Notice of meeting and agenda

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am Tuesday, 22nd February, 2022

Virtual - Via Microsoft Teams

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to watch the webcast live 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 Any items under "Private Business" will not be published, although the decisions will be recorded in the minute.

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THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

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

5. Forward Planning

6. Business Bulletin

7. Executive Decisions

Executive Director of Place

(Note: Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron has been called for this item.)

8. Routine Decisions

9. Motions

9.1 If any

Deputations

Nick Smith

Service Director, Legal and Assurance

Committee Members

Councillor Adam McVey (Convener), Councillor Cammy Day (Vice-Convener), Councillor Robert Aldridge, Councillor Steve Burgess, Councillor Jim Campbell, Councillor Kate Campbell, Councillor Nick Cook, Councillor Neil Gardiner, Councillor Gillian Gloyer, Councillor Graham Hutchison, Councillor Lesley Macinnes, Councillor John McLellan, Councillor Claire Miller, Councillor Rob Munn, Councillor Ian Perry, Councillor Donald Wilson and Councillor Iain Whyte

Information about the Policy and Sustainability Committee

The Policy and Sustainability Committee consists of 17 Councillors and is appointed by the City of Edinburgh Council. This meeting of the Policy and Sustainability Committee is being held virtually by Microsoft Teams.

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Jamie Macrae, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2.1, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG, Tel 0131 553 8242 / 0131 529 4264, email jamie.macrae@edinburgh.gov.uk / louise.p.williamson@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 https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/.

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Minutes

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00 am, Tuesday 30 November 2021

Present

Councillors McVey (Convener), Day (Vice-Convener), Aldridge, Burgess, Jim Campbell, Fullerton (substituting for Councillor Kate Campbell), Gardiner, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston (substituting for Councillor Cook (items 12-31)), Macinnes, Miller, Mitchell (substituting for Councillor McLellan (items 21-31)), Mowat (substituting for Councillor Cook (items 1-11)), Munn, Perry, Rose (substituting for Councillor McLellan (items 1 – 20)), Whyte and Wilson.

1.   Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 5 October 2021 as a correct record.

2.   Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme

The Policy and Sustainability Committee Work Programme for 30 November 2021 was presented.

Decision

To note the Work Programme.

(Reference – Work Programme 30 November 2021, submitted.)

3.   Policy and Sustainability Committee Rolling Actions Log

Details were provided of the outstanding actions arising from decisions taken by the Committee.

Decision

1)   To agree to close the following actions:

    Action 4 – Tourism and Hospitality Sector Recovery Plan – Follow Up

    Action 6 – Update on the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Older People Joint Inspection Improvement Plan

    Action 8 – Council's Emissions Reduction Plan

    Action 9 – Anti-Social Behaviour Motion Report

    Action 10 – - Motion by Councillor Watt - Women's Safety in Public Places

Action 11 – Edinburgh Economy Strategy Development Report and City Centre Recovery Action Plan

Action 13 – Adaptation and Renewal Programme Update – Vaccination Programme update

Action 15 – Ventilation – Motion by Councillor Jim Campbell

Action 16 – Creating a Safer First and Last Mile Journey for Women and Girls – motion by Councillor Osler

Action 17 – Fossil Fuel Non Proliferation Treaty – motion by Councillor Burgess

Action 18 - Council Owned Care Homes – EIJB – motion by Councillor McVey

2)   To otherwise note the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

4.   Business Bulletin

The Policy and Sustainability Committee Business Bulletin for 30 November 2021 was submitted.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin 30 November 2021, submitted.)

5.   Adaptation and Renewal Update

An update was provided on the Adaptation and Renewal Programme which covered decisions taken in period 23 July to 24 September 2021 together with an update on the reopening of Community Centres and continuing and new pressures on services which were directly and indirectly impacted by Covid-19.

Dona Milne from NHS Lothian provided an update on the Covid Vaccination Programme.

Decision

1)   To note the Council's latest Covid-19 position following the statement from the First Minister on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 and associated Scottish Government guidance.

2)   To note the Covid-19 Response Dashboard at Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive.

3)   To note the decisions taken to date under urgency provisions from 24 September to 12 November 2021 at Appendix 2 of the report.

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

6.   Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020/21

Details were provided on the Council's statutory report for 2020/21 on compliance with the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD), for submission to the Scottish Government on 30 November 2021.

Decision

1)   To approve the City of Edinburgh Council Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD) Report 2020/21, for submission to the Scottish Government on 30 November 2021.

2)   To note that Council emissions had reduced by 66% from a 2005/2006 baseline and that there had been an 11% decrease in emissions since last year.

3)   to note that emissions reductions had been largely achieved through a reduction in electricity consumption - mainly due to lighting or other energy efficiency upgrades, property closures during the pandemic, and grid decarbonisation.

4)   To note that the Council's strategic approach to reducing its corporate emissions was set out in the Council's Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) and was presented separately to the Policy and Sustainability Committee on the 30 November 2021 agenda.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

7.   Council Emissions Reduction Plan – Final Version

Details were provided on the Council's Carbon Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) which set out an initial pathway to netzero for the City of Edinburgh Council by 2030 by targeting the Councils major emissions sources; energy (buildings and lighting), waste, fleet and transport. The plan reflected the Council's carbon reduction commitment as a signatory of the City Climate Compact.

Motion

1)   To agree the final Council Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) as set out in Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive.

2)   To note that Council emissions totalled 65,647 tCO2e in 2020/21 (a 11% decrease compared to 2019/20), representing 35% (just over one third) of the three-years' cumulated carbon budget for the period 2020/21 to 2022/23.

3)   To note that the CERP set out actions the Council would take to reduce its carbon footprint and that the emissions impact of these would reviewed and refined as further data became available and additional actions were developed.

4)   To note that the Council's organisational emissions were updated annually and reported to the Scottish Government through the Public Bodies Climate Change Duty Reporting (PBCCD).

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 1

To add to the motion by Councillor McVey:

"5)   Committee notes that very few of the actions identified fall int the "committed projects" category and that grid decarbonisation external to the Council is by far the greatest of these, and agrees that a further report is presented to Policy and Sustainability Committee and the Finance and Resources Committee in June 2022 to provide an updated overview with financial and timescale implications for the remaining projects and the innovation and offsetting required to meet the Council's 2030 target."

- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell

Amendment 2

To add to the motion by Councillor McVey:

"5)   Recognises as stated in 2.1 of the report that the Council Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) sets out an 'initial pathway' to net zero for the Council and that there are significant emissions in sectors of council activity where actions to achieve reductions are yet to be identified, including about half the emissions from council buildings and fleet and therefore appreciates that the CERP is a rolling plan that will need to continually updated and revised to 2030.

6)   Notes that the significant additional resources, for example to retrofit council buildings, are unlikely to be met from council budgets alone and agrees to raise this challenge with the Scottish Government at the earliest opportunity.

7)   Welcomes the carbon budgets set out in Table 2 of the plan and agrees that overall progress will be evaluated against a 3-year carbon budget tCo2e.

8)   Agrees that a progress report on the CERP is brought back to this committee annually for scrutiny."

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Miller

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), Amendment 2 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)   -   9 votes
For Amendment 1   -   7 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Burgess, Day, Gardiner, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry and Wilson

For Amendment 1: Councillors Aldridge, Jim Campbell, Gloyer, Hutchison, Mowat, Rose and Whyte

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1) To agree the final Council Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) as set out in Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive.

2) To note that Council emissions totalled 65,647 tCO2e in 2020/21 (a 11% decrease compared to 2019/20), representing 35% (just over one third) of the three-years' cumulated carbon budget for the period 2020/21 to 2022/23.

3) To note that the CERP set out actions the Council would take to reduce its carbon footprint and that the emissions impact of these would reviewed and refined as further data became available and additional actions were developed.

4) To note that the Council's organisational emissions were updated annually and reported to the Scottish Government through the Public Bodies Climate Change Duty Reporting (PBCCD).

5) To recognise as stated in 2.1 of the report that the Council Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) set out an 'initial pathway' to net zero for the Council and that there were significant emissions in sectors of council activity where actions to achieve reductions were yet to be identified, including about half the emissions from council buildings and fleet and therefore appreciate that the CERP was a rolling plan that would need to be continually updated and revised to 2030.

6) To note that the significant additional resources, for example to retrofit council buildings, were unlikely to be met from council budgets alone and agree to raise this challenge with the Scottish Government at the earliest opportunity.

7) To welcome the carbon budgets set out in Table 2 of the plan and agree that overall progress would be evaluated against a 3-year carbon budget tCo2e.

8) To agree that a progress report on the CERP be brought back to this committee annually for scrutiny.

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

8. 2030 Climate Strategy and Implementation Plan

The Committee had considered the views of around 920 residents and other stakeholders who took part in the Council's online survey, submitted a letter, or participated in one of the virtual focus groups held over the summer on the draft Climate Strategy.

An overview of the key developments in the Climate Strategy 2030, as well as a final strategy and implementation plan was provided.

Motion

1) To note the changes to the 2030 Climate Strategy following consultation and ongoing engagement with city partners, and in response to discussion themes from COP 26.

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2) To note that the deliverability of the strategy is dependent upon identifying and securing sufficient funding and investment.

3) To agree the 2030 Climate Strategy as attached in Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive.

4) To agree the supporting 2030 Climate Strategy Implementation plan, as attached in Appendix 2 to the report.

5) To note the framework for measuring progress against the 2030 Climate Strategy's outcomes set out in the implementation plan.

6) To agree that progress on the 2030 Climate Strategy priorities will be reported in line with annual reporting on the City's 2030 target.

7) To note that approximately 120,000 privately owned homes in Edinburgh will need to be retrofitted over the next decade in order to reach net zero.

8) To agree that emissions reductions and not off-setting is the aim of the strategy, however, acknowledges that a number of Edinburgh-based businesses and organisation currently do, or plan to, offset as part of a net zero strategy.

9) To note that finance from off-setting by local organisations should remain local and support the city's net zero transition.

10) To ask officers to work with local partners to explore options for progressing a local scheme as soon as practicable, including assessment of using the Council-owned ESCO for delivery.

11) To ask officers and Edinburgh Climate Commission to engage with Scottish Government to bring forward guidance as a matter of urgency on how a local off-setting scheme could be established to support the urgent transition of the city and delivery of local community benefits.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment 1

1) To note the changes to the 2030 Climate Strategy following consultation and ongoing engagement with city partners, and in response to discussion themes from COP 26.

2) To note that the deliverability of the strategy is dependent upon identifying and securing sufficient funding and investment.

3) To note the framework for measuring progress against the 2030 Climate Strategy's outcomes set out in the implementation plan.

4) To agree that the Final 2030 Climate Strategy and Implementation Plan remain in draft until a costed delivery plan is developed detailing a realistic pathway to net zero for Edinburgh that fully addresses:

   • the issues outlined in section 4.5 of the report – specifically noting that many aspects remain to be developed, require Governmental action,

require funding from unidentified sources and/or require offsetting which has not yet been developed;

- the physical and workforce changes required in the Edinburgh economy to achieve the changes required and the timescales within which these are possible;

- the projected impact of further UK national changes such as grid decarbonisation that, to date, have had the greatest impact on reducing Edinburgh's emissions;

- an estimate of the full funding requirements (upfront and residual) for citizens, businesses and the public sector;

- that the framework for measuring progress be further developed with appropriate milestones linked to this pathway.

5) To agree that a revised plan detailing these requirements is presented to the new Council for consideration in June 2022.

6) To agree that, for the avoidance of doubt, the Council will continue to work in the interim to take all action possible to reduce climate change emissions in the City.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Mowat

Amendment 2

1) To note the changes to the 2030 Climate Strategy following consultation and ongoing engagement with city partners, and in response to discussion themes from COP 26.

2) To note that the deliverability of the strategy is dependent upon identifying and securing sufficient funding and investment.

3) To agree the 2030 Climate Strategy as attached in Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive.

4) To agree the supporting 2030 Climate Strategy Implementation plan, as attached in Appendix 2 to the report.

5) To note the framework for measuring progress against the 2030 Climate Strategy's outcomes set out in the implementation plan.

6) To agree that progress on the 2030 Climate Strategy priorities will be reported in line with annual reporting on the City's 2030 target.

7) To recognise and agree that the 2030 Climate Strategy an Implementation plan will need to be continually developed over the next 9 years.

8) To recognise the key role that this Council has in co-ordinating development of this City-wide strategy and roll-out of the implementation plan and agrees that the need to sufficiently resource this work will be considered when setting future council budgets.

9)   To agree that the five thematic partnerships and the Infrastructure Investment Program board be asked assess progress annually and a report brought to this committee.

10)   To agree that the regulatory, financial and other major barriers preventing the City's emissions reduction to net zero as identified in this strategy will be formally reported to the Scottish and UK Governments and a response requested.

11)   To recognise that a key area of work is the development of approaches to decarbonisation that have affordable funding models and agrees that the Infrastructure Investment Programme board be asked to make this work a priority.

12)   To agree to promote the Community Climate Forum through all available council communication channels and requests regular reporting back to committee on its activity.

13)   To agree to seek the views of the Edinburgh Climate Commission and the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute on this strategy and implementation plan and requests that these views are reported to committee.

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Miller

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the motion

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)   -   12 votes
For Amendment 1   -   5 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Aldridge, Burgess, Day, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry and Wilson

For Amendment 1: Councillors Jim Campbell, Hutchison, Mowat, Rose and Whyte

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1)   To note the changes to the 2030 Climate Strategy following consultation and ongoing engagement with city partners, and in response to discussion themes from COP 26.

2)   To note that the deliverability of the strategy was dependent upon identifying and securing sufficient funding and investment.

3)   To agree the 2030 Climate Strategy as attached in Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive.

4)   To agree the supporting 2030 Climate Strategy Implementation plan, as attached in Appendix 2 to the report.

5) To note the framework for measuring progress against the 2030 Climate Strategy's outcomes set out in the implementation plan.

6) To agree that progress on the 2030 Climate Strategy priorities would be reported in line with annual reporting on the City's 2030 target.

7) To note that approximately 120,000 privately owned homes in Edinburgh would need to be retrofitted over the next decade in order to reach net zero.

8) To agree that emissions reductions and not off-setting was the aim of the strategy, however, to acknowledge that a number of Edinburgh-based businesses and organisation currently did, or planned to, offset as part of a net zero strategy.

9) To note that finance from off-setting by local organisations should remain local and support the city's net zero transition.

10) To ask officers to work with local partners to explore options for progressing a local scheme as soon as practicable, including assessment of using the Council-owned ESCO for delivery.

11) To ask officers and Edinburgh Climate Commission to engage with Scottish Government to bring forward guidance as a matter of urgency on how a local off-setting scheme could be established to support the urgent transition of the city and delivery of local community benefits.

12) To recognise and agree that the 2030 Climate Strategy and Implementation plan would need to be continually developed over the next 9 years.

13) To recognise the key role that this Council had in co-ordinating development of this City-wide strategy and roll-out of the implementation plan and agree that the need to sufficiently resource this work would be considered when setting future council budgets.

14) To agree that the five thematic partnerships and the Infrastructure Investment Program board be asked to assess progress annually and a report brought to this committee.

15) To agree that the regulatory, financial and other major barriers preventing the City's emissions reduction to net zero as identified in this strategy would be formally reported to the Scottish and UK Governments and a response requested.

16) To recognise that a key area of work was the development of approaches to decarbonisation that had affordable funding models and agree that the Infrastructure Investment Programme board be asked to make this work a priority.

17) To agree to promote the Community Climate Forum through all available council communication channels and request regular reporting back to committee on its activity.

18) To agree to seek the views of the Edinburgh Climate Commission and the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute on this strategy and implementation plan and request that these views be reported to committee.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee, 5 October 2021 (item 13); report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

9. Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty - Response to Motion by Councillor Burgess

In response to a motion by Councillor Burgess, details were provided on the implications for the City of Edinburgh Council should they endorse the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, a global initiative to phase out fossil fuels and support a just transition.

Motion

To agree that the information in the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services supports Edinburgh signing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and agrees that the Council should sign to support the aims of reaching net-zero by 2030.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1) To note the report into the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and agrees to endorse the Treaty.

2) To agree that the Council Leader should convey this endorsement to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty organisation and write to the Scottish Government to encourage their support for such a treaty.

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Miller

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the Paragraph 2 of the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1) To agree that the information in the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services supported Edinburgh signing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and agree that the Council should sign to support the aims of reaching net-zero by 2030.

2) To agree that the Council Leader should convey this endorsement to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty organisation and write to the Scottish Government to encourage their consideration for such a treaty.

(References – Act of Council No 19 of 26 August 2021; report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

10. Delivering the 20-Minute Neighbourhood Strategy

An update was provided on the implementation of the 20-Minute Neighbourhood Strategy, by setting out the five strands of work through which the programme would be delivered together with an update on specific projects.

Decision

1)   To note the update on the implementation of the 20-Minute Neighbourhood strategy that was approved by Committee on 10 June 2021.

2)   To note that any new or emerging projects would be referred to the appropriate Committee for future approval.

3)   To note that regular updates would be provided to Committee as implementation of the strategy progresses.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 10 June 2021 (item 15); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

11. Women's Safety in Public Places

In response to motions by Councillors Osler and Watt, details were provided on the current context in which the Council worked to improve women's safety together with an overview of work undertaken to improve women's safety in public places, and the challenge of men's behaviours which created real and perceived danger for women. Recommendations and future actions to ensure women's safety was embedded in the roll-out of 20-minute neighbourhoods noting the importance of capturing perceptions of citizens alongside measures to evaluate safety were outlined and options presented on consultations that could be taken forward.

Motion

1)   To note that the content of the report by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services acknowledged both the need for attitudinal, behavioural and structural change across society while also calling the council to action to improve women's safety in public places.

2)   To approve the proposed course of action to strengthen and expand existing safety measures already implemented by the Council with a gendered lens in all forward planning and implementation.

3)   To consider the options for a consultation around the public places and spaces in Edinburgh that could assist in identifying where women felt safe, where they felt less safe and what could be done to improve their safety.

4)   To consider strengthening existing community resources currently in place to enhance women's safety in public places as well as the introduction of additional measures specifically pertaining to women's safety in public spaces.

5)   To consider the implementation of a campaign targeted at men's thoughts, actions and behaviours around women's safety, as well as sustained activity

highlighting how men could act as allies in promoting the safety of women in public spaces.

6)   To consider the adoption of additional safety measures in public spaces of particular concern to women, and the allocation of funds required for their adoption.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1)   To note the report brought forward by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services and the analysis of the societal impacts on Women's Safety but is concerned that the report is very theoretical and very little of the report covers more practical measures that the Council has sole responsibility for and that contribute directly to women's safety;

2)   Notes that only one paragraph is concerned with street lighting and fails to fully explore how street lighting can contribute to both increasing the perception of a space as a safe space and discourage perpetrators from engaging in violent or intimidating behaviours, as well as aid the identification of those who engage in these activities; this being an important because part of driving the change in behaviour we all want to see by making those who perpetrate it accountable;

3)   Committee therefore calls for:

   a)   A further report detailing where street lighting on public paths and in open spaces has been reported as inadequate and what standards apply to the lighting of public paths and parks;

   b)   A review of the Common Space data to see where poor public lighting and general concerns for safety have been reported and whether these two reviews provide sufficient information to form the basis of a plan for consultation and improvement or whether further work is required.

- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Whyte

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), paragraph 3(b) of the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)   -   10 votes
For Amendment 1   -   7 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Burgess, Day, Fullerton, Gardiner, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry and Wilson

For Amendment 1: Councillors Aldridge, Jim Campbell, Gloyer, Hutchison, Mowat, Rose and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1) To note that the content of the report by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services acknowledged both the need for attitudinal, behavioural and structural change across society while also calling the council to action to improve women's safety in public places.

2) To approve the proposed course of action to strengthen and expand existing safety measures already implemented by the Council with a gendered lens in all forward planning and implementation.

3) To consider the options for a consultation around the public places and spaces in Edinburgh that could assist in identifying where women felt safe, where they felt less safe and what could be done to improve their safety this should include a review of the Common Space data to see where poor public lighting and general concerns for safety had been reported and whether these two reviews provided sufficient information to form the basis of a plan for consultation and improvement or whether further work was required.

4) To consider strengthening existing community resources currently in place to enhance women's safety in public places as well as the introduction of additional measures specifically pertaining to women's safety in public spaces.

5) To consider the implementation of a campaign targeted at men's thoughts, actions and behaviours around women's safety, as well as sustained activity highlighting how men could act as allies in promoting the safety of women in public spaces.

6) To consider the adoption of additional safety measures in public spaces of particular concern to women, and the allocation of funds required for their adoption.

(References – Act of Council No 8 of 29 April 2021; Act of Council No 16 of 26 August 2021; report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

12. Edinburgh's Winter Festivals – Consultation Results

The Culture and Communities Committee had approved an emergency motion requesting a public consultation on the future of the Winter Festivals from 2022 to be undertaken.

An update was provided on the results of that consultation.

Motion

1) To note the outcomes of the Winter Festivals Consultation.

2) To note that the key findings from the consultation would inform the specification and event brief for the procurement exercise to deliver new events from 2022/23.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1) To note the outcomes of the Winter Festivals Consultation.

2) To note that the key findings from the consultation would inform the specification and event brief for the procurement exercise to deliver new events from 2022/23.

3) To agree that the new event brief should detail the specific actions needed to achieve events targeted at the Edinburgh community in a few City Centre locations and in some of Edinburgh's town centres in order to spread the economic benefit throughout the city.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Mowat

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1) To note the outcomes of the Winter Festivals Consultation.

2) To note that the key findings from the consultation would inform the specification and event brief for the procurement exercise to deliver new events from 2022/23.

3) To agree that the new event brief should detail the specific actions needed to achieve events targeted at the Edinburgh community in a few City Centre locations and in some of Edinburgh's town centres in order to spread the economic benefit throughout the city.

(References – Culture and Communities Committee of 18 June 2019 (item 14); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

13. Edinburgh Economy Strategy

Details were provided on the outcome of consultation and engagement activity with businesses, citizens and partner organisations which had been carried out over July to October 2021 in support of a refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy. In response to the findings, and analysis of latest economic data for the city, a refreshed strategy set out a vision and work programmes to ensure Edinburgh was a Stronger, Greener, and Fairer economy which defined priorities for Council delivery over the next few years, and the principles and priorities that would guide the way the Council worked with partners, investors, businesses, and communities towards shared goals.

Motion

1) To note the consultation and engagement activity undertaken to support development of a refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy.

2) To agree the refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy (Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director of Place).

3)   To agree the governance and partnership working arrangements proposed for this strategy, including the convening of an annual 'Edinburgh Means Business' conference.

4)   To agree that an annual report monitoring progress on delivery of this strategy be provided for scrutiny by this Committee.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1)   To note the consultation and engagement activity undertaken to support development of a refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy.

2)   To note that while some involved simple tasks like writing a letter, the 108 items on the implementation plan in Appendix 4 to the report by the Executive Director of Place were not accompanied by a measurement framework.

3)   To further note the limitations and low targets in the 13 key performance indicators detailed in Appendix 5 to the report (monitoring progress).

4)   To agree to continue consideration of the Economy Strategy to allow for development of a detailed measurement framework.

5)   To note the council elections were only five months away and agree to defer further consideration of economic strategy until after May 5 when the new administration could set out its priorities.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Rose

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion   -   9 votes
For the amendment   -   7 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Aldridge, Day, Gardiner, Gloyer, Macinnes, McVey, Munn, Perry and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Burgess, Jim Campbell, Hutchison, Johnston, Miller, Rose and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

14.   Supporting the Visitor Economy in Edinburgh

Details were provided on the outcome of the recent review of all aspects of the Visitor Economy in Edinburgh and the steps taken to implement the recommendations from the review. Approval was also sought to commence the winding up of Marketing Edinburgh Limited (Marketing Edinburgh), which, subject to submission of all of the necessary documentation, was expected to come into effect three months after the process was commenced.

Motion

1)   To note the recent review of all aspects of the Visitor Economy in Edinburgh, the steps taken to implement recommendations from the review and the timeline for implementation of agreed actions.

2)   To approve the winding up of Marketing Edinburgh Limited, and instruct the Board and Council officers to make the necessary arrangements to wind up the company.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1)   To note the recent review of all aspects of the Visitor Economy in Edinburgh, the steps taken to implement recommendations from the review and the timeline for implementation of agreed actions.

2)   To approve the winding up of Marketing Edinburgh Limited, and instruct the Board and Council officers to make the necessary arrangements to wind up the company.

3)   To request a report in one cycle to detail the city's marketing strategy for 2022, including an evaluation of the "Forever Edinburgh" campaign.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Hutchison

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1)   To note the recent review of all aspects of the Visitor Economy in Edinburgh, the steps taken to implement recommendations from the review and the timeline for implementation of agreed actions.

2)   To approve the winding up of Marketing Edinburgh Limited, and instruct the Board and Council officers to make the necessary arrangements to wind up the company.

3)   To request a report in two cycles to detail the city's marketing strategy for 2022, including an evaluation of the "Forever Edinburgh" campaign acknowledging that any information that may be commercially sensitive be reported via a members briefing instead of contained in the report.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

15.   Performance Update Report

The first Performance Update report to the Committee and update on progress with implementation of the new Planning and Performance Framework (PPF) was presented.

Motion

1) To note the Performance Update report.

2) To note the progress to date and next steps for implementation of the Council's Planning and Performance Framework.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1) To note the Performance Update report.

2) To note the progress to date and next steps for implementation of the Council's Planning and Performance Framework.

3) To note that the majority of KPIs still have no target.

4) To note with concern that almost half of the KPIs where performance is behind target are in the section entitled "Core services are maintained and improved"

5) To note the council elections are only five months away and agrees that a further report is presented to an early committee after May 5 suggesting targets for the remaining KPIs and actions to improve core services to be considered by the new Council.

- moved by Councillor Rose, seconded by Councillor Hutchison

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion   -   10 votes
For the amendment   -   7 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Burgess, Day, Fullerton, Gardiner, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Jim Campbell, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, Rose and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

16.   Duty of Candour

Details were provided on the Council's responsibility as a local authority and Responsible Person within its duty of candour responsibilities as set out by the Scottish Government. The Council was required to develop and maintain local procedures, processes and systems for recording and reporting, managing, and responding to an unintended incident that had caused harm, serious harm, or death of a person.

Decision

1) To note the Council policy, procedure and accompanying documentation as detailed in the report by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services.

2) To approve the Council Duty of Candour Policy, which was underpinned by the Scottish Government's The Duty of Candour Procedure (Scotland) Regulations 2018 which were provisions of the Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Act 2016 (The Act).

3) To acknowledge that the Council had a collective legal duty as the Responsible Person to act appropriately and with honesty and openness in the event of unintended harm caused during the delivery of health, care or social work services.

4) To understand that the Council's approach to its duty of candour responsibilities were central to providing safe, responsible and accountable public services.

(Reference – report by the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, submitted.)

17. Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Savings and Recovery Programme 2021/22 Update

An update was provided on the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) 2021/22 Savings and Recovery Programme up to the end August 2021 (Period 5), focusing on the City of Edinburgh Council's (CEC) elements of the programme.

Motion

To note the current position of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board's Savings Recovery Programme 2021/22.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1) To note the current position of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board's Savings Recovery Programme 2021/22.

2) To request a quarterly update to this committee on the progress of the EIJB's Saving and Recovery Programme.

3) That where a project's savings are at risk, the quarterly reporting should detail how the additional expenditure reduction will achieved.

4) To refers the report to the Finance and Resources Committee for scrutiny of the impact on the Council budget.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Hutchison

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an amendment to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1) To note the current position of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board's Savings Recovery Programme 2021/22.

2) To request a bi-annual update to this committee on the progress of the EIJB's Saving and Recovery Programme.

3) That where a project's savings are at risk, the bi-annual reporting should detail how the additional expenditure reduction will achieved.

(Reference – report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

18. Update on the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Older People Joint Inspection Improvement Plan

Details were provided on the improvement activity undertaken by the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) in response to the Joint Inspection of Older People's Services in 2016 together with the approach taken to provide evidence of improvement, key improvements delivered and the formal feedback from the Joint Inspection Team on their assessment of progress.

Motion

1) To note the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, which summarised significant improvement progress made in relation to the recommendations of the Joint Inspection of Older People's Services in 2016.

2) To note that formal feedback had now been provided by the Joint Inspection Team, that progress had been assessed overall as positive and that no further review/scrutiny activity was planned in relation to this inspection.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1) To note the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, which summarised significant improvement progress made in relation to the recommendations of the Joint Inspection of Older People's Services in 2016.

2) To note that formal feedback had now been provided by the Joint Inspection Team, that progress had been assessed overall as positive.

3) To request a further update in June 2022 on the outstanding actions set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, some of which remained subject to approval by the EIJB.

- moved by Councillor Jim Campbell, seconded by Councillor Rose

In accordance with Standing Order 21(12), the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McVey:

1) To note the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, which summarised significant improvement progress made in relation to the recommendations of the Joint Inspection of Older People's Services in 2016.

2) To note that formal feedback had now been provided by the Joint Inspection Team, that progress had been assessed overall as positive and that no further review/scrutiny activity was planned in relation to this inspection.

3) To request a further update in June 2022 on the outstanding actions set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, some of which remained subject to approval by the EIJB.

(Reference – report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted)

19. Bed Based Care – Progress Report

In response to a motion by Councillor McVey, an update was provided on the work which was underway to implement the phase 1 proposals for the Bed Based Care Review and the engagement and consultation activity which was also progressing as planned.

Decision

To note the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership as an update on progress of the delivery of phase 1 of the bed-based care review.

(References – Act of Council No 2 of 23 September 2021; report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

20. Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2020-2021

Details were provided on a broad outline of some of the key issues facing social work and social care in Edinburgh including data on statutory services, areas of decision making and the main developments and challenges.

Decision

1) To note the Chief Social Work Officer's (CSWO) Annual Report for 2020/21 attached at Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Social Work Officer.

2) To refer the report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information.

3) To agree that updated reports would come forward to the Policy and Sustainability Committee as the work progressed.

(Reference – report by the Chief Social Work Officer, submitted.)

21. Council's Risk Appetite Statement

The Council's Risk Appetite Statement was set out for approval.

This document should be read together with the Council's Enterprise Risk Management Policy which was also submitted for approval to the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 30 November 2021.

The risk appetite statement included in the report superseded the Council's existing risk appetite statement dated 6 October 2020.

Motion

1)   To note that the Council's attitude to taking risk should be set at the top level of the organisation and cascaded down, and that this 'risk appetite' may be different across different services and types of risks.

2)   To note that risk appetite was already set and established in many areas through governance arrangements; frameworks; policies, existing controls and schemes of delegation.

3)   To approve the Council's updated risk appetite statement presented within the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

4)   To refer the report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for information.

- moved by Councillor McVey, seconded by Councillor Day

Amendment

1)   To note that the Council's attitude to taking risk should be set at the top level of the organisation and cascaded down, and that this 'risk appetite' may be different across different services and types of risks.

2)   To note that risk appetite was already set and established in many areas through governance arrangements; frameworks; policies, existing controls and schemes of delegation.

3)   To agree to maintain the Risk Appetite Statement agreed by Committee in October 2020 for the previous 11 enterprise risks and the addition of the 2 new enterprise risks as the Council's ongoing approach noting that while the Covid-19 operational resilience environment may make it harder to mitigate risk to within the Risk Appetite it should not reduce the Council's intention to manage Enterprise Risks and continue to provide essential core services to a high standard.

4)   To refer the report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for information.

- moved by Councillor Whyte, seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	10 votes
For the amendment	-	6 votes

(For the motion: Councillors Burgess, Day, Fullerton, Gardiner, Macinnes, McVey, Miller, Munn, Perry and Wilson.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Jim Campbell, Gloyer, Johnston, Mitchell and Whyte.)

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor McVey.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

22. Enterprise Risk Management Policy

The Enterprise Risk Management Policy described the Council's overarching risk management approach and was supported by a more granular operational risk management framework that described how the policy would be applied by all Council directorates and divisions. The Policy had been refreshed and superseded the existing policy dated October 2020.

Decision

1) To approve the Council's updated Enterprise Risk Management Policy as set out in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

2) To refer the report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for information.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

23. Draft Response to the Scottish Government National Care Service (NCS) Consultation

Details were provided on the Council's draft response to the Scottish Government's consultation on proposals for a National Care Service, supplemented by a detailed paper, positively endorsed efforts to improve social care and social work, how it was valued and the outcomes it achieved for citizens in Edinburgh.

Decision

To note the response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the National Care Service, approved by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader under urgency provisions set out in A4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions so as to meet the consultation deadline.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

24. Update on Indoor Air Quality (Response to Motion)

In response to a motion by Councillor Jim Campbell, an update was provided on the work being carried out on the indoor air quality in Council buildings and the plan which had been implemented to address the requirement for all schools and day care services to have access to CO2 monitoring, as well as reviewing indoor air quality in other settings.

Decision

To note the work undertaken to date and actions underway, including the monitoring of indoor concentrations of carbon dioxide, to support the delivery of good levels of ventilation across the Council's property estate.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 3 August 2021 (item 17); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

25. City 2030 Net Zero Target Annual Report

Details were provided on the latest emissions inventory of the city of Edinburgh (2019/20), based on the most recent datasets available. The calculation methodology was based on the Global GHG Protocol for Cities (GPC)1.

Decision

1) To note the city had achieved emissions reductions of 8% between 2018/19 and 2019/20, based on the most up-to-date data available; and that the 8% reduction achieved exceeded the target of 6% for that period agreed by Committee in April 2021.

2) To note that the figures presented in the report by the Chief Executive were provisional due to the publication of two datasets being delayed. Figures would be updated as soon as available, but it was expected that the impact on the total footprint would be negligible as the missing datasets accounted for less than 2% of the total city emissions.

3) To note that main reductions came from the greening of the grid, a reduction in waste emissions as a result of Millerhill plant becoming operational; and a decrease in emissions from cars and vans.

4) To note the future emissions reporting schedule for the year ahead.

5) To note that Edinburgh was one of 95 global cities recently named as new generation of climate leaders on CDP 2021 A-List; meaning it had been recognized by CDP as a city that was taking bold leadership on environmental action and transparency.

6) To note that in 2020 and 2021, Edinburgh had been awarded with the maximum of six badges by the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy recognising its climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

26. City of Edinburgh Council Response to the Local food for Everyone consultation

Approval was sought for the proposed Council response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the three pillars of its Local Food Strategy and related activity, which broadly welcomed the work the Scottish Government was doing on local food but called for more investment and support at the local level in order to achieve the aims of the strategy and ensure access to local food for everyone.

Decision

1) To approve the proposed Council's response to the Scottish Government consultation on Local Food for Everyone.

2) To note that the consultation closed on 26 November 2021, but that permission has been granted for the Council to submit its response a few days late following the Committee meeting.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

27. Policies – Assurance Statement – Legal and Assurance

To ensure that Council policies reflected current legislative requirements and best practice, all Council directorates and policy owners were required to review their policies on an annual basis.

A number of policies owned by Legal and Assurance were presently under review.

Decision

To note the update in relation to the Council policies detailed in the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services and that work was ongoing to update some of the policies to ensure that they reflected current legislative requirements and best practice and were fit for purpose.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

28. Policies Assurance Statement – Customer Services

To ensure that Council policies reflected current legislation, best practice and remained fit for purpose, they were required to be reviewed on an annual basis. An assurance update on the key policies managed within Customer Services part of the Customer and Digital Services Division in the Corporate Services Directorate - Corporate Debt Policy, Discretionary Housing Payments Policy, Council Tax Policies (second homes and empty properties) and Non-Domestic Rates Policy (Discretionary Relief), was presented.

Decision

To note that Council policies detailed in the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services had been reviewed and were considered to reflect current legislative requirements and best practice and therefore remained fit for purpose.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

29. Human Resources (HR) Policies - Assurance Statement

Details were provided on the employment or Human Resources (HR) policies, which had been developed, consulted on, and approved by the Policy and Sustainability Committee in the last 12 months together with a commitment to prioritise and agree a programme of employment work for 2022/23.

Decision

1) To note the Council HR/employment policies and guidance which had been reviewed in the last year.

2) To note the commitment to finalise a programme of policy review and approval for 2022/23, taking into account the recommendations from the Independent Inquiry reported to the City of Edinburgh Council on 28 October 2021.

30. Welfare Reform Update

An update was provided on the Council's ongoing welfare reform activities which included the implementation of Universal Credit.

Decision

1) To note the ongoing work to support Universal Credit (UC) and Welfare Reform in Edinburgh.

2) To note the current spend projections for Discretionary Housing Payments, Council Tax Reduction Scheme and the Scottish Welfare Fund.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

31. Contact Centre Performance: April - September 2021

The Contact Centre performance for the period April to September 2021 was presented together with information on associated service improvement activities, as well as changes to service delivery resulting from COVID-19 restrictions and ongoing recovery action.

Decision

1) To note the current performance trends within the Contact Centre.

2) To note the ongoing improvement activities to ensure that Council services were easy to access, and citizen queries and complaints were dealt with effectively.

3) To note the service delivery changes as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

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Work Programme

Policy and Sustainability Committee
22 February 2021

	Title / description	Purpose/Reason	Routine / Executive	Lead officer	Directorate	Progress updates	Expected date
1	Council Asbestos Policy	Annual Review	Routine	Chris Lawson	Corporate Services	Annual	October 2022
2	Council Fire Safety Policy	3 Year Review	Routine	Chris Lawson	Corporate Services	Annual	June 2024
3	Council Health and Safety Policy	3 Year Review	Routine	Chris Lawson	Corporate Services	Annual	December 2023
4	Council Water Safety Policy	3 Year Review	Routine	Chris Lawson	Corporate Services	Annual	June 2024
5	Council Smoke Free Policy	3 Year Review	Routine	Chris Lawson	Corporate Services	Annual	December 2023
6	Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22	Monitoring Report	Executive	Eleanor Cunningham	Corporate Services	Annual	February 2022
7	Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-21	Annual Update	Executive	Caroline Peacock/Susan Falconer	Place	Annual	February 2022

	Title / description	Purpose/Reason	Routine / Executive	Lead officer	Directorate	Progress updates	Expected date
8	Welfare Reform	Annual Update	Routine	Sheila Haig	Corporate Services	Annual	November 2022
9	Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	Progress Report	Executive		Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership	6-monthly	February 2022
10	Older People Joint Inspection Improvement Plan	Progress report	Executive	Marian Gray	Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership	6-monthly	June 2022
11	Energy Management Policy for Operational Buildings - Annual Report.	Progress report	Executive	Gareth Barwell	Place	Annual	December 2022
12	Policy Assurance Statement – Customer Services	Annual report	Executive	Nicola Harvey	Corporate Services	Annual	November 2022
13	Policy Assurance Statement - Human Resources (HR)	Annual report	Executive	Katy Miller	Corporate Services	Annual	November 2022

	Title / description	Purpose/Reason	Routine / Executive	Lead officer	Directorate	Progress updates	Expected date
14	Policy Assurance Statement - Legal and Assurance	Annual report	Executive	Nick Smith	Corporate Services	Annual	November 2022
15	Contact Centre Performance	Update report	Executive	Nicola Harvey	Corporate Services	Annual	November 2022
16	Digital and Smart City Strategy	Annual report	Executive	Nicola Harvey	Corporate Services	Annual	October 2022
17	Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report	Annual report	Executive	Jackie Irvine	Education and Children's Services	Annual	November 2022
18	Diversity and Inclusion Strategy	Annual update	Executive	Katy Miller	Corporate Services	Annual	October 2022
19	Police Scotland Update	Annual plan	Executive	Jamie Macrae	Corporate Services	Annual	October 2022
20	Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update	Quarterly Update	Executive	Jamie Macrae	Corporate Services	Quarterly	March 2022 June 2022 October 2022
21	Fire and Rescue Service	Annual plan	Executive	Jamie Macrae	Corporate Services	Annual	October 2022

	Title / description	Purpose/Reason	Routine / Executive	Lead officer	Directorate	Progress updates	Expected date
22	Carbon Impact of the Council's International Travel	Annual Report	Executive	Paula McLeay/Gavin King	Corporate Services	Annual	Spring 2022
23	End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan 2020-30	Annual Report	Executive	Chris Adams	Corporate Services	Annual	Autumn 2022
24	2030 City Target Monitoring Approach	Annual Report	Executive	Claire Marion	Corporate Services	Annual	November 2022
25	Appointments to Working Groups	Annual Report	Executive	Jamie Macrae	Corporate Services	Annual	August 2022
26	Corporate Performance updates	Bi-Annual Update	Executive	Edel McManus	Corporate Services	Bi-annual	June 2022
27	Annual Performance report and LGBF report	Annual	Executive	Edel McManus	Corporate Services	Annual	June 2022
28	Council Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP)	Annual Update	Executive		Corporate Services	Annual	November 2022
29	Edinburgh Economy Strategy	Annual Progress	Executive	Chris Adams	Place	Annual	November 2022

	Title / description	Purpose/Reason	Routine / Executive	Lead officer	Directorate	Progress updates	Expected date
30	EIJBs Savings and Recovery Programme	Bi-annual Update	Executive		Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership	Bi-annual	June 2022

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Policy and Sustainability Committee Upcoming Reports   **Appendix 1**

Report Title	Directorate	Lead Officer
MARCH 2022		
Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update	Corporate Services	Jamie Macrae
Supporting the Visitor Economy in Edinburgh	Place	Elin Williamson
Forever Edinburgh Update	Place	Elin Williamson
Best Value Assurance Audit-Progress Report	Corporate Services	Hayley Barnett
Our Future Work Strategy - Update	Corporate Services	Michael Richardson
Chief Executive and Chief Officer Disciplinary Policy	Chief Executive	Katy Miller
Domestic Abuse Policy	Corporate Services	Katy Miller
Family Leave Policy	Corporate Services	Katy Miller
JUNE 2022		

Recycling in Schools	Place	Mark Stenhouse
Update on the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Older People Joint Inspection Improvement Plan	Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership	
Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update	Corporate Services	Jamie Macrae
Corporate Performance updates	Corporate Services	Edel McManus
Annual Performance report and LGBF report	Corporate Services	Edel McManus
EIJBs Savings and Recovery Programme - Update	Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership	
Draft Biodiversity 2030 Strategy and new Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan	Place	Caroline Peacock/Susan Falconer
Outcome of Slavery and Colonialism Legacy Review	Place	Gillian Findlay
Improving Accessibility and Inclusion for Edinburgh Citizens and Visitors (motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron)	Place	
West Edinburgh Spatial Strategy	Place	David Cooper

Rolling Actions Log

Policy and Sustainability Committee

22 February 2022

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
1	04.10.16	Business Case for the Management Transfer of Secondary School Sports Facilities to Edinburgh Leisure – Progress Report	That an update report be submitted to Committee in 6 months.	Chief Executive (for Education and Children's Services)	Ongoing		**Update 9 July 2020** With the instigation of the Covid-19 lockdown and other measures in place, the transfer of the two schools was put on hold on the 25th March 2020. The last 2 schools to transfer WHEC and Leith Academy will not do so until Edinburgh Leisure is back up and running and they are able to be transferred.

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
							Update 25 June 2020 To agree that a final report be submitted to Committee.
2	01.02.18	City of Edinburgh Council Motion by Councillor Mowat – Edinburgh's Christmas and Hogmanay 2017/18 ([Agenda for 1 February 2018](#))	Council requests that the review of the contract for Edinburgh's Christmas and Hogmanay should recognise that the implementation of this contract cuts across many council functions and services and should be considered at the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee.	Executive Director of Place	Summer 2022		**Update 22 February 2022** An update on the consultation was presented to Committee in November 2021. -------------------- This contract is in place until Winter Festival 2022. The review of the contract will be presented to Policy and Sustainability Committee.

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
3	06.02.20	City of Edinburgh Council – Motion by Councillor Main – Recycling in Schools	To request: a) All council services involved, including Schools, Estates: Facilities Services and Catering Service, and Waste Services work together to review and provide fit for purpose recycling services in each of our schools to be completed before the start of the 2020/21 academic year within policy and current budgets, and reporting any financial challenges in doing so to the report requested. b) A report to the Policy and Sustainability Committee outlining the service provided for each school at the start of the 2020/21	Executive Director of Place	7 June 2022		**Update 1 June 2021** Due to the ongoing Covid restrictions in place in schools and schools meals continuing to be delivered in classrooms until September 2021, it is proposed to provide committee with a update report in early 2022 **Update - 6 October 2020** Report to Committee – agreed to leave open until the information requested had been provided. **Update – 11 June 2020**

No	Date	Report Title	Action		Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			Academic Year and including plans for a Carbon Neutral Edinburgh 2030.					Following discussion with Councillor Main it has been agreed that this report will be deferred to September 2020, to enable the relevant service areas to prioritise work to support schools re-opening and to incorporate lessons learned arising from the Covid-19 lockdown period.
4	06.10.20	Recycling and Waste Collection in Schools	1)	Requests that a report on the progress of the introduction of the new service is brought back to committee in six months.	Executive Director of Place	7 June 2022		**Update 1 June 2021** Due to the ongoing Covid restrictions in place in schools and schools meals continuing to be delivered in classrooms until September 2021, it is proposed to provide
			2)	To agree to consider food waste recycling	Executive	End May		

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			receptacles in schools as broken down in Appendix 2 and provide an update to members	Director Place	2022		committee with a update report in early 2022
5	23.02.21	[Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Savings and Recovery Programme 2020/21 Update]	To note the current position of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board's Savings and Recovery Programme 2020/21 and request an update on savings programmes relevant to the Council's responsibilities come back to this Committee by the end of year	Chief Officer, Edinburgh Integration Joint Board	22 February 2022	30 November 2021	**Recommended for closure** A report was submitted to Committee on 30 November 2021
6	10.06.21	[Petition for Consideration - Resettle Refugees and Asylum Seekers from the Aegean Island Camps in]	To request a report on the issues raised by the petitioner and the Committee	Executive Director of Education and Children's Services	22 February 2022		**Recommended for closure** Report on the agenda for this meeting

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No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
		Edinburgh					
7	03.08.21	Youth Work in Community Centres and Other Locations	To agree to receive a further report on the youth work strategy in October.	Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services	Early 2022		**Update – October 2021** The full report will be submitted at a later date when Council officers and partners are better placed to provide an informed report, following the Scottish Government launch the National Youth Work Strategy in early 2022. An update will be included on the Business Bulletin in November.
8	23.09.21	City of Edinburgh Council – Better School Milk – motion by Councillor Burgess	To request a report into the introduction of organic school milk with reduced use of single-use plastic in Edinburgh Council-run schools to the Policy &	Executive Director of Place	22 February 2022		**Recommended for closure** Report on the agenda for this meeting

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			Sustainability committee within two cycles.				
9	05.10.21	In-house Service Provision - Response to a motion by Councillor Day	To note the work being undertaken by officers and request a further update in 3 cycles to look at opportunities to bring services in house from the hard FM contract during 2021/22 financial year.	Executive Director of Place	September/ October 2022		
10	05.10.21	Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 11 August 2021 - referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee	To instruct the Chief Executive to provide a detailed report on the actions overdue by more than a year, within the purview of this Committee, for review regarding future timescale for sign off and adequacy of actions taken	Chief Executive	22 February 2022		**Recommended for closure** Report on the agenda for this meeting
11	28.10.21	City of Edinburgh Council – Community Wealth - Motion by	To call for a report in two cycles to Policy and Sustainability committee setting out Edinburgh's	Executive Director of Place	22 February 2022		**Recommended for closure** Report on the agenda

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
		Councillor Day	approach to People centred approaches/Community Wealth building and identify any further opportunities going forward				for this meeting
12	28.10.21	City of Edinburgh Council – Small Business Saturday - motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron	To call for a report to the Policy and Sustainability Committee within 2 cycles setting out what advice and practical support Council can give to the small business sector to assist them improve the accessibility of their premises and to improve the overall sustainability of their business operations.	Executive Director of Place	22 February 2022		**Recommended for closure** Report on the agenda for this meeting
13	30.11.21	Supporting the Visitor Economy in Edinburgh	To request a report in two cycles to detail the city's marketing strategy for 2022, including an evaluation of the "Forever Edinburgh" campaign acknowledging	Executive Director of Place	29 March 2022		

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No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			that any information that may be commercially sensitive be reported via a members briefing instead of contained in the report.				
14	30.11.21	Update on the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Older People Joint Inspection Improvement Plan	To request a further update in June 2022 on the outstanding actions set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, some of which remained subject to approval by the EIJB.	Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership	7 June 2022		
15	16.12.21	City of Edinburgh Council - Improving Accessibility and Inclusion for Edinburgh Citizens and Visitors - Motion by	Council calls for a report to the Policy and Sustainability Committee within three cycles setting out progress on improving the accessibility and inclusion of Edinburgh; how this is being achieved; and what further	Executive Director of Place	7 June 2022		

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
		Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron	steps Council can take to work with its partners to improve the accessibility of major attractions, public services and amenities which are not in the Council ownership.				

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Business Bulletin

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Virtual - via Microsoft Teams

Policy and Sustainability Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
Councillor Adam McVey	Councillor Adam McVey (Convener)	Jamie Macrae, Committee Officer
Vice Convener: Councillor Cammy Day	Councillor Cammy Day (Vice-Convener)	Louise Williamson, Assistant Committee Officer
	Councillor Robert Aldridge	
	Councillor Kate Campbell	
	Councillor Jim Campbell	
	Councillor Nick Cook	
	Councillor Neil Gardiner	
	Councillor Gillian Gloyer	
	Councillor Graham Hutchison	
	Councillor Lesley Macinnes	
	Councillor Claire Miller	
	Councillor John McLellan	
	Councillor Rob Munn	
	Councillor Ian Perry	
	Councillor Steve Burgess	
	Councillor Iain Whyte	
	Councillor Donald Wilson	

Recent News	Background
Edinburgh Slavery and Colonialism Legacy Review The independent Edinburgh Slavery and Colonialism Legacy Review Group met for the fifth time on 17 January 2022 (postponed from December due to illness). Since the August meeting, a working party of both Review and Advisory Group members had drafted the online consultation survey which was launched on the Consultation Hub and ran from October until mid-January. This was supported by a communications campaign encouraging wide participation through social media channels and signposting in communities. Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council (ELREC) have carried out a series of community-based workshops with citizens of South Asian, African and Indian heritage and schools engagement is taking place in January. Feedback from the consultation is being collated and analysed and, along with the research carried out by University of Edinburgh interns, will be referenced in the report to be brought to the June Policy and Sustainability Committee.	Contact: Gillian Findlay, Curatorial and Engagement Manager Gillian.findlay1@edinburgh.gov.uk

Forthcoming activities:

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Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 22 February 2022

Adaptation and Renewal Update

Item Number	
Executive/Routine	Executive
Wards	All
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 Note the Council's latest Covid-19 position following the statement from the First Minister on Tuesday, 31 January 2022 and associated Scottish Government guidance.

1.2 Note the Covid-19 Response Dashboard at Appendix 1.

1.3 Note the decisions taken to date under urgency provisions from 13 November 2021 to 11 February 2022 at Appendix 2.

1.4 Agree that as the Adaptation and Renewal Programme has closed, this should be the last report covering the remit of the programme. Both the Covid-19 Dashboard and list of CIMT decisions will continue to be circulated to members for as long as is required.

Andrew Kerr
Chief Executive

Contact: Emma Baker, Change Manager
Strategic Change and Delivery Team, Corporate Services Directorate
E-mail: Emma.Baker@edinburgh.gov.uk

Policy and Sustainability Committee

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The City of Edinburgh Council continues to respond to the Covid-19 global pandemic and adhere to all Scottish Government guidelines on the reopening of services. Scotland now has limited restrictions remaining, including the wearing of face coverings where 1-meter social distancing cannot be maintained.

1.2 This is the fourteenth report to Committee and includes the latest Covid-19 dashboard and details decisions taken in the period 13 November 2021 to 11 February 2022 at the Council Incident Management Team (CIMT).

2. Background

Responding to Covid-19

2.1 The Chief Executive continues to chair a weekly Corporate Incident Management Team (CIMT) meeting and, in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader ensures that the decision made reflect the latest Scottish Government guidance. As restrictions evolve and change depending on the pandemic, CIMT will continue to respond, plan and communicate to the organisation the updated ways of operating.

First Minster's Update on Restrictions

2.2 The improving Omicron situation means that the restrictions implemented before Christmas 2021 are now being relaxed, along with some further relaxation of social distancing and mask wearing.

2.3 On Tuesday 26 January the First Minister announced that face covering exemptions requiring two-metre physical distancing will see a reduction to one-metre from Friday 28 January and face coverings will no longer be required for adults taking part in organised activities with children under five.

2.4 The measures which forced the closure of nightclubs and limited crowds at large indoor events were also lifted on 24 January. In addition, employers from 31 January were no longer required to ask staff to work from home. Organisations have however been encouraged to adapt a "hybrid" model, with staff spending time between home and the office.

2.5 On 10 February the First Minister announced that Secondary school pupils in Scotland will not need to wear face coverings in classrooms from 28 February.

Pupils will still need to wear masks in communal areas and when moving around inside school buildings. Specific restrictions relating to assemblies and transition visits for learners who will start primary or secondary in August 2022, will also be eased

3. Main report

Covid-19 Dashboard

3.1 The Covid-19 dashboard at Appendix 1 reflects the direct and indirect impacts of Covid-19 across the short, medium and longer term. It contains a wide range of information which highlights how Covid-19 continues to impact Edinburgh and more specifically Council services.

3.2 This monthly dashboard is supplemented with a weekly bulletin dashboard that provides the latest position on key data relating to the pandemic. This continues to be circulated to Elected Members every Thursday. It is proposed that this is the last monthly dashboard but that the weekly bulletin continues and is regularly reviewed to ensure it remains relevant.

Decisions taken from 13 November 2021 to 11 February 2022

3.3 A full list of decisions taken through the governance of CIMT by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader, from 24 September to 11 November 2021 is at Appendix 2.

3.4 CIMT meets every Thursday with the option to meet twice a week if required. Urgent issues are also raised weekly through the Corporate Leadership Team meeting (CLT).

Enhanced Outbreak Response

3.5 In partnership with NHS Lothian and neighbouring authorities, the Council continues to operate an Enhanced Outbreak Response. As at 11 February 2022, two Asymptotic Testing Centres (ATCs) are operating, one at McDonald Road and the other at Blackhall Library.

3.6 Four libraries at Oxgangs, Sighthill, Newington and Leith are still currently in use as Symptomatic Local Test Centres as this still a requirement from Scottish Government. Library provision across the rest of the estate has reopened. Negotiations are underway with the Scottish Government to return Oxgangs, Newington and Leith Library buildings back to library usage, with a timeline to be confirmed in the next few weeks.

Service Resumption

3.7 Any further resumption of service delivery was paused before Christmas with the concerns raised over the rising number of Omicron cases. CIMT is now once again

reviewing applications for the resumption of key services. However, it is hoped that if the situation continues to improve then teams will be invited back to the office in a phased return from April onwards as part of the Our Future Work programme. A six-month update on this work will be brought to the March Policy and Sustainability Committee which will include feedback on the hybrid work trials currently underway.

Updated on Workplace Health and Safely Controls

3.8   In December 2021 the Scottish Government enhanced obligations on employers in respect to Covid-19 controls, in response to the Omicron variant. This resulted in a number of changes including temporarily increasing the distance at which people could remove face coverings from 1-meter to 2-meters and requiring employers to enable employees to work from home where practicable.

3.9   These changes were removed on the 28 and 31 January respectively. Face coverings are required to be worn in workplaces, including communal areas, although can be removed where employees are more than 1-meter apart.

3.10   There is now no prescribed physical distancing requirement in legislation for wearing a face covering. However employers are required to take reasonable measures to minimise the incidence and spread of coronavirus on their premises. This includes consideration of measures to facilitate physical distancing and to reduce contact with others, as outlined in the Scottish Government guidance. There is also no set maximum number of people in workplaces, but employers and businesses are asked to avoid overcrowding.

3.11   Some teams such as Education and some Health and Social Care Services have applied a 2-meter rule and may continue to do this however guidance will be issued at a local level. Currently Test and Protect pick up close contacts of confirmed Covid-19 cases where someone has been within 2-meters for more than 15 minutes. Therefore, from a business continuity perspective this control continues to have merit as colleagues will have maintained the 2-meters and will not be required to be identified as a close contact.

3.12   The most recent advice from the Healthy and Safety Executive and the Scottish Government, on 28 January, has been for employers to focus on a risk-based approach to managing the risks from Covid-19. Controls include:

- Limiting the number of workplace contacts to reduce the likelihood of person to person transmission.

- Reducing the spread of water droplets from infected person onto others and surfaces using face coverings.

- Cleaning surfaces regularly to remove potential virus particles.

- Using hand hygiene to regularly remove potential virus particles and reduce the scope for surface to surface spread.

- Ventilating indoor spaces to remove potentially harmful aerosol droplets containing the virus which could be inhaled.

3.13 This is consistent with the considerations made of any workplace return by the Service Resumption and Our Future Work programme which the Health and Safety team will continue to support.

Pressures in the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

3.14 The biggest strategic risk facing the Council and the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership has been workforce capacity, both with our direct and commissioned services. To address this, we have taken the following steps:

- An ongoing recruitment campaign and joint working with Edinburgh College and Capital City Partnership to employ students as part of their studies and support them to undertake care roles flexibly around their timetable.

- Promoted the opportunity through payslips for HSC employees to work additional paid hours. This has been communicated widely by all senior leaders across the Council and through our internal communication channels.

- Encouraged employees working in other parts of the Council to train to work in our care homes, home care and support services, with appropriate supervision and support.

3.15 At week commencing 08 February 2022, 24 initial notes of interest had been received,10 students subsequently withdrew from the process. However, we are in the process of onboarding five of these students and hope to onboard a further five in the coming weeks. This resource will be used to target areas of deprivation, with support of our Third Sector Interface (TSI) partners.

3.16 In relation to casual work and volunteers, so far, a total of 35 internal applications have been received and currently 26 of these are progressing.

3.17 The HSCP has also received additional system / winter pressures funding from the Scottish Government and this is supporting a range of actions to support capacity including the One Edinburgh work which seeks to optimise current care capacity, the purchase of additional interim care beds and enhancing multi-disciplinary teams across the organisation

Adaptation and Renewal Programme - Closure

3.18 From the outset of Covid-19, we agreed three principles that would guide our decision-making process:

- to protect vulnerable residents;

- to keep staff as safe as possible; and,

- to continue to deliver as many essential services as possible.

3.19   The Adaptation and Renewal programme was established to guide the Council's operations and the response to Covid-19. Much of this work has now either completed or moved to business as usual within directorates.

3.20   Key deliverables from the Programme include:

Public Health Advisory

- Established the Test, Trace, Isolate and Support (TTIS) programme in partnership with NHS Lothian and Scottish Government, supporting the public and businesses.

- Providing additional staff from the Environmental Health Team to manage Asymptotic Testing Centres (ATCs) which are rotated around the city based on hot spots determined by data analysis.

- Developed refined guidance for the programme, organisation and stakeholders on restrictions and supported communication.

Service Operations and Wellbeing

- Established a key process for urgent service resumption and carried out data collection exercise to prioritise service delivery.

- Created five Council Resilience Centres from which the Council delivered essential frontline services requiring face-to-face contact, including areas such as housing, homelessness, welfare and benefits advice.

- In addition to the annual service payment, Edinburgh Leisure received an additional £3m in 2020-21 with a further support in 2021/22 to sustain their business. This has enabled Edinburgh Leisure to adapt to provide access to leisure and physical activity services in a safe and effective way.

- Supported the Library and Culture teams to reopen and develop new ways of operating.

Life Chances

- Provided vulnerable persons and shielding advice lines which, in Spring 2021, merged into our comprehensive social care service. This has enabled callers to access a range of support and advice.

- Administered the Self-Isolation Grant process which has awarded 8,125 applications, giving out over £4 million of essential financial support.

- Awarded over £4 million of support to those in crisis and made payments of over £12.6m of free school meal, school clothing and pandemic hardship payments.

- Distributed over 13,800 food parcels to families and children referred by schools and early years providers. This was in addition to free school meal payments for eligible school children which also continued throughout the holiday periods.

- Improve digital access to enable teachers and students to work both in school and remotely. Set up the Empowered Learning Programme which is now delivering over 40,000 devices to students and staff from P6 to S6. Further devices are being provided to P1-P5 and early years settings.

Sustainable Economic Recovery

- Supported around 3,851 businesses' through the Edinburgh Business Gateway services.

- Supported residents to access training, employment and learning opportunities with the provision of over 14,000 hours on a 1:1 basis from our employability providers. To date 1,181 individuals have gone on to secure a job, training or other positive outcomes following support from our services.

- Awarded a total of £420,000 to 87 small businesses to help them recruit young people and help those with additional barriers to getting a job.

- Continued our dedicated shopping campaign #ShopHereThisYear, which encouraged residents to support local businesses, and developed and delivered the next phase of Forever Edinburgh, showcasing everything our city has to offer residents and visitors.
- Developed the 20-minute Neighbourhood strategy which was agreed by Committee and is now into delivery with pilots underway in Portobello and Wester Hailes.

Change, People and Finance

- Delivered a Council Business Plan which set out the medium-term priorities and direction of the organisation for the next three years.

- Produced a revised 3-year Revenue and refreshed 10-year Capital Budget while managing the additional Covid-19 income from Scottish Government.

- Developed a new People Strategy 2021-2024

- Delivered the Our Future Work Strategy and set up a programme to take forward new models of work including hybrid.

3.21 A programme close report has now been collated along with a lessons learned exercise. Overall, the programme was considered as having supported the organisation to work across Directorates at the height of the crisis and to flex resource in the right ways.

3.22 The programme was structured to deliver several key outputs at a time when the organisation was under significant pressure, ensuring there was space to consider not only reactive actions to immediate issues but also actions and associated timelines for future delivery plans. The PMO for the programme also ensured a health check was carried out to continue to ensure the programme structures where fit for purpose.

4. Financial Impact

4.1   The financial impacts arising from this report are dealt with in Council Business Plan and Revenue Budget 21- 26 which was considered at Finance and Resources Committee and referred to the Budget Full Council on 18 February 2021.

4.2   A further budget update was considered at Committee on 20 May 2021 and approved at Full Council on 27 May 2021.

4.3   Budget setting for 22/23 will be considered at a Full Council meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022.

5. Background reading/external references

5.1   [Finance and Resources 20 May_ Revenue Budget Framework 2021/26 Update](#)

5.2   [City of Edinburgh 27 May_ Motions and Amendments](#)

5.3   [Scottish Government Guidance](#)

6. Appendices

6.1   Appendix 1 - Covid-19 Response Dashboard

6.2   Appendix 2 - Decisions taken from 13 November 2021 to 11 February 2022

Covid-19: Key indicators

The figures and charts have been updated using data published daily from Public Health Scotland. Last updated to 08th February 2022
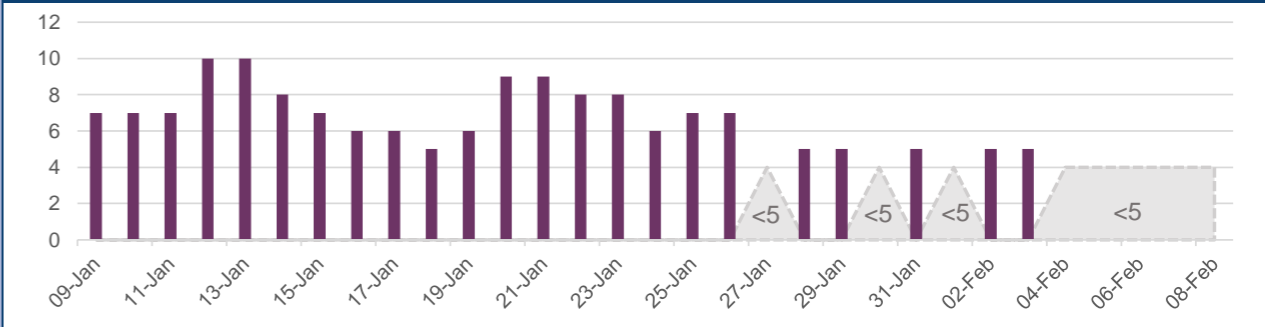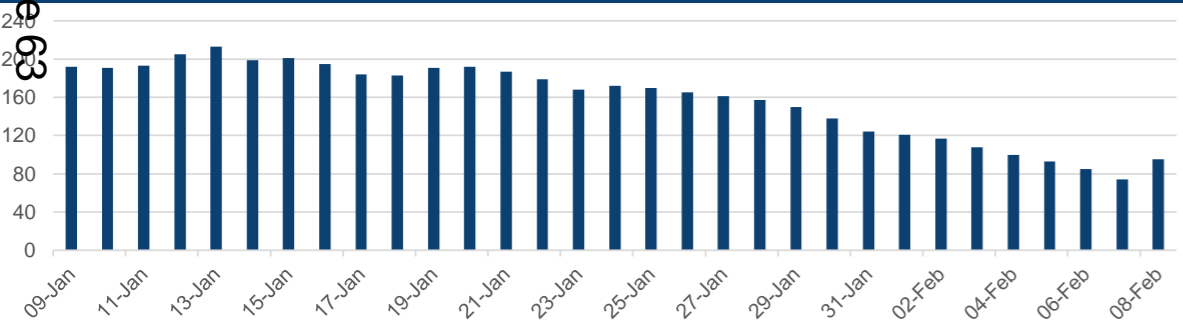
Overview of cases

475	cases per 100,000 (Edinburgh)	21.9%	Test positivity rate (Edinburgh)	2	deaths within 28 days of a positive test (Edinburgh)
▼ -77	less than last week	▲ 1.43%	more than last week	▼ -3	less than last week
	-13.9% decrease		1.43% increase		-60.0% decrease

Weekly cases per 100,000 (Trend over last month)	Test positivity rate (Trend over last month)	Number of deaths (Trend over last twelve weeks)
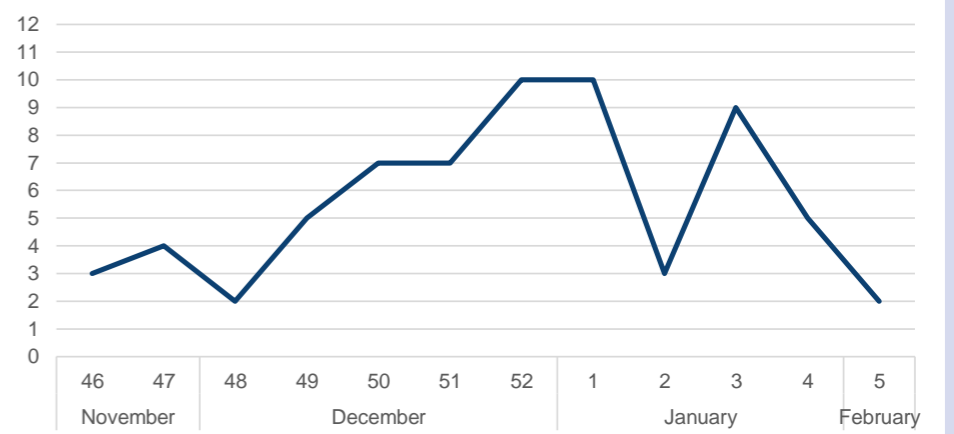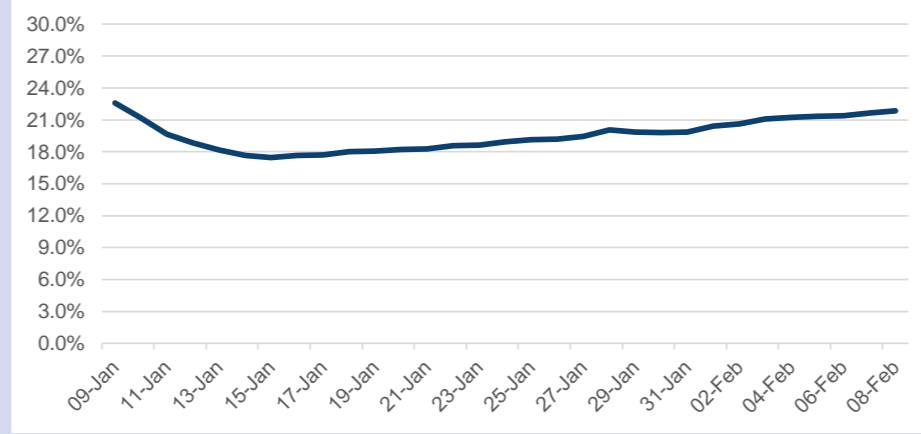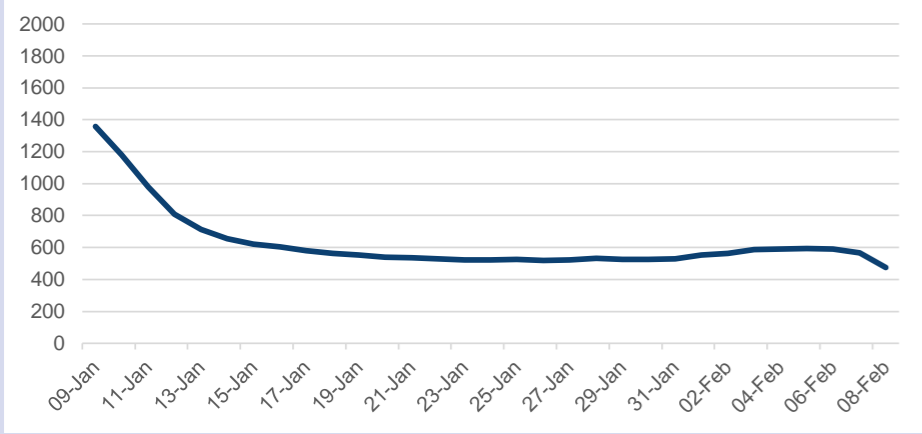
The figures and charts are reviewed and updated as PHS publishes revised data. The number of positive tests refers only to PCR tests, no LFD tests are included if they haven't been confirmed by PCR.

95	people in hospital with Covid-19 (NHS Lothian)	-26 ▼	less than last week
			-21.5% decrease

<5	people in ICU with Covid-19 (NHS Lothian)	n/a	more than last week
			n/a

People in hospital (Trend over last month)		People in ICU (Trend over last month)

* Please be aware than **if the number of Covid-19 patients in hospital or ICU is 4 or less the figure is not published**. This means that the charts only show a column if the number of patients is 5 or more. The top figures will show "<5" if the number is under 5, and the change in relation to the previous week will only be calculated if both weeks figures are 5 or more.

Vaccinations

Vaccinations and coverage by dose for people over 12

First dose	
Edinburgh	Scotland
411,112	4,406,013
88.0% coverage	92.1% coverage

Second dose	
Edinburgh	Scotland
382,970	4,135,982
82.0% coverage	86.5% coverage

Third dose	
Edinburgh	Scotland
308,084	3,328,709
65.9% coverage	69.6% coverage

Percentage coverage of population over 12

City of Edinburgh: 87.97 / 81.95 / 65.93
Scotland: 92.11 / 86.47 / 69.59

Legend: Dose 1 / Dose 2 / Dose 3 and Booster

Vaccinations in Edinburgh by age group (includes age group 12-15 and 16-17)

1,102,166	total number of vaccines administered in Edinburgh	4,433	vaccines last week

Legend: Dose 1 / Dose 2 / Dose 3

Public Health and Safety

Public Health Data
Link for Source and further info

Number of positive tests

Area	Jan-22	Difference vs last month		Cumulative
Scotland	188,353	-45,332	▼	1,156,199
NHS Lothian	31,389	-11,258	▼	192,241
Edinburgh	18,130	-6,073	▼	107,519

Number of deaths within 28 days of a positive test

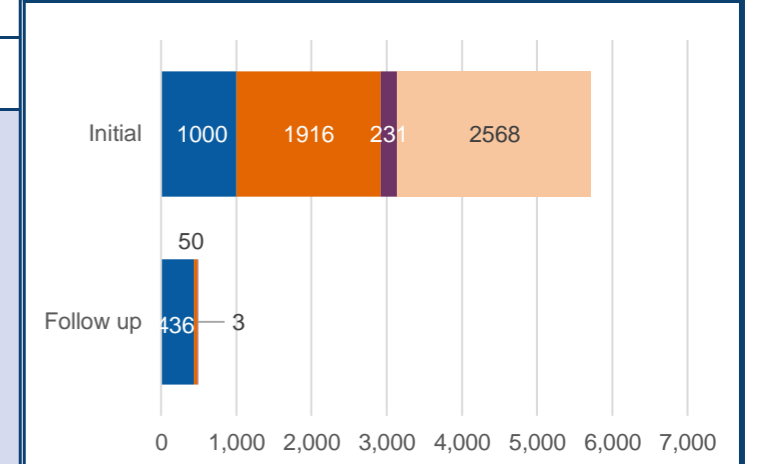| Area	Jan-22	Difference vs last month		Cumulative
Scotland	498	230	▲	10,415
NHS Lothian	58	17	▲	1,482
Edinburgh	29	1	▲	785
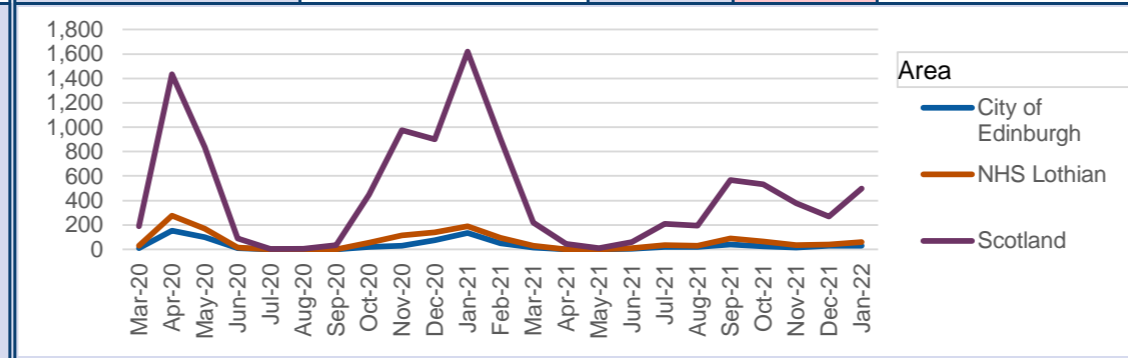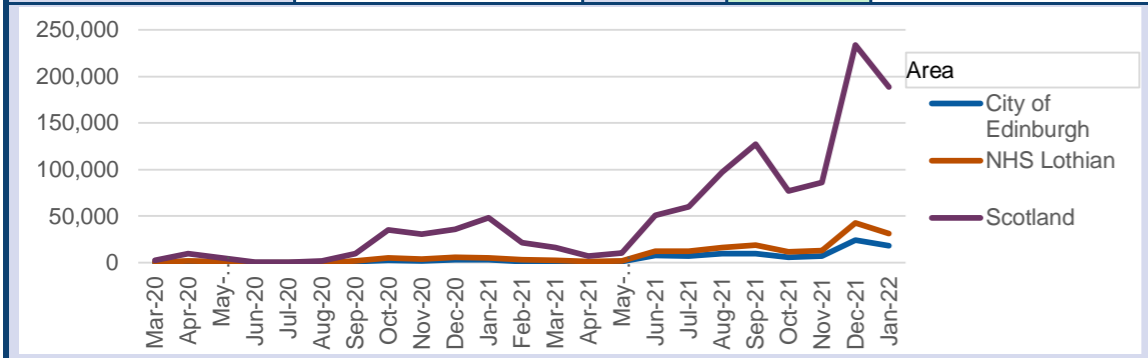
Test and Protect

Outbound calls from CEC to self-isolating individuals

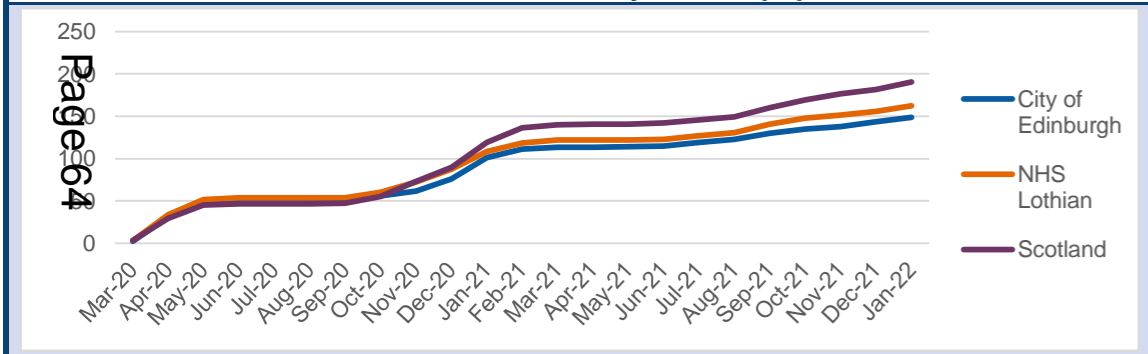| Number of outbound calls + texts Jan-2021	Difference vs last month	
2,633	476	▲

Breakdown of cases

Initial: No contact made 1000, Contact - exit process 1916, Contact - to follow up 231, Texts sent 2568

Follow up: No contact made 436, Contact - to follow up 3, 50

- No contact made
- Contact - exit process
- Contact - to follow up
- Texts sent

Breakdown of outcomes

36%, 22%, Food affordability 4%, Food access 18%, 4%, 35%

- Pharmacy
- Isolation grant
- Advice
- Internal
- Other
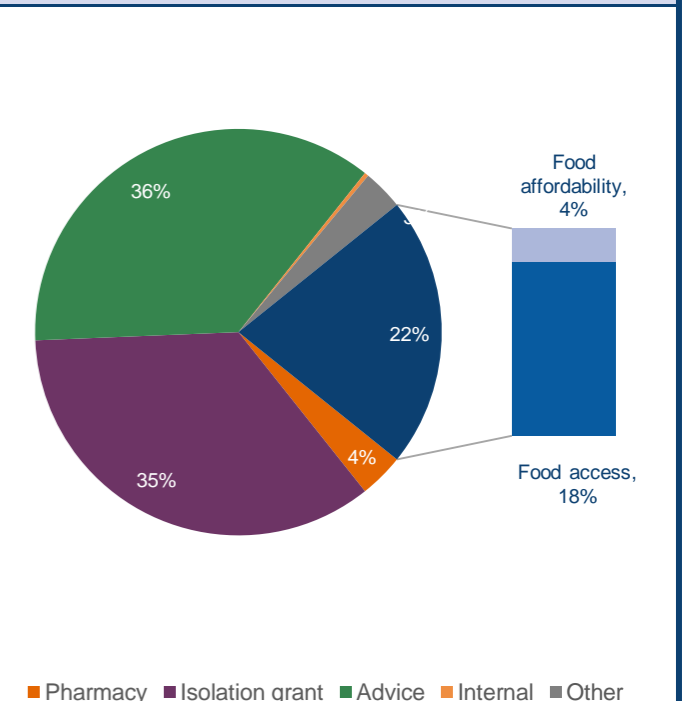
Cumulative rate of deaths by 100,000 population

(Chart: City of Edinburgh, NHS Lothian, Scotland)

Vaccination coverage
Percentage of people aged 12+ who has received a vaccine by dose

(Chart: Dose 1, Dose 2, Dose 3 and Booster)
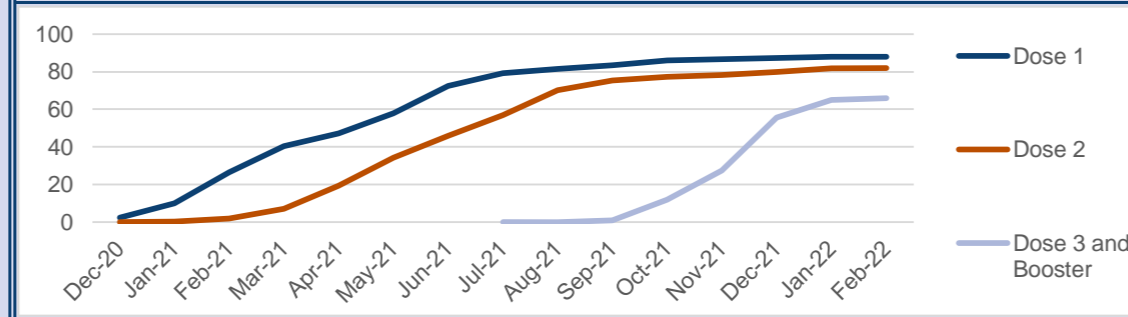
Police enforcement for COV-19
Cumulative from 6th Apr 2020 to 17th November 2021

	Scotland individuals	Edinburgh individuals
Dispersed when informed	95,077	13,407
Dispersed but only when instructed	29,946	5,537
Dispersed using reasonable force	4,891	1,371
Issued a Fixed Penalty Notice	17,007	2,339
Arrested	973	84

- Scotland individuals
- Edinburgh individuals
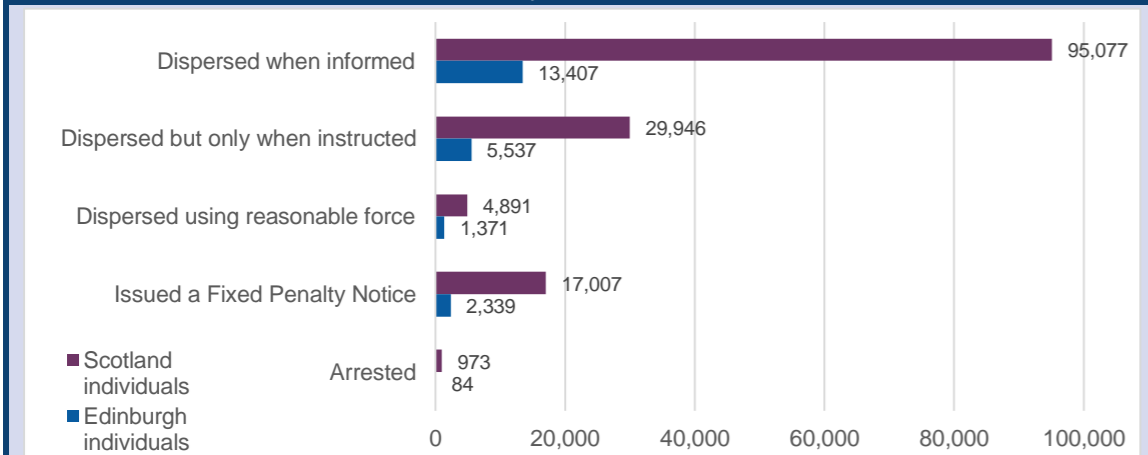
Extracted from source: *This system relies on Police Officers manually updating the system with the co-operation level they experienced when they encounter an individual in contravention of the new legislation.*

Environmental Health & Trading Standards advice/ enforcement
Cumulative from 5th May 2020 to 10th December 2021

Advice requests: *from business about how best to follow the new coronavirus guidelines.*
Enquiries/ complaints: *about business operating when they should not or did not have in place the necessary provisions.*
Open premises-Interventions *: officer engagement with premises to explain new policy and encourage compliance*
Intervention follow ups *: engagement to see if action has been taken.*
Written warnings: *formal written warning for continued non-compliance.*
Prohibition notices: *official enforcement action for continued non-compliance.*

Advice requests	601
Enquiries complaints	2,460
Interventions	11,996
Follow ups	2,118
Written warnings	54
Prohibition notices	4

Vulnerable Groups

Health and Social Care

872

Individuals awaiting domiciliary care

2021 ■ 2022

0

Delayed discharges (figure not yet available for Jan-22)

2021 ■ 2022
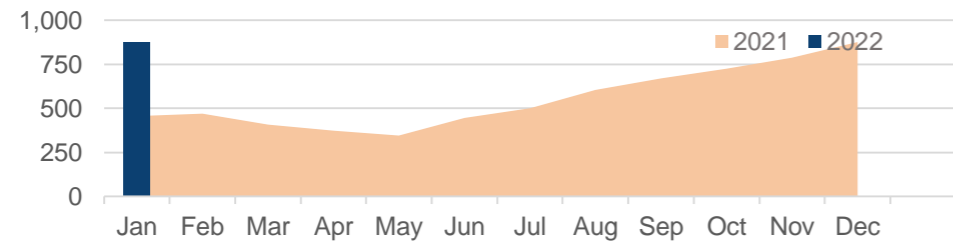
Schools

Pupil Absence in Primary Schools

2.21%	Covid authorised absence	vs last week	-1.09% ▼

Primary Schools Absence

■ Covid Authorised Absence ■ Covid Unauthorised Absence
■ Non-Covid Authorised Absence ■ Non-Covid Unauthorised Absence
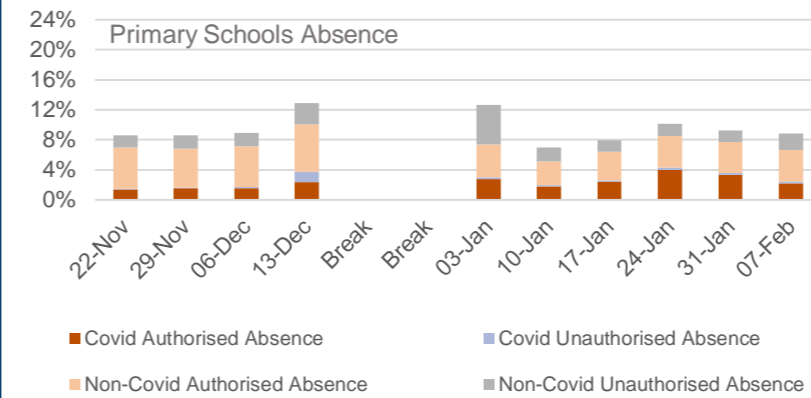
Pupil Absence in Secondary Schools

