95% probability that if the questions were asked to the whole Edinburgh adult population, answers would be within this range.</p> <p>Responses to individual consultation = 17,600</p> <p>Responses to business consultation = 179</p> <p>Responses to stakeholder consultation & email responses = 22</p>
Evidence of inclusive engagement of people who use the service and involvement findings	Consultation & Engagement	<p>Local feedback received as measures are implemented will be used to refine schemes. Feedback from the Commonplace website has been used to help to highlight areas where interventions should be targeted.</p> <p>Presentation/briefings were carried out with stakeholder groups in advance of the public citywide consultation opening. There were four themed briefing sessions: accessibility; heritage; business and emergency services. Main issues discussed in each of these sessions is as follows:</p> <p>Accessibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-installation design risk process, and ongoing modification through the stakeholder notification system • Independent road safety audits carried out on larger schemes • Street clutter removal is taking place in parallel with SfP installations, involving contributions from Living Streets Edinburgh • Any moves from TTRO into ETRO would involve statutory consultation • Acknowledging that people, particularly those who may have mobility issues, made fewer journeys in lockdown, and so may not be aware of the SfP measures on-street and may not have been able to comment in the consultation from lived experience • Suggestions to use Connect Radio, talking newspapers to engage more effectively with people with sight loss

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council has taken care not to introduce obstructions around crossings, using reflective materials, providing Blue Badge parking adjacent to cycle routes • Voluntary organisations have limited time/capacity to engage in a meaningful way for the large number of schemes which is important to note going forwards, for the Council to be able to engage within this context <p>Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council has not had the opportunity to see how the measures work in normal traffic • Heritage groups acknowledge another trial period would allow a fuller picture of how the schemes work towards their function in busier operation • Concerns with visual appearance of measures, which were due to the TTRO and emergency nature of installation • Co-design welcomed going forwards, looking at best practice and design standards • Concern over bollards in conservation and World Heritage site and time is needed to look at solutions which are affordable and acceptable in the sense of a longer-term appearance <p>Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A great deal more consultation is felt to be needed, and it was felt the Consultation Hub survey was not flexible enough • Temporary measures have been installed in unprecedented conditions, where during lockdown, businesses had to close due to the pandemic, which will not be the case going forwards • ETRO process allows for more flexibility compared with the TTRO to adapt to specific changes e.g. loading bay locations <p>Emergency services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designs must ensure that incidents can be responded to rapidly – e.g. width of roads to allow for passing through traffic • Scheme-specific discussions with Road Safety colleagues who have fully engaged with

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<p>emergency services. This has offered reassurances and led to some scheme amendments for example on Old Dalkeith Road and Meadowplace Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keen to continue to work together going forwards with early and ongoing dialogue <p>The Access Panel were consulted in the production of the criteria used for recommendations around retention and changes were made which sought to address their comments.</p>
Evidence of unmet need	<p>SfP Market research</p> <p>Consultation & Engagement for SfP and for previous related policies such as the City Mobility Plan and City Centre Transformation</p>	<p>From SfP market research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost three-quarters of those who had used a street/road with Spaces for People measures, did so on foot • Just under 6 in 10 had used a car - significantly more common for over 65year olds (80%) and those living in West Edinburgh (73%) • Half had used buses on Spaces for People streets/roads • Males were more likely than females to have used buses (58% vs 43%) • 22% had cycled - more common in under 65yr age groups, and amongst those living in Central Edinburgh • When asked about the benefits of the measures, 54% felt the measures have made it easier for children and parents to walk/cycle to school; 47% reported the measures gave improvements for people walking; 37% for people cycling • When asked about the disadvantages of the measures, 43% of people mentioned traffic increases due to diversions; 40% mentioned increased traffic congestion; 38% said it was harder for residents to park or receive deliveries • Respondents were also asked of their views on each measure, and views have been taken into account to consider the impact of retention of each measure <p>The consultation revealed the following levels of support amongst individuals and businesses, respectively, with the market research % support in brackets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools measures 47%; 28% (65%)

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected cycle lanes on main roads 38%; 22% (59%) • Shopping streets 36%; 19% (60%) • City centre 41%; 25% (61%) • Spaces for exercise/leisure 34%; 18% (51%) • Quiet connections for cycling 31%; 15% (44%)
Good practice guidelines	Designing Streets (2010) Edinburgh Street Design Guidance (2015) National Standards of Community Engagement Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (MACS)	<p>The strategy has sought to follow best practice guidance such as Designing Streets and Edinburgh Street Design Guidance.</p> <p>In addition, an extensive international benchmarking exercise was undertaken to learn from cities similar in scale to Edinburgh, with broadly recognised good practice in city planning, and recent and most significant interventions in terms of quality of life.</p> <p>Despite the inability to hold normal consultation, the teams have been noting observations and respond by modifying measures. A design risk assessment process had been completed before schemes are installed. Once on the ground, larger schemes have been subjected to a full road safety audit by independent auditors. Stakeholder views have been captured through the notification system. Each measure is reviewed every two months and takes account of ongoing feedback.</p> <p>The National Standards for Community Engagement are good-practice principles designed to support and inform the process of community engagement.</p> <p>Guidance utilised for the IIA specifically created for the temporary measures installed on A1 are below and these are typically used for the development of each scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edinburgh Street Design Guidance; • Sustrans SfP Guidance; and • Roads for All – a good practice guide. • Traffic Signs Manual • Traffic Signs Regulations • General Directions 2016 • London Cycling Design Standards • Roads for All – a good practice guide

