

Public Document Pack



Meeting Tuesday, 5 March 2024
Time 2.00 pm
Venue Business Centre - City Chambers

Please note prior to the formal business of the Edinburgh Partnership Board there will be a workshop session:

Workshop Session – Climate Ready Edinburgh Plan - 45 minutes (10 min presentation, round table 30 mins, closing 5 mins)

Presentation followed by round table discussions focused on what do we need to do better and do more of to support people living in the city as the climate changes and find out what partners are doing regarding adaptation, how do we work together to build resilience, what challenges do partners have already and what challenges do partners foresee as a result of climate change.

Edinburgh Partnership Board

Pages

1. Welcome and Meeting Protocols

1.1 Welcome and Meeting Protocols

2. Declaration of Interests

2.1 Declarations of Interest

3. Minutes

3.1 Minutes of the Edinburgh Partnership of 12 December 2023 5 - 10

4. Outstanding Actions

4.1 Outstanding Actions 11 - 16

5. For Decision

5.1 The Edinburgh Children's Partnership Plan – 10 minutes 17 - 42

6. For Discussion

6.1 Poverty Related Hunger Edinburgh - Plan Update – 10 minutes 43 - 46

6.2 Transformation and Improvement Programme – 10 minutes 47 - 52

6.3 Developing an Integrated Performance Framework Update – 5 minutes 53 - 74

6.4 Asset and Land Use – 5 minutes

6.5 Gaza – 5 minutes

Focus of item on motion to Council namely:

To therefore agree to ask the Edinburgh Partnership to consider whether there were any activities or projects which may be mutually beneficial and its members would wish to work with the people of Gaza on.

To note the positive relationships between Edinburgh and other cities around the world in sharing knowledge and collaborating on issues to support organisations within Edinburgh develop further, and to establish if any partner could take a lead role in any relationship and set out what any relationship based on humanitarian support could entail.

7. For Information

7.1 Review of Neighbourhood Networks – 5 minutes 75 - 80

8. Future Meetings

8.1 Proposed Dates for Next Meetings

- Tuesday 11 June 2024

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Tuesday 12 December 2023 – 2.00pm Meeting held in person in the Diamond Jubilee Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh and via Microsoft Teams

MINUTE

Board members present

Cllr Cammy Day (in the chair)	City of Edinburgh Council
Bridie Ashrowan	Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council
Cllr Alex Staniforth	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Iain Whyte	City of Edinburgh Council
Rosaland Papworth	Skills Development Scotland
Steve Kerr	Edinburgh Association of Community Councils
Dona Milne	NHS Lothian
Jean Gray	Viewpoint Housing Association
Sean Scott	Police Scotland

In attendance

Chris Adams	City of Edinburgh Council
Michele Mulvaney	City of Edinburgh Council
Dr Deborah Smart	City of Edinburgh Council
David Porteous	City of Edinburgh Council
Daniel Greig	City of Edinburgh Council
William Tyler-Greig	Scottish Government
David Happs	Police Scotland

Andrew Kerr	City of Edinburgh Council
Kate Barlow	Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership
Flora Ogilvie	NHS Lothian
Leah Black	EVOG
Adele Ferguson	City of Edinburgh Council
Daniel Baigrie	City of Edinburgh Council

Apologies

Paul Wilson	Volunteer Edinburgh
Cllr McNeese-Meechan	City of Edinburgh Council
Neil Whiteside	Police Scotland

1. Declaration of interests

None.

2. Minute

Decision

To agree the minute of the Edinburgh Partnership Board 5 September 2023 as a correct record.

3. End Poverty Edinburgh – Annual Report

Chris Adams presented the report to the board. The report provided an overview of the progress made and the refreshed framework for continued work with partners to end poverty in Edinburgh. The report set out partners contributions towards meeting Scottish Government Child Poverty targets.

Decision

- 1) To note the updates in the report.
- 2) To arrange a meeting in January with Derek McGowan (Housing) and all partners to discuss options for land use and housing across the public sector estate. The outcome of this meeting is to be reported back to the board in March 2024.

- 3) To note the issue of Grant Funding for the building of affordable housing was discussed. The Council Leader will raise this with Scottish Government.

4. Update – LOIP Priority 1 – ‘Enough Money to Live On’

Kate Barlow presented the report to the board within the context of the End Poverty Edinburgh Annual Report, heard earlier at this meeting.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress against the LOIP 1 actions, including the implementation of recommendations from the commissioned review of welfare rights and debt advice in Edinburgh. To note the additional resources that have been secured to deliver further poverty-reduction work in Edinburgh.
- 2) To agree that this progress update to be presented back to CEC Poverty and Sustainability Committee. - The provisional proposal for how additional poverty-reduction work will be integrated with existing programmes of work, acknowledging that provisional changes in governance still need to be confirmed at the LOIP 1 Strategy Group. To hold a special meeting of the Board in February to consider access to childcare provision in the city with a focus on early years provision.
- 3) To note that the board will take a strategic look at Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) support for parents, to enable them to work and learn.
- 4) A session will be held in February, to look at provision and pressures on ELC in relation to the Council’s Poverty Prevention Board.
- 5) To consider Energy Poverty at a future meeting of the board and note the work of Home Energy Scotland.
- 6) To note that some of the ‘red’ marked actions in the report have not started yet. Some of these are owing to resources and some require broader cultural shifts across partners.