0.8%	Covid authorised absence	vs last week	0.07% ▲

Secondary Schools Absence

■ Covid Authorised Absence ■ Covid Unauthorised Absence
■ Non-Covid Authorised Absence ■ Non-Covid Unauthorised Absence
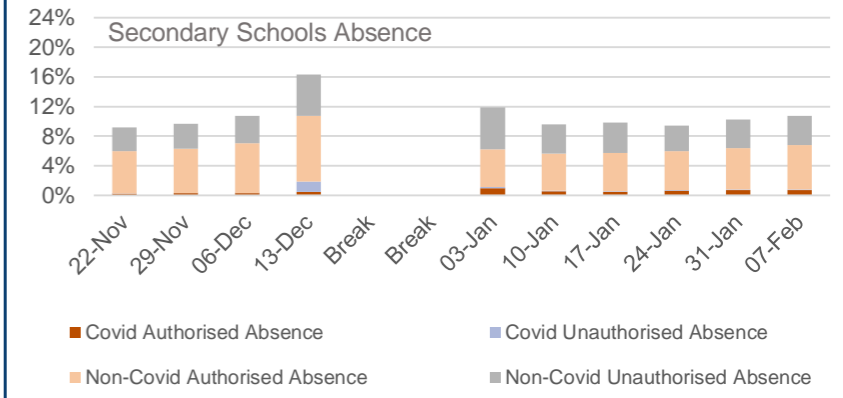
Homelessness

Total number of homeless presentations in Jan

193	vs last month	**31 ▲**
	vs last year	**101 ▲**

2019/20 ■ 2020/21 ■ 2021/22
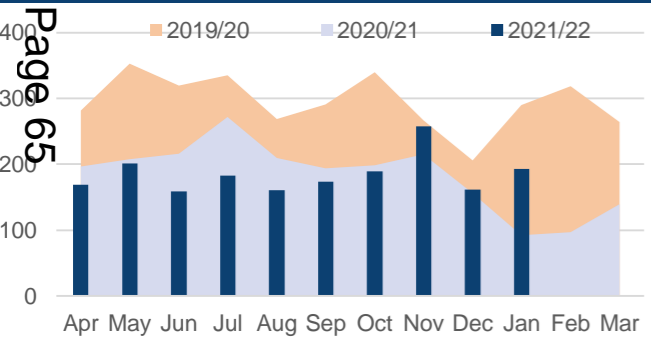
Families with children in B&B on last day of month

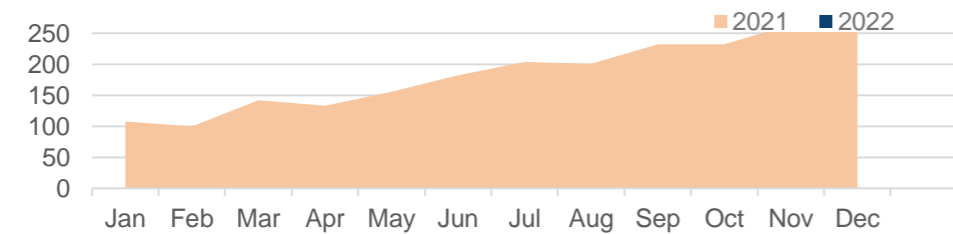| **22**	vs last month	**6 ▲**
	vs last year	**9 ▲**

2020/21 ■ 2021/22 Homeless ■ 2021/22 Ineligible
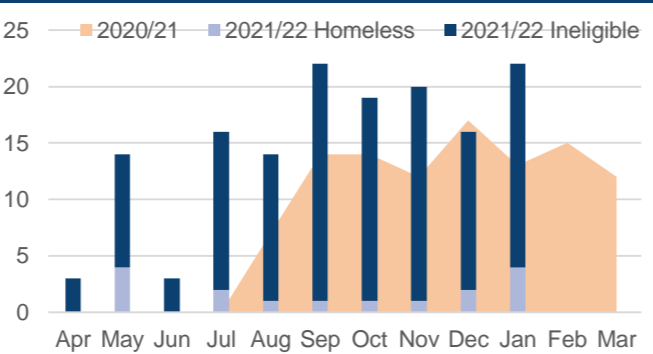
Scottish Welfare Fund and Isolation Suport Grant

Volume of applications by type of grant

692, 3,111, 48, 9,42-

■ Isolation Grant Fund
■ SWF Crisis
■ SWF Community Care
■ SWF Combined
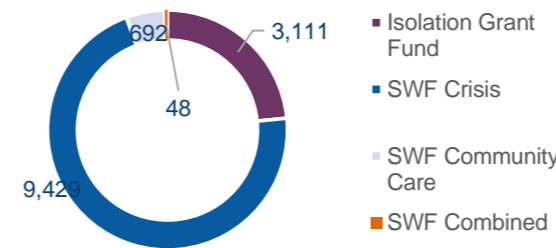
Funds requested by type of grant

£379,676, £24,162, £1,555,500, £3,698,617

■ Isolation Grant Fund
■ SWF Crisis
■ SWF Community Care
■ SWF Combined
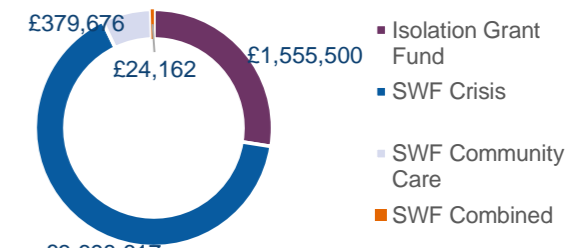
10,169	Total number of applications excluding ISG in Jan	SWF Grants	£	**4,102,455**	Total funds requested excluding ISG in Jan
10,795	Cumulative applications to new Isolation Support Grant	ISF Grants	£	**5,397,500**	Cumulative funds requested through Isolation Grant Fund

Isolation Grant Fund · SWF Crisis · SWF Community Care · SWF Combined

Isolation Grant Fund · SWF Crisis · SWF Community Care · SWF Combined
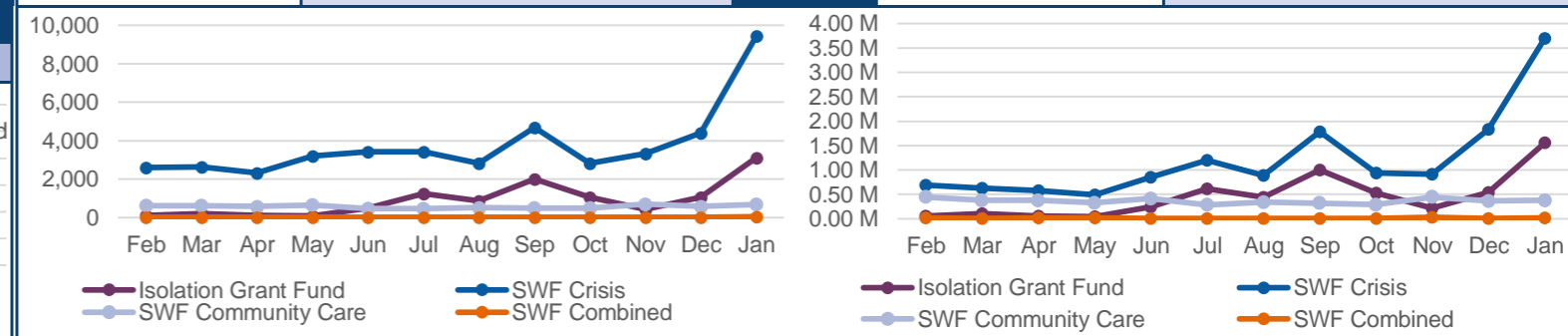
Customer Contact
excluding Vulnerable line

Contact Centre

41,194	Number of calls to Customer Contact Centre in Jan
84.4%	Percentage of calls answered
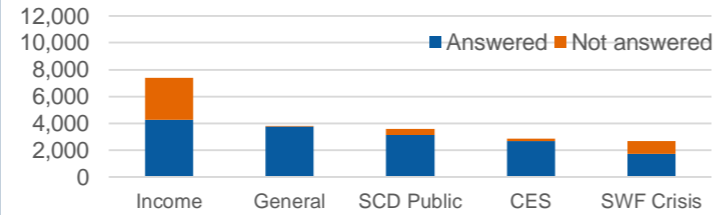
Council Resilience Centres

Update not available for Jan-22	Council Resilience Centres footfall

Top 5 lines

■ Answered ■ Not answered

Income, General Enquiries, SCD Public Adult, CES, SWF Crisis

Vulnerable line calls

528	calls during Jan-2022
230	more than previous month

18,850	cumulative calls from Apr-20
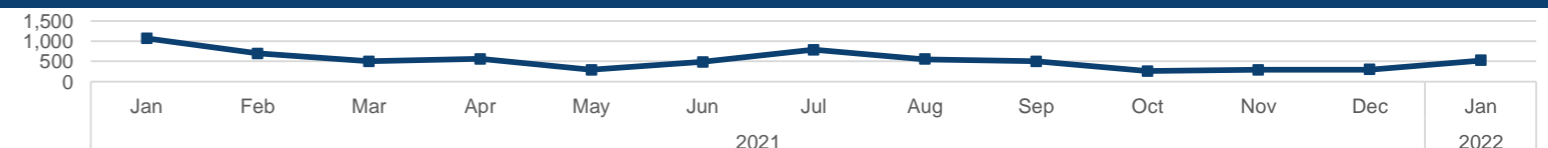
Economy

Job Seekers Allowance

Number of claimants in Dec-21	Difference vs last month (%)	This represents 3% of Edinburgh residents aged 16-64	Percentage of population who claims JSA by gender		
10,925	-6.34% ▼		Male ■	**3.8%**	Female ■ **2.2%**

Number of claimants (last 12 months)
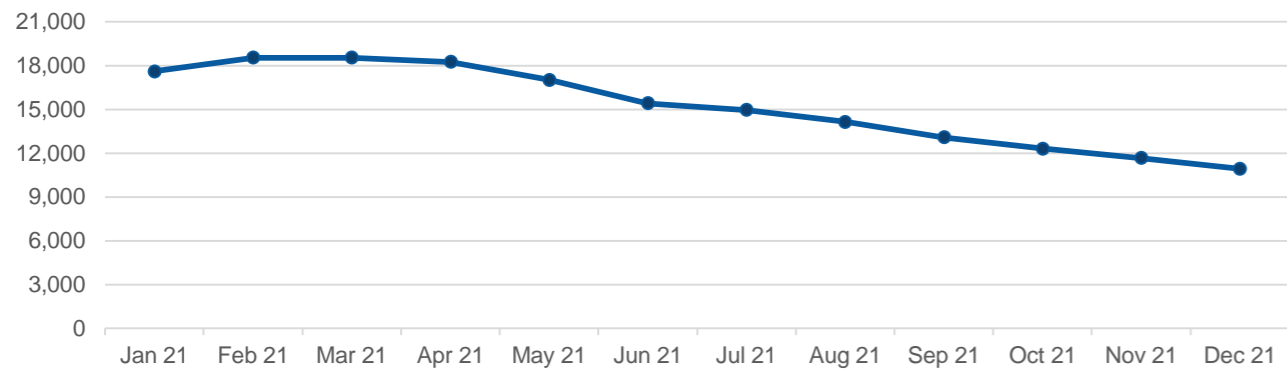
Claimants by age and gender

Page66
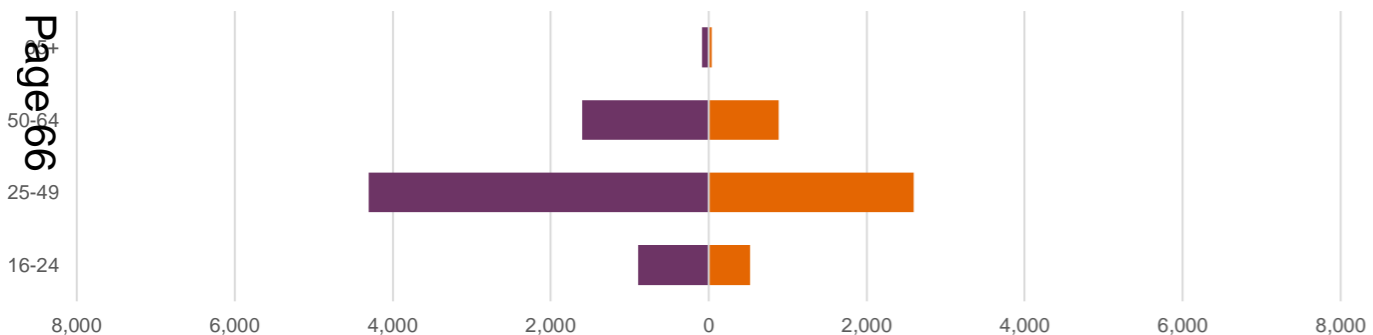
Business Start-ups in Edinburgh

New Start Ups Dec 2021	Difference vs Nov 2020
180	-24 ▼

Number of new Start Ups (YTD)	Difference vs last year
2,811	406 ▲

Number of Start Ups by month

Legend: 2019, 2021, 2020
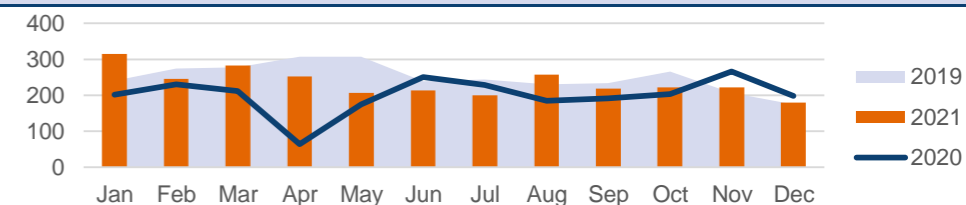
Business Start Ups rate* against 5 years average

Legend: Avg 2015-2019, 2020, 2021

*Number of start ups/ (working population/10,000)
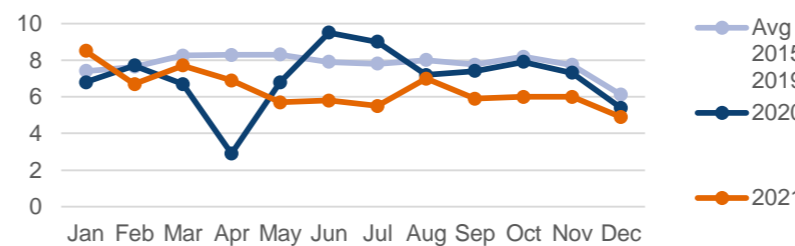
Start Ups by Legal Status

Dec — 21, 2, 37, 120

Legend: Limited Company, Sole Trader, Partnership, Limited Liability Partnership, Not For Profit, Unknown
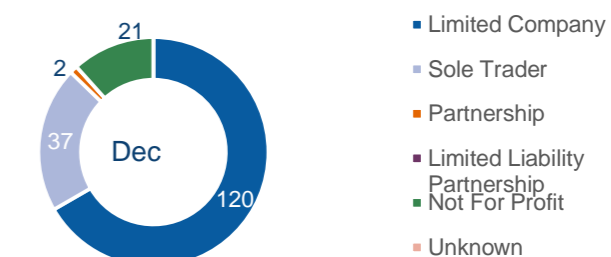
Start Ups by Industry (Top 5)

Education, 46
Human health & social work, 31
Electricity, gas & water supply, 25
Construction, 24
Agriculture, hunting & forestry, 22
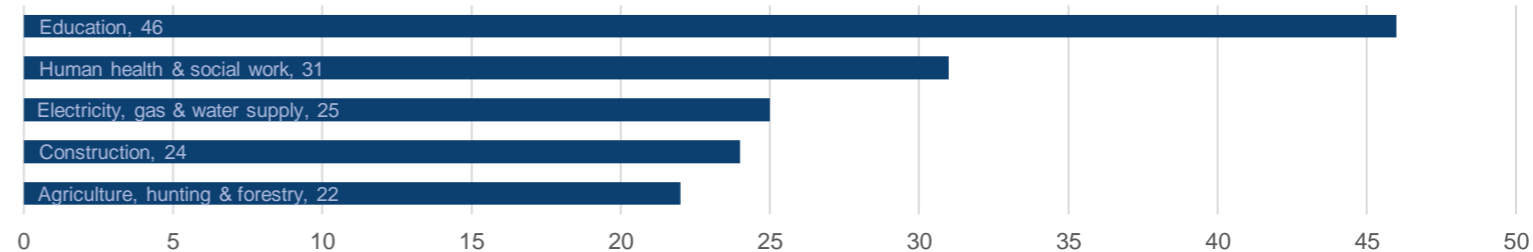
Resources

HR - Councilwide absence

Sickness absence in Jan 2022	—●—		
4.9%	vs last month	-0.47%	▼

Covid-19* absence in Jan 2022	—●—		
3.6%	vs last month	1.45%	▲
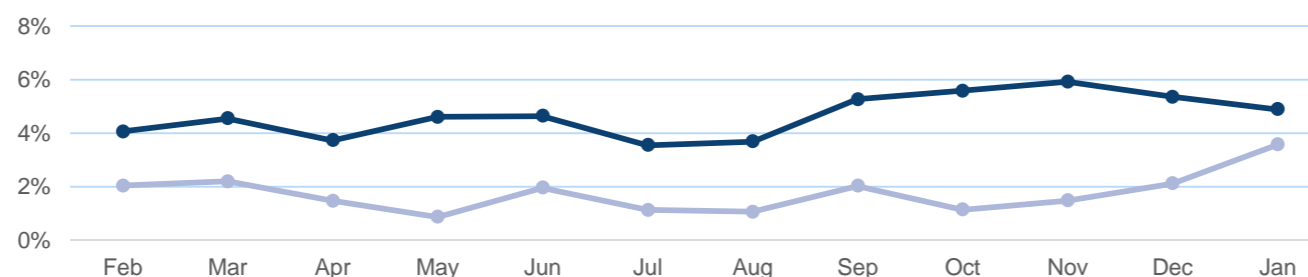
*Covid-19 absence includes the following categories:

COVID-19 - Can't return from travel   COVID-19 - Self isolating
COVID-19 - Care for a dependant   COVID-19 - Sick / infected
COVID-19 - School or office closure   COVID-19 - Shielding

Appendix 2 - Decisions taken from 13 November 2021 to 11 February 2022

Ref.	Approved decisions	Date
D815	Screen Education Edinburgh (SEE) - resume in person delivery with a blended model where appropriate. To agree the resumption of in person delivery of Screen Education Edinburgh with a blended model where appropriate.	25/11/2021
D816	Classroom based Adult Learning in Community High Schools (AEP) To agree the resumption of face to face classes within PPP1 and PPP2 Community High Schools from January 2022.	25/11/2021
D817	The Libraries EDGE Conference 2022 at The Radisson hotel, Royal Mile To agree the EDGE Conference to take place in person at The Radisson as detailed in the report	25/11/2021
D818	Restart of Community Use of Schools To agree the resumption of a small number of groups subject to confirmation with the relevant Headteacher.	25/11/2021
D819	Member of the Legal Team workspace in Waverley Court due to home ICT issues To permit access to Waverley Court for the officer and note this is an exception due to ICT issues at home.	25/11/2021
D820	Use of Waverley Court and City Chambers for physical interviews as part of the whistleblowing process. To agree the use of WC/CC for in-person whistleblowing investigation interviews and adapt the checklist for in-person disciplinary hearings for this use.	25/11/2021
D821	The Special Escorted Leaves (SELs) for Prisoners to Restart at Crane Residential Unit To approve the resumption of the Special Escorted Leave provision as detailed in the report.	02/12/2021
D822	Elected Member Data Room To agree the data room for 10 elected members on 13 and 15 December.	09/12/2021
D823	Fair Pay and Contract Uplifts To agree to implement contract uplifts to ensure payment of a minimum wage of £10.02 from 1st December 2021.	16/12/2021
D824	Closure of Drumbrae Library to allow Re-configuration To agree to the closure of Drumbrae library for a limited time to enable reconfiguration to take place.	17/12/2021
D825	Housing Repairs Appointment Pause – COVID/Omicron 1. To pause general housing repair appointments until 10 January 2022. If there are still insufficient resources to deliver the service at that time, the pause will continue and will be reviewed at fortnightly intervals until resource levels can be sustained	23/12/2021

D826	Education Omicron Update/Impacts January 2022 1. To approve discussions with unions/staff for staff in allied roles (lifelong learning, ASL, Psychological Service) to be redeployed to schools, should workforce absences prevent statutory service delivery 2. To agree that the service continues to report on the changing risk context of Omicron, response and impacts, using the well-established SORT risk framework as the basis to respond	23/12/2021
D827	Community Safety Night Team To approve the return to Waverley Court (Courtyard C.2 location) for the Community Safety Night Team for a wider space to adhere to Covid guidelines and allow the team return to full capacity	23/12/2021
D828	Education and Children's Services To approve the continuation of Bookbug in libraries with adults attending subject to a negative LFT	23/12/2021
D829	EHSCP Disability Services Day Support Remobilisation - Re-opening of Maple Project – Revised 1. To approve the revised proposal to offer support to a lesser volume of people at the Maple Project as detailed in the report 2. To note this, as with all other services which have been permitted to reopen, would be monitored and could be closed again should infection numbers escalate/Scottish Government advice change	06/01/2022
D830	School Residentials to Benmore and Lagganlia (close contacts) 1. To agree the recommendations as detailed in the report 2. To note non-Edinburgh schools using Benmore and Lagganlia will be subject to the same procedures	13/01/2022
D831	Imaginate Children's Festival 1. To confirm to Imaginate that schools can consider purchasing tickets for the event in May, in the full knowledge that refunds will be available from Imaginate if required. 2. To note schools will be made aware that if they gather funds from parents for Imaginate tickets. the school will be responsible for securing a refund and reimbursing parents should the event not take place. 3. To note Imaginate were in discussions with the SG to underwrite ticket sales and schools should be aware that in the event that Imaginate could not provide refunds, they will not be reimbursed from another CEC budget.	20/01/2022
D832	Business Support, Discretionary Funding To note that, in line with the delegated authority approved by the Specially Convened Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on 30 January 2021, the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Convener and Vice Convener of Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work, agreed to develop and launch a Bed & Breakfast Fund to support businesses who were assumed impacted due to the cancellation of Hogmanay celebrations	20/01/2022
D833	Essential First Aid Training - Venue for Training To agree for access to an additional space in Waverley Court (possibly the dance studio) which would enable the First Aid sessions to take place as detailed in the report	20/01/2022

D834	Resumption of ASIST (suicide prevention) face to face training at City Chambers To agree to recommence ASIST and more specialist level suicide prevention training from the City Chambers as detailed in the report	27/01/2022
D835	Forestry and Natural Heritage re-opening of Cammo Estate Lodge To agree the re-opening of the Cammo Estate Lodge building for public use on Sunday afternoons as detailed in the report	27/01/2022
D836	Leith Library 1. To agree the use of the Fort for a pop-up library in Leith subject to sign off from H&S. The £20k will be identified from existing budgets. 2. To discuss with Cllr McVey and highlight options were still being explored for Oxgangs and Newington.	27/01/2022
D837	Reopening of Tynecastle Community Wing for timetabled and pre booked classes To agree the reopening of Tynecastle Community Wing for timetabled and pre booked community classes and activities as detailed in the report.	03/02/2022
D838	249 High street expansion- opening up customer access To agree to expand access for customers to 249 High Street with safety measures in place to protect staff as detailed in the report	03/02/2022
D839	Re-establish a limited presence for the Refugee and Migration Team at the City Chambers (Rm 6.27) To agree to re-establish a space for the Refugee and Migration Team in room 6.27, City Chambers, as detailed in the report	03/02/2022
D840	Community Safety Team move from City Chambers to return working from Waverley Court and dealing with noise complaints To agree the Community Safety Team will return to Waverley Court (Courtyard C.2) as detailed in the report.	03/02/2022
D841	Stoma Care Pilot of blended learning for small identified groups of Home Care Reablement staff within the SE and NE localities To agree to run the Stoma Care Pilot of blended learning for small identified groups of Home Care Reablement staff within the SE and NE localities as detailed in the report.	03/02/2022
D842	Essential in person Accredited Asbestos Awareness Training for Frontline Housing Service To agree to provide essential health and safety in person accredited Asbestos Awareness training to Housing Service frontline operatives as detailed in the report.	03/02/2022
D843	Face-to-Face Training Additional Space at Waverley Court To agree access to additional training space in Waverley Court for medicines and manual handling refresher training as detailed in the report	03/02/2022
D844	C0vid-19 Workplace Health and Safety Controls To agree the common risk controls as set out in 3.2 of the report in line with Scottish Government Guidance and Health and Safety Executive guidance at this time To note the situations where distancing is required/recommended, as noted in appendix 1 of the report. To agree to keep current controls under review in line with legislation and guidance from the Scottish Government and Health and Safety Executive.	03/02/2022

D845	Dedicated Youth Work Transport (minibus, coach) to offsite venues To approve dedicated transport (minibus/coach) to an offsite venue to undertake youth work activity as detailed in the report	10/02/2022
D846	Advice Shop Service Resumption at 249 High Street To agree the Advice Line team can temporarily work in an office together for a trial period of 4 weeks after which this arrangement will be reviewed, and a report submitted back to CIMT should there be a request for a permanent return. Any report will go through the service prioritisation process and include information on the impact on the building space/numbers	10/02/2022
D847	Access to additional 13 desks (for a total of 25 desks) to facilitate South-West Social Work Practice Team To approve access to additional office space for the South-West Social Work Practice Team in Wester Hailes Healthy Living Centre.	10/02/2022
D848	Covid-19 Workplace Sector Controls To apply the sector specific guidance as appropriate across Council Services as Services continue and Services plan for returning to the workplace in a hybrid model. To keep current controls under review in line with legislation and guidance from the Scottish Government. To review the report on Covid-19 restrictions in CEC buildings for non-staff and resubmit to CIMT.	10/02/2022

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10:00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Internal Audit Overdue Findings More Than One Year Old as at 11 August 2021

Item number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes:

1.1.1 the current status of the Internal Audit (IA) overdue findings within the purview of this Committee, that were more than a year old as at 11 August 2021; and,

1.1.2 actions proposed to close these findings.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Report

Internal Audit Overdue Findings More Than One Year Old as at 11 August 2021

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The Internal Audit report, as considered by this Committee on the 5th October 2021, and referred from the Governance, Risk and Best Value (GRBV) Committee on the 21st September 2021, reported that there were 96 Internal Audit (IA) findings with 51 (53%) of these overdue as at the 11th August 2021.

2.2 Of the findings reported overdue at the time of this report 27 (53%) were recorded as being a year or more past their implementation date.

2.3 The 96 findings reported are supported by a total of 233 management actions, of which 130 (56%) were overdue; 17 of these were reported as being implemented and with IA for review.

2.4 There were 18 findings identified as within the purview of this Committee, representing 37 management actions. Of which, 13 were over a year past their original implementation date.

2.5 It is recognised that further action is required to ensure that all overdue IA findings are addressed, and that open and future IA findings are effectively implemented by management within agreed timeframes.

2.6 Since the report that was considered at the October meeting of this Committee further work has been undertaken to address the overall picture of open and overdue IA findings with additional resource being recruited across the Directorates to support the work required to address these. Whilst this has been put in place the temporary capacity allocated in November 2020 has remained in place to assist.

2.7 A key objective of the refreshed governance and assurance model is to ensure that first line divisions and directorates are supported by teams with sufficient capacity and appropriate skills to provide proportionate ongoing focus on governance; risk management; and controls across all Council service areas and activities.

3. Background

Quarterly IA Reporting

3.1 Overdue findings arising from IA reports are reported monthly to the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) and quarterly to the GRBV Committee.

3.2 This report specifically excludes open and overdue findings that relate to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) and the Lothian Pension Fund (LPF). These are reported separately to the EIJB Audit and Assurance Committee and the Pensions Audit Sub-Committee respectively.

Policy and Sustainability Committee Request

3.3 The Committee reviewed the referred quarterly IA Overdue Findings report in October 2021. The report confirmed that, as at 11 August 2021, there were a total of 96 open IA findings across the Council. Of these 51 (53%) were reported as overdue; with 27 (53%) which were more than a year overdue.

3.4 Following review of the report, the Committee requested that further information on those actions which were within the purview of this Committee, and which were more than a year old, would be reported for further review

Process Applied

3.5 Directorates were provided with details of those overdue actions which were recorded as being under the purview of this Committee and were requested to provide an update.

3.6 The feedback from Directorates was combined with information from IA to provide a combined update which is included at Appendix 1.

IA Methodology and Definitions

3.7 The following definitions from IA methodology have been included to support understanding of the descriptions included in this report:

3.7.1 Findings raised by IA in audit reports typically include more than one agreed management action to address the risks identified. IA methodology requires all agreed management actions to be closed in order to close the finding.

3.7.2 The IA definition of an overdue finding is any finding where all agreed management actions have not been evidenced as implemented by management and validated as closed by IA by the date agreed by management and IA and recorded in relevant IA reports.

3.7.3 The IA definition of an overdue management action is any agreed management action supporting an open IA finding that is either open or overdue, where the individual action has not been evidenced as implemented by management and validated as closed by IA by the agreed date.

3.7.4 Where management considers that actions are complete and sufficient evidence is available to support IA review and confirm closure, the action is marked as 'implemented' by management on the IA follow-up system. When IA has reviewed the evidence provided, the management action will either be 'closed' or will remain open and returned to the relevant owner with supporting rationale provided to explain what further evidence is required to enable closure.

3.7.5 A 'started' status recorded by management confirms that the agreed management action remains open and that implementation progress ongoing.

3.7.6 A 'pending' status recorded by management confirms that the agreed management action remains open with no implementation progress evident to date.

4.   Main report

4.1   Some progress towards closure of the 13 IA actions that were more than one-year overdue is evident with one of the actions now implemented, with the balance of 12 still to be fully addressed.

4.2   Of the remaining 12 findings to be addressed, 2 had been proposed for closure by management but after review by IA additional evidence has been requested and the actions subsequently reopened.

4.3   Revised implementation dates for the remaining 12 actions have been provided by management (where required), all open actions have also received a three-month extension as per agreement at GRBV in September 2021.

4.4   Further detail on findings now closed and remaining findings to be addressed is included below and also at Appendix 1, which includes combined management and IA information on progress towards closure.

Findings Now Implemented

4.5   The action which has been closed was a medium rated action relating to a partnership protocol as part of the Emergency Prioritisation and Complaints audit and which had an original implementation date of November 2019.

Remaining Findings to be Addressed

4.6   Of the 13 remaining actions to be addressed:

4.6.1 2 actions that were proposed for closure by management (implemented) were subsequently reopened by IA as further evidence was required to support their closure.

4.6.2 Directorates are confident that 3 of the remaining actions will be implemented within the revised timeframe agreed.

4.6.3 There have been additional extensions to implementation dates requested by Directorates for another three of the remaining actions so that they may ensure that additional information may be gathered.

4.6.4 Four of the remaining actions are related to the Resilience Business Continuity audit and these have been impacted considerably by the ongoing call on the Resilience Team to support Covid-19 work; the team are confident that they will meet the revised deadline of December this year.

5. Next Steps

5.1 IA will continue to monitor the open and overdues findings position, providing monthly updates to the CLT and quarterly updates to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee which will be referred on to the appropriate parent Committee's.

6. Financial impact

6.1 There are no direct financial impacts arising from this report, although failure to close findings and address the associated risks in a timely manner may have some inherent financial impact.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 If agreed management actions supporting closure of Internal Audit findings are not implemented, the Council will be exposed to the service delivery risks set out in the relevant Internal Audit reports. Internal Audit findings are raised as a result of control gaps or deficiencies identified during reviews therefore overdue items inherently impact upon effective risk management, compliance and governance.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 [Internal Audit Open and Overdues Report P&S October 2021](#)

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Analysis of IA Overdue Findings More Than One Year Old under the purview of P&S Committee

Appendix 1 – Update on Internal Audit Overdue Management Actions as at 11 August 2021 (P&S Committee)

Glossary of terms

1. Project – This is the name of the audit report.
2. Owner – The Executive Director responsible for implementation of the action.
3. Issue Type – This is the priority of the audit finding, categorised as Critical; High; Medium; or Low
4. Issue – This is the name of the finding.
5. Status – This is the current status of the management action. These are categorised as:
   - Pending (the action is open and there has been no progress towards implementation),
   - Started (the action is open, and work is ongoing to implement the management action), and
   - <mark style="background-color: #00FF00">**Implemented**</mark> (the service area believes the action has been Implemented and this is with Internal Audit for validation).
6. Agreed Management action – This is the action agreed between Internal Audit and Management to address the finding.
7. Estimated date – the original agreed implementation date.
8. Revised date – the current revised date. <mark style="background-color: #FF0000">**Red**</mark> formatting in the dates field indicates the last revised date is overdue.
9. Number of revisions – the number of times the date has been revised since July 2018.
10. <mark style="background-color: #FFC000">**Amber**</mark> formatting in the dates field indicates the date has been revised more than once.
11. Contributor – Officers involved in implementation of an agreed management action.

Ref	Project/Owner	Issue Type	Issue/Status	Agreed Management Action	Dates	Directorate Update
3	Asset Management Strategy and CAFM system 18/19 RES1813 Asset Management Strategy and CAFM: Issue 3 - Property and Facilities Management Data Completeness; Accuracy; and Quality Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	High	3.2 Resolution of known data quality issues Started	A reconciliation of the two lists has been performed and there are no obvious discrepancies other than properties which are out with the scope of the survey team. The viability of establishing a referencing system for concessionary lets in the CAFM system will be explored. The volume and value of known concessionary lets across the Council Estate will form part of the Annual Investment Portfolio update which is reported to the Finance and Resources committee. There is an ongoing work stream looking at vacant and disposed properties and the systems updates required.	**Estimated Date: 31/03/2016 Revised Date: 01/11/2022**	A revised completion date has been agreed to allow for further work to be carried out to explore the viability of establishing a referencing system for concessionary lets in the CAFM system and progress of workstream looking at vacant and disposed properties.
21	Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership (EADP) – Contract Management Key Person Dependency and Process Documentation Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Medium	Rec 5 - Records Management Policy Started	Records retention policy: Direction will be requested from the Information Governance team in relation to Records Management Policy requirements and how they should be applied to retention, archiving and destruction of contract management information. Any lessons learned will be shared with the Health and Social Care contracts management team.	**Estimated Date: 30/03/2018 Revised Date: 28/02/2022**	All contracts are now retained in line with the current retention policies. On track for delivery by 28.02.22 which is the revised date (including the three months extension approved by GRBV in October 21).
22	Emergency Prioritisation & Complaints CW1806 Issue 1: ATEC 24 Operational Framework Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Medium	CW1806 Issue 1.2(3): ATEC 24 Service Level Agreements - Partnership Protocol Started	3. A partnership protocol will be approved and implemented for the Fallen Uninjured Person Service to reflect the current operations, funding arrangements and any planned process improvements.	**Estimated Date: 29/11/2019 Revised Date: 01/03/2021**	This action has now been implemented.

Ref	Project/Owner	Issue Type	Issue/Status	Agreed Management Action	Dates	Directorate Update
23	Emergency Prioritisation & Complaints CW1806 Issue 1: ATEC 24 Operational Framework Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Medium	CW1806 Issue 1.4(3): ATEC 24 Quality Assurance - Outcomes, supervision and key themes/improvements Started	1) Quality assurance outcomes will be linked to supervision and training and performance objectives, with regular one to ones scheduled to ensure action is taken to address any competence issues or gaps identified.2)Where systemic themes or trends are identified from quality assurance reviews, management will consider whether existing operational processes should be revisited.	Estimated Date: 30/04/2020 Revised Date: 31/03/2022	This is on track for delivery by 31.03.22 (which is the revised date including the three-month extension agreed by GRBV in October 2022)
25	Emergency Prioritisation & Complaints CW1806: Issue 2: Third Party Service Provision - Health & Social Care Partnership Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Medium	CW1806: Issue 2(2): Partnership Protocol HSCP/Contact Centre Started	Agreed, once the SLA is finalised, a Partnership Protocol will be developed in conjunction with Customer Contact Centre colleagues.	Estimated Date: 28/02/2020 Revised Date: 30/12/2021	This is dependent on sign-off by East and Mid Lothian Council in relation to our Social Care Direct call handling service. This action has been extended by a further six months (Delivery date – 28/08/22)
32	H&SC Care Homes - Corporate Report A3.1: Training Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Medium	A3.1(1) Manager review of training Started	As per audit recommendation: · Care home managers should perform a six-monthly review to confirm that all employees have completed mandatory, induction and refresher training and that completion has been recorded on the iTrent human resources system. Where training has not been completed, this should be discussed with employees and reflected (where appropriate) in their annual performance discussions.	Estimated Date: 30/06/2019 Revised Date: 31/03/2022	This was initially implemented by the team, however Internal Audit required additional evidence to support implementation, and the team need to undertake further work to support closure, therefore an extension

Ref	Project/Owner	Issue Type	Issue/Status	Agreed Management Action	Dates	Directorate Update
						to March 2022 was agreed.
33	H&SC Care Homes - Corporate Report A3.3: Performance & Attendance Management Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Medium	A3.3(4) Health & Social Care Teams - quarterly review of absence and performance management Started	This is the responsibility of the Unit manager for their direct reports. The Business Support Officer will ensure that the Unit Manager is aware on a monthly basis for Domestics and Handymen reporting to them The Business Support Officer is required to monitor and report through the Customer process on a monthly basis. The staff nurse / charge nurse to be appointed at Gylemuir will ensure that this is performed for all NHS staff. (No longer relevant as Gylemuir is now closed).	Estimated Date: 30/06/2018 Revised Date: 31/10/2022	This was initially implemented by the team, however Internal Audit required additional evidence to support implementation, and the team need to undertake further work to support closure, therefore an extension to March 2022 was agreed.
34	H&SC Care Homes - Corporate Report A3.4: Agency Staffing Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Medium	A3.4(2) Analysis of the agency staff and hours worked charges Started	The BSO will assist the UM (See A2.1). A paper is being presented to the Health and Social Care Senior Management Team week commencing 15th January 2018 that proposes a solution where information will be provided to Locality Managers who will prepare reports for Care Homes. If this solution is agreed, it will be implemented immediately.	Estimated Date: 31/03/2018 Revised Date: 31/03/2022	Discussions are ongoing with HR teams who provide some of the intelligence on agency spend. Therefore, an extension to March 2022 was agreed.
64	Resilience BC Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	High	Rec 3.1 a) Place - Development of resilience protocols for statutory and critical services Started	In line with the approach agreed by the Council's Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2020, the Council has shifted from a plan-based resilience approach to a protocol-based approach. Resilience protocols will be developed for high risk services as required, with support from Corporate Resilience. All Directorates will aim to have this complete by 31 December 2022.	Estimated Date: 19/06/2020 Revised Date: 31/03/2023	A revised completion date has been agreed to allow for resilience protocols to be developed for high risk services as required with support from the Corporate Resilience Team.

Re f	Project/Owner	Issue Type	Issue/Status	Agreed Management Action	Dates	Directorate Update
65	Resilience BC Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements Stephen Moir, Executive Director of Corporate Services	**High**	Rec 3.1b Corporate Services - Development of Resilience Plans/protocols for statutory and critical services Started	Rebased action October 2020Following a refresh of Business Impact Assessments and the new organisational structure, resilience plans/protocols will be developed, with support and training from Resilience, for high-risk essential services. A list of these services is to be provided by Resilience for approval by CLT. Date revised to 31 December 2022.	**Estimated Date:** **19/06/2020** **Revised Date:** **31/03/2023**	A revised completion date has been agreed to allow for resilience protocols to be developed for high risk services as required with support from the Corporate Resilience Team.
Page 80 66	Resilience BC Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	**High**	Rec 3.1c H&SC - Development of Resilience Plans/protocols for statutory and critical services Started	Rebased action October 2020Following a refresh of Business Impact Assessments and the new organisational structure, resilience plans/protocols will be developed, with support and training from Resilience, for high-risk essential services. A list of these services is to be provided by Resilience for approval by CLT. Date revised to 31 December 2022.	**Estimated Date:** **19/06/2020** **Revised Date:** **31/03/2023**	A revised completion date has been agreed to allow for resilience protocols to be developed for high risk services as required with support from the Corporate Resilience Team.

Re f	Project/Owner	Issue Type	Issue/Status	Agreed Management Action	Dates	Directorate Update
67	Resilience BC Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements Amanda Hatton, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services	High	Rec 3.1d Education and Children's Services - Development of Resilience Plans/protoc ols for statutory and critical services Started	Rebased action October 2020Following a refresh of Business Impact Assessments and the new organisational structure, resilience plans/protocols will be developed, with support and training from Resilience, for high-risk essential services. A list of these services is to be provided by Resilience for approval by CLT. Date revised to 31 December 2022.	**Estimated Date:** ==19/06/2020== **Revised Date:** 31/03/2023	A revised completion date has been agreed to allow for resilience protocols to be developed for high risk services as required with support from the Corporate Resilience Team.
116	Social Work Centre Bank Account Reconciliations Corporate Appointee Client Fund Management Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	High	Recommend ation 1a - Health & Social Care Started	1. Health and Social Care: Given the considerable business support and social worker resources implications, the above recommendations will take time to design, implement and maintain. Business Support is resolving problem appointee arrangements as we go along, however, the backlog of reviews will need a programme management approach to rectify errors and support the governance required. In the meantime, associated risks will be added to the Partnership's risk register to monitor controls and progress on a monthly basis, given its high finding rating. Following the Care Home Assurance Review, the Partnership is developing a self-assurance control framework. Locality Managers have agreed for corporate appointee arrangements to be included in the assurance framework – which if found to be successful and useful, can be mirrored by the other applicable services in this report. Business Support is working on new guidelines for the administration of Corporate Appointeeship (e.g. new procedures,	**Estimated Date:** ==28/06/2019== **Revised Date:** 01/11/2021	Locality Teams have undertaken 90% of CA reviews, however due to the impact of COVID 19 and an increase in Adult Protection cases, staff have been dealing with urgent business only. This was granted a 3 months extension by GRBV in October 2021. However due to system pressures, a further three months extension has been agreed to complete the remaining 10% of CA

Re f	Project/Owner	Issue Type	Issue/Status	Agreed Management Action	Dates	Directorate Update
				monthly checklists, etc.), which will support the effective delivery of the framework.		reviews (delivery date 28/05/22).

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 22 February 2022

Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021 – referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1.   For Decision/Action

1.1   The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee has referred the attached report to the Policy and Sustainability Committee for ongoing scrutiny of relevant overdue management actions.

Andrew Kerr
Chief Executive

Contact: Emily Traynor, Assistant Committee Officer
Legal and Assurance Division, Corporate Services
E-mail: emily.traynor@edinburgh.gov.uk

Referral Report

Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021 – referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

2. Terms of Referral

2.1 On 14 December 2021, the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee considered a report on the Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021. The report confirmed the three-month completion date extension agreed by the GRBV Committee in September 2021 had been applied to all open and overdue agreed management actions, with revised dates reflected.

2.2 The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee agreed:

2.2.1 To note the status of the overdue Internal Audit findings as at 5 November 2021;

2.2.2 To note that the three-month completion date extension agreed at the September 2021 Committee reflecting ongoing Covid-19 pressures across the Council had now been applied to all open and overdue agreed management actions;

2.2.3 To note the status of IA Key Performance Indicators for audits that were either completed or in progress as at 5 November 2021;

2.2.4 To refer the report to the relevant Council committees for ongoing scrutiny of their relevant overdue management actions;

2.2.5 To refer the report to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Audit and Assurance Committee for information in relation to the current Health and Social Care Partnership position.

2.3 Following requests for clarification on the specific Internal Audit overdue findings that parent executive committees should focus on, an exercise has been completed that maps the findings included in this report to the specific committee based on their responsibilities detailed in the Council's committee terms of reference.

2.4 This exercise has identified an anomaly as there is currently no linear relationship between individual audit reports and committees, as it is possible for scrutiny of the actions in one Internal Audit report to be allocated across a number of Committees.

For example, a review of Planning or Licensing could potentially result in operational service delivery actions being allocated to the Planning Committee and/or Regulatory Committee, with actions that relate to the ICT arrangements that these teams use being allocated to the Finance and Resources Committee.

2.5 As part of preparations for the new Council following the May 2022 Local Government elections, we will complete further work on this area to determine whether there is a more effective way of ensuring a more linear allocation of responsibility for executive committee and oversight of overdue IA actions.

2.6 In the meantime, the information provided to each committee is based upon the allocation of agreed management actions in line with each committee's current terms of reference. A copy of the full report is also available online, with a link include in the background section of this referred report for reference.

3. Background Reading/ External References

3.1 Minute of the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee – 14 December 2021

3.2 Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee – 14 December 2021 webcast

3.3 Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021 – full report to GRBV Committee

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – report by the Chief Internal Auditor

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

10:00am, Tuesday, 14 December 2021

Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021

Item number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

1.1.1 notes the status of the overdue Internal Audit (IA) findings as at 5 November 2021;

1.1.2 notes that the three-month completion date extension agreed at the September 2021 Committee reflecting ongoing Covid-19 pressures across the Council has now been applied to all open and overdue agreed management actions;

1.1.3 notes the status of IA Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for audits that are either completed or in progress as at 5 November 2021;

1.1.4 refers this paper to the relevant Council Executive committees for ongoing scrutiny of their relevant overdue management actions; and,

1.1.5 refers this paper to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Audit and Assurance Committee for information in relation to the current Health and Social Care Partnership position.

Lesley Newdall

Chief Internal Auditor

Legal and Assurance Division, Corporate Services Directorate

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Report

Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021

2.   Executive Summary

2.1   The three-month completion date extension agreed at the September 2021 Committee has now been applied to all open and overdue agreed management actions, with revised dates reflected in this report.

2.2   The impact of the extension is that completion dates for all open management actions that were not currently overdue in October (when the extension was applied) were extended by three months, and all overdue findings had their revised completion dates extended by three months. These revised dates are reflected in Appendix 2.

Progress with Closure of Open and overdue Internal Audit findings

2.3   The overall progress status for closure of overdue IA findings is currently amber (stable with limited change) as at 5 November 2021, based on the average position across the last three months.

2.4   Increasing trends in the proportion of open IA findings that are overdue (KPI 3 in Appendix 1); the proportion of low rated overdue findings (KPI 7); and the proportion of findings that are between 90 – 180 days overdue are evident in the last month, together with a decrease in the number of overdue findings currently being reviewed by IA to determine whether they can be closed (KPI 4).

2.5   These increasing trends in the last month are partially offset by improvement in the proportion of IA findings that are between six months and one year overdue.

2.6   Whilst progress with implementation of agreed management actions has remained relatively stable across the last quarter, there has been an increase in the proportion of overdue management actions in the last month.

2.7   Positive progress with management actions where the latest date has been missed, or the date revised more than once in the last month, is mainly attributable to application of the three month completion date extension.

2.8   These outcomes confirm that further sustained focus is required on closure of overdue findings, particularly those more than one year, and between three and six

months overdue. It is also important to ensure that open findings that are not overdue are closed by their originally agreed implementation dates.

2.9   Further detail on the monthly trends in open and overdue findings is included at Appendix 1.

Current position as at 5 November 2021

2.10   A total of 108 open IA findings remain to be addressed across the Council as at 5 November 2021. This excludes open and overdue Internal Audit findings for the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board and the Lothian Pension Fund.

2.11   Of the 108 currently open IA findings:

2.11.1   a total of 53 (49%) are open, but not yet overdue;

2.11.2   55 (51%) are currently reported as overdue as they have missed the final agreed implementation dates. This reflects a decrease of 2% in comparison to the August 2021 position (53%).

2.11.3   69% of the overdue findings are more than six months overdue, reflecting a decrease of 9% in comparison to August 2021 (78%) with 16% aged between six months and one year, and 53% more than one year overdue.

2.11.4   evidence in relation to 5 of the 55 overdue findings is currently being reviewed by IA to confirm that it is sufficient to support closure; and,

2.11.5   50 overdue findings still require to be addressed.

2.12   The number of overdue management actions associated with open and overdue findings where completion dates have been revised more than once since July 2018 is 44, reflecting a decrease of 4 when compared to the August 2021 position (48). This excludes the two completion date extensions applied to reflect ongoing Covid-19 impacts across the Council.

Annual Plan Delivery and Key Performance Indicators

2.13   IA Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to support effective delivery of the 2021/22 IA annual plan has confirmed that action is required to ensure that services are aware of the KPIs that apply to the audit process and engage proactively with IA to ensure that any potential impacts that could cause delays are identified and effectively managed.

2.14   The KPIs also highlight areas where IA has not achieved their reporting delivery timeframes.

2.15   Reasons for delayed IA annual plan delivery that underpin KPI outcomes were discussed at the November 2021 Committee.

3. Background

3.1 Overdue findings arising from IA reports are reported monthly to the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) and quarterly to the GRBV Committee.

3.2 This report specifically excludes open and overdue findings that relate to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) and the Lothian Pension Fund (LPF). These are reported separately to the EIJB Audit and Assurance Committee and the Pensions Audit Sub-Committee respectively.

3.3 Findings raised by IA in audit reports typically include more than one agreed management action to address the risks identified. IA methodology requires all agreed management actions to be closed in order to close the finding.

3.4 The IA definition of an overdue finding is any finding where all agreed management actions have not been evidenced as implemented by management and validated as closed by IA by the date agreed by management and IA and recorded in relevant IA reports.

3.5 The IA definition of an overdue management action is any agreed management action supporting an open IA finding that is either open or overdue, where the individual action has not been evidenced as implemented by management and validated as closed by IA by the agreed date.

3.6 Where management considers that actions are complete and sufficient evidence is available to support IA review and confirm closure, the action is marked as 'implemented' by management on the IA follow-up system. When IA has reviewed the evidence provided, the management action will either be 'closed' or will remain open and returned to the relevant owner with supporting rationale provided to explain what further evidence is required to enable closure.

3.7 A 'started' status recorded by management confirms that the agreed management action remains open and that implementation progress ongoing.

3.8 A 'pending' status recorded by management confirms that the agreed management action remains open with no implementation progress evident to date.

3.9 An operational dashboard has been designed to track progress against the key performance indicators included in the IA Journey Map and Key Performance Indicators document that was designed to monitor progress of both management and Internal Audit with delivery of the Internal Audit annual plan. The dashboard is provided monthly to the Corporate Leadership Team and quarterly to the Committee to highlight any significant delays that could potentially impact on delivery of the annual plan.

4. Main report

4.1 As at 5 November 2021, there are a total of 108 open IA findings across the Council with 55 findings (51%) now overdue.

4.2   The movement in open and overdue IA findings during the period 11 August to 5 November 2021 is as follows:

Analysis of changes between 11/08/2021 and 05/11/2021				
	Position at 11/08/21	**Added**	**Closed**	**Position at 05/11/21**
Open	96	20	8	108
Overdue	51	8	4	55

Overdue Findings

4.3   The 55 overdue findings comprise 17 High; 31 Medium; and 7 Low rated findings.

4.4   However, IA is currently reviewing evidence to support closure of 5 of these findings (2 High; 1 Medium; and 2 Low), leaving a balance of 50 overdue findings (15 High; 30 Medium; and 5 Low) still to be addressed.

Overdue findings ageing analysis

4.5   Figure 1 illustrates the ageing profile of all 55 overdue findings by rating across directorates as at 5 November 2021.

Fig1: Aged Overdue Findings by Ratings across Directorates
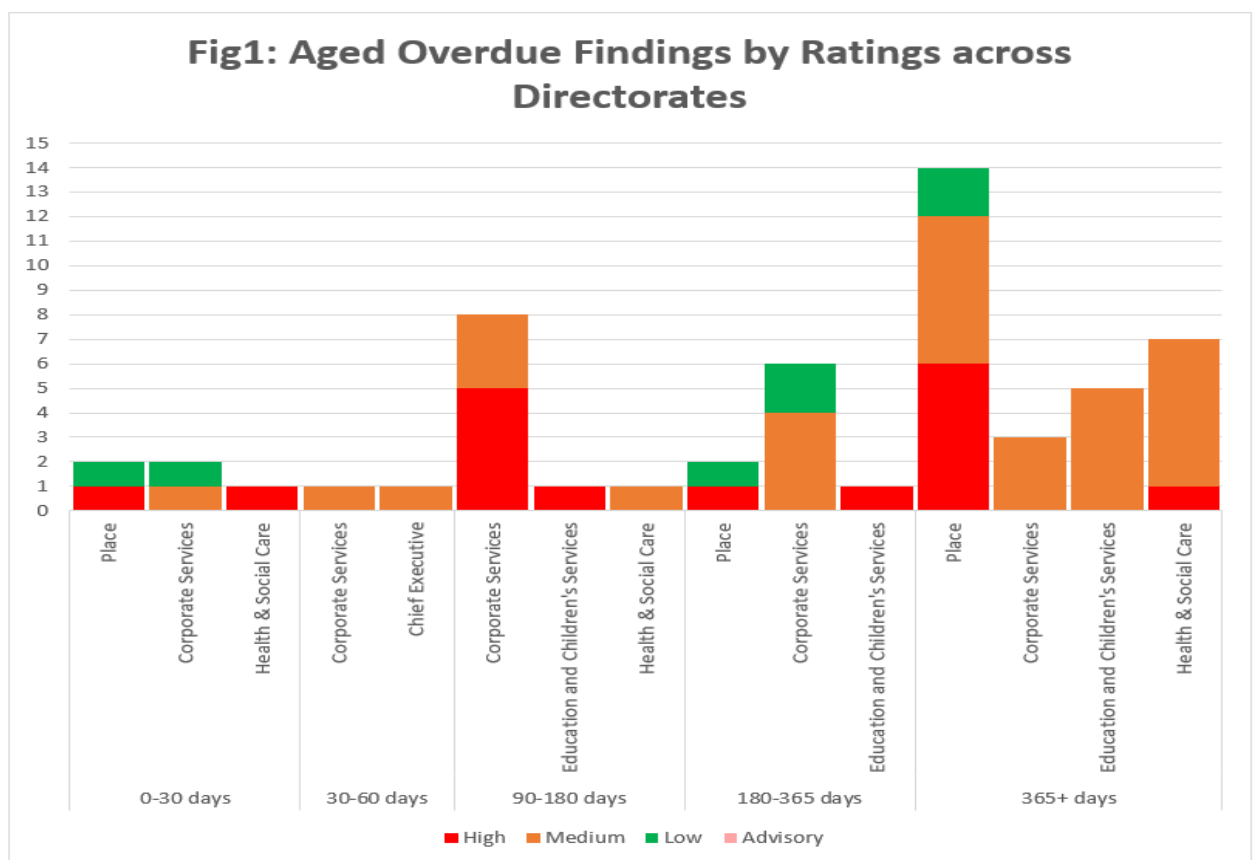
4.6   The analysis of the ageing of the 55 overdue findings outlined below highlights that Directorates made good progress last quarter with resolving findings less than three months and between six months and one year overdue, as the proportion of these findings has decreased. However, this is offset by an increase in the proportion of findings overdue between three and six months, and a consistent position with findings that are more than one year overdue.

- 7 (13%) are less than 3 months (90 days) overdue, in comparison to18% as at August 2021;
- 10 (18%) are between 3 and 6 months (90 and 180 days) overdue, in comparison to 4% as at August 2021;
- 9 (16%) are between 6 months and one year (180 and 365 days) overdue, in comparison to 25% as at August 2021; and,
- 29 (53%) are more than one year overdue, which remains the same as the position reported in August 2021.

Management Actions Closed Based on Management's Risk Acceptance

4.7   During the period 11 August to 5 November 2021, the following management action has been closed on the basis that management has retrospectively accepted either the full or residual elements of the risks highlighted by IA in the original audit report.

4.7.1   Council Wide (all Directorates) First Line Project Governance – Project Management Skills Matrix (medium) - management has accepted the risks associated with not implementing and maintaining a centralised project management skills matrix to ensure that employees with appropriate project management skills and experience are allocated to projects, as this would require resource from both the Strategic Change and Delivery and Human Resources teams. Management has advised that this additional resource is not available, and that existing Strategic Change and Delivery team resources should continue to focus on continuing to support teams across the Council to deliver change.

Agreed Management Actions Analysis

4.8   The 108 open IA findings are supported by a total of 259 agreed management actions. Of these, 141 (54%) are overdue as the completion timeframe agreed with management when the report was finalised has not been achieved. This reflects a 2% decrease from the August 2021 position (56%).

4.9   Of the 141 overdue management actions, 28 have a status of 'implemented' and are currently with IA for review to confirm whether they can be closed, leaving a balance of 113 to be addressed.
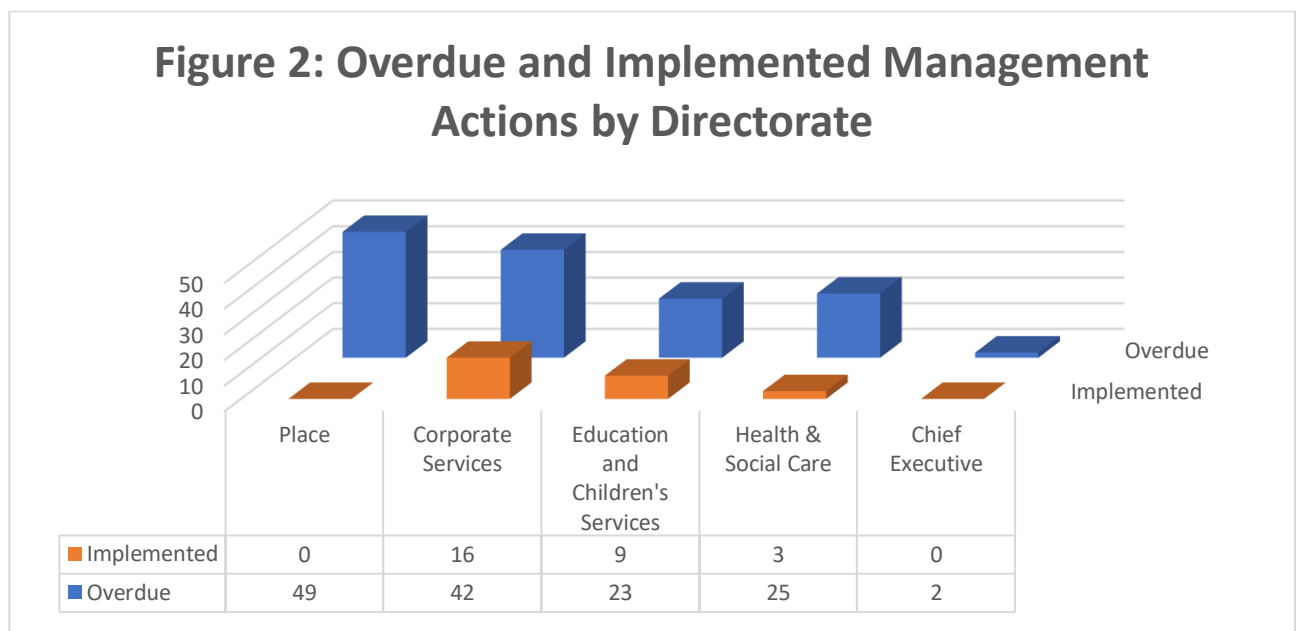
4.10 Appendix 2 provides an analysis of the 141 overdue management actions highlighting:

- their current status as at 5 November 2021 with:

- 28 implemented actions where management believe the action has been completed and it is now with IA for validation;
- 101 started where the action is open, and implementation is ongoing; and
- 12 pending where the action is open with no implementation progress evident to date.

- 34 instances (24%) where the latest implementation date has been missed; and
- 44 instances (31%) where the implementation date has been revised more than once.

4.11 Appendix 2 has also been updated to reflect the relevant Executive Committees that should be responsible for ongoing scrutiny of the overdue management actions.

4.12 Figure 2 illustrates the allocation of the 141 overdue management actions across Directorates, and the 28 that have been passed to IA for review to confirm whether they can be closed.

Figure 2: Overdue and Implemented Management Actions by Directorate

	Place	Corporate Services	Education and Children's Services	Health & Social Care	Chief Executive
Implemented	0	16	9	3	0
Overdue	49	42	23	25	2

4.13 IA has continued to achieve its established KPI for reviewing all implemented management actions within four weeks of the date they are proposed for closure by management.

4.14 Where implementation dates longer than four weeks occur, these are supported by feedback to management requesting either additional evidence or a discussion to explain the context of the evidence provided. Where this is not provided by services within a further four weeks, the status of the action is reverted to 'started' until the further information requested is provided.

More Than One Revised Implementation Date

4.15 Figure 3 illustrates that there are currently 48 open management actions (including those that are overdue) across directorates where completion dates have been

revised between two and six times since July 2018. This number excludes the two automatic extensions applied by IA to reflect the impact of Covid-19.

4.16 This remains aligned with the position reported in August 2021 (48).

4.17 Of these 48 management actions, 26 are associated with High rated findings; 21 Medium; and 1 Low, with the majority of date revisions in the Place directorate.

Figure 3 - management actions with more than one revised completion date since July 2018

Legend: ■ High ■ Medium ■ Low
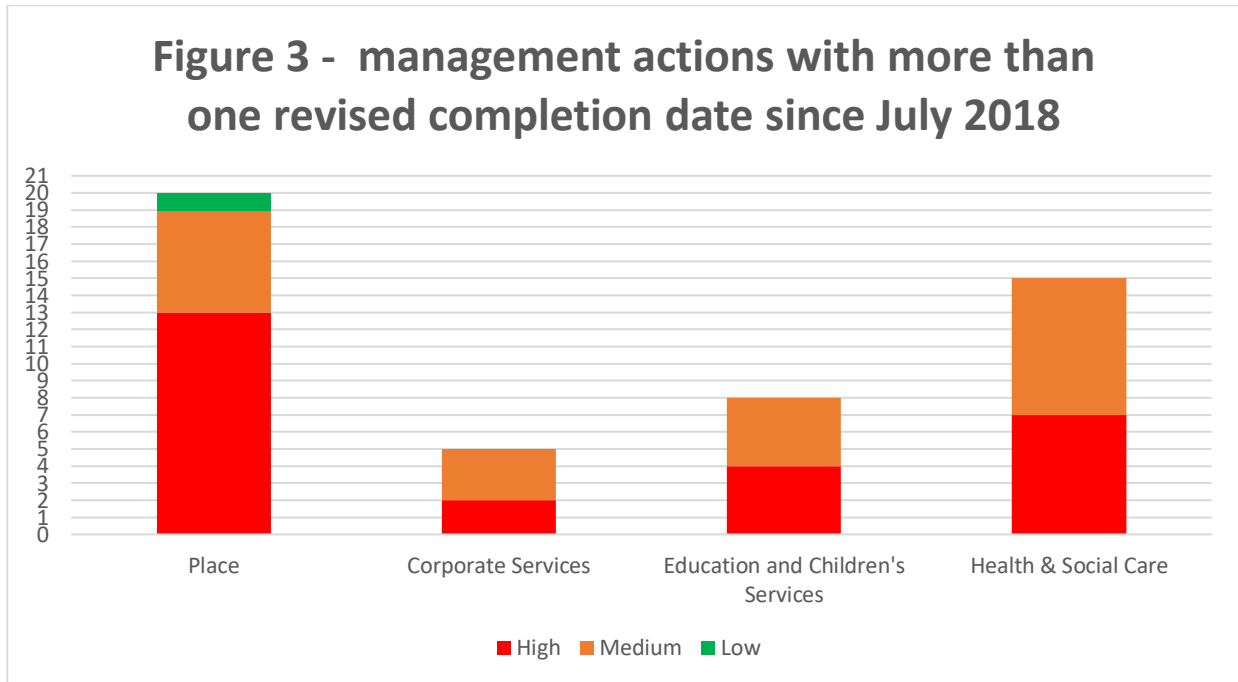
Key Performance Themes Identified from the IA Dashboard

4.18 The IA key performance indicator dashboard has been reinstated for 2021/22 to support delivery of the annual plan by both services and the IA team; and prevent delays in completion of audits and finalisation of the IA annual opinion.

4.19 Reintroduction of the KPIs supported by monthly reporting to the Corporate Leadership Team and quarterly to the Committee will highlight any significant delays that could potentially impact on delivery of the annual plan, and is aligned with the requirements of both the motion and addendum agreed at Committee in August 2021 requesting that audits will be carried out in line with the timescales set out in the agreed audit plan.

4.20 Two audits that were included in the dashboard presented to the Committee in September (Health and Social Care Partnership: Management of Waiting Lists and Assessments; and Place: Active Travel) have been paused and carried forward into the 2022/23 IA annual plan following the rebase of the annual plan approved by the Committee in November 2021, and have now been remove from the dashboard.

4.21 The dashboard included at Appendix 3 reflects the current status for the 11 audits in progress where terms of reference detailing the scope of the planned reviews have been issued. This highlights that:

4.21.1   Services are consistently taking longer than the 5 day KPI for feedback on draft IA terms of reference, with feedback received within the 5 days for only 2 audits.

4.21.2   Executive Directors are generally providing feedback on draft terms of reference within the agreed 5 day response times. Delays are mainly attributable to Council wide audits where responses are not consistently received from all Executive Directors.

4.21.3   Internal Audit reporting delays for the Planning and Performance Framework and Health and Safety audits were highlighted in the report presented to Committee in September, and has experienced a further delay with preparing and issuing the Parking and Traffic Regulations audit report. This was mainly attributable to the timing of annual leave.

4.21.4   There have also been significant delays with receipt and finalisation of management responses for the Implementation of Asbestos Recommendations and Parking and Traffic Regulations audits, and a delay in finalising Executive Director approval of the Planning and Performance Framework report.

5.   Next Steps

5.1   IA will continue to monitor the open and overdues findings position and delivery against key performance indicators, providing monthly updates to the CLT and quarterly updates to the GRBV Committee.

6.   Financial impact

6.1   There are no direct financial impacts arising from this report, although failure to close findings and address the associated risks in a timely manner may have some inherent financial impact.

7.   Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1   If agreed management actions supporting closure of Internal Audit findings are not implemented, the Council will be exposed to the service delivery risks set out in the relevant Internal Audit reports. Internal Audit findings are raised as a result of control gaps or deficiencies identified during reviews therefore overdue items inherently impact upon effective risk management, compliance and governance.

8.   Background reading/external references

8.1   Internal Audit Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 11 August 2021 – Paper 8.1

8.2   Capacity to Deliver the 2021/22 IA Annual Plan – Paper 8.3

9.   Appendices

9.1   Appendix 1 – Monthly Trend Analysis of IA Overdue Findings and Management Actions

9.2   Appendix 2 – Internal Audit Overdue Management Actions as at 5 November 2021

9.3   Appendix 3 – Internal Audit Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021

Appendix 1 - Monthly Trend Analysis of IA Overdue Findings and Management Actions

| Stable with limited change | | As at 5 November 2021 |

	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)		11/06/2021		07/07/2021		11/08/2021		23/09/2021		05/11/2021		Trend
	IA Findings												
1	Open findings		89	100%	85	100%	96	100%	113	100%	108	100%	Not applicable
2	Not yet due		34	38%	32	38%	45	47%	64	57%	53	49%	Not applicable
3	Overdue findings		55	62%	53	62%	51	53%	49	43%	55	51%	
4	Overdue - IA reviewing		12	22%	8	15%	3	6%	9	18%	5	9%	
5	High Overdue		18	33%	18	34%	17	33%	16	33%	17	31%	
6	Medium Overdue		30	55%	29	55%	28	55%	29	59%	31	56%	
7	Low Overdue		7	13%	6	11%	6	12%	4	8%	7	13%	
8	<90 days overdue		7	13%	9	17%	9	18%	6	12%	7	13%	
9	90-180 days overdue		8	15%	3	6%	2	4%	6	12%	10	18%	
10	180-365 days overdue		10	18%	15	28%	13	25%	11	22%	9	16%	
11	>365 days overdue		30	55%	26	49%	27	53%	26	53%	29	53%	
	Management Actions												
12	Open actions		236	100%	218	100%	233	100%	277	100%	259	100%	Not applicable
13	Not yet due		96	41%	83	38%	103	44%	154	56%	118	46%	Not applicable
14	Overdue actions		140	59%	135	62%	130	56%	123	44%	141	54%	
15	Overdue - IA reviewing		40	29%	28	21%	17	13%	35	28%	28	20%	
16	Latest date missed		77	55%	43	32%	70	54%	52	42%	34	24%	
17	Date revised > once		60	43%	51	38%	48	37%	46	37%	44	31%	

Trend Analysis - key

	Adverse trend - action required
	Stable with limited change
	Positive trend with progress evident

No trend analysis is performed on open findings and findings not yet due as these numbers will naturally increase when new IA reports are finalised.

Appendix 2 - Internal Audt Overdue Management Actions as at 5 November 2021

Glossary of Terms
1. Executive Committee – This is the relevant Executive Committee that should have oversight of completion of agreed management actions
2. Project Name – This is the name of the audit report.
3. Issue Type – This is the priority of the audit finding, categorised as Critical; High; Medium; or Low
3. Issue Title - this is the titel of the issue in the Origina IA Report
4. Owner – The Executive Director responsible for implementation of the action.
5. Recommendation Title - this is the title of the recommendation in the original IA report
6. Agreed Management action – This is the action agreed between Internal Audit and Management to address the finding.
7. Status – This is the current status of the management action. These are categorised as:
   - Pending (the action is open and there has been no progress towards implementation),
   - Started (the action is open, and work is ongoing to implement the management action), and
   - **Implemented** (the service area believes the action has been Implemented and this is with Internal Audit for validation).
8. Estimated date – the original agreed implementation date.
9. Revised date – the current revised date. **Red** formatting in the dates field indicates the last revised date is overdue.
10. Number of revisions – the number of times the date has been revised since July 2018.
11. **Amber** formatting in the dates field indicates the date has been revised more than once.
12. Contributor – Officers involved in implementation of an agreed management action.

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Asset Management Strategy and CAFM system 18/19	High	RES1813 Asset Management Strategy and CAFM: Issue 3 - Property and Facilities Management Data Completeness; Accuracy; and Quality	Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	3.2 Resolution of known data quality issues	A reconciliation of the two lists has been performed and there are no obvious discrepancies other than properties which are out with the scope of the survey team. The viability of establishing a referencing system for concessionary lets in the CAFM system will be explored. The volume and value of known concessionary lets across the Council Estate will form part of the Annual Investment Portfolio update which is reported to the Finance and Resources committee. There is an ongoing work stream looking at vacant and disposed properties and the systems updates required.	Started	31/03/16	2	01/11/22	Alan Chim Alison Coburn Andrew Field Audrey Dutton Brendan Tate Gohar Khan Graeme McGartland Matthew MacArthur Peter Watton Ross Murray
All Executive Committees	Assurance Actions and Annual Governance Statements	Medium	CW1903 Issue 1:Assurance Management Framework	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1903 Issue 1.1c: Develop and implement an assurance management framework	An assurance management framework will be developed and implemented that covers the points raised by Internal Audit and includes: liaison with directorates to assess current and best practice; clearly defined roles and responsibilities for first line directorates and the second line Corporate Governance team; process flow; monitoring / reporting / closure requirements; an assessment of existing automated tools to determine whether they can support the process; issue guidance; The framework will be implemented and rolled out across Council divisions and directorates to support completion of the 2021/22 annual governance statement for inclusion in the Council's 31 March 2022 annual financial statements.	Started	31/12/20	3	30/12/21	Chris Peggie Gavin King Hayley Barnett Laura Callender Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Mirka Vybiralova Nick Smith
Policy and Sustainability	Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership (EADP) – Contract Management	Medium	Key Person Dependency and Process Documentation	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Rec 5 - Records Management Policy	Records retention policy: Direction will be requested from the Information Governance team in relation to Records Management Policy requirements and how they should be applied to retention, archiving and destruction of contract management information. Any lessons learned will be shared with the Health and Social Care contracts management team.	Started	30/03/18	6	28/02/22	Angela Ritchie David Williams Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Emergency Prioritisation & Complaints	Medium	CW1806 Issue 1: ATEC 24 Operational Framework	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CW1806 Issue 1.2(3): ATEC 24 Service Level Agreements - Partnership Protocol	3. A partnership protocol will be approved and implemented for the Fallen Uninjured Person Service to reflect the current operations, funding arrangements and any planned process improvements.	Started	29/11/19	3	01/06/21	Angela Ritchie Sylvia Latona Tom Cowan Zac Dean
Policy and Sustainability	Emergency Prioritisation & Complaints	Medium	CW1806 Issue 1: ATEC 24 Operational Framework	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CW1806 Issue 1.4(3): ATEC 24 Quality Assurance - Outcomes, supervision and key themes/improvements	1) Quality assurance outcomes will be linked to supervision and training and performance objectives, with regular one to ones scheduled to ensure action is taken to address any competence issues or gaps identified.2)Where systemic themes or trends are identified from quality assurance reviews, management will consider whether existing operational processes should be revisited.	Started	30/04/20	2	31/03/22	Angela Ritchie Sylvia Latona Tom Cowan Zac Dean

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Emergency Prioritisation & Complaints	Medium	CW1806: Issue 2: Third Party Service Provision - Health & Social Care Partnership	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CW1806: Issue 2(1): SLAs - Third Party Service Provision	A review of the SLA for the ESCS is underway. It is likely the detail of the arrangements will differ considerably from what is currently included within the SLA. The review will, however, take into consideration the points noted above. The review of the SLA will include contributions from City of Edinburgh Council, Midlothian Council and East Lothian Council, and will be presented to the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Executive Management Team for review and approval.	Started	30/11/19	4	30/11/21	Angela Ritchie Brian Henderson Colin Beck Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Emergency Prioritisation & Complaints	Medium	CW1806: Issue 2: Third Party Service Provision - Health & Social Care Partnership	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CW1806: Issue 2(2): Partnership Protocol HSCP/Contact Centre	Agreed, once the SLA is finalised, a Partnership Protocol will be developed in conjunction with Customer Contact Centre colleagues.	Started	28/02/20	3	30/12/21	Alison Roarty Angela Ritchie Brian Henderson Colin Beck Lisa Hastie Tom Cowan
Policy and Sustainability	H&SC Care Homes - Corporate Report	Medium	A3.1: Training	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	A3.1(1) Manager review of training	As per audit recommendation:· Care home managers should perform a six-monthly review to confirm that all employees have completed mandatory, induction and refresher training and that completion has been recorded on the Learning Hub system/supporting registers for other training. Where training has not been completed, this should be discussed with employees and reflected (where appropriate) in their annual performance discussions.	Started	30/06/19	4	31/03/22	Angela Ritchie Jacqui Macrae Jane Brown
Policy and Sustainability	H&SC Care Homes - Corporate Report	Medium	A3.3: Performance & Attendance Management	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	A3.3(4) Health & Social Care Teams - quarterly review of absence and performance management	This is the responsibility of the Unit manager for their direct reports. The Business Support Officer will ensure that the Unit Manager is aware on a monthly basis for Domestics and Handymen reporting to them The Business Support Officer is required to monitor and report through the Customer process on a monthly basis. The staff nurse / charge nurse to be appointed at Gylemuir will ensure that this is performed for all NHS staff. (No longer relevant as Gylemuir is now closed).	Started	30/06/18	4	31/10/22	Angela Ritchie Jacqui Macrae
Policy and Sustainability	H&SC Care Homes - Corporate Report	Medium	A3.4: Agency Staffing	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	A3.4(2) Analysis of the agency staff and hours worked charges	The BSO will assist the UM (See A2.1). A paper is being presented to the Health and Social Care Senior Management Team week commencing 15th January 2018 that proposes a solution where information will be provided to Locality Managers who will prepare reports for Care Homes. If this solution is agreed, it will be implemented immediately.	Started	31/03/18	5	31/03/22	Angela Ritchie Jacqui Macrae
Policy and Sustainability	HSC Localities	High	HSC1901 Issue 1: Locality and Workforce Planning	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	HSC1901 Issue 1.1: Locality Operational Plans	The Partnership is currently developing a template and detailed action plan to support creation of Locality Operational Plans. Following this, development and delivery of the Locality Operational Plans will be overseen by the Partnership's newly established Strategic and Operational Planning Forum. This forum will ensure there is alignment and synergy between the Strategic Plan and the Local Operational Plans. The draft Locality Operational Plans will be presented to the EIJB Strategic Planning Group when this is re established. It would be intended to do this by end of July 2021.	Pending	31/10/21	0	01/06/22	Angela Lindsay Angela Ritchie Mike Massaro-Mallinson Nikki Conway
Policy and Sustainability	HSC Localities	High	HSC1901 Issue 1: Locality and Workforce Planning	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	HSC1901 Issue 1.2: Development of Locality Workforce Plans	The Partnership's Workforce Strategy is currently being developed and will be submitted to the Scottish Government for review in line with their timescales (31st March 2021 at the time of writing). This will include consideration of locality workforce requirements which will be incorporated into the Locality Operational Plans.	Pending	30/09/21	0	01/05/22	Angela Ritchie Moira Pringle Neil Wilson
Policy and Sustainability	Life Safety	High	CW1910 - Life safety: Issue 1 Life safety systems and reporting	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1910 Rec 1.3 Life safety incident identification, escalation, and reporting	Corporate Health and Safety will: 1. Issue guidance to establish relevant criteria to determine the significance of life safety incidents, for approval by the Council Health and Safety Group.2. Send out a communication to all Council employees about the importance of reporting all incident types on the SHE system and the statutory nature of RIDDOR. This will be highlighted when opening SHE and the forthcoming HS policy review and will include a procedure for reporting incidents through management in addition to SHE.3. Send out a communication to all staff about the importance of reporting and the statutory nature of RIDDOR. This will be highlighted when opening SHE and the forthcoming HS policy review.4. Consider whether incidents and near misses are being consistently recorded and escalated in line with policy as part of the ongoing health and safety assurance programme.	Implemented	30/06/21	0	30/09/21	Chris Lawson Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Life Safety	High	CW1910 - Life safety: Issue 2 Operational estate – fire, gas, electricity, and water risk management	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1901 Rec 2.1.2 Review of the Council's Fire policy in relation to Fire Risk Assessments	The Council's current fire policy will be reviewed to ensure alignment with the requirements of Scottish fire regulations in relation to Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs). This will include the need to review FRAs where a significant change been made to the premises or processes or operations within the premises. The requirement for completion of an annual review of FRAs will be removed and an appropriate review timeframe considered recognising the fire risk profile of the property. The policy will also be updated to reflect the revised approach adopted by the Council in relation to discharge of duty holder responsibilities for completion and ongoing review of FRAs.	Implemented	30/09/21	0	30/12/21	Chris Lawson Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith
Policy and Sustainability	Life Safety	High	CW1910 - Life safety: Issue 2 Operational estate – fire, gas, electricity, and water risk management	Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	CW1910 Rec 2.1.1 Responsibility for completion and ongoing review of fire risk assessments	The appropriateness of current support arrangements for duty holders who are responsible for completion and ongoing review of Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs) across the operational and investment property estates, and multi-let buildings with common parts leased by the Council was considered by the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) and the following actions agreed: 1. External resources will be procured by Property and Facilities Management (P&FM) on behalf of Council divisions to assess the completeness and adequacy of fire risk assessments (FRAs) across the remainder of the Council's operational property estate; refresh FRAs where required; and enhance the current baseline position. The costs associated with this exercise will be advised to divisions for inclusion in relevant divisional / directorate budgets. 2. First line duty holders will remain responsible for ensuring that FRAs are reviewed and updated as required in line with the Council's fire policy.3. Property and Facilities Management will ensure that duty holders update their FRAs (where required) as part of their ongoing capital works programme across the operational property estate.4. Following consolidation of the second line Housing and Operational Property teams and resources that have life safety responsibilities, the compliance team responsible for assessing the completeness and quality of FRAs will be strengthened, to ensure adequate ongoing coverage across the operational estate. 5. The revised processes supporting completion and review of FRAs will be implemented and communicated across the Council, ensuring that duty holders in operational properties, and property and facilities management teams responsible for completion of capital works and oversight of fire risk compliance are clear on their respective roles and responsibilities.	Started	30/09/21	0	30/12/21	Alison Coburn Andrew Field Brendan Tate Gareth Barwell Gohar Khan Mark Stenhouse Matthew MacArthur Peter Watton Ross Murray
Policy and Sustainability	Life Safety	High	CW1910 - Life safety: Issue 3 Life safety – training, competence and assurance	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1910 Rec. 3.2 On site fire warden training	1. Training needs analysis will identify the frequency of Fire Warden training (fire evacuation training on site will be conducted by duty holders not less than twice per year).2. and 3. The best method of on-site fire training will be determined and entered into the training needs analysis and training event schedules.	Implemented	29/10/21	0	29/01/22	Chris Lawson Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith
Policy and Sustainability	Life Safety	Low	CW1910 - Life safety: Issue 5 Corporate Health and Safety	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1910 Rec. 5.1 Review of life safety policies and procedures	Corporate Health and Safety will consider the need for additional policies (including any requirement for recommendations in relation to competence and assurance re gas and electricity compliance) covering Gas and Electricity or whether this should continue to reside as procedures within the appropriate directorate. CHS will ensure that H&S audits cover these areas.	Implemented	30/07/21	0	30/10/21	Chris Lawson Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith
Policy and Sustainability	Life Safety	Low	CW1910 - Life safety: Issue 5 Corporate Health and Safety	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1910 Rec. 5.2 Technical guidance and support	1. The preparation of the skills matrix is currently underway and will be finalised. 2. The issue of capacity will be considered as recruitment increases the size of the team and, recognising that capacity will change from time to time within the team, will plan in capacity for providing technical advice to services. 3. CHS will endeavour to provide support where requested by services. 4. Where this is not possible, CHS will advise teams to engage external consultants.	Implemented	30/06/21	0	30/09/21	Chris Lawson Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith
Policy and Sustainability	Life Safety	Low	CW1910 - Life safety: Issue 5 Corporate Health and Safety	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1910 Rec. 5.3 Safety Health and Environment (SHE) portal user and licence management	The processes supporting ongoing use of the Safety Health and Environment (SHE) system will be reviewed and the issues noted above addressed as part of this process.	Implemented	29/10/21	0	29/01/22	Chris Lawson Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Physical Distancing & Employee Protection (PDEP)	Medium	CW2008: Physical Distancing and Employee Protection - Issue 1: Process Design	Andrew Kerr, Chief Executive	CW2008: Rec 1.2 - Corporate Guidance and templates	It is not proposed to retrospectively review existing guidance, protocols, communications as we are now moving out of the phased lockdown and restrictions. New guidance published by Scottish Government will be reviewed and where required, guidance, protocols and communications will be updated. Once approved, this will be published and any out of date documentation will be removed. In addition, personal responsibility for compliance with guidance and protocols as services resume will be reinforced to all employees through senior officer communications and Managers' News.	Started	31/10/21	0	31/01/22	Alison Coburn Gareth Barwell Gavin King Mary-Ellen Lang Matthew MacArthur Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith Ross Murray
Policy and Sustainability	Physical Distancing & Employee Protection (PDEP)	Medium	CW2008: Physical Distancing and Employee Protection - Issue 2: Compliance with Processes	Andrew Kerr, Chief Executive	CW2008: Recommendation 2.3 - Partnership protocols for shared use buildings	The above processes are already in place; therefore, it is proposed to send a reminder on the agreed process to NHS Lothian.	Pending	30/09/21	0	30/12/21	Alison Coburn Angela Ritchie Gareth Barwell Judith Proctor Mary-Ellen Lang Matthew MacArthur Ross Murray
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 1: Completeness and accuracy of Council policies and the online policy register	Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	CE1902 - 1.2b Policy Register review: Initial review of online policy register – Place	Following receipt of the Directorate policy register extract provided by Strategy and Communications, each Directorate will perform an initial review of their section of the policy register to identify out of date and draft documents. A status update will be provided to Strategy and Communications for each document currently published online, to confirm whether the published version is: the most up to date approved version and no immediate action is required. is out of date but has been recently reviewed and reported to Committee in the annual policy assurance statement – a copy of the most recent version held by the Directorate or Division will then be sent to by Strategy and Communications for publication on the current online register. is out of date or in draft with no recently approved version available. Strategy and Communications will then remove the current online version from the online policy register and note that the document is being reviewed. Strategy and Communications will update the current online policy register on the basis of returns and Directorates will commence their wider policy review set out at 1.2d.	Started	31/01/21	3	30/12/21	Alison Coburn Audrey Dutton David Givan Gareth Barwell George Gaunt Karl Chapman Lindsay Robertson Matthew MacArthur Peter Watton Ross Murray Veronica Wishart
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 1: Completeness and accuracy of Council policies and the online policy register	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CE1902 - 1.2d Policy Register review: Full Policy review – Corporate Services	Following Corporate Leadership Team approval of revised definitions of policies; procedures; guidance and templates (as per recommendations at 3.1), all Directorates will review their existing policies, procedures and guidance and reclassify as appropriate. A risk-based approach will be adopted across Directorates to determine how regularly individual policies will be reviewed, based on the expected frequency of changes in applicable legislation, regulations and statutory requirements. The agreed frequency for review will be recorded on the policy template and included in the published policy register. (All policies will be then be reviewed regularly in line with the agreed frequency. Human Resources policies are exempt from this requirement as the review frequency has been agreed by Committee). Policy documents on individual Orb pages for Divisions will be removed and links included to the Council's published policy register which will be the single source of truth for all Council policies. (With the exception of Human Resources and Health and Safety policies which are Council wide and are included with content specific webpages).	Started	31/10/21	0	31/01/22	Adam Fergie Alison Roarty Annette Smith Hugh Dunn Katy Miller Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith Nicola Harvey
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 1: Completeness and accuracy of Council policies and the online policy register	Julien Kramer, Interim Director of Communities and Families	CE1902 - 1.2e Policy Register review: Review of Communities and Families directories within the Orb	The Communities and Families and Health and Social Care policy and procedures directories on the Orb will be reviewed and linked to policies within the approved policy register. All other policies will be reclassified in line with the definitions provided at recommendation 3.1a.	Started	30/06/21	1	31/03/22	Crawford McGhie Jackie Irvine Liz Harrison Lorna French Nichola Dadds Nickey Boyle