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
Carbon emissions generated/reduced data	Air Quality Monitoring Stations Scottish Government Monitoring	Government has been monitoring the impact of COVID-19 social distancing and lockdown actions, which includes air quality. Evidence will continue to be collected on carbon emissions/air quality by the Council and Scottish Government as lock down measures are being relaxed. At time of writing, a protection level system is still in place, based on local authority wide regulation.
Environmental data	As above	As above
Risk from cumulative impacts	Low Emission Zone, City Mobility Plan, City Plan 2030, Edinburgh City Centre Transformation	Cumulative impacts may come about as a result of Low Emission Zone, City Mobility Plan, City Plan 2030 and Edinburgh City Centre Transformation. Cumulative impacts from this work will be included in due course once impact assessments of these policies/proposals have been undertaken.
Other (please specify) Feedback on projects since installation, including during consultation on retaining Spaces for People	Consultation Results Web page	This feedback varies between projects, although there are common themes, notably in relation to car parking for people with disabilities. Should projects be approved to retention under ETROs or TROs, opportunities to amend designs and relevant restrictions in response to feedback will be considered.
Additional evidence required		The Council will continue to build its capacity to deliver in line with best practice and experience gained from elsewhere.

8. In summary, what impacts were identified and which groups will they affect?

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
Positive	
1. Improved mental and physical health due to increased uptake in active travel. The measures can help people to access to amenities and social connections, and increased choices over	All

how they travel from A to B, improving their sense of inclusion and support.	
2. Street closures and segregated cycle ways enable and encourage people to go out and use public spaces safely without fear of traffic conditions and vehicle conflict.	All
3. There are also personal safety benefits to providing additional route options so people can make informed decisions taking into account their feelings of safety & the extent of natural surveillance in terms of number of people around when travelling at day or night, particularly important for women and people travelling alone	All; particularly women and people travelling alone
4. Improved access to schools by creating safer streets and allowing pupils who are able to walk and cycle	Young people and children and parents/carers
5. Creating more favourable crossing facilities can be helpful to those who aren't able to walk too far to find a safe crossing point	All; particularly young people and children and parents/carers; disabled people
6. Introduction of slower speeds restrictions will help improve road safety, encourage people to walk, cycle and make streets more people friendly	All; particularly young people and children and parents/carers; disabled people
7. Retention of measures recommended in the following areas of multiple deprivation: Muirhouse/Pilton; Murrayburn; Gilmerton. Access to amenities and the means to travel where public transport accessibility is poor, important to look at the whole transport system/network to continue to offer options. Measures will seek to join up areas of deprivation with areas of employment and/or services.	All; particularly people living in areas of deprivation
8. Design solutions to provide best access for servicing for businesses and blue badge, where there is a greater opportunity for ETROs to be able to service particular requests compared with TTRO	Disabled people; business community
9. Cycling is opened up as a mode of transport for people who have certain conditions who may not be able to drive. 1.5metre	Disabled people

standard widths are providing space for people using adaptive bicycles and trikes. Outwith this proposal, as part of the active travel investment programme, steps are being taken to introduce on-street cycle parking for non-standard bicycles	
10. Infrastructure can be used by everyone, helps with community cohesion and social interactions, potential to bring new people into active travel	All
11. Removal of street clutter, beneficial for parents and carers of young children and people who have particular accessibility requirements. Access to services when travelling with children, particularly with a young child or multiple children, providing further space in footways and removing vehicles from space next to footways	Disabled people; people travelling with children under 1; people travelling with multiple children
Negative	
1. Some of the cycle segregation schemes include floating bus stops which means people having to cross the cyclepath to access buses. RNIB and Guide Dogs Scotland expressed that this feature makes alighting buses challenging for disabled people.	Disabled people; people travelling with children under 1 and young children; pregnant women; older people
2. Some cycle segregation schemes also incorporate floating car parking. This is seen by the Access Panel as creating additional difficulties for disabled people. E.g. Handicabs mentioned that installation of bollards has impeded access making it more difficult to gain kerbside access for entry and exit for people with disabilities, and as such increased safety risk to staff and passengers and considerable disruption to traffic caused by need to stop in running lanes.	Disabled people; people travelling with children under 1 and young children; pregnant women; older people
3. Increased parking pressures particularly for blue badge holders, blue badge holders may not be aware that parking on double yellows is allowed	Disabled people, particularly people who have mobility issues and their carers including

	family members
<p>4. Conflict between road users at present, potential hazards of temporary infrastructure suited to the short term.</p> <p>For example, installing floating parking can provide a far safer environment for less confident cyclists, including children. But it can lead to interactions between cyclists and people entering and exiting vehicles by their nearside doors. The issue is likely to be more of a concern when cyclists can travel at higher speeds or where visibility is lower and/or more likely to be obstructed.</p> <p>There have been issues reported with traffic management equipment such as bollards and cycle lane defenders, with concerns that they can potentially be trip hazards for older people, partially sighted and disabled people</p>	All; older people; disabled people, particularly people with visual impairments
<p>5. Access to amenities and the means to travel where public transport accessibility is poor, having potential to negatively impact people travelling into the city from rural areas and the choices available to them</p>	Rural/semi-rural communities
<p>6. Impact on families who may rely on private car to travel as a group. Measures are designed to help families to feel more safe to travel in ways other than private car</p>	People travelling with children; pregnant women; older people
<p>7. Potential negative impacts associated with the displacement of traffic, congestion and pollution on people's health.</p>	All
Suggested Mitigation	
<p>In response to 1, 2, 3, 4 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attention should be given to making sure enforcement (for example of traffic speed, cycling on pavements) is effective. • All temporary measures were subject to a detailed design and risk assessment process being followed, and this will carry forward if schemes are retained under ETRO. Design solutions will continue to be appropriate to the surroundings. • Ensure designs follow relevant design guidelines to maximise access. • Ensure designs consider impact on the wider road network. • Regarding adapting to requirements, unlike TTROs, ETROs provide the opportunity to demarcate accessible blue badge parking as part of schemes. The designs will be based on the layouts in the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance, which have been through detailed risk assessment. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fundamental principle of the floating bus stops is that the street markings clearly indicate to people cycling that they should give way to people embarking/alighting buses • Careful consideration will be given to ameliorating these issues as designs are taken forward under ETRO. Possible amendments include relaxing loading (and therefore blue-badge parking) restrictions where possible and measures to encourage/ensure cyclists proceed at modest speed 	
<p>In response to 4 - Consideration will be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing, or increasing the width of, the 'buffer' area between parked cars and the cycle lane; and • Measures to encourage/ensure cyclists proceed at modest speed; and • In some circumstances, replace floating parking with a layout with the cycle lane between parked cars and the running carriageway. 	
<p>In response to 3 - This impact can in some cases be mitigated by the provision of dedicated disabled parking in close proximity.</p>	
<p>A general point that in terms of accessible communications, that visual maps can help to communicate, noting the GIS Atlas mapping does meet accessibility requirements and can be used going forwards. Representatives of appropriate organisations should be contacted to dispense information to members. Going forward, it is planned to continue open engagement with representative groups and members of the public.</p>	
<p>In response to 5, 6 – The communications plan will include the promotion of routes/journeys to seek to encourage people to make trips which could be made by active/sustainable transport by these means, with links with the Council's Smarter Choices, Smarter Places programme where appropriate, and by promoting the city's cycle hire scheme.</p>	
<p>In response to 7 – it is acknowledged that measures may cause air quality impacts of congestion caused by displacement at a local level, and air quality will continue to be monitored in line with the Council's Air Quality Action Plan</p>	

Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts	Affected populations
Positive	
1. The proposals may reduce greenhouse gas emissions and pollution as a result of reduced traffic and increased active travel.	All
2. The proposals may help plan for the future climate change/achieving carbon neutrality by Edinburgh's target of 2030	All

and promote sustainable forms of transport as modal shift may be achieved to more sustainable modes	
3. Fewer vehicular trips into urban areas and increases in the use of sustainable modes should provide opportunities to improve the quality of public spaces/public realm for non-car users	All
4. Improved opportunities to access greenspace and improved sense of place & community	All
5. Supporting active leisure trips to coastal areas, improving quality of life for citizens, and encouraging economic activity at coastal locations e.g. Portobello, Cramond, Granton, Silverknowes	All and coastal communities
6. Spaces for exercise measures may be retained, opening up new choice of destinations for people on foot and by bike, which has potential to reduce short car trips made for leisure reasons.	All
Negative	
1. Potential negative impacts associated with the displacement of traffic, congestion and pollution on the environment.	All
2. The visual appearance of the temporary measures has been reported as a concern in the consultation and engagement exercise. Cockburn Association put forward the point of view that interventions should be “place-led” rather than “transport-led”, and this was echoed by Better Edinburgh for Sustainable Transport (BEST)	Urban communities
Suggested Mitigation	
In response to 1, ensure designs consider impact on the wider road network.	
In response to 2, co-design with stakeholders is a positive way forward.	