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 1: Completeness and accuracy of Council policies and the online policy register	Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	CE1902 - 1.2d Policy Register review: Full Policy review – Place	Following Corporate Leadership Team approval of revised definitions of policies; procedures; guidance and templates (as per recommendations at 3.1), all Directorates will review their existing policies, procedures and guidance and reclassify as appropriate. A risk-based approach will be adopted across Directorates to determine how regularly individual policies will be reviewed, based on the expected frequency of changes in applicable legislation, regulations and statutory requirements. The agreed frequency for review will be recorded on the policy template and included in the published policy register. All policies will be then be reviewed regularly in line with the agreed frequency. Policy documents on individual Orb pages for Divisions will be removed and links included to the Council's published policy register which will be the single source of truth for all Council policies.	Started	31/10/21	0	31/01/22	Alison Coburn Audrey Dutton David Givan Dorothy Gray Gareth Barwell George Gaunt Karl Chapman Lindsay Robertson Matthew MacArthur Nicole Fraser Peter Watton Ross Murray Veronica Wishart
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 1: Completeness and accuracy of Council policies and the online policy register	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CE1902 - 1.2d Policy Register review: Full Policy review – Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership	Following Corporate Leadership Team approval of revised definitions of policies; procedures; guidance and templates (as per recommendations at 3.1), all Directorates will review their existing policies, procedures and guidance and reclassify as appropriate. A risk-based approach will be adopted across Directorates to determine how regularly individual policies will be reviewed, based on the expected frequency of changes in applicable legislation, regulations and statutory requirements. The agreed frequency for review will be recorded on the policy template and included in the published policy register. All policies will be then be reviewed regularly in line with the agreed frequency. Policy documents on individual Orb pages for Divisions will be removed and links included to the Council's published policy register which will be the single source of truth for all Council policies. For the HSCP - this action includes updating the HSCP policy directory on the Orb to ensure the policies and documents identified via gap analysis at action 1.2e have also been reviewed and updated as required.	Started	31/07/21	1	31/01/22	Angela Ritchie Moira Pringle Tom Cowan Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 2: Completion of Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs)	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CE1902 - 2.2 Completion and publication of Integrated Impact Assessments - Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership	Directorates will review all new and revised policies prior to submission for approval by Committee to confirm that all IIA requirements outlined in the recommendation above have been completed, with evidence of review and approval by the Head of Division retained. Responsibility for monitoring progress with implementation of IIA action plans will be allocated to an appropriate senior responsible officer within each division to confirm that known gaps are being effectively addressed.	Pending	31/07/21	0	31/01/22	Angela Ritchie Moira Pringle Tom Cowan Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 2: Completion of Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs)	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CE1902 - 2.2 Completion and publication of Integrated Impact Assessments - Corporate Services	Directorates will review all new and revised policies prior to submission for approval by Committee to confirm that all IIA requirements outlined in the recommendation above have been completed, with evidence of review and approval by the Service Director retained. Responsibility for monitoring progress with implementation of IIA action plans will be allocated to an appropriate senior responsible officer within each division to confirm that known gaps are being effectively addressed.	Started	31/10/21	0	31/01/22	Adam Fergie Alison Roarty Annette Smith Gavin King Hugh Dunn Katy Miller Layla Smith Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith Nicola Harvey
Policy and Sustainability	Policy Management Framework	High	CE1902 Policy Management Framework Issue 2: Completion of Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs)	Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	CE1902 - 2.2 Completion and publication of Integrated Impact Assessments - Place	Directorates will review all new and revised policies prior to submission for approval by Committee to confirm that all IIA requirements outlined in the recommendation above have been completed, with evidence of review and approval by the Head of Division retained. Responsibility for monitoring progress with implementation of IIA action plans will be allocated to an appropriate senior responsible officer within each division to confirm that known gaps are being effectively addressed.	Started	31/10/21	0	31/01/22	Alison Coburn Audrey Dutton David Givan Dorothy Gray Gareth Barwell George Gaunt Karl Chapman Lindsay Robertson Matthew MacArthur Nicole Fraser Peter Watton Ross Murray

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Resilience BC	High	Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements	Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place	Rec 3.1 a) Place - Development of resilience protocols for statutory and critical services	Inline with the approach agreed by the Council's Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2020, the Council has shifted from a plan based resilience approach to a protocol based approach. Resilience protocols will be developed for high risk services as required, with support from Corporate Resilience. All Directorates will aim to have this complete by 31 December 2022.	Started	19/06/20	1	31/03/23	Alison Coburn Audrey Dutton Claire Duchart David Givan Eileen Cossar Gareth Barwell Gavin King Gavin Sharp George Gaunt Karl Chapman Kimberley Campbell Lindsay Robertson Mary-Ellen Lang Matthew MacArthur Paul Young Peter Watton Ross Murray Russell McLauchlan
Policy and Sustainability	Resilience BC	High	Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	Rec 3.1b Corporate Services - Development of Resilience Plans/protocols for statutory and critical services	Rebased action October 2020Following a refresh of Business Impact Assessments and the new organisational structure, resilience plans/protocols will be developed, with support and training from Resilience, for high-risk essential services. A list of these services is to be provided by Resilience for approval by CLT. Date revised to 31 December 2022.	Started	19/06/20	1	31/03/23	Annette Smith Eileen Cossar Gavin King Gavin Sharp Hugh Dunn Katy Miller Kimberley Campbell Layla Smith Mary-Ellen Lang Michelle Vanhegan Nick Smith Nicola Harvey Paul Young Russell McLauchlan
Policy and Sustainability	Resilience BC	High	Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Rec 3.1c H&SC - Development of Resilience Plans/protocols for statutory and critical services	Rebased action October 2020Following a refresh of Business Impact Assessments and the new organisational structure, resilience plans/protocols will be developed, with support and training from Resilience, for high-risk essential services. A list of these services is to be provided by Resilience for approval by CLT. Date revised to 31 December 2022.	Started	19/06/20	1	31/03/23	Angela Ritchie Eileen Cossar Gavin Sharp Jacqui Macrae Kimberley Campbell Mary-Ellen Lang Paul Young Russell McLauchlan
Policy and Sustainability	Resilience BC	High	Completion and adequacy of service area business impact assessments and resilience arrangements	Julien Kramer, Interim Director of Communities and Families	Rec 3.1d Education and Children's Services - Development of Resilience Plans/protocols for statutory and critical services	Rebased action October 2020Following a refresh of Business Impact Assessments and the new organisational structure, resilience plans/protocols will be developed, with support and training from Resilience, for high-risk essential services. A list of these services is to be provided by Resilience for approval by CLT. Date revised to 31 December 2022.	Started	19/06/20	1	31/03/23	Eileen Cossar Gavin King Gavin Sharp Jackie Irvine Kimberley Campbell Laura Zanotti Liz Harrison Lorna French Mary-Ellen Lang Michelle McMillan Nichola Dadds Nickey Boyle Paul Young Russell McLauchlan

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Resilience BC	Medium	Adequacy, maintenance and approval of Council wide resilience plans	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	Rec 4) Update of Council Business Continuity Plan to include key elements from resilience protocols	The Council Business Continuity Plan (BCP) was developed and signed off the Chief Executive in May 2019.Following Directorate review and update of resilience protocols, the Council BCP will be updated to include key elements of Directorate plans.	Started	18/12/20	1	30/06/24	Eileen Cossar Gavin King Gavin Sharp Kimberley Campbell Layla Smith Mary-Ellen Lang Michelle Vanhegan Paul Young Russell McLauchlan
Policy and Sustainability	Resilience BC	High	Review of resilience templates and approach	Stephen Moir, Executive Director, Corporate Services	CW1702 Rec 1.c - Review and communication of revised resilience templates and approach	Resilience will review Business Impact Assessment (BIA) templates and Business Area Resilience Plan / Protocol templates and approach, incorporating concurrent risk planning. These will be communicated to Directorates who will then be required to complete refreshed BIAs, followed by resilience plans/protocols.	Implemented	31/05/21	0	31/08/21	Eileen Cossar Gavin King Gavin Sharp Kimberley Campbell Mary-Ellen Lang Michelle Vanhegan Paul Young Russell McLauchlan
Policy and Sustainability	Social Work Centre Bank Account Reconciliations	High	Corporate Appointee Client Fund Management	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	2.2. Updating procedures to include an annual review of Corporate Appointee contracts	2. New guidelines will be written to ensure clarity of responsibilities. Sections will be included detailing Social Work; Business Support; and Transactions team responsibilities. The objective is to create and implement an end to end process that includes eligibility criteria, DWP processes and a full administrative process that will be applied centrally and across Locality offices; clusters; and hubs.	Implemented	30/04/18	2	01/11/21	Alison Roarty Angela Ritchie Colin Beck Louise McRae Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Social Work Centre Bank Account Reconciliations	High	Corporate Appointee Client Fund Management	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Rec. 8 Business Support and Senior Social Worker - refresher training closing and reallocation of client fund accounts	8. Refresher training will be offered as part of the implementation of the new guidelines to all staff involved in the process, and recorded on staff training records. The training will also be incorporated into the new staff induction process.	Implemented	31/05/18	3	01/11/21	Alison Roarty Angela Ritchie Colin Beck Louise McRae Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Social Work Centre Bank Account Reconciliations	High	Corporate Appointee Client Fund Management	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Recommendation 1a - Health & Social Care	1. Health and Social Care: Given the considerable business support and social worker resources implications, the above recommendations will take time to design, implement and maintain. Business Support is resolving problem appointee arrangements as we go along, however, the backlog of reviews will need a programme management approach to rectify errors and support the governance required. In the meantime, associated risks will be added to the Partnership's risk register to monitor controls and progress on a monthly basis, given its high finding rating. Following the Care Home Assurance Review, the Partnership is developing a self-assurance control framework. Locality Managers have agreed for corporate appointee arrangements to be included in the assurance framework – which if found to be successful and useful, can be mirrored by the other applicable services in this report. Business Support is working on new guidelines for the administration of Corporate Appointeeship (e.g. new procedures, monthly checklists, etc.), which will support the effective delivery of the framework.	Started	28/06/19	3	01/02/22	Alison Roarty Angela Ritchie Colin Beck Louise McRae Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Social Work Centre Bank Account Reconciliations	High	Corporate Appointee Client Fund Management	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	Rec 1b - Business Support - review of Corporate Appointee processes	1. Business Support: Business Support will enable the review of current processes and guidelines in conjunction with Hub and Cluster Managers with sign off at the Locality Managers Forum. Business support will review all Corporate Appointee accounts and contact the relevant social worker, support worker or hub where the funds are over £16K for immediate review. Business support will advise social work when the funds exceed £16K where there is not a valid reason (for example, client deceased and social worker discussing estate with solicitor). Clarity on contact with DWP is being progressed and will be written into the new guidelines. Regular reporting will be introduced from the revised systems being implemented. This will be provided monthly at Senior Social Work level and annually for H&SC management	Started	31/05/18	2	01/11/21	Alison Roarty Angela Ritchie Colin Beck Louise McRae Tony Duncan

Executive Committee	Project Name	Issue Type	Issue Title	Owner	Recommendation Title	Agreed Management Action	Status	Estimated Implement Date	No of Revisions	Revised Implement Date	Contributors
Policy and Sustainability	Unsupported Technology (Shadow IT) and End User Computing	Medium	CW1914 Issue 1: Digital strategy and governance	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CW1914 Rec 1.4e - Review of existing shadow IT contracts (Health and Social Care)	The following actions were discussed and agreed by the Council's Corporate Leadership Team and will be applied by all Directorates following receipt of guidance from Commercial and Procurement Services as per recommendation 1.4a above. 1. The Directorate will complete a review of all contracts supporting the ongoing use of shadow IT / cloud based applications used within divisions in comparison to the guidance provided by Commercial and Procurement Services (CPS) to ensure identify any contracts that need to be refreshed or procured, with support from CPS and Digital Services. 2. Where inadequate contracts are identified, and the supplier is unable to support an immediate contract refresh, the criticality of the system and the service it supports will be assessed to determine whether the system is required, or whether an alternative system solution can be procured. 3. Where inadequate contracts support critical systems that cannot be immediately re-procured, the risks associated with ongoing use of these systems and their contracts will be recorded in divisional and directorate risk registers, and the contract re-procured at the earliest possible date.	Pending	30/09/21	0	30/12/21	Angela Ritchie Moira Pringle Tom Cowan Tony Duncan
Policy and Sustainability	Unsupported Technology (Shadow IT) and End User Computing	High	CW1914 Issue 2: Ongoing shadow IT and end user computing management	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer - HSCP	CW1914 Rec 2.1d - Second line assurance and oversight (Health and Social Care)	The following actions were discussed and agreed by the Council's Corporate Leadership Team and will be applied by all first line divisions and directorates. 1. divisions and directorates will confirm whether they are consistently applying shadow IT framework and meet the requirements of the Council's externally hosted ICT services protocol in their annual assurance statements, and with any gaps or instances of non-compliance disclosed; 2. reliance will be placed on third line oversight by Internal Audit (IA), acknowledging that the assurance provided in relation to the ongoing management of shadow IT technology applications across the Council will be considered as part of IA's ongoing risk based assurance proposals, with assurance unlikely to be provided on an ongoing basis.	Started	30/07/21	0	30/10/21	Angela Ritchie Moira Pringle Tom Cowan Tony Duncan

Appendix 3 - Internal Audit Key Performance Indicators as at 5 November 2021

Directorate	Department	Review	Audit Status	Terms of Ref Service Resps <=5 days post	Terms of Ref Director Resps <=5 days post issue	Close out meet <=5days after fieldwork completed	Report Issued by IA <=10 days post close out meeting	W/Shop <=5 days after report issued	Mgt Resps Agreed <=5days post w/shop	Final Draft to Directors <=5 days post Mgt Resps	Director Approval <= 3 days from receipt	Final Report issued by IA <= 5 days post Director Appr	Team Central Updated by IA <=5 days of final report	Comments
Corporate Services	Legal and Assurance	Elections in Covid Environment - design review	Complete	3	2	1	10	N/A	N/A	2	1	1	7	Final report issued to AK 31.5.21 Draft report comments requested by 21/05
Corporate Services	Human Resources	Scottish Local Govt Living Wage - design review	Complete	17	1	8	9	4	1	1	2	5	N/A	Final report issued on 28.10.21. Survey issued on 29.10.21.
Corporate Services	Human Resources	Employee Lifecycle and Data Management	Reporting	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Fieldwork now complete. Waiting for responses from HR on fieldwork outcomes prior to drafting report.
Corporate Services	Strategic Change and Delivery	Planning and Performance Framework design review	Reporting	26	2	3	35	15	13	9	0	0	0	Report issued to Exec Director on 24th September; awaiting responses.
Council Wide	CHS; P&FM; HPS	Health and Safety - Implementation of asbestos recommendations	Reporting	6	6	34	17	4	0	0	0	0	0	Management responses were due 3 November - not all have been received.
Council Wide	Council Wide	Fraud and Serious Organised Gavin	Fieldwork	74	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Draft Tor to Executive Directors 06.09.21, final responses received (Place) 20.10.21. No responses received from some services.
Council Wide	N/A	Implementation of Whistleblowing and Child Protection Recommendations	Fieldwork	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Fieldwork in progress
Educ & Child Servs	Criminal Justice	Criminal Justice	Fieldwork	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Fieldwork will commence 8/11/21 ToR updated to reflect Covid-19 and issued 21/9 - Key contact on leave until 4/10 so due back 8/10
Place	Place Mgt, Transport	Parking and Traffic Regulations	Reporting	4	2	3	24	2	0	0	0	0	0	Ongoing discusson re management responses since 18/10/21. Delay in issuing report was due to annual leave in service which delayed confirmation of factual accuracy of findings.
Corporate Services	Digital Services	Digital and Smart Cities Strategy	Fieldwork	49	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Fieldwork in progress and ongoing engagement with Executive Director re terms of reference.
Corporate Services	Customer	Council Tax and Business Rates	Fieldwork	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Fieldwork delayed due to time required to extract data from source systems to support data analytics work.

Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee – 14 December 2021

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Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Community Wealth Building - Response to a motion by Councillor Day

Item number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the contents of the report.

Andrew Kerr
Chief Executive

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Report

Community Wealth Building - Response to a motion by Councillor Day

2. Executive Summary

2.1 This report presents a response to the motion from Councillor Day, Deputy Leader of the Council, which was approved by Full Council on 28th October 2021.

3. Background

3.1 At the meeting of the City of Edinburgh Council on 28th October 2021, the following motion from Councillor Day was approved:

1) *"Acknowledges the benefits of Community Wealth building approach, and understands the Council leads in many areas of this, in particular our in-built Community Benefits schemes and employment opportunities.*
2) *Community Wealth Building can be described as people-centred approach to local economic development, which redirects wealth back into the local economy, and places control and benefits into the hands of local people. Championed in Scotland with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES).*
3) *Notes the 5 key principles of Progressive Procurement, Fair Employment, Shared Ownership, socially just use of assets, and making financial power work for local places.*
4) *Calls for a report in two cycles to Policy and Sustainability committee setting out Edinburgh's approach to People centred approaches/Community Wealth building and identify any further opportunities going forward."*

4. Main report

Community Wealth Building

4.1 As noted in Councillor Day's motion, Community Wealth Building (CWB) is a people-centred approach to local economic development, which seeks to redirect wealth back into the local economy, and place control and benefits into the hands of local people. Its central aim is to seek to ensure the economic system builds wealth and prosperity for everyone. It has been championed in the UK by the [Centre for

Local Economic Strategies, and there are several well publicised examples of its application, including by Preston City Council and North Ayrshire Council.

4.2 There are five core principles to CWB, these being:

4.2.1 Progressive procurement – developing local supply chains of businesses likely to support local employment and keep wealth within communities;

4.2.2 Fair employment and just labour markets – using anchor institutions to improve prospects of local people;

4.2.3 Shared ownership of the local economy – supporting and growing business models that are more financially generative for the local economy;

4.2.4 Socially just use of land and property – developing the function and ownership of local assets held by anchor institutions, so local communities benefit from financial and social gain; and

4.2.5 Making financial power work for local places – increase flows of investment within local economies by harnessing and recirculating the wealth that exists.

4.3 It must be recognised that the principles are wide-ranging and, as such, CWB must be approached in a holistic manner across different teams within the Council, with different service areas being responsible for driving certain aspects. The Appendix to this report takes each principle in turn, briefly summarising the Council's existing approach, key achievements and future opportunities.

4.4 There are a number of positive examples outlined in the Appendix, but also aspects where it is recognised further work across the city would be helpful, such as how the Council might be able to better support financial power working for local places.

5. Next Steps

5.1 The Scottish Government is expected to bring forward a CWB Bill, as referred to in its Programme for Government. The Council will actively engage with the consultation around this. In the meantime, the Council will continue its work driving CWB, and its 5 core principles.

5.2 A new CWB Learning Strategy Group, led by Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council (EVOC), has now been established as part of the Edinburgh Partnership Local Outcomes Improvement Plan, as a meeting place to further share good practice, and develop next steps for embedding CWB in Edinburgh. Council officers form part of this Group and will use learnings from it to help inform and progress the delivery of related Council activity.

6. Financial impact

6.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report. However, delivery of the principles of CWB should help secure delivery of the Council's Business Plan and other financial and non-financial benefits to the city and its citizens and businesses.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 The principles of CWB are directly aligned to the Council Business Plan, and if delivered will have a positive impact upon the city, its businesses and citizens. As noted in the Appendix, the Council's work in this area already ensures a high degree of positive engagement and collaboration with key partners, local businesses and communities.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 [Council Business Plan and Budget 2021/2026, Referral from Finance and Resources Committee to the City of Edinburgh Council, 18th February 2021:](#)

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 - Council work on progressing the 5 core principles of Community Wealth Building.

Council work on progressing the 5 core principles of Community Wealth Building

Progressive Procurement

1.1   The Council's external spend on goods, services and works is substantial, £719m in 2020/21, relating to both revenue and capital spend. Under the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, the Council is required by law to publish a strategy that gives the strategic focus for its procurement activities, and that sets the context in which the Council will work to ensure that its procurements deliver value for money and directly contribute to the achievement of its broader aims. In this context the main focus is on regulated procurements, "regulated" meaning those contracts valued at over £50,000 for goods and services and over £2 million for works.

1.2   The Council's Sustainable Procurement Strategy was approved by the Finance and Resources Committee on 5th March 2020. The 5-year strategy identifies seven key strategic procurement objectives that are to be promoted. These objectives seek to ensure that the Council is using its considerable spending power to maximise those social, environmental and economic outcomes that support growth, and will simultaneously assist the Council in addressing the challenges that the city is facing. For the purposes of this report, the most notable objectives are:

- Making procurement spend more accessible to local small business and the third sector;

- Improving Fair Work practices adopted by suppliers; and

- Increasing community benefits delivered by suppliers.

1.3   The Council is obliged by law to publish an annual report on its procurement activity, the last such report being presented to the Finance & Resources Committee on 12 August 2021. The report contains a large amount of detail, including on how the Council is driving these outcomes forward operationally. However, in the 2020/21 FY, looking at the Council's procurement activity purely through the lens of CWB, there have been some strong achievements worth highlighting. Specifically, these relate to the promotion of opportunities for local SMEs and Fair Work practices, and the delivery of community benefits, and include:

- The Council's spend with SMEs being approximately £347m, being 50% of total core spend of £694m (i.e. those suppliers the Council has spent more than £1,000 with);

- 65% of the 321 suppliers awarded a new regulated contract or place on a Council framework agreement being SMEs;

- 79% of suppliers awarded contract in the FY stating they pay the Real Living Wage, an increase on the 70% reported in the previous FY;

- The Local Government Benchmarking Framework figures for 2019/20 recorded that 39% of the Council's procurement spend was with local enterprises, this being the 2nd highest of those authorities solely located on the mainland. This figure was well above the average of 28.5%, and again

placed the Council as the 5th highest of all Scottish local authorities. It is to be anticipated that the Council will be in a similar position when the figures for 2020/21 are released, but with a higher figure at 41%.

1.4 The annual report also included details of the community benefits delivered in 2020/21. The relevant Scottish procurement regulations place specific requirements on the Council, for major contracts which have an estimated value above £4m, to consider whether to impose community benefit obligations. In line with this, community benefits are identified on a project by project basis, with the Council's approach embedded in its processes and procedures. Community benefits delivered in the reporting period range from apprenticeships, training, work experience and recruitment, to mentoring and community engagement, and some notable examples of community benefits delivery in 2020/21 are included in the report, such as those delivered through the street lighting contract with Amey and the Edinburgh Trams to Newhaven contracts

1.5 As noted above, the annual report includes details of other actions taken by the Council which also support the principle of progressive procurement, including (i) regularly working with fellow anchor institutions and public sector partners on a number of joint procurement exercises to maximise outcomes through collaboration, and (ii) applying suitable lotting strategies that support SMEs in bidding for Council contracts, and facilitating sub-contracting and consortia opportunities,

1.6 Officers from CPS and Business Growth & Inclusion also held a CWB workshop with Scotland Excel in February 2021. The workshop looked at analysis of the Council's external spend, which confirmed that in 2019/20, the Council spent (i) 73% of its total spend (£473m) in Scotland and (ii) 39% of its total spend (£256m) on local enterprises. These figures are likely to have been significantly more if data on sub-contractor spend was freely available and also included. In addition, if all Lothians postcodes were categorised as "local" then the direct local spend figures would have been higher, at 48% (£314m). There is also likely to be spend with national companies that are not categorised as local but still have a notable Edinburgh presence.

1.7 Given the nature of the projects and services delivered by the Council, there will always be certain contracts where only larger national suppliers are able to bid and be awarded work. However, as noted above, the Council continues to actively promote and secure opportunities for local SMEs.

1.8 One of the key outcomes from the workshop was for the Council to more actively push and encourage suppliers to register with Public Contracts Scotland (PCS), to help them receive notification of public sector contract opportunities, not only from the Council but the wider public sector. The annual third party spend of the public sector in Scotland is more than £11bn, and a potentially huge opportunity for Scottish businesses. Despite this, from the figures provided by Scotland Excel in February last year, there were 20,500 registered business in Edinburgh, of which only 3,364 were registered on PCS, representing just 16% of registered businesses and an estimated 8% of all businesses (registered and unregistered) in Edinburgh.

1.9 CPS actively engages with potential suppliers, through a monthly virtual engagement session, its quarterly supplier newsletter, project bidder events (such as for the Council's Hard FM contract which was awarded last year) and other regular Meet the Buyer events (such as Supplier Development Programme's national Meet the Buyer event in June 2021). In doing so, CPS always encourages suppliers to sign up with PCS and to also look at new contracting opportunities with Scotland Excel. There is also extensive engagement work through Business Growth and Inclusion and external partners, such as Federation for Small Businesses, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and Edinburgh Social Enterprise Network, to raise awareness amongst local businesses of the Council's procurement processes and opportunities arising.

1.10 It must, however, also be borne in mind that Edinburgh businesses benefit from supplying the public sector outside of Edinburgh. Scotland Excel assessed that in FY2019/20, £427M was spent by other local authorities (i.e. excluding the Council) on Edinburgh companies, and £481m spend by other Scottish public sector organisations.

1.11 It is worth noting that some Regional Supply Chain work has also been undertaken as part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal (ESES CRD) and the sustainability strand of the Regional Prosperity Framework. This has primarily focused on the Food and Drink sector where, with the help of the Data Driven Innovation - Beacon project, suppliers within the sector have been mapped and illustrative work undertaken on Local Authority spend. The aim is to work together to produce a regional approach to making Food and Drink purchasing more sustainable and increase supplies from regional suppliers. By better understanding where existing public sector food and drink spending is taking place regionally, opportunities can be potentially identified to increase regional purchasing and supply. This may involve working with existing intermediaries as well as directly with smaller suppliers. This work will complement existing Council activity around Food and Drink sustainability within the 2030 Climate Strategy implementation.

1.12 It is intended that as part of the Regional Prosperity Framework implementation plan for "Big Move 9 – Anchor Institutions", this work will be further developed with Local Authority procurement representatives from the six members of the CRD.

Fair employment and just labour markets

2.1 Fair Work principles are a key component of the Economic Strategy and, as per a report to Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on 2 September 2021, officers are currently finalising a Fair Work Action Plan to reflect this. The city received Living Wage City accreditation in November 2021 and, as an anchor institution in the city, the Council is a Real Living Wage (RLW) employer and is actively encouraging other businesses to achieve RLW-accreditation with an ambitious plan to double the number of RLW accredited businesses to over 900 over the next few years.

2.2 The Council has already established a highly successful approach to embedding Fair Work principles across all its employability services through alignment with the

Scottish Government's Fair Work framework, placing fair employment and just labour markets at the forefront of delivery. The Council has used this framework and its allocated No One Left Behind (NOLB) funding to implement a comprehensive employability programme of community-based services to meet the needs of citizens and employers. By adopting the [Scottish Approach to Service Design](#), the voices and input of service users continually drives this service strategy area through co-production and co-design.

2.3   In 2020, the Council's Edinburgh Guarantee initiative was expanded from being a youth provision to ensure employability support is available for all, regardless of age. A large part of the Edinburgh Guarantee is focussing on employer engagement and there is an employer steering group, chaired by the lead employer Abrdn, which specifically leads on engagement approaches and who are proactively working to drive the Fair Work principles.

2.3   Through the Edinburgh Partnership and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, there is ongoing work across the Partners, many of whom are anchor institutions in the city, to ensure that all citizens have access to work, learning and training opportunities –the principle of 'Fair Work First' is integral to this work.

2.4   Responses to the Community Empowerment Act have also enhanced community empowerment approaches with employability projects such as Choices for Change participatory budgeting programme growing and funding local ideas.

Shared ownership of the local economy

3.1   The idea to be supporting and growing business models that are more financially generative for the local economy is not new and is one that the Council's Business Gateway service has been adopting for a long time. Likewise, third sector infrastructure and locality-based anchor organisations are supported through investing employability funding locally, including a focus on capacity building and development of innovative consortia and partnerships for service delivery.

3.2   The Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal (ESES CRD) successfully obtained funding for a CWB project from the Scottish Government Regional Recovery Fund in late 2020/21. The project set out to accelerate and amplify CWB activities across the ESES City Region. Considerable progress has been made in a short period of time with a steering group formed led by Capital City Partnership (CCP), which has set about mapping, and accelerating existing CWB agendas at a regional level. Dedicated resource is currently in place within CCP and Go Beyond via Whale Arts (charity based collective based in South West Edinburgh) although, as a pilot, this is time limited. A [Community Benefits Portal](#) has been successfully developed and launched in November 2021,a promotional video can be seen [here.](#) This portal is a particularly important catalyst for the creation of a community network, enhancing interactions across the City Region including harder to reach communities. Businesses are also be encouraged to offer any other surplus goods or services aligning with CSR.

3.3   A CWB toolkit is being developed for launch in March 2022. The framework of principles has been agreed for this with input from each ESES CRD local authority with guidelines for consultation locally. Workshops and engagement conversations with 20 critical stakeholders are in progress. A regional Community Assets Audit and Mapping of CWB initiatives and best practice has begun, which will provide visual mapping. Engagement with organisations who have been identified from the mapping activity has progressed in parallel and is ongoing.

3.4   Work has also begun and is ongoing in regard to a learning system with Communities of Practice (CoP). By its very nature, working in and with communities, CWB is a long-term endeavour and work is currently being undertaken with CLES to undertake a CWB audit of the CRD and recommend areas that could be developed further. A three-year funding application is being developed in relation to the new Scottish Government 'Investing in Communities' Fund to expand CWB activities and work closer with grassroot communities to grow ideas and projects.

3.5   The ESES Regional Enterprise Council (REC) was formed in November 2018 to advise the CRD's decision-making body, the Joint Committee, on the delivery of projects across the city region. They represent business, social enterprise and the wider third sectors across the region. In directly participating on the Joint Committee they help to ensure that that the benefits from the Deal support the shared ambition for achieving sustainable and inclusive economic growth throughout the city region.

3.6   This influence of the REC was further extended in Autumn 2020 with representation on the CRD's Elected Member Oversight Committee which is shaping the future ambition, strategic direction and aspirational goals for ESES, and influenced the production of the Regional Prosperity Framework. REC members have a broad range of experience and expertise and wide networks to best represent business, social enterprise and the third sectors across the city region. In the last year, the REC has benefited from additional representation from the Federation of Small Business and the Regions' Chambers of Commerce. The CEO of Edinburgh Social Enterprise is the Chair of the REC, and a senior staff member of the Federation of Small Business is the Vice-Chair. The REC is particularly determined to promote the use of Community Benefits and Social Innovation for the good of the citizens of ESES and to ensure that every Deal programme works together to maximise synergies. The REC championed the bid to the Regional Recovery Fund for the CWB pilot which was successfully achieved and updates on progress of the pilot project (highlighted earlier in this report) have been regularly presented to the REC and have been well received.

3.7   Locally, the Council has also established an Economic Advisory Panel to help shape economic strategy and to advise on key challenges and opportunities for the city. The membership includes some of the larger institutes in the city but also has strong representation from selected smaller local businesses, the Federation of Small Businesses, and Social Enterprise Scotland. This has helped shape strategy and initiatives that are centred on supporting local people and businesses.

Socially just use of land and property

4.1   Since the introduction of Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 on 27 January 2017, the Council has made considerable progress with Community Asset Transfers (CATs). The legislation introduced a right for community bodies to make requests to all local authorities, Scottish Ministers and a wide-ranging list of public bodies, for any land or buildings they feel they could use to better effect. Community bodies can request ownership, lease or other rights as they wish, through CATs. The Act requires those public authorities to assess requests transparently against specific criteria, and to agree the request unless there are reasonable grounds for refusal.

4.2   The Council has a dedicated team responsible for supporting requests and, since 2017, four transfers have been concluded and assets transferred to community bodies. In addition, a further four transfers have been agreed to by the Council and legal work is ongoing to bring them to a successful conclusion.

4.3   There continues to be interest from community groups in pursuing transfers with four groups preparing detailed business plans for consideration and seven expressions of interest received that are currently being processed.

4.4   In addition to processing requests, a range of activities (including workshops and seminars) to promote and support CATs by community bodies have been undertaken and have been well received. The team continues to provide support and guidance to community groups, council officials and elected members.

4.5   There are a number of examples of business cases for intervention in the economy where the model is focussed entirely or in part on generating economic returns for local communities rather than just the wider economy. An example of this would be the retail and hospitality academy at the new St James Centre – FUSE. The focus is on providing training and securing jobs for those most of need of them in the city. In other projects such as Fountainbridge, Granton, Powderhall and the BioQuarter many of the facilities to be a developed are for the community to use and there is also a push to provide affordable workspaces that can be accessed by local growing companies.

4.6   The Council also participates in the Place Based Opportunities Board along with other public bodies. The primary purpose of the board is to share information about property requirements and assets that have become surplus to requirements. The idea being that buildings and land are transferred between public bodies first before being considered for sale on the open market, and that they are therefore kept in public use for community benefit.

4.7   The Council's 20 Minute Neighbourhood Strategy builds on this concept and undertakes analysis of the needs of communities across the city and seeks to address any deficiencies in services or amenities through improving the offer or access arrangements. The Place Based Investment Programme is being used by

the Council to support this initiative and is also supporting a number of projects that are being delivered directly by community groups.

Making financial power work for local places

5.1 Projects like Granton Waterfront and BioQuarter are leading the way with regards to large scale investment programmes, with CWB ingrained in the projects from the start. As an example, and noted above, the IRES programme has commissioned a new community benefits portal to provide a CWB platform for community voices and ideas to be directly linked to community benefit clauses within procuring contractors. Launched in November 2021, it will link to large scale Edinburgh initiatives, such as the Granton Waterfront development, to respond to community needs and wants and improve the adoption of Fair Work practices. Edinburgh BioQuarter are also in the process of agreeing a Community Impact Strategy which will form part of the joint venture partnership base in the next step of the development.

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Policy and Sustainability Committee

10:00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Performance Update Report

Executive	**Executive**
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 That members of the Policy and Sustainability Committee note the Performance Update report at Appendix A. This is second update on Council performance following the initial report to Elected Members in November 2021.

1.2 That the Committee notes the progress to next steps for implementation of the Council's Planning and Performance Framework as set out in the Cover Report.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Performance Update Report

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information so that Elected Members can scrutinise performance in a structured way. This follows the approach as set out in the Planning and Performance Framework report which Elected Members approved on 10 June 2021. The first performance report was then presented to the November 2021 Policy and Sustainably Committee as part of the new annual reporting cycle.

2.2 This report also provides an update on progress with implementation of the new Planning and Performance Framework (PPF).

2.3 The information included in the report is the latest available data and reflects the current position at the time of publication.

3. Background

3.1 The Council's Planning and Performance Framework was approved by the Policy and Sustainability Committee on the 10 June 2021. The framework set out a new approach to planning and performance within the Council. It detailed the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and milestones the Council now uses to measure the delivery of the priorities and outcomes in the Council's Business Plan: Our Future Council, Our Future City.

3.2 Through the development of the PPF officers aim to:

- work transparently and be held accountable for the delivery of our priorities and outcomes;

- identify areas of underperformance and drive improvements;

- use our performance information including benchmarking data to drive continuous improvement;

- demonstrate best value;

- prioritise service delivery within the resources available; and,

- learn from our past performance in a way which improves our future performance.

3.3 Through the PPF officers are embedding an approach based on the Plan, Do, Check, Act methodology. This will help services to effectively use annual planning and performance information to drive service improvement and deliver the outcomes in the Business Plan.

4.   Main report

Performance Update

4.1 The Performance report (Appendix A) provides an update on the indicators Elected Members agreed should be used to monitor the Business Plan. The report is divided into 3 sections:

- **(Ai) High level overview (page1):** overview of all measures and their RAG. This includes milestones which are treated separately.

- **(Aii) KPI Scorecard (page 2):** progress overview of the 44 measures that have been updated since the last report to Policy & Sustainability Committee in November and where data is currently available for 2021/22. Each indicator has a link to further information in the dashboard at Aiii.

- **(Aiii) Dashboard (pages 3 - 30):** includes all measures in the PPF with the relevant chart, RAG status and narrative on performance. It also includes milestones which are monitored differently.

Updates to how performance data is presented

4.2 Officers have continued to develop how data is presented in this report based on feedback. Since the November changes include:

- Assigning a direction of travel for each measure in the KPI Scorecard (Aii) based a comparison between current and previous performance:
  - Improving (greater than 2% improvement in performance)
  - Maintaining (within 2% change in performance)
  - Declining (greater than 2% decline in performance)

- Showing a 6-month average for monthly indicators rather than just a single month (with the 'previous' figure showing the same 6-month period for 2020). This provides a more balanced view of recent performance rather than the monthly fluctuations we see in many of our monthly indicators. The indicators excluded from this change are cumulative totals. This includes indicators that show a rate per thousand population and the sickness absence rate (which were already showing a 12-month rolling average figure.

- Updating and clarifying some of the KPI's and targets since the last report to Committee in November 2021. Appendix B of this report provides a list of all amended/updated KPIs and targets.

4.3 For each indicator there is the following information:

- the latest data available with a Red, Amber of Green (RAG) status.

- a chart showing the trend analysis of data (current year data compared to the two previous years).

4.4   Along with the traditional Red, Amber and Green status, two additional RAG status gradings:

- Grey – this RAG is used for indicators that are for monitoring purposes only and consequently no target has been set for these.

- Blue – this RAG is used for any indicator where a Red/Amber/Green status cannot yet be assigned primarily because the indicator is impacted by Covid-19 and awaiting a new baseline.

- White – this RAG status is used for new measures awaiting the collection of baseline data before a target can be set. This is not due to Covid-19, rather this is a new area of work.

- Purple – this RAG relates to annual measures where data will not be available until the end of this financial/academic year. Where possible interim data has been included. These indicators will be reported in full in the Annual Performance report submitted to Policy and Sustainability in June.

4.5   For milestones, the following statuses have been assigned:

- ✔   Milestone has been completed.

- ⟳   Milestone is in progress.

- ❗   Milestone is delayed and/or unlikely to be met.

Planning and Performance Framework – Implementation update

4.6   We continue to work with service teams on the phased implementation of the PPF and embedding a performance and service improvement culture including:

- finalisation of Directorate and Divisional level scorecards and dashboards and the establishment of performance monitoring and continuous improvement regimes at all levels in the organisation.

- further development of the Performance pages of the Council website to improve our performance reporting to the Public.

- Implementation of the year one review and year two planning processes. This includes a review of all KPI's and target setting for 2022/23.

- continuing to evolve and improve our Performance update report based on stakeholder feedback.

5.   Next Steps

5.1   The next performance update will be through the Annual Performance report which include updated KPI targets for 22/23 and will come to the June 2022 Policy and

Sustainability Committee. This will be accompanied by the annual Local Government Benchmarking report.

5.2 Continue the implementation of the Planning and Performance framework as noted in section 4.6 of the report.

5.3 To enhance public scrutiny, a new quarterly Public Performance Scorecard will be developed and published on the performance section of the Council's website by the end of May 2022. This will be brought to Policy and Sustainability for scrutiny in advance.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The Planning and Performance Framework has been designed within the available capacity and resource of the Strategic Change and Delivery Team and supporting resource available from Directorate Management Teams. There are therefore no further financial implications at this stage.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 The team continue to engage on the development of the PPF and data with key stakeholders including: Elected Members, The Community Planning Partnership (The Edinburgh Partnership), Corporate Leadership Team and Directorate Senior Management Teams, as well as the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership and other agencies.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 [Council Business Plan](#)

8.2 [Planning and Performance Framework](#)

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix A - Performance Update Report
9.2 Appendix B - Updates to Key Performance Indicators and Targets

The City of Edinburgh Council Performance Update - February 2022

(Ai) High Level Overview - All Measures (98)

Performance by Target
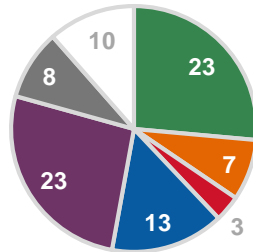
RAG Status Key

Performance is on or ahead of target	🟢
Performance is behind target by 5% or less	🟠
Performance is behind target by more than 5%	🔴
Target not yet set	🔵
No Data or Partial Data only for 2021-22	🟣
Indicator for Monitoring Only	⚫
New Indicator - data collection in progress	⚪

Performance by Priority

Ending Poverty by 2030: 2, 5, 5, 15, 7, 5

Becoming a Sustainable and Net Zero City: 2, 6, 5, 1, 3

Wellbeing and Equality: 19, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2

Status of Milestones

Milestone Key

✔

🔄

❗

Completed	4
In Progress	4
Behind Target/Delayed	3

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THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

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(Aii) February 2022 KPI Scorecard

This covers 44 measures that have been updated since previous report in November 2021 and where data is available for 2021/22.

Ending Poverty by 2030

Outcome 1: On track to end poverty in Edinburgh by 2030 by meeting the targets set by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
A new city wide approach to commissioned advice services is agreed with partners	❗	
No of people supported with welfare rights queries by the Advice shop	4540	↑

Outcome 3: More residents experience fair work and receive the living wage	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
Number of new apprenticeships	25	=
Edinburgh City achieves accreditation as a living wage city	✔	
Number of living wage employers	497	↑

Outcome 4: Intervene before the point of crisis to prevent homelessness	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
No of households assessed as homeless	155	↑
No of households who seek housing advice who do not go on to present as homeless.	130	↑
% of households in unsuitable temporary accommodation	25.5%	=

Outcome 5: Delivery of our 20,000 affordable homes programme (2017-2027)	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
No of affordable homes approved	613	↑
No of affordable homes completed	860	↑

Outcome 6: Increased attainment for all and in particular for those most disadvantaged	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
% of Primary pupils achieving literacy	73.8%	↓
% of Primary pupils from deprived areas achieving literacy	57.3%	↓
% of Primary pupils looked after achieving literacy	39.5%	=
% of Primary pupils achieving numeracy	80.4%	↓
% of Primary pupils from deprived areas achieving numeracy	65.1%	↓
% of Primary pupils with low attendance	71.7%	↓
% of Secondary students with low attendance	50.9%	↓

Outcome 7: Edinburgh's economy recovers from recession and supports businesses to thrive	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
Review of Economy strategy completed	✔	
New business births per 10,000 residents	42.4	↓
% of Procurement spend in EH postcode	45.1%	↑

* Direction of Travel (DOT) Key	
Performance is Improving (in comparison to previous year)	↑
Performance is Maintaining (within 2% of previous year)	=
Performance is Declining (in comparison to previous year)	↓
New indicator introduced for first time in 2021/22	New

Becoming a Sustainable and Net Zero City

Outcome 8: On track to deliver our 2030 net zero target	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
City's emissions (in MtCO2e - Metric tons of CO_2 equivalent)	2.24	↑
Council's emissions (in ktCO2e - Kilo tons of CO2 equivalent)	65.65	↑
% of new builds in delivery to PassivHaus standard with associated Low and Zero Carbon (LZC) Primary Plant or equivalent	17.0%	New

Outcome 11: The city has a well-connected and sustainable transport and active travel network	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
Total No of Tram passengers	2.594M	↑

Wellbeing and Equality

Outcome 13: Improved safety and wellbeing for vulnerable citizens	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
Children on the Child Protection Register as a rate per 1,000 population	1.3	=
Conversion rate between Adult Protection Contacts and 'Duty to Enquire' carried out	73.8%	↑
% of community justice orders successfully completed	76.9%	↑
Looked After Children as a rate per 1,000 population	11.7	=

Outcome 14: Core services are maintained or improved	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
Individual Domestic Missed Bin Service Requests	1870	↓
Communal Domestic Overflowing and Missed Bin Service Requests	1757	↓
% of domestic waste recycled	43.7%	=
% of Emergency Road Defects made safe within 24 hours	100.0%	=
% of Priority Road Defects repaired within 5 working days	96.4%	=
% of Priority Road Defects repaired within 60 working days	98.4%	=
% of street lighting emergency repairs made safe within 4 hours	94.5%	↓
% of street lighting urgent 24 hour repairs completed in time	93.3%	↑
% of street lighting 5-day repairs completed in time	56.4%	↑

Outcome15: Make better use of the Council estate and resources to meet our strategic priorities	Current Data/ RAG	* DOT
% of P6 to S6 Pupils issued with an iPad	9.45%	New
Customer Hub satisfaction across all channels	68.0%	↓
Sickness absence	4.90%	↓
% of invoices paid within 30 days	96.7%	=
Proportion of Council Tax Collected	79.3%	↑
Proportion of Business Rates (NDR) Collected	69.0%	=
% of revenue spend placed with contracted suppliers	91.3%	=

Outcome 1: On track to end poverty in Edinburgh by 2030 by meeting the targets set by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission   **Back to Scorecard**

KPI	Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of people living on incomes below the poverty threshold	2018-19	**15.0%**	2019-20	**15.0%**	**14.0%**	●	*Annual figures with a lag time in reporting.* *Next data available Spring 2022.* Latest Poverty figures are for 2019/20 and remain static at 15% and do not show the full impact of Covid-19. Annual progress report discussed at the Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2021 provides a detailed update on all actions being progressed. Interim target of a 3 percentage point reduction in child poverty (from 15% to 12%) by 2024.
Percentage of children living in families on incomes below the poverty threshold	2018-19	**19.0%**	2019-20	**19.0%**	**17.0%**	●	*Annual figures with a lag time in reporting.* *Next data available Spring 2022.* Latest Poverty figures are for 2019/20 and remain static at 19% and do not show the full impact of Covid-19. Annual progress report discussed at the Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2021 provides a detailed update on all actions being progressed. Interim target of a 5 percentage point reduction in child poverty (from 19% to 14%) by 2024.
Percentage of people living in destitution	2019	**Not Applic**	2020	**4.0%**	**4.0%**	●	*Annual figures with a lag time in reporting.* *Next data available Spring 2022.* Refreshed Poverty figures give a new baseline for people in destitution of 4.0%. Annual progress report discussed at the Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2021 provides a detailed update on all actions being progressed.
A new city wide approach to commissioned advice services is agreed with partners	Milestone			**Nov-21**	❗	This project is being progressed by the Edinburgh Partnership (EP). The first stage is an independent review of current arrangements and a contract is now in place and the funding agreed by the Edinburgh Partnership. The first round of procurement for a contracter was unsuccessful resulting in a delay to the original timeline for this milestone. This work is actively progressing and expected to be completed by June 2022.

(Aiii) Dashboard - All Measures

Ending Poverty by 2030

Outcome 1: On track to end poverty in Edinburgh by 2030 by meeting the targets set by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission

Back to Scorecard

KPI	Previous	Latest	Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Number of people supported with welfare rights queries by the Advice Shop	2020-21 **3,800**	Apr - Nov 21 **4,540**	**4,400**	● (green)	2019/20: 4,686; 2020/21: 3,800; target line 4,400	*Annual figure (available at end of financial year - April 22).* After a decrease in the number of people provided with advice in 2020/21 due to Covid-19 restrictions, **interim figures (Apr - Nov 21)** show 4,540 people have been provided with advice this year which is ahead of the target for 2021/22.
Scottish Welfare Fund payments	2020-21 **44,226**	Apr - Nov 21 **30,588**	* **Data Only**	● (grey)	2019/20: 21,744; 2020/21: 44,226; 2021/22	*Annual figure (available at end of financial year - April 22).* **Interim figures (Apr - Nov 21)** of 30,588 applications show that the increase in citizens requiring crisis and community care grants in 2021/22 continues. There had previously been a doubling of applications in 2020/21, as a result of the impact Covid-19. * Data only for monitoring purposes - it provides context on demand for financial support.
Discretionary Housing payments	2020-21 **8,205**	Apr - Nov 21 **6,933**	* **Data Only**	● (grey)	2019/20: 7,427; 2020/21: 8,205; 2021/22	*Annual figure (available at end of financial year - April 22).* **Interim figures (Apr - Nov 21)** of 6,933 show that the increase in the number of discretionary housing payments, seen in 2020/21, continues. * Data only for monitoring purposes - it provides context on demand for financial support.

Outcome 2: On track to deliver new prevention service models

New long term plan for delivery of a prevention based Council service model approved and in implementation	Milestone	Q3 21/22	◔	Council investment of £1.2m for designing and implementing new prevention team was confirmed in Spring 2021. Recruitment underway.

Outcome 3: More residents experience fair work and receive the living wage

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Positive Destinations for School Leavers	2018-19	95.1%	2019-20	92.5%	95.0%	●		***Annual figure (based on academic year) with one year lag in reporting.*** ***Next data expected to be published in early 2022.*** The percentage of positive destinations for school leavers fell 2.6% from 2018/19 to 2019/20 (latest data). The latest figure refers to leavers in June 20, and so will be impacted by Covid-19. However the long term impact is not yet known so It is not possible to set a target at this stage.
Number of new council apprenticeships	2020-21	25	Apr - Nov 21	25	41	●		***Annual figure*** ***(available at end of financial year - April 22).*** The number of new council apprenticeships has increased in 2020/21. This is a 44% increase over the number of new apprenticeships started in 2019/20. By the end of November, 23 new apprenticeships have started in 2021/22. The Council apprenticeship programme has a target of 41 new apprenticeships by the end of this financial year. 25 apprentices are in post and a further 16 are expected to start before 31 March 2022. The target for modern apprentices has been updated (from 60 to 41) to reflect the impact of Covid-19 on services and the ability to provide appropriate support and learning experiences being able to be provided to apprentices. This situation will improve as services gradually return to normal working arrangements.
Percentage of suppliers committed to paying the living wage	2019-20	70.0%	2020-21	79.0%	72.0%	●		***Annual figure*** ***(available at end of financial year - April 22).*** The % of council suppliers committed to paying real living wage has gone up from 70% to 79% during 2020/21, already ahead of the 2021/22 target.
Edinburgh City achieves accreditation as a living wage city	Milestone				Nov-21	✓		Multi-sector Action Group formed to support Edinburgh to become a Living Wage City; delivery plan submitted to Living Wage Scotland in November. Accreditation achieved in Nov-21.

Outcome 3: More residents experience fair work and receive the living wage

KPI	Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Living wage employer accreditation			**Yes**	**Yes**	🟢	Living wage employer accrediation maintained	City of Edinburgh Council continues to have living wage employer accreditation.
Number of living wage employers	Sep-21	**470**	Dec-21 **497**	**To increase by 100 per annum**	🟣	*Bar chart: Jun-21: 441, Sep-21: 470, Dec-21: 497*	*Quarterly figure.* Datasource is now the Scottish Living Wage Foundation (previous report showed UK Living Wage Foundation figure for Edinburgh). This aligns this report to the data being used to monitor the Edinburgh Living Wage City Action Plan going forward. The number of Living Wage employers in Edinburgh continues to gradually increase. As part of the living wage accreditation in November 21, a target was set to increase this number by 100 per annum.

Outcome 4: Intervene before the point of crisis to prevent homelessness

KPI	Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Number of households assessed as homeless	Avg Jun-Nov 2020	**194**	Avg Jun-Nov 2021 **155**	* **Data Only**	⚪	*Line chart: 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 (Apr–Mar)*	*Monthly figure.* The number of households assessed as homeless has increased since September 2021 and by November 2021 had reached a similar level to that seen in November 2019. However the average of the last six months continues to be lower than in the two previous years. * This is a demand led service and this indicator allows us to monitor changes over time therefore no target can be set and this indicator is for monitoring only. KPIs and targets will be reviewed in March 2022 and consideration will be given to the most appropriate indicators going forward.
Number of households who seek housing advice who do not go on to present as homeless.	Avg Jun-Nov 2020	**144**	Avg Jun-Nov 2021 **130**	* **Data Only**	⚪	*Line chart: 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 (Apr–Mar)*	*Monthly figure.* The number of housing advice only presentations is following a similar pattern in 2021/22 as seen in 2020/21, with a drop in figures over the winter months. * This is a demand led service and this indicator allows us to monitor changes over time therefore no target can be set and this indicator is for monitoring only. KPIs and targets will be reviewed in March 2022 and consideration will be given to the most appropriate indicators going forward.

Outcome 4: Intervene before the point of crisis to prevent homelessness

KPI	Previous	Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of households in unsuitable temporary accommodation.	6-months average	24.8%	Nov-21	25.5%	* Data Only	●		*Monthly figure: figure collected monthly from April 2021.* The data shows there was a 3% increase in the number of households accommodated in unsuitable accommodation as a direct impact of Covid-19 between March 2020 and December 2020. The Council has continued to accommodate all in temporary accommodation (approximately 25% of all households) due to the public health requirement to accommodate all households, regardless of eligibility, including people who may have No Recourse to Public Funds. The Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan sets out the actions being implemented and an update on progress was provided in a report which went to Committee on 3 June 2021. The Council has also invested £0.994m to transform preventative services and reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation through the recruitment of 28 additional posts. The number of temporary accommodation properties available to the Council, through our new Private Sector Leasing Contract, has increased by over 1,700 by the end of November 2021. A Flexible Purchase System is now in place, agreed by Finance and Resources Committee on 7 October 2021, to allow the supply of suitable temporary accommodation to continue to increase in future. *This is a demand led service and this indicator allows us to monitor changes over time therefore no target can be set and this indicator is for monitoring only. KPIs and targets will be reviewed in March 2022 and consideration will be given to the most appropriate indicators going forward.

Chart values:
- 2020/21: Apr 21.7%, Dec 25.4%, Mar 25.1%
- 2021/22: Apr 24.9%, May 24.3%, Jun 24.0%, Jul 24.8%, Aug 24.6%, Sep 24.8%, Oct 25.3%, Nov 25.5%

Outcome 5: Ongoing delivery of our 20,000 affordable homes programme (2017-2027)

	Nov-21		Dec-21				
Number of affordable homes approved		535		613	1,200	●	

Annual figure
(available at end of financial year - April 22).
The 20,000 affordable homes programme covers a period of 10 years (2017 - 2027). Monthly cumulative figures for the first half of 2021/22 show a similar pattern to those in 2020/21.
November saw a significant increase in approvals by Housing Association partners following the confirmation of increased grant benchmarks by the Scottish Government. There are 25 projects (1,456 approvals) that have been delayed, primarily as a result of the pandemic. Although these projects have slipped they will be progressed in early 2022/23.

	Nov-21		Dec-21				
Number of affordable homes completed		820		860	1,218	●	

Annual figure
(available at end of financial year - April 22).
The 20,000 affordable homes programme covers a period of 10 years (2017 - 2027). The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted on build programmes nationally, as construction work was initially halted and then further health and safety measures (such as physical distancing) remained in place until August 2021. Current guidance seeks to minimise workforce transmission of Covid-19 which is having an impact on overall delivery timescales. The loosening of restrictions does however show in the monthly cumulative figures, with completions above the levels of 2020/21.

Outcome 6: Increased attainment for all and in particular for those most disadvantaged

Percentage of teachers who have met the Teaching, Learning & Assessment "Charter" standard	New	New	20.0%	New	New metric: data collation in progress	New metric, **first update will be available at the end of 2021/22 academic year.**

(Aiii) Dashboard - All Measures

Ending Poverty by 2030

Outcome 6: Increased attainment for all and in particular for those most disadvantaged						

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of schools that have achieved the Digital Schools Award Scotland	**New**		**New**		**5.0%**	**New**	New metric: data collation in progress.	New metric, **first update will be available at the end of 2021/22 academic year.**
Percentage of Primary pupils achieving literacy	2019-20	n/a	2020-21	**73.8%**	**75.0%**	🟠	Bar chart: 2018/19 = 77.1%, 2019/20 = (no data), 2020/21 = 73.8%	*Annual figure (based on academic year).* No data has been collected for academic year 2019/20 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The percentage of primary pupils achieving literacy shows a decline in 2020/21 to 73.8% compared to 2018/19 figures. The 2020/21 figure reflects the impact Covid-19 has had on attainment. Funding has been allocated to recruit additional transition teachers and professional learning rolled out to upskill teachers in meeting leaner's needs to support progress in increasing attainment in literacy.
Percentage of Primary pupils from deprived areas achieving literacy	2019-20	n/a	2020-21	**57.3%**	**59.0%**	🟠	Bar chart: 2018/19 = 61.1%, 2019/20 = (no data), 2020/21 = 57.3%	*Annual figure (based on academic year).* No data has been collected for academic year 2019/20 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The percentage of primary pupils from deprived areas achieving literacy shows a decline in 2020/21 to 57.3% compared to 2018/19 figures. This decline is similar to that seen for all pupils in literacy. The 20/21 figure reflects the impact Covid-19 has had on attainment. Funding has been allocated to recruit additional transition teachers and professional learning rolled out to upskill teachers in meeting leaner's needs to support progress in increasing attainment in literacy.

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Outcome 6: Increased attainment for all and in particular for those most disadvantaged						**Back to Scorecard**

KPI	Previous	Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of Primary pupils who are Looked After achieving literacy	2019-20 n/a	2020-21 **39.5%**	**To Increase**	●		*Annual figure (based on academic year).* No data has been collected for academic year 2019/20 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The percentage of primary pupils who are looked after achieving literacy shows a slight increase in 2020/21 to 39.5% compared to 2018/19 figures. This level is significantly below both pupils from deprived areas and the whole year group. In the academic session 2021/22, the Closing the Gap workforce has been allocated to priority schools to support looked after children increase attainment. It is not appropriate to set a specific target for this indicator because the number of individuals in this group is so small such that any positive or negative change can significantly affect the percentage change. Therefore targets are set an individual level rather than scaled up to a group level.
Percentage of Primary pupils achieving numeracy	2019-20 n/a	2020-21 **80.4%**	**82.0%**	●		*Annual figure (based on academic year).* No data has been collected for academic year 2019/20 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The percentage of primary pupils achieving numeracy shows a decline in 2020/21 to 80.4% compared to 2018/19 figures. The 2020/21 figure reflects the impact Covid-19 has had on attainment. Funding has been allocated to recruit additional transition teachers and professional learning rolled out to upskill teachers in meeting leaner's needs to support progress in increasing attainment in numeracy.

Outcome 6: Increased attainment for all and in particular for those most disadvantaged

KPI	Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of Primary pupils from deprived areas achieving numeracy	2019-20	n/a	2020-21	65.1%	67.0%	🟠	_Annual figure (based on academic year)._ No data has been collected for academic year 2019/20 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The percentage of primary pupils from deprived areas achieving literacy shows a decline in 2020/21 to 65.1% compared to 2018/19 figures. The decline is similar to pupils in deprived areas achieving literacy. The 2020/21 figure reflects the impact Covid-19 has had on attainment. Funding has been allocated to recruit additional transition teachers and professional learning rolled out to upskill teachers in meeting leaner's needs to support progress in increasing attainment in numeracy.
Percentage of leavers with SCQF level 5 in literacy and numeracy	2018-19	67.1%	2019-20	71.7%	73.0%	🟣	_Annual figure (based on academic year)._ _Next data expected to be published in early 2022._ The year 2019/20 has shown an increase of 4.6% of leavers with SCQF level 5 in literacy and numeracy in comparison to the previous period.
Percentage of leavers from deprived areas with SCQF level 5 in literacy and numeracy	2018-19	43.5%	2019-20	50.9%	52.0%	🟣	_Annual figure (based on academic year)._ **Next data expected to be published in early 2022.** There has been an increase of 7.4% of leavers from deprived areas with SCQF level 5 in literacy and numeracy during 2019/20 in comparison to the previous period.
Percentage of all leavers achieving 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher	2018-19	67.6%	2019-20	71.1%	73.0%	🟣	_Annual figure (based on academic year)._ **Next data expected to be published in early 2022.** There has been an increase of 7.4% of leavers from deprived areas with SCQF level 5 in literacy and numeracy during 2019/20 in comparison to the previous period.

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Outcome 6: Increased attainment for all and in particular for those most disadvantaged

KPI		Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of all leavers from deprived areas achieving 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher	2018-19	45.6%	2019-20	51.1%	53.0%	●		*Annual figure (based on academic year).* **Next data expected to be published in early 2022.** An extra 5.5% of leavers from deprived areas achieved 1 or more awards at SCQF level 6 or higher during 2019/20 in comparison to the previous period.
Percentage of parents receiving funded Early Learning and Childcare through their preferred location		New		New	Increase by 5%	New	New metric: data collation in progress.	New metric, first update expected to be early 2022
Percentage of parents receiving funded Early Learning and Childcare through their preferred model of delivery		New		New		New	New metric: data collation in progress.	New metric, first update expected to be early 2022
Capital spend on the Learning Estate new projects		New	Nov-21	£78.0M	£90.73M	●	New metric: data collation in progress.	*Annual figure - Total spend figure will only available at end of financial year (April 22)* New Metric: . **Interim figures:** Spend to date is £78.0M. Going to report and Finance and Resources Committee in February 2022. Spend is on track to meet the target of £90.73M by end of 21/22.

Outcome 6: Increased attainment for all and in particular for those most disadvantaged

KPI		Previous		Latest	Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of Primary pupils with low attendance	Nov-21	15.0%	Dec-21	15.4%	Not Applic	●		*Monthly figure (following academic year).* No data has been collected from March 2020 to June 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. New attendance policy and procedure implemented and monthly internal scrutiny across all schools in place. Attendance thematic review carried out in November 2021 and service improvement recommendations will be presented to Education, Children and Families Committee in March 2022. Due to the impact of Covid-19 a new baseline is required before a target can be set.
Percentage of Secondary students with low attendance	Nov-21	18.5%	Dec-21	19.6%	Not Applic	●		*Monthly figure (following academic year).* No data has been collected from March 2020 to June 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. New attendance policy and procedure implemented and monthly internal scrutiny across all schools in place. Attendance thematic review carried out in November 2021 and service improvement recommendations will be presented to Education, Children and Families Committee in March 2022. Due to the impact of Covid-19 a new baseline is required before a target can be set.

Outcome 7: Edinburgh's economy recovers from recession and supports businesses to thrive

KPI		Previous		Latest	Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Review of Economy strategy completed		Milestone			Nov-21	✓		Refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy approved at Policy and Sustainability Committee in November 2021.
Business births per 10,000 residents	2019	55	2020	42.4	Data Only	●		*Annual figure (for monitoring only).* Figure for 2020 published in December 21. Business births per 10,000 residents shows a decline in 2020 to 44.2, reflecting one impact of Covid-19. * This KPI is for data monitoring only and no target has been set – this is a city wide measure and is useful barometer for the health of the economy

Outcome 7: Edinburgh's economy recovers from recession and supports businesses to thrive   **Back to Scorecard**

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Employed residents as a percentage of all residents	2019-20	77.0%	2020-21	77.9%	Data Only	● (grey)		*Annual figure (for monitoring only).* There has been a slight increase in the percentage of employed residents during the year 2020/21. * This KPI is for data monitoring only and no target has been set – this is a city wide measure and is useful barometer for the health of the economy
Total number of clients supported by employability and skills services	2019-20	3,719	2020-21	3,761	Not Applic	● (blue)		*Annual figure* *(available at end of financial year - April 22).* The number of clients supported by employability services had a small increase of 1.1% during 2020/21. The service continues to focus on supporting those individuals already engaging. Due to the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on service delivery, a target can not be set at this time.
Number of engagements through business gateway	2020-21 Q2	1,538	2021-22 Q2	1,712	Not Applic	● (blue)		*Quarterly figure (cumulative figure).* Quarter two of 2021/22 shows a similar number of engagements for the same quarter in 2020/21 and 2019/20. A target has not been set while the National Business Gateway service undergoes significant change.
Percentage of Procurement Spend via SMEs	2019-20	52.0%	2020-21	50.0%	52.0%	● (purple)		*Annual figure* The Percentage of Procurement Spend via SMEs will only be **available at end of financial year (April 22)**.

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Outcome 7: Edinburgh's economy recovers from recession and supports businesses to thrive						**Back to Scorecard**

KPI	Previous	Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of Procurement spend in EH postcode	Apr-Nov 2020 **45.7%**	Apr-Nov 2021 **45.1%**	**50.0%**	🟠		*Monthly figure.* There has been fluctuation throughout the year in terms of buying in the EH postcode region. This may have been affected by the lack of goods i.e. PPE in the region which has had to be sourced outwith.
Investment in supporting the arts and cultural sector in the city	**New**	**New**	**£5.6M**	**New**	New metric: data collation in progress.	*Annual figure.* New Metric: Total spend figure will only **available at end of financial year (April 22)**, however all funding has now been fully committed for 2021/22 and second payment instalments have been paid.

(Aiii) Dashboard - All Measures

Becoming a sustainable and net zero city

Outcome 8: On track to deliver our 2030 net zero target

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
City's emissions (in MtCO$_2$e - Metric tons of CO$_2$ equivalent)	2018-19	**2.428**	2019-20	**2.243**	6% reduction	🟢		*Annual figures with a lag time in reporting.* The total city emissions (MtCO$_2$e - Metric tons of CO$_2$ equivalent) in 2019/20 was 2.243 MtCO$_2$e which is under the target for 2019/20. The annual target for reduction in total emissions is 6%, resulting in a target for 2019/20 of 2.281 MtCO$_2$e. Progress report on 2030 net zero target was reported to Policy and Sustainability Committee in November 21.
Council's emissions (in ktCO$_2$e - kilo tons of CO$_2$ equivalent)	2019-20	**73.50**	2020-21	**65.65**	Cml 3 year target - 189.6 ktCO$_2$e	🟢		*Annual figure. Next figures due to be published in Summer 2022.* The cumulative 3 year target for the councils total emissions is 189.6 ktCO$_2$e (kilo tons of CO$_2$ equivalent). In 2020/21, the Council emitted 65.65 ktCO$_2$e, representing 35% (just over one third) of the three-year cumulated carbon budget. Progress report on Council emissions (Public Bodies Climate Change Duties report) was reported to the Policy and Sustainability Committee in November 21 including performance and data.
Installed Solar Photovoltaic capacity across the Council's operational estate (kWp - kilowatt power)		**New**	2020-21	**2,092**	**2,342**	🟣		*Annual figure (available at end of financial year - April 22).* New metric. Data available at the end of 2021/22 financial year. Target based on planned project deliverables in 2021/22. Progress report on Council Emissions Reduction Plan was reported to Policy and Sustainability Committee in November 21.
Percentage of new builds in delivery to PassivHaus standard		**New**	2020-21	**17.0%**	**Data Only**	⚪		*Annual figure (available at end of financial year - April 22).* New metric. It is not possible to set specific annual targets as new build projects can span multiple years. However, we are aiming to apply Passivhaus standards to future new builds and so expect this figure to increase year on year. Currently, eight projects are being delivered to Passivhaus Standard with LZC Primary Plant, equating to 17% of projects.

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Outcome 8: On track to deliver our 2030 net zero target

Back to Scorecard

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Annual Council internal floor area agreed to undergo low energy retrofit works		**New**		**New**	0m2	●	New metric: data collation will start once retro fit projects commence in 2022/23.	*Annual figure.* New metric. This year the focus is on developing plans to progress this project and so the target for 2021/22 is 0, cumulative target will be available in year 2 and year 3 reporting.
Number of traffic related Air Quality Management Areas	2019-20	**6**	2020-21	**6**	**6**	●		*Annual figure.* The latest data for our Air Quality Management Areas shows concentrations of pollutants at most locations are decreasing. Longer term target to reduce to 0 by 2030. A progress report to the Transport and Environment Committee in January 2022 provided an update.
Percentage of homes that meet Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing 2 (EESSH 2)		**New**		**New**		**New**	New metric: data collation in progress.	New standard being implemented (nationally) during 2021. Data available following first statutory return completions - submission date May 22

Outcome 9: Citizens are more engaged and empowered

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of Consultation Advisory Panel (CAP) approved consultations with 'you said, we did' published within three months of closing date		**New**		**New**	100.0%	**New**	New metric: data collation in progress.	New Consultation policy launched in August 2021. Between August and December 21, eight consultations have been approved by the CAP, with six of these commenced.

Outcome 9: Citizens are more engaged and empowered

KPI	Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of annual discretionary budget allocated through participatory budgeting	2020-21	0.0%	Estimated 21/22 fig	0.32%	Not Applic	●	*[bar chart: 2019/20 0.0%, 2020/21 0.0%, 2021/22; axis 0%–25%]*	*Annual figure (available at end of financial year - April 22).* Details of the progress being made in implementing Participatory Budgeting can be found in a report that went to Finance and Resource Committee in October 2021. Estimated 2021/22 figure is currently 0.32% and work continues to progress. National review of timelines for achieving 1% is in progress.
Percentage of respondents who believe that climate change is an immediate and urgent problem	2017-18	Not Applic	2018-19	72.0%	65.0%	●	*[bar chart: Percentage of respondents / 2021/22 target; 2018/19 72.0%, 2019/20; axis 0%–100%]*	*Annual figure (from Scottish Household Survey).* Data from Scottish Household Survey for 2020 still to be published. Previous figures show a higher proportion of respondents in Edinburgh (72%) believe climate change is an immediate and urgent problem compared to the national figure (65%).
Edinburgh Talks Climate engagement levels		New		New		New	New metric: data collation in progress.	*Annual figure.* New Metric: We have been engaging with citizens on our draft Climate Strategy throughout our Climate Talk online forum during 2021.

Outcome 10: Develop key strategic sites and projects to meet the needs of a diverse and growing city

Formal adoption of City Plan	*[flag icon]* Milestone	Aug-22	◔	On 29 September 2021 the Planning Committee approved the Proposed City Plan 2030 to be published for its Representation stage. The Representation period of six weeks allows for everyone to make their views known and will be reported back to the Planning Committee along with advice on whether or not any aspect of the Plan should be changed as a result. As of 7 November 20212, it moved into the statutory representation period.
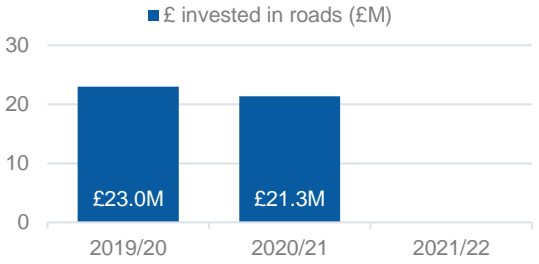
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Outcome 10: Develop key strategic sites and projects to meet the needs of a diverse and growing city

KPI	Previous	Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Outline business case for the new Bio Quarter health innovation district agreed	Milestone		Q4 21/22	✔		Following publication of the Outline Business Case the next major milestone in the project is to complete procurement for a development partner to help deliver the Bio Quarter project by Q4 2022.
Outline business case for the West Edinburgh Active Travel and Public Transport infrastructure agreed	Milestone		Sep-21	❗		This project is part of the City Region Deal. The project team (comprising Edinburgh Council, West Lothian Council and Transport Scotland) are currently reviewing the draft West Edinburgh Transport Improvements Programme (WETIP) Preliminary Options Report. Once agreed, this will inform the programme going forward and the Outline Business Case is scheduled to be reported to Policy and Sustainability Committee in February 2022.
Completion of Tram line to Newhaven	Milestone		Jun-23	◔		Although the project has faced significant challenges due to Covid-19, construction continues to progress and the project is still on track to deliver Trams to Newhaven.

Outcome 11: The city has a well-connected and sustainable transport and active travel network

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Roads annual capital and revenue investment	2019-20	£23.0M	2020-21	£21.3M	£20.0M	●	£ invested in roads (£M) — 2019/20: £23.0M, 2020/21: £21.3M, 2021/22	***Annual figure.*** Total spend figure will only available at end of financial year (April 22)
Proportion of people travelling to work by active and sustainable means	2017-18	**Not Applic**	2018-19	70.0%	**To be set in 2022**	●	New metric: data collation in progress.	City Mobility Plan and implementation plan was approved by Transport and Environment Committee in Feb 2021. A Citywide Mode Share Target to reduce car kms by 30% by 2030 was approved but work continues on setting targets for active and sustainable means of travelling (e.g. walking and cycling). A further report due to go to Transport and Environment Committee by Summer 2022.

Outcome 11: The city has a well-connected and sustainable transport and active travel network

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Proportion of people travelling to work by foot and bike for journeys up to 2 miles	2017-18	**Not Applic**	2018-19	**55.0%**	**To be set in 2022**	●	New metric: data collation in progress.	City Mobility Plan and implementation plan was approved by Transport and Environment Committee in Feb 2021. A Citywide Mode Share Target to reduce car kms by 30% by 2030 was approved but work continues on setting targets for active and sustainable means of travelling (e.g. walking and cycling). A further report due to go to Transport and Environment Committee by Summer 2022.
Proportion of trips to school by active and sustainable modes	2017-18	**Not Applic**	2018-19	**69.0%**	**To be set in 2022**	●	New metric: data collation in progress.	City Mobility Plan and implementation plan was approved by Transport and Environment Committee in Feb 2021. A Citywide Mode Share Target to reduce car kms by 30% by 2030 was approved but work continues on setting targets for active and sustainable means of travelling (e.g. walking and cycling). A further report due to go to Transport and Environment Committee by Summer 2022.
Number of multimodal interchanges		**Not Applic**		50 inter-changes served by 2 or more modes	**Target to be set by Summer 2022**	●	New metric: data collation in progress.	City Mobility Plan and implementation plan was approved by Transport and Environment Committee in February 2021. Longer term target to increase number of interchanges by 2030.
Tram passengers	2020	**2.351 million**	2021	**2.594 million**	**Increase**	●	(bar chart: Total No. of Tram passengers (M) — 2019: 7.45M, 2020: 2.36M, 2021: 2.59M)	*Annual figure.* *(This is calendar year data, next update due end of 2022).* Tram passenger numbers decreased significantly in 2020 as a result of Covid-19. 2.594 millions of passengers have used trams during 2021.

Outcome 11: The city has a well-connected and sustainable transport and active travel network						Back to Scorecard
KPI	**Previous**	**Latest**	**Target/ Threshold**	**RAG**	**Visual**	**Comments**
Implementation of the Workplace Parking Levy	Milestone		tbc			A response has been submitted in relation to the Scottish Government's Consultation on the Regulations and Guidance for introducing Workplace Parking Licensing in June 2021. This consultation will help in the development of the scheme and set out the requirements for introducing it.
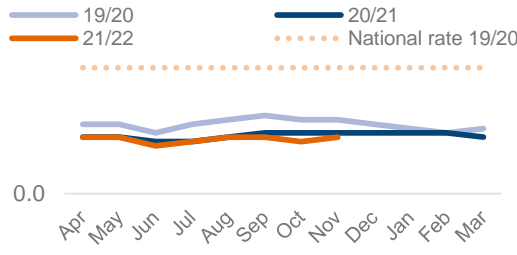
Outcome 12: People can access the support they need in the place they live and work

KPI	Previous	Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
20 Minute neighbourhood strategy finalised	Milestone		Jun-21	✓		20 minute neighbourhood strategy agreed at Policy and Sustainability Committee in June 2021. Progress update report on 20 minute neighbourhood considered at Policy and Sustainability Committee in November 2021.
South West Pilot action plan finalised	Milestone		Nov-21	❗		Work to develop a South West pilot action plan is being progressed through a Council and Partner group. The first meeting was held in Wester Hailes in October 2021, and a follow up meeting is being planned for February or March 2022. Work to progress the plan will continue through 2022.
9 community hubs across the city by 2030	New	New	19 by 2030	New	New metric: in development.	*Annual figure* *(available at end of financial year - April 22).* Work to implement the 20 Minute Neighbourhood Strategy approved in June 2021 is underway. 2021/2022 has been a planning year, with a dedicated delivery team in place since February 2022 to take forward the programme. An update report on progress will be considered in Autumn 2022. The next new community hub is expected to be delivered in Pennywell (Macmillan Hub), with a report to Finance and Resources Committee in March 2022 for contract award approval.

Outcome 13: Improved safety and wellbeing for vulnerable citizens

KPI	Previous	Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Children on the Child Protection Register as a rate per 1,000 population	Nov-20 1.4	Nov-21 1.3	* Threshold 2.9	🟢	19/20 — 20/21 — 21/22 — National rate 19/20 · · · 0.0 Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar	*Monthly figure.* Following a notable decrease the number requiring formal registration has been stable in 21/22 and is at a similar level to 20/21 figures and continues to be well below the national rate. These levels of registration are monitored by the Child Protection Committee on a regular basis. * Whilst there is no specific target, the national rate of 2.9 children on the Child Protection Register per 10,000 population is used as the threshold to provide context to the ongoing level.

Outcome 13: Improved safety and wellbeing for vulnerable citizens

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Conversion rate between Adult Protection Contacts and 'Duty to Enquire' carried out	Jun to Nov 20 Ave	**66.7%**	Jun to Nov 21 Ave	**73.8%**	**70.0%**	🟢		*Monthly figure.* Monthly performance continues to fluctuate during 2021/22 but remains above the target. A review of recording practice is in progress and performance is expected to remain stable until new process in place.
Adult protection investigations started per 100,000 adults in population	2019-20	**98**	2020-21	**113**	* **Threshold 118**	🟢		***Annual figure (available at end of financial year - April 22).*** The number of adult protection investigations increased between 2019/20 and 2020/21 and approached the national average (2019/20). * Whilst there is no specific target, the national rate of 118 Adult Protection investigations per 10,000 adults in the population is used as the threshold to provide context to the ongoing level.
Number of situations affected by domestic abuse where support was offered through new delivery model		**New**		**New**		**New**	New metric: data collation will commence once the group is operational.	New metric: Planning for new Domestic Abuse Local Actions Group is progressing with the group expected to be operational by the end of 2021/22. Data will be captured and reported on once this group is up and running.
Percentage of community justice orders successfully completed	Jun to Nov 20 Ave	**74.5%**	Jun to Nov 21 Ave	**76.9%**	**65.0%**	🟢		*Monthly figure.* Percentage of Community Justice Orders successfully completed has exceeded the target every month over the last year.

Outcome 13: Improved safety and wellbeing for vulnerable citizens

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Looked After Children as a rate per 1,000 population	Nov-20	13.2	Nov-21	11.7	* Threshold 14.0	🟢		*Monthly figure.* The number of children requiring to be Looked After has declined steadily over the last two years and continues to be below the national rate and in line with the national policy direction. Whilst there is no specific target, the national rate is used to provide context to the ongoing level. * Whilst there is no specific target, the national rate of 14.0 looked after children per 10,000 population is used as the threshold to provide context to the ongoing level.

Target not yet set

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Domestic kerbside missed bin service requests	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	1,416	Jul to Dec 21 Ave	1,870	1,765	🔴		*Monthly figure.* Waste missed bin service requests fluctuate each month but the 6 month average (Jul to Dec 21) is just above the monthly target, with a peak in July. The increase in reports of missed individual bins in July was caused by staff pressures due to Covid-19 cases/isolation of crews and managing accrued annual leave ahead of the holiday period ending. Target shown is monthly target, full year target for 21/22 is 21,180.
Communal domestic full bin service requests	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	1,635	Jul to Dec 21 Ave	1,757	1,770	🟢		*Monthly figure.* Communal full bin service requests fluctuate each month with a peak in Sep. The 6 month average, at 1,757, is just below target. The increase in people working from home has resulted in additional household waste putting pressure on the service. The peak in September was caused by Covid-19 cases/isolation of crews, managing accrued annual leave ahead of the holiday period ending and a transition between contractors for communal glass collections. The target changes each quarter to reflect the impact of seasonal factors, such as students moving in and out of shared flats, on service demand.

Outcome 14: Core services are maintained or improved

KPI	Previous		Latest	Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of domestic waste recycled	Jun to Nov 20 Ave	41.8%	Jun to Nov 21 Ave · 43.5%	41.0%	🟢		*Monthly figure.* The 6 monthly average (Jun - Nov 21), at 43.5%, is above the target for 2021/22. A number of new contracts are now in place to support the efficient and cost-effective operation of the service. In particular, new contracts have taken effect for communal and kerbside bin containers which resulted in savings against existing prices. This will support the delivery of the Communal Bin Review.
Percentage of Emergency Cat 1 Road Defects made safe within 24 hours	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	100.0%	Jul to Dec 21 Ave · 100.0%	100.0%	🟢		*Monthly figure.* During Covid-19 restrictions in 20/21, road services focused on repairing emergency defeats and this 100% performance continues in 21/22 with all emergency defeats being made safe within 24 hours between April and November 2021.
Percentage of Cat 2 Priority Road Defects repaired within 5 working days	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	98.2%	Jul to Dec 21 Ave · 96.4%	85.0%	🟢		*Monthly figure.* Performance on high priority road defects remains above target across April to November 2021 with a dip in September 2021 to 89%.
Percentage of Cat 3 Priority Road Defects repaired within 60 working days	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	98.3%	Jul to Dec 21 Ave · 98.5%	85.0%	🟢		*Monthly figure.* All lower priority roads defects have been resolved within 60 working days during April to November 2021 and above the target set for 2021/22. The drop below target in 2020/21 reflects the initial response to Covid-19 in which only the most urgent Cat 1's were maintained. Performance quickly improved once the service was back to full operation.

Outcome 14: Core services are maintained or improved

KPI		Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of emergency street lighting repairs completed within 4 hours	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	**97.8%**	Jul to Dec 21 Ave	**94.5%**	**95.0%**	🟢		*Monthly figure.* Emergency street lighting repairs fluctuate each month but remain on target for 2021/22.
Percentage of street lighting urgent 24 hour repairs completed in time	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	**71.4%**	Jul to Dec 21 Ave	**93.3%**	**70.0%**	🟢		*Monthly figure.* 24 hour street lighting repairs have exceeded the target set for 21/22 with 100% completed for five out of the last six months. Only August shows a dip in performance but at 80%, it was still over target. Performance is higher in 21/22 than in either of the previous 2 years.
Percentage of street lighting 5-day repairs completed in time	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	**38.0%**	Jul to Dec 21 Ave	**56.4%**	**50.0%**	🟢		*Monthly figure.* 6 month average (Jun to Nov 21) for 5 day street lighting repairs, at 51.9% is just over the 21/22 target. Due to Covid-19, only emergency work was completed for April and May 2020. Owing to the complex nature of street lighting 5-day repairs (which includes cable faults, supply faults, access issues) monthly performance is more varied.
Number of parks with the Green Flag Award	2021	**34**	2022	**35**	**35**	🟢		*Annual figure.* A new Green Flag Park has been added in each of the last three years per the target. One city park, Bloomiehall Park, received the status for the first time in 2021, joining the other 34 council parks already proudly flying a Green Flag.

Outcome 14: Core services are maintained or improved — **Back to Scorecard**

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Litter Monitoring System Score	2020	92.9	2021	81.8	93	●		*Annual figure.* *(Next Data available subject to publication by Beautiful Scotland)* Full implementation of the new Litter Monitoring System will now commence from 2022/23. The data here represents the current system which is used to monitor street cleanliness. The service had to cope with significant disruption due to Covid-19 in 20/21 and the 2021 score reflects the difficulties in providing a citywide service and the prevalence of domestic waste in high density residential areas. This score was consistent with other urban local authorities in 20/21.
Number of active library users	2020-21	38k	As at Sep 21	48k	Not Applic	●		*Annual figure* *(available at end of financial year - April 22).* Covid-19 restrictions resulted in closures of libraries during 2020/21, with selected libraries opening where possible as restrictions eased. **Interim figure of active libraries users, 48k as at Sep 21**, shows library use starting to recover as libraries reopen.
Library digital use – downloads and streaming	2019-20	1.50M	2020-21	2.96M		●		*Annual figure* *(available at end of financial year - April 22).* Digital downloads have almost doubled in 2020/21 opposed to the previous year. The library service worked hard to expand the services offered online during the first Covid-19 lockdown.

Outcome 15: Make better use of the Council estate and resources to meet our strategic priorities

KPI	Previous		Latest		Target/Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Proportion of schools in good or satisfactory condition	2019-20	90.2%	2020-21	91.5%	88.3%	●		*Annual figure* *(available at end of financial year - April 22).* There continues to be an improvement in school condition rating and Edinburgh's score remains above the national average (88.3%).

Outcome 15: Make better use of the Council estate and resources to meet our strategic priorities

Back to Scorecard

KPI	Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of P6 to S6 pupils with issued iPad	New	Dec-21	9.45%	100% by 2023	🟢		New programme: roll out of ipads to all P6 to S6 pupils over the next two years. Rollout starting in academic session 2021/22, first two pilot schools receiving iPads in December 2021. Schedule for roll out to remaining schools in place over academic years 2021-22 and 2022-23. Programme currently on track.
Customer Hub satisfaction	72.8%	Sep to Dec 20 Ave / Sep to Dec 21 Ave	67.8%	75.0%	🔴		Period saw a low volume of surveys being completed as a % of overall contact. Work is ongoing to develop a more comprehensive data set. During this period the Contact team was required to support a range of non-standard, Covid-19 related support services, including thousands of outbound welfare calls. This was delivered by the existing team with some impact on non Covid-19 related or services temporarily identified as lower priority. All feedback continues to be analysed to help shape future improvement plans.
Council's projected Revenue outturn	Sep-20 100.7%	Sep-21	100.0%	100.0%	🟢		*Quarterly figure.* Projected outturn is monitored and reported to Finance and Resources Committee regularly. Finalised annual figure will only available at end of financial year (April 22)

Outcome 15: Make better use of the Council estate and resources to meet our strategic priorities

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Measure							Commentary
Sickness absence	Dec-20	4.3%	Dec-21	4.90%	4.0%	●	*Monthly figure (rolling 12 month average).* Sickness has gradually risen since April 2021 and remains above the 4% target. However this is below sickness levels reported seen in 2019/20 before Covid-19. This figure does not include Covid-19 absences. Covid has obviously had, and continues to have, an impact on the wellbeing of our workforce. It's been an unprecedented time and we have adjusted our approach to wellbeing continuously – focusing on physical, mental/emotional and financial wellbeing. In September 2021 CEC won the Chartered Institute for Personnel & Development award for 'Best health and wellbeing initiative, public sector'. Specifically, we have launched a new employee benefits platform, consolidated Scottish Local Government Living Wage (with over 5,000 colleagues receiving an increase in base pay in April 2020), made over 3,500 occupational health referrals, over 6,000 online wellbeing support learning modules completed by colleagues, over 30 wellbeing roadshow events developed & held, 1,000 managers attending 'Be well to lead well' and 'managing through change' sessions.
Council gender pay gap	2019	3.8%	2020	3.0%	< 3.4%	●	***Annual figure (LGBF dataset).*** ***2021/22 figures due to be published in March 2022.*** Latest LGBF data shows a reduced Gender Pay gap of 3.0% for 2019/20 which is lower than the Scottish average (3.4%). A more detailed report on Gender Pay Gap was reported to Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2021.
Progress against delivery of Council's current year's approved budget savings	Sep-20	82.0%	Sep-21	89.0%	90.0%	●	*Quarterly figure.* Progress on delivering approved savings currently sits just under 90% which is a higher proportion than seen in either of the two previous years. Progress on delivering approved savings is monitored on a quarterly basis. Finalised annual figure will only be available at end of financial year (April 22)
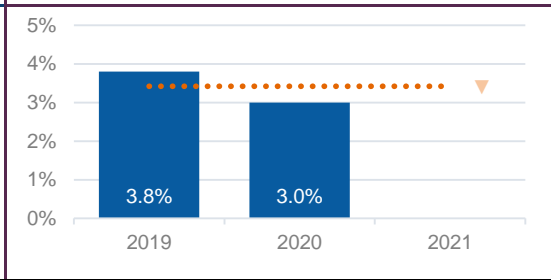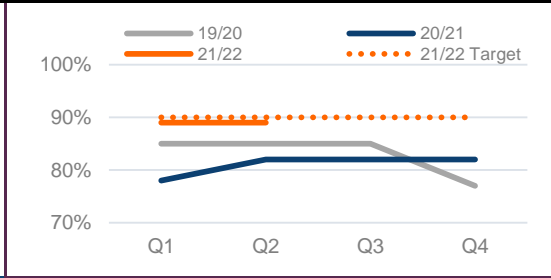
Sickness absence chart legend: 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 21/22 Target. Y-axis 0%–10%. X-axis Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar.

Council gender pay gap chart: 2019 = 3.8%, 2020 = 3.0%, 2021 (target line ~3.4%). Y-axis 0%–5%.

Progress chart legend: 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 21/22 Target. Y-axis 70%–100%. X-axis Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4.

Outcome 15: Make better use of the Council estate and resources to meet our strategic priorities

KPI		Previous		Latest	Target/ Threshold	RAG	Visual	Comments
Percentage of invoices paid within 30 days	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	**95.6%**	Jul to Dec 21 Ave	**96.3%**	**95.0%**	🟢		*Monthly figure.* Percentage of invoices paid within 30 days remains above the 2021/22 target of 95% and is higher than the two previous years performance.
Proportion of Council Tax collected	2021-22 YTD	**70.0%**	2021-22 YTD	**79.3%**	**94.5%**	🟢		*Monthly cumulative figure.* The proportion of Council Tax collected increases each month and is in line with previous years collection rates. The proportion of Council Tax collected is a cumulative indicator and progress so far is on track to meet end of financial year target.
Proportion of Business Rates collected	2021-22 YTD	**69.2%**	2021-22 YTD	**69.0%**	**91.0%**	🟢		*Monthly cumulative figure.* The proportion of Business Rates collected increases each month and is above the collection rate for 2020/21 but below the collection rate for 2019/20. The proportion of Business Rates collected is a cumulative indicator and progress so far is on track to meet end of financial year target.
Percentage of revenue spend placed with contracted suppliers	Jul to Dec 20 Ave	**92.4%**	Jul to Dec 21 Ave	**92.4%**	**93.0%**	🟠		*Monthly figure.* Performance has fluctuated this year due to the availability of some products which cannot be supplied by our contracted suppliers.

Appendix B - KPI Amendments and Clarifications:

KPI	Amendment/Clarification
Number of Living wage employers	the figures shown are from the Living Wage Scotland Foundation (previously figures were from the UK Living Wage Foundation). This has been done to align the performance update report to the data being used to monitor the Edinburgh Living Wage City Action Plan going forward.
Council's emissions (in ktCO2e)	the target has been changed to show the new target (cumulative 3-year target - 189.6 ktCO2e) as stated in the Council Emissions Reduction Plan submitted to the Policy & Sustainability Committee in November 2021
Adult protection investigations started per 100,000 adults in population	the rate has been recalculated using the 16+ population to bring it in to line with national rate calculation. Previous calculation used the 18+ population.
Number of apprenticeships	The target for apprenticeships has been updated from 60 to 41 to reflect the impact of Covid 19 on Services and their ability to provide appropriate support and learning experiences at this time
Percentage of Primary pupils achieving literacy	Annual Target has been set -75%
Percentage of Primary pupils from deprived areas achieving literacy	Annual target has been set - 59%
Percentage of Primary pupils achieving numeracy	Annual target has been set - 82%
Percentage of Primary pupils from deprived areas achieving numeracy	Annual target has been set - 67%
Percentage of leavers with SCQF level 5 in literacy and numeracy	Annual target has been set -73%
Percentage of leavers from deprived areas with SCQF level 5 in literacy and numeracy	Annual target has been set - 52%
Percentage of all leavers achieving 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher	Annual target has been set - 73%
Percentage of all leavers from deprived areas achieving 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher	Annual target has been set - 53%
Positive Destinations for School Leavers	Annual target has been set – 95%
Percentage of people living in destitution	Annual target has been set – 4%

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Coalition Commitments Progress Update 2021/2022

Item number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.2 That members of the Policy and Sustainability Committee note the final achievements and status of the 52 coalition commitments that the Council committed to deliver by the end of April 2022 (Appendix A).

1.3 Refer the Coalition Commitments Progress Update to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration on 17 March 2022.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Strategic Change and Delivery Team, Corporate Services Directorate

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Report

Coalition Commitments Progress Report 2021/22

2.   Executive Summary

2.1   This is the final report on the 52 coalition commitments and provides an update on the progress against delivering each commitment.

2.2   In summary, of the 52 commitments, 30 have been fully achieved, 18 partially achieved and 4 will not be achieved.

2.3   This report concludes the previous update reports that have been presented to Full Council.

3.   Background

3.1   The Council's previous Business Plan (A Programme for the Capital: The City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan 2017-22) was approved in August 2017. That plan set out the Council's priorities and what should be achieved over the five-year period.

4.   Main report

4.1   This is the final update on progress of the coalition commitments and a full update for each commitment is contained within Appendix A.

4.2   Appendix A provides:

- a summary table showing final status for the commitments
- a full update for each commitment detailing:
  o background information
  o key achievements in delivering the elements of each commitment
  o relevant future work
  o performance measures with the most up to date data available
  o the final status of each commitment.

4.3   The final status of the commitments can be summarised as follows:

Status	Meaning	Number of Commitments
Fully achieved	All elements of the commitment have been delivered.	**30**
Partially achieved	Some elements of the commitment have or are currently being delivered.	**18**
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.	**0**
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.	**4**

5.   Next Steps

5.1   Where applicable, planned future work that will be undertaken 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

9.   Appendices

9.1   Appendix A: Coalition Commitments Progress Update February 2022

Coalition Commitments Progress Update February 2022

In 2017, we published the *Programme for the Capital* and set out our five-year plan for the city. The Programme consisted of 52 Coalition Commitments and we've reported back annually on each one. With the local elections taking place in May, this marks our last update and details the progress we've made against each.

We're immensely proud that, despite the ongoing impact of Covid-19, we've fully achieved 30 of our Commitments and made substantial progress on a further 18 which are partially achieved. There are also commitments like limiting Council tax increases to 3% - a commitment that was met as an average over the Council term but because the average takes account a year of Council tax being frozen and a year where the increase was slightly higher than 3% - that have been marked as not achieved despite keeping to their spirit.

The level of progress set out in this report is testament to the continued hard work and dedication shown by our Council colleagues and partners across the city who've worked tirelessly to continue delivering vital services to those who need them most through the most challenging circumstances imaginable.

Achievements against the commitments have been wide and varied. In 2018 we signed the City Region Deal which is now delivering an investment of £1.3 billion in transport, housing, innovation, culture, skills and employability. We've seen the opening and construction of 8 new schools over this term, and the completion of the new Meadowbank Sports Centre. The Trams to Newhaven project remains on time and within budget and progress has been made on our major future infrastructure projects, including Granton Waterfront and the Bio Quarter. Through the development of our Business Plan, City Plan and 2030 Net Zero Strategy, we've set out a strong vison for the future of our city – a future our residents have endorsed.

We've also made considerable efforts to improve the day to day life for residents. We've invested more than £112m in our roads and pavements and continued to spend 10% of the transport budget on improving cycling in the city. There's now less clutter on our streets thanks to the partnership with groups like Living Streets Edinburgh and, despite the challenges of Covid, our waste service maintains a consistent level of performance. We're on target to becoming a Million Tree City, having planted over 50,000 trees since May 2017, and now boast 34 green flags in our parks – almost half of all green flag parks in the whole of Scotland.

For our younger residents we've improved access to music, language and STEM skills and increased the number of classroom assistants for children with additional needs. We've also doubled free early learning and childcare provision. Beyond school, we've expanded opportunities in vocational and adult education and apprenticeships to provide positive onward destinations for our young people and are transforming learning in the classroom with a rollout of 40,000 ipads.

Much has changed since 2017, and more than 40% of our term has been dominated by the pandemic and working to try and keep our communities safe, while trying to deliver a fairer, greener future. Throughout it all, our residents have been clear with us that their Capital City should be pioneering, welcoming, thriving and fair – and we've done everything we can over the last five year towards realising that Vision.

Commitment Summary	Final Status
1 - Deliver a programme to build at least 10,000 social and affordable homes over the next 5 years, with a plan to build 20,000 by 2027.	Partially achieved
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.	Partially achieved
3 - Work with the business community to grow the number of Living Wage employers year on year.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
5 - Sign Edinburgh to the Pay Fair Tax Initiative.	Partially achieved
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	Fully achieved
7 - Improve access to employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities.	Partially achieved
8 - Explore the introduction of fair rent zones.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
10 - Prioritise the use of brownfield sites and work with public sector and private landowners to develop land for affordable housing.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
13 - Improve planning enforcement to ensure that all developers, large or small, conform to Edinburgh's policies and developer's commitments.	Fully achieved
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.	Will not be achieved
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.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
17 - Guarantee 10% of the transport budget on improving cycling in the city.	Fully achieved
18 - Improve Edinburgh's air quality and reduce carbon emissions. Explore the implementation of low emission zones.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved

20 - Explore the introduction of a lane rental for utility companies to reduce traffic pressures.	Will not be achieved
21 - Retain Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram in public ownership.	Fully achieved
22 - Deliver the tram extension to Newhaven by 2022 after reviewing the business case and delivery plan to ensure they are robust.	Partially achieved
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.	Partially achieved
24 - Reduce the incidence of dog fouling on Edinburgh's streets and public parks.	Fully achieved
25 - Increase recycling to 60% from 46% during the lifetime of the administration.	Will not be achieved
26 - Improve parking for residents by expanding provision of park and rides for commuters.	Partially achieved
27 - Tackle pavement parking and reduce street clutter to improve accessibility	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
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.	Fully achieved
30 - Increase the number of classroom assistants and support staff for children with additional needs to improve attainment and wellbeing.	Fully achieved
31 - Expand training opportunities for adults and young people linking with colleges and expanding vocational education.	Partially achieved
32 - Double free early learning and child care provision, providing 1140 hours a year for all 3 and 4 year olds and vulnerable 2 year olds by 2020.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
34 - Prioritise services for vulnerable children and families and looked after children, and support organisations working to end domestic abuse.	Partially achieved
35 - Improve access to library services and community centres making them more digital and delivering them in partnership with local communities.	Fully achieved
36 - Support the continued development of Gaelic Medium Education.	Fully achieved
37 - Continue to integrate Health and Social Care Services. Review the Integration Joint Board's approach to support at home by 2018.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
39 - Put exercise at the heart of our health strategy by increasing access to sport and leisure facilities.	Partially achieved

40 - Work with the Integration Joint Board (NHS & Council Social Care) and other agencies to prioritise early intervention and prevention in mental health services.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
42 - Build a new sports centre at Meadowbank by 2021.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
44 - Increase allotment provision and support and expand the network and the number of community gardens and food growing initiatives.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
47 - Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.	Partially achieved
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.	Fully achieved
49 - Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.	Will not be achieved
50 - Continue a policy of no compulsory redundancies and keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
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.	Partially achieved

Commitment 1

Deliver a programme to build at least 10,000 social and affordable homes over the next 5 years, with a plan to build 20,000 by 2027.

Background

The Council works with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and other development partners to deliver social and affordable homes. This work is reported to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee through the annual Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP).

Key Achievements

In the first 4 full years of this commitment over 6,300 affordable homes have been approved, and over 2,600 affordable homes have been completed. We anticipate that 1,200 new affordable homes will be approved for site start in Edinburgh in 2021/22. Around half of the 2021/22 anticipated approvals are in place with applications for the remaining projects currently being appraised or expected to be submitted in January, February or early March. Based on current delivery programmes, an additional 1,218 affordable homes are expected to be completed. That would mean over the five years, over 7,500 new affordable homes would be approved by 31 March 2022 and over 5,800 completed.

The SHIP (2022-2027) was approved by Housing Homelessness and Fair Work on 4 November 2021.

It also sets out a pipeline of 11,118 affordable homes that could be approved for site start and 10,124 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 Housing Revenue Account funding. The SHIP is reviewed annually and will be increased to meet the 20,000 target as funding becomes available and confidence in the development pipeline grows.

The Scottish Government's "Housing statistics quarterly update: September 2021" reported that throughout Scotland affordable housing approvals are down 36% and completions are down 5% on the last year. The "Report on the work of the 2021 Affordable Housing Investment Benchmarks Working Group" states "The delivery of affordable homes was hit significantly by the pandemic, initially by the lock down, and then through slower, safer working practices in 2020/21. The Scottish Government therefore expects output to continue to be slower over 2021/22 than at the start of the previous 50,000 affordable homes' programme, and therefore proposes to use 2021/22 to complete its previous 50,000 target".

Future Work

The 2022/23 Affordable Housing Supply Programme grant funding allocation is £45.182m. Work will continue in 2022 to complete the delivery of the 2021/22 programme and to plan and deliver the 2022/23 programme. The performance of the programme is down to our work with housing delivery partners that has taken place over several years to acquire sites, develop new investment models and deliver cost efficiencies. Land remains one of the key risks to the delivery of 20,000 affordable homes.

The RSL programme is almost entirely dependent upon private developers bringing forward sites for development through the Affordable Housing Policy. On 4 November 2021, Housing Homelessness and Fair Work agreed the 'Land Strategy Update and Invitation to Market', which provided an update on the progress of the land strategy for Council-led housing developments and sets out a rationale for seeking to supplement the current pipeline with private sector opportunities to be progressed through a market engagement exercise. This exercise is currently underway. Work will also continue with partners and the Scottish Government to maximise the amount of grant funding available to Edinburgh.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22* (up to end of Dec 21)	Target (end of 21/22)
Approvals of new affordable homes	1,475	1,626	1,930	1,285	613 (current estimate for year end is 1,200)	1,200
Completions of new affordable homes	966	1,152	1,443	1,087	860 (current estimate for year end is 1,218)	1,218

Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

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.

Partially Achieved

Background

In June 2018 the Council agreed the new Edinburgh Economy Strategy. This strategy set a fresh approach for economic policy in the city, aiming to ensure the work of the Council and its partners would drive inclusive economic growth across the city. In doing so, the strategy provided a framework for creating the conditions necessary for Edinburgh to be a city whose economy's success is sustainable and benefits all our citizens.

Key Achievements

In December 2020, a review and refresh of the Economy strategy was proposed in response to new significant challenges facing the city, and developments to the policy context in which the city operates. A programme of work was established to develop a refreshed approach to 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 and promote sustainability and wellbeing.

During 2021 we completed a consultation and engagement programme with businesses, citizens and partner organisations. These findings and an analysis of economic data for the city were used to develop a refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy,

setting out priorities for the Council in supporting the city's economy through recovery from pandemic and beyond.

Throughout the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council has:

- Purchased £280m of goods and services from businesses in the Edinburgh economy, one of the largest single buyers in the city;
- Administered over £190m of support to more than 19,000 businesses through Scottish Government funded schemes to help businesses through the worst periods of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Helped 3,700 people into work and learning through our employability programmes;
- Consolidated the Real Living Wage fully into Council pay structures, ensuring a pay rise for 4,400 Council employees; and
- Agreed a total of £4.5bn of Council capital investment over the next ten years.

Future Work

The revised strategy reflects the Council's vision and approach to ensuring a stronger, greener, and fairer Edinburgh economy. Key highlights for delivery in 2022/23 include:

- Increasing the number of people we help into work, learning or training through **Edinburgh Guarantee** and our funded employability programmes.
- Delivering progress on key strategic development sites, including meeting key milestones for development of **Edinburgh BioQuarter** and **Granton Waterfront.**
- Continuing to **support businesses** through our Business Gateway service, and enhance our business support offering to make sure all Edinburgh businesses can access the advice and expertise they need to sustain and thrive.
- Encouraging 100 businesses to become accredited Real Living Wage employers, through our work with the **Edinburgh Living Wage City Action Group.**
- Supporting the **recovery of the visitor economy and cultural sector** in Edinburgh.
- Supporting the launch of new programmes to help businesses make the transition to a net zero economy, including delivering proposals for a new **Green Innovation Challenge Fund**.
- Establishing a business led **Just Transition Economic Forum** to convene the city's business community to provide leadership on the just economic transition to a net zero city.
- Launching a new **Edinburgh Means Business** annual conference programme to celebrate progress, and strengthen the networks and

relationships needed for a Stronger, Greener,
Fairer Edinburgh economy.

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%	77.1%	To exceed 78% by 2022
% of workers in managerial, professional and technical/scientific occupations	56%	57%	56%	62.8%	To maintain 56% by 2022
Ratio of workers in high skilled occupations to workers in mid skilled occupations	2.4	2.4	2.2	3.3	To minimise to 2.10 by 2022
Gross Value Added per capita	£43,861 (2016)	£45,594 (2017)	£47,631 (2018)	£46,027 (2019)	To exceed £41,000 by 2021
% of children living in a low-income household	22% (2015)	23% (2017/18)	n/a	19% (2019/20)	To minimise 18% by 2020
% of residents who feel confident about their job prospects	63% (2014-16)	65% (2016-18)	Survey not done in 2019	Survey not done in 2020	To exceed 70% for 2019-21 average
% of residents who say their financial position has improved in the past 12 months	20% (2014-16)	18% (2016-18)	Survey not done in 2019	Survey not done in 2020	To maintain 20% for 2019-21 average

* Most up to date data available.

Commitment 3

Work with the business community to grow the number of Living Wage employers year on year.

Fully 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).

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.

Key Achievements

The number of living wage employers in Edinburgh has grown year on year.

The Living Wage Foundation accreditation covers all providers of services in the Council. As one of the largest employers in Edinburgh, the Council is setting a leading example to the business community.

In March 2020 the Council approved a new Sustainable Procurement Strategy with one of its stated objectives being to increase the adoption by suppliers of Fair Working practices, including suppliers paying the Real 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 largest increase in the percentage of Council suppliers that are committed to paying the real living took place between 2019/20 and 2020/21. There has also been a steady increase in the number of employers in the city accredited as Living Wage Foundation Employers. Further information can be found in the Council's most recent Annual Procurement report, for the 2020/21 financial year.

In September 2021 the Council approved a new Fair Work Action Plan, which set out 30 actions for Council delivery over the next three years to improve access to fair work for Edinburgh citizens.

As a part of this plan, in November 2021 Edinburgh was accredited as a Living Wage City by the Scottish Living Wage Foundation, in recognition of the partnership work being taken by the Edinburgh Living Wage Action Group, led by the Council, aiming to more than double the number of Living Wage accredited employers in the city.

Future Work

Throughout 2022/23, the Council will continue to lead and work with the Edinburgh Living Wage City Action Group – a network of employers and business organisations across the city who are actively campaigning to promote Living Wage accreditation in the city.

During January to March 2022, the Council will lead and report on findings of the Gig Economy Forum – a short life task group established to understand and make recommendations for policy options to improve working conditions for gig economy workers and other people experiencing insecure work in Edinburgh.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sep 2021	Target
% of Council suppliers of regulated tendered contracts that are committed to paying real living wage in delivering Council services *	70%	70.3%	79%		Aim to increase
Number of employers in the City of Edinburgh accredited as Living Wage Foundation employers	281	359	422	470	Aim to increase

The number of living wage employers data source has been changed. These figures are now are based on the Scottish Living Wage Foundation data for Edinburgh. Previous figures were from the UK Living Wage Foundation data for Edinburgh.

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.

Background

The project to develop a new local development plan called City Plan 2030 reached a key milestone in 2019/20. This 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 public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020. Over 1,800 responses were received, several times more than the previous equivalent stage. Results of the consultation were considered in the development of the new plan. The consultation responses showed 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.

An updated Development Plan Scheme with timetable was published in March 2021 and it set 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 Proposed City Plan was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021. The Proposed Plan builds on previous efforts to direct housing development towards brownfield sites and it carries forward the preferred approach of Choices which does not seek to allocate new greenfield sites. One of the overriding aims of the Plan is to deliver land to meet Edinburgh's housing needs over the next decade and to secure a minimum 35% affordable housing contribution from new developments in Edinburgh.

Future Work

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

Commitment 5

Sign Edinburgh to the Pay Fair Tax Initiative.

Partially Achieved

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. A refreshed Economy

Strategy was approved at Policy and Strategy Committee on 20 November 2021. This update continues the vision and work programmes to ensure Edinburgh is a Stronger, Greener and Fairer economy.

The Council's Sustainable Procurement Strategy has 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 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. Promotion of the Fair Tax Mark has been included within Council newsletters to suppliers.

We have engaged with businesses through Business Gateway to promote the Fair Tax Mark and to support businesses where appropriate. In May, June, and July of 2021, Business Gateway promoted Fair Tax Week and the Fair Tax Mark and Pledge in the monthly newsletter and across all social media channels.

The City of Edinburgh Council was highlighted as one of 17 Councils in the UK which had given their support to fair tax practices in November 2021. By showing support, the Council aims to lead by example on their own tax conduct, demand greater transparency from suppliers and call for more meaningful powers to tackle tax avoidance amongst suppliers.

Future Work

We will continue to promote the benefits of signing up to the pay Fair Tax Mark through our work with contracted suppliers and our Business Gateway service.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Nov 21)	Target
Number of businesses accredited with the Fair Tax Mark (total premises)	Not available	Not available	75	79	71	Aim to increase

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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.

Fully 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. It aims to deliver a step-change in inclusive growth to benefit the city region, Scotland and the United Kingdom. The Deal confirms that the UK Government and Scottish Government will invest £600m 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, £1.3bn of investment will be delivered.

Key Achievements

Good progress is being made with £192m of the UK and Scottish Government grant of £600m already drawn down and projects worth 85% of the full Deal allocation have had business cases approved for implementation by Joint Committee.

Data-Driven Innovation (DDI)

All six business cases in the DDI programme have been signed off by Joint Committee. Four of these are located in Edinburgh:

- The Bayes Centre (Bristo Square) continues to expand its reach and profile.
- The Edinburgh Futures Institute (Quartermile) is under construction with completion date scheduled for Spring 2023.
- 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 commenced in October 2021, with expected completion by Spring 2023.

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 by Capital City Partnership just 11 days after the country first went into lockdown.

An employee grant scheme was rolled-out in 2020/21 with 77 micro-businesses across the city region, of which 18 are in Edinburgh, receiving grants of £500-£1,000 to help retain staff. As a result of its success, in 2021/22 a second phase of the scheme was launched with 54 micro-businesses across the city region assisted, of which 14 are based in Edinburgh and are receiving funding for staff wellbeing initiatives. Additionally, within IRES the Integrated Knowledge Systems (IKS) project led by Capital City Partnership, a new employability Customer Relationship Management system was commissioned for use across the city region. This

will replace the Caselink system and allow much greater functionality and data analysis.

Transport

Work on the West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme continues in partnership with Transport Scotland. The Case for Change report is complete, and an Options Appraisal Report is being finalised. The Outline Business Case is expected to be taken to Joint Committee for approval in September 2022.

The Joint Committee ratified their support for the Sheriffhall scheme as published on 3 September 2021, following their consideration of further technical information. Transport Scotland, who are leading on the delivery of the project, are engaging with objectors to inform objection resolution, following the completion of the consultation on draft orders. Preparation for a Public Local Inquiry is also on-going.

The Transport Appraisal Board, within the Deal's Governance structure continues to help regional partners successfully bring in new funding for regional transport improvements. In Spring 2021, a bid was made towards Phase 1 of the £500m Bus Partnership Fund. £3m was secured to improve bus services across the region.

Culture

The Development Management Sub Committee approved IMPACT Scotland's application to build Dunard Centre on St Andrew Square on 24 November 2021. The business case is programmed for consideration at both Finance and Resources Committee and the ESESCR Joint Committee meeting in March 2022.

Housing

Edinburgh Living has been operational for three years. All £16.1m in available Scottish Government grant funding has been claimed during the construction of homes. Over 400 homes have been completed to date with over with a target to deliver 1,500 homes by 2023.

The Outline Business Case for Edinburgh's Waterfront was approved by the City of Edinburgh Council's Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2021. 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 Prosperity Framework (RPF)

Building upon the successes of the City Region Deal and the greater regional collaboration that it has engendered, regional partners have agreed a Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF). The RPF ratified by Policy and Sustainability Committee on 5 October 2021, is the articulation of the next phase of the development of the regional economy and is designed as a single document that helps to shape where public and private investment could make the best contribution to drive the region forward in a sustainable and inclusive manner. Implementation plans are being developed for each of the strategic moves, describing the support and resourcing, both public and private, required to deliver on these key ambitions.

Future Work

Key business in the next year for the Joint Committee to approve includes:

- Dunard Centre Revised Business Case: March 2022.
- Benefits Realisation Plan Implementation Plan: March 2022.
- West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme Business Case: September 2022.
- Regional Prosperity Framework Implementation Plan: September 2022.

Commitment 7

Improve access to employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities.

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Partially Achieved

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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. The Council has, for a long time, funded specialist services such as All in Edinburgh, Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentive and Edinburgh Project SEARCH, providing employability support, focussed on Edinburgh's disabled citizens to progress towards secure and sustained work or learning. In addition, several small grants have been awarded under the Network of Employability Support and Training programme to other specialist providers working with disabled individuals as well as other barriers to employment and we continuously work with a range of partners to promote inclusive growth.

Key Achievements

45% of all support to employability clients that have a disability, or suffering from Mental Ill Health, Long Term Physical Illness or Physical Illness get their 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 that helps disabled people or people with a 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 2020/2021. Over the period April – November in 2021, there was an increase in the average number of clients registering with employability services each month and all services were still supporting many existing

and new clients, helping 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 in Edinburgh have already recorded more job outcomes in the first 8 months of 2021/2022 than in the full year prior.

Between 1 April and 30 November 2021, 419 individuals secured employment thanks to council funded employability services, out of which 176 indicated disability as a barrier (42%). Looking at wider outcomes, such as job retention, access to training, the services supported 170 disabled individuals out of 519 (32.7%).

Also due to the impact of COVID-19, the Council and its partner organisations NHS Lothian and Edinburgh College were unable to start an Edinburgh Project SEARCH programme in 2021/22. However, paid work placement opportunities have been offered through Young Person's Guarantee (YPG) funding with a minimum of 8 placements being available specifically for young people with a disability or long-term health condition.

Future Work

As the wider implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and Brexit have become better understood, it has become apparent that disabled people and people with a long-term health condition have been especially disadvantaged. Although there are more jobs available, employers are still reluctant to make jobs more accessible and hesitant to employing individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment. Additional funding to support disabled people into work has been awarded through the Scottish Government's No One Left Behind, YPG and PES funding streams, with delivery of supported work placements within the Council and third sector organisations a welcome addition to the ongoing delivery of specialist employability and progression support to those who require it.

Furthermore, the Council has, following a coproduction exercise which included service users as well as service providers and other stakeholders, recommissioned several employability services to commence from 1 April 2022, and the provision of support for disabled people continues to be a focus area. Due to the upcoming ending of European Social Funding and no clarity over the availability of its replacement, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the funding available for employability support to disabled people would have had to be reduced, however the Council has made extra provision in the budget for this funding stream to ensure there is no reduction in service. Progression routes will continue to be supported through this ongoing funding of contracted services, who will offer support and aftercare to disabled people ad individuals with additional barriers to employment.

We will 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	2021/22 (to Nov 21)	Target
Number of disabled people who have accessed council funded employability services	1,203	1,101	1,182	866	596	Increasing trend
% of all support provided to people with disabilities	46.9%	49.8%	53.9%	53.1%	51.6%	Increasing trend

* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

Commitment 8

Explore the introduction of fair rent zones.

<div align="right">**Fully Achieved**</div>

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, the Housing, Homelessness 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.

At a national level 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 RPZ legislation, as well as a commitment to ensure robust data collection approaches within the private rented sector are established.

Key Achievements

Council Officers are part of a multi-disciplinary working group in partnership with the Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers which coordinates those local authorities and stakeholders interested in exploring RPZs in more detail. An officer working group has been meeting regularly to develop an approach to tackling key issues facing the private rented 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. As part of the wider strategic approach, the Council is consulting on designating the entire Council area as Short-Term Let Control Area.

A response was sent to the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee who carried out a consultation on the proposed licensing scheme for short term lets.

Future Work

Following the consultation on a Short-Term Let Control Area, the proposal will be reviewed and subject of a further report to Planning Committee. Should it be decided to progress with a designation, the proposal will require to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for their approval.

The Scottish Government published the draft "A New Deal for Tenants - rented sector strategy" for consultation on 20 December 2021. The rented sector strategy seeks to improve accessibility, affordability choices and standards across the whole rented sector in Scotland. It includes a key action to look at affordability in the private rented sector and a commitment to implement 'an effective national system of rent controls by 2025'. The Council will work with stakeholders to respond to the consultation before the closing date in April 2022.

Commitment 9

Create a Homelessness 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.

Partially Achieved

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 and reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation. This works alongside the prevention activity outlined in the second iteration of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) agreed at Committee on 18 September 2020.

During the COVID-19 pandemic the number of households in temporary accommodation has risen by just under 30%. There were 3,570 households in temporary accommodation at the end of March 2020, this has increased to 4,587 households at the end of October 2021, an increase of 1,017. This is largely due to the public health requirement to accommodate all households, regardless of eligibility, including people who may have No Recourse to Public Funds and the lack of settled move on accommodation which has become available during the pandemic.

Key activities we have progressed include:

- We have invested in delivering shared housing as an alternative to B&B accommodation. The new model of temporary accommodation offers additional facilities such as laundry, food storage and access to kitchens in a shared living environment.
- 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 and breakfast accommodation. This is also reflected in the increase in the number of families accommodated in bed and breakfast accommodation as on 30 November 2021, where 15 households may have No Recourse to Public Funds.
- 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-19 average of 80–120 people per night to an average of 12.
- Continued to develop the Homelessness Prevention Working Group with Council and third sector representation to take forward the preventative activity outlined in the RRTP. The group set up a multi-disciplinary response providing joined up support to Council tenants in rent arrears who are not engaging with their Housing Officer. The group are now working to

update the hospital discharge and prison pathways and a response to the Scottish Government's Youth Homelessness Prevention Pathway is underway.

- Increased prevention activity with the recruitment of 28 additional posts including income maximisation officers working alongside Homelessness Prevention and Housing Options Team staff, dedicated resource for the multi-disciplinary team response, housing assistants, housing officers and a family group decision making officer.
- Since November 2019, our Private Rented Sector Team has prevented 494 households from entering temporary accommodation, resulting in £5.7m of avoided costs.
- 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 1,700 at the end of November 2021.
- We have continued 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 and have a total of 49 rooms.
- We have established a Flexible Purchase System, agreed by Finance and Resources Committee on 7 October 2021. This will allow

us to further increase the supply of suitable temporary accommodation, including Home Share, Community Hosting and self-contained properties.

- 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 Council 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.
- The Council now directly commission the Housing First Service (from October 2021). This service is 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 November 2021, 120 people are in tenancies through Housing First.

Future Work

We will continue to develop prevention activity through the Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme. The recruitment of the 28 posts is now complete and these officers will support the work to intervene at an early stage, maximise income and support people out of temporary accommodation and into permanent settled housing. We will continue to develop the multi-disciplinary team supporting Council tenants at risk of eviction to prevent homelessness and look to identify further opportunities for the team to engage with tenants.

To meet the requirements of the extended Unsuitable Accommodation Order we will continue to work towards increasing the supply of suitable accommodation. This will include increasing the number of self-contained properties provided through the Private Sector Leasing Scheme, increasing the number of home share properties and introducing community hosting. We will take forward actions identified in the RRTP including the commissioning of two new supported accommodation services and investigating the feasibility of building on gap sites for temporary accommodation. Given the scale of challenge in Edinburgh with regards to the Unsuitable Accommodation Order and the ongoing requirement to accommodate all in response to public health requirements we have been unable to effect this from the 1 October 2021 when the extended Order was introduced.

Key measures		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22* (at 30 Nov 2021)	Target
Number of accommodation units	Dispersed Flats Supported Accommodation Hostel B&B Shared Houses	647 198 175 676 0	785 198 176 123 552	1085 214 176 145 629	1481 214 176 457 758	3,070 (inc PSL) 214 169 486* 708*	Increasing trend
Number of families accommodated in B&B		58	21	0	4	20*	0
Number of 16/17 year olds or care leavers accommodated in B&B		13	11	1	0	3*	0
Number of households in B&B		676	123	145	457	486*	Decreasing trend
Average Length of stay in B&B		112.2	115.7	83.8	68.1	61.3 days	Decreasing trend
Number of households assessed as homeless		3,085	3,049	3,288	1,907	1,261 (1,532 at same point in Nov 2020)	Decreasing trend

Notes:

* Of the 486 households in B&Bs, 88 (18%) may have no recourse to public funds.

* Of the 708 households in Shared Houses, 119 (17%) may have no recourse to public funds.

* One of the families in B&Bs has been assessed as homeless, 15 have no recourse to public funds.

* One of the 16-17 years olds in B&Bs has been assessed as homeless.

* 250 of the households in B&Bs have been assessed as homeless.

* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

Commitment 10

Prioritise the use of brownfield sites and work with public sector and private landowners to develop land for affordable housing.

Fully 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 2021 Housing Land Audit and Completions Programme was reported to Planning Committee on 1 December 2021. As at 31 March 2021, there was enough land free of planning constraints and available for development for 22,411 houses. There was also land for a further 8,228 houses on sites where there was a constraint. The effective land supply is varied in type, size and location. It is spread over a range of locations and includes brownfield and greenfield sites.

The Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2022-27 set out a pipeline of 11,118 affordable homes that could be approved for site start and 10,124 potential completions delivered 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 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. Examination of the consultation responses showed 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.

The Proposed City Plan was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021. The Proposed City Plan 2030 builds on previous efforts to direct housing development towards brownfield sites and does not allocate any new greenfield sites for housing land. The land supply is added to by the intensification of use of existing undeveloped greenfield sites and by significant brownfield allocations throughout the city, which provides for a generous housing land supply.

Future Work

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of capacity of units in effective land supply which are on brownfield land	55%	55%	55%	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.

Fully 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. In April 2021, the Scottish Government introduced laws which allow councils

in Scotland to designate all or part of their area as a Short-Term Let Control Area. If councils choose to do this, they must get approval from the Scottish Government.

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. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council is supporting an industry led recovery campaign and working with partners across the city on a resilience, reboot and recovery plan for the sector.

The Proposed City Plan was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021. The Council has continued to try to protect the availability of housing for residents and the new Plan supports the retention of existing dwellings as an important means of meeting housing need.

The Plan proposes the change of use of a residential unit to only be permissible in exceptional circumstances.

Future Work

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

We will continue our support for sustainable recovery in the business and tourism sector throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

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.

Fully Achieved

Background

The Project to develop City Plan 2030 is 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 plan and the Choices for City Plan, consultation document. These were published following review in January 2020.

There is no evidence of a surplus of empty Houses in Multiple Occupation's (HMO) which would justify a conclusion of over provision and research shows that currently there is no ability to control numbers or density within the licensing system. The most recent monitoring data shows

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 were 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 and 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. This came in to force on 18 May 2021. Within such areas, the change of use from a dwelling house to a premises providing a short term let will automatically involve a change of use requiring an application for planning permission. The Council is now exploring its implementation and The Proposed City Plan, which was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021 sets out the requirement to consult on whether a Short

Term Let Control Area should be introduced for the entire City area. The Plan also builds on previous work to protect housing and to try to reverse the increase in the use of residential properties for short-term lets.

Future Work

We are currently reviewing the responses to a city-wide consultation on whether we should introduce a Short-Term Let Control Area for the entire Council area. The proposal will be reviewed and reported to Planning Committee.

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

Commitment 13

Improve planning enforcement to ensure that all developers, large or small, conform to Edinburgh's policies and developer's commitments.

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Fully Achieved

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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 2021 to the end of September 2021, there were 377 enforcement enquiries received and 25 enforcement notices served. The enforcement team continues to focus on short term lets with over 83% of cases closed within their target of 6 months, while 78% of other cases were closed within the 3 months. This equates to 79% 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 though planning agreements. In 2021/22, nearly £23m has been collected from developers for education, transport (including tram) and other infrastructure. The large increase is in part due to a 'roll over' effect from 2020/21, when the pause in construction in the early pandemic meant that developments did not hit their payment thresholds. Construction resumed fairly quickly, resulting in more sites hitting a payment trigger in one monitoring year.

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, including a realigned team structure and a new approach to distributing applications.

Future Work

We continue our work in implementing the Planning Improvement Plan and identifying new ways of working whilst we operate during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key measure	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Q2 21)*	Target
Average no. of weeks to determine non-householder planning applications	14.7	16.8	15.7	13.1*	12.9	12.1*
Developer contributions collected	£5,211,469	£15,346,626	£15,309,750	£7,185,166	£22,963,029	N/A
Enforcement cases resolved within timescales	collected from 18/19	51.5%	50.7%	66.8%	79%	70%

* These figures have been adjusted following annual verification completed by the Scottish Government.

* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

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.

Will Not Be Achieved

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 (ESESCR) partners to the Scottish Government's 'Call for Ideas' on the emerging NPF4 on 18 March 2020 and an interim Regional Spatial Strategy on 14 October 2020. Our response to the Scottish

Government's Position Statement on NPF4 on 3 February 2021 and our response to the Scottish Government proposals for minimum housing land targets for NPF4 were also approved.

The draft NPF4 was published in November 2021 and a response is being prepared to take to Planning Committee in February.

Future Work

We will continue to work with the Scottish Government on all inputs to NPF4.

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.

Fully Achieved

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.

The Council has an ongoing commitment to ensure the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site (WHS) is taken into account in the planning process.

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 report presenting the programme for the revision of the current Plan was reported to Planning Committee on 1 December 2021, with a view to producing a new Plan for 2023, when the current plan ends. National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) funding was secured to support the engagement strategy for the Management Plan review. The objective is to deliver a comprehensive and inclusive programme of engagement to support the development of the Plan. Focus groups were held in September 2021 at the start of the engagement strategy and these will be followed by 'expert' stakeholder workshops, community workshops and an on-line public consultation.

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.

Future Work

Following completion of all stakeholder engagement a draft Management Plan will be produced for public consultation.

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.

Fully 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

£112.5m has been invested in roads over the last five years. 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. The Transport Infrastructure Investment for 2021/22 was reported to Transport and Environment on 15 June 2021.

An additional £6m of roads investment in 2021/22 allowed a greater number of carriageway and footway schemes to be delivered and total investment in roads and pavements is on track to exceed £100m by the end of the year. Work completed in the last year includes improved carriageway and footways on major routes such as Lothian Road, High Street, Maybury Road and the A89.

The independently assessed Road Condition Index improved from 37.1% in 2020/21 to 36.2% in 2021/22, which was a very welcome improvement considering the very cold and wet winter conditions in 2020/21. A full network scan was carried out on Edinburgh's Transport Network in 2020. This has allowed improved asset management through improved mapping of TAMP assets.

Future Work

COVID-19 continues to have an effect on delivery of road maintenance schemes. Although the RCI improved in the last year, Edinburgh will continue to improve the quality of transport network data to allow for better asset management and continued improvement. This will include the roll out of our asset management system to all related service areas.

Key Measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
Road Condition Index	36.4%	36.4%	33.5%	37.1%	36.2%	Continual Improvement
Level of total road investment	£20.747m	£23.485m	£23.000m	£21.343m	£24.000m*	£100m by 2022

* Total sum committed for 2021/22

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Commitment 17

Guarantee 10% of the transport budget on improving cycling in the city.

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 the Council has 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 and completing the conversion of the city's roads to a network of 20mph streets.

The revised Active Travel Investment Programme 2019-2026 (ATINP), reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 14 October 2021 includes over £118m of investment, of which over 80% 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, Roseburn to Union Canal and George Street and First New Town.

Work in the last two years, which has seen disruption due to COVD-19, includes:

- 96 bike racks 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.
- 106 secure cycle parking hangars, with a total of 180 cycle hangars across the city due to be in place by the end of May 2022. These provide space for 1,080 bikes. The scheme has been met with much enthusiasm from residents, with 76% of the spaces filled when the scheme launched. By Autumn 2021, 99.07% of the spaces available were in use.
- 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 had its signage

improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.
- Upgrades to Quiet Routes 6 and 61, including small sections of segregated cycle lane and new controlled crossings for people walking and cycling have been completed. These improvements make crossing several heavily trafficked roads much easier for users of all experience and mobility levels.
- An extensive programme of temporary Spaces for People measures was developed and delivered to assist people to walk, wheel and cycle safely during the pandemic.

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 streets.

Future Work

The Council is continuing to make core parts of the National Cycle Network more accessible by removing and/or altering chicanes and barriers that do not meet current accessibility standards. There will also be a further rollout of dropped kerbs and raised crossing improvements. Work will commence

next year on developing a new bike hire scheme for the city to replace the previous scheme, which ceased to operate in September 2021. Construction work on the City-Centre West-East Link scheme will begin in early 2022, with construction scheduled to 2024. Construction work is also due to commence on the Roseburn to Union Canal Active Travel Route in September 2022, to be completed by October 2023.

Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes will be implemented on a trial basis in Corstorphine and Leith, using Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders, from the summer 2022.

The Council will continue developing other ATINP projects, as well as the Travelling Safely programme and prioritised Transport Actions arising from the Local Development Plan Action Programme.

We are also working, in consultation with others, to produce a new Active Travel Action Plan covering the period to 2030 and to develop and publish further technical factsheets for the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance.

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

*Most up to date data available

Commitment 18

Improve Edinburgh's air quality and reduce carbon emissions. Explore the implementation of Low Emission Zones.

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Fully Achieved

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Background

City-wide sustainability strategy

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. The most up-to-date city data available shows a 40.6% reduction was achieved by 2019.[1] Although significant progress had been made, in recognition of the scale of the climate challenge, we invited the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute to carry out an independent audit of the Council's approach to sustainability. The Council accepted all of the audit's recommendations and agreed a new approach to developing an ambitious sustainability agenda for Edinburgh.

Key Achievements

Following completion of the audit, the Council declared a climate emergency in May 2019 and set a new more challenging target for both the Council and the city, of working towards net zero

emissions by 2030. The 2015-2020 SEAP programme was concluded, and any outstanding activity absorbed into the new sustainability programme. The Council's declaration and commitment to be a net zero city by 2030 has placed sustainability at the centre of strategic and policy discussions.

Early work in support of this new target included mainstreaming the net zero ambition within all city shaping strategies delivered by the Council. Key examples include Edinburgh City Centre Transformation, the City Mobility Plan, City Plan 2030, the City Housing Strategy, as well as the Sustainable Procurement Strategy.

A key programme of work in 2020 and 2021 has been the development of a 2030 Climate Strategy for the city. The Council led the development of the strategy, which was subject to formal consultation over late summer 2021 and attracted

a high level of responses. The 2030 Climate Strategy was approved by the Policy and

Sustainability Committee on 30 November 2021 and endorsed by Edinburgh Partnership Board on 15th December 2021.The strategy is accompanied by a supporting implementation plan setting out deliverables, milestones, timescales, resources, and an approach to measuring outcomes.

The development of the city strategy involved bringing together city partners, made up of the public and private organisations that collectively have the resources and levers necessary to achieve net zero by 2030. Engagement with city partners found a strong appetite for co-production of the strategy. The Council also worked with the Edinburgh Climate Commission to gain members' expertise and input to the development of the 2030 Climate Strategy. The strategy also establishes new governance arrangements which will provide a framework for working with partners to deliver the strategy's aims in recognition of the

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[1] This target has now been superseded by the more challenging target of achieving net zero by 2030, which is measured against 2018/19 levels.

fact that the Council, or any single partners, cannot achieve a net zero city by 2030 acting alone.

A climate change adaptation rapid risk and cost analysis risk assessment for the city is currently underway which will identify most vulnerable areas in the city. Work is being undertaken on assessing flood risk to the city, and a Rapid Vulnerability Assessment of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site is in progress. These will inform the development of further action on adaptation, including collaboration with regional partners.

In April 2021, an approach to monitoring city-wide emissions was approved. We produced the first city-wide emissions progress report in November 2021. This report shows that the city has achieved emissions reductions of 8% between 2018/19 and 2019/20, based on the most up-to-date data available; exceeding the target of 6% for that period.

Edinburgh Climate Commission

To help stimulate city-wide climate action, the Council is co-sponsoring, along with Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, an independent Edinburgh Climate Commission which provides expert advice on how to accelerate city action on climate change. The Commission has developed a City Climate Compact which sets organisational 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.

Council emissions

We have taken several strategic decisions to 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 update 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.

The Council substantially exceeded its previous target of achieving a 42% reduction by 2020/21 compared to a 2005/06 baseline, with a 62% reduction achieved a year early, in 2019/20. This target is now superseded by the more ambitious net zero by 2030 target. Emissions have been falling for the 6th year in a row, with a 66% reduction achieved in 2020/21, mainly due to a large reduction in waste going to landfill, following the facilities at Millerhill becoming fully operational in 2019/20.

A key programme of work in emissions reductions has been the development of the Council Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) approved by Committee on 30 November 2021. This plan represents the Council's strategic approach to reducing its corporate emissions and sets out an initial pathway to net zero by 2030.

Innovative work programmes

The Council worked with the University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Climate Change Institute to develop a Carbon Scenario Tool to help evaluate the projected emissions impact of projects. It is also informing the development of

the Council and the City's future emissions trajectories to 2030.

The Council is also committed to work with communities, Community Councils, Edinburgh's Universities in one of the 20-minute neighbourhood hubs to develop funding bids for local pilots to understand what it would take to become net zero.

Local Air Quality Management – Improving Air quality

Under the Environment Act 1995 and the associated Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) framework duties, Edinburgh 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 latest data for our AQMAs shows trends in concentrations of concerning pollutants are decreasing.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been significant for air quality. Restrictions on travel resulted in a significant drop in NO2 concentrations at almost all locations across the city in 2020 with just one location within the city centre breaching the legal objective. The objectives for fine particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) were not breached, including within the PM10 Salamander Street AQMA for the first year since it was declared in 2017.

Even without the effect of the pandemic, long term trends show concentrations of the main pollutants are decreasing at most locations across the city,

albeit they remain hot spot areas of concern, especially in the Central AQMA.

Main updates regarding the other AQMAs are as follows;

- The Council intends to revoke the Inverleith Row AQMA in 2022/23 due to monitoring showing no breaches of the objectives and modelling predicting future compliance.
- The St John's Road AQMA is being amended to remove the NO2 1-hour objective element, due to improvements in air quality in the area.
- Once the new trams extension is operational and traffic management arrangements are changed for the Leith area in terms of the Low Traffic Neighbourhood, consideration will be given to revoking the Great Junction Street AQMA, due to existing monitoring showing agreement with the statutory objectives for four consecutive years.

Some of the actions taken to improve air quality include:

- The main bus operator Lothian Buses is 94% Euro VI or better bus emission standard and is in line to meet the requirements of proposed Low Emission Zone Scheme
- The Council's fleet has increased the proportion of Euro 6/VI to 60%
- the Council has approved a Business Case for the installation of on-street EV charging infrastructure which will strengthen the existing network.
- the Council uses its licensing powers to start removing older polluting vehicles from taxi and private hire car fleets. By 2023 taxis and

private hire cars must comply with a minimum euro 6 standard and as at 31 March 2020 significant progress has been made by operators with approximately 60% of the fleet already meeting that standard.

Low Emission Zone

The Council is committed to implementation of a Low Emission Zone in the City by May 2022, working alongside the Scottish Government, the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Transport Scotland and the other main Scottish cities to ensure LEZs are introduced across Scotland. The Zone is a City Centre based boundary which focuses on the significant air quality problems in the Central AQMA. A grace period is proposed prior to enforcement beginning in 2024.

International recognition

In 2020 and 2021, the City was awarded the maximum of six badges through the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy scheme, recognising its climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. We also participated in the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) for the first time in 2020. CDP is an international non-profit organisation for environmental reporting. Edinburgh is one of 95 global cities on the CDP 2021 A-List; meaning it has been recognized by CDP as a city that is taking bold leadership on environmental action and transparency.

Future Work

Work to deliver the aims of the 2030 Climate Strategy is already underway. 2022 will see the

establishment of a new governance framework to support delivery of the strategy's actions, as detailed in its implementation plan. Key strategic priorities which will be taken forward include:

- Unlocking and accelerating energy efficiency in homes and buildings;
- Enabling the development of a citywide programme of heat and energy generation and distribution infrastructure;
- Accelerating the decarbonisation of public transport;
- Renewing the focus on climate resilience and accelerating adaptation of the city;
- Supporting citizen empowerment, behaviour change and community activism;
- Supporting business transition and the green economy; and
- Collaborating to develop a citywide programme of green investment proposals.

The Council and Scottish Government are collaborating to develop a pipeline of investment ready opportunities to support the Councils net-zero commitments. This work will continue in 2022 and involve consolidating projects to achieve scale, aligning projects to strategic priorities, and identifying routes to suitable investment.

The outcomes of the adaptation work being carried out by the Council and city and the development of an East of Scotland regional risk assessment business case will inform the development of the city's next adaptation plan.

Progress on the 2030 Climate Strategy priorities will be reported in line with annual reporting on the City's 2030 target. Council and city-wide

emissions will continue to be reported through CDP and the Public Climate Change Duties Report. The CERP will be periodically reviewed and refined as more projects are scoped.

The Scottish Government and DEFRA will consider the Council's intension to revoke the Inverleith AQMA, under the Local Air Quality Management regime. If supported, the process of revocation will commence in 2022. The Transport and Environment Committee will consider the Low Emission Zone scheme for approval in early 2022. A period of statutory publication will be required thereafter. Subject to these processes, the aim for implementation of the LEZ is May 2022, in conjunction with Scottish Government's Programme for Government amended commitment (2017/18) and alongside the other main Scottish Cities.

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%	40.6%	Superseded	42% by 2020*
Total city's emissions – All greenhouse gases (MtCO2e)	2.721	2.595	2.427	2.243	*Data available Autumn 2022*	Net 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

*Figures above refer to City of Edinburgh emissions. By 2020/21, Council emissions had reduced by 66% from 2005 baseline.

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.

Partially 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.

Key Achievements

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. The most recent Scottish Household Survey data released for 2019 also showed that satisfaction with public transport was significantly higher in Edinburgh at 88% than the Scottish average of 68%.

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 offering an additional interchange with the trams. Lothian Buses has created new routes serving West Lothian using their sister company, Lothian Country. These services travel through West Edinburgh and offer greater choice and additional buses on the main east and west corridors.

Further public transport changes and actions to reduce congestion are included in the West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal and are being taken forward as part of the wider improvements to West Edinburgh Infrastructure. A Public Transport Improvement Study was carried out to monitor congestion levels and to identify where the improvements were needed. Congestion checks have been carried out by council officers and bus operators to ensure the additional bus lanes that have been implemented on the A8, A89 and A90 remain effective.

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 regularly to the Transport and Environment Committee.

The developer responsible for new housing on Wellflats Road in Kirkliston is required to undertake a comprehensive upgrade of traffic signals to improve traffic flow at that busy junction.

In June 2021 partners were awarded £3.03m as an initial tranche of funding from Transport Scotland for the Bus Transport Partnership Fund. The initial funding award targets delivery of 'Quick Win' measures and appraisal work to support the development business cases. The award offer is be split as follows:

- £1.450m for the delivery of Quick Win measures (over 2021/22 & 2022/23)
- £1.400m for the development of a South East Region Strategic Appraisal and Outline Business Cases
- £0.180m to support a full time Programme Manager for three years.

Future Work

Further funding is expected to be released by Transport Scotland following the delivery of the Appraisal and Business Case works and the successful progression of an associated gateway review process.

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.

<div style="text-align:right">

Will not be achieved

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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 running of the city's transport network for all users and all modes of transport. The service has been designed to regulate activity, undertake both statutory and targeted inspections of road works and reinstatements, co-ordinate the network and take enforcement action where required. A Network and Enforcement Management Improvement Plan has been created to take forward the specific Roads Improvement Plan actions for this new service. The service coordinates all works and road occupations on the city's network, ensuring any potential conflicts are mitigated through the Citywide Traffic Management Group, at which all planned works are approved, and at regular Traffic Management Review Panels for major projects.

The service works closely with all utilities regarding their planned works and with the requirements of the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner to effectively manage and co-ordinate all works on the city's network and their inspection work is essential to ensuring that Public Utilities fulfil all specifications and any Performance Improvement Notices are issued. All operators, including the Council, in the

city are under scrutiny when planning and coordinating their works. The service continues to have oversight of all Temporary Traffic Management on the city's network and regularly meets with Public Utilities, Traffic Management contractors and Council services to mitigate any potential issues which could arise in Edinburgh.

The latest report on the performance of Public Utility Companies was reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 11 November 2021. Following the guidance from the Scottish Government, most Utility operations were suspended during 2020/21. Only emergency repairs and telecommunications work was allowed to be undertaken, which also had an effect on the number of inspections that the council were able to undertake.

Future Work

Regular updates on the Network Enforcement Management Plan and the Public Utility Companies are reported to the Transport and Environment Committee.

Commitment 21

Retain Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram in public ownership.

Fully Achieved

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. The City of Edinburgh Council is the sole (100%) shareholder of Transport for Edinburgh. Transport for Edinburgh holds the Council's shareholding for Lothian Buses (91%) and Edinburgh Trams (100%).

Key Achievements

Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram remain in public ownership. The decision to continue discussions on governance reform of the

Transport Arms Length External Organisations was agreed at Transport and Environment Committee in November 2020. The proposed changes to the governance arrangements do not affect the public ownership position.

The conclusions of a short life working group, set up to review the current arrangements through engagement with key stakeholders were reported to Transport and Environment Committee in August 2021. This set out the preferred way forward which is designed to achieve a truly multi-modal approach. It also includes making no changes in the transport services or branding of existing Council owned public transport

companies. A project team is now being created to take this forward and to work with the existing bus and tram boards to establish phased transition arrangements. An outline transition plan will be created, identifying key deliverables and timescales.

Future Work

Updates will be provided to the Transport and Environment Committee as implementation of the new governance arrangements progress.

We will continue to ensure that Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram are retained in public ownership.

Commitment 22

Deliver the tram extension to Newhaven by 2022 after reviewing the business case and delivery plan to ensure they are robust.

<div style="text-align:right">**Partially Achieved**</div>

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 to 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 the tram extension started 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 included COVID-19 safety measures including; 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.

Since the tram works began:

- Over £2.4m of funding is being provided to support local business via a series of measures intended to maintain the accessibility, vibrancy and desirability of the affected streets, and support businesses experiencing hardship as a result of the construction works.
- Completion of 85% of the known utility diversions and excavation of almost 4,000 metres of road to enable the installation of tram infrastructure.
- Installation of 2,800 (62%) metres of track, over half of the total to be laid.
- Installation of over 3,000 metres of communications infrastructure, 67% of the total required for the project.
- Installation of over 3,500 metres of power ducting and over 2,800 metres of drainage infrastructure.

- Sold over £170,000 worth of itison vouchers to use in local businesses.
- Assisted with almost 6,000 deliveries from the logistic hubs.
- Completed the major civils work on two tram stops at McDonald Road and Ocean Terminal.
- Support for local initiatives through the community benefits workstream including Leith Chooses, Leith Gives and the One City Trust.

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 mitigate this delay and take new physical distancing working guidelines into account, alongside other challenges relating to materials and labour supply, the programme has been reviewed and updated. Despite these significant challenges, construction continues to progress with an expected completion of autumn/winter 2022. This will be followed by testing and commissioning, with Trams to Newhaven on track to be operational 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.

Partially 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 routing system for household waste collections and more recently litter bins.

Since 2020 the service has been significantly affected by COVID-19 which meant there was a need to reprioritise services during that period.

Key Achievements

The service 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 which unfortunately reflects

the national trend during this period. A full analysis of the data has indicated that in Edinburgh this is primarily due to the prevalence of domestic waste in high density residential areas.

A pilot bulky item collection service was being developed with The Remakery to encourage the reuse of materials. However, they were not able to deliver this to the scale required and a different approach is now being considered. A local partner could not be identified and it is planned to carry out a wider scale market testing.

The service has worked with SHRUB over several years to target the dumping of reusable items from student accommodation at the end of term in Marchmont and this work restarted in summer 2021 (there was no collection in 2020 as the universities were closed for the pandemic). This means that small items are diverted for reuse in the student and wider community rather than contribute to overflowing communal bins

Waste and Cleansing worked with Hubbub and Changeworks and over the winter 2019/20 piloted segregated recycling points to recycle plastic bottles, cans and coffee cups in the city centre. 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. The campaign continued at a reduced level (as a result of COVID-19 restrictions) during 2020, was expanded again in summer 2021, and 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, looking at waste prevention, recycling and litter in the round with the aim to better embed learned behaviours. This work remains suspended at present due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions but Changeworks have developed a digital focussed approach to allow work to recommence.

Following a review of the Environmental Wardens and Waste Compliance Teams, a single service has been established called the Street Enforcement Team which focuses 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 is to increase enforcement action in response to offences relating to littering, domestic and trade waste presentation and disposal, fly-tipping, tables/chairs permits and abandoned vehicles. However, this work has been affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

During 2020, the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown saw 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. This picture has continued nationally into 2021 with a reduction in environmental quality across Scotland, and the Scottish Government has launched a consultation on a new Litter and Fly-tipping Strategy.

A campaign was developed to encourage use of bins in parks and other public areas which ran

during summer 2020 and summer 2021. The service is continuing to promote issues using the Scotland Is Stunning Campaign, with a localised identity.

The service continues to support community groups and individuals organising clean-ups by providing clean up kits and removing the litter that has been collected by them.

The street cleansing service has recently introduced a new routing system for the servicing of litter bins across the city. Data on bin locations and required frequency of collections, along with other parameters, has been used to build daily routes across Edinburgh. All litter bins are now serviced by mini Refuse Collection Vehicles (7.5 or 12 tonne) with the aim of maximising servicing capacity and minimising manual handling by staff.

Crews now have in-cab devices which provide details of their daily route. The device records when a bin was serviced and, going forward, the crew will have the ability to report any issues with the servicing of the bins (eg report a bin has been damaged, report a bin could not be accessed).

Future Work

The LEAMS criteria used by authorities to assess cleanliness has been reviewed following the publication of a revised Code of Practice and is about to be replaced by a new Litter Monitoring System (LMS). The Code clarifies organisational responsibilities, supports more effective

cleanliness standards and a proactive approach to litter prevention. The updated LMS monitoring system will now be implemented fully from 2022/23. All streets and public open spaces have been rezoned (where these are under Council control) and a map showing these has been published online.

All litter bins have been rerouted using the updated software which will improve the reliability of this service and the data will be monitored and reviewed to ensure routes are efficient as possible. It will also allow the team to collect data to ensure collection frequencies are correct and ensure the right bins are in the right locations for public use. This work will be complemented by the expanded use of "fill level" sensors as part of the SmartCity project, which will allow the service to be more responsive to particular sites which fill up more quickly than anticipated.

A full review of the communal bin collection service is being implemented 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 was reprofiled to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions so that development work was brought forward and on-site implementation started in autumn 2021.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22* (to Nov 21)	Target
Reduction in communal bin service requests	15,155	21,868	17,004	19,484	13,638	22,020
Reduction in individual domestic bin service requests	22,853	33,621	17,690	19,887	15,971	21,180
Incidences of dumping and fly tipping	5,928	8,855	9,297	11,329	8,796	Decreasing trend
LEAMS – street cleanliness index	88.7%	92.0%	92.9%	81.8%	Not available	95%

* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

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Commitment 24

Reduce the incidence of dog fouling on Edinburgh's streets and public parks.

Fully 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 has decreased from 2,590 in 2017/18 to 655 in the first 8 months of 2021/22. Over the same period, the number of fixed penalty notices given for dog fouling incidents has decreased from 17 to 3. Dog fouling reports from members of the public have decreased year-on-year, as has the percentage of

sites where dog fouling is present. This is measured through the site visits carried out by Keep Scotland Beautiful as part of their LEAMS audits.

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 the continued COVID-19 restrictions and is currently largely reactive, however this will be kept under review 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 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 the future in conjunction with the Love Your River campaign to tackle upstream sources of pollution.

Future Work

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, including dog fouling.

* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Nov 2021)	Target
Fixed penalty notices for dog fouling	17	22	9	0	3	Increase reporting, decrease incidents
Dog fouling service requests	2,590	2,250	1,712	1,362	655	Increase reporting, decrease incidents

Commitment 25

Increase recycling to 60% from 46% during the lifetime of the administration.

<div align="right">Will Not Be Achieved</div>

Background

The Council's Recycling Strategy, published in 2010 aimed to deliver an overall recycling rate of 60% by 2017. This was comprised of 50% being delivered through sorting of waste at source, with an additional 10% being delivered through residual waste 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, which means that recycling of metals, etc at the treatment plant are not currently being included in the calculation of the "official" recycling rate in Scotland (but are still being recycled). The change in these assumptions was reported to Committee in 2018 as part of the review of the waste management strategy, but no new targets were set as a result of further legislative changes which were foreseen and are referred to below in "Next Steps".

Key Achievements

A report outlining the progress to date on rhe Council's 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.

During the lifetime of the Council's current recycling strategy, recycling rates initially increased from 30.4% to 42.6%. Recycling rates have reduced gradually since, though 2020/21 was affected by the suspension of some services at the start of the year as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions.

There are a number of projects in place which aim to increase recycling rates and these 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 usually 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 and Edinburgh's use of landfill is one of the lowest in Scotland in percentage terms.

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 what is collected for both waste and recycling.

The Zero Waste Leith project 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.

The Waste and Cleansing service commissioned Changeworks to carry out and develop focussed interventions around food waste in specific communities during 2021. Food waste accounts for approximately one third of the waste thrown away in domestic bins, both in Edinburgh and nationally and is a significant contributor to climate change.

Work is ongoing to optimise the use of recycling facilities within schools. This work has been led by the Waste and Cleansing Service but supported by Facilities Management and Communities and Families staff who are responsible for how waste in schools is managed.

Future Work

Following the conclusion of pilots, notably in the

Albert Street area, the service has commenced the implementation of the Communal Bin Review which will involve the redesign of the existing waste and recycling communal bin services across the city. This is being supported by a £7.7m grant award from Zero Waste Scotland. 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 has now commenced following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. The timeline has been reprofiled to take account of the delays related to the pandemic.

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 continue to monitor performance closely.

This service area is facing a number of significant legislative changes over the next five years. These are likely to significantly change the composition of the waste and the shape of collection services. Once the detail and impact of these changes are known new targets will then be set for recycling rates.

These include:

- 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. As of November 2021, this this has been delayed in Scotland but is still is still expected to be implemented during the life of the current parliament.
- Extended producer responsibility legislation for packaging waste is expected to be phased in between 2023 and 2027 (this is led by the UK Government and the timeline is less clear).
- The Waste Framework Directive will alter the responsibilities of Councils for the collection of specific materials including organic waste and textiles, but the detailed legal and operational implications of these changes are not currently known.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Nov 2021)	Target
Percentage of Waste Recycled	42.6%	41.1%	41.1%	39.6%	43.1%	60% by 2022

* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

Commitment 26

Improve parking for residents by expanding provision of park and rides for commuters.

Background

Actions to improve usage within existing Park and Ride sites are contained within the Local Transport Strategy (LTS) 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

The LTS has now been updated with the adoption of the new City Mobility Plan. This includes the Policy Measure (*MOVEMENT 9 Regional Interchanges*) to investigate opportunities to expand existing and create new strategically placed transport hubs on the edge of the city where people travelling into Edinburgh can switch to or between public transport and active travel. These interchanges will include facilities to support sustainable travel.

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. We have concluded our project to increase the provision of shared use parking places across the city and we have introduced parking charges on Sundays across the central parking zones 1-4. We have also recently advertised Traffic Regulation Orders for new Controlled Parking Zones in the Leith and Gorgie areas of the city as part of the Council's Strategic review of Parking with the aim of reporting back to Committee in March 2022.

Future Work

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on public transport demand. Patronage numbers have fallen dramatically and are not recovering quickly. During the pandemic a number of bus priority measures have been implemented in order to ensure public transport remains available and an attractive option, with reduced journey times and improved reliability.

This work has been carried forward into a region wide bid for Scottish Government funding through the Bus Partnership Fund. Through this bid, the Council was awarded funding to undertake a strategic review of bus corridors and priority improvement measures. Park and Ride provision and bus priority opportunities on the corridors serving the sites will be included in this review and should lead to further funding for implementation. The review is a significant piece of work that will look at Edinburgh in its context of sub-regional economy that extends north (to Fife), west (to West Lothian and Falkirk), east (to East Lothian) and south (to Midlothian and the Scottish Borders). Strengthening cross border public transport services will be key to tackling the environmental and economic impacts of significant in-commuting into Edinburgh.

The Council will continue to work with regional partners and neighbouring local authorities to coordinate spatial planning and transport at a regional level to support public transport provision across the region. Further consideration of Park and Ride provision will also be included within Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 (STPR2), City Plan 2030 and the West Edinburgh Spatial Study.

Commitment 27

Tackle pavement parking and reduce street clutter to improve accessibility.

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 Council has always supported a change in legislation that would allow action to be taken against vehicles parked on pavements. This change in legislation has now been approved and we await the regulation guidance. Actions being taken forward through the Parking Action Plan such as the introduction of shared-use parking and visitor permits aim to discourage pavement parking.

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 Council's 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.

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.

Signage has been improved along most of the National Cycle Network within Edinburgh to make the network more accessible to all path users. The Quiet Route of Fishwives' Causeway also had its signage improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.

The Spaces for People programme has now transitioned to Travelling Safely and the measures that have been approved for retention are going through an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order process.

Future Work

The Council has commissioned a review of our streets to identify where footway parking currently takes place, so we can consider our approach. However, we are still waiting for the regulations from the Scottish Government which has been delayed and are now expected to be announced in early 2022.

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.

Partially 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. Construction of three new primary schools (Canaan Lane Primary School, Frogston Primary School, St. John's RC Primary School, replacement Victoria PS), one special school (replacement St Crispin's Special School) and a replacement secondary school (Castlebrae HS) has commenced and the new buildings are due to be completed by March 2022. Construction has also commenced on the Wave 4 replacement school projects of Trinity Academy and Wester Hailes High School. Completion of all these projects has been delayed until 2022 due to the ongoing and significant implications of COVID-19. Design for 3 further primary schools, another three replacement secondary school projects and the construction of

three significant secondary extension projects has commenced. The first of the primary schools in this phase is due to be completed in 2023 and the first new secondary school by 2024, although these may also be delayed due to the wider implications of the pandemic.

Following full estate survey completion in September 2017, a five-year rolling resurvey programme continues to be implemented. The original full survey programme had informed the scope of a £124m five year capital upgrade programme approved by Council in <u>February 2018</u>. 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 (AMW) programme which had a budget of £18.5m in 2018/19, £30m in 2019/20, £30m in 2020/21, £25.5m in 2021/22 and £20.45m in 2022/23 to invest in improving the condition of our operational properties and to catch-up on the backlog of maintenance works. Focus to date has been primarily on school buildings. Now approaching the end of the fourth year of the five-year programme of targeted investment, the Council

has achieved actual spends of £21.326m in 2018/19, £48.547m in 2019/20, £14.517m in 2020/21 and to end November 2021 the 2021/22 spend is £17.728m and with a projected 2021/22 year-end spend of £22.5m. Despite the 2020/21 and to a lesser extent the 2021/22 spends being impacted by COVID-19, the overall five-year programme scheduled spend is ahead of schedule. Up to end November 2021, approximately £102 million or 82% of the 5-year programme budget has been expended with 73% 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 well ahead of the planned schedule.

In 2021/22, 91 Education and Children's Services properties/buildings with a total Gross Internal Area (GIA) of 110,117m2 are scheduled to be surveyed between April 2021 to end March 2022. These consist of 4 High Schools, 39 Primary Schools, 16 Nursery & Early Year Centres, 7 Special Schools, 20 ancillary buildings such as stores and 2 school houses adding to the 221 education buildings surveyed between October 2017 to end March 2021.

Future Work

The Learning Estate team will continue to lead on the delivery of the Education and Children's Services capital programme. Full programme implications of COVID-19 are still to be provided by contractors however the estimated delay for every project is now in the range of 12-18 months.

While COVID-19 has delayed the asset upgrade programme in 2020/21 and 2021/22, performance was so exceptional in the first two years of the programme that we remain on schedule to meet the overall five-year programme targets.

The main challenge for the AMW programme in 2022/23 will be to find capital funding and then to deliver Net Zero Carbon and sustainability improvements in future buildings retrofitting works to achieve the Council's Net Zero Carbon targets. The AMW programme has been identified as the most appropriate delivery programme to deliver Net Zero Carbon and sustainability targets as part of an 'EnerPHit' (retrofitting to a comfort, quality and energy standard) approach for future Council building retrofits.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of new schools where construction has commenced	0	2	5	7	Construction commenced for 2 secondary schools and 10 primary schools by 2021.
Percentage of conditions surveys completed	100%	100%	100%	90%	2020/21 surveys delayed due to Covid-19 (18,121m2) fully caught up in 2021/22. Of the 2021/22 planned surveys, 89.9% surveyed at end Nov 2021 against annual 125,646m2 planned.

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.

Key Achievements

Almost all primary schools are delivering Language 2 (L2) progressively and all secondary schools are providing full or partial L2 to pupils, with 87% offering full L2 entitlement, against a national figure of 70%. 73% of schools are offering full Language 3 provision, against a national figure of 64%.

The focus has been on ensuring robust, sustainable, progressive models in place for Language 2 across the Broad General Education and for planning for Language 3 models appropriate to local contexts. This is supported by the Education Authority Improvement Plan and 'One plus Two Approach' language plan.

Data is used to target support and has resulted in improved leadership and support for Languages 1+2 in schools and learning communities, more robust curriculum models, increased engagement with Curriculum Languages Professional Learning (CLPL) and greater collaboration and consistency across schools and learning communities.

The Team around Languages has worked closely with colleagues across education services to ensure alignment with the vision and aims of Edinburgh Learns for Life. The team now comprises a Quality Improvement Officer and a full-time Development Officer, supported by a Lead Teacher for secondary and an active network of Lead Teachers in primary schools. There is close collaboration with colleagues in the regional South-East Improvement Collaborative to enhance the CLPL offer and broaden the professional network and there is a professional learning suite of opportunities tailored to local need and national requirements available for schools. There is also enhanced partnership working with universities and colleges to strengthen links, giving opportunities to broaden the languages curriculum and enhance learner experience.

Music tuition is a key deliverable within the Lifelong Service Plan. During 2018/19 the new Youth Music Initiative (YMI) provision for Primary 2s resulted in an overall increase in the number of pupils learning music through these programmes. YMI resources for Early Years and Primary continue to be well used and are supported by a programme of Career Long Professional Learning for staff.

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.

Both the YMI and the IMS have been impacted significantly by Covid-19. YMI programmes had to be re-timetabled several times throughout 2020/21, however despite this, when permitted, uptake in schools has been high with feedback extremely positive.

Pupils learning through IMS benefitted from £60k worth of new instruments as part of a hugely successful partnership between IMS and the Edinburgh International Festival. This has helped support pupils who cannot afford an instrument to benefit from lessons, as well as helping overcome restrictions on sharing instruments between pupils, and thus helping recover numbers.

'Raising Aspirations in Science Education' (RAiSE) developed a partnership with the Further Education sector through the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) Inspiration Experience working party. RAiSE has collaborated with the college to ensure their coursework for upper primary is mapped to the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) experiences, outcomes and benchmarks. The RAiSE programme provided funding for a two-year period which ended in December 2018, however, funding was sourced to

create an Assistant Development Officer (ADO) post to ensure networks and training continued until June 2020.

The ADO has delivered effective CLPL for "STEM Developers" (primary practitioners) and also developed materials for "Putting the M in STEM" with Education Scotland as well as hosting regular STEM "meet ups". The ADO has also continued to work with the University of Edinburgh on outreach events.

In autumn 2019 the Scottish Government made funds available for school and Local Authority bids to promote STEM and the council had seven successful bids: this included authority development work on primary mathematics as well as school-based collaboration in science, technology and mathematics. Education Scotland funding enabled the appointment of a STEM Development Officer (DO) from October 2021-

March 2023 to work across the South East Improvement Collaborative.

Future Work

Targeted support with L2 and L3 provision will continue including resources for Heritage Languages and support for schools to embed teaching and learning in L3. A cross-sector Language Ambassador framework will be developed to support schools to broaden the scope of these programmes to include the full range of languages used and studied by our pupils.

Next steps are to support pupils in school-based bands to gain the skills and confidence to join citywide groups. The new YMI tutor team will develop lessons, resources and opportunities to showcase musical learning to parents and carers as permitted by guidance. With a new team of

tutors in post, plans to continue delivery in schools from January to June should see the target number of learners for this 2021/22 academic year achieved. Plans to remove charging for all IMS lessons across Scotland continue to be developed and Edinburgh will liaise with Scottish Government and finance colleagues to ensure a fair settlement for Edinburgh that impacts positively on a service that has always been free for all pupils.

Following a Validated Self-Evaluation across the city the Raising Attainment in Mathematics Report was drafted in March 2020 the final version of this report will be shared with schools and relevant partners. The STEM DO will support the development of wider networks of practitioners and support settings to work towards elements of STEM Nation Award.

Key measures	2016/17*	2017/18*	2018/19*	2019/20*	2020/21*	Target
% of Primary Schools delivering Language 2 progressively	Collected from 17/18	90%	97%	98%	98% (64% full, 35% partial)	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	15,687	21,000 by 20/21
% of children achieving expected CfE level for numeracy by Primary 7	75.6%	78.2%	81.0%	Not available	78.1%	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.

Fully Achieved

Background

The council aims to ensure that all pupils achieve the best possible physical and emotional wellbeing and education outcomes.

Key Achievements

A target of 50 additional classroom assistants and support staff during the administration period was set and this was achieved by school session 2019/20. The recruitment of Pupil Support Assistants (PSA) is ongoing and the numbers of classroom assistants and support staff continues to increase.

For session 2021/22, we now have a total of 677 full-time equivalent (FTE) Pupil Support Assistants (93FTE more than the initial figure) and 23FTE additional Pupil Support Officers in post in specialist provisions, which is in addition to core posts funded from school budgets.

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.

We have growing numbers of Pupil Support Officers (PSO) contributing to the Wellbeing Academies. In total we now have around 45 primary and 38 secondary staff, and training has also been provided for outreach staff and third-sector colleagues. We have successfully implemented a model of online Wellbeing Academy training since Autumn 2020. We have an additional 35 staff currently signed up for the course or are working through it.

Additionally, we have invested in additional support staff in seven Enhanced Support Bases and nine Wellbeing Hubs in mainstream secondary schools over the course of this session. We are planning to extend these provisions further, with all 23 mainstream secondary schools now either having Wellbeing Hub supports in place or the funding allocated in order to enable them to do so.

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 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. In addition to this, all of 23 Learning Communities now have access to targeted mental health supports for children and young people from P6-S6, with 19 learning communities with counsellors and four with access to Place 2 Be.

Future Work

We will continue to deploy the additional Scottish Government funding for mental health supports to provide targeted support for children and young people, including those who require supports outside of the school setting. We will also further explore bespoke approaches to mental health support for young people with more complex additional support needs.

We will continue to roll out the Wellbeing Hubs across all mainstream Secondary Schools, with a concomitant increase in support staff who trained in Low Intensity Anxiety Management approaches.

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

* measure, to be developed, is now around Inclusive practice induction training

Commitment 31

Expand training opportunities for adults and young people linking with colleges and expanding vocational education.

<div style="text-align: right;">**Partially Achieved**</div>

Background

We work with 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, with representatives from education sectors 3-18, Skills Development Scotland, Edinburgh College and Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Regional partners, ensures that the Career Education Standard is embedded across all schools and that the Youth Employment strategy milestones are achieved.

The recruitment of DYW Coordinators across all secondary schools has improved employer engagement with schools. This has been delivered in partnership with the DYW Employer Board and the coordinators are currently developing work-based learning projects to improve engagement with local employers for young people who are either about to leave or are choosing pathway options. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, it has been possible to provide some work placements, in particular those linked to qualifications, such as

Foundation Apprenticeships and employability awards. A number of 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 (SCP) offer is a co-constructed programme for young people with pathways at a range of SCQF Levels offering alternative routes to employment. Such as the Council's Children and Young People programme provides a valuable pathway to our Childcare Modern Apprenticeships. All young people engaged in the SCP have been provided with an on-campus offer this session and we hope this will continue to build momentum for interest in these courses. Edinburgh College continues to guarantee to offer of a place to all school pupils who apply.

The Hub for Success is a partnership between Edinburgh's Colleges and Universities and the Council which aims to improve the number of young people gaining access to, and successfully completing, their chosen education placements. The Through Care After Care Services run a Job Club

with colleagues from Skills Development Scotland to support our care experienced young people.

The most recent December Participation Measure shows currently 96.8% of 16-17 year olds in Edinburgh City are in education, employment or training and personal development compared to the national 95.4%.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the priority for Adult Education was to maintain contact with existing vulnerable learners and to support those who wished to continue learning and address their learning needs. Following a citywide adult literacies learner survey, blended learning options were developed. An application was made to Connecting Scotland for digital devices for learners and some staff members undertook training to enable them to become Digital Champions and offer more support to learners. Microsoft Teams training sessions were developed and delivered for LLDOs, sessional staff and volunteers to upskill and prepare them for running online literacy group sessions. Learners accessed various online learning to develop digital confidence and skills. For learners who were unable to access online learning weekly communication by other methods such as phone and email continued.

As part of the blended learning approach accredited learning opportunities were available with 7 learners

successfully involved in an Adult Achievement Awards Level 6 pilot project and 41 learners achieved SQA qualifications.

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 universities and colleges to provide skills development in housing, construction, renewables, and digital sectors.

The HCI Skills Gateway has supported Edinburgh College to deliver 'Design Engineer Construct' qualifications to school pupils within Edinburgh (57 learners in 2020-21), as well as upskilling short courses on key sustainable construction themes including Waste in the Circular Economy (Level 4, 364 learners to date in 2021-22). HCI has also worked with Edinburgh College to develop the new 'Creative Thinking' qualification, led by 'Daydream Believers', with 200 pilot students' learning showcased at COP26.

Under DDI Skills Gateway, an extensive programme of CPD has been provided for teachers and lecturers, sharing expertise across the region's colleges and universities. School pupils have also had opportunities to engage in a series of Live Lessons aimed at developing data literacy skills. Big data components have been introduced to many HNC and HND courses at Edinburgh College and a range of bespoke courses are being offered to targeted learners, including harder to reach groups. One example is a data skills progression route for SCQF level 3 to 6 through a partnership between Edinburgh College and Access Data. Four courses

have been designed to support this pathway with a focus on leaners entering a mainstream college course on exit of the final course. A data skills grant scheme run by The Data Lab also offers adult learners the chance to develop data literacy skills delivered across a range of training providers.

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.

Future Work

We recognise the impact of COVID-19 on the positive destinations of young people and so we will continue to adapt our expanding vocational education offer to address this ongoing impact.

The 16+ Network across all schools will continue to collaborate with 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 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 council 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. For those most at risk, the Youth Employment Partnership is responding to the impact of COVID-19 is working with Edinburgh Guarantee to revise the Activity Agreement programme so a more sustained case managed approach is embedded.

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.

Plans to offer blended learning opportunities with the addition of face to face learning in venues where feasible from September 2021 continue to be developed. To support this an Adult Learning Risk Assessment was developed and approved and Return to Adult Learning sessions delivered for sessional staff and volunteers while health and safety guidelines were produced for learners.

Limited access to centres and social distancing resulted in fewer and smaller groups running. However, from January 22 plans are underway to deliver more face to face provision with several organisations e.g. Freshstart and the Job Centre.

The IRES Skills Gateways and Integrated Employer Engagement programme continues to develop. Through the DDI Skills Gateway, Edinburgh College will deliver the Professional Development Award (PDA) in Data Science from January 2022.

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	1,693	5,200 (for 2021/22)

Commitment 32

Double free early learning and child care provision, providing 1140 hours a year for all 3 and 4 year olds and vulnerable 2 year olds by 2020.

Fully Achieved

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 revised the implementation date for delivery of 1,140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare from August 2020 to 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. This involved both local authority settings and partner providers. To support the delivery of the programme a workforce development plan was created. This programme was on track to be delivered by August 2020.

Overall feedback from settings involved in phasing in the expansion was positive. As well as supporting the development and learning needs of the children, parents and carers are reporting the positive impact on family life and household income opportunities through access to work and training.

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.

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on how early years services could be delivered so the Scottish Government extended the timescale for providing 1140 hours to August 2021.

The duty on local authorities to secure 1140 hours funded ELC for all eligible children has been in effect since 1st August 2021, which is the revised implementation date, and Edinburgh is now fully delivering this statutory requirement.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
% of Early Years settings providing 1140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare	29%	51%	55%	75%	100%	100% by Aug 2021
% of eligible 2-year olds accessing 1140 hours	12%	26%	75%	80%	100%*	100% by Aug 2021

* all eligible 2s with a place have access to 1140 hours

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.

Partially Achieved

Background

The council's 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

Flexible options were set out in the [Early Learning and Childcare Strategy](#) reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2017. A variety of delivery models are now available for parents across the city e.g. forest kindergarten, childminder, full year or term time settings though parents may need to travel to access their preferred model.

Consultation with parents and carers regarding the delivery of funded early learning and childcare and key aspects of the early years' service was carried out in November 2021. The findings of the survey will help inform how we develop the provision of early years services in Edinburgh to take account of and reflect on local needs of children and their families. We will also undertake a review the 1140 placement models of delivery for session 2022/23 to increase flexibility and choice for parents.

Over 200 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.

We have a team of 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 deprivation (i.e. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation - SIMD deciles 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,

numeracy and health and wellbeing through play based approaches 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 and this increased to 16 by August 2021 and is expected to be 20 by January 2022. 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 support for learning staff, set realistic objectives to improve practice and experiences for children in the setting.

All applications by parents to defer their child's P1 place for August 2021 were granted. This commitment will also be available to parents for session 2022-23 until the Scottish Government make this a statutory right for parents from August 2023. The cost of the deferrals for sessions 2021-2023.

22 and 2022-23 will be met through Council funding.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
% of Early Years settings providing more than one option of early learning and childcare for parents	45%	64%	70%	75%	100%	100% by Aug 2020
% of Primary 1 pupils living in the most deprived areas achieving expected literacy level	62%	63%	Not available*	59%	Not available**	Increase by 5% by session 20/21

no Achievement of Level survey undertaken in 2020

** *not available until summer 2022*

Commitment 34

Prioritise services for vulnerable children and families and looked after children, and support organisations working to end domestic abuse.

Partially Achieved

Background

The council has 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, effective multi-agency working and our restorative and strengths-based practice approach is reducing the numbers of children who need to be Looked After or are subject to child protection procedures. The rates of children being Looked After and placed on the Child Protection Register are now at their lowest levels for at least 15 years.

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.

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.

The partnership with the voluntary sector and the Council for Voluntary Service Edinburgh (EVOC) has continued to develop with the leadership of the Covid Task Force, the Local Operational Groups (LOGs) meeting in each Locality and the formation of a child protection network with EVOC representatives.

Child protection services and services for looked after children have continued to operate effectively during COVID-19 lockdown and we 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.

The Corporate Parenting Action Plan was endorsed by full council on 18 February 2021 and co-ordinator has been recruited to facilitate the implementation of the action plan, support the Participation Officers and contribute to the implementation of the Promise across the Edinburgh Children's Partnership.

The Council funds four specialist services supporting victims/survivors of domestic abuse: Edinburgh Women's Aid, Shakti Women's Aid, Foursquare – Keymoves and Aditi. The four organisations benefit from ongoing support by the dedicated commissioning officer who carries out bi-monthly monitoring meetings and who can provide support and guidance as and when needed.

Other organisations operating in Edinburgh supporting victims/survivors of domestic abuse who are not directly funded by the council are invited to join the Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee ('ESEC' - formerly the Edinburgh Violence Against Women Partnership). The ESEC is a multi-agency partnership of senior staff members in both statutory and voluntary organisations operating in Edinburgh that monitors the delivery of the four key Equally Safe Priorities in the City. The partnership has a strategic function in ensuring positive communication, collaboration and consistency in service provision across the city, and it provides resources to partners to ensure that this is achieved. Resources can include shared guidance and

protocols, information, support and representation in local and national fora.

Domestic abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) organisations in Edinburgh are also offered the opportunity to attend free training provided by the council on a range of topics relevant to their work.

All domestic abuse organisations operating in Edinburgh are able to refer to the Edinburgh Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC). MARAC meetings take place monthly, and they are chaired by either Edinburgh Women's Aid, Police Scotland or Criminal Justice Social Work. The MARAC provides a process for domestic abuse organisations to highlight escalating risks against victims/survivors of domestic abuse and to

ensure that additional support is put in place to enhance their safety.

The Domestic Abuse Housing Policy was approved at Policy and Sustainability Committee on 14 May 2020.

Future Work

We continue to risk assess all areas of service delivery and we will continue to ensure that we undertake our key duties including Child protection processes using the learning of the last two years.