Economic including socio-economic disadvantage	Affected populations
Positive	
1. The proposals may help people into positive destinations (including workplaces). Shift workers increased active travel options for travelling there/home	Shift workers
2. We have listened to feedback and recognise the need to support the local economy during this specific context of coming out of the pandemic and the infrastructure not being suited to longer-term	Business community

use here, and so it is proposed to remove measures on shopping streets.	
3. ETRO allows us to mark out loading arrangements where it is not possible through TTRO, leading to the potential for more beneficial outcomes for a greater majority	Business community
4. ongoing monitoring	All
Negative	
1. May negatively impact the viability of businesses who currently carry out loading on bus lanes.	Business community
2. Businesses and customers (including to services such as dental practices and nurseries) reported issues with the loss of parking in reducing the ability of customers to readily access their premises.	Business community
3. Measures are not on each street in the city, and so there will not be universal benefits	All
4. There has not been a great deal of scheme-specific correspondence received from businesses, and so the responses to the consultation are being considered as the main way we can assess the impact of the proposals on businesses. This may or may not accurately present the impacts experienced by business community members	Business community
Suggested Mitigation	
In response to 1, 2 – ETROs enable location-specific requirements to be catered to more readily than when utilising TTROs. The Council seeks to be in dialogue to arrive at the best outcomes which bring a favourable balance between positive contributions and risks/potentially negative outcomes.	
In response to 3 – in preparation of the recommendations, each scheme has been scored, where impact on business is one of the key scoring points. It is imperative that retained measures do not adversely disadvantage businesses as they recover from the pandemic, and the Council seeks dialogue with members of the business community where possible.	
In response to 4 – it is expected that a level of stakeholder engagement would take place subject to Committee decisions around retention of measures under ETRO	

9. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors and if so how will equality, human rights including children's rights, environmental and sustainability issues be addressed?

As part of the Council's procurement process due regard is required to be given to all equalities and rights, environmental and sustainability impacts when undertaking work on behalf of the Council.

10. Consider how you will communicate information about this policy/ service change to children and young people and those affected by sensory impairment, speech impairment, low level literacy or numeracy, learning difficulties or English as a second language? Please provide a summary of the communications plan.

A communications plan is in place, and will use a range of communication methods to reach out to different types of people. Communication will be in plain English and designed to be understood by a range of population groups. The Council's ITS translation service is available for materials to be available in alternative languages including Braille.

Communication channels include media promotion, press releases, outdoor advertising and lamp post banners. General updates are added to Council Twitter and Facebook with links to a dedicated page on the Council website. This provides a cost-effective way of empowering residents in Edinburgh to share with friends and enable wide distribution of information.

The Council intends to take appropriate next steps in a partnership/co-design approach with key stakeholders, such as RNIB, Living Streets, Spokes and Edinburgh Access Panel, to ensure different target audiences are reached and that key messages are appropriately tailored, and provided in a readily-accessible format for a range of groups of people.

11. Is the policy likely to result in significant environmental effects, either positive or negative? If yes, it is likely that a [Strategic Environmental Assessment](#) (SEA) will be required and the impacts identified in the IIA should be included in this.

An SEA has been undertaken for the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation Project and CMP which would be used as a reference document for any measures which may be retained.

12. Additional Information and Evidence Required

If further evidence is required, please note how it will be gathered. If appropriate, mark this report as interim and submit updated final report once further evidence has been gathered.

Additional consideration should be given to the impacts of each measure retained/adapted to ensure scheme-specific feedback has been taken on board, and that any potential negative impacts have a planned mitigation approach.

13. Specific to this IIA only, what recommended actions have been, or will be, undertaken and by when? (these should be drawn from 7 – 11 above) Please complete:

Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)	Who will take them forward (name and job title)	Deadline for progressing	Review date
Report to Transport and Environment Committee in June with this IIA	The Council's project team	17/06/21	17/06/21
Develop the communications plan	The Council's project team	15/07/21	17/06/21
Develop the stakeholder engagement plan and approach	The Council's project team	15/07/21	17/06/21
Develop the monitoring plan to measure the effectiveness of individual schemes if taken forward on an experimental basis under ETRO	The Council's project team	15/09/21	17/06/21
Update this IIA into the next stage	The Council's project team	15/09/21	17/06/21

14. Are there any negative impacts in section 8 for which there are no identified mitigating actions?

n/a

15. How will you monitor how this proposal affects different groups, including people with protected characteristics?

The consultation and engagement exercise outputs will be shared within the Council's project team, to ensure the exercise continues to deliver with consideration given to the valuable feedback and suggestions.

16. Sign off by Head of Service/ NHS Project Lead

Name  Head of Place Management

Date 11 June 2021

17. Publication

Completed and signed IIAs should be sent to strategyandbusinessplanning@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published on the IIA directory on the Council website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/impactassessments

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QUESTION NO 1

By Councillor Burgess for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question

What discussions have the Council had with the Scottish Government, with COSLA or other partners about how to finance and deliver low-carbon retrofit of council buildings including schools?

Answer

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QUESTION NO 1-2

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

At the 12 March 2020 meeting of the Council and in answer to question 9, the Convener advised that the planned pedestrian crossing at Bo'ness Road in Queensferry would be installed over the summer school holidays in 2020.

Question (1) Has the detailed design work for the crossing been completed?

Answer (1)

Question (2) What is the current expected installation date for the crossing?

Answer (2)

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QUESTION NO 3

By Councillor Lang for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) How many requests for new or replacement grey household wheelie bins have been requested since 1 January 2021, broken down by ward?

Answer (1)

Question (2) Of these grey household wheelie bin requests, what percentage have had new or replacement bins delivered

a) within 10 working days,

b) within 14 working days?

Answer (2)

Question (3) How many requests for new or replacement grey household wheelie bins are currently outstanding?