The Council's Quality Assurance and Compliance team has also been working on the creation and implementation of Domestic Abuse Local Action Groups (DALAG). This pilot project is expected to be implemented in 2022 and it is intended to

provide support to victims/survivors of domestic abuse who are not currently accessing services and who are not meeting the risk threshold for a referral to MARAC.

It is also expected that in 2022 the new Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Bill will come into effect, after becoming an Act in May 2021. This will have significant implications for service delivery across Edinburgh both for statutory partners as well as domestic abuse organisations. The Access to Housing and Support Services Lead Officer will work closely with the ESEC Lead Officer to prepare for this upcoming legislation.

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.
No of women and children supported in a year by domestic abuse services	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

Libraries

Over the last five years, the use of digital downloads to access library services such as e-books, e-magazines and e-newspapers continued to increase with 2.49 million downloads for the first 11 months of 2021.

COVID-19 lockdown led to libraries closing, but the 24/7 online and e-services remained available and were promoted to citizens via social and other media with all digital services seeing a significant increase in use. Edinburgh Libraries received the award from PressReader for Most Newspapers Read Online

Worldwide in 2020 (1,905,386 issues from 2,155 unique titles) and further investment in digital resources and services is planned.

Libraries are working with the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) in administering the Connecting Scotland community programme. This Scottish Government programme, set up in response to coronavirus, gifts iPads, Chromebooks, connectivity and digital support to individuals to enable digital skills development. This programme focuses on supporting those facing digital exclusion, economic hardship, social exclusion due to underlying health conditions and/or special characteristics and working families with multiple school age children with no access to personal devices. From April 2020 – Dec 2021, three phases of Connecting Scotland and a related Winter Support Package, have resulted in over 1000 devices being gifted to individuals in Edinburgh.

Edinburgh Libraries' website was tailored to reflect lockdown with signposting, links and e-resources specifically targeted to reflect home-schooling, indoor activities, combatting loneliness and poverty. These resources continue to be well-used and are refreshed regularly.

Visits to libraries reduced, from 2.74 million in 2019/20 to 14,820 in 2020/21 as libraries were forced to closed due to COVID-19 lockdown. At this time, Edinburgh Libraries applied a fines amnesty.

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, and quiz nights.

Each year Edinburgh Libraries deliver the Summer Reading Challenge encouraging young children to continue reading over the holidays. In 2021 this was delivered solely online.

During 2021/22 libraries have gradually re-opened in line with public health guidance but with significantly reduced visitor capacity (less than 10% of normal capacity). Use of the People's Network (public access PCs) demonstrates the critical lifeline that physical access to libraries provides; since re-opening libraries in May 2021 there have been 11,452 pc bookings.

During restrictions, 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. Libraries continued to support digital

inclusion through free access to Wi-Fi while buildings were closed – this provision covers Children's Homes in Edinburgh. With the resumption of access to libraries and if social distancing remains at 1m, the Get Online programme is planned for returning to a 1 to 1 physical basis from early 2022.

Throughout the pandemic, a regular Digital Learning Newsletter has been sent to all Library staff to offer learning opportunities and encourage colleagues to improve their digital skills and knowledge - both for personal development but also so staff can support library users to develop their digital skills.

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 allows library customers to borrow, return and renew items using their own smart device (phone, tablet).

Community Centres

Following the closure of Community Centres during COVID-19 restrictions, the majority have been supported to reopen so that Management Committees, Lifelong Learning, third sector and partner organised groups and events can restart. This has involved extensive collaborative working between Council officers and Management Committees to address health and fire safety issues and make the use of centres as safe as possible for staff, volunteers and the local community as they

reopen. Lifelong Learning Services Managers have worked with Management Committees supporting them to ensure appropriate paperwork is in place so groups can resume and provided information and support they need to address the specific health and safety aspects Management Committees are responsible for.

Future Work

Edinburgh Libraries have been awarded £33,000 by Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) as part of the Scottish Government's Covid Funding Support for the No Going Back project. This is a large-scale youth engagement exercise to ask how young people view the library service and how it can adapt to better meet their needs. Funded workshops and other engagement and consultation techniques using the YouthTalk process will be arranged.

Plans are in place to refresh the current People's Network (public access to PCs, internet and printing); which will upgrade the hardware and software and futureproof the Network for several years. In response to customer need, this will include wireless printing which will also provide an opportunity to generate income. This work is expected to be completed by June 2022.

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.

Business cases have been prepared and submitted for consideration to replace two fundamental IT systems: one for a renewed Library Management System (LMS) and the other for provision of self-service kiosks to supplement the self-service provision available via Library App.

As part of the COVID-19 hardship fund from Scottish Government, libraries have received funding for two projects: one pilot project working with Library Access Services, WRVS volunteers and Library Link customers to use their devices to read for pleasure and another working with Get Online customers and Digital Champions to support digital skills development to support employability and combat poverty.

Edinburgh Library staff are exploring what the new Scottish public library strategy which advocates the abolition of fines means for Edinburgh and looking at how we could move this forward.

The Lifelong Learning Service and Business Support will continue to work closely with Management Committees to develop community centre activity programmes and to follow Scottish Government guidance on reducing COVID-19 transmission, creating as safe an environment as possible for volunteers, staff and all building users.

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   ** impact of library closures due to COVID-19

Commitment 36

Support the continued development of Gaelic Medium Education.

Background

The Council are committed to working in partnership with Gaelic communities, 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

Governance: Enhanced governance of Gaelic education through two new groups: a Strategic Sub-Group to support Gaelic language education across Edinburgh and a Gaelic Learning Strategy Steering Group to support the Gaelic Language Implementation Plan (GLIP). These groups expand the team supporting Gaelic Education to include Council colleagues from Finance, Policy and Insight, Edinburgh Learns and Community Learning and Development Team, as well as partners from

Scottish Government, Education Scotland, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Moray House.

Early Years: The Council's provision for 0-3 years, Cròileagan, has been cited as an excellent model and is attracting interest from colleagues elsewhere in Scotland. Groups ran successfully on-line and outdoors until Scottish Government guidance allowed for a return to indoor groups in October 2021. In accordance with the wishes of service users, we continue to run outdoor sessions.

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 and BnaG.

Initial contact has been made with colleagues in Perth and Kinross to share practice, explore possible collaborative projects and expand resources available to families (e.g. Bookbug sessions).

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. Oganan are

now a partner provider for EY and work with our nursery at TnaP to offer 1,140 hours provision.

Primary Education: The primary team have continued to deliver GME to pupils, despite acute challenges with staffing and accommodation experienced during the pandemic. Pupils and families have been given additional support with Gaelic language acquisition to mitigate some of the impact of school closures on skills and confidence. Our new full-time, permanent Head Teacher (HT) took up post at the beginning of this session, and other staff have moved into promoted posts in the past months. This supports our drive to develop a full, stable staff team and to encourage colleagues to develop as leaders, as part of workforce planning for future expansion of the service.

Responding to concerns from staff, pupils and parents, Scottish Government funding has been secured to carry out improvements on acoustics in key learning spaces. Additional capital funding has also been secured to refurbish part of the school for 0-3 and general use.

Secondary Education: There has been a significant expansion of the GME Secondary provision based at the James Gillespie's High School:

- the majority of the S1 cohort now receive 9 of

their subjects through the medium of Gaelic.

- S1 now receive Key Adult Time in Gaelic.
- the use of Gaelic has increased across the school, both in terms of the amount of time pupils spend being immersed in the language, and the opportunities for staff to communicate in Gaelic.
- We now have a Curriculum Lead in place, which means that we can roll out the offer of GLE to other schools.

Work is ongoing to support the expansion of secondary provision, including collaboration with colleagues in other Scottish local authorities and in Wales to consider immersive models of provision.

GME Expansion

Although the pandemic has stalled the rate of progress, during 2021 we have completed an informal consultation process on GME expansion and developed Statutory Consultation proposals. On 7 December 2021 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a draft Statutory Consultation paper including two options for the future delivery of secondary GME education in Edinburgh, the creation of two new GME primary units (with appropriate catchment areas) in the south east and west of Edinburgh and confirmation of the placement policy for GME in the city should be brought forward for consideration by the Committee in January 2022.

Cultural Activities/Promotion of GME

The appointment of a Corporate Gaelic Development Officer on a fixed-term basis has been highly effective in driving and embedding action across the scope of the plan. This has established

and consolidated partnership work to link education, culture and economy. This post ended on 29th October 2021. Funding for a new post was secured and successfully recruited to in November 2021.

Future Work

Governance: The strategic groups will continue to support the work of colleagues in schools and in other service areas as we move forward with plans for improvement and expansion, with a planned schedule for reporting to senior leadership and committee.

Early Years: Recruitment is underway for a Gaelic Medium Education (GME) Early Years Development Officer and additional Playgroup Leaders. This post will allow us to expand provision of 0-3 groups to match pre-COVID-19 service and extend our reach across the city. Partnership with other local authority colleagues will be strengthened. Additional nursery EY provision forms part of our general plans for expansion of GME.

Primary Education: We will conduct a learner-led consultation on curriculum reform and design to support plans for expansion and improvement of the service. Primary staff have been surveyed for their Gaelic language learning needs which will inform the design of learning for the remainder of this session. We will continue to support teaching and support staff to participate in internal and external professional development opportunities focussed on Gaelic language and immersive pedagogy, as well as leadership and supporting pupils with additional needs. Work on improving acoustics and refurbishing the Old Janitor's House will be on-going. Refurbishment work has a provisional completion date of October 2021.

Secondary Education: In August 2022 GME provision is scheduled to move to our Darroch annex. We will aim to manage transition strategically to avoid excessive loss of time for staff and students as they travel between the two campus. This will involve an increase in team capacity, with the addition of a Deputy Head Teacher, a second Curriculum Lead and additional teaching and support staff from August 2022 and further staff in subsequent years. To achieve the necessary increase in capacity we plan to:

- Work with GTCS colleagues to identify and support existing local teachers keen to transition into GME
- Continue to engage with opportunities to fund Gaelic Immersion opportunities for existing staff and CEC secondary teachers in other settings who are well-placed to upskill in Gaelic language
- Support probationers in schools
- Work with other LA colleagues to build a Gaelic Language Assistant role
- Work with national working groups to explore enrichment opportunities for the GME Senior Phase
- Pursue Modern Apprenticeship opportunities for senior pupils, linking with our Early Years and Childcare provision.

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 Local Authorities 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.

Cultural Activities/Promotion of GME: The new Capital Gaelic project started in November seeks to work with stakeholders across Edinburgh to identify opportunities, share knowledge and expertise, and

shape a vision for the future of Gaelic in Edinburgh. Future plans 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 the promotion of GME as an option for families.

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.

Fully Achieved

Background

Since 2016, work has been underway across Scotland to integrate health and social care services in line with the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) directs the council 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).

Key Achievements

The EIJB's Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2022 details how health and social care services are developed and delivered. The EIJB's Strategic Plan set out a Transformation Programme with a number of projects that would change the way people were supported in their own homes. At the IJB meeting on 21 July 2020 a rescheduled Transformation Programme was approved to reflect the impact of COVID-19, organised around the Three Conversations approach.

The roll-out of Three Conversations continues, with more innovation sites engaging with people in this way and roll-out to localities underway. This approach has reduced the time people wait to see a worker and identified supports that can be put in place to enable independence within the community with less need for formal support. It is anticipated that all locality teams will be using the Three Conversations approach by March 2022. A number of other teams, such as the Young Adults with Disabilities Team, Residential Review Team and those providing rehabilitation for people who have suffered a stroke are also using the approach.

The Home First approach is helping to avoid the need for hospital admissions and supporting people to get home as quickly as possible once it is safe for them to do so. In response to COVID-19, the Home First programme has accelerated over the last year with a focus on Discharge to Assess, Home First navigators at acute sites and the redesign of urgent care to best improve how people can be supported at home instead of in hospital. The EHSCP aims to embed the Home First ethos, with a dedicated staff team, into business as usual by March 2023.

EHSCP have undertaken extensive engagement with the public and key stakeholders to define the 'Edinburgh Wellbeing Pact' a reciprocal agreement between the Partnership and everyone who lives and works in Edinburgh. The Pact invites citizens, staff and partners to contribute to realising a shared vision and working towards an ambition to create healthy communities, empowered by local services and organisations that support people to prevent crisis and manage their health and personal independence at home. EHSCP is now moving to enactment of the Wellbeing Pact through a 3-year community mobilisation and commissioning plan. The plan, which was approved by the EIJB in April 2021, will see the development of more collaborative, partnership approaches to supporting community sector organisations, including the roll-out of community-based approaches to commissioning to replace traditional grants programmes.

Future Work

Given the pressures being felt across the health and social care sector as the pandemic continues, the EIJB agreed at their meeting on 26 October 2021 to pause the development of a replacement to the Strategic Plan 2019-2022. This work will be continued in 2022 to develop a new Strategic Plan to reflect evolving priorities with a better understanding of the emerging context of whole system recovery and reform.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	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) *(as end March)*	57%	57%	57%	60%	No new data	60% by Apr 2019
Late discharge from hospital (as end March)	291	150	136	122	Not available	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	No new data	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.

Background

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) directs the council 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

In response to both short and long-term capacity challenges for care at home support, the EHSCP launched the Sustainable Community Support Programme in October 2018, with a targeted rate uplift scheme for providers. This incentivised increased recruitment and collaborative working with the EHSCP with providers committed to delivering sustainable growth, through recruitment and lower staff turnover.

As part of the Home Based Care project in the Transformation Programme, EHSCP engaged, and continue to engage, 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. The option to extend the current Care at Home contract to the end of September 2021 was exercised in December 2019. This gave stability to providers and the EHSCP, however, as the pandemic continued and the care crisis increased, it was agreed to further extend the timelines to allow providers space to manage their day to day activity within the current system pressures. The contract has now been extended to March 2023. In addition to this, some key terms of the contract were amended to enhance stability for people receiving care who may be admitted to hospital and their service temporarily put on hold. The improved relationships between providers and the EHSCP had a positive impact on the number of people in both hospital, and the community, waiting for care in their own home. These benefits have been achieved through improved coordination and matching of need to the available capacity within both the external and internal

services. In February 2020, the Contracts Team in the EHSCP developed an enhanced process to engage with new providers, this would have helped utilise new capacity as it became available, however, the impact of COVID-19 was felt shortly thereafter.

Despite COVID-19 affecting volume of care, care at home continued to be delivered during the year to everyone who required support. Capacity continues to increase with combined provision of internal and externally commissioned care at home providing around 120,000 hours per week on average between April and September 2021. This excludes provision arranged by Direct Payments and Individual Service Funds. This compares with the provision of just under 90,000 hours per week at the end of March 2017. This reflects a rise in the number of hours provided of around a third over the period, while the number of service users increased by less than 10%.

Winter pressures affect capacity for care at home support every year but these have exacerbated in 2021, as a result of increased staff absence and shortages due to the pandemic and the UK's exit from the EU. Combined, this has resulted in more people waiting for care over the winter period,

despite the increase in provision that has been seen.

The Assistive Technology Enabled Care (ATEC 24) service, which uses technology to help people live safely in their homes for as long as possible, also continues to grow. This is a hosted service which operates on a Lothian-wide basis. The importance of this service has been highlighted during the pandemic when it has been more difficult to physically visit those in need of support. In 2020/21, 1,200 new telecare installations were completed. Our telecare service responded to 550,000 alarm calls, with 11,500 emergency intervention visits.

Future Work

EHSCP will continue to engage with providers on the development of the new Care at Home contract to support a 'One Edinburgh' approach. The contract is expected to be in place by spring 2023. The partnership is also working to implement the Total Mobile scheduling system across the internal home care service to generate additional capacity.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	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) *(as end March)*	57%	57%	57%	60%	No new data	60% by Apr 2019
Number of people waiting for a package of care *(as end March)*	988	480	636	408	Not available	Decreasing trend
Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that they are supported to live as independently as possible *(every 2 years)*	79%	every 2 years	68%*	every 2 years	No new data	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.

Partially Achieved

Background

We are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our citizens.

Key Achievements

A key component of Edinburgh Learns published in 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.

Many of our staff were deployed into schools to provide a range of targeted support to pupils. Substantial resources and guidance were developed to forward plan and support the delivery of activity. It was reported that the Sport & Outdoor Learning team staff reached over 11,000 pupils during this time.

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 to 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 development opportunities to over 300 young people.

Next steps

Due to the COVID-19 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.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Attendance at sport and leisure facilities (Edinburgh Leisure)	4,471,704	4,338,251	4,147,842*	675,000	4,500,000
Number of young people participating in sport, physical activity and outdoor learning (includes Active Schools Programme)	24,086	27,015	28,971	** see below	25,800 (18/19)

March 2020 impacted by COVID-19

** No dedicated direct provision from the Sport & Outdoor Learning Unit due to the pandemic. Alternatively, staff were deployed in schools to deliver targeted sport, physical activity and outdoor learning activity. Additionally, some staff time was allocated developing resources and guidance to facilitate self-led activity.

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.

<div align="right">

Fully Achieved

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Background

Mental illness is one of the major public health challenges in Scotland, with around one in three people estimated to be affected by mental illness in any one year. In December 2018, the Scottish Government set out its [Delivery Plan](#) for Mental Health, which acknowledges that support for mental health needs to be focussed on prevention and speedy treatment. Thrive Edinburgh is a comprehensive Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and is the mental health stream of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) Strategic Plan. It has six workstreams; building resilient communities, a place to live; getting help when needed; rights based care; closing inequalities gap; meeting treatment gaps. These workstreams aim to reduce the toll of mental illness; promote and protect mental health; and improve resilience, self-esteem, family strength, and joy.

Key Achievements

The EHSCP is continuing to work with community partners to *Change the Conversation; Change the Culture* and raise the profile of mental health. The Thrive Edinburgh website was established in 2020 and the Thrive News Bulletin is circulated to over

900 individuals and organisations. In 2019 and 2021, Thrive Edinburgh conferences were held along with Thrive Fest. To support the use of evidence and data to drive change, four user led research programmes continue to feed into service redesign and planning and the Thrive Exchange, a community of practice around research, launched in 2020.

Building resilient communities is key to improving mental health. The *Out of Sight, Out of Mind* art exhibition returned for its ninth year in 2021. Thrive Edinburgh continues to work on closing the inequality gap through initiatives such as *Outlook Programme, Capital City Partnership, Fit for Work, and The Works Activate Programme*.

The commissioning of Supported Living Services and Visiting Support Services are underway through the Wayfinder pathway. This pathway has seen a shift the balance of care to community provision with 26 additional highly supported tenancies. Co-production on a new framework agreement with providers to ensure cross sector flexible and coordinated support was undertaken.

In addressing the treatment gap, stakeholder events have developed the Edinburgh Thrive Redesign Urgent Care Plan to support the

provision of care to those in crisis. Thrive Welcome Teams, which are integrated, multidisciplinary public and third sector teams in the community to support mental health and wellbeing, were successfully prototyped in North West Edinburgh in 2020 and have now been rolled out in each of the four localities. New Thrive Collective Services, including Thrive Locality Teams, safe spaces for people to connect, and activities to maximise physical activity and the use of green spaces, commenced in December 2020, with an annual value of £2.8m.

Future Work

Thrive Edinburgh is now well established, and work will continue beyond March 2022 to support and extend the valuable initiatives outlined above. EHSCP will also continue to progress work on the Edinburgh Thrive Redesign Urgent Care Plan, including developing an implementation plan and considering out of hours crisis response. Work is continuing with NHS Lothian to reduce the waiting lists for psychological therapies which have increased over the pandemic, including ensuring that there is a clear pathway between Thrive Welcome Teams and Psychology Services for people who require formal psychological therapy.

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.

Partially Achieved

Background

As set out in the [Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2022-27](#), the majority of new build homes 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. Over 8,300 affordable homes have been approved during the first four years of this commitment, and over 4,600 affordable homes have been completed. The Scottish Government has committed to reviewing the guidance on housing for varying needs with consultation expected to commence in 2022.

Around 11% of the homes to be approved over the next 5 years will be specifically designed to meet the needs of people with more specialist needs; including fully wheelchair accessible developments as well as homes for veterans.

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 Council.

Key Achievements

Between 2017/18 and 2020/21 around £2.4m was spent on adaptations to Council homes and in 2020/21, around £1.74m was spent on adaptations to all homes. This service has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions. The teams in housing and health and social care are working through priority cases with a focus on outstanding requests for ramps and wet floor showers.

In August 2019, the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) approved its Strategic Plan 2019-22. It is a statutory requirement for IJB strategic plans to have a Housing Contribution Statement. This 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 build programme and the new build programmes of RSL partners. In March 2021 the Council's Finance and Resources Committee gave approval for the Council to purchase the Liberton Hospital site for affordable housing-led development. This provides a major opportunity for housing and health and social care partners to work together to develop innovative solutions to meet specific needs.

Future Work

The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership's next Strategic Plan will include joint housing and health and social care commitments and priorities, which have been discussed at the Edinburgh Affordable Housing Partnership Health and Social Care Sub Group and the EIJB Strategic Planning Group.

The Housing Service has commissioned an Accessible Housing Study to estimate the current and future requirements for adapted and accessible housing. The study includes engagement and consultation with partners, stakeholders and households 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.

The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Transformation Programme workstream on housing/infrastructure has been delayed as other projects were prioritised for the COVID-19 response and ongoing system pressures. This workstream includes a review of adaptations, including the application process, customer journey and resources needed for housing adaptations, that will be progressed in 2022.

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.

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 with build completion expected to be before the end of the 2021/22 financial year.

Future Work

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 in Spring 2022.

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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.

Fully Achieved

Background

The park maintenance programme sets out the improvement work required to maintain our parks. Protection of the parks is established in the Open Space Strategy 2021. The parks are assessed through annual Park Quality Assessments.

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 resumed in 2021 following their temporary suspension in 2020 due to COVID-19. Of the 141 parks quality assessed in 2021, and 1,792 issues were identified. Arising from those issues, a total of 423 recommendations were put forward for site managers to implement before the next assessment in 2022.

Six parks achieved 'Grade A' status (Starbank Park, Easter Craiglockhart Hill, Pentland Hills Regional Park, Seven Acre Park, Figgate Park and Hermitage of Braid/Blackford Hill) with another seven only two points away. The results also showed that 25 parks (18%) moved up a grade whilst 106 parks (75%) stayed the same and ten parks (7%) dropped a grade from 2019.

Green Flag Award assessments by Keep Scotland Beautiful took place in 2021 with Bloomiehall Park achieving a Green Flag Award for the first time, bringing the total number of Green Flag Award parks in Edinburgh to 35 (there are a total of 77 awards across Scotland). Corstorphine Walled Garden also successfully retained its Green Flag Community Award.

Our ability to plant trees was impacted by COVID-19, however since 2017/18 over 44,000 trees have been planted, significantly surpassing the commitment to plant an additional 1,000 trees.

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.

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.

Future Work

A Green Flag Group Award Peer Review is due to take place in early 2022.

Further tree planting is planned for Autumn/Winter 2021/22, with a continued focus on replanting street tree gaps and implementation of the Edinburgh Million Tree Initiative.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
Green flag status	30	32	32	34	35	35
New Parks Quality Assessment standard	76%	84%	88%	Not carried out in 2020	94%	92%
Number of additional trees planted	11,800	19,865	10,411*	267*	7,100	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	13 large events in total, 8 in Premier Parks	Hold number of events to maximum permitted (36 across 9 Parks)

This data has been updated to include additional tree planting programmes that were recorded after previous reporting

Commitment 44

Increase allotment provision and support and expand the network and the number of community gardens and food growing initiatives.

Fully Achieved

Background

Our third strategy 'Cultivating Communities - A Growing Success' establishes a 10-year strategic framework for allotment development in Edinburgh, which supports the requirements in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Four key objectives are defined within the strategy:

- Ensure adequate provision of allotments
- Develop a robust management system for allotment
- Improve the allotment customer experience
- Adoption of revised allotment regulations.

Key Achievements

New Allotment Regulations to regulate the allotments managed by the City of Edinburgh Council were approved by the Culture and Communities Committee on the 15 June 2021. This was developed following Scottish Government guidance and consultees included the city's allotmenteers, the Federations of Edinburgh District Allotments and Gardens Associations and the Scottish Allotment Gardens Society.

In 2021/22 a new allotment was opened at Newcraighall adding a further 26 allotment plots to the Council's stock and Biodiversity areas have been developed at Baronscourt and Stenhouse Allotments.

Improvements to existing sites have also been made. The Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund was used to purchase composting shredders for Warriston and West Main allotments. These will enable the recycling of green waste and curtail the use of bonfires. The fund has also supported the introduction of water harvesting equipment at Warriston, Saughton, Ferry Road and Claremount Park Allotments. The Parks Infrastructure Capital Programme has funded the replacement of 290 metres of security fencing at Warriston Allotment which is expected to be completed by February 2022.

Although the number of sites and plots has increased over the last 5 years, the number of those on 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 COVID-19 pandemic.

Edinburgh's first Food Growing Strategy was developed in 2020/21. It has 3 key objectives which are to grow more food in the city, increase consumption of locally grown food and increase awareness. An interactive map of all food growing sites in Edinburgh has been added to the council's website.

Future Work

2022/23 will see the completion of an extension to Leith Links Allotment and it is anticipated that following the success of a consultation exercise, funding to convert a second unused bowling green at Victoria Park to an allotment will become available. The recent closure of Prestonfield Bowling Club gives an opportunity to develop the green as an allotment facility and a community engagement exercise will gauge support for this development.

As detailed in the City Plan 2030, areas of ground at Clerwood Walled Garden, Gypsy Brae, Fernieside Recreation Ground and Little France Park offer the potential for allotments and Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust will continue to support the Council to encourage groups to form to develop these sites. Improvements to existing sites will also be made and this includes the Redhall Allotment which is currently being assessed.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	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	1,969 plots across 47 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)	5,658 people on the waiting list (November 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.

Fully Achieved

Background

Edinburgh is well recognised as an affluent and growing city. However, it 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.

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

Agreement for the creation of a Child Poverty Action Unit was given at the Culture and Communities Committee on 11 September 2018. The **Child Poverty Group** is a partnership group which has:

- built on existing partnerships and reporting arrangements to co-ordinate Council and partner action to address Child Poverty,

- identified Council leads for the development and publication of annual Local Child Poverty Action Reports (LCPAR, published in June 2019, and December 2020),

- liaised 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' programmes and worked to identify families with school age children living in temporary homeless accommodation as key responses to tackling child poverty,

- established a Network of Networks across sectors that meets regularly to hear from people with lived experience; examine the issues from different perspectives; discuss and propose ways forward; and break down silos between departments and sectors,

- continues to identify actions across Schools and Lifelong Learning and provides an update to each Education Children and Families Committee,

- incorporated the statutory annual LCPAR into the End Poverty Annual Progress report into a single report for Policy and Sustainability and Education Children and Families Committees and Scottish Government.

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 developing further. These include the '1 in 5 Project', 'Discover!' and Maximise! Actions related to employability and supporting families living in poverty continue to be developed.

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.

Finally, a review of the Council's report template was carried out in 2019. The review resulted in a strengthening of 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.

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.

Fully 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 festivals and events important to the retention of the city's reputation and events 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 again 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. The Platforms for Creative Excellence Programme, a funding partnership with the Scottish Government and the festivals, continued into its fourth (of five) year ensuring related festivals community, practitioner skills development and programming activity in the city.

Related activity which can be implemented under COVID-19 restrictions ensures clear focus on opportunities for residents who are practitioners,

artists and participants. Three substantial Project Funding programmes have been retained, and two more one-off programmes were delivered, one for local festivals and events, and one supporting creative practitioners throughout the city. The latter was delivered in a partnership with Edinburgh Performing Arts and Development, and Creative Edinburgh. Our positive connection with creative freelancers has developed substantially, and the support, facilitation and partnership offered by the Council has been widely acknowledged in the sector.

A public consultation to explore options for Christmas and Hogmanay activity has concluded, and the findings will directly inform the shape of Winter Festivals in the future. Primarily, the residents of the city wish to retain both Christmas and Hogmanay activities in the city and centre.

A third year of the city's multi-cultural event was delivered live in 2021, and the intention is to retain the event in the city's festivals calendar.

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. Feedback has been very positive, and event and performance outcomes regularly reported. The post will be made permanent going forward.

A report is expected by the end of 2021/22 on progress in developing an arts-based community hub network for events, exhibition and performances. We are also working towards a refreshed Citywide Culture Plan.

The Culture Service is actively working with the Granton Redevelopment Programme and continues to build on partnerships moving forward including the Gasometer project and embedded artists evolving into events and activities informing site planning.

Several projects are underway to increase the number of workspaces for artists and craftspeople. The recently purchased property at 20 West Shore Road in Granton has been leased to Edinburgh Palette and they are working on bringing artists space to the building. Finance and Resources Committee approved the lease of the building at Granton Station following its refurbishment to WASPS with an expected start date of June 2022. Powderhall Stable block is also being refurbished to create studio space and we will shortly market to

secure an operator to take a lease when the works are complete. During the COVID-19 pandemic business support in the form of rental assistance has been provided to tenants to help maintain their businesses.

Future Work

Preservation of funding and infrastructure to support the retention and recovery of the sector is fundamental to the continued work of the Cultural Strategy Service. Networking and collaborative work with arts-based community hubs will further develop over the next year.

The refresh of the Culture Plan will ensure the continuation of a citywide partnership approach to festivals and events and the culture and creative sectors more widely.

Commitment 47

Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.

Partially Achieved

Background

Building on the Council's 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 for Edinburgh) by means of participatory budgeting.

Key Achievements

Development of Participatory Budgeting (PB) framework

A PB Framework has now been approved to support the development of a programme of activity across the Council. This framework sets out the principles underpinning the Council's proposed approach and how PB coverage will be extended to include mainstreaming and commissioning activity.

The approach recognises the flexibility provided by the Scottish Government in defining PB and

focuses upon the importance of deliberative dialogue with communities in shaping and influencing the decision-making process. This builds upon the current approach to PB, such as the format of £eith Chooses, whilst recognising that the precise form of this deliberative dialogue needs to be tailored to a wider mainstreaming and commissioning environment.

2021/22 activity

In recent years, most of the housing estates investment has been delivered through Neighbourhood Environmental Projects (NEPs), with the key focus of capital investment being in existing and new-build homes.

Given the nature of the deliberative dialogue (consistent with the Council's PB framework) underpinning the identification and formulation of this year's projects, total PB-related spend in this area of £2.569m is anticipated in 2021/22.

This sum is in addition to the £0.049m of planned expenditure through the £eith Chooses project in 2021/22. Taken together, this £2.618m of spend through PB represents a sum equal to 0.32% of the 1% target for 2021/22.

Future Work

Building on current practice and developing new PB projects in key areas 2022/23 onwards.

The precise extent of the budget scope to be guided through PB activity over the medium term still requires to be quantified and will form part of on-going development across all Council services, with the detail of the proposed programme for the coming year brought to the Finance and Resources Committee on 3 March 2022 for consideration. It is anticipated, however, that this programme will show significant further progress towards the 1% target.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (estimated)	Target
% of annual discretionary budget allocated through participatory budgeting	0.03%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	0.32%	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.

Fully Achieved

Transient Visitor Levy

Key Achievements

Edinburgh has a strong tourist economy that has been growing year on year. The city needs to raise long term secure income, if it is to sustainably invest in tourism and manage the impact of a successful tourist economy in the future.

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.

Future Work

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 residents and the tourism economy.

Workplace Parking Levy

Key Achievements

An amendment to the Transport (Scotland) Bill granting enabling powers to Councils over a Workplace Parking Levy (WPL) scheme was added and agreed to with the Bill becoming the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019. An

Edinburgh workplace parking survey was completed at the end of 2019/20 and it's results reported to Committee in November 2020. This will inform future work related to the further consideration of a WPL in Edinburgh.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the regulations and guidance supporting the WPL scheme was delayed. In September 2021 we submitted evidence to help Transport Scotland develop the Regulations and Guidance for a WPL in 2021. Transport Scotland published their findings in December 2021.

Future Work

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.

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Commitment 49

Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.

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.

Future Work

While an indicative increase of 3% has been assumed for 2022/23, this assumption will be kept under review taking into account the longer-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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.

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Fully Achieved

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Background

The Administration has retained the political policy of no compulsory redundancies during this Council and the presumption in favour of in-house service provision.

Key Achievements

The political commitment of no compulsory redundancy remains in place and is fully adhered to by all Council 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.

Future Work

To continue to apply this political commitment and ensure that organisational reviews are undertaken in line with the Council's approved Managing Change Policy.

Where appropriate opportunities exist for services to be provided in-house, these will be considered Best Value duty.

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.

Partially Achieved

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 launch of Community Safety Strategy (2020-2023). This focuses on three priority themes:
  - Noise and ASB
  - Young People and Offending
  - Digital and Online ASB

Key achievements, under each priority theme, have been taken forward including:

- **Noise and Antisocial Behaviour (ASB)** - Mediation has been further embedded under Family and Household Support, with the service adapting its primary face to face practices in response to Covid to include both telephone and digital mediation; providing a more accessible service.
- A revised ASB procedure was ratified by the Council in April 2021, providing structure around standards associated with screening and allocation decisions, communication and review, and consolidating case management.
- **Young People and Offending** – Trauma Informed training levels 1 and 2 have been rolled out to key frontline services including Children's Practices and Homelessness Services.
- Contextual safeguarding practices are being further developed through Child Protection with links into community safety through Stronger Edinburgh.
- **Digital and Online ASB** – Child Protection training including internet safety and staying safe online is being provided to teachers over a three-year cycle.
- A compulsory digital learning module on keeping children safe online has been introduced for all school staff.

- Teacher training on digital resilience and safety is further strengthened under the [Empowered Learning Project](#).
- A digital safety page has been created on both the orb and the Council's external website to provide signposting information for both staff and the public.
- Partnership working with dedicated community police remains a key strength in the approach and response to ASB offending and community safety.
- 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'. Preventative actions include diversionary activities for young people, organising community clear upss, supporting the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's educational input on firework/bonfire safety in schools, carrying out dedicated joint patrols in hot spot areas providing safety advice and public reassurance, and delivering a social media campaign on the potential dangers posed by bonfires.

- 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) 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. An Information Sharing Protocol between Police Scotland and the Council, allows the RJ service to contact the victim of the hate crime offence. Police Scotland continue to provide victims of hate crime with information about RJ and obtains explicit consent for the Council's RJ service to contact them.

- Structured Deferred Sentences (SDS) have been offered to individuals since August 2021. SDS offers tailored interventions for unmet needs, risk taking behaviour, decision making and victim impact; addressing the underlying causes of offending and supporting desistence to keep communities safe.
- A new Edinburgh and Midlothian Offending Recovery and Support Service (EMORSS) has been implemented to assist individuals at key transition points in the justice system, and to support their integration into the community after a custodial sentence.
- As an extension to welfare checks for individuals in custody, an arrest referral service has been developed in Edinburgh Sheriff Court. This is to ensure the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalised in society are supported, helping to prevent further offending.

Future Work

The Community Safety Strategy is in its third year and focuses on embedding some of the newly developed guidance that has been developed to support practice. The launch and subsequent roll

out of Stronger Edinburgh across the localities will take place from March 2022.

Stronger Edinburgh is an early intervention solution focused practice that promotes a single agency coordinated approach that embraces 'Getting It Right for Everyone' – one child or adult/one plan. In partnership with Police Scotland under Stronger Edinburgh, members identify ways to support individuals and/or families where there are concerns about their mental health, or their connection with antisocial behaviour; and/or offending

A new Antisocial Behaviour Policy has been developed and will be enacted in the early part of 2022. The Policy sets out the approach for managing ASB and supports the themes set out in the Joint Community Safety Strategy, specifically safeguarding people from harm and increasing public feelings of safety and security.

Digital safety workshops hosted by Edinburgh libraries will take place in the early 2022. The events are to be aimed at adults new to computing and who are vulnerable to exploitation.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (at Nov 21)	Target
Percentage of criminal justice orders successfully completed	65.3%	63.6%	65.4%	77.8%	77.0%	65%
Number of antisocial behaviour complaints per 10k population	33.0	32.01	29.86	32.56	18.12 (*pro rata would expect 27.18*)	30.0
Reoffending rates	25.6	26.0	Due to be published June 22			Below national average of 26.3%

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.

Partially Achieved

Key Achievements

Locality Committees were established and held their first meetings in February 2018. Each committee 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. As an alternative to locality committees, the 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 established 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 several 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.

A number of lessons learned and recommendations were reported to the Chief Executive following the 2019 Community Council election process. A simplification of the procedures to this effect will be undertaken in advance of the next election, currently scheduled for 2024. This will ease the process for prospective community councillors and increase representation by removing unnecessary formalities.

The strengthening of community empowerment is a core element of the Council Business Plan and is supported by work being taken forward with partners under the auspices of the Edinburgh Partnership. A range of actions are currently being progressed including the establishment of a new Empowerment Team as part of the Place Directorate review, development of a collaborative framework with community councils and the production of a Community Empowerment plan. Progress has been made across all three workstreams, with the development work due for completion in the coming year. The need to improve working with community

councils is a specific focus and this is being taken forward by a working group comprising senior officers from the Council and Edinburgh Association of Community Councils. This group has produced an improvement plan which focuses on strengthening the relationship between the Council and community councils both in the short-term, largely through improving communications, and by addressing structural issues in the medium term.

Future Work

The next stage in this work is to develop a collaborative framework with community planning partners and a report noting progress to date and next steps was considered at the Edinburgh Partnership Board in December 2021. It was agreed that a meeting with partners be arranged for January to progress this work, with a further progress report to come to the Edinburgh Partnership Board in March 2022.

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Policy and Sustainability

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22 - Monitoring Report

Executive/Routine	**Executive**
Wards	**All**
Council Commitment	**36**

1. Recommendations

1.1 The Committee considers and approves the third statutory annual progress report on the Council's Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22, covering the period to the end of December 2021, as required by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, and due to be submitted to the Bòrd by 6 March 2022.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Eleanor Cunningham, Lead Policy Officer,

Policy and Insight Team, Corporate Services Directorate

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Report

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Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22 - Monitoring Report

2. Executive Summary

2.1 This report provides an overview of the Council's statutory annual monitoring report, summarising progress with the implementation of its Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22 up to the end of December 2021, which is due to be submitted to Bòrd na Gàidhlig by 6 March 2022.

3. Background

3.1 The Council published its second Gaelic Language Plan on 6 December 2018, following approval by Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The plan covers the period 2018-22 and is structured around three priority areas: sustainable future, confident speakers and encouraged arts and culture.

3.2 The Gaelic Implementation Group (GIG) comprises Elected Members, Council officers and representatives from the Gaelic community. It oversees progress with the implementation plan at its quarterly meetings. The GIG considered the draft annual report at its meeting on 2 November 2021.

3.3 The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 requires relevant public authorities to provide a report on progress on all commitments in their Gaelic Language Plan on an annual basis if requested by Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The Bòrd have advised us that the third monitoring report for the Council's current plan is due on 6 March 2022. Section 8 below contains links to the Council's current Gaelic Language Plan (2018-22).

4. Main report

4.1 As in previous years, Bòrd na Gàidhlig has provided a template for annual monitoring reports. It has three sections: primary indicator data (8 items); narrative updates on national Gaelic Language Plan priorities and specific local authority functions and finally, a self-assessment section, using red-amber-green coding for 26 descriptors of practice and arrangements.

4.2 This report uses internal monitoring and reporting processes for the items in the Bòrd's template. Note that approximations and descriptions of activity are used to answer some of the data items.

4.3 Appendix 1 shows the completed monitoring report, which uses information from across Council Directorates, including: Schools and Lifelong Learning, Corporate Services, Business Growth and Inclusion and Cultural Services and covers activity during September 2020 to December 2021.

4.4 The appointment of a Corporate Gaelic Development Officer (CGDO) on a fixed-term basis, part-funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Government, has been highly effective in driving and embedding action across the scope of the plan. This post ended on 29 October 2021. Funding has been secured for a new post, detailed below at 4.9.

4.5 Key developments between September 2020 and December 2021 in Education and in embedding Gaelic and Gaelic culture are summarised below.

4.6 Progress in Education includes:

4.6.1 The Gaelic Medium Improvement Plan steering group was reconvened to closely monitor work on Curriculum Transitions, Partnerships and Workforce. This group will report progress on improvements in the quality of GME to Education, Children and Families in August.

4.6.2 In parallel Gaelic Medium Expansion work continues to be developed and is described at 4.6.6 below.

4.6.3 Our 0-18 teams continued to deliver high-quality GME despite acute challenges with staffing and accommodation arising from the Covid pandemic.

4.6.4 Early Years: Cròileagan, has been cited as an excellent model and is attracting interest from colleagues elsewhere in Scotland to visit and observe practice. As of August 2021, nursery provision at Taobh na Pàirce (TnaP) is operating with 1140 hours, using a term-time model. Recruitment is underway for a GME Early Years Development Officer and additional Playgroup Leaders.

4.6.5 Primary Education: a new full-time Head Teacher came into post in August 2021, completing a full, stable senior leadership team. Responding to concerns from staff, pupils and parents, Scottish Government funding has been secured to carry out improvements on acoustics in key learning spaces. Additional capital funding has also been secured to refurbish part of the school for 0-3 and general use.

4.6.6 Secondary Education: A new permanent GME Curriculum Leader is in post and staffing is stable. The curriculum offer has been expanded.

4.6.7 Pre-consultation engagement on future GME provision in the city has been ongoing for a considerable period of time, with an options appraisal for new secondary provision having initially been presented to parents in January

2020. In the interim, further opportunities for engagement were provided through on-line meetings with parents and partners, a dedicated mailbox and further pre-consultation engagement which resulted in a report being presented to Education, Children and Families in May 2021.

4.6.8 Following deputations by parents at a recent special meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee a decision was taken to pause plans for statutory consultation on the proposed new GME provision and for officers to undertake additional pre-consultation engagement with parents and partners. This activity is underway but is likely to impact on timescales for the desired improvement of GME provision.

4.7 Progress in embedding Gaelic within the Council and across the city have been led by the CGDO. Activities have included:

4.7.1 Continuing to provide opportunities for colleagues and Elected Members to learn the language and about the culture through lunch and learn sessions and the development of an e-learning module; and supporting learning for members of the public.

4.7.2 Working with the Council's Communications Team to develop a communications plan which includes regular newsbeat items.

4.7.3 Making Gaelic more visible by arranging for: Gaelic posters to be displayed in selected Council buildings and facilities (Waverley Court, the City Chambers, Central library); Gaelic to be included on Edinburgh Tram's website and on the Council's website, with much of this activity involving GME pupils in translation and design. Bilingual signage has been introduced at historic graveyard sites and agreed for Meadowbank Sports Stadium and the new Castlebrae Community Campus.

4.7.4 Working with partner organisations (including the National Library of Scotland, University of Edinburgh, Visit Scotland, Edinburgh Local Mòd, Comunn na Gàidhlig) to develop a programme of Gaelic events and exhibitions, with involvement from the Gaelic community and GME pupils. This included an online tour of Council museums and a virtual local Mòd.

4.7.5 Continuing to promote Gaelic in tourism, working with Invisible Cities (a social enterprise with people who have been homeless) and Mercat Tours to provide virtual events.

4.7.6 Continuing to develop career opportunities for GME pupils, for example, through the Young Female Leadership Programme, a project involving the National Library of Scotland, James Gillespie's High School and supported by Baillie Gifford.

4.8 The new Capital Gaelic project started in November, part funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the National Library of Scotland. The project seeks to work with stakeholders across Edinburgh to identify opportunities, share knowledge and expertise, and shape a vision for the future of Gaelic in the city.

4.9 The self-assessment section has 26 items, including 2 new items for this year (language utility and place names). Our assessment of progress is that 20 of these are in place (ranked green) and the remaining six are in progress (amber). The areas in progress relate to: the normalisation of Gaelic plan commitments over time; the role of third parties in helping with the delivery of the Gaelic language plan; the use of Gaelic in public meetings and in press releases; seeking and using advice from Ainmean-Àite na h-Alba for place names and the use of Gaelic in communication and publications.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Following approval by Committee, the monitoring plan will be submitted to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for their consideration.

5.2 Pre – consultation engagement with parents and partners is ongoing regarding improvement of GME provision across sectors.

5.3 Funding has been secured for a new Capital Gaelic Development Officer post for one-year, which began in November 2021 and work is underway to explore options for longer term funding. Funding partners are the National Library of Scotland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The aim of the project is to support collaborative work to build the foundations for "Capital Gaelic" – a co-ordinated and creative partnership approach to embedding Gaelic as a vibrant part of life in Edinburgh for the benefit of citizens and visitors.

5.4 Work will continue on implementing the commitments made in the four-year plan, with the final report on the 2018-2022 plan due in December 2022.

5.5 The next iteration of the plan, covering 2022-26, will be developed in the coming months and will be subject to public consultation.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The Corporate Gaelic Development Officer, Capital Gaelic Development Officer and the GME Early Years Development Officer posts are part-funded from external sources. Gaelic language education is supported by Scottish Government grant applied for annually. All other actions are taken forward within existing approved service budgets.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 The Gaelic Implementation Group contributed to the development of the current Gaelic Language Plan and receive regular progress reports on the implementation of the Plan.

7.2 As noted above, members of the GIG considered the draft progress report at its November meeting.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 [Item 7.6 - Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22 15 May 2018](#)

8.2 [The City of Edinburgh Council Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22](#)

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 - Bòrd na Gàidhlig Annual Monitoring Form: The City of Edinburgh Council

BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG

FOIRM DÀTA BLIADHNAIL
ANNUAL RETURN FORM

Ainm na buidhne Organisation's name	The City of Edinburgh Council *This report provides an update on progress between September 2020 and December 2021*

Prìomh Dhàta Measaidh
Primary Indicator Data

Fios bhon Phoball **Communications from the Public**	Cia mheud brath sgrìobhte a fhuair am buidheann bhon phoball ann an Gàidhlig am-bliadhna? How many written communications have the organisation received from the public in Gaelic this year? **Narrative** • The Gaelic schools receive occasional communications in Gaelic from Gaelic partner organisations, the Gaelic Development Officer (GDO – employed by Comunn na Gàidhlig, and part-funded by the City of Edinburgh Council) and promotional material from groups such as Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and FilmG. • Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce (TnaP) receive communication from parents in Gaelic. • Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig/James Gillespie's High School (SG/JGHS) receive communication from parents in Gaelic. • Oifigear Leasachaidh Corporra Ghàidhlig, Comhairle Bhaile Dhùn Èideann, Corporate Gaelic Development Officer (CGDO) receives communications in Gaelic from school staff, stakeholders and the Gaelic Community. The CGDO uses and encourages other staff learners to use the "Happy to communicate in Gaelic or English" logo, thus showing equal respect to Gaelic and English.	Not all service areas are able to record this information, it is therefore not possible to report an accurate total. See narrative for a description of communications.

A' sgaoileadh fiosrachaidh
 	
Dissemination of information
	Cia mheud pìos a sgaoil am buidheann air na meadhanan sòisealta ann an Gàidhlig am-bliadhna?
	How many posts did the organisation distribute on social media in Gaelic this year?
	Narrative
	• TnaP: tweet regularly bilingually
	• SG/JGHS has a Gaelic Blog and Twitter account which are updated at regular points throughout the school year
	
	• There have been **42 Corporate posts** since September 2020, examples are:
	    o Edinburgh Local Mòd and National Mòd pre-Mòd eCèilidh
	    o The Gaelic Literature Awards
	    o Central Library: relating to Gaelic Language or literature
	    o Invisible Cities Event
	    o City Art Centre events
	    o Gaelic Community Christmas Musical Event
		As above - see narrative

	Cia mheud fios-naidheachd a chaidh a sgaoileadh leis a' bhuidheann anns a' Ghàidhlig am-bliadhna? How many press releases did the organisation publish in Gaelic this year? • **Four** • Gaelic Festival Press release October 2020 • Informal consultation (Gaelic High School) November 2020 • Invisible Cities Event March 2021 • Edinburgh Gaelic Festival November 2021	4
Luchd-obrach **Staff**	Cia meud neach-obrach a fhuair cothrom trèanaidh ann an sgilean Gàidhlig am-bliadhna? How many staff received Gaelic skills training this year? • **Total: 101** • September 2021: "Lunch and Learn" 34 • October 2020 – May 2021: external tutor 24 • Lunch and Learn sessions: August 2021 – October 2021 43 • November – December 2021: external tutor and CGDO: 26 • November 24th Introduction to Gaelic Wellbeing Roadshow:23	150
	Cia mheud dreuchd a th' agaibh an-dràsta far a bheil Gàidhlig ann mar sgil riatanach? How many posts do you currently have where Gaelic is an	

	essential skill?	
	Current Provision Staffing: **0-3 Groups:** 4 Playgroup Leaders (recruitment underway for additional staff) **Nursery and Primary:** • Teachers 21.77FTE • PSAs 7.12FTE • Admin team 1.72FTE • EY team 5.65FTE **Àrd Sgoil** • 6 full time and 3 part time Teachers	
	Cia mheud neach-obrach a th' agaibh an-dràsta aig a bheil sgilean Gàidhlig? How many staff currently within the organisation have Gaelic skills? Staff Survey November 2020 (totals reflect the number of people answering each question): 1. Interested in learning Gaelic • 1,779 colleagues (76%): not interested in learning Gaelic • 48 (2%): currently learning • 516 (22%): interested in learning 2. Level of Gaelic among staff • 2230 colleagues (95%) had no Gaelic at present • 106 (5%): spoke some but were not fluent • 9 (0.4%): fluent	See narrative
Foillseachaidhean **Publications**	Cia mheud foillseachadh a dh'fhoillsich am buidheann gu dà-chananach am-bliadhna? How many organisational publications have been published bilingually (Gaelic and English) this year? • None	None
Inbhe **Status**	Cia mheud soidhne dà-chànanach a chuir am buidheann an àirde am-bliadhna? How many new bilingual signs has the organisation erected this year? A range of signs and posters have been agreed/put in place (a range of formats used). These include: • Gaelic signage at the new Meadowbank approved (Covid pandemic has delayed construction)	See narrative

	- Tram stops to Newhaven/bilingual signage for stops: Ainmean Àite na h-Alba were approached for translation costing; this was approved 15 December 2021 5 Historic Edinburgh graveyard signs/ January 2021 - Range of signs and pop-up banners for the the Gaelic Books section in Edinburgh and Scottish Collection, Central Library via a graphic design project with S2 pupils at SG/JGHS for signs and pop-up banners: launch January 2022 - Bilingual welcome poster designed by pupil at Taobh na Pàirce on display at City Chambers and Waverley Court August 2021 - Castlebrae Community Campus. - Museums: bilingual signs for the Good to Go scheme on display at both the Art Centre and Museum of Edinburgh. This is the official UK mark to signal that a tourism and hospitality business are following Government and industry COVID-19 guidelines and have a process in place to maintain cleanliness and aid social distancing. Existing signage arrangements: - SG/JGHS has 2 prominent Gaelic signs, which were erected during the initial school build. - TnaP aim for Gaelic-only signage.	

Prìomhachasan a' Phlana Cànain Nàiseanta Gàidhlig
National Gaelic Language Plan Priorities

Cleachdadh na Gaidhlig / Using Gaelic

Ciamar a tha a' bhuidhinn a' toirt fàs air cleachdadh na Gàidhlig?

How is the organisation increasing the use of Gaelic?

This links to the priority "Gaelic is visible, encouraged and has a sustainable future" in our Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22.

This section gives an overview of how we have increased the use of Gaelic through increasing awareness of Gaelic events, publicity in Gaelic and supporting and promoting opportunities for participation. We have outlined activity in schools in a later section.

Communication - supporting and promoting opportunities to participate in Gaelic events:

1. We have developed a communications plan with SMART objectives:
    - To create an informative, accessible and engaging online network of content for all Gaelic speakers, (fluent and learner) and supporters of Gaelic in Edinburgh;
    - To raise awareness of activities to encourage engagement and participation from all parts of the Gaelic community in the capital:
    - To promote and strengthen wider awareness of Gaelic and its presence within the capital to both Gaelic and non-Gaelic speakers;
    - Develop beneficial online links with Gaelic groups, initiatives and communities across Scotland.
2. CGDO with our Communications Team is working to develop a series of regular News Beat articles (published on the Council's intranet) and to increase Facebook/twitter activity as a way of sharing opportunities more widely.

Expanding the Gaelic Offer in the City

1. As a member of a range of groups and committees, the CGDO supports both the development and the promotion of Gaelic activities:

    - The Seachdain na Gàidhlig (Edinburgh Gaelic Festival): the CGDO is a member of the committee and the Council publicises and contributes funding

    - Successful Digital Local Mòd, May 28th/29th 2021 with over 100 entries: the CGDO is a member of the committee which organised Fringe events (Friday 28th & Saturday 29th May 2021) and led Gaelic sessions during Fringe
    - CGDO with leading members of the wider Gaelic Community in Edinburgh: working group now in place for naming streets after Gaelic people, places or events associated with the City of Edinburgh. To celebrate continuity of Gàidhlig in the city and in honour of those (no longer with us) who kept the language thriving/ celebrate cultural diversity in Edinburgh, the community group have proposed 5 names to be considered.

2. TnaP publicise Gaelic events and Gaelic learning opportunities for parents through their usual network and support the work of the Gaelic Development Officer (Comunn na Gàidhlig) in providing Gaelic language experiences for the wider community.

3. Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig (SG/JGHS): with CGDO engagement with Central Library, City Arts Centre and National Library to provide opportunities for GME pupils to promote Gaelic

4. The Council's Communications Team have helped to publicise Gaelic related activity in the City including:

- Plans for a new Gaelic High School
- Social Media posts in Gaelic

Increasing awareness of developments in GME in Edinburgh:

Within schools:

1. TnaP held two events in the last year for parents and members of the public to provide an update on progress with GME education.

The Council's Communications Team have helped to publicise Gaelic related activity in the City including:

2. Arranging interviews with BBC Alba on the future direction of GME in Edinburgh, with our CGDO, pupils and Gaelic Community.
3. Publicising plans for a new Gaelic High School – Informal Consultation March 2021.
4. Social Media posts in Gaelic.

Ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig / Learning Gaelic

Ciamar a tha a' bhuidhinn a' toirt fàs air ionnsachadh na Gaidhlig?

How is the organisation increasing the learning of Gaelic?

This links to priority "our communities are supported to be fluent and confident speakers" in our Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22.

We are actively engaged in delivering on the national strategy for adult Gaelic learners:

Learning for the public:

- The CGDO supports:
    - Conversation class for advanced learners/Saturday at Central Library from 8th February 2020 (online from April 2020)
    - A weekly "Fighe is Cabadaich" (Knitting and Chat) session (starting February 2020, Wednesday 2-4pm) – postponed due to pandemic
    - Parent classes, Boroughmuir High School from 17th Feb. 5 week "Gaelic for the Home".
    - Reading Club for Learners online, Friday mornings, from April 2020.
- Gaelic Language classes in the Adult Education Programme: total enrolled between September 2019 – March 2020: 144. 12 classes [last year, 73 adults participated in 7 Gaelic Language classes]. The programme is available on the Council's website. Classes are protected against low uptake levels (i.e. less than 12 places filled) through subsidy from Gaelic funding.

- 4 in person Gaelic classes planned to start week commencing 21 Feb 2022 at Tollcross Community Centre: Levels: beginners, post beginners, intermediate & advanced

Learning for staff Council-wide:

One of the aims of our Gaelic Language Plan is to improve the awareness, learning and use of Gaelic across the Council, in line with the objective of improving the visibility of Gaelic and to ensure staff are informed about the Gaelic Plan, history, culture and relevance of Gaelic in Edinburgh:

The CGDO is supporting this in a number of ways:

- CGDO with Learning and Development colleagues has developed a digital learning module for staff, "**Gaelic Awareness**" which will be launched by Communications Team, December 2021.
- Two "Lunch and Learn Gaelic" sessions for staff – starting in February 2020, the second in August.These have been very popular, with staff attending from a wide range of services in the

council. Learn Gaelic and Duolingo recommended at these events as online resources for learning Gaelic.

- Providing "Introduction to Gaelic" sessions for staff using YouTube as platform, starting in September 2020 (which has had nearly 850 views to date).
- Additional evening classes for staff were provided by an external tutor, online from November 2020 for Beginners and Intermediate.
- From November 2021, external tutor and CGDO lead on 2 evening classes for staff.

These activities have created a positive image and environment for Gaelic among staff.

Learning for Elected Members:

Gaelic awareness session with CGDO: August and September 2021.

Teaching in schools:

a) Staff language skills and development:

- We have support in place for staff to complete their Gaelic Language in Primary Schools training. We will continue to promote these opportunities to staff for future sessions.
- We are planning a full programme of CLPL input for staff across sectors, with the focus on Gaelic language and fluency and immersive pedagogy.
- TnaP provide financial support for externally delivered courses, as well as allowing time away for assessments and seminars; they are currently delivering bespoke in-house training to all staff. Specific Grant funding supports costs of externally delivered courses.
- GME staff attend regular meetings with Central Belt Gaelic Secondary Teachers group which considers QA, moderation, sharing resources and best practice. This has been on hold due to COVID but scheduled to resume.
- Three JGHS staff are following Gaelic Learners' courses delivered by Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.
- Two teachers are currently released full-time to complete a year-long Gaelic Immersion course through Glasgow University. This is funded through Scottish Government Grant and BnaG funding
- Having completed the full-time immersion course two years ago, our science specialist is currently engaging with follow-up Gaelic immersive input.
- Two secondary languages specialists have enrolled in the pilot ATQ course being offered this session by Glasgow City Council, Glasgow University and BnaG. This aims to upskill languages teachers to enable them to offer GLPS in their settings.

b) Scope and scale of provision:

- Sgoil-àraich –of the nursery class at Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, as of August 2021, is operating with 11:40 hours, using a term-time model, in line with the Early Years expansion plan.
- We are working in partnership with Òganan, who have now become a Partner Provider and are able to top-up provision so that families can receive their entitlement of 11:40 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare to children and families.

- TnaP:
  - are delivering GME to 391 and 40 in nursery.
  - host Òganan Dhùn Èideann, a Gaelic-medium wraparound-care provider.
- SG/JGHS has undergone a significant expansion of the GME Secondary provision:
  - the majority of the S1 cohort now receive 9 of their subjects through the medium of Gaelic.
  - S1 now receive Key Adult Time in Gaelic.
  - the use of Gaelic has increased across the school, both in terms of the amount of time pupils spend being immersed in the language, and the opportunities staff have to communicate in Gaelic.

- o We now have a Curriculum Lead in place, which means that we can roll out the offer of GLE to schools across the Council.
- o Delivering GME to 157 pupils
- We have secured Scottish Government funding for set up of classrooms in both school settings for use of Esgoil, helping us to increase the amount of Gaelic input available to pupils. The equipment has been installed and while some technical issues remain, we are now able to use successfully and we are contributing to teaching of the E-sgoil national offer (short term cover for E-sgoil teacher)

d) Recruitment:

- We are working with colleagues from GTCS on plans to identify and support teachers from Edinburgh and the surrounding area with pathways into GME.
- TnaP regularly employ people who have an interest in Gaelic, who are perhaps in the early stages of learning, and provide a range of supports, including financial support from Gaelic Specific Grant, to help them progress as quickly as possible.
- Work is ongoing with key partners, including FE/HE institutions and other local authorities, to develop a programme for career-long professional development which will support recruitment and retention.

A'cur air adhart na Gàidhlig / Promoting Gaelic
Ciamar a tha a' buidhinn a' cur deagh iomhaigh air adhart airson na Gàidhlig?
How is the organisation promoting a positive image of Gaelic?

This links to our priority "Gaelic is visible, encouraged and has a sustainable future within the city of Edinburgh" and our ambition to support the development of a strong and vibrant Gaelic community.

The activities described below reflect our approach to increasing the prominence of Gaelic within schools and across Edinburgh, and our efforts to develop career opportunities and pathways for learners.

Initiatives designed to increase the visibility of Gaelic activity and resources across the City include:

1. Edinburgh trams: bilingual web page for the route map/stops with pupils from Taobh na Pàirce, completed May 2021

    https://edinburghtrams.com/plan-journey/route-maps-stops
    [See "If you would like this information in Gaelic, click **here**"]

    Signage at Tram stops "Trams to Newhaven". The CGDO has requested cost from Ainmean Àite na h- Alba – (£210) which has been passed to project leader.

2. Gaelic content on the Council web pages with the highest potential reach: CGDO with Comunn na Gàidhlig and pupils from Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig, May 2021 - Gaelic version of school term dates. We will continue to progress with the project in January 2022.

    https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/schools/cinn-latha-seisean-sgoile-202122/1

3. Central library: In partnership with S2 Gaelic, Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig, bilingual signs will be on display in Edinburgh and Scottish Collection.
    A 300dpi file required for printing received from school, September 2021. Launch January 2022

4. Bilingual "welcome" poster with Comunn na Gàidhlig/Taobh na Pàirce pupils: on display at reception at City Chambers and Waverley Court, August 2021.

5. Web team with CGDO considering options for creating a duplicate of the homepage with Gaelic text

6. As in previous years, the Council support Gaelic involvement at The Scottish Storytelling Centre and the Scottish International Storytelling Festival, delivered by TRACS (a Council-funded organisation); Gaelic activity is included in TRACS' year-round programme.

7. Gaelic in Edinburgh leaflet 2018 – updated May 2021. University of Edinburgh/Bòrd na Gàidhlig developed the leaflet in cooperation with organisations in Edinburgh, offering information about history of Gaelic and contact details for groups/organisations. Available online. First entry from Council by CGDO, May 2021.

8. The CGDO has also begun collaboration with colleagues across Scotland (Aberdeenshire, East Lothian and Moray) around the promotion of Gaelic and opportunities for joint online Gaelic events such as session with Gaelic authors.

9. The CGDO supported the Lord Provost to record an online Gaelic greeting to Edinburgh's twin cities (Mayor of Florence, Mayor of Kyiv, Lord Mayor of Munich, Mayor of Nice, Mayor of Dunedin,   Mayor of Krakow, Governor of Kyoto Prefecture, Mayor of Vancouver, Mayor of Xian, Mayor of Shenzhen, Mayor of Aalborg) December 2021. In his message, he also described Edinburgh's Gaelic heritage and the significance of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act in securing that status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland.

Activities to generate employment using Gaelic include:

The City of Edinburgh Council, National Library and the GME unit of Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig, supported by Baillie Gifford, collaborated to develop the Young Female Leadership Programme in the Autumn 2020 term. As part of this online project, a group of students received mentoring and training on public speaking, tour guide training etc.

This is a first step towards a wider initiative being investigated by the Council around Young Apprenticeships in Languages and Tourism. This links GME to innovative practice in wider languages teaching and learning, which forms part of work in Edinburgh schools on the Scottish Government 1+2 Approach to Languages. This is an opportunity to link GME to the wider curriculum and affords GME pupils' opportunities to engage in meaningful activity with other successful language learners.

This work has been interrupted due to the pandemic but we plan to resume this session. Through the Scottish Government Faster Rate of Progress network, we are working with colleagues from SQA, SDS, Education Scotland and partner authorities to take this work forward collaboratively with focus on offering young people a range of pathways to employment and FE/HE through GME.

Partnership approach to develop a programme of Gaelic Events:

Developing a programme of Gaelic Events

A priority has been to further develop and promote Gaelic through joint events. Collaboration this year has included the National Library of Scotland, University of Edinburgh, Visit Scotland, Edinburgh Local Mòd, Comunn na Gàidhlig:

1. CGDO, City Arts Centre and Museum of Edinburgh: bilingual exhibitions (Donald Smith, 2021/ Will Maclean,2022) with involvement from Gaelic Community, GME pupils and Lewis Storyteller. Funding of £3,000 was received from BnG, June 2021

   https://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/whats-on/islander-paintings-donald-smith

2. The City of Edinburgh Council Museums History Curator: online tour - *The Collections*, postponed to 2022 due to pandemic

3. Gàidheal Dhùn Èideann: discussions with senior members of the Gaelic Community to plan events suitable for native Gaels in the city:

   - National Galleries visit October 2021

   - In partnership with NLS – preparation for visit April 2022

4. CGDO, National Library, Taobh na Pàirce, Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig: project to devise a school playground game based on the 1987 report 'School, Gaelic and the community: paper to local authority councilors' by An Comunn Gàidhealach. Funded by Creative Scotland. Filming 14th December at Taobh na Pàirce postponed due facilitator isolating. January 2022 date being considered.

5. ==CGDO with Edinburgh Local Mòd and Edinburgh Gaelic community: Christmas musical event Greyfriars Kirk 3rd December 2021==

6. Events developed in partnership with the National Library:

   - John Murray, an Honorary Fellow at the University of Edinburgh, discusses his book 'Reading the Gaelic Landscape', in which he applies a Gaelic lens to the study of Scotland's landscapes and history (13th October 2020)
   - Professor Mata Maciver, "The Advent of Modern Gaelic Broadcasting" (14 January 2021)

7. CGDO with National Galleries, Taobh na Pàirce and Comunn na Gàidhlig: **Your Art World** is a new online community where 3-18 year olds are supported to make and share their art. Young people across Scotland come up with 'challenges' to inspire others to make art. An online gallery showcases all the art February 2022 Completion

8. CGDO with National Galleries and Community: discussions underway to engage Gaelic learners in the re-opening of the Scottish gallery. Ongoing into 2022.

Capital Gaelic, Partnership with the National Library of Scotland:

The Capital Gaelic Development Officer, part funded by BnG and the National Library of Scotland, started in post in November 2021. To date, the leads from the two organisations have met to agree specific objectives for the year:

1. Promoting a positive image of Gaelic by increased its visibility through shared and co-ordinated activities (**strengthening networks**)
   - By the end of year 1, key contacts in schools (Taobh na Pàirce and Sheumais Ghilleasbuig) will have established ongoing collaboration with NLS colleagues to shape/support curriculum activities, using archives and collections
     o Opportunities to engage with Glasgow schools
   - A network will have been established among leads in key stakeholder organisations (e.g. NLS, NMS, NGS, SDS, CEC, EU) to shape and share a high-level vision for Gaelic in Edinburgh (e.g. Gaelic belongs to everyone) **to identify opportunities, share knowledge and expertise, and shape a vision for the future of Gaelic in the city**

- NLS plans for the year of storytelling will have been supported by engagement with schools and the wider Gaelic community in Edinburgh; and opportunities for collaboration with key organisations across the city explored

2. Increasing the learning of Gaelic – shared support for staff development
   - The CGDO has engaged with NLS staff group to carry out an audit of existing skills and ambitions around Gaelic language development and has identified opportunities for learning, including shared learning with CEC staff.

Promotion of Gaelic in Tourism:

Having become a member of The Gaelic Tourism Implementation Group, Visit Scotland, the CGDO initiated joint work with the following partners in:

1. **Invisible Cities** (social enterprise with people who have been homeless) to develop Gaelic-related content (the history of Gaelic in Edinburgh and simple phrases) which Guides will incorporate in current tours. **Gaelic Time with Invisible Cities** https://invisible-cities.org/gaelic-festival was held May 2021

2. **Mercat Tours**: continue to be supported by CGDO to develop Gaelic-related content (the history of Gaelic in Edinburgh and simple phrases) which Guides will incorporate in current tours. Guides currently accessing YouTube course developed by CGDO

3. The CGDO has been working with Business Growth and Inclusion colleagues since August 2020 to develop a Gaelic guide on **edinburgh.org.**

Gaelic Hub

1. There is longstanding ambition to have a Gaelic Hub for Edinburgh with exhibitions, events and potentially a cafe to showcase and promote the language and heritage. Plans are at an early stage. CGDO is a Board Member

A' brosnachadh Foghlam Gàidhlig

Promotion of Gaelic Education

Chan fheum ach Ùghdarrasan Ionadail seo a lìonadh a-steach

For Local Authorities only to complete

Fo Earrainn 15 de dh'Achd an Fhoghlaim (Alba) 2016, feumaidh ùghdarrasan ionadail aig a bheil foghlam Gàidhlig anns an sgìre aca seo a shanasachd ann an dòigh iomchaidh. Feumaidh gach ùghdarras ionadail sanasachd a dhèanamh air na còraichean a th' aig pàrantan gus tagradh a dhèanamh airson foghlam Gàidhlig aig ìre na bun-sgoile agus foghlam luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig a stèidheachadh. Ciamar a tha sibh a' coileanadh an dleastanais seo?

Under Section 15 of the Education (Scotland) Act 2016, local authorities which already provide Gaelic education in their area must take reasonable steps to promote this. All local authorities must take reasonable steps to promote the rights which parents have under the Act to make a request for Gaelic Medium Primary Education and the potential provision of Gaelic Learner Education. Could you tell us how you are undertaking this?

We do this by providing information on provision and the application process, and through direct contact with interested parents:

Croilegan's website gives an overview of GME provision from nursery through to secondary schooling, along with a contact number for further information. This is now included on Council website.

Link: https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/nurseries-childcare/gaelic-pre-school/1.

- The Council's public website includes a section on Gaelic in schools, which gives details of how to apply for a place in the GME primary school, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce (TnaP).

- Within the TnaP school setting, we meet regularly with parents who have an interest in Gaelic Medium Education. Examples include regular open afternoons for prospective nursery parents, one to one meetings with prospective parents, well planned- enrolment week, with open day, in November. This has been on-hold during Covid-19

- We have also taken significant steps to promote GME at the secondary level. The presence of Gaelic at SG/JGHS has grown, with an effective working partnership established between CEC Officers, schools and parent groups. Our advanced plans for a GME Secondary school, demonstrate a clear commitment to the safeguarding and development of Gaelic education across the city.

Pàrantan Corporra

Corporate Parenting

Chan fheum ach Pàrantan Chorporra seo a lìonadh a-steach

For Corporate Parents only to complete

None this session.

At JGHS, we have developed a team of staff with a specific role to ensure that care experienced pupils receive targeted support. One of our GME staff is part of this team thus ensuring that positive relationships developed in the classroom are built upon. Through a range of partnerships and fund-raising schemes, consistent with SG and CEC expectations, all pupils at JGHS have full and equitable access to the extensive range of extra-curricular activities.

At TnaP nothing currently exclusively offered to this group.

Co-ionannachd Equalities
Bu chòir don a h-uile buidheann seo a lìonadh a-steach
For all organisations to complete

- Every request for a place in one of the Gaelic schools has been met (i.e. there is no unmet need).

- The work in the primary school to embed the school in the community is resulting in an increasing number of pupils with local post-codes being enrolled in GME and so broadening the profile of the school community in terms of the population served, e.g. SIMD and ethnicity.

- The main challenge has been in securing teaching capacity, to ensure that GME is available across as wide a spectrum of learning as possible. As noted above, we have developed a recruitment strategy to help to address this.

Our key actions which are designed to advance equality of opportunity are as follows:

- Pupil Voice groups are established, with a focus on a range of topics, including language and culture. The progress and success of these were cut short by the COVID closure. There are plans to re-establish these groups this session, using a slightly different approach. In line with Edinburgh Learns for Life strategy, both schools have Equalities groups, reflecting current priorities at local authority and national levels.
- In recent sessions, a member of the secondary team worked closely with primary colleagues to support transition and to shadow the work of the support for learning teacher. This staff member was also seconded to JGHS for a morning a week to support GME learners there, and to upskill GME staff in the delivery of Support for Learning.

Schools:

Taobh na Pàirce:

In addition to our focus on closing the attainment gap, staff make every effort to include pupils from all backgrounds in extra-curricular activities. Strategies include budgeting to allow pupils from low-income backgrounds to take part in trips at a reduced cost, or free of charge. This has been key in allowing pupils from varying demographics to have the opportunity to use their Gaelic in a social environment, as well as in the classroom.

Amasan airson Seirbhisean Corporra	Corporate Service Aims			
Àrd Phrionnsabalan	Overarching Principles	🟩	🟧	🟥
1. Spèis Cho-ionann A h-uile gealladh anns a' phlana Ghàidhlig air a lìbhrigeadh dhan aon ìre anns a' Ghàidhlig agus anns a' Bheurla.	**Equal Respect** Gaelic language plan commitments delivered to an equal standard in both Gaelic and English. **Narrative** *The commitments in the report are structured around three strategic aims, and implementation is overseen by the Gaelic Implementation Group, a formal working group of the Council. This is the same implementation process used for all Council plans.*	Rated green		
2. Cothroman Follaiseach Gnìomhan practaigeach gus dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil fios aig luchd-obrach na buidhne agus am poball daonnan air na cothroman a th' ann gus Gàidhlig a chleachdadh leis an ùghdarras phoblach.	**Active Offer** Practical measures to ensure that staff and public are kept regularly informed of all opportunities that exist to use Gaelic in relation to the work of the public authority. **Narrative** *This is well embedded in Education and has now been extended to libraries and museums – see detain in the main report*	Rated green		
3. Treas Phàrtaidhean A' dearbhadh gum bi ALEOs agus cunnradairean eile ag obair gus plana Gàidhlig an ùghdarrais phoblaich a chur an gnìomh.	**Third Parties** Ensure that Arm's Length Executive Organisations and other contractors help with the delivery of the public authority Gaelic language plan. **Narrative** *Progress has been made with Edinburgh Leisure through the rebuilding of Meadowbank stadium, which will include a bilingual signage (English/Gaelic) on the external building.* *All Strategic Partners in receipt of third part grants continued to be signposted to the Gaelic Implementation plan via a specific service condition in relation to their 3yr in principle Funding Agreement requirements.*		Rated amber	
4. Gàidhlig na nì àbhaisteach Geallaidhean bhon phlana Ghàidhlig	**Normalisation** Gaelic plan commitments are		Rated amber	

air an gabhail a- steach ann an structaran an ùghdarrais phoblaich tro thìde, le sgrùdadh cunbhalach airson cothroman a chomharrachadh taobh a-staigh bhuidseatan stèidhichte gus Gàidhlig a thoirt air adhart.	normalised within the structures of the public authority over time, with opportunities to grow Gaelic within existing budgets constantly assessed. **Narrative** *The Council's Policy and Sustainability Committee, the Gaelic Implementation Group and the Officer Group are the relevant elements of the decision-making structure within the Council.*	
5. Pàrantan Corporra Gu bheilear mothachail air na dleastanasan a th' ann mar Phàrant Corporra gum bi a h-uile pàiste is neach òg fo chùram no a b' àbhaist a bhith fo chùram le Gàidhlig a' faighinn na h-aon cothroman 's a tha clann le cànain eile.	**Corporate Parenting** That the authority is aware of the duties of a Corporate Parent to ensure that looked after children and young people and care leavers with Gaelic receive the same opportunities as those with other languages. **Narrative** *This would be considered as part of the assessment and support planning for the young person.*	Rated green
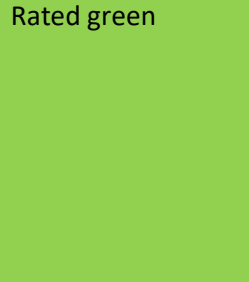
Inbhe	**Status**			
6. Suaicheantas Ag amas air suaicheantas corporra anns a' Ghàidhlig agus anns a' Bheurla a chruthachadh nuair a thig a' chiad chothrom agus mar phàirt den phròiseas ùrachaidh. Bu chòir an aon ìre follaiseachd a bhith ann airson an dà chànain san t-suaicheantas.	**Logo** Aim to render the corporate logo in both Gaelic and English at the first opportunity and as part of any renewal process. The logo should demonstrate equal prominence for both languages. **Narrative** *We have committed to doing this in our GLP but there is no renewal planned at present*	Rated green		
7. Soidhnichean Prìomh shoidhnichean air an dèanamh dà-chànanach nuair a thathar gan ùrachadh.	**Signage** Prominent signage will include Gaelic and English as part of any renewal process. **Narrative** *See section 1 for a description of the range of formats introduced*	Rated green: see above (section 1)		
Conaltradh leis a' phoball	**Communicating with the public**			
8. Adhartachadh A' toirt teachdaireachd bhrosnachail seachad gum bithear daonnan a' cur fàilte air conaltradh a nì am mòr-shluagh ris an ùghdarras ann an Gàidhlig.	**Promotion** Positive message that communication from the public in Gaelic is always welcome. **Narrative** *This is well-embedded in the Gaelic schools, where it is most relevant; and several Corporate staff use the BnG*	Rated green: see above (section 1)		

	"happy to communicate" footer on emails	
9. Conaltradh sgrìobhte Bithear daonnan a' gabhail ri conaltradh sgrìobhte ann an Gàidhlig (litrichean, puist-d agus na meadhanan sòisealta) agus thèid freagairtean Gàidhlig a thoirt seachad a rèir a' phoileasaidh choitchinn.	**Written Communication** Written communication in Gaelic is always accepted (post, email and social media) and replies will be provided in Gaelic in accordance with the general policy. *Written communication in Gaelic is always accepted (post, email and social media) and replies will be provided in Gaelic in accordance with the general policy.*	Rated green: see above (section 1)
10. Ionad-fàilte agus am fòn Nuair as urrainn do luchd-obrach le Gàidhlig an t-seirbheis seo a thoirt seachad, gheibh iad taic airson sin a dhèanamh, agus thèid sanasachd a dhèanamh air an t-seirbheis am measg a' mhòr-shluaigh.	**Reception and phone** Where Gaelic speaking staff are capable of providing this service, they are supported to do so and the service is promoted to the public.	Rated green: see above (section 1)
11. Coinneamhan Thèid coimhead gu cunbhalach air na cothroman a th' ann gus coinneamhan poblach a chumail gu dà-chànanach no ann an Gàidhlig, agus thèid sanasachd a dhèanamh orra.	**Public meetings** Opportunities to hold public meetings bilingually or in Gaelic are regularly explored and promoted. **Narrative** *Opportunities tend to relate to school events; translation resources would be required*	Rated amber

Fiosrachadh	Information			
12. Fiosan-naidheachd Prìomh fhiosan-naidheachd agus fiosan-naidheachd mu dheidhinn na Gàidhlig air an cuairteachadh sa Ghàidhlig agus sa Beurla.	**News releases** High profile news releases and all news releases related to Gaelic are circulated in both Gaelic and English. **Narrative** *News releases related to Gaelic are routinely issued in both languages*	Rated amber		
13. Na Meadhanan sòisealta Thèid susbaint Ghàidhlig a sgaoileadh gu cunbhalach sna meadhanan sòisealta, agus sin a rèir an uiread luchd-cleachdaidh Gàidhlig a th' ann agus a dh'fhaodadh a bhith ann.	**Social Media** Gaelic content distributed regularly through social media, guided by the level of actual and potential users **Narrative** *The appointment of the CGDO has enabled a significant increase in social media presence.*	Rated green		
14. An Làrach-lìn Bu chòir susbaint Ghàidhlig a bhith ri faotainn air làrach-lìn an ùghdarrais phoblaich, agus prìomhachas ga thoirt do na duilleagan a dh'fhaodadh an àireamh as motha de dhaoine a tharraing.	**Website** Gaelic content should be available on the public authority's website, with emphasis given to the pages with the highest potential reach. **Narrative** *CGDO with Comunn na Gàidhlig and pupils from Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig, May 2021 - Gaelic version of school term dates. We will continue to progress with project September 2022.*	Rated green		
15. Foillsichidhean Corporra Thèid an ullachadh ann an Gàidhlig is Beurla, agus prìomhachas ga thoirt don fheadhainn a dh'fhaodadh an àireamh as motha de dhaoine a leughadh.	**Corporate Publications** Produced in Gaelic and English, with priority given to those with the highest potential reach.	Rated amber		
16. Tairbhe a' Chànain Bidh pròiseas ann gus dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig a gheibhear san fhiosrachadh chorporra uile aig deagh ìre agus gun gabh a tuigsinn	**Language Utility** A process is in place to ensure that the quality and accessibility of Gaelic language in all corporate information is high.	Rated green		
17. Taisbeanaidhean	**Exhibitions**	Rated green		

| Bu chòir beachdachadh gu cunbhalach air cothroman gus taisbeanaidhean poblach a shealltainn gu dà-chànanach no ann an Gàidhlig, le prìomhachas ga thoirt don fheadhainn a dh'fhaodadh a' bhuaidh as motha a thoirt air cùisean. | Opportunities to deliver public exhibitions bilingually or in Gaelic should be explored on a regular basis, with priority given to those with the highest potential impact.
Narrative
See above in sections on promoting and using Gaelic | |

Luchd-obrach	Staff			
18. Sgrùdadh air sgilean Thèid sgrùdadh a dhèanamh air sgilean Gàidhlig an luchd-obrach agus na feumalachdan trèanaidh aca a thaobh Gàidhlig rè ùine gach plana.	**Internal audit** Conduct an internal audit of Gaelic skills and training needs through the life of each plan. **Narrative** Staff survey undertaken November 2020 (see section 1 above)	Rated green		
19. Fiosrachadh Inntrigidh Bidh fiosrachadh mu Phlana Gàidhlig an ùghdarrais phoblaich mar phàirt den fhiosrachadh inntrigidh a gheibh luchd-obrach ùr.	**Induction** Knowledge of the public authority's Gaelic language plan included in new staff inductions **Narrative** Introduced in March 2019	Rated green		
20. Trèanadh cànain Thèid cothroman trèanaidh is leasachaidh airson sgilean Gàidhlig a thabhann don luchd-obrach, gu h-àraidh mar thaic do bhith a' coileanadh Plana Gàidhlig an ùghdarrais phoblaich.	**Language training** Gaelic language skills training and development offered to staff, particularly in relation to implementing the public authority's Gaelic language plan. **Narrative** See section 2 above	Rated green		
21. Trèanadh le Fiosrachadh mun Ghàidhlig Trèanadh le fiosrachadh mun Ghàidhlig, le prìomhachas air luchd-obrach aig àrd ìre, luchd co-dhùnaidh eile agus luchd-obrach air a bheil dleastanas a bhith a' conaltradh leis a' mhòr-shluagh.	**Awareness training** Gaelic awareness training offered, with priority given to senior staff, other key decision makers and staff dealing directly with the public. **Narrative** *See above section 2 for the extensive range of activities underway, which are open to all groups of staff.*	Rated green		
22. Fastadh A' toirt aithne do is a' cur sùim ann an sgilean Gàidhlig an lùib nam pròiseasan fastaidh air feadh an ùghdarrais phoblaich.	**Recruitment** Recognising and respecting Gaelic skills within the recruitment process throughout the authority **Narrative** *As per standard recruitment process re essential and desirable knowledge, skills and experience.*	Rated green		
23. Fastadh	**Recruitment**	Rated green		

Bidh Gàidhlig air a h-ainmeachadh mar sgil riatanach agus / no a tha na buannachd ann an tuairisgeulan obrach gus cuideachadh le bhith a' cur a' Phlana Ghàidhlig an gnìomh agus a rèir an stiùiridh bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig airson luchd-obrach fhastadh.	Gaelic named as an essential and / or desirable skill in job descriptions in order to deliver the Gaelic language plan and in accordance with the Bòrd na Gàidhlig recruitment advice. **Narrative** *As per standard recruitment process re essential and desirable knowledge, skills and experience.*	
24. Fastadh Bidh sanasan-obrach dà-chànanach ann no ann an Gàidhlig a-mhàin airson a h-uile dreuchd far a bheil Gàidhlig na sgil riatanach.	Recruitment Bilingual or Gaelic only job adverts for all posts where Gaelic is an essential skill. **Narrative** *As per standard recruitment process re essential and desirable knowledge, skills and experience.*	Rated green
Corpas na Gàidhlig	**Gaelic Language Corpus**	
25. **Gnàthachas Litreachaidh na Gàidhlig** Thèid cumail ris an tionndadh as ùire de Ghnàthachas Litreachaidh na Gàidhlig anns na stuthan sgrìobhaidh uile a thèid fhoillseachadh leis an ùghdarras phoblach.	**Gaelic Orthographic Conventions** The most recent Gaelic Orthographic Conventions will be followed in relation to all written materials produced by the public authority. **Narrative** *Relevant written materials comply.*	Rated green
26. **Ainmean-àite** Iarrar agus gabhar ri comhairle bho Ainmean-Àite na h-Alba air ainmean-àite Gàidhlig.	**Place names** Gaelic place name advice from Ainmean-Àite na h-Alba is sought and used. **Narrative** Advice sought but cost prohibitive (£30 per name)	Rated amber

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) in Scotland: consultation response on Stage 2 of the review

Executive/Routine	Executive
Wards	All
Council Commitment	36

1. Recommendations

1.1 To consider the issues raised in this consultation and to approve the proposed response for submission to the Scottish Government.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Policy and Insight Team, Corporate Services Directorate

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Report

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) in Scotland: consultation response on Stage 2 of the review

2. Executive Summary

2.1   This report has been jointly produced by Policy and Insight and Human Resources. It provides the Council's proposed response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the 'Review of the Operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland'. It is being considered by Committee in advance of submission with the consultation deadline originally 7 March, now extended to 11 April 2022.

2.2   It follows a previous response in 2021 to the Scottish Government's questionnaire regarding the review of the operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty.

2.3   The response reflects widespread engagement with colleagues from across the Council and partners who would have a specific interest in aspects of the proposals. It emphasizes the need for equalities to be better aligned to existing strategic planning frameworks, such as Business Plans. It responds to proposals regarding data collection with a balanced perspective between aspirational aims and practical challenges. In particular, the response welcomes reduced bureaucracy, further consideration of the need to embed inclusive communications into our services, the proposal to strengthen equality impact assessment and the proposal to introduce national equality outcomes that support listed authorities to advance equality.

2.4   It is expected that as a result of this consultation, the Council's response, and the on-going engagement the Scottish Government will have with listed authorities, that the Council's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 will be strengthened and better supported. This in turn will strengthen the Council's ability to meet the needs of all our staff and customers, providing a higher quality service and a positive environment for productivity.

3. Background

3.1   The Policy and Sustainability Committee approved the Council's Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025 at its 20 April 2021 meeting.

3.2   The framework is a part of the Council's response to the 'Public Sector Equality Duty', which forms part of the Equality Act 2010. This duty has three components:

3.2.1 Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation.

3.2.2 Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic

3.2.3 Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

3.3 Alongside this, The Fairer Scotland Duty was introduced in April 2018. These duties are placed on a range of listed authorities, which includes all Scottish local authorities.

3.4 The Equality Act 2010 'Specific Duties (Scotland) Regulation 2012' came into force on 27 May 2012 to support the 'Public Sector Equality Duty'. These regulations require listed public authorities in Scotland to:

3.4.1 Report on progress on action to mainstream equality;

3.4.2 Publish equality outcomes and report progress;

3.4.3 Assess and review policies and practices (impact assessment);

3.4.4 Gather and use employee information;

3.4.5 Publish gender pay gap information and an equal pay statement

3.4.6 Consider award criteria and conditions in relation to public procurement; and

3.4.7 Publish all of this in an accessible manner every two years.

3.5 It is these regulations that the Scottish Government are now reviewing as a means to support the operation of the public sector equality duty.

3.6 A stage one Scottish Government report, setting out the learning from an engagement programme, reflection of equality mainstreaming over COVID-19 pandemic and key improvement proposals was published on 24 March 2021. It identified the current issues with the regime and areas for improvement.

3.7 As part of the second stage of its review into the effectiveness of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland, the Scottish Government issued a questionnaire to public bodies, seeking views on a range of proposals for improvement.

3.8 A Council response to the Scottish Government questionnaire was approved by the Executive Director of Corporate Services before submission to meet deadlines. It was then noted by the Policy and Sustainability Committee meeting on the 5th October 2021.

3.9 The current consultation follows the Scottish Government Stage 1 review report and the Council's questionnaire response.

3.10 The key principles which underpinned the questionnaire response were to align and streamline the range of requirements on public bodies; provide a national source of expert support, similar to that provided by the Improvement Service to support

implementation of the Fairer Scotland Duty to help to build knowledge and share good practice, and the need to be mindful of the capacity and skills requirements of officers in public bodies.

3.11 This second stage consultation now sets out a series of proposals both for legislative changes to the Scottish Specific Duties and changes to the wider implementation environment. The consultation runs from 13 December to 11 April (extended from the original 7 March deadline) and is mainly targeted to the Scottish public sector and equality advocacy groups.

4. Main report

4.1 The first section of the consultation sets out 7 key proposals regarding the following:

4.1.1 Creating a more cohesive regime and reducing perceived bureaucracy

4.1.2 Embedding inclusive communications

4.1.3 Extending pay gap report to include ethnicity and disability

4.1.4 Assessing and reviewing policies and practices

4.1.5 A new equality outcome setting process

4.1.6 Improving duties relation to Scottish ministers

4.1.7 Procurement

4.2 Further areas are explored in Section 2: Intersectional and disaggregated data analysis; Intersectional gender budget analysis; Coverage; Guidance; and Positive action.

4.3 The third section invites respondents to detail any overall reflections.

4.4 The Council's response welcomes the reduction of bureaucracy with the proposal of only reporting every 4 years rather than 2 years to meet the duty but highlights the need to report regularly in between by incorporating equality outcomes into existing strategic plans such as the business plan. This would ensure the robust framework for planning and performance is adopted for equality outcomes in the same way as the other business plan outcomes. This approach would also support the mainstreaming of equality.

4.5 We suggest that employment duties are best reported, analysed and action taken annually to ensure progress is made over the 4 year period. We usually publish this in October, and we request that flexibility allows us to continue in this way, with the duty being met by signposting and a summary contained in the 4-year equality strategic plan.

4.6 The proposal to report on all duties in the same place is similar to the approach the Council has adopted already. However, the Council believes the 4 year equality strategic plan that is proposed provides an opportunity to be more concise, pulling

together all relevant information from different published documents, containing necessary links or signposts to show how the Council meets its duties along with any summary or examples to support this.

4.7 We support the proposal that Equality Impact Assessments may be strengthened with a requirement to involve those with lived experience in certain circumstances and envisage these circumstances to be similar to those set out for the Fairer Scotland Duty (i.e. strategic decisions). We believe that all decisions should continue to be equality impact assessed but that a proportionate response is essential.

4.8 The consultation proposes to introduce a duty to publish ethnicity and disability pay gap information alongside the current duty to publish gender pay gap information. This is welcomed and fits with the intention of the Council to do this anyway.

4.9 The consultation seeks views on the role of Scottish Ministers, and in particular, in aligning the delivery of a statement and debate on Gender policy Coherence with the existing legal duty on Scottish Ministers to publish a report on progress to better perform the PSED under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. We welcome this but highlight the need for this to also be aligned with 'Equality Safe: Scotland's Strategy for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls'.

4.10 The consultation seeks views on gathering and using intersectional data including intersectional gender budget analysis. Although we support this as an aim, we highlight some practical difficulties in making this a duty at present.

4.11 We respond to the question about reporting on positive action with a reminder that this is a power not a duty and therefore there should be no duty to report on it.

4.12 Throughout the response we stress the need for providing listed authorities with flexibility and the importance of being able to access a central resource for support and training. This is particularly important for equality impact assessments and the proposal to introduce a duty to embed inclusive communication. We also agree with the recognised need for strengthened leadership, designated equality officers and training,

5.   Next Steps

5.1 Following approval from Committee, the response will be submitted to be included in the Scottish Government's consultation. The City of Edinburgh Council will continue to have representation on the Scottish Council Equality Network and stay abreast with developments from Scottish Government.

5.2 No further consultation is anticipated but the Scottish Government wish on-going engagement with local authorities. Intentions will be put to the Scottish Parliament in the summer. It is intended that regulations will be introduced by the end of 2022.

It is anticipated that the regulations would not come into force until 2025 (i.e. local authorities would publish their new equality strategic plan meeting new/revised duties in 2025). This would align with the current reporting cycle and mean that The City of Edinburgh Council will be expected, the meantime, to work towards its progress report in 2023 and its final progress report in 2025 with regard to our current 'Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025'.

6. Financial impact

6.1 There are no direct financial costs arising from this report. Any financial costs arising from new regulations may need to be considered when regulations are introduced.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 The Council's Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025 is the mechanism by which the Council seeks to meet its legal Public Sector Equality Duty and corresponding Scottish Specific duties. An integrated Impact Assessment was undertaken on this Framework during its development. Should the Framework be revised or replaced in light of new legislative duties following the consultation, an Integrated Impact Assessment will be undertaken again.

7.2 Invitation to input to this response was made widespread across the Council. This included the following groups or service areas:

7.2.1 Equality Outcome leads Implementation Group (representation across all outcomes in the Council's Equality and Diversity Framework 2021-2025)

7.2.2 Equality, Diversity and Rights Advisors (representation across all service areas and with an interest in equality impact assessments)

7.2.3 All Council staff forums (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Network; Black and Minority Ethnic Equality Workers Forum; Forces Family Colleague Network; Network Engagement for Women's Support; SPARC network; STRIDE Network; Sustainability Network)

7.3 Colleagues were also directly contacted where it was anticipated there might be an interest in specific parts of the proposal. This included: Corporate Services, the Edinburgh Health and Social Care partnership; Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee; Licensing Board; and, Education and Children's Services.

7.4 In addition to widespread input from colleagues internally, this consultation was discussed with members of the Scottish Council Equality Network (SCEN) and later, directly with Scottish Government in a specially held meeting for SCEN members.

8.   Background reading/external references

8.1   [Council response to questionnaire for Stage 2 Review of the Operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland: Consultation paper](#)

8.2   [Scottish Government 'Review of the operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland: Consultation paper'](#)

8.3   [Scottish Government 'Public sector - understanding equality data collection: main report'](#)

9.   Appendices

9.1   Appendix 1: City of Edinburgh Council's response to the Scottish Government 'Review of the operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland: Consultation paper.

CONSULTATION REF 21/12/1455 - PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY   **Respondent**: The City of Edinburgh Council

Question	Proposal Area	Response
Creating a more cohesive regime and reducing perceived bureaucracy		
1.1: . . Page 283	What are your views on the proposal outlined above in relation to the substance of reporting?	The City of Edinburgh Council already publishes an Equality and Diversity Framework that sets out how it meets its Scottish Specific Duties (SSDs) in relation to Regulation 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 (evidence gathering, involvement of those with lived experience, setting equality outcomes, mainstreaming actions, carrying out equality impact assessments, mainstreaming equality into procurement, gathering and using employee information, publishing an Equal Pay Statement, and Gender Pay Gap information). We would agree with the proposal to make the 'mainstreaming reporting duty more prescriptive and require listed authorities to produce a report every 4 years, which would include: • Publishing a strategic plan that sets out how the listed authority intends to meet all of the SSDs; • Publishing all of the information required by other SSDs; • Reporting on listed authorities' implementation of the SSDs, over the previous 4 years; and • Reporting on how listed authorities have used lived experience, or the organisations representing people with lived experience, throughout their implementation of the duties. We would ask that a format for a plan and the guidance that supports planning for meeting the SSDs takes into account how key areas/departments and indeed, other listed authorities that work closely if not, within, the local authority , e.g. Education and licensing can or should go about meeting this duty. **Publishing a strategic plan that sets out how the listed authority intends to meet all of the SSDs** There needs to be clarification on what is meant by 'strategic plan'? Does this mean including it in the authority's Business or Strategic Plan rather than having a standalone Equality Plan? Whilst a separate equality strategic plan helps to raise the profile of equalities and makes it easier to find all relevant information, it is imperative that relevant duties are embedded in other strategic plans that require more regular monitoring to ensure implementation over the 4-year period.

It would make sense to include Equality Outcomes in the Business Plan or a similar Corporate plan (e.g. Local Outcome Improvement Plan) if possible, and for reporting on these outcomes to be on an annual basis. Doing this would depend on reporting cycle requirements. If reporting on outcomes was only at the end of the 4 years, there is a risk that implementation would lose momentum. Similarly, the purpose of employment reporting would also be lost if it was only every 4 years and so again, this needs to be reported on annually. A 4-year report (or strategic plan) that pulls together how the authority meets all its duties may be more about signposting to where more information can be found on each relevant duty.

Publishing all of the information required by other SSDs
It is important to note that Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs) are required to be published "within a reasonable period". The 'plan' would include the process for assessing and reviewing policies and practices and any progress reports would include a summary of the process and any improvements made to the process.

Reporting on listed authorities' implementation of the SSDs, over the previous 4 years
At present we are required to publish a 4-year plan and report on this every 2 year (Regulation 3 and 4). Whilst the reduction of reporting from 2 years to 4 years is welcomed as it would reduce the bureaucratic nature of the duty it is imperative that momentum and focus is kept up in implementation of the duties. Therefore, we would recommend that there is an expectation for equalities reporting to be incorporated into annual reporting of other strategic plans (e.g. an organisation's business plan).

If reporting deadlines are adjusted to ensure they do not align with the end of the financial year, then the Scottish Council Equality Network have previously suggested end of September as a suitable alternative. Retaining flexibility would enable organisations to choose their own preferred time of year though and enable reporting to be aligned to the other strategic plans in which equality outcomes may be embedded.

It is important to note that publishing how an organisation has met the duty to assess has been interpreted to mean a description of how the organisation carries out that duty and a link to where impact assessments can be found – NOT the publishing of all impact assessments in a report. Similarly, the proposals have been interpreted to mean that details of involving people with lived experience may be contained within impact assessments and only a strategic overview of the inclusive approach taken would be described in a published report.

		Reporting on how listed authorities have used lived experience, or the organisations representing people with lived experience, throughout their implementation of the duties We are happy with a proposal that there is a duty to report on how listed authorities involve people with lived experience in developing outcomes. It would also be useful to involve people with lived experience in other areas where relevant but a recommendation in guidance to do this may be more appropriate than a duty. Further clarification on what this proposal means would be helpful. This proposal does not take away the importance of consultation and engagement on equality impact. However, a strategic and mainstreamed approach may be more practical and workable. Consideration must be given to how people with lived experience are rewarded for their engagement, particularly when in their own time. Fatigue and consultation overload are risks for specific groups in which there may be low numbers. We recognise that those with lived experience may have a number of barriers in their lives that make it more difficult to find the time or prioritise having their voice heard. Many could benefit from assistance to develop skills that allow them to share their views in the best way to influence change. Additional methods are required to facilitate the engagement of some groups. All these issues require additional resource. Therefore, this proposal should be considered alongside consideration of this and resource implications for organisations. We believe engagement of stakeholders on general matters can be strengthened to ensure views around equality on any issue being consulted is proactively and explicitly sought and taken account of. In addition, those with lived experience should be actively sought out for engagement. The views of a minority but recognised disadvantaged group should be given appropriate weighting. The Council currently funds an external organisation to facilitate an equality and rights network. This network has proved helpful to gather views from those with lived experience and those who represent equality interests. However, they are not contacted directly on everything that the Council consults on nor regarding every impact assessment that is undertaken. Instead, they are usually asked to engage on strategic matters and issues with high equality relevance. Service areas will often engage with their own stakeholders (including those with lived experience) on more specific issues.
1.2:	What are your views on the proposal outlined above in relation to the reporting process?	We agree in principle with the proposal in relation to the reporting process to: • Simplify the regime so that there is only one reporting cycle for all of the duties;

		• Allow listed authorities to satisfy all of their reporting duties in one report, reinforce the flexibility of reporting requirements and encourage listed authorities to report on their duties as part of their own operational reporting cycles; • Ensure that reporting deadlines do not align with the end of the financial year; and • Require reports to be published at a minimum of every 4 years. It makes sense to have one reporting cycle and to have a longer cycle for reporting. The requirement to publish the plan with actions and timescales across the 4 years would support work being taken forward across the 4-yr period. Consideration needs to be given as to how to ensure progression across the 4-year plan (and beyond). Currently the Council provides a report in relation to employment duties annually in October whilst the equality outcomes and mainstreaming progress reporting is usually in the spring. The progress report will usually refer and signpost to the October reports rather than duplicate the information from the October report. Flexibility for authorities to continue to publish at a time that suits them for each SSD would be desired. Similarly, impact assessments are published separately and throughout the year in a timely fashion. Rather than include them in the report, the Council signposts to where these can be found. IIAs should continue to be published once signed off. Again, flexibility to continue to do this would be desired. Providing flexibility is imperative to ensure equality duties are integrated into strategic plans, such as a business plan, at the point of creation and consequently have an increased chance of being implemented with the intended mainstream approach. A separate report on outcomes etc separates rather than mainstreams equality work from the rest of business. Ideally, equality outcomes will be presented and part of an organisation's strategic business plan or framework. The Council believes that the duty to report every 4 years should be about signposting to where evidence of meeting the relevant duties can be found and a summary of progress in each area pulled together to be found in one place.
1.3:	What are your views on consolidating the previous sets of amending regulations?	We agree with the proposal to consolidate all previous sets of regulations relating to the SSDs, in one new all-encompassing and clear set of regulations.
Embedding Inclusive Communications		

| 2.1: | What are your views on our proposal to place a duty on listed authorities to embed inclusive communication proportionately across their work? | We welcome the proposal to place a duty on listed authorities to embed inclusive communication proportionately across their work. Clear and accessible communications are central to the equalities and human rights agendas. Among the benefits are increased engagement from groups to develop outcomes, priorities and to reflect on progress and challenges.

Public authorities are already striving to meet accessibility standards for their websites that came into force for public sector bodies on 23 September 2018. This includes adherence to the international WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility standard and publishing an accessibility statement that explains the accessibility of our website.

Work at Scottish Govt level to support this outcome is required. Consideration needs to be given to support for implementation and resources to local authorities. Support that would be helpful would include updated guidance on how to produce accessible documents, training, webinars, tutorial videos which can be used on Council learning platforms and best practice examples. Perhaps a National Resource Centre could be considered. There may be a role for the Inclusive Communications Hub

It is critical to know what the Scottish Government define as 'accessible' and 'inclusive'.

What is meant by 'Proportionately' is also of crucial significance and a clear explanation is required. What is a proportionate response to ensure BSL users receive the same information any other customer requires, but with consideration to budget costs? Clarity around translation services and BSL around reasonable adjustments (this is already a general duty) for community languages is required.

There is already a lot of information about accessible and inclusive communication available. One problem is not having a central place to locate this, but another problem is the ability to understand requirements without wading through excess information.

It would be helpful to have a standard for inclusive communication with guidelines to ensure consistency across Councils. A central source of clear and simple requirements and perhaps a guide on levels for progression would be helpful. E.g. step 1 could be ensuring all information published on a website is in plain English including reports to boards or committees that are also available to the public. We would suggest that the government drive a campaign for Plain English. Scottish Government could also support public information that encourages service-user use of digital technologies to support communication. |

		In addition to meeting accessibility standards on websites, assuring access to web-based information is important for people with sensory impairments, and the SG could consider increased application of funding to support tech access (devices, skills, addressing data poverty) for people with sight loss and deaf people
		It should be noted that generic accessibility standards do not always best meet the communication needs of specific groups (e.g. embedded captions in videos made for BSL users). Taking this into account will mean ensuring involvement of those with lived experience in the development of any national guidance.
		We would welcome consideration of the expansion of Contact Scotland BSL to form a full video remote interpreting service (VRI) to replace the video relay service (VRS) currently operating.
		Awareness raising (of the scope and purpose) and training are needed throughout organisations, as well as targeted training. Staff capacity (time to undertake any training necessary and changing current ways of working) is also required. One of the main challenges is embedding and mainstreaming awareness of requirements and support to develop the skills needed to support improvements. Therefore, the proposal is likely to require further resources and funding to implement and the duty would need to be clear which protected characteristics this is aimed at.
Extending pay gap reporting to include ethnicity and disability		
3.1:	What are your views on our proposal to require listed authorities to publish ethnicity and disability pay gap information?	We welcome the new proposals however we would note that a number of Local Authorities, including Edinburgh, already publish this information. Discussions have started across Local Authorities in Scotland, led by The Society for Personnel and Development Scotland (SPDS), to progress this further and build consistency in what is reported. We would ask Scottish Government to keep abreast with developments taken forward by this group.
		Scottish Government should consider the benefit of data to demonstrate the pay gap (if any) for individuals who hold intersecting protected characteristics beyond sex and gender. For example, the impact of being a woman from a minority ethnic background, or a woman with a disability and the earnings of individuals who have those characteristics compared to those who do not. Women in particular from minority ethnic backgrounds and/or those who have a disability are likely to be disproportionately affected by the gender pay gap (or non-gender-based pay gap) due to additional extraneous factors, such as visa requirements and benefit eligibility. This is also referred to in section 8 of the response.

3.2:	Should the reporting threshold for ethnicity and disability pay gap reporting be the same as the current reporting threshold for gender pay gap reporting (where a listed authority has at least 20 employees)	The City of Edinburgh Council has not had experience of publishing data with low employee numbers that may be below 20 so cannot comment on the risks or challenges that this might pose.
3.3	What are your views on the respective formulas that should be used to calculate listed authorities' gender, ethnicity and disability pay gaps?	The formulas need to be clear and consistent across authorities. In particular, we like your suggestion that 'Standardisation in this context could include: • Being specific in the duties as to what formulas listed authorities should use to calculate pay gaps; • Agreed data gathering questions and answer options; and • A template for reporting which could enable better consistency of presentation and comparability, enable improved progress monitoring and minimise bureaucracy.' As noted in 3.1 Local Authorities are already discussing how we can build a consistent approach to reporting. Part of the work that the SPDS portfolio group is undertaking includes a draft proposal of how we report on intersectional impact on pay gap.
Assessing and reviewing policies and practices		
9.1	What are your views on the proposal outlined above?	**The Scottish Government proposes to adjust the duty to assess and review policies and practices to emphasise that assessments must be undertaken as early as possible in the policy development process and should aim to test ideas prior to decisions being taken to ultimately make better policy for people.** We agree with the proposal that that there should be an emphasis that assessments must be undertaken as early as possible in the policy development process. The Council's Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process already recognises this. Further clarification is needed on what is meant by 'test ideas'. Improvement science is used in some areas of work, e.g. Education, and often includes tests of change. The Council's impact assessment process does test ideas by considering any potential positive or negative impacts of the proposal and if this is what is meant by the proposal, we would support this. **The Scottish Government also proposes to strengthen the duty to assess and review policies and practices to require the involvement of people with lived experience, or organisations who represent them, in certain circumstances, like where the policy being assessed is a strategic level decision (of the type that engage the socio-economic duty in part 1 of the Equality Act 2010). This is also explored in proposal 7**

		We agree with the importance of involving people with lived experience, or organisations who represent them. So, a requirement in certain circumstances is positive. We would also note that in some circumstances (e.g. employment policies) it is also important to work in partnership with Trade Unions. We would request further clarification on 'strategic level decisions' when this would apply. **As set out in Proposal 1, the Scottish Government proposes to require listed authorities to report on how they have implemented all of their SSDs as part of their overarching mainstreaming reporting duty. This will include assessing and reviewing policies and practices. This could be illustrated through case studies and examples.** We agree that listed authorities report on how they have implemented all of their SSDs as part of their overarching mainstreaming reporting duty. We believe this should include signposting to impact assessments but not publishing of the impact assessments themselves in the equality strategic plan – these should already have been published in a timely manner. We do not consider that there would an additional benefit in having a duty to include case studies and examples. Completed IIAs are published on the Council's website and this link is made available in the Council's equality and diversity framework progress reports. The Impact assessments will already have been published and used to inform decisions and will all be publicly available. We believe authorities should choose to include case studies where they deem it useful.
4.2	The Scottish Government recognises that improving the regime around assessing and reviewing policies and practices will take more than regulatory change. How else could improvements be made?	We feel the following improvements could be made: A **central resource** for guidance and support in complying with all SSDs, similar to the Improvement Service's Fairer Scotland Duty resources and knowledge hub providing a "go to" person and peer networking. Examples and case studies across different sectors of how good EQIA/IIAs can lead to better services and create opportunities to advance equality could be located here. Advice on improving 'EQIA capability' and sharing practice across local authorities would also be of benefit. Listed authorities need to ensure sufficient capacity and human resource to cover: • Training and Quality assurance; • Implementing recommendations arising from assessments; and, • Monitoring progress with implementation of impact assessment recommendations

		Additional funding should be considered to support listed Authorities to allocate dedicated internal resources that ensure the improvements are embedded.
4.3:	What are your views on the current scope of policies that should be assessed and reviewed under Regulation 5?	The current scope covers all policies and practices, but the assessment should be proportionate and appropriate to the policy/practice being assessed and reviewed. We agree that all policies etc should be assessed. Further clarification could be provided on what is expected with regard to different 'Relevance and proportionality'.

Question	Proposal Area	Response
A new equality outcome setting process		
5.1	What are your views on our proposal for the Scottish Government to set national equality outcomes, which listed authorities could adopt to meet their own equality outcome setting duty?	We are broadly in support of the proposal that Scottish Government take on a leadership role in setting national equality outcomes. There is currently no expectation on how many equality outcomes authorities are expected to have. There is also the possibility that national equality outcomes will not apply to some authorities. (e.g. education or housing outcomes may not apply to health organisations – though they may have a role to play). We would suggest that authorities are expected to have no less than 3 and no more than 5 equality outcomes. (This does not limit mainstreaming actions) This would help with focus, specificity and chance of success. We also believe that national outcomes may be broad and overarching (more like priorities) and may need to be amended to suit a local situation, to become focused and specific and measurable. Whilst there are issues that seem to span across the country and authorities it makes sense to set national outcomes and would increase the chance of seeing visible and measurable success. It would also avoid repetitive and duplicate gathering of evidence and involvement of stakeholders. Authorities would still need to focus on what these mean locally. The requirement to produce outcomes has never prevented an organisation from doing other activity to promote equality and meet the public sector equality duty. This would still be the case and be welcomed. Similarly, we would agree that the proposal does also allow for authorities not to adopt the national outcomes.
Improving duties relating to Scottish Ministers		
6.1	What are your views on the Scottish Government's proposal to simplify the regulation 6A process?	This proposal does not affect our authority. In principle, we are happy for the proposal to be simplified. However, the representation on public boards and ensuring diversity is very important so only changes that will strengthen this aim are desired. The Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018 should remain in place. Regarding Regulation 6A, there is a risk that the protected characteristics of board members could unintentionally be disclosed due to the small numbers of people who sit on such boards. As noted in the stage one report, there can be a disconnect between the gathering of data and the setting of outcomes, which in itself can create unintended consequences that go against the spirit of the legislation. Accordingly, great consideration should be given as to the purpose of gathering the data of board members, what benefits it brings to an understanding of equalities and what can be done to ensure that sensitive information is not disclosed.

6.2	What are your views on the proposal in relation to regulations 11 and 12?	Regulation 11 allows for Scottish Ministers to direct listed authorities to consider other matters, when carrying out their duties under the SSDs. Regulation 12 allows for the Scottish Government to take a leadership role and drive continuous improvement in relation to listed authorities' performance of the general equality duty. We have no objection for sections 11 and 12 to be retained.
6.3:	In 2019, the First Minister's National Advisory Council on Women and Girls recommended that Scottish Ministers deliver an Annual Statement, followed by a debate, on Gender Policy Coherence to the Scottish Parliament. In our response to this we said we would: "Consider the merits of aligning the delivery of a statement and debate with the existing legal duty on Scottish Ministers to publish a report on progress to better perform the PSED under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012". What are your views on this?	It seems practical and useful to align the statement and debate with the existing duty. The alignment would give increased attention to gender equality issues. Consideration should be given to how to ensure due attention to all protected characteristics (which relate to the PSED). Consideration could be given to an intersectional approach. The Fair Work Framework should also also be taken into account. We would also highlight that any statement, debate and review on policy coherence also needs to be in line with Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls. Particular attention has to be paid to areas where local policy can contradict the PSED as well as Equally Safe (one such example is the current debate and pending decision on the licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues-this directly contravenes the PSED and Equally Safe).
Procurement		
7.1:	What are your views on our proposal and call for views in relation to procurement?	Regarding the publication aspect being proposed, we are assuming the proposal is to incorporate this requirement into the current statutory requirements to produce a procurement strategy and report on this on an annual basis. If so, this could be incorporated, and all procurement obligations contained and published in one place. Alternatively, a reference to Equality specific published report, incorporating the procurement actions could be included in the procurement annual report for completeness. Regarding stakeholder recommendations the Council agrees with Scottish Government that this continues to apply where it is proportionate to the subject matter. Should this requirement and 'specific examples' become a 'mandatory' element on all award and tender specification it would require additional training/funding to support authorities and suppliers and be clear about how it meets proportionality. Any changes to the current requirements should also be communicated through a Scottish Procurement Policy Note with additional guidance. Integrated Impact Assessments are currently applied to identify PSED and incorporate into specifications for inclusion in award decisions.

Question	Proposal Area	Response
Intersectional and disaggregated data analysis		
8.1:	The First Minister's National Advisory Council on Women and Girls called for the Scottish Government to place an additional duty on listed authorities to "gather and use intersectional data, including employment and service-user data, to advance equality between protected groups, including men and women"? (a) What are your views on this? (b) How could listed authorities be supported to meet this requirement?	a) We agree that this needs to be the way forward and is essential if we are to make meaningful changes. This is a good aspiration. *it would be beneficial for us (and others) to provide intersectional analysis* on *employee data. The work referred to in section 3 will support this outcome.* However, we don't think many authorities are in a position to do this presently. The focus at present should be collecting complete full data to meet existing duties, ensuring effective analysis is undertaken correctly and action is taken as a result. We believe many authorities are not confident that we are consistently using single protected characteristic data yet. There is a capacity issue regarding this aspiration and authorities would need support and time to become ready to implement this. The collection of *service-user* data is already fraught with difficulties, time consuming and onerous. This proposal would have to apply to third sector organisations etc whose services are publicly funded as well as authorities' own services. We are doubtful that, at this present time, the service-user data collected would be used in a meaningful way. We are concerned that this, in fact, could be damaging unless the reasons why the data is showing what it is showing, is fully investigated. This problem is compounded when you consider the many different factors which contribute to what the data actually means. b) Scottish Government taking a lead on this themselves in the first instance would help. Examples, clear guidance on what authorities need to consider if low numbers risk identification would help. The intersectionality aspect may produce such low numbers. The SG is in the process of establishing an Equality Data Improvement Programme (EDIP) which will be designed to improve and strengthen data on the protected equality characteristics collected and utilised across the public sector. With regard to the Equality Data Improvement Programme:

		• Could Scottish Government experts and systems support analysis? • Could Scottish Government provide support to local authorities to improve processes for data collection?
8.2:	[Question directed specifically to listed authorities] (a) If there was a requirement for your organisation to "gather and use intersectional data, including employment and service-user data, to advance equality between protected groups, including men and women", would you be confident your organisation could comply with it? YES/NO Routing depending on answer to part (a). (b) If yes, why? (b) If no, what would you need to ensure you could comply by 2025?	a) No. From an employment perspective we could provide this information but would benefit from templates and guidance as outlined in section 3. From a service-user data perspective we don't think this should be an additional duty. We think many authorities would make efforts to comply without benefiting from being able to carry this out properly at this present time. Authorities that contract out work to third parties would need to require those third parties to comply with the same duties. This could be problematic for smaller third sector organisations. b) Examples of organisations, such as the Scottish Government that had already done this, clear guidance on what authorities need to consider, including if low numbers risk identification would help. We are also limited to what we can report on due to the system that we use (SEEMiS) not having the required functionality to allow this data to be collected and stored. As this is a system used nationally across Scotland, it could be that SG could influence changes to allow this reporting to be undertaken.
Intersectional gender budget analysis		
9.1:	The First Minister's National Advisory Council on Women and Girls' called for the Scottish Government to integrate intersectional gender budget analysis into the Scottish Budget process, and to place this on a statutory footing. What are your views on this?	In principle, yes, we strongly agree with working towards an intersectional approach. Yes, we agree that intersectional gender budget analysis should be integrated into the Scottish Budget process. At the same time, further work should be carried out to progress and further improve the quality of data in the Equality Data Improvement Programme and promote the use of this.

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		Taking forward this proposal would signal a step forward and allow listed authorities to have an example that could be followed in due course.
9.2:	The First Minister's National Advisory Council on Women and Girls' called for the Scottish Government to place an additional duty on listed authorities to integrate intersectional gender budget analysis into their budget setting procedures. (a) What are your views on this? (b) How could listed authorities be supported to meet this requirement?	a) We think gender budget analysis would be a positive step forward and perfectly feasible at this present time. However, we don't think there is a need for an additional statutory requirement. The Council carries out IIAs for individual budget proposals which include an assessment on gender. In addition to individual IIAs, a cumulative IIA is also undertaken. Authorities require more information on what this means over and above the duty to assess equality impact on budget proposals. The implications of the intersectional aspect are unclear. This may be a second step in the process that could be considered in the future. Applying the intersectional part of the requirement may not be suitable for smaller organisations. b) It would be extremely useful if national training was provided which would ensure consistency of understanding across all listed authorities. More data being provided by the SG as a central resource via the Equality Data Improvement Programme would help.
9.3:	[Question directed to listed authorities] (a) If an additional duty was placed on your organisation to integrate intersectional gender budget analysis into its budget setting procedures, would you be confident your organisation could comply with it? YES/NO Routing depending on answer to part (a). (b) If yes, why? (b) If no, what would you need to ensure you could comply by 2025?	a) Yes, the City of Edinburgh Council could comply with this duty although it would depend on the level of detail required. However, as above, we don't think an additional statutory duty at this stage is appropriate. Training, support and encouragement for authorities to adopt this approach is required before introducing a duty. This would include clear guidance to senior managers and elected members/board members. Any data used for this would need to be from the Equality Data Improvement Project. b) Equality should already be a consideration in budget setting. Budget IIAs are usually completed with extremely tight deadlines. Usually budget setting is aligned to business and

		strategic plans that require equality impact assessments. Therefore, there should already be steps that are taken in this process. There would need to be a period allowed for improvement over the first few years as authorities became familiar with what was expected. Additional resources should also be considered. By 2025 they may be in a position to meet this duty.

Question	Proposal Area	Response
Coverage		
10.1:	(a) In your view, are there any Scottish public authorities who are not subject to the PSED or the SSDs that you think should be? YES/NO (b) If YES, please give detail on which Scottish public authorities you think should be subject to the PSED or SSDs.	a) Yes, b) The Education Authority think HMIE, GTCS and SSSC could be considered to become subject to the duties.
10.2:	EHRC has expressed the view that regulatory bodies, as part of their own compliance with the SSDs, should be encouraged to do more to improve PSED performance within their sector. What are your views on this?	If regulatory bodies adopted a supportive approach to help guide and assist authorities to understand and meet the duties where relevant to their own area of regulation this would be welcomed. It is good that Audit Scotland include best value audits on how well local authorities perform in equality and rights.

However, the Equality and Human Rights Commission is the regulatory body for the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Scottish Government is the regulatory body for the Scottish Specific Duties and these two organisations should remain the regulatory bodies. There is a danger of conflicting understanding or instruction from different agencies. There is also a danger that the EHRC loses its credibility as the regulatory body. If regulatory bodies, as part of their own compliance with the SSDs do more to improve PSED performance within their sector, this should be in strong collaboration with the EHRC and Scottish Government and resource may need to be considered in order to do this well. |
| **Strengthening leadership and accountability and enhancing capability, capacity and culture** | | |
| **11.1:** | The Scottish Government will consult on the issues in this section further through the mainstreaming strategy. However, if you think any of these matters could be addressed through the PSED review, please give details here. | We welcome consideration of the Strengthening of leadership and accountability and enhancing capability, capacity and culture.

We agree with the proposal that further exploration is given of the following areas:
- Funding: Ensuring there is long-term funding for the public and third sectors for equality and human rights;
- Training: Ensuring that there is effective equality training, particularly for senior leaders and public appointments; |

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- Equality accountable officers: Requiring public bodies to appoint an accountable officer, who would provide internal advice, guidance and competence building;
- Improved forums or portals to share best practice: Improving existing forums to share best practice across the public sector or establishing a new online portal to share consolidated guidance, best practice and publications.

We agree that leadership is critical to the success of implementing the SSDs. A designated senior equality champion or executive sponsor can be an incredibly supportive resource. Strong leadership needs to be supported by clear and straightforward processes with an emphasis on meaningful change and culture rather than compliance. An equality accountable officer at senior management level would improve leadership. However, it may be other staff with a designated equalities role in the organisation (depending on size) providing internal advice, guidance and competence building.

We have recommended elsewhere in this response (section 4.2) that a central resource would be helpful such as that on the Knowledge Hub used for the Fairer Scotland Duty.

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<td colspan="2">Guidance</td>
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<td>12:</td>
<td>What would you like to see in improved revised guidance for the SSDs?</td>
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We would like to see coverage of all three points from engagement to date.
These calls included:
• More prescriptive step-by-step technical guidance;
• Consolidating guidance and increased use of clearer language throughout all supporting documents; and
• Strategic guidance which reaffirms how compliance with the duties relates to the general PSED

Case studies, examples of best practice, access to central resource (Equality Data Improvement), Toolkits and case studies are welcomed in addition to a link person/team (EHRC) that listed authorities can approach for any PSED related queries/ support.

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<td colspan="3">Positive action</td>
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13:	EHRC has expressed the view that listed authorities should report on how they have used positive action under section 158 of the Equality Act 2010, as part of their reporting obligations. What are your views on this?	Positive action is a power not a duty. Authorities should be encouraged to share how they have used this power in order to help others but there should be no obligation to report on this. The best place to share information may be in the 4-year mainstreaming report where all other duties are reported on. The advantage of reporting on this would be the opportunity to share good practice in utilising the positive action power.
14. Overall reflections		
14.1:	Overall, what are your reflections on the proposals set out by the Scottish Government and the further areas explored?	The proposals and further areas explored are all positive. We welcome the Scottish Government's commitment to explore the following issues further: • Funding: Ensuring there is long-term funding for the public and third sectors for equality and human rights; • Training: Ensuring that there is effective and mandatory equality training, particularly for senior leaders and public appointments; • Equality accountable officers: Requiring public bodies to appoint an accountable officer, who would provide internal advice, guidance and competence building; • Improved forums or portals to share best practice: Improving existing forums to share best practice across the public sector or establishing a new online portal to share consolidated guidance, best practice and publications. We would welcome being involved in the consultation in 2022 on the mainstreaming strategy where these issues will be presented with further consideration. Senior Leadership and commitment on progressing equality in listed authorities is critical to all of the above issues being addressed.
14.2:	Please use this box to provide any further information that you think would be useful, which is not already covered in your response.	• How will the responses to this consultation be collated? • Will the considerations of the 9 protected characteristics and intersectionality be part of the analysis of the responses (relevant for individual responses/organisations representing)? • Are there any further steps planned if there is/or thought to be a limited response from a wide cross section? (protected

		characteristics and intersectionality) – recognising that the main audience for this consultation is public bodies.

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Policy and Sustainability Committee

10am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Protect Transport for Edinburgh – Response to Motion

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1.   Recommendations

The Policy and Sustainability Committee are asked to:

1.1   Note the contents of the report; and

1.2   Note the availability of the requested data and that Police Scotland's Executive have already committed to increasing Edinburgh Division's resource establishment.

Amanda Hatton

Executive Director for Education and Children's Services

Contact: Jon Ferrer, Head of Quality, Governance and Regulation and Deputy CSWO

E-mail: Jon.Ferrer@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 553 8396

Protect Transport for Edinburgh – Response to Motion

2.   Executive Summary

2.1   This report signposts the Committee to Police Scotland data outlining Police Officer numbers and recorded crime / incidents for Edinburgh and other Local Policing Divisions, as requested by Councillor Whyte at the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 5 October 2021.

2.2   This report also provides relevant contextual information in relation to Police Scotland's demand analysis framework and Strategic Workforce Plan.

3.   Background

3.1   At the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 5 October 2021, Councillor Whyte called for a further report:

To detail the relative levels of local Police officers and crimes/incidents in Edinburgh compared to other Scottish Cities and what steps have and could be taken to lobby Police Scotland and the Scottish Government to ensure Edinburgh gets its fair share of policing resources.

4.   Main report

Police Scotland advise:

4.1   Police Officer / staff numbers for each Local Policing Division are available on Police Scotland's website, accessible via https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/police-scotland/police-scotland-officer-numbers/ . Similarly, Quarterly Performance and Management Information data reports, which provide recorded crime / incidents for the Force, Council and Divisional areas, are accessible via https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/ .

4.2   Predicated on our shared commitment to ensure public safety, Police Scotland appreciates the continued interest in Edinburgh's Division's resource establishment and numerical demand profile. That said, as consistently stated by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland, the number of police officers is not a useful indicator of the quality of policing service. Relatedly, while the needs of

2

individuals and communities are understandably not analogous in nature, differentials also exist for recorded crimes / incidents i.e. Theft by Housebreakings will not necessarily be comparable in complexity, scope and breadth of investigation, resource commitment etc.

4.3   With this in mind, while the data referenced within 4.1 will allow for statistical comparators to be drawn, this exercise will not fully capture the complexities / nuances of policing, associated demand, or indeed, performance.

4.4   The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides that the main purpose of policing is to improve the safety and well-being of persons, localities and communities in Scotland and, understandably, quantifying demand in this context is not straightforward.

4.5   Police Scotland benefits from a dedicated Demand and Productivity capability which gathers / develops data sets to understand / interpret current demand, while concurrently tracking and monitoring data for the purpose of predicting future demand, both locally and nationally across the service.

4.6   Rather than just measuring crime and incident statistics, this enabling function develops and interprets data sources which contextualise workload, effort, and complexity across the purview of 'asks' made of our officers and staff.

4.7   Significantly, this work supports evidence-based strategic and tactical decision making, as exemplified by Police Scotland's inaugural Strategic Workforce Plan, which outlines the officer / staff profile and the skill sets needed to meet the future / evolving / complex policing requirements of our local communities effectively and efficiently.

4.8   This 3 year plan has been shaped by locally developed functional plans, with Edinburgh's submission focused on matching future local policing requirements with the needs of our diverse and expanding communities.

4.9   The bespoke multi-themed forward facing plan, aligns with the clear and consistent position articulated by the Divisional Commander who, whenever presented with the opportunity to discuss the subject of resource challenges and / or demand, has overtly acknowledged that the 'asks' made of our frontline have risen steadily to the point where more dedicated resources are required.

4.10   The Divisional Commander has previously advised the Committee of Police Scotland Executive's commitment to increase Edinburgh Division's establishment, with this uplift taking place incrementally, realised through transfers, realignment of resource released through organisational improvement programmes / change projects, probationer appointments etc.

4.11   Moreover, Edinburgh Division will of course continue to benefit from the knowledge, skill and support of specialist departments and Divisions, such as Road Policing, Armed Response, Specialist Crime and Operational Support allied with neighbouring Divisions, as required. As a reciprocal process, Edinburgh Division and, commensurately, our communities undoubtedly receive more support than we provide to assist others i.e., short term abstractions etc.

3

4.12 For the avoidance of doubt, with equitable access to specialist resource being a fundamental principle of Police Scotland's formation, regardless of additionality, Edinburgh Division will maintain the ability to draw on the support of colleagues, whether specialist or otherwise.

4.13 To specifically address *what steps, have and could be taken to lobby Police Scotland and the Scottish Government to ensure Edinburgh gets its fair share of policing resources*, as variously outlined, demand profiling is not linear in nature, and while specific timescales are as yet undefined, provision of additional dedicated resource has been confirmed, with work already ongoing to realise this commitment.

5.   Next Steps

5.1 As established custom and practice, the Divisional Commander will continue to provide the Committee with relevant updates.

6.   Financial impact

6.1 There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

7.   Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 There are no specific stakeholder / community impacts associated with this report.

8.   Background reading/external references

8.1 https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/police-scotland/police-scotland-officer-numbers/

8.2 https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/

8.3 Strategic Workforce Plan

9.   Appendices

9.1 None.

Policy and Sustainability

10.00am, Tuesday 22 February 2022

Refugee Resettlement

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	City-wide
Council Commitments	34

1.   Recommendations

1.1   Committee is recommended to agree:

1.1.1   an increase in Edinburgh's refugee resettlement to a maximum of one hundred and fifty refugees per year across the different strands of UK Government resettlement including Community Sponsorship;

1.1.2   that the exact number – which should not be fewer than one hundred people per year – will depend on the availability of quality sustainable housing and that all options within social housing and private rented sectors will need to be explored; and

1.1.3   that Committee will be updated annually on the number of people resettled via the business bulletin.

Amanda Hatton

Executive Director of Education and Children's Services

Contact: Alistair Dinnie, Refugee and Migration Programme Manager

E-mail: alistair.dinnie@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 3855

Report

Refugee Resettlement

2. Executive Summary

2.1 At its meeting of 10 June 2021, Policy and Sustainability Committee considered a petition requesting an increase in the number of refugees Edinburgh resettles per year. At a subsequent meeting of the City of Edinburgh Council on 26 August 2021 The City of Edinburgh Council passed the motion 'Welcoming Afghan Refugees' agreeing in principle that Edinburgh should contribute to Afghan refugee resettlement.

2.2 This report responds to Policy and Sustainability Committee's request for a report back on support provided to resettled refugees, updates committee on work to resettle Afghan refugees in the city and proposes a revised target for resettlement places offered.

3. Background

3.1 In May 2015, the City of Edinburgh Council agreed to resettle twenty-five refugees in the first year of involvement in the UK Government's small-scale Syrian Vulnerable Persons' Resettlement scheme. In September 2015, the scheme was expanded to resettle twenty-thousand refugees over five years and the city committed to providing places for five hundred people over that time.

3.2 During 2019, the UK Government announced plans for a single, global resettlement programme from 2020, the United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme (UKRS). At its meeting of 25 February 2020, Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed to maintain Edinburgh's commitment to offering permanent resettlement to one hundred refugees per year. The start of the UKRS was delayed due to the COVID pandemic and the first Edinburgh households resettled under this scheme arrived in April 2021.

3.3 The total number of people resettled in Edinburgh to date since 2015 is five hundred and eighty-five. Five hundred and seventy-three people have been resettled by the Council with a further two households, comprising twelve people resettled by groups the Home Office has approved for resettling families under the Community Sponsorship strand of resettlement. Three more households have been

agreed for resettlement by the Council over the coming months and two further Edinburgh-based community organisations have submitted final applications for approval under the Community Sponsorship strand.

3.4 Since June 2021, there has been significant further development in refugee resettlement following allied forces' withdrawal from Afghanistan and the creation of two further schemes focussing on Afghan resettlement: ARAP (the Afghan Resettlement and Assistance Policy) and the ACRS (the Afghan Citizens' Relocation Scheme).

4. Main report

4.1 At its meeting on 10 June 2021, Policy and Sustainability Committee considered a petition submitted by Edinburgh Must Act which highlighted conditions in Greek refugee camps and asked the Council to:

4.1.1 increase the number of resettlement places it offers every year and

4.1.2 engage with the Home Office to advocate for a change in policy to extend eligibility for the UK's managed resettlement schemed to refugees who have already travelled to mainland Europe and, specifically, the Aegean islands.

4.2 Following the meeting, the Council Leader wrote to the Home Office whose reply is included as appendix 1 to this report. The reply outlines a range of supportive measures the Home Office has put in place but gives no indication of a change to underlying policy. It remains open to the Council to consider an increase to its current commitment under existing resettlement schemes.

4.3 Committee further sought information on the support offered to households resettled in Edinburgh under UK Government Schemes. A description of the support provided in Edinburgh is therefore included at appendix 2 and information on the different resettlement schemes provided at appendix 3.

4.4 Members will recall the evacuation operation from Afghanistan in August and September 2021. Evacuees who arrived in the UK and others who have subsequently arrived from third countries have been offered temporary accommodation in hotels across the UK pending offers of permanent resettlement from local authorities under one of the two Afghan schemes.

4.5 Edinburgh has provided support for people in Edinburgh in temporary hotel accommodation on two occasions, initially for seventy-five people from early September till late October 2021 and subsequently for one hundred and forty-four people across two bridging hotels from January 2022. No households have been resettled permanently in Edinburgh as yet.

4.6 The Council motion of 26 August 2021 referenced the ongoing challenge of social housing capacity. In response to Afghan resettlement, eight properties with capacity for fifty-four people have been offered to the Private Sector Leasing (PSL) scheme by private landlords specifically for accommodating resettled refugees. The Ministry of Defence (MOD) has also offered surplus army accommodation which could provide capacity for a further forty people although that is restricted to people

resettled under the ARAP scheme only. Supply of initial temporary accommodation is therefore secure.

4.7 Availability of permanent social housing remains a city-wide challenge. It is also important to note that Afghan families can require properties with four bedrooms or more, a configuration which is typically in extremely short supply within social housing stock. For both capacity and configuration reasons it is therefore highly likely that private rented sector options will need to play more of a role in resettlement accommodation in the future than it has to this point.

4.8 Other Scottish local authorities have already taken this approach and their experience suggests private rented sector options can be both achievable and sustainable for refugee families. Additionally, the UK Government has recognised the accommodation challenges facing local authorities and is offering additional funding specifically to secure larger properties where that will require rental payments in excess of Local Housing Allowance rates.

4.9 Accordingly, whilst mindful of the challenges of accommodation in the city, in recognition of the higher level of refugee resettlement being undertaken at UK level, an increase in the city's resettlement commitment to one hundred and fifty places per year across all strands of resettlement is considered appropriate and achievable without incurring unsustainable additional pressure on housing in the city. It is recommended that the initial focus should be on seeking permanent housing in Edinburgh for those currently in Afghan bridging hotel accommodation.

5. Next Steps

5.1 If Committee approves the higher level of resettlement, Council Officers will advise the Home Office of Edinburgh's pledge of places for 2022/23 and work with the Home Office to identify local housing options for the families currently in hotel accommodation.

6. Financial impact

6.1 Local authorities participating in resettlement receive a set amount of funding for each refugee they resettle phased over the period of support. Details of the funding and its phasing are included in appendix 2.

6.2 Funding received from the Home Office for resettlement has proven sufficient to cover all core staff, interpretation/translation, accommodation, equipment and furniture costs as well as the partner arrangements supporting ESOL provision described earlier in the report.

6.3 Apart from an allowance in the first year following resettlement – which is passed to the Additional Support for Learning service – education costs for children of school age are not covered by the scheme.

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6.4   Edinburgh's resettlement programme is subject to a five-year rolling budget which includes a financial exit strategy in case the UK Government policy were to change policy and cease resettlement or alter the funding arrangements. Any significant future changes and their implications will be reported to committee outlining the change and its implications.

7.   Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1   Refugee resettlement is managed to minimise impacts on good community relations. Refugees resettled have reported a small number of negative community experiences, but these have been rare and generally linked to periods of broader community tension (e.g. the EU referendum, reported terrorist attacks). In evaluation data returned to the Home Office, the overwhelming majority of adults resettled (95%) report they either definitely agree (71.5%) or tend to agree (23.5%) that their local community is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together.

8.   Background reading/external references

8.1   [Report to Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 5 May 2015](#)

8.2   [Report to Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 22 September 2015](#)

8.3   [Report to Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee 10 May 2016](#)

9.   Appendices

9.1   Appendix 1   Home Office reply to the Council Leader's letter of 28 September 2021

9.2   Appendix 2   Edinburgh resettlement support

9.3   Appendix 3   UK resettlement schemes – profile and funding

Appendix 1 – Home Office Reply to the Council Leader

Home OfficeHome Office

<div align="right">
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Street SW1P
4DF
www.gov.uk/home-office
</div>

Adam McVey
Edinburgh
City Council
Adam.McVey@edinburgh.gov.uk

DECS Reference: TRO/0200033/21

<div align="right">
7 December 2021
</div>

Dear Cllr McVey,

Thank you for your letter of 28 September 2021, about the irregular migrant situation in Greece as well as welcoming and supporting Afghan refugees in Edinburgh. Please note, you are receiving a response from a Home Office Official. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying to you – and note that policy in this space has moved on since the Home Office received your letter.

On 13 September 2021, the Government published a policy statement on Afghan resettlement, which can be viewed at:

Afghanistan Resettlement and Immigration Policy Statement - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Irregular migration in Greece

In April 2020, the UK and Greece signed a historic Migration Action Plan, signalling a firm commitment from both governments to increase cooperation as irregular migration into Europe via Greece remains high. The Action Plan strengthens the UK's relationship with one of its key partners in tacking irregular migration and will improve cooperation across a range of issues, including tackling Organised Immigration Crime, strengthening asylum and returns processes, and cooperation on border security issues.

We are pleased to report that there is significant work underway to increase the rate at which unaccompanied children, vulnerable persons and families are transferred to the Greek mainland so they can access dedicated support. This was part of a determined Greek government effort to transfer migrants out of the island camps by Easter 2021. We intend to increase our regular engagement with the Greek government on these plans to support progress.

Be assured, where we have concerns about the humanitarian conditions in the migrant camps in Greece and we have consistently raised our concerns with the Greek authorities at both official and Ministerial level. We are committed to supporting Greece's efforts to manage migration effectively. We urge all sides to uphold international law and international human rights standards in respect of the migrants and to avoid any actions that may endanger human life.

The UK Government responded to requests by the Greek Government to provide specific humanitarian goods, following the fire at the Moria migrant facility. The UK provided kitchen sets to nearly 2,000 vulnerable families to prepare and cook food, and solar lanterns to help them stay safe.

As the dynamic of the Mediterranean migration crisis has changed, so too has the UK's humanitarian response to it. Since early 2016, there has been a significant reduction in the numbers of refugees and migrants entering Greece due to the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement and the closure of the Western Balkans route.

At the same time, substantial EU funding (€1.3bn) has been made available for Greece. The Greek Government has now taken over the humanitarian response with the use of EU funds. The issue is the capacity / willingness of the Greek Government to respond, not funding.

FCDO's humanitarian work in Greece (£39 million) came to an end in 2017, in agreement with the Greek government. We do not expect to provide further humanitarian support due to the availability of large amounts of EU funding.

Local Authority funding for support and accommodation

We've seen over 300 local authorities come forward with commitments to take in displaced Afghans as part of our resettlement plans. The ongoing role of local authorities is vital to the Government's efforts and we are grateful for their continued offers of support and housing.

Local authorities will receive a generous funding package to support the resettlement of Afghan families who have come to the UK and are being urged to make offers of accommodation for those starting a new life in the UK.

We continue to work with local authorities to source appropriate accommodation as quickly as possible, although we have had to use hotels as a temporary measure due to unprecedented demand. In the meantime, we are providing wrap around support to enable families to start to build successful lives in the UK.

We have set up a bespoke local engagement team within the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), with named points of contact for each region across the country, facilitating the process for local authorities to come forward with offers of accommodation – including larger properties to support bigger families - and develop strong local integration initiatives.

For Edinburgh, the named point of contact is Rosie Critchlow. Engagement with local authorities is working well and bringing about positive results and progress. The Local Engagement team are:

- Sharing what works well

- Adapting to the needs of the areas as required

- Proactively managing LAs concerns / answering questions.

Alongside engagement with local authorities, we are reaching out to landlords, developers and
the wider private rented sector to encourage further offers of properties, either directly or through our Housing portal.

Local authorities who support people through the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) or Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) scheme will receive £20,520 per person, over 3 years, for resettlement and integration costs.

Local authorities and health partners who resettle families will also receive up to £4,500 per child for education, £850 for English language provision for adults requiring this support and £2,600 for healthcare.

Rent/Accommodation allowance of £15 per person, per day and cash support at variable rates – these allowances are payable for up to a maximum of 4 months or until mainstream benefits become payable.

A further £20 million of flexible funding will be made available to support local authorities with higher cost bases with any additional costs in the provision of services. In addition, the previously announced Afghan Housing Costs Fund will increase from £5 million to £17 million and run for 2 extra years to help local authorities provide housing and give certainty that funding will be available in the future.

The Social Security (Habitual Residence) Amendment Regulations 2021 which came into force on 15 September 2021 ensures that those on the relocation and resettlement schemes arriving in the UK are granted instant access to benefits as soon as they enter the country, matching their right to work in the UK from day one.

Further funding for NHS, DfE, DLUHC

The UK Government announced £3 million of additional NHS funding so that resettled Afghan nationals can access healthcare and register with a GP.

The Department for Education (DfE) is urgently making available at least an additional £12 million to local authorities to provide educational support and help Afghan children and young people settle into their local schools and communities.

DfE also recently announced that children and young people from Afghanistan will benefit from 6,000 laptops and tablets to support their education and help them adjust to life in this country.

This is backed by an overall £126 million investment to support disadvantaged children with their learning.

Additionally, DLUHC is supporting the Home Office to develop an integration package for the Afghan families, which includes a further 12-month support package for English (ESOL) of £850 per adult.

Thank you again for the concerns you have raised. I hope you are assured that we are giving the highest priority to establishing a successful Afghan resettlement scheme. We look forward to wel-coming and supporting them as they build new lives here in the UK.
Yours sincerely,

A Wedgbury

Email: Public.Enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Appendix 2: Resettlement Support

- The Council has participated in the Syrian Resettlement Programme since September 2015 with all-party agreement to resettle 500 people (100 people per year) over the initial five-year lifetime of the scheme. The first families were re-settled in Edinburgh in November 2015. The programme is coordinated by the Council's Refugee and Migration Team (RMT).

- Edinburgh now hosts one hundred and seventy households, comprising five hundred and seventy people resettled under the Syrian and its successor UK Resettlement schemes. Most people arrive as family groups with a few individual resettlements. Receiving Councils commit to active support of refugees for up to five years for which they receive funding that phased over the period of support. Funding detail is set out in appendix 3.

- Each household is allocated a Refugee Integration Co-ordinator (RIC) who will usually work with the household throughout the period of support. Over the first couple of weeks, the RIC will support family members through the process of applying for benefits, registering with a GP, opening a bank account, registering for school places and getting to know their local neighbourhood.

- Adults arriving under the scheme have full entitlement to work and benefits from the day of arrival. The scheme provides for a resettlement grant of £50 per person per week until benefit or employment income starts. Households needing additional clothing are referred to the Edinburgh Clothing Store and/or Edinburgh City Mission's clothing bank.

- Furnished accommodation is initially provided through the Council's Private Sector Leasing Scheme (PSL). Households are provisioned with food and household items sufficient to see them through their first week following arrival (augmented when quarantine has been necessary as a result of COVID travel regulations). The RMT then supports households to register with and bid for permanent housing through Edindex. Each household receives a furnishing package though the scheme when they move on from temporary PSL accommodation.

- All school age children are allocated places in Council schools where their learning is supported by the Council's English as an Additional Language service.

- English language teaching and cultural integration support is delivered through a public and third sector partnership. Council Lifelong Learning manages the programme, undertakes initial language assessment soon after arrival and delivers a range of classes centrally at South Bridge Resource Centre and in community settings (pre-COVID) which have moved online during the pandemic. Further activity is commissioned from The Welcoming Association (language teaching, cultural integration and IT skills) and Saheliya (women's language teaching, cultural integration and counselling). Advanced English speakers and continuing learners are referred into Edinburgh College's mainstream provision.

- In addition to day to day support, the RMT schedules monthly group sessions which offer information and discussion space on topics such as housing, legal rights and responsibilities, health service access, political rights and literacy and benefits.

- Twice a year the RMT schedules an employment fair bring employers and providers of training and voluntary opportunities together with the resettled group. Throughout the year, RICs work with adults of working age to identify employment options and aspirations and link people into mainstream provision offered by external partners such as Skills Development Scotland, Linknet, WEA, Fuse and Volunteer Centre Edinburgh.

- Health issues are generally coordinated through families' GP however where it's identified that additional support is required to access health services or in relation to a particular health condition the RMT works with external partners including NHS Lothian's Minority Ethnic Health Improvement Service (MEHIS), the River's Centre (trauma counselling), BEMAS (disability).

- Beyond the core support offered through the Refugee and Migration Team, resettlement in Edinburgh has benefitted from the contribution of Edinburgh's third sector and wider civic society. Although not an exhaustive list, support has included:

  - Re-Act: provision of additional household items to families and particularly rucksacks containing age appropriate items for all resettled children. Delivery of a men's mental health group in collaboration with Multi-Cultural Family Base
  - The Edinburgh Clothing Store: clothing packs for new arrivals
  - The Edinburgh Weekend Club: originally facilitated by Scottish Faith Action for Refugees and now Edinburgh City Mission: social events and cultural visits
  - Edinburgh New Scots Steering Group: discussion and coordination space for organisations contributing to refugee resettlement in Edinburgh
  - The Welcoming Association and Central Methodist Church: befrienders
  - Multi-Cultural Family Base: providing additional support to children and families dealing with trauma through its Safe Haven Project and its men's mental health collaboration with Re-Act
  - Bikes for Refugees: provision of bicycles, cycling equipment and training
  - Edinburgh Remakery: provision of re-furbished laptops to refugee households
  - Big Hearts, Cricket Scotland, Spartans Community Football Academy: provision of sports-based activities
  - Link Housing: provision of private sector leasing accommodation for newly arrived refugee households
  - George Heriot's: award of scholarships to children from refugee families

Bridging Hotel Support

- The Council is funded to provide support to Afghan families in temporary bridging hotel accommodation. The support provided mirrors the initial elements of permanent resettlement support focussing on GP registration and health service access, DWP engagement, school registration, language assessment and learning, leisure access and activity provision, setting up bank accounts, befriending. The Refugee and Migration Team is working with many of the partners listed above to add to the core Council support and has benefitted from several spontaneous donations of clothes and toys.

- Links to the websites of many of the organisations contributing to the resettlement response have been included above so that members of the public can contact them directly if they wish to offer support. Anyone with an offer of support not covered by the organisations listed above can contact resettlement@edinburgh.gov.uk where the team will direct the offer to the most appropriate responder.

Appendix 3: UK Resettlement Schemes

1. United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme (UKRS)

The Syrian Vulnerable Persons scheme closed to new arrivals on 25 February 2021 and was succeeded by the UKRS. The UKRS is a world-wide programme with eligible participants identified by the Home Office working with UNHCR. Criteria include having legal or physical protection needs, being a survivor of violence and/or torture, women and girls at risk. There is no UK Government target figure for UKRS resettlement with future numbers dependent on UK Government funding and local government capacity.

Resettled individuals have an immediate right to work and access to welfare benefits. Reception and integration support for up to <u>five</u> years is provided by receiving local authorities who receive funding of £20,520 per person as follows:

*   Year 1: £8,520 per person (with additional education contributions of £2,250 for children aged 3-4 and £4,500 for children aged 5-18)
*   Year 2: £5,000 per person
*   Year 3: £3,700 per person
*   Year 4: £2,300
*   Year 5: £1,000 per person

Additional funding can be claimed for English for Speakers of Other Languages provision (ESOL: £850 per adult on arrival) and exceptional costs such as property adaptations, special educational needs (SEN) costs and void costs for delayed arrivals or hard to procure properties (eg four bedroom or more).

2. Community Sponsorship

Under the Community Sponsorship strand of resettlement, community groups can apply to the Home Office for permission directly to resettle a family and assume responsibility for its support for the first two years following arrival. Local authorities have a say in the authorisation process and successful groups take on the same range of responsibilities the Council discharges in its resettlement work. Local authorities receive the year 1 education funding for any children but no other Home Office money during the initial support period. Community groups must demonstrate the range of skills needed to resettle a family, evidence access to minimum funding of £9,000 and be able to provide housing for the full two years of support. After the first two years, if needed, the local authority can step in to provide a further three years' support for which it will receive the years 3, 4 and 5 funding outlined above. The local authority also retains a back-stop responsibility to step in and provide support if the community sponsorship relationship breaks down irreparably. To date, two organisations have resettled families under this strand and two further organisations have submitted applications to the Home Office.

3a. <u>Afghan Resettlement and Assistance Policy (ARAP)</u>

This new scheme was launched by the UK Government on 1 April 2021 offering relocation and assistance to locally employed Afghan staff along with their immediate family. People resettled under this scheme include armed forces interpreters and cultural advisors and other employees such as British Council employees and embassy workers. As this is a relatively discrete cohort of people, it is not envisaged ARAP will be an ongoing scheme.

3b. <u>Afghan Citizens Relocation Scheme (ACRS)</u>

The UK Government announced shortly before Christmas that this additional scheme would open in January 2022 with a five-year target of resettling 20,000 people at risk who:

- have assisted UK efforts in Afghanistan and stood up for values such as democracy, women's rights, freedom of speech and rule of law
- are extremely vulnerable such as women and girls at risk and members of minority groups.

People resettled under both schemes have an immediate right to work and access to welfare benefits. Reception and integration support for up to <u>three</u> years will be provided by receiving local authorities who will receive funding of £20,520 per person as follows:

- Year 1: £10,500 (with additional education contributions of £2,250 for children aged 3-4 and £4,500 for children aged 5-18)
- Year 2: £6,000
- Year 3: £4,020

The same UKRS provisions for ESOL and exceptional cost funding apply to these two schemes. In recognition of the additional accommodation challenges posed by Afghan resettlement and particularly the size or properties required, there is further funding available to cover private rented property rates.

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Motion by Councillor Burgess – Better School Milk

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that Policy and Sustainability Committee:

1.1.1 Note the contents of the report, the anticipated costs and the potential challenges of introducing organic milk in schools; and

1.1.2 Agree to progress with a pilot at St Andrews Primary School to help understand further the implications of making changes to the provision of non-organic milk in a school setting.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Christopher Ross, Catering Operations Manager

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Report

Motion by Councillor Burgess – Better School Milk

2. Executive Summary

2.1 This report has been prepared in response to a motion by Councillor Burgess on Better School Milk.

2.2 The report will address the points raised in the motion and explains some of the good work already undertaken by the current framework provider, Council officers and school pupils. The report also recommends implementing a pilot trial of non-organic milk in a school setting to understand the implications of this change.

3. Background

3.1 The City of Edinburgh Council schools currently buy non-organic, semi-skimmed Scottish milk in 189 millilitre (ml) cartons.

3.2 Most of the milk is delivered to classrooms and nursery settings each day, as part of a mid-morning snack, in recyclable cartons with paper straws.

3.3 The remainder of milk purchased by the Council is used for cooking and bought in two litre cartons. The expenditure on this is minimal.

3.4 Mid-morning milk uptake in Edinburgh is one of the highest across all Scottish local authorities, with pupils enjoying fresh milk from 100% Scottish dairies, every school day.

3.5 East Ayrshire Council (EA) have adopted a pilot with Mossgiel Farm to provide organic milk to pupils across their estate (49 primary/secondary schools). Mossgiel Farm are a cooperative based in East Ayrshire, and as part of the pilot they have provided milk and the infrastructure to deliver self-decant (chargeable) to all settings.

3.6 It should be noted the cost to provide organic milk in Edinburgh schools would be considerably greater than EA, as the city has 111 primary and secondary buildings in the Council estate and a roll roughly three times larger.

3.7 On 23 September 2021, the following motion by Councillor Burgess was approved. This Council:

1. Notes the recent introduction of organic school milk along with a reduction in single-use plastic containers in East Ayrshire schools;

2. Recognises that organic milk can be healthier for children and that reducing single-use plastic and packaging can create less waste and is better for the environment;

3. Notes that pupils from Edinburgh schools, including James Gillespie's Primary School, have requested organic milk and reduced plastic packaging as long ago as 2019;

4. Therefore, requests a report into the introduction of organic school milk with reduced use of single-use plastic in Edinburgh Council-run schools to the Policy and Sustainability Committee within two cycles; and

5. Further notes that the Council's Single-Use Plastic Working Group has not met recently and requests that the group convenor schedules a meeting at the earliest opportunity in order to recommence this work.

4.   Main report

Current Contract for School Milk

4.1   The Council is currently in the final year of a four-year contract with Muller Milk & Ingredients to provide milk to schools, care homes and Early Year establishments.

4.2   This contract was procured through Scotland Excel and covers all of Scotland's local authorities.

4.3   The City of Edinburgh Council has benefited from price stability of milk product throughout the duration of the contract and, in particular, with the current pressures on supply chain and inflationary pricing, the fixed price has been a key benefit to the Council.

4.4   As this contract is reaching its conclusion, a tender is due to be issued by Scotland Excel for a new four-year milk contract for all Scottish Local Authorities, with the aim of going live in April 2022. It is worth noting that, due to inflation, the cost of milk is expected to increase between 5% and 10% in the new contract.

Provision of Milk

4.5   Scottish Government policy documents on food and drink do not directly advise the consumption of organic milk over standard milk for school children. This is treated as a choice for milk providers.

4.6   The main requirement from the Scottish Government policy on food and drink is that local authorities should try, wherever possible, to promote food and drinks that are Scottish and are sourced from suppliers that promote ethical and sustainable standards. This is true for both organic and standard milk from the current contract provider, Müller Milk & Ingredients.

4.7   Other than providing glass bottles, Müller Milk & Ingredients currently have no plans to implement reusable or returnable packaging. Glass bottles are not appropriate for the school market due to the contamination risk with breakages etc, and the majority of schools have a no glass policy.

Organic and Standard Farming

4.8   The key difference between organic farming and standard farming is the use of natural fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers (which are sometimes used in conventional farming).

4.9   In addition, it is noted that hormone and antibiotic treatments are not used in organic milk. However, Committee is asked to note that these are not used in Müller's conventional milk either. Müller confirm that all of the milk provided comes from Scottish farms and that their policy is not to milk any livestock undertaking antibiotic treatment for the period of the treatment.

4.10   Both organic and standard farming methods have stringent animal welfare and sustainability standards and all animals which require antibiotics when sick are subject to mandatory withdrawal periods before they can be milked again after administration of antibiotics.

Reducing the use of Milk Cartons

4.11   The alternative to providing milk in cartons for school and nursery pupils would be to provide facilities for milk to be decanted into individual cups which can be used more than once.

4.12   Whilst this would undoubtably mean a reduction in recyclable milk cartons being used, there are additional issues which need to be taken into account when considering making this change including:

4.12.1 Refrigeration of milk in two litre bottles;

4.12.2 Arrangements for transporting the milk to classrooms;

4.12.3 Pouring in the classroom;

4.12.4 Risk of spillages; and

4.12.5 Potential for contamination if the cups are not washed correctly.

4.13   Edinburgh Catering Service, working with colleagues from Education and Children's Services, explored the options for pouring milk into reusable containers that can be used in milk machines in schools. This concluded that the main risk of doing so arose from the potential risk of contamination which was heightened in comparison to hygienically packed cartons.

4.14   Alternatively, the option of using a pergal machine (a pergal chills and stores a 13ltr package of milk and decants through a plastic nozzle) was considered. This would reduce the requirement to refrigerate milk in two litre bottles, would be provided more hygienically and would provide the greatest opportunity to reduce plastics (within food grade principles).

4.15 However, the use of energy and detergents to ensure the cleanliness of machine and cups could lead to increased costs of delivery (the current arrangements are low in terms of delivery costs) and a place a greater responsibility on school staff

4.16 If pergal machines were introduced, the number of machines would depend on the size of the school. The cost of delivery would increase as school teams would become responsible for pouring milk into cups, taking the cupped milk to classrooms and washing the cups and pergal after each use. Pupils could be encouraged to help with this; however, supervision would be required.

Cost of Providing Organic Milk and Making Arrangements for Self-Decanting of Milk

4.17 The difference in cost of raw milk between organic and standard is between 11–15p per litre and is also dependant on costs within the spot market. It is expected that, if City of Edinburgh Council were to move to providing only organic milk, the increase in cost would range from £83,000 to £113,000 per annum. This increase in costs would need to be addressed as part of a budget setting process or passed on to parents.

4.18 To set-up a scheme for self-decanting milk, investment would be required for washable plastic cups for each class. The average cost of these cups is around £1.25 and, based on a current primary and secondary school roll of 31,098, the cost is estimated to be in the region of £40,000. An annual budget would also be required to provide replacement cups.

4.19 The cost of a pergal machine is £525. This cost would be incurred for the pilot scheme but, if the scheme was adopted across Edinburgh, there may be an opportunity to get these costs subsidised.

Impacts of Changing to Organic and Self-Decanted Milk

4.20 It is important to note that it would not be possible to provide organic milk without making arrangements for this to be decanted.

4.21 To fully understand the environmental benefits of making such changes, analysis is required on the impact of reusables and returnables in the dairy industry. This is because there are already opportunities to use the longstanding infrastructure for recyclables.

4.22 Müller's bottles and Tetra Pak's are 100% recyclable in the "Closed Loop Life Cycle". Muller purchase recycled plastics to make new cartons/bottles.

4.23 In addition, improvements have already been achieved in the Council's schools, as pupils have encouraged action to remove single use plastic straws from paper school milk cartons. The replacement of plastic with paper straws has equated overall to removal of 48 tonnes of plastic already.

4.24 There is currently inconclusive evidence of the health benefits of organic milk use over standard milk.

4.25 It is also important to note that, in preparing this report, Council officers liaised with Stirling Council to understand their experience when provision of milk was

transitioned from 189ml paper cartons to two litre jugs. They found that there was a significant reduction of milk consumption, of up to 30%. This was because:

4.25.1 Children were no longer responsible for the amount of milk they consumed;

4.25.2 Of where it is poured; and

4.25.3 It was not offered to children in aesthetically pleasing, paper cartons filled to the correct amount with a paper straw provided for drinking.

4.26   In addition, several Edinburgh schools were asked for their thoughts on how these changes would affect mid-morning milk process.

4.27   From the schools that were approached, the majority said that they felt it was not currently feasible for them to implement self-decanting milk arrangements for the reasons set out in paragraph 4.12. However, the schools identified the main issue as staffing as they indicated that they did not think it would be possible within the current staffing numbers within their schools.

4.28   However, of the schools contacted, St Andrews Primary has volunteered to trial the decanting milk into cups for each class. They have indicated that they expected to see environmental benefits such as reduction in excessive packaging and packaging waste. However, they have indicated they would be happy to continue to provide 'regular' milk rather than switching to organic milk.

5.   Next steps

5.1   Committee is asked to note the work carried out to identify the costs, benefits and challenges associated with changing from standard to organic milk and of introducing self-decanting milk arrangements in Edinburgh schools.

5.2   However, in order to fully understand how such changes would work in practice, it is proposed to pilot the provision of decanted standard milk in St Andrews Primary for the term Easter to Summer 2022. It is not felt to be practicable to use organic milk for this pilot as there would be no way in which to measure health benefits to children and the procurement of a relatively small amount of organic milk would not be efficient.

6.   Financial Impact

6.1   The volume of organic milk produced in Scotland is far less than standard milk and it is therefore more expensive.

6.2   The estimated cost for providing organic milk across all Edinburgh schools is set out in paragraph 4.17.

6.3   The cost of providing cups for decanted milk is outlined in paragraph 4.12.

6.4   Most of the milk consumed at the mid-morning break in Edinburgh schools is paid for by parents. If the Council were to decide to rollout organic milk across schools,

then the additional costs would either need to be covered by the Council or passed on to parents.

6.5 In addition, an existing subsidy covers only approximately four pence on every drink consumed (Rural Payments Agency). The advance funding received does not meet the additional cost per unit if that product was organic milk decanted into recyclable cups.

6.6 In order to pilot the changes at St Andrews Primary school, it is proposed that the additional costs are met by the Council rather than by asking parents to meet these costs. It is estimated that the cost of the pilot (1 term) will be circa £1,900 and will be met from the current Education services budget as responsibility for milk sits with this service area.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 As outlined in paragraph 5.1, these proposals have been discussed with several schools.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 Differences in the Nutritional Composition of Organic Versus Conventional Milk | Dairy Nutrition

8.2 Organic milk: Does it confer health benefits? - ScienceDirect

8.3 www.reading.ac.uk/news-archive/press-releases/pr631737.html

8.4 An appetite for opportunity | Strategy& UK (pwc.com) – signed up

8.5 Müller unveils new environmental incentive programme for farmers | News | The Grocer

9. Appendices

9.1 None.

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Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Council Support to the Small Business Sector – Response to Motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All
Council Commitments	2, 3, 6

1.   Recommendations

1.1   The Policy and Sustainability Committee is recommended to:

1.1.1   Note the support currently offered to small businesses to become more sustainable and accessible; and

1.1.2   Note the intention to create a communications plan, in early 2022, to ensure that local businesses are made aware, not only of the business benefits of considering sustainable and accessible business practices, but also the range of support available to them.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Report

Council Sustainability and Accessibility Support to the Small Business Sector – Response to Motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

2. Executive Summary

2.1 This report provides Committee with an overview of the support Council currently provides to businesses in Edinburgh to assist them improve the accessibility of their premises and overall sustainability of their business operations.

3. Background

3.1 Throughout the challenging trading and business environment created by the Covid-19 pandemic, several Council services have provided advice and support to small business owners and helped them understand the Covid-19 business support environment and funding available.

3.2 Business support is primarily led by the Council's Business Growth and Inclusion service through Business Gateway Edinburgh, which offers a range of free support to new and existing businesses in Edinburgh.

3.3 In addition to self-service information and resources available from the Business Gateway and Planning to Start websites, small business owners also have access to advice from experienced business advisers and can benefit from local workshops and seminars, covering a wide range of business themes, or seek ongoing support through various specialist initiatives, such as the Digital Boost programme, access support programmes such as Women in Business Growth Programme and Gateway to Investment.

3.4 The Council has, through its recently approved 2030 Climate Strategy and Economic Strategy, reinforced the importance of supporting businesses to a sustainable and inclusive recovery and on 28 October 2021, Council approved a motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron which included a request for a report to Policy and Sustainability Committee "setting out what advice and practical support Council can give to the small business sector to assist them improve the accessibility of their premises and to improve the overall sustainability of their business operations."

4.   Main report

4.1   Business Gateway Edinburgh currently receive very few enquiries from businesses looking for support on sustainability or accessibility matters. This is either because businesses aren't currently seeking this support, or they are unaware that advice on these matters is available from Business Gateway.

4.2   It is recognised that, in order to increase awareness of, and an appetite for, inclusive growth, business advisers need to go beyond providing reactive support on business enquiries and look to pro-actively influence Edinburgh businesses on the business benefits of inclusive growth including Fair Work, Fair Tax, Living Wage, Sustainability and Accessibility.

4.3   All Business Gateway advisers are undertaking accessibility and inclusion Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training and two advisers have recently attended impact assessment training delivered by Scotland CanB. More advisers will attend future sessions to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to support and advise business owners around the benefits of, and approaches to, inclusive growth.

4.4   In order to better align delivery of the Business Gateway service with Council priorities around sustainability and inclusiveness, in early 2021 senior Business Growth and Inclusion team members were assigned strategic lead responsibility for several key target demographics and sectors to champion, including a focus on business founders with a disability, and the drive to net zero.

4.5   As part of their remit, the sector leads are mapping out the current support landscape and where there are gaps which can be filled by Business Gateway advisory services, as well as developing approaches for advisors to work proactively with businesses to support inclusive, sustainable growth.

4.6   As an example, the 'net zero lead' focus is not only on ensuring business support for companies with sustainable solutions but additionally how to influence all businesses to take steps towards reducing their carbon footprint and adopt circular business models. Similarly, the 'disabled founders lead' has expanded their remit to also understand accessibility issues and review how advisors work with businesses in improving access for people with disabilities.

4.7   Nationally, the Business Gateway National Unit have been undertaking work around digital accessibility due to the impact of Covid-19 on businesses moving to digital offering. A how-to guide for advisers and businesses has been developed and circulated and additional work on physical accessibility support is expected in 2022.

4.8   Joined up support and partnership working are key to raising maximum awareness of sustainable and accessible approaches and Business Gateway Edinburgh is a member of the Scottish Business Sustainability Partnership, which ensures strong links with sustainability focused support agencies such as Zero Waste Scotland and the Energy Savings Trust. Business Gateway Edinburgh is also a key stakeholder in Circular Edinburgh, a partnership project between the Edinburgh Chamber of

Commerce and Zero Waste Scotland and members (via the National Unit) of Inclusion Scotland, for the latest trends and insight around accessibility matters.

4.9 As part of the Council's wider Net Zero strategy, support has been provided for Business for Good, a new project launching in early 2022 to provide dedicated support to Edinburgh businesses looking to adapt to purpose driven business models relating to inclusion and sustainability.

4.10 As part of a comprehensive and complementary approach to supporting small businesses, an internal cross-Council 'Business Champions Network' was launched in 2020 and officers will continue to work through this to identify how other Council teams can offer proactive support in this area.

5. Next Steps

5.1 A focused communication plan will be devised in early 2022 to ensure that local businesses are made aware, not only of the business benefits of considering sustainable and accessible business practices, but of the range of support available to them in this area.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The Business Gateway service is resourced from within existing service budgets and there is no additional financial impact identified for the Council.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 Support to small business owners has historically been driven by their immediate needs. As such the service offered by Business Gateway has always adapted and reflected the stakeholder requirements. The current delivery model goes beyond this immediacy by seeking to influence businesses to consider the short term and more importantly long-term benefits of adapting sustainable and accessible business models.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 None.

9. Appendices

9.1 None.

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 22 February 2022

Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan update and proposed "Nature Positive City" vision

Executive/routine	
Wards	All
Council Commitments	43, 44

1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that Policy and Sustainability Committee:

1.1.1 Approves the Council's response to the ecological crisis through the development of a Vision for a Nature Positive City, in tandem with a replacement Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan; and

1.1.2 Notes the 2021 update for the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2021 in Appendix 1.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director, Place

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Report

Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan update and proposed "Nature Positive City" vision

2.   Executive Summary

2.1   A recent Joint Nature Conservation Committee report has set out the commitment of all United Kingdom (UK) governments to be 'Nature Positive' by 2030, alongside other international commitments, in response to the ecological crisis and continued national declines in biodiversity. This report sets out the Council's response to the ecological emergency and the proposed development of a 'Vision for a Nature Positive City' in tandem with a replacement Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan. The report also considers the annual update of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-21 (Appendix 1).

3.   Background

3.1   This past year has seen a global focus on the twin emergencies for the climate and the natural environment. As the COP15 meeting on Biological Diversity approaches in spring 2022, international, UK and Scottish Governments all recognise the need for further ambition and transformational change to reverse decades of decline in biodiversity and degradation of ecosystems. This report sets out the Council's response to this challenge through delivery of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-21 and the relationship between the climate and ecological emergencies.

4.   Main report

4.1   The Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-21 (EBAP) is delivered by the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership (EBP), a group of more than 30 stakeholders (led by the Council) which includes Council departments, government agencies, research and conservation organisations, environmental trusts, charities and volunteer organisations. Appendix 2 contains a list of partners. The EBAP was first produced in 2000, and it meets the Council's statutory duty under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 for all public bodies to 'further the conservation of biodiversity". Development of a replacement plan is underway.

4.2   Appendix 1 contains the EBAP progress report for 2021, which highlights some of the activity carried out. While some delivery remains impacted by COVID-19, many conservation management activities have been able to resume. These include habitat management and creation, practical conservation work and citizen science survey work. There has also been a focus this year on strategy and policy work relating to the natural environment (for example, the 2030 Climate Strategy and Implementation Plan, City Plan 2030, and development of a Green-Blue Network).

4.3   While recognising that there is positive work being delivered in Edinburgh to address the ecological crisis, globally biodiversity continues to decline. Much of this decline is driven by pressures such as habitat loss, inappropriate management, invasive species, increase in chemical use, pollution and climate change. In the UK, 40% of species are in decline and a quarter of mammals are threatened with extinction.

4.4   Within the last year each of the four countries of the UK have made significant commitments for nature, with distinct and evolving policies and powers to recover nature and to respond to climate change. All have recognised the need for ambitious, transformative change across sectors and in the way we protect, value, use and engage with nature. Perhaps most notably the UK has committed to:

4.4.1   'Halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030' at the G7 summit in June 2021, in other words to become Nature Positive by 2030;

4.4.2   The Leaders' Pledge for Nature, which has so far been signed by leaders from over 85 countries; and

4.4.3   The '30by30' commitment to protect 30% of our land and seas for nature by 2030, agreed by more than 60 countries.

4.5   There has rightly been an urgent focus on Edinburgh meeting the 2030 net zero target, following the climate emergency declaration by the Council in 2019. However, it is increasingly recognised that the climate and ecological emergencies are linked crises. Biodiversity loss and climate change share many of the same causes and solutions. Restoring wildlife habitats on land and sea locks up carbon. Studies have shown that carbon sequestration in soils and vegetation can help meet as much as 30-40% of emission reductions needed to reach net zero targets.

4.6   Nature based solutions are also critical to adapting the city to climate change, such as by reducing flood risk, reducing urban overheating and insulating against extremes of temperatures. Other ecosystem services provided by nature include reducing air and water pollution, pollination services and health and wellbeing benefits.

4.7   Alongside the 2030 Climate Strategy and net zero targets, the recently approved 'Vision for Water Management' sets out high level principles for dealing with future drainage, pollution and flooding challenges which include using nature based solutions.

4.8   It is proposed that a related 'Vision for a Nature Positive City' is now developed, in tandem with the next Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan. This would underpin that

the natural environment is an essential component for meeting our strategic aims on net zero, adaptation, water management and to reverse declines in biodiversity.

4.9 The Vision would set out clear guiding principles on land management, infrastructure, developments and projects to ensure that future infrastructure changes result in positive effects for biodiversity and the natural environment. This creates a nature positive, climate resilient city for our residents supporting economic, sustainability and wellbeing outcomes.

4.10 The Vision would also give a strategic context for work already underway, such as:

4.10.1 Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan;

4.10.2 City Plan 2030 new policies on biodiversity and green-blue infrastructure;

4.10.3 Green-Blue Network;

4.10.4 Thriving Green Spaces programme (including Edinburgh Nature Network); and

4.10.5 Million Tree City project.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Work with Council services and other stakeholders to develop a 'Vision for a Nature Positive City' and other responses to the ecological emergency and prepare a new EBAP. An update report will be submitted to committee in summer 2022.

6. Financial impact

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 The Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership have contributed to the production of the progress report in Appendix 1. The Partnership support the development of a 'Vision for a 'Nature Positive City'. The development of a Vision and the next Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan will be produced in collaboration with the Partnership and other stakeholders.

7.2 The work outlined in Appendix 1 and the proposal for a 'Vision for a Nature Positive City', all help to meet targets for reduced carbon, adaptation to climate change and increased biodiversity.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-21.

8.2   Natural England, JNCC, Natural Resources Wales, NatureScot and Northern Ireland Environment Agency (2021) **Nature Positive 2030 – Summary Report**.