Answer (3)

Question (4) How many requests for new or replacement garden waste wheelie bins have been requested since 1 January 2021, broken down by ward?

Answer (4)

Question (5) Of these garden waste wheelie bin requests, what percentage have had new or replacement bins delivered

a) within 10 working days,

b) within 14 working days?

Answer (5)

Question (6) How many requests for new or replacement garden waste household wheelie bins are currently outstanding?

Answer (6)

Question (7) How many requests for new or replacement recycling wheelie bins have been requested since 1 January 2021, broken down by ward?

Answer (7)

Question (8) Of these recycling wheelie bin requests, what percentage have had new or replacement bins delivered

a) within 10 working days,

b) within 14 working days?

Answer (8)

Question (9) How many requests for new or replacement recycling wheelie bins are currently outstanding?

Answer (9)

QUESTION NO 4

By Councillor Munro for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) Following approval of the Budget for 2021/22 what meetings has the Council Leader held with Scottish Government Ministers and whom to improve Edinburgh's funding for 2021/22?

Answer (1)

Question (2) Have any meetings included the Deputy Leader?

Answer (2)

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QUESTION NO 5

By Councillor Munro for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 placed a duty on Local Authorities and Health Boards to annually produce a local child poverty action report . How many has Edinburgh produced?

Answer (1)

Question (2) What action has been taken

Answer (2)

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QUESTION NO 6

By Councillor Munro for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) Following the approval of the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) for 2021-26 what meetings has the Convener held with Scottish Government Ministers to improve funding for Housing in Edinburgh?

Answer (1)

Question (2) Have any meetings included the vice-convener?

Answer (2)

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QUESTION NO 7

By Councillor Munro for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) How many Community Education workers are directly employed by City of Edinburgh Council?

Answer (1)

Question (2) How many have redeployed during COVID?

Answer (2)

Question (3) What tasks have those remaining in Community Education undertaken and how many worked directly with their community?

Answer (3)

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QUESTION NO 8

By Councillor Munro for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question

Can the Convener provide details of the total number of Library workers, including the number of qualified librarians, in May 2007 and to date?

Answer

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QUESTION NO 9

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

On 20 April 2021, Policy and Sustainability Committee approved carbon literacy training for council officers.

Question (1) Please can the council leader confirm which council officers and departments will be prioritised for this training?

Answer (1)

Question (2) Specifically, what proportion of those officers to receive the training will be:

- a) senior managers,
- b) front-line officers in the divisions which will be at the forefront of cutting council and city-wide climate emissions, such as transport, planning, housing and waste?

Answer (2)

Question (3) Can the council leader also confirm when this training will take place?

Answer (3)

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Item no 10.10

QUESTION NO 10

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question **(1)** The papers for Education, Children and Families Committee on 28 May 2021 seemed to imply that the catchment area for Gaelic Medium Education (GME) will in future be the City of Edinburgh Council boundary only, where previously the catchment has included the whole of the Lothians.

Is it the council's intention to reduce the GME catchment to the CEC boundary only?

Answer **(1)**

Question **(2)** If so, what engagement has happened with neighbouring councils on this issue?

Answer **(2)**

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QUESTION NO 11

By Councillor Douglas for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question

Can the Convener confirm:

- a) How many complaints the Council has received regarding slurry sealing works on footways in the last five years?
- b) How long these preventative measures are expected to last before repaving is required?
- c) Whether the Council would consider a full reconstruction of a footway should local residents request one following dissatisfaction with slurry works?

Answer

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QUESTION NO 12

By Councillor Webber for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question

Irrespective of the source of funding, can the Convener please confirm how much was spent advertising the recent city-wide consultation on Street Schemes. This consultation had an unprecedented response and extremely high level of engagement with nearly 18,000 participants

- a) Radio
- b) Twitter
- c) Facebook
- d) Other Social Media, please specify
- e) Local Press
- f) Lamp post Wraps
- g) Other physical Signage, please specify.

Answer

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QUESTION NO 13

**By Councillor Johnston for answer
by the Convener of the Housing,
Homelessness and Fair Work
Committee at a meeting of the
Council on 24 June 2021**

For the second year in a row, the Company Accounts for Marketing Edinburgh Ltd have not been submitted on time, incurring fines in excess of £1,000. At time of writing the Accounts to March 2020 have still not been lodged and are verging upon being 3 months late.

Question (1) Why were the Accounts to March 2020 not lodged on time?

Answer (1)

Question (2) Are the assets of Marketing Edinburgh at risk if the company is struck off for non-submission of Accounts to Companies House?

Answer (2)

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QUESTION NO 14

By Councillor Laidlaw for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) Does the Convener agree that last year the downgrading of pupil's assessment results by the SQA, based on historical attainment of the schools and the catchments, was unfair and should not be repeated this year?

Answer (1)

Question (2) If so can the Convener explain why the CEC Guidance on SQA Alternative Certification Model states on Page 4: *"We will work with schools to develop effective support for moderation at the centre, which will include sharing data on prior attainment and looking at provisional patterns of attainment for this session."*

And on Page 8: "The Curriculum Leader and the DHT attainment/HT meet to review the provisional results compared to historical data. Implications are considered, and adjustments made as appropriate. Justification for any change is recorded."

Answer (2)

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QUESTION NO 15

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 24 June 2021**

On the Spaces for People: Moving Forward section on the council website the Council makes the following statement: *"There is a notable difference in the general level of support and opposition between the market research and survey responses from residents. The market research is more representative of the views of residents as participants are a statistically representative sample of opinions based on Edinburgh's population demographic. The online survey were 'self-selecting' responses so are not statistically representative."*

On point 4.17 in the report to the Transport and Environment Committee: *"Potential retention of Spaces for People measures"* it is stated: *"It is worth noting that in previous cases where consultation and market research has been carried out on the same topic, for example 20mph speed limits, a similar pattern was observed, with much higher levels of opposition in consultation results compared with answers to market research."*

Question **(1)** It is a concerning trend that there are a number of examples where consultation and market research finding differ so significantly. However, it is always known that consultations are 'self-selecting' responses, therefore why was the consultation launched at a cost of £50,000 if it was felt that the 'self-selecting' responses would not be appropriate for gathering public opinion?

Answer **(1)**

Question **(2)** Has it been considered that market research respondents 'self-select' when they apply to join panels in the first place, and then they also 'self-select' as when invited to participate, they make a choice whether to participate or not?

Answer **(2)**

Question **(3)** Are people paid to give their opinion now more valued than individual residents giving their time to share their opinion on a matter that directly impacts them?

Answer **(3)**

(4) Has the Council considered that it could be the market research being flawed in some way that is leading to the significant mismatch in findings alongside the consultations?

(4)

QUESTION NO 16

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 24 June 2021**

The Convener has highlighted an issue that the public consultation was spammed but this was identified early on, and impacted responses were removed prior to analysis. No such statement has been made about the market research used to inform the report on the potential retention of Spaces People measures.

Question **(1)** Would the Convener consider that the following comments in the market research appear to be anomalies that need further investigation on the basis that the comments are essentially meaningless, but very similar, and while scattered, they include two sets of consecutive pairs in terms of timing of submission (respondent 321 & 322, and 370 & 371)?

Answer **(1)**

Question **(2)** Would the Convener agree that these comments are not identical enough (e.g. the misspelling of 'modificatiions' in row 371) to suggest that some sort of 'autofill' has been to blame, so these must have been manually and separately input somehow?

2	If you wish to make a comment about measures you would li...
321	ested modification
322	ing suggested modificatio
365	ding suggested modifications
370	ing suggested modifications
371	suggested modificatiions

Answer **(2)**

Question **(3)** Would the Convener agree that the other responses provided by the person providing those comments are essentially very similar, so this would justify investigation?

2	Area	And finally, how many cars or vans are owned, or available for private use, by members of your household? Include any company cars or vans available for private use.	Age	Gender	Question Weight
321	Central		1 25 – 44	Male	1.08698
322	Central		1 25 – 44	Male	1.08698
365	Central		1 25 – 44	Male	1.08698
370	Central		1 25 – 44	Male	1.08698
371	Central		1 25 – 44	Male	1.08698

2	Measures to provide more space and improve road safety for parents and children near schools	Measures to provide more space and improve road safety for parents and children near schools	New protected cycle lanes on main roads (e.g. Comiston Road, Ferry Road, Crewe Road, Old Dalkeith Road)	New protected cycle lanes on main roads (e.g. Comiston Road, Ferry Road, Crewe Road, Old Dalkeith Road)	Additional space for walking and/or cycling in shopping streets (e.g. Morningside, Corstorphine, Stockbridge, Gorgie)	Additional space for walking and/or cycling in shopping streets (e.g. Morningside, Corstorphine, Stockbridge, Gorgie)	Additional space for walking and/or cycling in the city centre, (e.g. Waverley Bridge closure, Mound cycle lane)	Additional space for walking and/or cycling in the city centre, (e.g. Waverley Bridge closure, Mound cycle lane)	Measures to provide more space for people to exercise. (e.g. closures to motor traffic of Silverknoes Road, Links Gardens, Braid Road, Cammo Walk)	Measures to provide more space for people to exercise. (e.g. closures to motor traffic of Silverknoes Road, Links Gardens, Braid Road, Cammo Walk)	New signed 'quiet connections' for cycling, with road closures to reduce traffic (e.g. Greenbank to Meadows, Hope Lane and Stanley St)	New signed 'quiet connections' for cycling, with road closures to reduce traffic (e.g. Greenbank to Meadows, Hope Lane and Stanley St)	Can you select the schools with Spaces for People measures that you are most familiar with?	Can you select the schools with Spaces for People measures that you are most familiar with?	Can you select the schools with Spaces for People measures that you are most familiar with?	Can you select the schools with Spaces for People measures that you are most familiar with?
321	I often use a road with traffic	Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I am aware Not used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used			Boroughmuir High School			
322	I often use a road with traffic	Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I am aware Not used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used			Boroughmuir High School			
365	I often use a road with traffic	Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used			Boroughmuir High School			
370	I often use a road with traffic	Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used			Boroughmuir High School			
371	I often use a road with traffic	Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used	I often use ; Used	I occasionally Used	I occasionally Used			Boroughmuir High School			

Answer (3)

Question (4) Would it concern the Convener to learn that other consecutive respondents in the market research have shown almost identical but fractionally different responses which on initial examination impacts a minimum of 13 responses?