8.3   Edinburgh Declaration, Policy and Sustainability Committee 20 April 2021.

9.   Appendices

9.1   Appendix 1 - EBAP annual report.

9.2   Appendix 2 – List of Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership members.

Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2021

Progress Report 2021

Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership

EDINBVRGH
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

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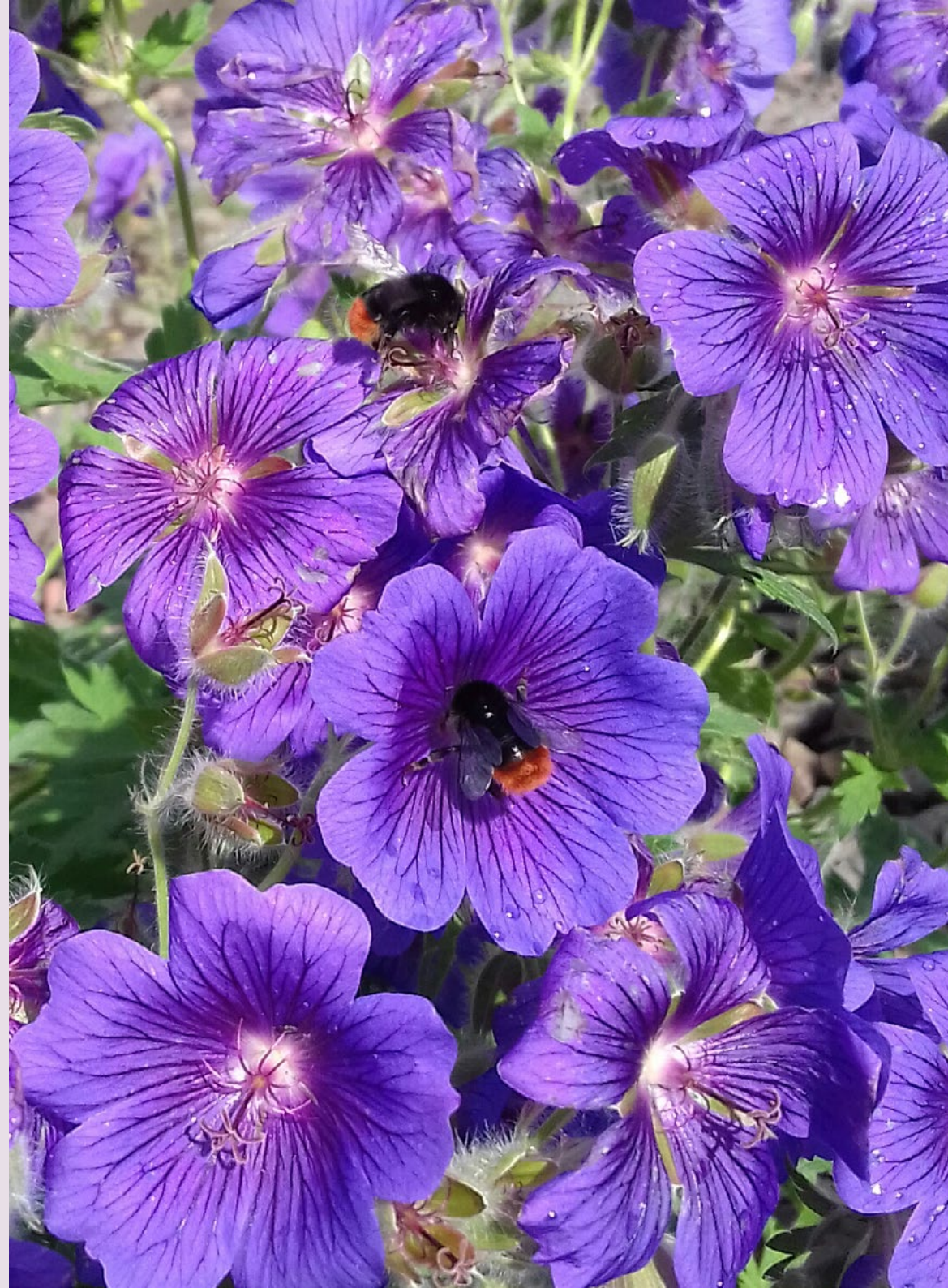
Chair's foreword

I am pleased to have continued as Chair of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership as we have returned to some conservation activities in the past twelve months. 2021 has been another year of disruption which has impacted everyone. Across the Partnership, individuals and organisations have adapted to challenges by embracing new and different ways of working. Much has been achieved in policy and strategy changes, and in projects which are using existing data to identify priority areas for future action, such as the work on the Green-Blue Network. We have seen, over the course of this year, a gradual return to some practical conservation work, project delivery and community and volunteer activities to manage and monitor important sites. Face to face indoor events are still mostly paused, but successful use of online meetings, seminars, conferences and training events have in many cases allowed far greater attendance and reach than normal in-person events. We continue to see an increase in valuable citizen science wildlife recording and the number of species records held for Edinburgh has increased by more than 50,000 in the last year. Many previously unrecorded species, as well as species not recorded for years or decades, have been added to Edinburgh's list of wildlife records. A noticeable valuing and appreciation of wildlife and its positive effects on people's wellbeing, has been recognised through the pandemic. These improvements in understanding and appreciating wildlife in our city are even more important, in light of recent reports on the ecological emergency, such as the JNCC report Nature Positive 2030, which highlight the need for transformational change in how we value and invest in the recovery of nature from decades of ecosystem decline.

As the Partnership prepare a new Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan for 2022 and beyond, we will set out a vision and principles for supporting nature's recovery by improving the quality and connectedness of our natural spaces across the city, to become a Nature Positive City.

Dr Max Coleman

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Chair of Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership

Introduction

This year has seen a global, national and local focus on the twin emergencies for the climate and the ecological crisis. The work of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership has mirrored this focus, with the Council and partners involved at all three levels:

- Council signed the Edinburgh Declaration in lead up to COP 15 on Biological Diversity

- Partners attended COP 26 to promote nature-based solutions and the links between climate and nature

- Council and other partners contributed to Scotland-wide work on policy and guidance responses to the ecological crisis, eg for National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), with Scottish Government and NatureScot.

- Collaborating on city wide programmes such as Climate Strategy 2030, Vision for Water Management, City Plan 2030 and development of a Green Blue Network and Edinburgh Nature Network.

- Working with local communities and volunteers to enhance parks and greenspace to increase biodiversity and wellbeing.

The 2019 declaration of a Climate Emergency and target for Edinburgh to be net zero carbon by 2030 have given a new focus for biodiversity action. A healthy natural environment is essential for resilience to deal with the challenges of climate change. Green surfaces, trees and vegetation can all offset the problems caused by climate change in urban areas such as extreme rainfall events, flooding, pollution, poor air quality, urban overheating and building insulation to lower energy and carbon demands. Habitats and soils also act as carbon stores.

The work of the Partnership is reflected in plans and strategies relating to climate change, represented on the Edinburgh Adapts Steering Group and will continue to respond and collaborate on emerging priorities from strategic projects like the Green Blue Network and Million Trees initiative.

The work of the Council and Partnership has also been reflected in the Council signing up to the 'Edinburgh Declaration'. The Declaration recognises the importance of subnational governments, cities and local authorities work to deliver positive gains for biodiversity, and how this help meet global targets. Work is underway to develop post-2020 global targets for biodiversity conservation at the COP 15 Biological Diversity event delayed until May 2022 in China.

The Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership continues to reap the benefits of strong partnership working. During lockdowns and throughout restrictions, meetings and public engagement have moved on-line. Although not a substitute for face-to-face contact, online training events and meetings have seen an increase in attendance with no travel or cost barriers to taking part.

EDINBURGH NET-ZERO 2030

Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership

Achievements 2021

This review highlights just some of the outcomes and actions from the last year delivered by the Partnership. Further information about the overall programme and aims is available from the *Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2021.*

Aim 1

Raise awareness of the rich biodiversity in Edinburgh

- **The Wildlife Information Centre** (TWIC) continue to provide records and wildlife and habitat data to help us better manage our biodiversity. They held **5** online workshops attended by 125 people. 6 additional Local Biodiversity Site assessments were carried out. TWIC hold **352,232** species records for City of Edinburgh.

- **The RSPB Swift Cities Edinburgh** project has engaged volunteers and communities in swift conservation activities through online events and training. 8 school and youth group events were held; 5 murals created; swift walking and cycling routes promoted; 311 volunteers trained in swift recording; 112 new nest boxes installed across the city.

- **Water of Leith Conservation Trust** use social media and regular blog posts to promote the importance of the river for wildlife, and support activities such as clean ups and litter reduction. With funding they have trained 15 volunteers this year in plant surveys to monitor habitat projects and invasive plants.

- **Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh** continue to promote **nature based solutions and green infrastructure**. Interpretation has been installed at the *demonstration raingarden* in the garden and it continues to be promoted. A *green wall* was installed at Waverley Station during COP 26 as part of a programme of events.

- **Historic Environment Scotland Ranger Service manage Holyrood Park** which is an important site with rare invertebrate and plant species. In 2021 **40** butterfly transect surveys were completed; 6 bumblebee transects undertaken. These surveys contribute to national monitoring schemes for biodiversity.

- **University of Edinburgh** have promoted a **Hedgehog Friendly Campus** project with signage and information.

- Most partners increasingly use **social media** with platforms on Twitter, Facebook, a website and blog for the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership to engage with new and existing audiences about the richness and diversity of Edinburgh's wildlife

Aim 2

Encourage participation from Partners and others to take positive action to protect and enhance the natural environment

- **Butterfly Conservation Scotland** have worked on a variety of sites to promote better greenspace habitats for butterflies, such as longer naturalised grass and wildflower areas as part of the **Council's Nature in your Neighbourhood** project of parks naturalisation. Silverknowes park is an example of one of the new 'stepping stone' habitat sites and is now home to 14 species of butterfly.

- **Edinburgh Lothians Greenspace Trust** created two 'wee forests' Forests' in West Pilton Park and Peacocktail Close with NatureScot funding. 600 native trees were planted at each location with the help of local schools and local community groups

- **Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh** completed the first phase of the **Shoreline** project and successfully secured £600k in funding to extend the project to restore seagrass and oyster beds. Seagrass is a very effective carbon store so also supports net zero aims.

- **The Water of Leith Conservation Trust** has carried out 25 practical tasks with volunteers on 11 'Biodiversity Boost' sites along the river. This includes planting 1000 wildflower plugs and 1000 native bulbs this autumn.

- Biodiversity Challenge Funded project, the **B-line**, has delivered pollinator habitat along the **John Muir Way.** Other areas such as the shoreline have also had meadow creation work carried out in partnership with Buglife, Butterfly Conservation, volunteers and CEC.

- **CEC Natural Heritage Service** continue to actively manage meadow sites through cutting, raking and removing arisings. New tree planting at Bonaly Country Park and invasive gorse clearance to protect grassland and woodland habitats has been carried out. Volunteers have undertaken species surveys including bee and butterfly transect surveys.

- **Scottish Wildlife Trust** continue management of their Edinburgh reserves to improve habitat condition such as the species rich grassland at Murder Acre, and for target priority species such as Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary at the Red Moss reserve.

- **CEC Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries** support over 70 Friends groups and are taking part in a pilot with Aberdeen Standard Life to offer project support to a small number of groups for biodiversity work. 79 urban meadows have been managed in 2021 as part of Nature in my Neighbourhood. Initial funding for the Million Tree project has been secured.

- **Edinburgh and Lothian Greenspace Trust's Tree Time project** raised over **£46k** from donations to plant 115 new street trees throughout the City. With funding from the Biodiversity Challenge Fund, ELGT have also undertaken meadow creation, native hedgerow planting, bee banks, butterfly planters for Northern Brown Argus and scrub creation at Little France Park.

- **CEC Planning** continues to encourage design features for biodiversity such as artificial swift nesting features, landscape features such as swales and living roofs provision in new developments.

Aim 3 Promote co-ordination and communication between Partners and others to further conservation action in Edinburgh.

- Collaboration between **Marine Conservation Scotland,** RBGE, CEC Parks, Greenspaces and Cemeteries in promoting **Great British Beach Clean** in September.

- **Historic Environment Scotland Ranger Service** continue to monitor and actively encourage introduction of **rare plant** species in other locations through a programme of seed collection and growing on of plants.

- **Thriving Green Spaces and University of Edinburgh** developed a **Green Infrastructure** modelling tool which has been piloted on the mapping of University of Edinburgh campus locations as part of a 'How Green is you Campus' project. The GI tool has also been used to map 6 city parks and calculate a GI factor.

- **Scottish Wildlife Trust and Thriving Green Spaces** have developed an **Edinburgh Nature Network** with stakeholders.Early outputs have contributed to City Plan 2030 and a Green-Blue Network.

- **Water of Leith Conservation Trust** engage with communities, landowners and others to resolve issues with litter impacts on the river, including in badly affected areas such as the basin at the Shore in Leith. They also co-ordinate a programme of invasive species control along the river corridor.

- **University of Edinburgh and CEC** collaborated on a *ParkLife project* looking at innovative ways to manage and value parks and greenspace.

- Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership has promoted a series of online training workshops organised by **Butterfly Conservation Scotland and Buglife Scotland**.

- **The Wildlife Information Centre** has uploaded 20 datasets for the CEC area to the NBN Atlas to date. For an up-to-date list of all the datasets TWIC has uploaded to the NBN Atlas from its own surveys and on behalf of other organisations, individuals or local groups visit: *https://registry.nbnatlas.org/public/show/dp43*.

Aim 4

Influence other plans, policies, projects and strategies relating to Edinburgh.

- **Edinburgh City Plan 2030** – new policies relating to designing in positive effects for biodiversity and green-blue infrastructure in new developments have been included in the recently published draft City Plan 2030.

- **Green Blue Network for Edinburgh** – working to develop a Green-Blue Network for the city, using a nature-based solutions approach to the challenges of surface water and other flooding, and pollution, to make the city infrastructure resilient to the impacts of climate change.

- **University of Edinburgh** have published a *biodiversity strategy* and are taking forward a varied programme to understand and promote biodiversity on their estate and beyond.

- **NatureScot** – continuing to provide management advice for protected sites and information in relation to licences affecting the Firth of Forth as well as undertaking site condition monitoring of Firth of Forth SSSI.

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City Plan 2030
Proposed plan

September 2021

Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership

Global and national context

Within the last year, the UK governments have made hugely significant commitments for nature. Each of the four countries of the UK have distinct and evolving policies and powers to recover nature and to respond to climate change, and all have recognised the need for ambitious change. Perhaps most notably the UK has committed to:

- the Leaders' Pledge for Nature, which has so far been signed by leaders from over 85 countries,

- the '30by30' commitment to protect 30% of our land and seas for nature by 2030, agreed by more than 60 countries.

- At the G7 summit in June 2021, the UK also committed to 'halt and reverse biodiversity loss' by 2030, in other words to become Nature Positive by 2030.

These commitments require transformative change across sectors and in the way we protect, value, use and engage with nature.

Scottish Government and NatureScot have both published documents supporting this transformational change. National Planning Framework 4 and position statements from Nature Scot on 'Positive Effects for Biodiversity' both seek the scale of change required to create a 'Nature Positive' future. NatureScot have also announced significant new funding of £55m for the whole of Scotland in its Nature Restoration fund.

City of Edinburgh Council have signed up to the 'Edinburgh Declaration', which was developed when the Scottish Government held a meeting for Post 2020 Global and Sub-national Biodiversity Targets in May 2020.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans were first produced as part of the UK response to the requirements of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity signed at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.

Local action plans continue to contribute to the work required to meet national and global targets. The current UN targets, known as *Aichi Targets* are in place until new global targets are agreed at the delayed COP 15 meeting in May 2022, and these are summarised below.

Aichi Biodiversity Targets

- **Strategic Goal A:** Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society.

- **Strategic Goal B:** Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use.

- **Strategic Goal C:** Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity.

- **Strategic Goal D:** Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services.

- **Strategic Goal E:** Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.

In Scotland, these Aichi targets are translated into national targets in the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, and in *'Scotland's Biodiversity: A Route Map to 2020'*. The Route Map identifies the Six Big Steps for Nature as a mechanism for meeting the Aichi Targets. These are:

- Ecosystem Restoration

- Investment in Natural Capital

- Quality Greenspace for health and education benefits

- Conserving wildlife in Scotland

- Sustainable management of land and freshwater

- Marine and coastal ecosystems restored

All of the actions in the Edinburgh Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2021 can be linked directly to at least one, and in most cases more than one, of these Scottish priorities.

Singapore Index

The City Biodiversity Index or *Singapore Index* on Cities Biodiversity is a self-assessment tool for cities to evaluate and monitor the progress of their biodiversity conservation efforts against their individual baseline. Edinburgh has been a key player in the review of the index. An updated version was produced in October 2021.

Looking ahead to 2022

2021 is the final year of the current Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-21. Work to prepare a replacement plan for the city is underway. There will be a focus in 2022 on developing a vision for the city to become 'nature positive' in response to the ecological crisis. This will involve working in tandem with the Climate Strategy and implementation plan, Vision for Water Management and Green Blue Network, Thriving Green Spaces programme and other projects, to ensure that future infrastructure changes result in positive effects for biodiversity and the natural environment. This creates a climate resilient city for our residents supporting economic, sustainability and wellbeing outcomes.

Following publication of the draft City Plan 2030 and NPF4, a review of Planning guidance to support new policies on biodiversity and green-blue infrastructure will begin.

Public engagement will focus on the importance of gardens for city wildlife (an estimated 26% of land in the city is private garden space). Online communications will be used to engage individuals and groups with the many opportunities for citizen science, nature and wildlife.

Opportunities for investment through the NatureScot Nature Restoration Fund, and other strategic funding opportunities, will be taken forward.

The next Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan will be integral to the city's drive to be net zero by 2030 and will lead the agenda for being a Nature Positive City.

EDINBURGH NET-ZERO 2030

Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan

2019-2021

Progress Report 2021

Edinburgh
Biodiversity
Partnership

·EDINBVRGH·
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Appendix 2 Members of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership

Partner
Bumblebee Conservation Trust
Butterfly Conservation Scotland
British Dragonfly Society
Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland
Buglife
City of Edinburgh Council
Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership
Edinburgh College
Edible Edinburgh
Edinburgh and Lothian Greenspace Trust
Edinburgh Living Landscape initiative
Edinburgh Natural History Society
Edinburgh Raptor Study Group
Edinburgh World Heritage
Forestry Commission Scotland
Forth Estuary Forum
Fungus Group South East Scotland
Forest Research
Forth Seabird Group
Historic Environment Scotland Ranger Service (Holyrood Park)
Heriot Watt University
Lothian and Borders Mammals Group
Lothian Amphibian and Reptile Group
Lothian Badger Group
Lothian Bat Group
Lothian and Fife Green Network Partnership
Lothian and Borders Geoconservation committee
Marine Scotland
New Caledonian Woodlands
Napier University
Rivers and Fisheries Trust Scotland
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Royal Zoological Society Scotland (Edinburgh zoo)
Saughton Park Project Team
Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Scottish Natural Heritage/Now NatureScot
Scottish Ornithologists Club
Scottish Rural University College
Scottish Wildlife Trust
The Wildlife Information Centre
University of Edinburgh
Water of Leith Conservation Trust

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Seafield Masterplan Approach

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	14, 17 and 13
Council Commitments	4, 10 and 13

1.   Recommendations

1.1   It is recommended that Policy and Sustainability Committee:

1.1.1   Agrees to proceed with a partnership between the Council and the local community in order to prepare a masterplan for the Seafield redevelopment opportunity, as identified in City Plan 2030;

1.1.2   Agrees the Masterplan Brief as provided in Appendix 1;

1.1.3   Agrees to the use of up to £50,000, and identifies a further £80,000 contingency, from the City Strategic Investment Fund for the project and pre-approves the procurement of consultants to take forward this work; and

1.1.4   Notes that the preparation of the masterplan and approval of the masterplan will be under the remit of the Planning Committee.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: David Cooper, Head of Development and Regeneration

E-mail: david.cooper@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 6233

Report

Seafield Masterplan Approach

2. Executive Summary

2.1   This report sets out a proposal for preparing a masterplan to move forward the significant development opportunity at Seafield as identified in City Plan 2030.

2.2   This is a sizeable development area that needs to be carefully planned in order to maximise the benefits to the local area and wider economy.

2.3   Agreement is sought to move forward with a masterplanning process and to use City Strategic Investment Fund (CSIF) for this purpose.

3. Background

3.1   The City Plan 2030 Choices document was the main issues report for the next local development plan and was agreed in January 2020. It identified Seafield as a potential Urban Area Housing Led Mixed Use Site.

3.2   The proposed designation prompted the local community and developers to start thinking about how the area could be redeveloped. Representatives from the Craigentinny/Meadowbank Community Council and neighbouring Community Council's Leith Harbour and Newhaven and Portobello contacted Council officials and requested that a collaborative approach be taken in developing proposals for the area.

3.3   Committee agreed to the establishment of the 'Seafield Sounding Board' in August 2021 as a useful means of sharing information and establishing positive relationships between interested parties.

3.4   In September 2021, the Planning Committee agreed the City Plan 2030 Proposed Plan and the statutory processes are now underway to secure adoption of the plan. Seafield is identified as a key growth area and policy 'Place 15 – Seafield' sets out the principles to be followed in taking forward development.

4. Main report

4.1   The Seafield redevelopment area, as identified through City Plan Choices and the Proposed Plan, is of a significant scale and is a great opportunity to meet the

development needs of a growing city while also bringing environmental improvements benefitting the surrounding communities. It is, however, a large area in multiple ownership with significant infrastructure requirements. It is therefore likely that the complete redevelopment of the area will take place over many years.

4.2   In order to ensure that this opportunity is fully realised, a masterplan, in line with the relevant policy in City Plan 2030, is required to establish a development framework and delivery strategy for the area. A brief, provided in Appendix 1, sets out the detail of the work required. Work is currently underway with the local community to prepare a Place Brief which will provide a visual representation of the City Plan Development Principles and other key considerations that will be taken into account when preparing the masterplan.

4.3   It is proposed that the Council will partner with the local community to take forward this work and there will also be full engagement with landowners and other key stakeholders. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Council and community representatives will be drawn up to establish the working arrangements.

4.4   The Seafield Sounding Board will be provided with updates as the work progresses and feedback will be sought. The Planning Committee will be the relevant committee for consideration and approval of the masterplan.

4.5   The masterplan preparation has been costed at £130,000 and it is anticipated that this will be funded through a variety of sources, such as the Crown Estate Marine Fund and a contribution from the Scottish Government.

4.6   The Crown Estate Marine Fund can be used to support work with coastal communities. This year it provided an £80,000 contribution to the Council and it has been agreed this will be used as part of the Granton regeneration programme. The Council has been advised that the same amount is estimated as a contribution next financial year. Scottish Government officials have also indicated that funding may be available for the community to support the approach being proposed and discussions are underway.

4.7   A financial contribution from the Council will be required and £50,000 from the CSIF is requested in order that the project can proceed. It is also recommended that a further £80,000 is set aside from the CSIF as contingency, in the unlikely event that the Crown Estate Marine Funding does not materialise.

5.   Next Steps

5.1   A team of consultants will be procured on an open basis through Public Contracts Scotland with the task of preparing the masterplan. It is envisaged that an appointment will be made in March this year and thereafter the commission will take approximately a year, including public consultation. It is proposed that the contract will be awarded under delegated powers, on the basis that the project is pre-approved by Policy and Sustainability Committee.

5.2 Planning Committee will be asked to approve a draft masterplan and then a finalised masterplan and will be responsible for deciding on the planning status to be awarded to the document.

5.3 Updates to Policy and Sustainability Committee will be provided in due course.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The Council's contribution to this work can be met from the CSIF. The current CSIF allocations were agreed by Committee in February 2021.

6.2 It is proposed that up to £130,000 (£50,000 plus £80,000 contingency) is reallocated from West Edinburgh to allow this work to proceed. It is considered that the remaining budget for West Edinburgh will be sufficient in the short term to take forward masterplanning activity in support of City Plan 2030, which will start later this year.This will result in the following allocations within the fund.

Project	Amount	Change
Fund value	**£2,150,000**	n/a
Edinburgh Waterfront	(£604,658)	n/a
BioQuarter	(£500,000)	n/a
DDI	(£200,000)	n/a
West Edinburgh	(£345,000)	-£130,000
ESSTS2	(£320,000)	n/a
Heat and Energy Study	(£50,000)	n/a
Seafield	(£130,000)	+£130,000
Unallocated balance	**£342**	n/a

6.3 The £2,150,000 within the CSIF for strategic development is fully allocated and, of this amount, £1,424,658 is now either spent or contractually committed. Officers will continue to look for opportunities to replenish this fund.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IAA) will be undertaken and will be revisited throughout the project. The final IAA will be prepared alongside the final version of the masterplan.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 [City Plan 2030 Choices document.](#)

8.2 [City Plan 2030 Proposed Plan.](#)

8.3 City Strategic Investment Fund Allocations – Policy and Sustainability Committee Report, [February 2021](#).

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Seafield Masterplan Consultants Brief.

CT2675 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FRAMEWORK

SERVICE REQUEST

CUSTOMER BRIEF

FRAMEWORK ID	CT2675 LOT NUMBER 11
SERVICE REQUEST NO.	SOC 150
PROJECT NAME	Seafield Masterplan
PROJECT VALUE	£130,000
CUSTOMER NAME	The City of Edinburgh Council
CONSULTANT NAME	[XXXXXXXX]

PROJECT BRIEF

Introduction and overview

The City of Edinburgh Council is seeking to appoint a consultant to prepare a Masterplan for the development of the Seafield Regeneration Area (SRA) of Edinburgh over the next 10-15 years. The Seafield Masterplan will be a strategic document that will bridge the gap between the City Plan and Seafield Place Brief (which set out high level principles for the development of the SRA) and detailed designs for individual plots. It will be utilised by the Council to guide investment decisions in the SRA and to assess development proposals brought forward by third parties. The Seafield Masterplan will comprise two elements: a Development Framework and a Delivery Plan.

Background

The SRA is defined in the appended Seafield Regeneration Area Boundary Plan. It is a relatively long, narrow tract of land stretching from Seafield Street in the northwest to King's Road in the southeast, bound by a railway line/Seafield Recreation Ground to the south/west and the Firth of Forth to the north/east. The SRA is bifurcated vertically by Seafield Road East; east-west permeability is currently limited. The SRA is currently dominated by industrial units, trade counters, and car dealerships; there is currently only a very small level of housing in the SRA. There is also very limited green/open space. The SRA has been identified as having potential to be comprehensively redeveloped into a new residential-led coastal neighbourhood.

The Seafield Place Brief is a high-level visualisation of the Seafield Development Principles set out by the Edinburgh City Plan (the principles are listed below). The Place Brief will be prepared by the Council and the Seafield community along with other key stakeholders. The Place Brief will explore different broad options for satisfying the Development Principles (for example, block layouts) to secure buy-in from key stakeholders for the general approach. The Place Brief will form the basis for the preparation of the Development Framework and will be provided to the successful tenderer as part of the brief for this commission

Seafield Development Principles
   a) A housing–led mixed use urban extension with a sense of community that can connect with neighbouring areas and the wider city.
   b) Appropriate mass, scale, height and layout of new development, having regard to views to it from the Firth of Forth.
   c) Ensure all homes are adequately served by play facilities and have access to open space in line with the Council's Open Space Strategy and proposal BGN57 (Seafield – Play facilities and Open Space).
   d) Deliver a SUDS solution to serve both the site and surrounding area in line with Proposal BGN9 (Seafield – Strategic SuDS).
   e) Provision of sustainable travel infrastructure, including where possible use of existing rail infrastructure:

  i. Mobility Hub.
  ii. Edinburgh Promenade upgrade and safe connections and safe crossing of Seafield Road East.
  iii. New active travel route: City Centre along Portobello Road/London Road.
  iv. New Active Travel Route: Along Seafield Road and connection to Craigentinny Avenue via Fillyside.
  v. New Active Travel Route: Along Seafield Road and Portobello High Street.
  vi. Active Travel connections through Harry Lauder Junction.
  vii. New public transport route: Seafield Road to Leith.
  viii. Provide or contribute towards education, and healthcare infrastructure and community facilities.

Masterplan elements
1) Development Framework
The Development Framework will translate the preferred option/concept proposal from the Place Brief into a framework setting out more detailed proposals for the development of the SRA. The Framework should set out:

- A schedule of the approximate quantum of development across the SRA.
- A general arrangement showing the division of the SRA by block.
- A high-level design code/plot passport for each block setting out uses, maximum/minimum heights, massing, and principal elevations/active frontages.
- The different uses classes, including education, healthcare, and green space.
- The hierarchy of streets throughout the SRA.
- Public transport and active travel routes.
- Parking proposals.
- Daylight/sunlight analyses.
- Artist's impressions of key streets and blocks, to include Seafield Road East.

The Development Principles set out above and the Place Brief derived from these should shape the Development Framework. Additionally, the supplier should draw upon the below documents:

- City Plan 2030 (2021)
- Edinburgh Design Guidance (2020)
- City Mobility Plan (2021)
- Edinburgh Promenade Design Code (2008)
- North East Locality Improvement Plan (2020)

Site-specific key considerations that should inform the Framework are:

- The key characteristic/asset of the SRA is its proximity to the waterfront and the Framework should reflect this.
- Seafield Road East should be the principal thoroughfare for the SRA, playing a similar role as Portobello High Street in Portobello, with active frontages.
- The Framework should seek to achieve high housing density, with default massing along the lines of the existing tenements at 1-16 Seafield Road East rather than the low-density suburban form predominant in Craigentinny to the west.
- To accelerate delivery, where possible blocks should be aligned with landholdings (please refer to the appended Seafield Regeneration Area Ownership Plan).
- The SRA should be a low traffic neighbourhood with car travel de-emphasised and public transport/active travel prioritised, including potential increased use of the railway line running through the SRA for heavy rail/tram passenger services.

- The SRA is not regarded as a strategic employment area. Commercial space should be focused on class 1/2/3 space on Seafield Road East; class 4 space for micro/small business; and uses complementing the waterfront. Heavy industry should be de-emphasised.

2) Delivery Plan

The Delivery Plan will set out the steps required to translate the Development Framework into construction activity. The Delivery Plan should set out:

- The physical infrastructure required to support the levels of development in the SRA set out in the Development Framework and the projected costs of delivering this.
- The education (including early years, i.e. nurseries) and healthcare requirements of the SRA and the projected costs of delivering these.
- A landscape strategy for the SRA setting out green space, public realm, and gardens.
- An energy strategy for the SRA.
- A waste management strategy for the SRA.
- A transport strategy for the SRA, including road layouts; parking; public transport; and active travel.
- A phasing plan for the delivery of the Development Framework.
- A schedule of known constraints across the SRA (e.g. existing trees, levels, and water management issues).

Deliverables

The specific deliverables from this piece of work are:

- The Development Framework (as set out above).
- The Delivery Plan (as set out above).
- Materials for consultation.
- An index of all documents and drawings supplied.
- A report on the consultation undertaken over the course of the commission and how this shaped the final outputs.
- A record of all meetings and correspondence relating to the work.

The deliverables should adhere to the below standards:

- Documents should be provided in .PDF format. All CAD drawings shall be additionally provided in .DWG format.
- Sans serif fonts (minimum 12-point) should be used throughout.
- Plans should be at 1:500 scale, accompanied by larger scale drawings illustrating details or elements of the design of particular interest where appropriate.
- Where colour is used to illustrate information, care should be taken to ensure that the colours are clearly differentiated, giving due consideration to accessibility.

The Council will be granted an irrevocable licence to freely use all deliverables supplied.

Process

The client for the work is the City of Edinburgh Council. All outputs and deliverables produced by the supplier will be reviewed by a Project Board comprising Council officers, community representatives and, where relevant, other stakeholders. The supplier will be required to provide monthly progress reports to the Project Board along with weekly updates. Work in progress should be presented at monthly meetings for review and approval. The supplier will be responsible for preparing and circulating agendas and preparing and circulating records of all meetings, unless advised this is not required in specific instances. All meetings with the supplier will be held online via Microsoft Teams unless otherwise agreed by the Council and supplier.

The supplier is required to carry out extensive consultation on the proposals with key stakeholders on the detailed proposals developed for the Development Framework and on the mechanisms and timing of delivery as set out in the Delivery Plan.

The key consultees include:
- The relevant service areas of the City of Edinburgh Council.
- Scottish Water.
- Crown Estate Scotland.
- Network Rail.
- Landowners (please refer to the appended Seafield Regeneration Area Ownership Plan).
- Transport for Edinburgh.
- Community councils
  - Craigentinny and Meadowbank Community Council
  - Leith Links Community Council
  - Leith Harbour/Newhaven Community Council
  - Portobello Community Council
- Schools
  - Craigentinny Primary School
  - Holy Rood High School
  - Leith Academy
  - Leith Primary School
  - St John's RC Primary School
  - St. Ninian's RC Primary School
- Businesses and third sector organisations in the SRA.
- Architecture + Design Scotland
- Edinburgh Urban Design Panel
- Architectural Liaison Officer (Police Scotland)
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- SPOKES/Living Streets
- Historic Environment Scotland
- Sustrans

SERVICE REQUEST

CUSTOMER BRIEF

PROJECT MILESTONE	DEADLINE DATE
Return deadline	
Appointment of supplier	

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED	Yes [X] No [ ]
Attachment titles	1) Seafield Regeneration Area – Boundary Plan
	2) Seafield Regeneration Area – Ownership Plan

RETURN DEADLINE	XX/XX/XXXX at 00:00

SERVICE REQUEST

CONSULTANTS SUPPLEMENTARY TENDER

FRAMEWORK ID	CT2675 LOT NUMBER 11
SERVICE REQUEST NO.	[XXXXXXXX]
CONSULTANT PROJECT REF	[XXXXXXXX]
CONSULTANT NAME	[XXXXXXXX]

CONSULTANTS METHODOLOGY STATEMENT
Framework agreement dictates scope of service, for each consultant in line with various governing bodies, consultants are only to elaborate on additional or reduced requirements specific to this project. [XXXXXXX]

PROJECT TEAM			
NAME	JOB TITLE	CV ATTACHED	RESOURCE AVAILABILITY
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	
[XXXXXX]	[XXXXXX]	Yes [ ] No [ ]	

PROFESSIONAL INDEMITY INSURANCE

This Service Order requires professional indemnity insurance with a limit of indemnity of not less than £1,000,000 in relation to any one claim or series of claims and shall ensure that all professional consultants or Sub-Consultants involved in the provision of the Services hold and maintain appropriate cover (if applicable to the type of service).

PROPOSED FEE

[The Fee for the services under this Service Order shall be the lump sum fee of £[   ];]**1**

[The percentage fee of £[   ] being [   ]% of the Client's budgeted contract sum in respect of the Project.

On completion of the contract procurement stage of the Project, the fee referred to in paragraph 1 above may, at the Client's request, be converted to a fixed lump sum fee by applying the percentage referred to above to the contract sum for the Project referred to in the Building Contract that is produced at completion of the contract procurement stage of works or in the event of a later conversion, the contract sum that is current at the date of the conversion. Any payments made to the Consultant by the Client prior to the fee being converted to a fixed fee shall be (or shall have been) made to the account of the fixed fee. In the event that the contract sum is increased due to any negligence, default and/or breach of this Service Order by the Consultant, it is hereby agreed that there will be no increase in the fee and in such circumstances the increase in the contract sum shall be ignored for the purposes of calculating the fee. Once the fee has been converted to a fixed fee, it shall not be increased or adjusted thereafter except in accordance with clause 4 (Additional Services) of the Conditions of Engagement or where there is reduction in the scope of the Project.]

The Fee shall be paid in accordance with the following Payment Profile and the manner set out in the Conditions of Engagement:**2**

---

1 To be amended based on whether a lump sum or percentage fee is to be used

2 Insert details for the appropriate RIBA Stages for the applicable Services, unless an alternative profile is agreed.

CT2675 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FRAMEWORK

DATE/WORK STAGE*	%/AMOUNT OF FEE DUE	CUMULATIVE FEE	DUE DATE FOR PAYMENT

Fees for Additional Services

The Additional Fee for the Additional Services hereunder shall be £[   ]

The lump sum fee of £[   ]

and shall be paid in accordance with the following Payment Profile and the manner set out in the Conditions of Engagement:

Date/Work Stage*	%/Amount of Fee Due	Cumulative Fee	Due Date for Payment

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

This Service Order requires the delivery of [   ] points of Community Benefits.

The following Community Benefit offering is proposed:

CB No	Points Value	Community Benefit
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

FORM OF TENDER

We, the undersigned, having considered the brief and subject to CT2675 Framework Agreement and upon the Terms and Conditions of Contract contained in the said documents.

The Council/PSP's are not bound to accept this or any Tender for this project, this Tender remains open for consideration for **30 days** from the date fixed for receiving Tenders to the total value of £130,000 (one hundred and thirty thousand pounds).

We undertake to complete the delivery/performance of the whole of the Services set out in the brief within the times stated therein.

By submitting a Tender, we acknowledge that our Tender is a bona fide Tender, intended to be competitive, and that we have not fixed or adjusted the amount of the Tender by or under or in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person.

Tenderer's Name (block capitals):	
Tenderer's Signature:	
Registered Company Name & Address:	
Company Registration Number:	
Witness Name (block capitals):	
Witness Signature:	
Date:	day of 20

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10am, Tuesday 22 February 2022

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Progress Report

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Policy and Sustainability Committee:

    1.1.1 Consider the content of the report.

Judith Proctor

Chief Officer, Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

Contact: Jay Sturgeon, Senior Executive Assistant

E-mail: Jay.Sturgeon2@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 5350

Report

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Progress Report

2. Executive Summary

2.1 This report provides members of Policy and Sustainability Committee (P&SC) with an update on the work of the Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board (EIJB).

3. Background

3.1 As part of the governance arrangements in place, the Chief Officer to the EIJB provides a six-monthly update to P&SC on matters of interest relating to the EIJB. This report will cover items of strategy, performance, delivery and finance.

3.2 The EIJB was set up under the Public Bodies (Joint Working)(Scotland) Act of 2014 and brings together services delegated to it, under the Integration Scheme, by City of Edinburgh Council and NHS Lothian. The Integration Scheme is a requirement under the Act, and this is the partnership agreement between Local Authorities and the NHS which sets out which functions and resources are delegated to the Integration Joint Board (IJB) and how the partners will operate together to deliver the requirement of the Act.

4. Main report

4.1 This report will cover the period from August 2021 – January 2022.

System Pressures

4.2 P&SC previously received a detailed report to committee on 5 October 2021 regarding the system pressures experienced throughout the Health and Social Care System. Since that report, there has been no easing of pressure, with the increasing transmissibility of the Omicron variant impacting significantly on the public and our staff. As a result of the system pressures we are seeing:

4.2.1 High levels of people delayed in hospital. While the number of people delayed has plateaued (See tables 1 and 2 below), December was a particularly challenging month, with higher numbers, due to limited capacity of community care at home providers and our own internal Homecare and Reablement services blocked, also due to no flow through into external community provision

Table 1: Number of delays across all hospitals
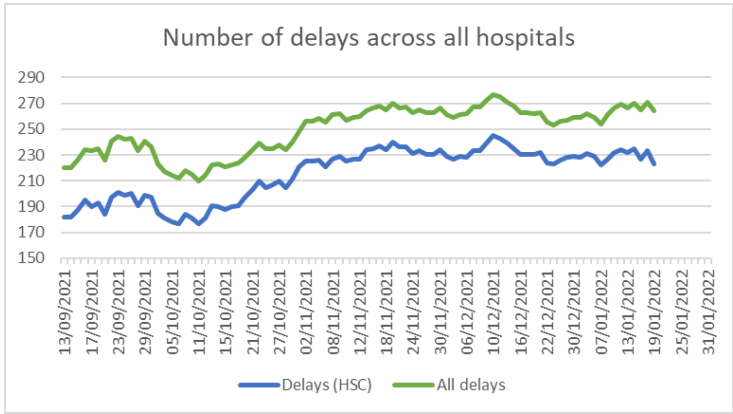
Table 2: Number of delays across acute
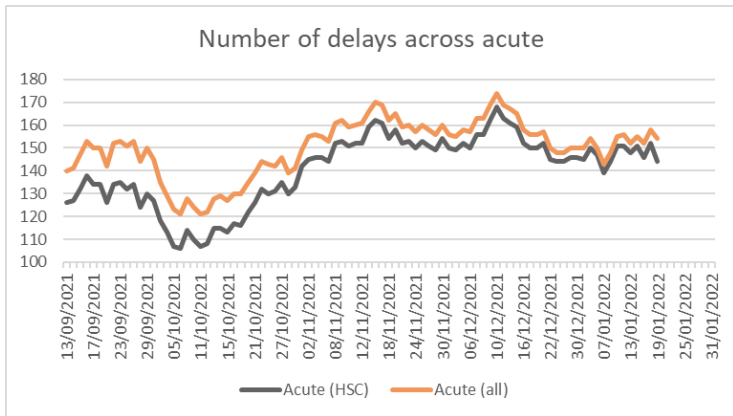
4.2.1 Due to staffing shortages within community care at home, many organisations had to focus their limited resources on the delivery of essential visits only, working with families and carers to ensure that people's care needs were met. A loss of staff to their organisations, several community care at home providers were unable to cope with their existing care commitments and requested that the Partnership find alternative care providers for their service users. Between September and December 2021, alternative arrangements needed to be found for 83 people, totalling almost 1,400 hours. This was a distressing time for many people and their families, who had alternative arrangements to be sought for quickly. It also placed significant demands on already stretched resources within Assessment and Care Management, Homecare, Care Home and Community Nursing services who had to prioritise liaising with families, other providers and the delivery of care to ensure that people received the care required.

4.2.2 As a result of this pressure we continue to see increasing numbers of people, particularly in the community awaiting a package of care (table 3).

Table 3: People waiting for a package of care in hospital and in the community

People on unmet need list
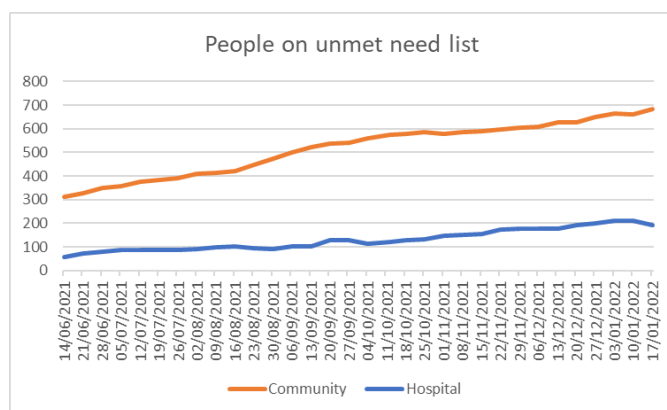
4.2.3 As a result of high levels of request for people requiring a social care assessment of need, coupled with a lack of capacity due to staff vacancies and inability to recruit, waiting lists continue to grow with people waiting longer to receive an assessment of their needs

Actions taken to address the system challenges

4.3 Priority actions to address the system challenges have built on existing activity reported in the October report. Particular actions to note are:

- In December, the Partnership stepped up to daily Incident Management Meetings (IMT), chaired by the Chief Officer, ensuring Executive oversight of the daily position, urgent action required and escalation into NHS Gold Command and the Council's CIMT.

- In line with the Scottish Government's expectation, there has been procurement of interim beds for those people delayed in hospital while waiting on a package of care or a permanent bed that is currently unavailable. By 12 January 2022, 67 moves to an interim bed had taken place.

- We have accelerated the implementation of our One Edinburgh approach, with support from PWC, which will optimise the capacity available within our existing Homecare service and community care at home providers. In December, a data enabled 'Command Centre' to enable active crisis management was established. This Command Centre ensures we have a view of critical data in order to make informed decisions, allocate resource based on need and maximise capacity. This has focused initially on the internal Homecare service with engagement now taking place with community care at home providers.

- We are working with Edinburgh College to recruit students to deliver care via the NHS Lothian Staff Bank. Uptake was low prior to Christmas however a focus on targeting students on their return from festive leave is now taking place.

- Support is being provided from the City of Edinburgh Council where staff in 'non-essential' operational service areas are being asked to move to Health and Social Care for 12 weeks to support the direct delivery of care and supporting functions. Work is being undertaken to support staff moving into the Partnership,

ensuring that they are appropriately trained and supported to safely deliver the required roles and care.

- Under Urgency, the Chief Officer agreed with the IJB Chairperson to suspend IJB Committees, creating Executive and senior capacity to prioritise the management of the significant system pressures.

- In response to the Scottish Government's request for how LRPs can support Health and Social Care Partnerships, a response has been submitted detailing the level of staffing and practical resource required to meet existing levels of need

4.4   We continue to regularly review and update the Partnership and IJB risk registers to ensure they appropriately reflect the mitigations in place. As a result of the continued system pressures, the Partnership has maintained the level of risk arising from these pressures at Critical.

Items of strategy

Strategic Plan

4.5   The EIJB conducts a review of its strategy annually and develops strategic direction through its Strategic Planning Group (SPG). The EIJB Strategic Plan 2019-2022 can be found [here](#).

4.6   Given the ongoing system pressures that the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership are significantly operating under, time needed in consideration of the National Care Service and the local elections in May 2022, the decision was taken by the EIJB at its October 2021 meeting to delay publishing the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 for up to 12 months and no later than March 2023. This approach is in line with several other HSC Partnerships across Scotland.

Status of Transformation Programme

4.7   Despite the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the system-wide pressures which have been felt across health and social care services in recent months, the transformation programme continues to make good progress across a range of projects.

Market Shaping and Mobile Scheduling for Home Care

4.8   As part of our Market Shaping and Home-Based Care project, a business case has recently been approved to replace an outdated, legacy scheduling tool used by internal home care teams, with a new, modern, fit for purpose mobile scheduling tool known as Total Mobile. This underpins and enables the redesign of our homecare and reablement services.

4.9   The implementation of this system will deliver significant benefits in terms of efficiency and additional capacity, generating the equivalent of an additional 80 FTE, helping to support more people to remain independent in their own homes for longer.

4.10 There are also clear associated benefits for staff. Access to technology will enable frontline teams to communicate effectively with colleagues across the Partnership, while smartphones and easier means of communication will help to improve lone worker safety, particularly for those working out of hours.

Bed Based Care Strategy

4.11 In line with the vision of the EIJB to deliver 'a caring, healthier and safer Edinburgh', the ambition of the Bed Based Care Strategy is to create a sustainable bed base that meets the needs of the citizens of Edinburgh by providing the right care, by the right professionals, at the right time, in the right place. The Partnership's redesigned bed base will improve outcomes for people and support every citizen's right to participate fully in society, whatever care and support they need.

4.12 The bed base redesign will support a system wide approach to continuous improvement. Through shifting the balance of care into the community, increasing prevention initiatives, adopting the Home First ethos and principles, working closely with partners in the third and independent sectors, involving communities and adopting a One Edinburgh approach of care at home provision, the Partnership can redesign its bed base to ensure that beds are used for those who cannot have their care, support and treatment provided in any other environment.

4.13 Phase 1 of the bed-based review strategy has been approved by the EIJB and implementation is being worked through with NHSL and CEC. Phase 1 sees an increase in intermediate care capacity, a reduction in Hospital Based Complex Clinical Care and a new model of care, supported by nursing staff introduced into 3 x 60 bedded care homes. The sequence of milestones in phase 1 includes the planned closure of Liberton Hospital.

4.14 A public consultation is planned for summer 2022 to engage with the public on the wider vision for bed-based services across the city, to inform the next phase of the Bed Based Strategy.

3 Conversations

4.15 The Three Conversations model is replacing the traditional 'assessment for services' with a strength-based approach recognising that people are the experts in their own lives and understand their own circumstances and needs.

4.16 We now have 22 innovation sites in operation, including our first full locality roll out underway, as we work to permanently embed the 3Cs approach into the way we do business. Approximately 66% of our assessment and care management staff are now working in a 3 Conversations way, with a plan in place to roll the approach out across 100% of this staff group by April 2022.

4.17 We have seen considerable improvements in the length of time people wait to see a worker, with an average of 2-3 days in innovation sites, compared with a pre- 3 Cs average of over 40 days. We are also continuing to support the majority of people at an early stage and without the need for formal, paid for services.

4.18 Surveys have shown high levels of satisfaction amongst the people that we support, with 91% of people surveyed rating their experience as good and many comments about the friendliness of staff and the speed of the response.

Edinburgh Wellbeing Pact

4.19 We continue our extensive engagement with stakeholders across the city in the enactment of the Edinburgh Wellbeing Pact. Our Summer Season conversations reached over 3,500 citizens across the city describing what health and care means to them.

4.20 In April 2021, the EIJB approved the ambitions recommendations of Edinburgh and the new relationship we are creating with the citizens of Edinburgh. Community Mobilisation was one of these recommendations and we are building momentum across the city focusing on resilient and community wealth building The delivery of the Edinburgh Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund is our first community commissioning experiment to help inform how we can embed community focused and collaborative ways of allocating investment.

4.21 Further information can be found here (6.3 The Edinburgh Pact: Formulation to Enactment).

Home First Edinburgh

4.22 The Home First ethos aims to support people to maintain as much independence as possible at home or in a homely setting, preventing admission to hospital where it is safe to do so.

4.23 The Home First Navigator role was established in March 2021 to support Phase 2 of the Redesign of Urgent Care and aims to provide a professional to professional mechanism to discuss options for people who require an urgent therapy and/or social care intervention in order to remain at home, avoiding admission to hospital. From March to November 2021, 258 referrals were received and 57% of admissions were avoided. The role of the Navigator improved patient experience through a single point of contact and streamlined pathway, reduced demand on Hub duty social workers and enabled a professional to professional pathway with a quicker response to calls from the Flow Centre compared to Social Care Direct.

4.24 The Hospital @ Home workstream has seen the establishment of a direct referral pathway from both the Scottish Ambulance Service and Emergency Departments. The effect being patients no longer have to be admitted prior to referral to the Hospital @ Home service. The pathway has now been expanded and is Lothian wide. Other developments within Hospital @ Home include an out of hours GP referral pathway for care home residents, the development of an Acuity / Capacity tool and the recruitment of a frailty pathway coordinator in the Flow Centre to increase referrals further.

4.25 The Discharge to Assess (D2A) service provides an ongoing rehabilitation in the person's own home as an alternative to bed-based rehabilitation and has seen a 48% increase in its activity between April to November 2021, compared to the same period in 2020. 30% of people have been redirected from an acute hospital setting

to home-based rehabilitation instead of an intermediate care bed. This has resulted in improved patient flow in acute sites, reducing length of stay in hospital.

Joint Inspection of Older Peoples Services

4.26   In November 2021, the Joint Inspection Team (the Care Inspectorate and Health Improvement Scotland) published its progress review in relation to the 2016 inspection of Older People's services in Edinburgh. The progress review noted the considerable improvement that had been made in relation to the original 17 recommendations for improvement.

4.27   The review noted the positive impact of the transformation programme in terms of taking a strategic, planned and managed approach to the delivery of change and improvement. The Joint Inspection Team confirmed that this marked the end of formal scrutiny in relation to the original inspection.

Next Steps for Transformation

4.28   Planning is now underway for the next phase of the programme. The EIJB has approved in principle the establishment of a permanent programme/project management function within the EHSCP with the intent to implement by the end of 2022 as part of a wider organisational review. This will provide the necessary capacity and capability to continue to develop and deliver a pipeline of further modernisation and change, with a focus on innovation and sustainability.

4.29   A review of the programme governance framework is also underway, with the intent to streamline and simplify the programme structure and ensure that the transformation projects transitions into a core, strategic programme of work, embedded within our revised structures.

Items of finance

2021/22 Financial Update

4.30   Despite the fact that the EIJB continues to face significant financial challenges, the Chief Finance Officer has given the board significant assurance of a break-even financial position for the year. Further information can be found here.

2022/23 Budget

4.31   As in previous years, the EIJB is holding a series of budget working groups as it develops its financial plan for next year. To date, 3 such sessions have taken place and the board has discussed the assumptions which underpin the draft financial plan and the emerging associated savings and recovery programme. Whilst much progress has been made, the plan remains unbalanced and a key part of the board's consideration is how best to balance the competing priorities and pressures inherent in-service delivery, workforce and finance.

4.32   Work, involving officers from partner organisations remains ongoing and the budget should be presented to the EIJB in March for agreement.

5. Next Steps

5.1 This report provides members with an update on key areas of interest and a further report will be presented to Policy and Sustainability Committee in August 2022 – date to be confirmed.

6. Financial impact

6.1 There are no financial impacts arising from this report.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 This is an update report for members of Policy and Sustainability on the work of the EIJB, therefore there is no stakeholder or community impact.

7.2 Any stakeholder or community impact relating to any of the workstreams contained within the report have been carefully considered and referred to within the relevant EIJB report.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 None

9. Appendices

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Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Scottish Government consultation on National Public Energy Agency – Council response

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 To agree the Council response to the National Public Energy Agency consultation attached at appendix A, to be submitted as soon as possible after committee consideration, in line with the extension agreed with Scottish Government.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Andrea Mackie, Senior Policy and Insight Officer

Policy and Insight Team, Corporate Services Directorate

E-mail: andrea.mackie@edinburgh.gov.uk

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Report

Scottish Government consultation on National Public Energy Agency – Council response

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Scottish Government is consulting on the [National Public Energy Agency: call for evidence](). An extension to the consultation deadline has been agreed with Scottish Government to enable committee consideration of the response. The draft response is attached at appendix A.

2.2 The 2021/22 Programme for Government includes a commitment to establish a new National Public Energy Agency (the energy agency). The proposed energy agency would be tasked with leading the transformational change in heating homes, workplaces and community buildings (as set out in the Scottish Government [Heat in Buildings Strategy](), published October 2021).

2.3 The draft City of Edinburgh Council response is provided in appendix A. The draft response highlights that Edinburgh shares the view of urgent need to take net zero action (as set out in the [Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy]()) and welcomes the engagement with Scottish Government on how its approach to energy could support that transition.

2.4 In preparing the draft response, officers have drawn on the 'calls to Government' set out in the [Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy]() and ensured general points are consistent with the core messages communicated in previous consultation submissions dealing with climate, energy or governance, such as the [response to the Local Governance Review]() and the [submission to Scottish Government Heat in Buildings Strategy Consultation](). These messages include greater use of place-based policy and funding approaches; innovative finance models; and supporting local empowerment and decision making to deliver net zero.

2.5 The draft response highlights that greater clarity is needed on the specific issues the energy agency is intended to respond to and queries how the energy agency would best support net zero actions - which will ultimately need to be delivered at local and community levels. It also highlights some positive contributions that could be delivered if the energy agency supported the coordination of existing national strategies, funds, and organisations and work alongside local government to achieve change.

2.6 The energy agency proposals include commitments to future consultation. The draft response is clear that the Council wishes to work with Scottish Government within that process to consider what is needed at national, regional and local levels to support locally delivered transitions.

3. Background

3.1 Scottish Government is proposing the energy agency be established in two phases.

3.1.1 Launch of a **virtual Agency by Sept 2022** - To be initially co-ordinated internally in Scottish Government, using existing resources to provide advice and information to people seeking to make a change in response to the heat decarbonisation agenda.

3.1.2 **Permanent Agency in place 2025** – to take over delivery from the virtual agency, with work required to establish structure and governance of the organisation, and the skills and expertise that will be necessary to have a permanent agency in place.

3.2 This call for evidence is the first phase in the two-stage process to establish a new dedicated energy agency outlined above. Scottish government is seeking input from individuals and stakeholder organisations across the public, private and third sectors. Broader formal consultation will be held following this call for evidence.

3.3 The consultation seeks feedback on the following aspects of the energy agency:

3.3.1 **Strategic purpose, remit and objectives** – including what is needed to achieve transformational change in the energy sector and how the energy agency can support the change needed.

3.3.2 **Functions –** setting out if and what the energy agency takes direct control of and delivery responsibility for and what it will steer strategically; seeking feedback on whether it should take on a regulatory function

3.3.3 **Institutional form and governance –** considering the level of independence from Scottish Government and whether establishing the energy agency on a statutory footing would support its remit and ensure the right expertise and powers.

3.3.4 **Relationship with the wider stakeholder landscape –** considering how the energy agency can garner respect and recognition of its position and authority amongst stakeholders and who it should work with to facilitate delivery

3.3.5 **Agency development process –** Summarises the two stage approach and proposes developing a transition route map that considers how to build on, improve and co-ordinate existing – and future – advice and delivery programmes, and what needs to happen to scale up to deliver within a single dedicated body by September 2025.

4.   Main report

4.1   Key positions in the draft response are summarised below

The need for the energy agency

4.2   The decision on the energy agency should to be led by the clear identification of a need within the existing policy and delivery frameworks supporting net zero. This stage of consultation should be treated as a problem definition stage, using the feedback provided by organisations external to Scottish Government to better understand and define the shared problems preventing local and national action on energy. Following that, consideration can be given to the range of options to respond including how existing structures can be used to address them.

4.3   In considering these options, there needs to be a recognition that there are already a number of bodies and national funds that focus decarbonising energy, that are not coordinated in a way that supports local authorities to lead, develop and deliver decarbonised energy actions. Within this context, immediate priority should be given to improving the coordination of existing landscape rather than adding to its complexity.

Meeting strategic needs to decarbonise heat and energy

4.4   Achieving rapid and substantial emissions reductions from buildings is a priority for national and local governments. However, achieving the transformational change will require integration of heat decarbonisation actions with programs of net zero actions that enable locally led system-wide responses which deliver multiple outcomes and benefits.

4.5   To support this, there needs to be a focus on ensuring policy, legislation, funding and investment are aligned to support systemic and place-based action. Singular approaches to one aspect of that whole-system energy, including the creation of new national bodies may risk reinforcing silos, as opposed to supporting holistic responses that meet the totality of need and different issues in local communities.

4.6   While there could be benefits to national coordination, a national agency cannot be the answer to developing the local pipeline of projects for net zero action. This can only be done effectively locally, and local authorities are best placed to lead these programmes within their areas and regions. It would be helpful to understand how Scottish Government see the energy agency as meaningfully enabling this local action to happen at speed and scale required for deep action across the whole of Scotland.

4.7   There is a risk that a new energy agency in this space could divert skills and resources away from the local level at a time when they are needed to accelerate local action.

Statutory status

4.8   The statutory status of any energy agency should be led by the agreed strategic purpose, remit and objectives, and with a clear view of what the wider functions

should be. At this stage, the Council does not have a view on whether the energy agency should have regulatory functions or be on a statutory footing.

Governance and partnerships

4.9 Councils are the tier of government closest to communities, are the body through which citizens participate in local democracy, and which works closely with civil society, and the voluntary and community sectors. The energy agency will be unable to achieve effective and meaningful engagement at this level.

4.10 Should the energy agency be progressed, then the Council would expect that, given the interdependency between Scottish Government ambitions and local authority delivery, that the energy agency be jointly developed and governed. This could potentially be achieved by working closely with COSLA to ensure joint accountability to both Scottish Ministers and local government.

5.   Next Steps

5.1 The draft response to consultation (attached at appendix A) will be submitted following committee's consideration.

5.2 Council officers will engage with Scottish Government on the next stages of the energy agency proposal, working through Scottish Cities Alliance and COSLA as appropriate.

6.   Financial impact

6.1 There are no financial impacts arising as a result of this report.

7.   Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 There are no direct stakeholder/community impacts arising as a result of this report.

7.2 The draft response raises issues about how well the energy agency meets the needs of local citizens and communities (summarised in the main section of this report). The draft response also highlights the role, relationship, and democratic mandates of local government in supporting communities.

7.3 The draft response raises relevant concerns related to carbon impacts, adaptation, climate change, and sustainable development, as far as possible at this stage of proposals. Council officers will continue to raise relevant issues as it further engages with Scottish Government on the development of energy agency proposals.

8.   Background reading/external references

8.1 Scottish Government consultation, National Public Energy Agency: call for evidence, December 2021

8.2 City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy, December 2021

8.3 Scottish Government, Heat in Buildings Strategy, October 2021.

8.4   City of Edinburgh Council, Submission to [Submission to Scottish Government Heat in Buildings Strategy Consultation](#), April 2021

8.5   City of Edinburgh Council, [Response to the Local Governance Review](#), December 2018

9.   Appendices

9.1   Appendix A – Draft Council submission to Scottish Government on National Public Energy Agency consultation.

Appendix A
National Public Energy Agency: consultation - call for evidence 2021/2022

City of Edinburgh Council response
22 February 2022

1. Introduction and summary comments

1.1 Thank you for the opportunity to input on the National Public Energy Agency call for evidence 2021/22. As a lead delivery partner of decarbonised heat and energy in Edinburgh, the Council appreciates the early engagement with Scottish Government.

1.2 The decision on the energy agency needs to be led by the clear identification of a need within the existing policy and delivery frameworks supporting net zero. The energy agency is presented '*in recognition of the urgency and need for action to be taken now to begin ramping up delivery of energy efficiency retrofit and zero emissions heat installations, we will launch a virtual Agency by September 2022'*.

1.3 Edinburgh shares the view of urgent need to take net zero action (as set out in the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy). However, greater clarity is required on what specific issues the energy agency responds to and how it supports net zero actions which will ultimately take place at local and community levels. Decarbonising our heat and energy will not be delivered by national agencies, but rather will happen neighbourhoods, streets, and communities at a time – and requires an approach that fosters local and rapid change.

1.4 There are already a number of existing national strategies, funds, and organisations in place already that can deliver and take responsibility for the energy aspects of the net zero transition. This existing landscape needs to focus on system wide changes that deliver multiple outcomes and local benefits, taking a 'covid-19' whole system emergency style approach. This means enabling fast and coordinated public sector decision making, and using it to underpin consideration of additional powers, freedoms and flexibilities support local government to accelerate action on climate change.

1.5 The Council believes priority should be given to improving the coordination of existing national strategies, funds, and organisations rather than adding to them.

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1.6   This stage of consultation should be treated as a problem definition stage, using the feedback provided by organisations external to Scottish Government to better understand and define the problems preventing action on energy and the shared outcomes sought. Following that, consideration can be given to the range of options to respond including how existing structures can be used to address them.

1.7   Should the energy agency be progressed, then the Council would expect that, given the interdependency between Scottish Government ambitions and local authority delivery, it is critical that the development of the energy agency be a jointly developed and governed body.

2.   Response to consultation questions

Q 1 - What is needed to achieve the transformational change that is necessary for heat decarbonisation in Scotland

2.1   As noted by the Climate Emergency Response Group, if Scotland as a whole is to meet its 2045 target, our cities need to make faster progress. This also means Scottish Government needs to do more to support Councils such as Edinburgh who are playing their part by committing to more immediate net zero targets. Local Authorities have the democratic mandate to mobilise and have collaboration and partnerships -across public sector, with civil society, academic sectors, businesses.

2.2   The Council is seeking Scottish Government recognition of the critical role cities have in meeting Scotland's 2045 net zero target and to support high ambition local authorities who have set more challenging targets to maximise their contribution. This support should include the powers, funding, and resources needed to enable local authorities to develop local solutions that reflect their individual needs and unlock the greater opportunities of a green economic recovery.

2.3   Achieving rapid and substantial emissions reductions from buildings is a priority for national and local governments. However, achieving the transformational change will require integration of heat decarbonisation actions with programs of net zero actions that enable locally led system-wide responses which deliver multiple outcomes and benefits.

2.4   Scottish Government needs to focus on ensuring policy, legislation, funding and investment are aligned to support systemic and place-based action. Thematic approaches are not a technically, operationally or financially viable way to deliver the transition to a net zero city or nation. Singling out energy and developing a national body around it could reinforce siloed responses, as opposed to supporting holistic responses that meet the totality of need and different issues in local communities.

2.5   To deliver transformational net zero change, local authorities and delivery partners need support to meet local challenges (which can be varied across authority areas). Specific challenges exist for Edinburgh in relation to:

2.5.1 the scale and challenge of building retrofit (including public buildings), financially and in terms of supply chains

2.5.2 the need to develop at pace the city's energy networks and supporting infrastructure,

2.5.3 the importance of ensuring action on energy delivers wider social and economic benefits as part of a just transition.

2.5.4 the promotion of local energy generation and Scottish Government support for publicly owned models of energy generation.

2.6 In delivering the Heat in Buildings Strategy and proposed heat decarbonisation implementation plan, Scottish Government needs to ensure it includes adaptation actions to ensure our net zero transition is future proofed for the impacts of unavoidable climate change.

2.7 Work with the UK Government is also needed to set out a clear vision for how the energy markets will be reformed to support decarbonisation of heat. This is necessary to ensure the transition to electric heat is affordable for citizens – particularly those at risk of fuel poverty.

Q 2 - How can the new dedicated Agency best support this change programme?

2.8 Should a decision be taken to progress a dedicated energy agency, it should then be based around joint development and governance with local government. A joint approach, especially in relation to governance, will be critical to enable Scottish Government to improve the understanding of and respond to the needs of local government. The Council is keen to work with Scottish Government to consider what is needed at national, regional and local levels to support locally delivered transitions.

2.9 The Council's view on priorities for Scottish Government across its net zero program are set out below. Supporting these priorities will best help local authorities to deliver on heat and energy and should be used guide decisions about support and resources across the existing and potential new policy, legislation, funding and investment frameworks.

2.9.1 Setting progressive policy, addressing regulatory barriers, ensuring enabling legislation is available for local authorities and partners.

2.9.2 Joining up existing siloed funds and aligning Scottish Government funding to provide accessible, long-term funding for support for local authorities and communities to deliver place-based actions.

2.9.3 Supporting local authorities to develop internal capacity, skills and expertise across the energy agenda

2.9.4 Prioritising funding to support the building of investible business cases that share risk and reward and unlock access to large-scale, private and blended finance models that support net zero change

2.9.5 Working with local government and regional partners to help connect private sector investment to local opportunities

2.9.6 Coordinating at the national level to ensure national infrastructure and capacity is ready to meet local project needs.

2.9.7 Ensuring the wider public sector (including non-departmental public bodies) is empowered to collaborate locally with local government to develop and deliver programs that meet local needs.

2.9.8 Leading national communications campaigns on climate change that complement and amplify local messaging, and support an open and frank dialogues with citizens about the changes needed

2.9.9 Bring forward at speed improved schemes to support citizens to fund energy efficiency upgrades.

Q 3 - What are the opportunities and challenges for delivery presented by this agenda, and how might this best be overcome through the Agency?

2.10 There are already a number of bodies and national funds that focus on or incorporate decarbonised energy, that are not coordinated in a way that supports local authorities to lead, develop and deliver decarbonised energy actions. It is unclear how another national agency would support Councils to access opportunities and overcome the challenges in delivering the net zero and heat and energy agenda in ways that couldn't be progressed locally with the right capacity and skills.

2.11 From experience to date, in seeking support to fill resource and expertise gaps, the Council generally approaches existing industry and consultancy (taking careful consideration where there are potential overlaps with commercial interests). There is a risk that substantial expansion of a Scottish Government led 'centre of expertise' will replicate what local authorities need in-house, and potentially oversubscribe the demands on people and organisations with the existing skills. Having a centralised service will still require substantial input from local authorities to ensure solutions meet local needs as well as to coordinate, sequence and plan for the delivery of the transition as a whole, again removing that capacity from the real time delivery of action plans.

2.12 Developing holistic and place-based decarbonised solutions at the pace and scale required can be supported through exiting frameworks and recognising that local government needs to grow its internal skills and capacity, and this can't be substituted by one off expertise being allocated by a national body. While this can add value, it often requires significant local investment to ensure that the national sector expertise can be applied to the local context. Given the long-term commitment to the energy landscape it would be more fruitful to grow and embed that capacity within Councils.

Q 4 - Based on the proposed purpose, remit and objectives of the dedicated Agency, do you have any evidence, or insights based on experience, that

demonstrate the need and potential added value of a new public body of this nature in the heat decarbonisation delivery landscape?

2.13   Local Authorities need a coordinated programme of national policies and funds that will unlock, support and give confidence to local programmes of climate action to deliver. This strategic point aside, there could be some benefit for taking a step along that journey by coordinating Scottish Government funding pots that target energy action, but it is unclear that an energy agency is required to achieve this.

2.14   Ultimately, a national agency cannot be the answer to developing the local pipeline of projects for net zero action. This can only be done locally, and local authorities are best placed to lead these programmes within their areas and regions. It would be helpful to understand how Scottish Government see a National Agency as meaningfully enabling this local action to happen at speed and scale required for deep action across the whole of Scotland.

Q5 - Are you aware of any case studies – UK or international – or research that can help inform design of a new public sector delivery body to ensure it is able to delivery effective outcomes, and to be consumer focused across its operations? What do you think are some of the key factors that need to be built into the strategic framework – and corporate design – of the new body to best enable this?

2.15   Should the energy agency be progressed, then the Council would expect that, given the interdependency between Scottish Government ambitions and local authority delivery, that the energy agency be jointly developed and governed. Scottish Government should also be working closely with COSLA to ensure joint accountability to both Scottish Ministers and local government.

Q6 - What tools and support will the dedicated Agency need in order to effectively establish leadership and coordination of heat decarbonisation in Scotland?

2.16   The ability to devolve budgets and staff resources to the local level would enhance heat decarbonisation in Scotland, for example by seconding or assigning teams to individual local authorities/partnerships. However, undertaking this function does not necessarily require a new national energy agency.

2.17   It would be helpful to understand what type of coordination is imagined in this context and how a National Agency would add value to the need for speed, scale of action and local delivery. Response to this questions depends on whether the Agency would be playing a coordination role at the very local level, regionally, within a council boundary or across the whole of Scotland, and how it would achieve 'coordination' at each of those levels.

2.18   The coordination required by local authorities to unlock local action is across the thematic national bodies playing a role in this space. This raises questions about how, for example, would the energy agency fit in alongside Transport Scotland, Scottish National Investment Bank, Zero Waste Scotland, and other agencies tasked with net zero action.

Q7- Do you have any evidence, or further insights regarding the potential added value that the functions set out can deliver within the heat decarbonisation landscape? This may include both examples of where these types of functions have, or have not been conferred on a national body as part of leading a programme of delivery and change, and the resulting implications (positive or negative).

2.19   There is a need to create a critical mass of funding at the national level to incentivise and unlock climate action. Local authorities need this to be true across all the key thematic priority areas for a net zero transition, but it will be most impactful if provided a strategic funding mechanism for place-based action.

2.20   There is a danger that an energy agency in this space will deplete scarce skills and local resources at a time of deep development needed to accelerate action. This cannot be compensated by sporadic or thinly applied national expertise.

Q8- Do you have any evidence, or case studies that demonstrate the effectiveness or not of new regulatory standards being enforced at a national versus local level? This may include international comparisons.

2.21   The Council's [response](#) to Scottish Parliament's inquiry into the role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland sets out some of the challenges in relation to the planning framework.

2.22   Regulatory frameworks need to empower local authorities to have autonomy to vary regulation to best fit local needs. There is also a need for overarching regulatory systems to operate at a faster pace (for example by streamlining statutory appeals processes and reducing the length of time they take) as well as ensuring regulation remains fit for purpose and keeps pace with innovation and development within core net zero sectors.

2.23   Generally, regulatory responsibility should be informed by the need for regulation, the intended outcomes, strategic responsibility, and regime design. Examples exist in the planning and buildings standards regulatory regimes.

2.24   A broader issue exists in relation to the cost of managing enforcement regimes. Local authorities do not have available resource to take on new regulatory functions without financial and support or the capability to charge to recover the cost of managing the enforcement regime.

Q9 - Are you aware of any existing, or previous, public bodies that exercise both an advisory and regulatory role within the same organisation – and how this dual remit has been translated at an operational level to avoid any risks relating to conflicts of interest, governance and lines of accountability? This may include examples from the international landscape, and/or UK context.

2.25   None in addition to the information earlier questions.

Q 10- Are you aware of any case studies, or recent research that considers the opportunities and challenges of establishing a public sector body that is tasked with programme delivery functions on a statutory footing?

2.26   None in addition to the information earlier questions. It would be helpful if Scottish Government could clarify what programme delivery looks like in this space. If this were coordination of national programmes, then it might have some added value.

Q 11 - In terms of potentially establishing the dedicated Agency on a statutory footing as part of future proofing it to be able to take on any new functions or responsibilities as heat decarbonisation delivery progresses over the coming decades, are there any other considerations related to this that you think we need to be aware of and why? This may include, for example: upcoming evidence and research, other strategic policy developments and targets, wider industry and sector led developments in the heat and energy efficiency landscape or related delivery areas.

2.27   The response to question 15 provides further detail on approaches to decision making about the energy agency.

2.28   The statutory status of any agency should be led by the agreed strategic purpose, remit and objectives, and with a clear view of what the wider functions should be. At this stage, the Council does not have a view on whether the energy agency should have regulatory functions or be on a statutory footing.

2.29   Should regulatory functions be taken forward, Scottish Government must ensure there is a clear case and evidence base that the intended outcomes cannot be achieved through non-statutory means and that any additional resulting requirements for local authorities are fully funded.

2.30   It should also be noted there are existing regulatory regimes in place through the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, CCPBD reporting, planning and building standards frameworks, and the emerging LHEES program. Any additional regulatory functions would need to dovetail with these and avoid simply layering new requirements in a way which results in a cluttered landscape and duplication of reporting and other effort at the expense of programme delivery.

Q 12 - Who will the Agency need to work closely with in order to best facilitate delivery of the transformational change required, and how do you think this should work in practice?

2.31   Given the Council's views on the energy agency, it does not have a clear view on who the energy agency needs to work with in delivery of transformation change and does not consider it to be the right time to make this decision. The response to question 15 provides further detail on approaches to decision making about the energy agency.

2.32   Local Authorities have the democratic mandate to mobilise and have collaboration and partnerships -across public sector, with civil society, academic sectors, businesses. Relationships with community involvement and co-development of local schemes should remain at the local level and include local authorities.

2.33   A key gap across the net zero program in Scotland is leadership on communications and citizen involvement – providing information, sign posting to where support, advice and resources can be found. Scottish Government also

needs to work with city partners on awareness raising campaigns which support a frank discussion on climate change action.

Q 13 - Are you aware of any case studies that demonstrate (in)effective partnership working by a public body to coordinate a broader delivery landscape to achieve a shared goal? What lessons can be taken from these examples?

2.34   Councils have a democratic mandate to mobilise and have collaboration and partnerships -across public sector, with civil society, academic sectors, businesses. They have a central role in coordinating and leading local partnerships, and are best able to do this when they are fully empowered to collaborate and take decisions local levels.

2.35   Evidence of meaningful Scottish Government investment in collaboration such as the Scottish Cities Alliance and a track record of unlocking success through this partnership would pave the way for a more substantive partnership to coordinate delivery.

Q 14 - What role do you see your organisation playing in relation to the Agency once established?

2.36   Given the interdependency between Scottish Government ambitions and local authority it is critical that the development of the energy agency be a jointly developed and governed body and ensure local authorities are core partners of the virtual and permanent energy agency.

2.37   Further detailed discussion is required with Scottish Government on the Council's view of the energy agency and future roles. City of Edinburgh Council would be happy to engage in those discussions.

Q 15 - What role do you see for your organisation during the development process of the Agency, and do you have any examples of the type of collaborative approach to design of a new public body or delivery programme that you would like to see implemented? What lessons can be taken from these?

2.38   As set out in response to earlier questions, the Council seeks further consultation and engagement and for views to be taken on board. Any progression of the energy agency needs to be undertaken jointly with local government.

2.39   The next stages of consultation should remain open on whether an energy agency or some other national coordination agency is required. This stage of consultation should be treated as a problem definition stage, using the feedback provided by organisations external to Scottish Government to better understand and define the problems and outcomes sought. Following that, consideration can be given to the range of options to respond including how existing structures can be used to address them. At this point further consultation on a more informed proposal can be undertaken and a decision can be made on the energy agency.

16 - What types of approaches to civic participation do you think could work most effectively in supporting development of the dedicated Agency, and why? How can these be best implemented to work alongside wider stakeholder engagement?

Please provide any examples, or case studies you may have to support your response.

2.40   Energy is an issue that citizens experience at a very local level impacting decisions and behaviours in homes, work, and communities.

2.41   Councils are the tier of government closest to communities, are the body through which citizens participate in local democracy, and which works closely with civil society, and the voluntary and community sectors. A national energy agency will be unable to achieve effective and meaningful engagement at this level. In addition, a national energy agency is likely to need substantial local authority support to undertake local engagement likely duplicating resources and expertise that could best be prioritised at a local level.

2.42   The Council is committed to three pilots to progress net zero communities in Scotland. The Council will work with communities, Community Councils, Edinburgh's Universities in one of the 20-minute neighbourhood hubs to scope and develop funding bids for local pilots to understand what it would take to become net zero. The pilot scope will be coproduced with citizens and will link to Local Place Plans. Direct national support for delivery programmes of this nature would be of the utmost value to the transition at a neighbourhood and council level and be meaningful in terms of the impact on behaviour change and citizen action.

3.   Contact details

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Policy and Sustainability

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Ending the need for food banks: City of Edinburgh Council response to consultation on a draft national plan

Item number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

1.1 To note the response to the Scottish Government's consultation on a draft national plan to end the need for foodbanks, approved by the Executive Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader under urgency provisions set out in A4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions so as to meet the consultation deadline.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Eleanor Cunningham, Lead Policy Officer,

Policy and Insight Team, Corporate Services Directorate

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EDINBVRGH
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Report

Ending the need for food banks: City of Edinburgh Council response to consultation on a draft national plan

2.   Executive Summary

2.1   This report summarises the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on a draft national plan to end the need for food banks.

2.2   The response notes that Government proposals align with Council priorities as set out in the End Poverty Edinburgh Action Plan, and the Council Business Plan. The draft national plan is also in alignment with the 2020 findings of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission and its call for local and national agencies to improve income security as a means of avoiding reliance on foodbanks and to develop place-based approaches to bring together healthy eating, sustainability and community development.

2.3   The Council's response to the consultation specifies a range of areas where further consideration or clarification by the Scottish Government would be helpful and the need for fair, sustainable funding to deliver all of the measures.

3.   Background

3.1   The Scottish Government have drafted a national plan outlining its vision and approach to ending the need for food banks as a primary response to food insecurity. Consultation on these proposals opened on 20 October 2021 and the closing date was 25 January 2022. The Scottish Government will use feedback and suggestions to inform the final plan.

3.2   The vision is that everyone has a sufficient and secure income to be able to access food that meets their needs and preferences. Where financial hardship does occur, coordinated local responses prioritise access to emergency financial assistance and money advice alongside access to holistic support services. Where help to access food is needed, this is provided in a way that maximises dignity and reduces future need.

3.3   The plan presents a summary of action underway to prevent poverty and sets out intentions for further actions. The activities are underpinned by a human rights

approach which prioritises action that prevents poverty and promotes cash-first responses alongside holistic support services where needed.

4. Main report

4.1 The Scottish Government's current approach has two elements: preventing the need for emergency food provision arising, and cash first, dignified responses when food poverty does arise.

4.2 Their proposals for further actions include: a commitment to delivering a minimum income guarantee, increasing access to emergency financial assistance, money advice and holistic support services; key stakeholders (food banks, money advice services, local authority officers and public health) working together to develop the best response for their local area; piloting the use of shopping vouchers; developing shared values for all stakeholders on access to emergency financial assistance and holistic support services.

4.3 These proposals align with a number of existing Council plans and priorities, including:

1. The Council's End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan and its actions to improve income security and reduce the cost of living for people in poverty in Edinburgh

2. The City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan, and its commitment to deliver partnership actions for a long-term support and intervention strategy to prevent food poverty and food insecurity; and,

3. The Council's 20-minute Neighbourhood Strategy, and its aim to deliver sustainable, safe and resilient neighbourhoods where residents have equal access to most of their daily needs, including access to local shops and support services.

4.4 The Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation makes the following key points to support the further development of the national plan and its implementation:

1. Even with the most highly effective supports in place to prevent poverty, there will always be individuals who fall into crisis for unavoidable reasons and who need emergency food support. The key aim for the national plan should be to ensure that support is available and accessible when it is needed, that the support is provided in a way that is dignified and respectful, and that people are helped in a way that ensures their crisis is temporary and prevents future harm.

2. High quality welfare advice is crucial to reducing poverty but needs strong, sustained, and appropriately resourced infrastructure. In the context of a rising cost of living crisis which is increasing demand for advice services as well as risk of food insecurity, advice providers face challenges to secure sustainable funding for community-based services in all parts of the city, as well as a shortage of appropriately skilled advice workers.

3. Increased and effective nationwide campaigns are needed to increase the take up of benefits and ensure citizens know how to access the supports they are entitled to, particularly among key groups such as older people where evidence shows take up rates are low.

4. While 'cash first' approaches to addressing emergency need are welcomed, it is important that key mechanisms to deliver this ambition are appropriately resourced and delivered. This includes ensuring that local authorities have the resources needed to make sure that Scottish Welfare Fund, and other schemes are able to deal with food crisis applications at the point of need and paid within an appropriate time frame.

5. Accessing food is not solely related to income – people need to have access to good quality, affordable food suppliers within their local area, with implications for local provision and transport and links with the 20-minute neighbourhood agenda.

6. Free school meals policies have the potential to increase their impact on preventing food poverty. Potential changes could include amending eligibility to take consideration of family size, families in temporary accommodation, and considering the use of pre-paid debit cards as a means to reduce stigma, extend choice, and increase uptake.

4.5 The Council also states that fair, sustainable funding is needed to deliver all of the measures.

4.6 The response further notes that other national policy changes under development may affect the way local partners work, and the capacity of local government to implement the vision outlined in the draft plan. In particular, the development and implementation of the National Care Service could bring significant disruption to local authorities and health boards, which will have implications for the capacity to engage in other strategic areas.

5. Next Steps

5.1 The Council will continue to seek opportunities to engage with the Scottish Government in developing effective responses to poverty.

5.2 The Council will continue to work with EVOC to develop a long-term support and intervention strategy to prevent food poverty and food insecurity in all our communities, on behalf of the Edinburgh Partnership.

5.3 A comprehensive review of advice services in Edinburgh has been commissioned by the Edinburgh Partnership and is underway. The findings will help to determine the future scale and configuration of services, and associated implementation requirements.

6.   Financial impact

6.1   There is no financial impact or implication for the Council at this stage.

7.   Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1   The findings of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission have informed the Council's response, which has been drafted with support from NHS Lothian.

8.   Background reading/external references

8.1   [A Just Capital: Actions to End Poverty in Edinburgh](#)

9.   Appendices

9.1   The City of Edinburgh Council response to the Scottish Government consultation on a draft national plan to end the need for foodbanks.

Ending the need for food banks: consultation on a draft national plan
City of Edinburgh Council submission
January 2022

Q1. Do you think that the approach outlined is consistent with the vision to end poverty and the need for food banks? Is there anything else you think should be included?

City of Edinburgh Council agrees with the Scottish Government's position that the need for food banks is primarily a reflection of poverty (inadequate and insecure incomes) and that they are not an appropriate or long-term response to poverty. The Council further agrees that cases where the use of foodbanks is seen as a first or only option for people in food crisis represents a failure of efforts to prevent poverty, and a missed opportunity to offer support and prevent future hardship.

The Scottish Government's approach, as described in the consultation document has two elements: *prevention* and *crisis response*. The Council agrees that this approach –- preventing the need for emergency food provision arising, and cash first, dignified responses when food poverty does arise - is appropriate and is consistent with the city's own commitment to end poverty and reliance on foodbanks as articulated in the End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan.

Overall, the vision and approach set out in the draft national plan is consistent with the principles and scope of the Councils own plans, as well as with

- The findings of the **Edinburgh Poverty Commission**, and its call for local and national agencies to improve income security as a means of avoiding a reliance on foodbanks and to develop place-based approaches to bring together healthy eating, sustainability and community development
- The Edinburgh Partnership Community Plan and City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan, and their commitments to deliver partnership actions for a long-term support and intervention strategy to prevent food poverty and food insecurity, and
- The Council's 20-minute Neighbourhood Strategy, and its aim to deliver sustainable, safe and resilient neighbourhoods where residents have equal access to most of their daily needs, including access to local shops and support services.

Notwithstanding this strong alignment, the Council's view is that further consideration is needed in the following areas of the Scottish Government's proposals:

Welfare Advice, and the need for strong, sustained, and appropriately resourced infrastructure:

While it is agreed that access to benefits advice/income maximisation should be an integral part of ending the need for foodbanks, there are continuing challenges to resourcing the partnership infrastructure needed to deliver these services at the scale and quality required to meet demand. At present an advice review is underway in Edinburgh to scope and assess the effectiveness of partnership resources used to

fund local advice and income maximisation provision in the city, and make recommendations on the scale and patterns of funding needed for a long term sustainable advice service. On completion of this review, the Council and partners would welcome engagement with Scottish Government on implementing its findings.

In the short term, and in the context of a rising cost of living crisis which is increasing demand for advice services as well as risk of food insecurity, Edinburgh advice providers report challenges is filling vacancies for advice staff. Providers report a lack of applications from trained, skilled people and a need for additional resource to ensure adequate training is provided for new recruits. Again, the pressures and resource requirements involved in delivering the local infrastructure needed to meet Scotland wide goals should be recognised in the final national plan.

It is vital that people giving advice are skilled and accredited – incorrect advice can have major consequences for people. To ensure consistent quality of advice, local and national plans should consider introducing requirements for welfare rights and debt advisors to be registered to agreed standards, with mechanisms to ensure that there is sufficient capacity for quality assurance. National planning should also recognise that such recommendations would have further additional resource consequences for local partners.

The response to the Covid pandemic has shown the wide opportunities for effective, flexible delivery of advice by phone and digitally. There is scope to build on these opportunities to increase the accessibility of advice.

Crisis payments and the importance of effective promotional campaigns

Assuming that the "cash first" approach is primarily to be delivered by Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF), the Council notes that SWF should be adequately resourced to be able to deal with food crisis applications at the point of need and paid within the stipulated time frame. This should include recognising the administrative resource costs borne by local authorities in delivering the fund. SWF guidance must be clear as possible for Local Government decision makers, particularly on the number of applications that can be made for crisis grants

An effective benefits take-up campaign is urgently needed, ensuring that older people are targeted as take up levels are known to be low. The national campaign of November 2021, it is noted, had limited impact in terms of local demand for support to claim benefits.

In general, local advice providers note that the term "money advice" which is used in the consultation document is confusing to people who can think it relates to investment planning or asset management. The terms debt advice and welfare rights advice are better understood by clients.

Housing costs as a critical driver of poverty and food insecurity

The Edinburgh Poverty Commission concluded that *there is no solution to poverty in Edinburgh without resolving the city's housing and homelessness crisis.* By extension, the findings of the Commission note that reducing housing costs must be a core part of any plan to address the challenge of food poverty caused by

inadequate incomes. The Commission further noted that this challenge was significantly more pressing in Edinburgh than in other parts of Scotland, and that 22,600 people in Edinburgh are pushed into poverty by the cost of housing alone, more than double the equivalent rate across Scotland as a whole. In line with these findings, the Council is committed to continue to work with Scottish Government and its partners to increase investment in social housing and maximise the number of social rented homes that can be delivered in the city.

2. Do you think that the actions underway will help to reduce the need for food banks as a primary response to food insecurity?

The Council agrees that, in principle, current actions outlined in the plan (to increase income, reduce household costs, provide crisis funds with access to wraparound supports; welfare and debt advice; and support to community and third sector organisations to deliver dignified food access) have the potential to reduce the need for food banks if provided at the right scale and if delivered with the flexibility needed to meet the needs of local citizens.

However, current and anticipated increases in the cost of living through inflation and fuel costs, and increased levels of personal debt are significant challenges. Spending on food is often reduced by people/families when under financial pressure/debt so incomes need to be increased to a level where food and other essentials can be afforded.