Answer (4)

QUESTION NO 17

By Councillor Rust for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) Please provide a full list of stakeholders who were invited to submit responses to the recent Stakeholder consultation for retaining Spaces for People measures.

Answer (1)

Question (2) Please provide a full list of stakeholders who then responded.

Answer (2)

Question (3) Please provide a full list of any stakeholders who were not permitted to submit a response or whose response was not considered.

Answer (3)

Question (4) Please provide the criteria for being considered as a stakeholder.

Answer (4)

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QUESTION NO 18

**By Councillor Rust for answer by the
Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 24 June 2021**

Question

In the market research commissioned in relation to Spaces for People, how was it technically possible for nearly 30 people (5% of the statistically representative sample) to provide the same answer for their most often, and third most often mode of transport when asked:

"During the pandemic, what forms of transport have you most often used when travelling around Edinburgh?
(including for short trips to the local shop etc, and leisure trips, as well as longer journeys around town)"

and

"Thinking back before the pandemic, what forms of transport did you most often use when travelling around Edinburgh?
(including for short trips to the local shop etc, and leisure trips, as well as longer journeys around town)"?

	During pandemic													Pre pandemic		
	Most often	2nd most often	3rd most often	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Most often	2nd most often	3rd most often
2																
5	Cycle	Walk	Bus			Bus		Walk		Cycle				Walk	Bus	Cycle
89	Cycle	Walk	Bus			Bus		Walk		Cycle				Bus	Cycle	Walk
130	Cycle	Walk	Car	Car				Walk		Cycle				Car	Cycle	Walk
144	Cycle	Walk	None					Walk		Cycle			None	Cycle	Bus	Walk
146	Cycle	Walk	Bus			Bus		Walk		Cycle				Cycle	Bus	Walk
148	Cycle	Walk	Bus			Bus		Walk		Cycle				Bus	Walk	Cycle
275	Cycle	Bus	Walk			Bus		Walk		Cycle				Bus	Cycle	Walk
292	Cycle	None								Cycle			None	Cycle	None	
296	Cycle	Car	Cycle	Car						Cycle				Walk	Cycle	Bus
321	Cycle	Bus	Cycle			Bus				Cycle				Bus	Cycle	Bus
333	Cycle	Car	Walk	Car				Walk		Cycle				Cycle	Car	Walk
340	Cycle	Walk	Car	Car				Walk		Cycle				Cycle	Walk	Car
346	Cycle	Walk	Bus					Walk		Cycle				Cycle	Walk	Bus
370	Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private hire car	Taxi/Private	Bus					Cycle				Cycle	Bus	Cycle
371	Cycle	Bus	Cycle			Bus				Cycle				Bus	Taxi/Private	Cycle
372	Cycle	Bus	Cycle			Bus				Cycle				Taxi/Private	Cycle	Taxi/Private
377	Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private hire car	Taxi/Private	Bus					Cycle				Cycle	Taxi/Private	Bus
379	Cycle	Bus	Cycle			Bus				Cycle				Taxi/Private	Bus	Cycle
448	Cycle	Car	None	Car						Cycle			None	Cycle	Car	Bus
565	Cycle	Taxi/Private	Bus			Taxi/Private	Bus			Cycle				Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private
566	Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private hire car	Taxi/Private	Bus					Cycle				Cycle	Taxi/Private	Bus
568	Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private hire car	Taxi/Private	Bus					Cycle				Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private
580	Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private hire car	Taxi/Private	Bus					Cycle				Cycle	Taxi/Private	Cycle
581	Cycle	Bus	Taxi/Private hire car	Taxi/Private	Bus					Cycle				Cycle	Car	Bus

During pandemic

Pre pandemic

	Most often	2nd most often	3rd most often	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Transport used during pandemic	Most often	2nd most often	3rd most often
2																	
393	Car	Taxi/Private	Car	Car	Taxi/Private	hire car								Car	Taxi/Private	Car	
526	Car	Walk	Car	Car				Walk						Walk	None		
164	Bus	Car	Bus	Car		Bus								Bus	Car	Walk	
322	Bus	Cycle	Bus			Bus				Cycle				Cycle	Bus	Cycle	
344	Bus	Tram	Bus			Bus	Tram							Bus	Tram	None	
503	Bus	Walk	Bus			Bus		Walk						Walk	Bus	Walk	
60	Walk	Car	Walk	Car				Walk						Car	Tram	Other	
115	Walk	Bus	Walk			Bus		Walk						Walk	Bus	Walk	
216	Walk	Bus	Walk			Bus		Walk						Bus	Walk	Bus	
467	Walk	Bus	Walk			Bus		Walk						Walk	Bus	Walk	
468	Walk	Bus	Walk			Bus		Walk						Walk	Bus	Walk	
472	Walk	Bus	Walk			Bus		Walk						Walk	Bus	Car	
194	Bus	Car	Taxi/Private	Car	Taxi/Private	Bus								Taxi/Private	Bus	Taxi/Private	
372	Cycle	Bus	Cycle			Bus				Cycle				Taxi/Private	Cycle	Taxi/Private	
234	Car	Walk	Bus	Car		Bus		Walk						Car	Bus	Car	
393	Car	Taxi/Private	Car	Car	Taxi/Private	hire car								Car	Taxi/Private	Car	
521	Car	Walk	Taxi/Private	Car	Taxi/Private	hire car		Walk						Car	Walk	Car	
195	Tram	Car	Bus	Car		Bus	Tram							Bus	Car	Bus	
210	Car	Cycle	Walk	Car				Walk		Cycle				Bus	Cycle	Bus	
338	Car	Tram	Walk	Car			Tram	Walk						Bus	Tram	Bus	
365	Bus	Cycle	Taxi/Private	hire car	Taxi/Private	Bus				Cycle				Bus	Cycle	Bus	
512	Car	Taxi/Private	Bus	Car	Taxi/Private	Bus								Bus	Walk	Bus	

Answer

QUESTION NO 19

By Councillor Rust for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

A - Market research agency role and costs

In the report to Transport and Environment Committee "*Potential retention of Spaces for People measures*" it refers to Social Marketing Gateway (SMG) and Jump carrying out the research.

Question (1) Please can you clarify the roles and responsibilities each of these agencies had.

Answer (1)

Question (2) Please can you clarify all costs associated with the work these agencies did on the market research including analysis and presentation.

Answer (2)

Question (3) Please can you clarify if all costs were incurred directly by the council, or did third parties such as Sustrans or Transport Scotland pay any costs directly.

Answer (3)

B - Consultation

Question (4) In answers to my questions to Full Council on 11th March 2021 the total costs of the consultation were expected to be approximately £60,000. Those anticipated costs were before it was known that the consultation would attract such a significant level of responses (c.17,600) which must impact analysis time. Please can you confirm if there are any changes to costs and officer time involved in anything to do with managing the consultation.

Answer (4)

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QUESTION NO 20

By Councillor Rust for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question

In an answer to a supplementary question at a previous council meeting in April 2021 by the Finance and Resources Convener, it was stated that Transport Scotland had paid Sustrans directly to design the Lanark Road, Longstone, Murrayburn Road, Slateford Road and Braid schemes. Please can the Convener explain this rather unusual funding arrangement and why design of these schemes was not covered by the Council through Spaces for People funds.

Answer

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QUESTION NO 21

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Leader of the Council at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) Further to his answer to my question on this subject on 27 May, please can the council leader outline:

- a) On what dates and times within the last two months has he discussed the issue of Gaelic Medium Education with any Scottish Government minister or Cabinet Secretary;
- b) In each case, what was the conclusion of the discussion.

Answer (1)

Question (2) Can the council leader please also outline what future calls, meetings or discussions he has planned with any Scottish Government minister or Cabinet Secretary on the subject of GME over the next two months?

Answer (2)

Question (3) Can the council leader also clarify whether he made clear to the Cabinet Secretary for Education, when he spoke to her in May, that the council's preferred option of Liberton is supported by only 15% of parents surveyed by Comann nam Pàrant?

Answer (3)

Question (4) Can the council leader also clarify how the Liberton location is seen to be consistent with the SNP manifesto commitment for "the creation of a standalone GME secondary school in central Edinburgh."?

Answer (4)

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QUESTION NO 22

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question (1) The following central locations have been suggested for a Gaelic Medium Education secondary school:

- a) the current Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion;
- b) the old Royal High School;
- c) the old Tynecastle High School;
- d) the Lothian Buses depot on Annandale Street;
- e) the former Royal Victoria Hospital site; and
- f) the council's former depot at Russell Road;

Please can the Convenor outline the distance of each of these from:

- i) Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce
- ii) James Gillespie's High School and
- iii) Darroch annexe

Answer (1)

Question (2) Please can the Convenor outline the proportion of the current TnP school roll who live within 3 miles of each potential site?

Answer (2)

Question (3) Please can the Convenor also outline which, if any of these potential sites have been discussed with a) the current owner, if not the council; and b) the Scottish Government, with a view to assessing the feasibility of each of these sites for a central, standalone GME secondary school?

Answer (3)

QUESTION NO 23

By Councillor Rust for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 24 June 2021

Question

The Convener was quoted in the Edinburgh Evening News as stating *inter alia*: “45 per cent of the people in this city do not have access to a car”.

However, in the Council’s statistically representative market research sample, only 167 out of 583 people said they had no access to a car. That is only 29%.

Is the 45% quoted incorrect or this sample not statistically representative?

Answer

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QUESTION NO 24

**By Councillor Johnston for answer
by the Convener of the Transport and
Environment Committee at a meeting
of the Council on 24 June 2021**

Question

Can the Convener advise when an independent safety audit will be carried out on the Lanark Road and Longstone Spaces for People measures and what scope there is for local people to feed in to said audit?

Answer

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