As detailed in the answer to question 1, further consideration is needed to:

- Ensure that access to high quality welfare and debt advice is available in every community, in ways and in places that people trust
- Ensure benefits advice is of high quality, potentially only available from accredited providers – with implications for attracting, recruiting, training and retaining staff
- Explore ways to increase access to benefits advice, learning from the experience of remote support during the pandemic
- Ensure resourcing for community-based advice infrastructure is sustainable
- Provide income support for people experiencing in-work poverty (whose income is just above benefit/crisis funding eligibility levels)

3. Do you think that the suggestions for what more we plan to do will help to reduce the need for food banks as a primary response to food insecurity?

The Council agrees that the further actions described (including a minimum income guarantee, increasing access to emergency financial assistance, money advice and holistic support services; better local collaboration among key stakeholders) are potentially helpful.

Alongside the comments highlighted in the answers given to question 1, however, the Council notes that

- Consideration of a minimum income guarantee should make specific references to the levels of income necessary to ensure that food poverty/the

need for food banks is eradicated, taking account of current inflation, increases in the cost of fuel and the cost of rent, and the cost of accessing a healthy balanced diet essential for long term health and wellbeing

- With regard to emergency assistance and local collaboration, the national plan should consider establishing national principles for emergency food provision, including choice, good nutrition, culturally appropriate food which meets dietary requirements, as well as means of providing support which maintain dignity and respect for citizens.
- With regard to proposed plans for piloting the use of shopping vouchers in place of food bank referrals, there is a need to ensure that vouchers can be spent in the local area in shops that provide suitable range, quality and value for money
- Similarly, the local response to food security needs to ensure that communities have access to affordable, good quality food – this spans accessible and affordable transport and links to the 20 minute neighbourhood agenda.

4. Is there anything else that you think should be done with the powers we have at a national or local level to reduce the need for food banks as a primary response to food insecurity?

As noted above, the following are crucial:

- Cost and availability of transport to access food on a regular basis
- Review of planning and placemaking approaches to ensure access to affordable food retailers or other providers within a 20 minute local neighbourhood
- Review of Free School Meals provision, including amending eligibility to take large families and young people in temporary accommodation into consideration, with the latter being considered for allocation as the default position, given the potentially limited cooking facilities available
- Considering the use of pre-paid debit cards (e.g. Go Henry card) to reduce stigma, extend choice and increase uptake, and
- Considering the introduction of free school meals as a universal entitlement.

5. Do you have any views on how we intend to measure impact, and what would give you confidence that we are moving in the right direction?

The four actions proposed would give a good range of evidence of progress:

- Continuing to measure food insecurity through the Scottish Health Survey and the Family Resources Survey
- Working with national food banks and with community food networks to monitor and understand wider impact
- Commissioning independent evaluation of activities funded to improve local referral pathways, from the perspectives of frontline practitioners and people seeking support

- Exploring the integration of food insecurity measurement in the evaluation of income-boosting measures like the Scottish Child Payment and through exploration of a Minimum Income Guarantee.

To have confidence that we are moving in the right direction, the Council would expect to see:

- Reductions in the number of people experiencing food insecurity (via the national surveys)
- A reduction in claims for SWF in general and in relation to food poverty
- Reductions in demand for emergency food from the perspectives of food banks and food networks (but noting that there may be hidden demand, ways to engage with wider community organisations to estimate underlying trends will be helpful)
- Clear referral pathways which are well understood and are based on dignity (and monitoring information which shows a reduction in demand and repeat demand from individuals/households)
- Feedback from families that the additional payments are helping to reduce food insecurity
- Improved uptake of entitlements such as free school meals, supported by an understanding of what strategies are effective
- Feedback from professional stakeholders (e.g. GPs, health visitors, teachers) on what actions are considered to be effective

The Council would also be keen for evidence from these evaluations to be widely shared to help understand any ongoing/new pressures and barriers (e.g. the increases in fuel costs) and what actions are considered to be effective.

6. Is there anything else that you think should be considered in the development of this plan?

The Edinburgh Poverty Commission noted that even with highly effective supports in place to prevent poverty, there will always be individuals who fall into crisis for unavoidable reasons and who need emergency support. The key aim for any plan should be to ensure that support is available and accessible when it is needed, that the support is provided in a way that is dignified and respectful, and that people are helped in a way that ensures their crisis is temporary and prevents future harm.

In doing so, it is important that the focus on ending the need for foodbanks does not become a question of semantics, with one form of support being replaced by a largely similar model. Future responses to urgent need for food should support people to move beyond the crisis.

The proposals include Scottish Government investing in cash-first local partnership work to make food banks the last port of call which will mean food banks, money advice services, local authority officers including those from the Scottish Welfare Fund and public health teams coming together to identify the best response for their local area and agreeing short, medium and long term actions to deliver it". Clarification is needed of the level of funding which will be made available from the

Scottish Government to support a cash first approach etc and whether this will be new/additional funding. Fair, sustainable funding is needed to deliver all of the measures.

Finally, it should be noted that other policies under development by the Scottish Government have the potential to affect the way local partners work, and the capacity of local government to implement the vision outlined in this draft plan. In particular, the development and implementation of the National Care Service could bring significant disruption to local authorities and health boards, which will have implications for the capacity to engage in other strategic areas.

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Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Consultation submissions by Council – update

Executive/routine	Routine
Wards	
Council Commitments	

1.   Recommendations

1.1   To note the responses to Scottish Government consultations and Scottish Parliament inquiry, approved by the Executive Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader under urgency provisions set out in A4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions so as to meet the consultation deadlines (attached at appendices A, B, C and E)

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Report

Consultation submissions by Council – update

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Scottish Government and Scottish Parliament have recently held a series of net zero related consultations/calls for evidence immediately prior to or over the Christmas period, to which the Council has made submissions. It was not possible for extensions to be granted that would enable Committee consideration of responses prior to their submissions.

2.2 Copies of the submissions are provided in the appendices to this report. In summary the consultations are:

  2.2.1 Parliamentary inquiry call for written evidence on the *role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland* (closed 26 January 2022)

  2.2.2 Scottish Government consultation on the *Draft Hydrogen Action Plan* (closed 26 January 2022)

  2.2.3 Scottish Government consultation on *Draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) draft order* (closed 2 February 2022).

  2.2.4 Ofgem Consultation on SGN Local Transmission System (LTS) Futures Project (closed 3 February 2022)

2.3 Council submissions to Scottish Parliament and Scottish Government have been agreed by the Executive Director of Corporate Services (Chief Executive in the case of the Ofgem response) in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader under urgency provisions set out in A4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions so as to meet the consultation deadlines.

2.4 Submissions from the Council have included consistent messaging, covering issues related to greater use of place-based funding approaches; funding and innovative finance models; and supporting local empowerment and decision making to deliver net zero.

3. Background

3.1 Four consultations with closing dates over in January and February 2022 have been held by Scottish Government, Scottish Parliament and Ofgem. Officers had sought

extensions were possible to the closing dates that would enable a response to be considered by Committees.

3.2   Council submissions to Scottish Parliament and Scottish Government have been agreed by the Executive Director of Corporate Services (Chief Executive in the case of the Ofgem response) in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader under urgency provisions set out in A4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions so as to meet the consultation deadlines.

3.3   Details of the four consultations are listed below.

3.4   Parliamentary inquiry call for written evidence on the *role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland* (closed 26 January 2022) – Scottish Parliament's Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee is examining progress towards Scotland's net zero targets with a particular focus on the role of local government and its partners. Cllr McVey attended an evidence session along with Council leaders from Glasgow and Aberdeen on Tuesday 11 January 2022. The Council has also provided a written submission and a copy is attached at appendix A.

3.5   *Draft Hydrogen Action Plan* (closed 26 January 2022) – Scottish Government consulted on the draft Hydrogen Action Plan, supporting Strategic Environmental Assessment and partial Business Regulatory Impact Assessment. A submission has been made focussing on the Action Plan setting out high-level views and highlighting key interfaces with work underway in Edinburgh. A copy of the submission is attached at appendix B.

3.6   *Draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) draft order consultation (*closed 2 February 2022) – Scottish Government held consultation on the draft Order that will place a duty on Scottish local authorities to produce Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies and Delivery Plans. The Council has been engaged in the LHEES program of work previously and the submission builds on the engagement. A copy of the submission is attached at appendix C and Scottish Government consultation paper attached at appendix D.

3.7   *SGN Local Transmission System (LTS) Futures Project* (closed 3 February 2022) – Ofgem consulted on needs case, costing and funding approach for SGN's project which would test and develop existing gas networks to understand the safety, technical and practical implications to carry hydrogen, starting with Grangemouth to Granton pipelines. The Council has provided a high-level response offering support for the project and highlighting the key decarbonisation priorities that hydrogen solutions should be focussed on. A copy of the response is attached at appendix E.

4.   Main report

4.1   Common areas of feedback and messaging have emerged across the four consultations and the key messages are summarised below.

Greater use of place-based funding approaches

4.2   The Council welcomes the net zero policy ambitions the Scottish Government has set out and the City of Edinburgh Council is already collaborating with government on a number of strategic projects and innovative pilots to deliver change in Edinburgh. However Scottish Government needs to do more to join up its policy and legislative frameworks and its strategic funding and budget decisions to enable place-based programmes of action.

4.3   Scottish Government needs to support and enable locally led programmes of action that deliver multiple outcomes and local benefits. Currently, policy, legislation, funding and investment act against this type of systemic and place-based action as they are developed and delivered along individual themes or policy areas which can easily become siloed, rather than supporting holistic responses to the totality of need and different issues in local communities. A thematic approach will not be a technically, operationally or financially viable way to deliver the transition to a net zero city or nation.

4.4   If Councils, Scottish Government and Parliament continue to think and act on this thematic basis then some aspects of net zero action will accelerate while those that are equally important to our overall footprint but offer limited income opportunity, will make incremental progress. The City of Edinburgh Council has established local partnerships and strategies to overcome these issues as far as possible, but Scottish Government and Parliament need to support this effort by joining up national policy agendas and funding streams and creating a more flexible and permissive regulatory environment.

Funding and innovative finance models

4.5   Existing resources and capacity within Councils have been under pressure in recent years due to reductions in public sector funding, population growth, and increasing demand. In common with many other Councils and cities, Edinburgh's net zero target was set prior to the pandemic. The crisis may, if no proactive measures are taken, have a significant impact on the overall capacity, resilience, and financial ability of Councils to lead the net zero transition.

4.6   The key issue the City of Edinburgh Council faces at this point in time is not the availability of capital (public or private) to support net zero delivery; it is a lack of revenue to create and maintain the capacity required to develop a pipeline of investible projects to the stage and scale required to secure available capital investment. Scottish Government needs to support local government to help connect private sector investment to local opportunities, through shared investment pipelines, support for early stage business case development, coordinating investment propositions, and providing an enabling regulatory environment.

4.7   Within a future approach to financing net zero change, it is critical that we ensure the economic benefits flowing from city partner investment in net zero action are retained at the local level.

Supporting local empowerment and decision making to deliver net zero

4.8 It is important to recognise that local government remains the key body for providing the democratically accountable independent function required at the local level. For Councils and their cross-sectoral partners to play a full and impactful role in delivering net zero, national action, support will be required to enable greater local empowerment and greater deliberative processes.

4.9 Scottish Government needs to recognise the critical role cities have in meeting Scotland's 2045 net zero target and supporting high ambition local authorities to maximise their contribution. Powers, funding, and resources are needed to enable local authorities to develop local solutions that reflect their individual needs and unlock the greater opportunities of a green economic recovery.

4.10 Greater partnership working is required that ensures the wider public sector (including non-departmental public bodies) is empowered to collaborate with local government to develop and deliver programs that meet local needs (for example, shared retrofit approaches across the public sector estate or development of joint electric vehicle infrastructure). Scottish Government support is needed to align public sector budgets to maximise efficiency and opportunity for approaches that deliver city-based net zero targets.

4.11 Scottish Government and local authorities need to incorporate the learning from the Covid19 response, which enabled fast and coordinated public sector decision making into plans to support the transition to net zero. This learning needs to underpin consideration of additional powers, freedoms and flexibilities that could support local government to accelerate action on climate change.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Officers will continue to work with central governments on the issues raised through the consultation processes and will report to committee on relevant progress as necessary.

6. Financial impact

6.1 There are no financial impacts arising as a result of this report.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 There are no stakeholder/community impacts arising as a result of this report.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, *Role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland*, November 2021

8.2 Scottish Government, *Draft Hydrogen Action Plan*, November 2021

8.3 Ofgem, SGN Local Transmission System (LTS) Futures Project, January *2022*

8.4   Scottish Parliament Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, role of local government and its cross sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland evidence session [role of local government and its cross sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland evidence session 11 January 2022](#), January 2022.

9.   Appendices

9.1   Appendix A – Response submission to Scottish Parliament on role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland call for evidence.

9.2   Appendix B – Response to Scottish Government on Draft Hydrogen Action Plan consultation

9.3   Appendix C – Response to Scottish Government on Draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) draft order consultation

9.4   Appendix D – Draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) draft order consultation paper

9.5   Appendix E – Reponses to Ofgem on SGN local Transmission System Future project consultation.

The role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland

Introduction

This response covers three aspects.

1. Summary comments
2. Responses to inquiry questions
3. Responses to inquiry questions asked by Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee's Tuesday 11 January session where follow-up written response was requested.

1. Summary comments

This section sets out overarching points relevant to the call for evidence with further detail provided in responses to the inquiry questions throughout the remainder of this document. Additionally, it highlights some key issues which do not clearly align with the consultation questions.

The unique contribution of local government to communities across Scotland is in its ability to think and act in ways that focus in on improving places and how people live locally.

Tackling the climate emergency presents an opportunity to create cleaner, greener, and healthier communities – improving the quality of life for citizens at the same time as securing a more sustainable future. Achieving this will require a focus on decarbonising heat and renewable energy; decarbonising transport; improving energy efficiency in buildings; creating more circular economies; and adapting the natural and built environment to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Some of these issues need national, regional and city solutions (transport, energy and adaptation being the primary examples). However, to effectively deliver a transition to net zero in the timescales required means towns and cities need to be able to innovate and address these challenges all at once, in the places and communities in which we live – using a place-based approach rather than a thematic one.

Supporting place-based approaches

The Council welcomes the net zero policy ambitions the Scottish Government has set out and the City of Edinburgh Council is already collaborating with government on a number of strategic projects and innovative pilots to deliver change in Edinburgh. However Scottish Government needs to do more to join up its policy and legislative frameworks and its strategic funding and budget decisions to enable place-based programmes of action.

Scottish Government and the Parliament need to support and enable locally led programmes of action that deliver multiple outcomes and local benefits.

Currently, policy, legislation, funding and investment act against this type of systemic and place-based action as they are developed and delivered along individual themes or policy areas which can easily become siloed, rather than supporting holistic responses to the totality of need and different issues in local communities. A thematic approach will not be a technically, operationally or financially viable way to deliver the transition to a net zero city or nation.

If Councils, Scottish Government and Parliament continue to think and act on this thematic basis then some aspects of net zero action will accelerate while those that are equally important to our overall footprint but offer limited income opportunity, will stagnate. The City of Edinburgh Council has established local partnerships and strategies to overcome these issues as far as possible, but Scottish Government and Parliament need to support this effort by joining up national policy agendas and funding streams and creating a more flexible and permissive regulatory environment.

Wider change areas

Delivering a place-based approach will require change in wider areas, including empowering communities and strengthening local democracy, supporting innovation, sharing risk and reward, and supporting whole-system partnership approaches. For Councils and their cross-sectoral partners to play a full and impactful role in delivering net zero, national action and support will be required in the following areas:

Enabling greater local empowerment

- Recognising the critical role cities have in meeting Scotland's 2045 net zero target and supporting high ambition local authorities to maximise their contribution.

- Supporting local authorities by providing powers, funding, and resources to enable them to develop local solutions that reflect their individual needs.

- Working with local government to help connect private sector investment to local opportunities, through shared investment pipelines, support for early stage business case development, coordinating investment propositions, and providing an enabling regulatory environment.

Sharing risk and rewards

- Supporting and collaborating with Councils and our city partners to develop ambitious and attractive projects and proposals, test innovative finance models, including blended finance, and new approaches to sharing risk and reward.

- Supporting a shift away from public sector funding models which often use public borrowing to de-risk investments – to a 'city as enabler' model which connects investors to city opportunities, shares risk and reward more equitably, and allows much larger sums of money to be raised through private sector investment.

- Ensuring the economic benefits flowing from city partner investment in net zero action are retained at the local level.

Supporting greater partnership working

- Ensuring the wider public sector (including non-departmental public bodies) is empowered to collaborate with local government to develop and deliver programs that

meet local needs (for example, shared retrofit approaches across the public sector estate or development of joint electric vehicle infrastructure)

- Aligning public sector budgets to maximise efficiency and opportunity for approaches that deliver city-based net zero targets.

- Learning from the Covid19 response which enabled fast and coordinated public sector decision making, using this to underpin consideration of additional powers, freedoms and flexibilities that could support local government to accelerate action on climate change.

2.   Responses to inquiry questions

Section 1 - Council planning, decision-making and capacity in relation to net zero

1. How effective are councils at strategic planning, budgeting, and making procurement decisions that align with net zero goals? If there are barriers, what are they?

City of Edinburgh Council has already made significant progress by aligning all our major project and investment plans to its net zero ambition and is embarking on several areas of policy and operational innovation. This is demonstrated through the following examples.

- City Mobility Plan and City Centre Transformation – informing the Council's 10-year funding plans for £189 million investment on roads and pavements, including winter maintenance and £68 million on road safety, network, cycling and public transport.

- Working across service areas to ensure spend is aligned to support and prioritise net zero objectives - the Council has begun a program of retrofit of its buildings, supported by the green growth accelerator fund (£1m already invested in technical feasibility work; with the potential for up to £10m resources delivering on up to 12 buildings)

- Net Zero Housing Investment Strategy – Committing £2.8bn over 10 years ensuring the City of Edinburgh Council begins retrofitting council housing and that any new houses built are net zero. There are challenges in how the delivery of net zero housing is resources and accelerated. A balance needs to be struck between revenue raised from rent and identifying additional funding mechanisms that deliver net zero and a just transition.

Additional substantial programs of net zero led investment include:

- Granton regeneration to create a new coastal town, home to around 8,000 people on Edinburgh's waterfront – adopting an 'infrastructure first' approach utilising public funding to help leverage in further private sector investment. The cost of delivering site wide infrastructure and 35% of the homes as affordable is estimated at £690m. Within this cost is included £20m of investment in the creation of a new coastal park. This infrastructure first investment is projected to attract a further £450m in private sector funding.

- Parks and green space investment – including £0.5 million to improve our parks, playparks, food growing and urban forests, with £4 million of related capital investment

The City of Edinburgh Council has worked with Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation to develop a Carbon Scenario Tool enabling better informed long- term strategic decisions, which account for the economic cost of projects, programmes and budget decisions, as well

as life-time carbon cost of decisions. The assessment includes evaluation of wider co benefits, including impact on poverty, jobs and health. The tool is being rolled out at present and the project is continuing to develop the data to ensure strategic decisions are evidence led.

The City of Edinburgh Council has a Sustainable Procurement Policy ensuring our supply chain works with the city towards net zero transition supported by carbon literacy training for procurement delivery staff.

The City of Edinburgh Council has drawn on external expertise and support to net zero procurement including:

- Zero Waste Scotland and Sustainable Procurement Scotland having supported the design of the specification of goods and services sought and invitation to tender questions on the Council's £180m Hard FM contract which was awarded last year, and includes contractors committing to fully electric fleets by 2023, with 50% having to be electric by contract commencement; and

- Our £95m Professional Services Framework awarded in late 2020 having a Lot specifically for Passivhaus Architects, to help ensure our new buildings are designed to actively support our ambitions, with all new schools now being built to this standard.

Other strategic procurement objectives such as shortening supply chains by increasing opportunities for local SMEs, are also embedded, into the Council's procurement processes.

As recognised by the Scottish Government (in Scottish Procurement Policy Note 1/2021) local authority procurement teams cannot deliver alone, and it requires cross-functional working across all council service areas to align purchasing activities and resources. In addition, local authorities also need to ensure their procurement activity is compliant with the regulatory framework and secures best value.

The Scottish Government could support local authorities by increasing the current regulated procurement thresholds, which are presently set at £50,000 for goods and services. In terms of the Council's annual spend such a value is set at too low a level, and an increase, for instance to £100,000, would be beneficial. Consideration should also be given to providing greater flexibility within wider regulatory frameworks, including those relating to Best Value duties, to empower Councils to go further in using procurement activity to further sustainability goals.

2. **What role can the local government planning system and local development plans do to help us reach net zero? Could the planning system do more?**

Cities' local development plans need to comply with national policy and so are inherently dependent on national policy updates to make progress on net zero. Ensuring the national planning policy context allows local authorities to secure better proposals from developers is key to how development on the ground is shaped. A net zero focussed planning framework needs to enable better located, connected, denser, mixed use development; provide homes, jobs and services in a built form that supports 20-minute neighbourhoods, active travel and public transport uptake, and discourages a need for car use.

The City of Edinburgh Council supports and welcomes Scottish Governments action on NPF4 and would call on Scottish Parliament to support NPF4 and ensure it is sufficient to allow the type of local ambition for net zero in Edinburgh's 2030 City Plan (draft LDP). The

City of Edinburgh Council is also preparing a submission to NPF4 and will provide further views through that process.

The stronger the national requirement, the more it can do to embed net zero action across all aspects of development. Edinburgh has a competitive land market where development is largely privately financed and led. This tends to drive up land prices and expected values (impacting on the affordability of homes), as well as developer focus on long-term net zero development potential, which comes at a cost. The planning system could do more if it operated in a market where local authorities could acquire land at fair value to enable and shape sustainable development. The recent Scottish Land Commission report is a useful reference point on this.

Scottish Government can help catalyse change by ensuring the momentum of draft NPF4 is maintained and policies supporting net zero types of development are as strong as possible. This needs to be backed up by revisions to Building Standards Regulations in terms of building fabric, heat and power, energy efficiency etc. Policies will need to require different types of development, rather than just support them, to ensure their delivery across all sectors of the market.

In addition, it is recognised there are challenges in making progress on how the land market can better serve the public interest, however this will be critical in giving greater certainty on the financial deliverability of better development models.

3. **What innovation, skills and capacity are needed in the local government workforce when it comes to making net zero achievable? Does that capacity exist or are there gaps?**

The City of Edinburgh Council has a clear plan to reach net zero through the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy that includes an approach that must be designed, developed, tested and then accelerated. Due to the scale of the net zero challenge, the Council requires additional skills and capacity to support project development and delivery and to collaborate with investors and other partners in the public and private sphere accelerating progress towards net zero across the city.

Existing resources and capacity within Councils have been under pressure in recent years due to reductions in public sector funding, population growth, and increasing demand. In common with many other Councils and cities, Edinburgh's net zero target was set prior to the pandemic. The impact of the crisis on the overall capacity, resilience, and financial ability of Councils to lead the net zero transition should not be underestimated.

The impact Brexit has had on materials costs and our supply chain of skills and organisations able to work with us to deliver has been substantial. This means capital programmes require constant review in order to take account of this changing landscape. In addition, skills within councils require further investment if we are to lead and drive change at the scale and pace required. Key areas such as heat and energy policy need to be strengthened at both local and regional levels, including in relation to accessible, affordable and independent expert advice. How we draw on expertise within the private sector – which has much to offer and a legitimate role to play – needs careful consideration where there are potential overlaps with commercial interests.

It is important to recognise that local government remains the key body for providing the democratically accountable independent function required at the local level.

Section 2 - Partnering to achieve net zero goals

4. **How well do councils leverage in support and finance from the private sector for net zero delivery? Are City Region Deals being used effectively for this? What mechanisms or forums are there for sharing opportunities and good practice?**

Leveraging private sector investment

The key issue the City of Edinburgh Council faces is not the availability of capital (public or private) to support net zero delivery; it is a lack of revenue to create and maintain the capacity required to develop a pipeline of investible projects to the stage and scale required to attract capital investment.

Institutional investors typically require portfolios worth upwards of fifty million pounds to achieve economies of scale, with few sources of finance being available to support the research and development required to create those types of portfolios.

As the bodies democratically accountable to communities at the local level, and which have significant statutory responsibilities in respect of planning and development, Councils have a key role in coordinating and leading the development of plans and projects to deliver a net zero transition. However, Council's alone cannot source the scale of revenue investment needed to build a citywide pipeline of projects required to lever capital investment which will benefit the wider public and private sector and support green and sustainable economic growth overall.

In addition to revenue investment and additional dedicated capacity in Councils, there is an urgent need for longer term financial security, led by Scottish Government, to help Councils manage the risk of significant infrastructure investment decisions and to therefore unlock the opportunity of substantive net zero programmes of work.

While private sector investment has a role to play, the potential and opportunity for councils to play a significant role in net zero investment strategies through our borrowing and covenants (where investible projects exist) has not been fully acknowledged or taken into account at the national level. Similarly, wider decisions taken by Parliament or the Government which reduce or remove significant elements of the Council's budget, for example through centralisation of social care, could limit the potential to use the substantial council borrowing capacity to support the net zero transition. Furthermore, ring-fencing of local budgets through attaching specific conditions to the local government settlement restricts Councils' ability to respond flexibly to local need and innovate.

City Region Deal

The City of Edinburgh Council is working through the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal to deliver a Regional Prosperity Framework that will drive investment which supports inclusive growth and a just transition to a net zero economy.

The Regional Prosperity Framework is being used as a basis to guide and integrate public, private and third sector decisions, actions, collaborations, strategies, policies and investments across areas such as sustainability, climate change, energy, transport, planning, housing, infrastructure, education, digital, services, equalities, well-being, economic development, procurement and delivery.

The City of Edinburgh Council has well-established contacts to bring in support and finance for net zero through for example, the Place Based Climate Action Network (PCAN) and Climate-KIC. Work commissioned from Leeds and Edinburgh University carried out an

economic analysis of the cost of transitioning to net zero. It showed that Edinburgh could get over 60% of the way there with technology that exists and investment that can pay for itself over a 7 to 12-year period (including accounting for savings and efficiencies etc).

The City of Edinburgh Council has established strong support from key partners across the city for the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy and for the new collaborative and partnership infrastructure we have committed to. Partners understand that delivering the change required is not something any of us can do alone. There is a strong appetite for and commitment to collaboration (including sharing knowledge and aligning investments) but also maximising the economic and social benefits of a net zero city. Examples of this are set out below.

- The City of Edinburgh Council is in a strategic partnership with SP Energy Networks to align investment in the grid and associated infrastructure with the city's future energy needs. This will help ensure the grid is able to meet increased demand and infrastructure is improved at strategic locations which support city development.

- The City of Edinburgh Council worked in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce to deliver a successful and innovative programme of activity for COP26 in the city

- Through the development of the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy and wider engagement activity, we have developed a strong strategic partnership with our key utility partners and financial institutions.

- The establishment of a voluntary, independent Climate Commission in Edinburgh

- The Edinburgh Climate Commission-led Climate Compact is growing in popularity and being adopted by more and more businesses and organisations every day showing leadership and commitment across sectors in the city.

5. How well do councils partner with the voluntary sector and social enterprises to work towards net zero goals? Are there instances of good practice you can point to or areas where opportunities are being missed?

Much of our response to question 6 is relevant to this question.

Young people and community groups across the city are already taking action on climate change, and community groups and voluntary sector organisations are often closest to local issues and opportunities. They will continue to play a vital role advocating for action on climate change and challenging government and public and private sector organisations. Civil society also has a key role to play in stimulating citizen action at the individual and collective level.

The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to supporting all its citizens to realise the significant power they have over the future of their city. During COP26, the City of Edinburgh Council co-created with EVOC and Our Future Edinburgh an independent Edinburgh Community Climate Forum. Through the Forum, citizens will be involved in decisions about the targeting, scope and speed of large-scale change and the ask of citizens to support changes which protect the city for future generations. As the scale and complexity of actions increase, the City of Edinburgh Council will facilitate, test and develop more in-depth engagement approaches to ensure citizens views are central in decision-making.

Similarly, during COP26, the Council supported the Chamber of Commerce to deliver a programme of engagement with local businesses and social enterprises, designed to raise awareness of climate issues and the tools and resources available to support their transition

to net zero. The Council is building on this work by further investing in ongoing support, including through Edinburgh Social Enterprise Network, and through its involvement in promoting the Edinburgh Climate Compact.

6. **How well do councils involve local communities in decision-making on major net zero projects and how do they support community-led initiatives?**

In Edinburgh, 53 percent of emissions are attributable to citizens, but they need help, support and the right infrastructure in place to unlock individual and community activism at scale.

As a city, we face significant challenges; from retrofitting all our buildings to limiting the need to own a car to move around the city. While there is support for what we are trying to achieve, we need significant support to coproduce how we will achieve these changes. We need to work with citizens and to build ongoing support for climate action in our communities and across the city. This will need to happen at a grass roots level and cannot be driven by national programmes or even legislation.

Scottish Government needs to take the opportunity to lead and work with city partners on awareness raising campaigns which support a frank discussion on climate change, including the actions needed at the local, regional and national levels, alongside the changes individual citizens will need to be supported to make.

The City of Edinburgh Council has undertaken an extensive and prolonged period of engagement on climate issues that demonstrate good practice. This includes:

- a citizen climate survey in 2019 with over 2000 responses,

- establishing an on-line dialogue for ongoing engagement and debate on climate issues

- dedicated social media and communications campaigns

- a series of well attended engagement summits with primary and secondary school pupils

- early engagement sessions on priorities for our Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy, followed by formal consultation on a draft strategy, where 85% of citizens responding to our consultation supported the proposed priorities and objectives

- significant engagement and consultation on related strategies, including our City Mobility Plan, the City Development Plan and Housing investment strategies – all of which have net zero at their heart.

- a number of topic-based local net zero campaigns aimed at raising citizen awareness of climate change issues and where advice and support to make changes is available.

Through the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy, we have also committed to developing 3 net zero communities pilots, which will engage citizens in developing placed-based approaches to reaching net zero at the local level. This will include exploring whole-system approaches to domestic retrofit, local energy, transport and adaptation. Work in 2022 will include an early stage focus on identifying communities and engaging to build consent, capacity and knowledge.

Section 3 - Role of the Scottish Government and its agencies

7. **What is the Scottish Government doing to help the local government sector deliver on net zero goals? What, if anything, could it do more of to help the sector?**

The Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy has been aligned to the national net zero and adaptation programmes established by Scottish Government. Significant policy frameworks that have been drawn on include:

- The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.
- Update to Climate Change Plan 2018 – 2032.
- Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme 2019 – 2024.
- Scotland's National Transport Strategy 2020.
- Scotland's Heat in Buildings Strategy 2021.
- Draft Scotland 2045 - Fourth National Planning Framework.

Scottish Government has set out an ambitious policy agenda in relation to net zero and it now needs to do more to understand what it will take to achieve it – at the national and local level - and in relation to finance, regulation, innovation, local empowerment and citizen behaviour change.

As noted by the Climate Emergency Response Group, if Scotland as a whole is to meet its 2045 target, our cities need to make faster progress. This also means Scottish Government needs to do more to support Councils such as Edinburgh who are playing their part by committing to more immediate net zero targets.

The City of Edinburgh Council is already collaborating with Scottish Government on a number of strategic projects and innovative pilots to deliver change in Edinburgh. However Scottish Government needs to do more to join up its policy and legislative frameworks and its strategic funding and budget decisions to enable place-based programmes of action.

Scottish Government and the Parliament need to need to support and enable locally led programmes of action that deliver multiple outcomes and local benefits. Currently, policy, legislation, funding and investment act against this type of systemic and place-based action as they are developed and delivered along individual themes or policy areas which can easily become siloed, rather than supporting holistic responses to the totality and diversity of need in specific local communities. Continuing a siloed approach will not be a technically, operationally or financially viable way to deliver the transition to a net zero city or nation.

Scottish Government need to shift from siloed national funding streams which require Councils to compete against each in bidding process to access funding on single issues, towards collaborating with Councils in invest national resources in a place-based way.

In doing so, Scottish Government and the Parliament need to think beyond singular projects or funding streams focusing on decarbonising a building or the business case for a heat network in housing estates, and work with Councils to incentivise and support programmes of net zero action that address all the elements required to reach net zero in a geography in a joined-up way: decarbonise the public buildings; deliver sustainable transport connections and EV charging facilities; deliver local renewable energy generation; develop nature solutions and green infrastructure and decarbonise citizen's housing. Currently, policy, legislation, funding and investment act against this type of systemic and place-based action.

If Councils, Scottish Government and Parliament continue to think and act on a thematic or single-issue basis then some aspects of net zero action will accelerate while those that are equally important to our overall footprint will make incremental progress. The City of Edinburgh Council has established local partnerships and strategies to overcome these

issues as far as possible, but Scottish Government and Parliament need to support this effort by joining up national policy agendas and funding streams and creating a more flexible and permissive regulatory environment.

This should include collaborating with Councils to share the risk of developing new and innovative approaches which explore policy and finance models that can capture the benefits of emerging investment opportunities (such as energy generation and heat distribution). This can provide revenue streams that will help cover the cost of essential retrofit work that does not offer such returns but is critical to meeting net zero. For example: feasibility studies undertaken by the Council show that the cost of retrofitting Council buildings to become net zero could stretch into the billions. Support to develop a comprehensive approach that integrates the costs of building retrofit with energy generation and heat distribution opportunities, could go a long way to delivering and funding the transition to net zero buildings.

Through the Climate Strategy, the City of Edinburgh Council has set out a number of strategic asks of the key sectors within the city, focused on the actions which will have the most impact; targeting partners with the greatest emissions and the greatest power and resources to make change. As part of this we are asking the Scottish Government to

- provide a progressive legislative and regulatory framework, which enables local government. This needs to be devolved at the appropriate level to support scale and speed of action in Edinburgh.

- Lead on communication and information that supports behaviour change alongside the resources needed to help citizens and city partners make them in our homes, communities and places across the city.

- Throughout the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy we have also made a series of calls to Government, which we will be formally progressing engagement on throughout 2022. Examples of these include (procurement and planning are dealt with above)

- Ensure Local Authorities have the powers and resources required to accelerate the pace of energy efficiency and climate resilience improvements to multi tenure tenement buildings.

- Bring forward at speed improved schemes to support citizens to fund energy efficiency upgrades and decarbonise of heat in their homes, which offer end-to-end support to citizens, address supply chain and workforce development gaps and are based on credible financing models and 'insured' delivery of the works.

8. **What is the role of enterprise agencies or other public bodies as enablers of joint working on net zero goals by local government and its cross-sectoral partners?**

Edinburgh is an European Deep Demonstrator city, alongside 15 other key European cities; learning from this shows that the cities most successful in meeting the net zero challenge are those that have been bold in their ambition and vision and invested in community and wider city partnerships to share knowledge and risk and to collaborate on plans and action. A mechanism to support this local, embedded function with direct local revenue investment would unlock faster better progress to 2030.

National and regional bodies have significant roles to play in supporting and aligning themselves to our ambitious targets. However, given the scale and depth of the challenge,

there is no substitute to the development of in-house knowledge and capacity to take this agenda forward. We must invest where the work will be delivered. This can't be done with one off resources, or short-term consultancy, and Councils require support to increase revenue funding and longer-term financial certainty to be able to do this.

Achieving net zero by 2030 will require city-wide collaboration at a level, depth and pace that exceeds the city response to Covid-19. For the delivery of the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy, we are establishing a new Climate Strategy Investment Programme Board will bring city partners together (full membership of the Programme Board is under discussion with city partners. Initial core members include City of Edinburgh Council; NHS Lothian; Edinburgh, University; SP Energy Networks; Scottish Gas; Scottish Water; Scottish Futures Trust). The Programme Board will be accountable to our local Community Planning partnership, and will:

- Provide city wide leadership in creating a green, clean and sustainable future for the city.

- Oversee, agree and drive delivery of five thematic workstreams tasked with developing the investment pipeline for the city.

- Develop a green infrastructure investment plan for Edinburgh.

For local partnerships to have the most impact, key Non-Departmental Public Bodies partners need to be empowered in both financial, policy, and governance terms to devolve budgets and decision-making to the local level. This is a necessary requirement of effective collaboration on place-based approaches and Scottish Government could do more to support this.

Section 4 - Local government work on net zero in particular areas

9. How are councils working with cross-sectoral partners to decarbonise heat in buildings and to ensure they have greater energy efficiency?

Through the 2030 Climate Strategy, the Council is bringing together a series of partnerships and collaborative working initiatives that will support the decarbonisation of heat, summarised below:

Energy Efficient Public Buildings

- Using City Plan 2030 (the next Council LDP) to set progressive planning policies to increase energy standards in new buildings – engaging with the Scottish Government, Developers, Registered Social Landlords.

- Establishing an Energy Efficient Public Buildings Partnership (EEPBP) to collaborate on retrofit, align investment plans and encourage confidence in, and planning for, the business and skills supply chain needed to deliver –to be chaired by University of Edinburgh, with initial membership including the City of Edinburgh Council, Heriot Watt University, Napier University, Scottish Fire, SP Energy Networks, and other key partners tbc.

- Identifying and mapping opportunities for collaborating on joint place-based retrofit pilots, drawing on learning from the Council-led feasibility studies for retrofits of different building typologies, alongside learning from wider partners' experience

- Bringing forward a shared investment plan for retrofitting the city's major public sector estate through the EEPB partnership

- Developing innovative approaches to net zero development and construction which address both operational and embodied emissions by focusing on skills and workforce development – led by the ESECRD partners and the Energy Efficient Public Buildings Partnership and working with Developers, Registered Social Landlords, private sector

As outlined earlier in this response at question 7, feasibility studies undertaken by the Council show that the cost of retrofitting Council buildings to become net zero could stretch into the billions. Support to develop a comprehensive approach that integrates the costs of building retrofit with energy generation and heat distribution opportunities, could go a long way to delivering and funding the transition to net zero buildings.

Heat and Energy generation and distribution

- Convening a City Heat and Energy Partnership – co-chaired by SP Energy Networks and The City of Edinburgh Council, with initial membership including NHS, Edinburgh universities, Scottish Water, Scottish Gas Network, Edinburgh and South East City Region Deal (ESECRD), and other partners tbc

- Creating a heat and energy masterplan for delivering net zero solutions to meeting the city's current and future energy demands

- Developing regional renewable energy solutions which draw on the area's wind, geothermal, hydro and solar assets – lead by the Edinburgh and South East City Region Deal City, working with the Heat and Energy Partnership

- Delivering heat networks which meet the needs of key public sector buildings and major new developments across the city, beginning with Granton Waterfront

- Coordinating resources and supporting the development of a pipeline of investible energy projects designed to lever investment into the city

- Supporting place-based approaches to local energy generation which help build community wealth, described further under 'Domestic Heat' below.

Grid capacity

The Council has also established a strategic partnership with SP Energy Networks to align investment in the grid and associated infrastructure with the city's future energy needs. This will help ensure the grid is able to meet increased demand and infrastructure is improved at strategic locations which support city development. However, ensuring the national grid is able to meet future decarbonised energy needs at a pace that support rapid transformation within cities, is a challenge that needs to be also addressed by the UK and Scottish Governments.

Domestic heat

Decarbonising heat within homes presents a significant challenge within Edinburgh. The Council has committed to a £2.8bn 10-year retrofit programme for social housing across the city, to reduce energy demand and tackle fuel poverty. However, approximately 120,000 privately owned comes – in addition to Council housing and operational estate – require retrofitting to support the decarbonisation of heat. Many of these buildings are historic and/or tenemental and difficult to retrofit.

Current retrofit solutions are both technically difficult and come at a cost which means it is not financially viable for many homeowners. There is an urgent need for more innovative financing models and whole systems models at the neighbourhood level to achieve economies of scale and address all that needs to change within a community in order to reach net zero.

As part of Edinburgh's 2030 Climate Strategy, the Council has committed to developing 3 net zero communities pilots which will map retrofit needs at a tenement, street and neighbourhood level. This will include whole-system opportunities, including local energy generation, buildings retrofit, EV charging infrastructure, public/active travel infrastructure, and nature-based solutions to adaptation. This will support the development of business case proposals for a whole-system approach which can utilise economies of scale to test different financing models.

As highlighted at question 7, Scottish Government needs to work with local government to explore new models and bring forward at speed improved schemes to support citizens to fund energy efficiency upgrades and decarbonise of heat in their homes. Such schemes need to offer end-to-end support to citizens, address supply chain and workforce development gaps, and be based on credible affordable financing models and 'insured' delivery of the works.

Further detail on these partnerships can be found in the 2030 Edinburgh Climate Strategy and implementation plan.

10. How are councils working with cross-sectoral partners to decarbonise transport (including encouraging active travel) and to improve air quality?

Through the 2030 Climate Strategy, we are bringing together a series of partnerships and collaborative working initiatives to decarbonise transport, summarised below:

- Working with Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal partners, national and regional transport partners, public transport operators, Transport Scotland to improve the integration of our public transport system, and review routes and interchanges, within a city and regional context.

- Collaborating with the private sector to develop sustainable solutions to the transport of goods. Including a city centre operation plan to reduce emissions by improving the way goods and service vehicles move around the city, supporting the use of innovative zero emission solutions for 'last mile' deliveries.

- Work with the Bus Decarbonisation Taskforce and private sector partners to develop a plan to decarbonise the city's bus fleet. Lead by Lothian Buses /City of Edinburgh Council working with the Scottish Government, SP Energy Networks.

- Supporting public sector transition to electric vehicles by

    - Identifying opportunities to align to investment in EV infrastructure for public service and blue light fleet at strategic locations across the city, and exploring opportunities to also deliver 'down-time' availability for citizens and businesses where possible – lead by City of Edinburgh Council and working with NHS, Fire, Police, Edinburgh universities, SP Energy Networks.

    - Developing electricity grid infrastructure and capacity to respond to increased demand from growth in EV use – Lead by SP Energy Networks

- Developing business cases for a blended finance public-use EV charging hubs in locations which align with the City Mobility Plan's aims of increasing sustainable travel and avoid adding to city-centre congestion – lead by the City of Edinburgh Council, in partnership with the private investment sector.

11. How are councils working with cross-sectoral partners to promote recycling and a "circular economy"?

Through the 2030 Climate Strategy, we are bringing together a series of partnerships and collaborative working initiatives to promote recycling and a circular economy, summarised below.

- Support and encourage city businesses to sign up to the Edinburgh Climate Compact and commit to reduce their emissions – led by the Edinburgh Climate Commission

- Deliver implementation plans for the Regional Prosperity Framework that drive investment which supports inclusive growth and transition to a net zero economy – through Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal partners

- Establish a new business-led forum to provide leadership on a just economic transition to a net zero city

- Increase participation in the Circular Edinburgh programme which supports businesses to reduce, re-use and recycle as part of embedding circular economy principles into their ways of working. This is led by Zero Waste Scotland working with Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and City of Edinburgh Council

- Increase the proportion of the City's food and drink sourced from sustainable local and regional supplies – lead by Edible Edinburgh working with wider food-based business, community and individuals.

- The principals of net zero, just transition, and circular economy are being embedded into Business Gateway support programmes for new and existing Edinburgh businesses.

- Circular economy and sustainability are also embedded in the Council's sustainable procurement policy

12. How are councils working with cross-sectoral partners to use the natural environment (its "green infrastructure") to achieve net zero targets?

Through the 2030 Climate Strategy, we are bringing together a series of partnerships and collaborative working initiatives to use the natural environment (its "green infrastructure") to achieve net zero targets. Supporting green infrastructure and biodiversity; valuing and improving our natural heritage are key aspects to the city development plan with key actions summarised below

- The City of Edinburgh Council will (with the Edinburgh Adapts steering group) convene city and region partners to collaborate on a long-term 'Climate Ready Edinburgh' plan taking full account of the city's natural assets and committing to placing green infrastructure and nature based solutions at the heart of the plan. The steering group will include ESECRD partners, Edinburgh Climate Change Institute; private sector developers, construction industry partners and other wider city partners

- Develop a regional approach to climate change risk assessment and adaptation maximising opportunities to enhance the natural environment – lead by ESECRD partners working with Adaptation Scotland; wider partners through business case development

- Deliver a network of green and blue spaces across the city which help protect our communities from climate change impacts, provide active travel routes, and protect and enhance the city's natural environment and biodiversity – lead by City of Edinburgh Council, with the Scottish Water/SEPA 'Blue Green City Partnership' - working group of Edinburgh and Lothians Drainage Partnership, Edinburgh Living Landscape Partnership, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Nature Scot

- Deliver a co-ordinated approach to managing and enhancing Edinburgh's natural assets across key public sector operational estate sites – lead by NHS Lothian and the Council, working with the Edinburgh Partnership

- Wider actions with partners include

    - Deliver a city-wide programme to manage, protect and enhance greenspace and biodiversity – addressing the ecological and climate emergencies

    - Deliver nature-based solutions to the impacts of climate change

    - Develop and deliver an Edinburgh Nature Network

- Working with property owners, developers and the construction sector to improve design and the quality of buildings, to support climate resilient place-based approaches to development and infrastructure. This will include utilising green and blue infrastructure (such as green roofs and urban ponds) and permeable surfaces to reduce flood risk and improve air and water quality – for example as part of the Granton development and coastal park).

4 Responses to inquiry questions asked by Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee's Tuesday 11 January session where follow-up written response was requested.

Fiona Hyslop – What's the approach and attitude to offsetting?

Offsetting has been considered in the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy and the City of Edinburgh Council sought views on high level approaches to offsetting through the consultation of the draft strategy in 2021. The Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy sets out various approaches to offsetting and highlights a number of key principles which will be further explored with city partners, including:

- reducing emissions as close to zero as practicable should be the main priority,

- where it is necessary to offset residual emissions, there is a need to ensure offsetting schemes have robust and transparent standards of verification and meet accredited quality principles (noting there is currently no universally accepted accredited scheme covering all the different types of offsets).

- Consideration of the geographic location of offsets (e.g local or global) and therefore of where wider co-benefits such as improved air quality are realised.

Offsetting is technically complicated and requires political and policy decisions, including the definition of quality principles and verification standards. At present, city partners each decide whether to offset and what approach to take, in line with their organisational responsibility for their policies and budgets.

For the city as a whole to be able to demonstrate it has met the net zero target, there will be a need to determine how off-setting should be treated and accounted for. There is a range of possible approaches, with each requiring further consideration and development. Agreeing a city-wide approach to off-setting would allow city partners to develop a set of principles for offsetting – enabling a common approach to some of the issues highlighted above.

Getting an approach to offsetting right for the city is important. Through the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy, the City of Edinburgh Council will work with city partners, and potentially other local authorities and Scottish Government, over the longer term to consider and agree the best approach. This will include jointly considering a policy position and strategy for offsetting that clarifies when offsets would be used and which quality principles must be met, including the standards of verification to be applied to different types of offsets.

Natalie Don – Waste and circular economy follow up question; asking for granular examples of waste initiatives impacting people's behaviour and use of forums for sharing good practice?

Nappies initiative example, 160 million into landfill – but only 5 have a real nappy initiative. Should other Councils be looking at these type of initiatives and whether there's shared discussion through networks.

The City of Edinburgh Council's waste management strategy runs from 2010-2025 and was extensively reviewed in 2018 (both documents are published here). Preliminary work has already begun to develop the next strategy post 2025, taking into account the impacts of new legislation; including the introduction of the deposit return scheme for drinks containers, the implementation of new legislation for extended producer responsibility for packaging waste, and the next phase of the Waste Framework Directive (which is European legislation that the UK still intends to implement). Collectively these are expected to require changes to the way in which we collect recycling and waste, but these are not yet clear.

As members of COSLA relevant City of Edinburgh Council staff use the Waste Management Officers' Network and Association for Public Service Excellence (ASPE) and make the most of these networks to share information and seek advice from other members.

Circular Edinburgh, managed by the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, is working to investigate the opportunities around the circular economy and the support on offer for business. Circular Edinburgh has developed Circular Economy Top Tip information sheets for key sectors and hosts webinars focussing on the Circular Economy.

The Council's approach to waste is to help raise awareness and signpost people to make more sustainable choices, within the limited resources available to deliver this activity. Recent examples of this type of activity includes:

- Direct funding of projects such as The Remakery or support in kind for organisations like SHRUB which seek to reuse items;

- The annual grant to Changeworks who deliver waste prevention projects (such as schools-based education, specific projects and community engagement) as part of their wider annual contract. The range of services Changeworks provide is agreed annually after the Council has set its budgets;

- Raising awareness of opportunities to prevent waste at source, e.g. by using refill shops, or by using reuse projects, including website information and working with Changeworks to deliver a [reuse map specific to Edinburgh](). The map, featuring 450+ local organisations, was launched in December 2020 and is designed to facilitate donations of surplus household goods to new homes as well as eco-friendly recycling and repair services.

- The [Edinburgh Tool Library]() is the UK's first tool library, promoting sharing as a way of reducing our environmental impact. It lends its members tools for DIY, gardening, decorating and machine repair, so they don't need to own them. This collaborative approach makes sense environmentally and helps members financially.

- Enhancing recycling facilities in schools by ensuring all schools have provision for dry mixed recycling and food bins and introducing a new colour scheme based on Edinburgh's residential bin system. This new standardised system will allow consistency throughout and between each school using uniform colour schemes, stickers, posters and bin styles

- Using a combination of the Council website and increasingly social media, to raise awareness and provide information, toolkits and other resources Examples of this include:

  - The [Christmas 2021 waste campaign]() which focussed on waste prevention messages in addition to recycling;

  - The development of more targeted information such as the [plastics recycling]() pages or the new online [recycling sorter]() launched in 2021, alongside information about what is recyclable, and highlight opportunities to avoid waste.

The Council is also currently working with two Zero Waste Towns projects. These are community led initiatives which are funded to deliver projects aimed at moving towards zero waste. In South Edinburgh the Council is supporting Shrub's work to target the student community. The first pilot was an end of term collection in Marchmont designed to tackle dumping at the end of term and encourage reuse of household goods. In Leith, Changeworks are leading on Zero Waste Leith. The first project is actively targeting fly-tipping which again means that less waste is loose in the environment.

National governments also need to do all that they can to tackle the creation of waste. For example, the steps taken by the Scottish Government to ban some single use plastics is encouraging, but there is a question whether these go far enough. Banning single use plastic cutlery is likely to result in the production of single use cutlery made from other materials such as wood and does not deal with the overconsumption of resources or littering issues.

City of Edinburgh Council's responses to consultations on single use plastics and more recently on the National litter and Fly-tipping Strategy have highlighted these issues and called for more action on behaviour change (e.g. to encourage the use of refill bottles, reusable cutlery) and the use of extended producer responsibility for some items (e.g. if you buy a new mattress there is an automatic takeback included in the price to prevent dumping and ensure the old mattress is sent to a reuse or recycling partner or facility).

Historically the Council has funded Changeworks to deliver a reusable nappies project. However, the funding available for such initiatives is limited and needs to be considered alongside other waste and cleansing priorities. In the current year it has not been possible to

fund this work, although a guide was developed to allow people to continue to access information about successfully using real nappies and Edinburgh's Real Nappy Community continues as a means of sharing experiences and providing support.

Through the Council's contract with Changeworks, single use plastics workshops have been held to raise awareness and give advice about single use plastics; and at Abbeyhill Primary, a waste free party kit to lend to parents and for use in the school itself has been developed to help tackle plastic use both at home and in school.

5 Contact Details

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Scottish Government Draft Hydrogen Action Plan - consultation

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City of Edinburgh Council Response
2 February 2022

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1. Introduction and summary

1.1 Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Hydrogen Action Plan consultation. The focus of this response is on the Action Plan and sets out the Council's high-level views and highlights key interfaces with work underway in Edinburgh.

Place-based approaches to delivering decarbonised energy

1.2 Tackling the climate emergency presents an opportunity to create cleaner, greener, and healthier communities – improving the quality of life for citizens at the same time as securing a more sustainable future. Achieving this will require a focus on decarbonising heat and renewable energy; decarbonising transport; improving energy efficiency in buildings; creating more circular economies; and adapting the natural and built environment to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

1.3 Some of these issues need national, regional and city solutions (transport, energy and adaptation being the primary examples). However, to effectively deliver a transition to net zero in the timescales required means towns and cities need to be able to innovate and address these challenges all at once, in the places and communities in which we live – using a place-based approach rather than a thematic one.

1.4 As noted by the Climate Emergency Response Group, if Scotland as a whole is to meet its 2045 target, our cities need to make faster progress. This also means Scottish Government needs to do more to support Councils such as Edinburgh who are playing their part by committing to more immediate net zero targets. The City of Edinburgh Council is already collaborating with Scottish Government on a number of strategic projects and innovative pilots to deliver change in Edinburgh. However Scottish Government needs to do more to join up its policy and legislative frameworks and its strategic funding and budget decisions to enable place-based programmes of action.

2. Consultation topics

Delivering increased hydrogen capacity

2.1 The Council, in partnership with community planning and city partners, has recently published the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy which highlights our uncertainties in relation to hydrogen. As a principle, the strategy focusses on electrification first action, where we work to ensure the network's capacity can respond to the substantive increases in the city's electricity demand while keeping an open mind to innovation in other energy sources, such as green hydrogen.

2.2 The Council supports the ambition to increase hydrogen production capacity. However, the increased targets need to be evidence based, aligned to demand needs, and reflect increased capacity in geographies with sufficient energy demand and capable infrastructure. Clarification is needed regarding who would be responsible for meeting targets, as local government or regional targets may raise democratic questions in respect of local priorities.

2.3 The draft Action Plan needs to provide greater certainty about the network, availability, and cost of hydrogen is needed to ensure local authorities make well informed decisions on retrofit strategies for existing buildings, particularly for challenging building archetypes. For example, councils may target buildings where retrofit delivers most benefit, in the expectation that harder to retrofit buildings can be converted to hydrogen in the future. However, if hydrogen will take years to come and be comparative in cost to electricity then councils may make different decisions. Early clarity on the future of Hydrogen in Scotland can positively impact local investment risks and facilitate faster and scalable decision making by councils and other public bodies.

2.4 Key aspects where greater certainty is needed are set out below.

2.4.1 The implications of UK Government decision on the gas network in 2026, which leaves limited opportunity for any wider hydrogen adoption in Edinburgh within the 2030 timeframe. Establishing a more certain understanding of the future of the network capacity will be important to inform strategic decisions about the potential for hydrogen use in Edinburgh and the region.

2.4.2 Local authorities and the retrofit sector need to have a greater understanding of the level and timeframes of future increase of hydrogen available locally (e.g. more detail about the supply and timeframes from proposed hydrogen hubs), to enable them to prioritise, plan and deliver solutions that help us to meet net zero targets.

2.4.3 A greater understanding of the costs of hydrogen is also needed – the Draft Action Plan mentions building on existing research to build a cost trajectory for hydrogen. Having a timeline for the development of this work and when it will be available will be useful for local and regional decision making.

Views on the actions themes and key actions identified to support the development of the hydrogen economy over the next 5 years

2.5   The Council broadly supports the key theme areas and actions, especially the focus on skills and workforce development, and on solutions to decarbonise transport. While the detail around the actions and timeframes is high level, it appears to be relatively ambitious and the Council supports the learning by doing approach.

2.6   Funding and resource support are not well covered in the strategy. It will be important to ensure there is capacity and capability within other parties (including Local Authorities) that may need to take on substantial work programs to make the most of the hydrogen opportunity. Local authorities need to develop their own expertise and capacity to ensure they can make well informed decisions that reflect local priorities. Having this expertise in-house is important to avoid over-reliance on short term external capacity and to help manage the challenges of balancing commercial interests with independent advice.

2.7   The action plan's focus on eliminating any potential barriers such as regulatory, planning or infrastructure constraints is noted. The Council would welcome additions to the strategy that clarify the relationship between hydrogen actions and the emerging Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) requirements.

Further actions we, or other key organisations (please specify), can take to maximise the positive impacts and minimise negative ones on people, communities and businesses in Scotland in support of a just transition to net zero

2.8   The action plan sets out an approach to the development of regional hydrogen hubs across Scotland. The draft action plan needs to be cautious to ensure alignment between local energy network development priorities and hydrogen hub development. This is important to ensure compatibility and that opportunities are realised especially in relation to other emerging technologies (such as micro-renewables and other local generation opportunities). While it is noted that the approach to the hubs set out in the Action Plan is based on a range of factors, there does appear to be a gap in the South East, and the Council feels the action plan could be strengthened by providing detail about the about the role and connections of hydrogen energy from Fife and Grangemouth to the rest of the South East of Scotland.

2.9   City Region Deal are currently progressing work on regional energy planning, and it is important the action plan takes a partnership approach to these existing programs of work and is clear about the future relationships between hydrogen hubs and regional energy plans.

2.10   Delivering a net zero transformation requires action at the national, regional, and local levels (especially in relation to transport, energy and adaptation), with strategies and plans needing to be clear about the rational for delivery at each of these levels. The 2030 Edinburgh Climate Strategy has set out these links across the strategic actions and in its implementation plan.

2.11   The Action Plan should be strengthened to provide detail on governance and delivery of the plan, in particular expectations of and roles to be taken by local authorities. Edinburgh, alongside many other Scottish Cities and City Region Deals have substantial programs of work to deliver decarbonised heat and energy which the Action Plan needs to take account of. Edinburgh's 2030 Edinburgh Climate Strategy includes the following examples. The Council would encourage the Action Plan to consider how these examples would align with and be enhanced through the plan and the development of a governance framework to support delivery.

2.11.1 City Heat and Energy Partnership

- o   tasked with co-ordinating investments and supporting the delivery of flagship actions for the city including creating an energy masterplan for the city and collaborate on exemplar retrofit pilots, using the learning to develop joint city retrofit plans that secure economies of scale.
- o   membership is led by SP Energy Networks and includes the City of Edinburgh Council, NHS, Edinburgh universities, Scottish Water, Scottish Gas Network, Edinburgh and South East City Region Deal (ESECRD), and other partners, yet to be confirmed.

2.11.2 City-wide programme of community energy generation investment opportunities

- o   To develop and exploring the potential for creating local energy generation communities as part of a proposed net zero communities pilot
- o   Chaired by the City of Edinburgh Council; with membership from Energy for Edinburgh; Edinburgh Solar Co-op; Climate KIC; SP Energy Networks; Community Councils

Further actions that could be taken by government or industry that you think would drive a reduction in the cost of hydrogen? Please provide evidence to support any suggestions.

2.12   The focus on skills approach to ensuring skilled workers and delivering on just transition principles is supported. A focus on skills and people will be key in reducing the cost of hydrogen. The pipeline of skill development needed to meet our net zero aims should not be underestimated and the Council would encourage bringing in the Universities and higher education partners (as supplying training and offering to academic expertise) ensure as comprehensive approach as possible is taken. Edinburgh has programs of action focussed on skills that meet local needs through the 2030 Climate Strategy, the City Region Deal, and through the Climate Commission. The Council would expect the Action Plan's to focus on meeting skills gaps at a national level (rather than replicating local needs), for example training standards and collaborating across the industry to identify common needs across Scotland.

2.13   The Council also supports the just transition-based approach and this needs to be kept front of mind in considering where the costs and potential cost reductions fall across the hydrogen economy. This means ensuring cost reductions are delivered alongside fair work, tackling poverty and inequality and ensuring that everyone benefits from the hydrogen economy.

2.14   To effectively deliver a transition to net zero in the timescales required means towns and cities need to be able to innovate and address these challenges all at once, in the places and communities in which we live – using a place-based approach rather than a thematic one. Similarly, the Action Plan should support the delivery of place-based approaches to net zero and support joint public-sector actions that offer wider benefit beyond increased hydrogen. The delivery of this approach has resource and funding implications and asks of Scottish Government – which are set out in following section on funding.

2.15   The Action Plan could also offer economies of scale and reduce the cost for the public sector by facilitating collaboration on incorporating hydrogen public sector operations, e.g. heavy fleet or buildings.

Funding approaches, priorities, and the Emerging Energy Technologies Fund

2.16   Generating investment in hydrogen plans and infrastructure will be critical to its development. The Action Plan identifies Scottish Government as having a role to continue to create a supportive policy environment and alongside private investment (in relation Regional Hydrogen Energy Hubs), while also making funding for investment available (through the Emerging Energy Technologies Fund).

2.17   The City of Edinburgh Council supports the focus of the action plan to deliver solutions for the transport sector and would encourage funding to align with wider programs such as the bus decarbonisation taskforce.

2.18   Scottish Government need to support and enable locally led programmes of action that deliver multiple outcomes and local benefits. Currently, policy, legislation, funding and investment act against this type of systemic and place-based action as they are developed and delivered along individual themes or policy areas which can easily become siloed, rather than supporting holistic responses to the totality of need and different issues in local communities. The Emerging Energy Technologies Fund needs to avoid taking such a strong thematic approach so that while it offers solution to the hydrogen challenges it overall presents a technically, operationally or financially limited way to deliver the transition to a net zero city or nation.

2.19   The City of Edinburgh Council is already collaborating with Scottish Government on a number of strategic projects and innovative pilots to deliver change in Edinburgh. However Scottish Government needs to do more to join up its policy and legislative frameworks and its strategic funding and budget decisions to enable place-based programmes of action. Allocating funding that prioritises decarbonised energy transition and supports locally led programmes of action that deliver multiple outcomes and local benefits would offer a holistic response to the totality and diversity of need in specific local communities.

2.20   The Emerging Energy Technologies Fund could be also be used to move away from requiring Councils to compete against each other to access funding on single issues, to a funding approach that collaborates with Councils in invest national resources in a place-based way.

2.21 Funding for the net zero program as a whole needs Scottish Government need to think beyond singular projects or funding streams focusing on decarbonising a building or the business case for a heat network in housing estates, and work with Councils to incentivise and support programmes of net zero action that address all the elements required to reach net zero in a geography in a joined-up way: decarbonise the public buildings; deliver sustainable transport connections and EV charging facilities; deliver local renewable energy generation; develop nature solutions and green infrastructure and decarbonise citizen's housing. Currently, policy, legislation, funding and investment act against this type of systemic and place-based action.

2.22 If Councils and Scottish Government continue to think and act on a thematic or single-issue basis then some aspects of net zero action will accelerate while those that are equally important to our overall footprint will make incremental progress. The City of Edinburgh Council has established local partnerships and strategies to overcome these issues as far as possible, but Scottish Government need to support this effort by joining up national policy agendas and funding streams and creating a more flexible and permissive regulatory environment.

2.23 The Hydrogen Action Plan and its delivery could be enhanced through greater collaborating with Councils to share the risk of developing new and innovative approaches which explore policy and finance models that can capture the benefits of emerging investment opportunities (such as hydrogen and other energy source generation and heat distribution). This can provide revenue streams that will help cover the cost of essential retrofit work that do not offer such returns but are critical to meeting net zero. For example: feasibility studies undertaken by the Council show that the cost of retrofitting Council buildings to become net zero could stretch into the billions. Support to develop a comprehensive approach that integrates the costs of building retrofit with energy generation and heat distribution opportunities, could go a long way to delivering and funding the transition to net zero buildings.

3. Contact details

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LOCAL HEAT AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY STRATEGIES
Draft LHEES Order consultation

City of Edinburgh Council Response
02 January 2022

## 1.	Introduction and summary

1.1	City of Edinburgh Council welcomes the recognition that local authorities can and should play a significant role as delivery agents of the Local Heat and Energy Efficient Strategies (LHEES) and related delivery plans, alongside the range of other activity developing across the Heat in Buildings Strategy program of work.

1.2	As it stands, LHEES and wider roles for local authorities through the Heat in Buildings Strategy program presents an expansion of activity beyond that currently undertaken by most local authorities. The Council has concern about the significant resources required to implement the actions and targets contained in the Strategy.

1.3	As highlighted in the [Council's April 2021 submission](#) to the Heat in Buildings Strategy consultation, effective delivery of the program (including LHEES) will require additional Scottish Government support for local authorities in the form of:

1.3.1	Financial investment to meet the additional costs to Councils of carrying out the roles required by the strategy

1.3.2	Support to build the capacity, skills, and knowledge needed to deliver the strategy to the required scale

1.3.3	A supportive regulatory framework that provides Councils with the security needed to invest and innovate at the scale and speed required by the strategy

1.3.4	Financial and regulatory support for Councils to explore commercial and joint venture opportunities for large scale heat networks and the long-term operation and maintenance of these heat networks

1.4	While the Council is committed to delivering its aspect of the LHEES program, it does not see the additional value of introducing LHEES as a statutory requirement. Edinburgh has an existing program of work through the Edinburgh [2030 Climate Strategy](#) that has laid out a journey for net zero energy generation and energy efficient buildings. A statutory requirement would not add substantial value to this plan can often drive a siloed and bureaucratic approach to delivery.

1.5	The Council believes that any legislation in this sphere should support local decision making and empower local authorities to work in agile and dynamic ways to deliver net zero places. For councils to lead on LHEES, irrespective whether it is a statutory requirement, requires financial support and direct funding from Scottish

Government to support the development of internal skills and staff capacity. This will enable co-development of LHEES with key partners in the city and the delivery of place-based and local solutions to decarbonised heat and energy.

1.6 The council has made a series of contributions to recent Scottish Government consultations (including the Parliamentary inquiry call for written evidence on the [role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland](); [Draft Hydrogen Action Plan Consultation](); and the [National Public Energy Agency: call for evidence](). Key common themes have emerged across these consultations and are relevant to the Draft LHEES order consultation too and are summarised below.

Greater use of place-based funding approaches

1.7 The Council welcomes the net zero policy ambitions the Scottish Government has set out and the City of Edinburgh Council is already collaborating with government on a number of strategic projects and innovative pilots to deliver change in Edinburgh. However, Scottish Government needs to do more to join up its policy and legislative frameworks and its strategic funding and budget decisions to enable place-based programmes of action.

1.8 Scottish Government needs to support and enable locally led programmes of action that deliver multiple outcomes and local benefits. Currently, policy, legislation, funding and investment act against this type of systemic and place-based action as they are developed and delivered along individual themes or policy areas which can easily become siloed, rather than supporting holistic responses to the totality of need and different issues in local communities. A thematic approach will not be a technically, operationally or financially viable way to deliver the transition to a net zero city or nation.

1.9 If Councils and Scottish Government continue to think and act on this thematic basis then some aspects of net zero action will accelerate while those that are equally important to our overall footprint but offer limited income opportunity, will make incremental progress. The City of Edinburgh Council has established local partnerships and strategies to overcome these issues as far as possible, but Scottish Government needs to support this effort by joining up national policy agendas and funding streams and creating a more flexible and permissive regulatory environment.

Funding and innovative finance models

1.10 Existing resources and capacity within Councils have been under pressure in recent years due to reductions in public sector funding, population growth, and increasing demand. In common with many other Councils and cities, Edinburgh's net zero target was set prior to the pandemic. The crisis may, if no proactive measures are taken, have a significant impact on the overall capacity, resilience, and financial ability of Councils to lead the net zero transition.

1.11 The key issue the City of Edinburgh Council faces at this point in time is not the availability of capital (public or private) to support net zero delivery; it is a lack of revenue to create and maintain the capacity required to develop a pipeline of

investible projects to the stage and scale required to secure available capital investment. Scottish Government needs to support local government to help connect private sector investment to local opportunities, through shared investment pipelines, support for early stage business case development, coordinating investment propositions, and providing an enabling regulatory environment.

1.12 Within a future approach to financing net zero change, it is critical to ensure the economic benefits flowing from city partner investment in net zero action are retained at the local level.

1.13 Challenges also exist in how business cases offer returns and best value, given the high level of investment required, long (or absence of) payback, and the limited support funding available. To move away from gas dependence, improved projections for future electricity, gas, and potential hydrogen unit costs (and associated carbon charges) are needed. Current green book/BEIS figures do not necessarily capture costs effectively and improved Scottish Government guidance and frameworks are required to help local authorities and partners to develop decarbonised energy investment propositions that offer attractive returns that we can have confidence in.

Supporting local empowerment and decision making to deliver net zero

1.14 It is important to recognise that local government remains the key body for providing the democratically accountable independent function required at the local level. For Councils and their cross-sectoral partners to play a full and impactful role in delivering net zero, national action, support will be required to enable greater local empowerment and greater deliberative processes.

1.15 Scottish Government needs to recognise the critical role cities have in meeting Scotland's 2045 net zero target and supporting high ambition local authorities to maximise their contribution. Powers, funding, and resources are needed to enable local authorities to develop local solutions that reflect their individual needs and unlock the greater opportunities of a green economic recovery.

1.16 Greater partnership working is required that ensures the wider public sector (including non-departmental public bodies) is empowered to collaborate with local government to develop and deliver programs that meet local needs (for example, shared retrofit approaches across the public sector estate or development of joint electric vehicle infrastructure). Scottish Government support is needed to align public sector budgets to maximise efficiency and opportunity for approaches that deliver city-based net zero targets. Scottish Government consideration on how it could support local, publicly-owned models of energy generation would be welcome.

1.17 Scottish Government and local authorities need to incorporate the learning from the Covid19 response, which enabled fast and coordinated public sector decision making into plans to support the transition to net zero. This learning needs to underpin consideration of additional powers, freedoms and flexibilities that could support local government to accelerate action on climate change.

2. Consultation questions

Q 1 - Do you agree that a duty should be placed on local authorities to produce a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan?

2.1 The Council in partnership with city partners has recently published the Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy. Delivering a net zero transformation requires action at the national, regional, and local levels (especially in relation to achieving net zero energy generation and energy efficient buildings). The 2030 Edinburgh Climate Strategy has set out these links across the strategic actions and in its implementation plan.

2.2 A core part of the 2030 Climate Strategy is the City Heat and Energy Partnership – co-chaired by SP Energy Networks and the City of Edinburgh Council, with initial membership including NHS, Edinburgh universities, Scottish Water, Scottish Gas Network, Edinburgh and South East City Region Deal (ESECRD), and other partners tbc. The scope of this partnership will include:

    2.2.1 Creating a heat and energy masterplan for the city – this will be the core delivery mechanism to meet the LHEES requirements.

    2.2.2 Collaborating with the Edinburgh and South East City Region Deal to develop regional renewable energy solutions which draw on the area's wind, geothermal, hydro and solar assets.

    2.2.3 Mapping and jointly planning for heat networks which meet the needs of key public sector buildings and major new developments across the city, beginning with Granton Waterfront.

    2.2.4 Mapping and aligning resources and supporting the development of a pipeline of investible energy projects designed to lever investment into the city.

    2.2.5 Supporting place-based approaches to local energy generation which help build community wealth.

    2.2.6 Establishing the Climate Strategy Infrastructure Investment Programme Board with a core task of working across thematic groups to develop a green investment plan for the city.

2.3 The Council has been involved in as one of the 13 Local Authority areas that undertook a Scottish Government pilot scheme on Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) with guidance produced for designing heat networks in challenging settings. It is also progressing early stage LHEES work based on the recent issued LHEES methodology with funding support from Scottish Government.

2.4 Local Authorities are already subject to emissions requirements and reporting through the Section 44 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and the recently enhanced Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order. While it is noted that these requirements apply to local authority generated emissions, Edinburgh, along with many other Scottish local authorities, are making substantial progress on citywide local heat and energy development through their own net zero programs.

2.5   As such, the Council does not see the added value of incorporating a statutory requirement for LHEES as it increases the regulatory burden on local authorities and further enhances siloed Scottish Government regulatory frameworks. Making better use of the existing policy levers (such as establishing partnerships, providing guidance and methodology, and providing more place-based funding, and working with local authorities to develop investment pipelines and to share risks of investment propositions) will be more effective in achieving decarbonised heat across Scotland that meets local needs and delivers wider benefits.

2.6   Given the Edinburgh's approach in establishing City Heat and Energy Partnership with joint leadership, the statutory requirement applying to the local authority may have implications for the operation of the partnership and its ownership and delivery of its heat and energy masterplan (the Council's core vehicle for delivering LHEES).

2.7   Scottish Government needs to ensure resources are made available to local authorities to support the delivery of LHEES. As set out in the introduction to this submission, resourcing needs to support place-based programs of work that connect across the Scottish policy and legislative frameworks and strategic funding and budget decisions. It is important that the funding support to enable LHEES provides opportunities to leverage funding and share across delivery partners the burden of implementation and enable local capture of rewards – informed by local priorities and decisions.

Q 2 - Do you agree with the timescales set out to publish a first strategy and delivery plan by 31 December 2023, with each subsequent strategy and delivery plan published on a 5 year cycle?

2.8   The Edinburgh 2030 Climate Strategy's Implementation Plan sets out deliverables, milestones, timeframes, partners and resources in relation to meeting the City's energy needs sustainably (see excepts below). The development of Edinburgh's heat and energy masterplan, investment plan, and network development plans aligns with the proposed 2023 timeframe.

2.9   The Council considers that direction regarding the review period is sufficient as non-statutory guidance.

2.10   A five-year review period for LHEES appears to provide a reasonable balance between enabling progress and evaluation and adjustment. The Council expects expect the masterplan and investment plan process to be iterative as the Council learns from doing, develops partnerships, and as heat and energy technology and industry develops.

Q 3 - Do you agree that strategies and delivery plans should be produced in line with guidance provided by Scottish Ministers, to be consulted on with local authorities? [Note that guidance is likely to be based on the LHEES Methodology already provided to local authorities]

2.11   Our response to question 1 is also relevant to this question. The Council supports the use of guidance to help support LHEES development, such the LHEES methodology. As part of a partnership approach and ensuring guidance is useful and fits local authority needs, the Council supports guidance being consulted on.

2.12　As highlighted in the [Council's April 2021 submission](#) to the Heat in Buildings Strategy consultation, Action is also required by Scottish Government to support local authorities in effective delivery LHEES, in the form of:

2.12.1 Support to build the capacity, skills, and knowledge needed to deliver the strategy to the required scale

2.12.2 A supportive regulatory framework that provides Councils with the security needed to invest and innovate at the scale and speed required by the strategy

2.12.3 Development of a heat network operator supply chain that can be enabled at the local authority level to reflect relevant legal and planning frameworks

2.12.4 Financial and regulatory support for Councils to explore commercial and joint venture opportunities for large scale heat networks and the long-term operation and maintenance of these heat networks.

2.12.5 Standard specification of networks to help local authorities and developers avoid problems in connecting to district heating schemes so that there is a consistency in the connection requirements.

Do you have any other feedback on the draft LHEES Order?

2.13　None in addition to the comments set out in the introduction and summary section.

3.　Contact details

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LOCAL HEAT AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY STRATEGIES
Draft LHEES Order consultation

DRAFT LHEES ORDER CONSULTATION PAPER

1.   This paper provides background on Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES), before setting out a draft Order that would place a duty on Scottish local authorities to produce Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies and Delivery Plans.

2.   Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback on the draft Order at a workshop on **27 January 2022, 2 – 4 pm**. Please email LHEES@gov.scot to register. If you are unable to attend the workshop, please provide your response to the questions at the end of this paper by email to LHEES@gov.scot by **2 February 2022**.

3.   LHEES policy aims to drive area-based planning and delivery of the heat transition, supporting achievement of statutory emissions reduction targets. The strategies are long-term plans for decarbonising heat in buildings and improving energy efficiency across an entire local authority area.

4.   Two consultations in 2017 gathered initial stakeholder views on proposals for local authority-level heat and energy efficiency plans. Since then all 32 local authorities have piloted the LHEES approach, with Scottish Government funding support.

5.   For each local authority area, local strategies will draw on a consistent, data-driven methodology to:
     a.   set out how the building stock (homes and non-domestic buildings) needs to change to meet national objectives, including achieving zero greenhouse gas emissions, and the removal of poor energy efficiency as a driver of fuel poverty;
     b.   identify heat decarbonisation zones, setting out primary measures for reducing emissions, with a view to zones acting as a potential trigger for regulation in the future if required; and
     c.   prioritise areas for investment, both private sector and through public delivery schemes, against national and local priorities.

6.   The Heat in Buildings Strategy (HBS) commits to having Strategies and accompanying Delivery Plans in place for all local authority areas by the end of 2023. The HBS also set out Ministers' intention to put LHEES on a statutory footing, with a duty placed on local authorities to develop Strategies and Delivery Plans. A statutory basis will ensure consistency and comprehensive coverage across Scotland against a common minimum standard, and raise the profile of local Strategies with industry and investors. A duty would also require the Scottish Government to ensure that appropriate resource is provided.

7.   The Order would use the powers under section 44 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to place a duty on local authorities to produce Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies and Delivery Plans by 31 December 2023, and subsequently on a 5 yearly cycle, in line with guidance to be provided by Scottish Ministers.

DRAFT LHEES ORDER

1. This Order may be cited as the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (Scotland) Order 2022 and comes into force on [TBC] 2022.

2. In these Regulations—
"local heat and energy efficiency strategy" has the meaning given in article 4.
"local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan" has the meaning given in article 5,

Duty to prepare a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan

3.—(1) A local authority must, in accordance with this Order, prepare, publish and update—
      (a)   a local heat and energy efficiency strategy, and
      (b)   a local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan.

(2) A local authority must publish its first local heat and energy efficiency strategy and its first local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan on or before 31 December 2023.

(3) A local authority must—
      (a)   keep its local heat and energy efficiency strategy and its local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan under review.
      (b)   publish an updated local heat and energy efficiency strategy at intervals of no more than 5 years after the date of publication of the previous strategy.
      (c)   publish an updated local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan at intervals of no more than 5 years after the date of publication of the previous delivery plan.

(4) A local authority must have regard to the guidance issued under article 6 when preparing its local heat and energy efficiency strategy and its local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan.

Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy

4.—(1) A local heat and energy efficiency strategy is a long-term strategic framework for—
      (a)   the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings in the local authority's area, and
      (b)   the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the heating of such buildings.

(2) A local heat and energy efficiency strategy is in particular to include proposals in relation to the way in which buildings in the local authority's area are heated can be altered, in order to—
      (a) improve the energy efficiency of such buildings,
      (b) reduce the emission of greenhouse gases produced by or otherwise associated with the heating of such buildings.

Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Delivery Plan

5.—A local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan is a document setting out how a local authority proposes to implement its local heat and energy efficiency strategy.

Guidance

6.—(1) The Scottish Ministers must publish guidance relating to the production and content of—
        (a)   a local heat and energy efficiency strategy,
        (b)   a local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan.

(2) The Scottish Ministers must consult with local authorities in preparing guidance under paragraph (1).

Provision of information

7. A local authority must, if requested to do so by the Scottish Ministers in order to inform the formulation or implementation of national policy, provide the Scottish Ministers with information in relation to the implementation by a local authority of its local heat and energy efficiency strategy and/or its local heat and energy efficiency delivery plan.

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1.   Do you agree that a duty should be placed on local authorities to produce a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan?

2.   Do you agree with the timescales set out to publish a first strategy and delivery plan by 31 December 2023, with each subsequent strategy and delivery plan published on a 5 year cycle?

3.   Do you agree that strategies and delivery plans should be produced in line with guidance provided by Scottish Ministers, to be consulted on with local authorities? *[Note that guidance is likely to be based on the LHEES Methodology already provided to local authorities]*

4.   Do you have any other feedback on the draft LHEES Order?

PLEASE SEND RESPONSES TO LHEES@GOV.SCOT BY 2 FEBRUARY 2022

SGN LTS Futures Project
Ofgem consultation

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City of Edinburgh Council response
02 February 2022

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1.   Introduction and general comments

1.1   Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SGN LTS Futures Project consultation. The focus of this response is to offer the Council's support for the project and to highlight key interfaces with work underway in Edinburgh.

1.2   The Council, in partnership with community planning and city partners, has recently published the 2030 Climate Strategy which highlights our uncertainties in relation to hydrogen. As a principle, the strategy focusses on electrification first action, where we work to ensure the network's capacity can respond to the substantive increases in the city's electricity demand while keeping an open mind to innovation in other energy sources, such as green hydrogen.

1.3   The Council supports the Scottish Government ambition to increase green hydrogen production capacity as set in the Scottish Government Hydrogen Policy Statement and Draft Hydrogen Action Plan. It is also noted that the Climate Change Committee has emphasised that hydrogen use should be restricted to "areas less suited to electrification, particularly shipping and parts of industry" and providing flexibility to the power system, and that it does not see extensive use of hydrogen outside of these limited cases by 2035.

1.4   Edinburgh's 2030 Climate Strategy is focussed on heat decarbonisation opportunities, including opportunities for renewable energy, micro grids, heat network solutions, hydro energy (including electricity and heat) and measures to lower the cost of electricity and tackle fuel poverty.

Benefits of SGN LTS Future Project

1.5   The Council understands that the LTS project will enable SGN to test their network adaptability for conversion to hydrogen supply in the future. The benefits of hydrogen are dependent on the type of hydrogen and the settings in which it can be most beneficial. Any future decisions about the viability of hydrogen in Edinburgh will need to consider the hydrogen type, the wider energy demands to produce it, and the wider implications for its use in urban environments. The Council would expect hydrogen supply to be green (produced from renewable electricity) and that

its use is prioritised in hard to decarbonise parts of industry or other sectors where alternative clean energy solutions are not viable or economic.

1.6 The Council supports the needs case set out in the consultation paper noting the benefits to BEIS, and the HSE research programmes which have set out a need for research and live trials to be conducted on the LTS.

1.7 Pilots (such as LTS Future Project) may help to address some of the areas of uncertainty that exist in relation to the hydrogen network, hydrogen availability, and its cost.

1.8 Action from central governments is required to provide greater certainty to ensure local authorities are able to make well informed decisions on retrofit strategies for existing buildings, particularly for challenging building archetypes. For example, councils may target buildings where retrofit delivers most benefit, in the expectation that harder to retrofit buildings can be converted to hydrogen in the future. However, if hydrogen will take years to come and be comparative in cost to electricity then councils may make different decisions. Further detail on these uncertainties is set out below.

1.8.1 The implications of UK Government decision on the gas network in 2026, leaves limited opportunity for any wider hydrogen adoption in Edinburgh within the 2030 timeframe. Establishing a more certain understanding of the future of the network capacity will be important to inform strategic decisions about the potential for hydrogen use in Edinburgh and the region.

1.8.2 Local authorities and the retrofit sector need to have a greater understanding of the level and timeframes of future increase of hydrogen available locally (e.g. more detail about the supply and timeframes from proposed hydrogen hubs), to enable them to prioritise, plan and deliver solutions that help us to meet net zero targets.

1.8.3 A greater understanding of the costs of hydrogen is needed. Challenges exist in how business cases offer returns and best value, given the high level of investment required, long (or absence of) payback, and the limited support funding available. To move away from gas dependence, improved projections for future electricity, gas, and potential hydrogen unit costs (and associated carbon charges) are needed. Current green book/BEIS figures do not necessarily capture costs effectively and improved guidance and frameworks are required to help local authorities and partners to develop decarbonised energy investment propositions that offer attractive returns that we can have confidence in.

Opportunities to link strategic action in Edinburgh

1.9 The 2030 Climate Strategy highlights the need for Edinburgh's energy networks and supporting infrastructure need to change at speed. As a city we need to be able make decisions in a more strategic way, and position Edinburgh to maximise the commercial, carbon reduction, energy savings and resilience benefits potentially available.

1.10   Edinburgh's City Heat and Energy Partnership (currently being established and made up of key public and private sector organisations) is being tasked with co-ordinating investments and supporting the delivery of flagship actions for the city. This includes working with communities and developers to deliver heat networks that meet the needs of key public sector buildings and major new developments across the city (focussing initially on major new developments at Granton Waterfront and the BioQuarter).

1.11   While the SGN LTS project will deliver hydrogen to Granton, its use shouldn't be restricted to Granton only. The Western General Hospital site is near the Granton area and will also face a challenging pathway to net zero.

1.12   The Heat and Energy Partnership will also be working with governments and private and public sector partners to develop a long-term shared investment strategy and delivery mechanisms. This work will focus on maximising opportunities for local revenue generation and securing a clean and affordable renewable energy infrastructure for citizens and businesses.

1.13   The Council welcomes the SGN LTS Project and would welcome SGN and UK Government funding as it supports net zero delivery through partnership investment.

1.14   The Council would like to further strengthen this partnership with SGN and jointly consider how it might support Edinburgh's future approaches to financing net zero change and ensuring the economic benefits flowing from city partner investment in net zero action are retained at the local level.

2.   Response to specific questions

2.1   Please note that the Council's responses here are high level only. Officers are available for any further detailed discussion, if necessary.

Question 1: Do you agree that this project should be approved, and at the value proposed?

2.2   As set out in the introduction section - the Council agrees with the project and accepts the indicated recommendations from Ofgem on the project valuation.

2.3   It is expected that the project will deliver value for both the public and consumer investment being made in it. As highlighted in the section *Benefits of SGN LTS Future Project* the project offers opportunities to address some of the strategic questions that exist in hydrogen energy development.

Question 2. Do you agree with our assessment of and additional requirements for SGN's project plan?

2.4   The Council is supportive of ensuring the project is delivered to a high quality with proportionate and transparent reporting on outcomes and deliverables, however the Council these aspects in sufficient detail to be able provide a view on the specific proposals at this stage. The Council would however ask that any reports are made

available to the City of Edinburgh Council to help inform Edinburgh's future heat and energy decisions.

Question 3. Do you agree with our proposals on how we will hold SGN to account for the project deliverables?

2.5 The Council supports the deliverables established by Ofgem and the caveat that should they not be satisfactory, a portion of the funding will be returned to consumers.

Question 4. Do you have any views on the appropriate funding approach for this project? / Question 5. Do you agree with our assessment of SGN's proposed level of contribution and treatment of benefits in kind?

2.6 The Council does not have a view on the specifics of these questions in addition to what has been set out already.

3. Contact details

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CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

22 FEBRUARY 2022

DEPUTATION REQUESTS

Item No 3

Subject	Deputation
3.1 **In relation to Item 7.12 on the agenda –** Council Support to the Small Business Sector – Response to Motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron	Tron Area Business Group

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