5. LOIP Priority 1 – Loan Shark Charter Mark

Kate Barlow presented the report to the board. As part of the Affordable Credit Action Plan, one of the priorities was to prevent problem debt and raise the profile of illegal money lending by supporting the work of the Scottish Illegal Money Lending Unit (SIMLU) and support people to feel safe reporting it.

Decision

- 1) To note the training on offer to public and third sector colleagues regarding illegal money lending.

- 2) a) To bring together an Edinburgh wide communications strategy to be launched in February 2024 regarding illegal money lending and to roll this out across places where partners engage with the public.
b) To roll out communications about Credit Unions as alternative methods of borrowing.
- 3) To note that Trading Standards in relation to civil offences and Police Scotland in relation to threats and extortion both have a roll to play in tackling illegal money lending.
- 4) To set a stretch target of increasing Credit Union membership across Edinburgh by up to 10% within one year. To establish some baseline data to measure this against and report back to the LOIP Priority 1 Group and the board early in 2024.

6. Edinburgh Partnership Survey

David Porteous presented the findings of the recent research undertaken and trend data compared with previous data gathered in 2018.

Decision

- 1) To note the key findings from the Edinburgh Partnership Survey and proposed next steps for ensuring survey findings used to inform future Community Planning activity.
- 2) To note that a report will be presented to the EPB within 12 months detailing recommendations for any future surveys based on requirements for developing an integrated performance framework and feedback from Community Planning groups.

7. Transformation and Improvement Programme

Bridie Ashrowan presented the report. The report noted that while there were pockets of brilliance across the city, the partnership was not at a stage where it was fully maximising the relationships between public sector agencies and the voluntary and community sector to address poverty, inequality and the climate and nature emergency.

Decision

- 1) To note that the working group has been re-convened and will meet on 29 January 2024.
- 2) To note that the Transformation and Improvement Programme is being undertaken in tandem with the partnership's broader work.

- 3) To note that as part of the programme a communications strategy about Community Planning arrangements in Edinburgh targeted at people in communities.

A further update will come to the board when matters have progressed.

8. Trauma Informed and Responsive Edinburgh

Decision

To defer this item to the 5 March 2024 meeting.

9. Community Justice Annual Activity Return 2022-23

Adele Ferguson presented the report. It detailed that Edinburgh's Community Safety and Justice Partnership (CSJP) is responsible for developing and implementing Edinburgh's Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) on behalf of the Edinburgh Partnership (community planning). The completed Local Area Annual Return was circulated.

Decision

To approve the Edinburgh Community Justice Local Area Annual Return for 2022/23.

10. Regenerative Futures Fund – Presentation by EVOC

Leah Black, from EVOC presented to the board.

Decision

To note the presentation.

11. Future Meetings

Decision

- 1) To agree the proposed dates for next meetings as:
 - Tuesday 5 March
 - Tuesday 11 June

Venues to be confirmed.

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Rolling Actions Log

Edinburgh Partnership Board

5 March 2024

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
1	12.12.23	End Poverty Edinburgh Annual Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To arrange a meeting in January with Derek McGowan (Housing) and all partners to discuss options for land use and housing across the public sector estate. The outcome of this meeting is to be reported back to the board in March 2024. 2) The issue of Grant Funding for the building of affordable housing was discussed. Cllr Day will raise this with Scottish Government colleagues. 	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Michele Mulvaney, Strategy Manager (Communities) michele.mulvaney@edinburgh.gov.uk	June 2024		<u>Update March 2024</u> An Edinburgh Housing Summit is scheduled for 28 February led by Edinburgh University to which Edinburgh Partnership Board members are invited. This will lead with a presentation on the Action Plan for the Housing Emergency followed by discussion on defining the problem to be solved. Findings from the event will be reported to the Board to inform future action.

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
2	12.12.23	Update – LOIP Priority 1 – ‘Enough Money to Live On’	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The board will take a strategic look at Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) support for parents, to enable them to work and learn. 2) A session will be held in February, to look at provision and pressures on ELC in relation to the Council’s Poverty Prevention Board. 3) To consider Energy Poverty at a future meeting of the board and note the work of Home Energy Scotland. 4) To note that some of the ‘red’ marked actions in the report have not started yet. Some of these are 	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Michele Mulvaney, Strategy Manager (Communities) michele.mulvaney@edinburgh.gov.uk	June 2024		<p><u>Update March 2024</u></p> <p>A group of key stakeholders met in February to discuss childcare provision in the city. As a first step it was agreed to carry out a mapping exercise to better understand the landscape of provision. This will inform discussion about gaps and opportunities and how to better achieve a collaborative approach. The group will reconvene in April and a progress report will be submitted to the Board in June.</p>

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			owing to resources and some require broader cultural shifts across partners.				
3	12.12.23	LOIP Priority 1 – Loan Shark Charter Mark	<p>1) a) To bring together an Edinburgh wide communications strategy to be launched in February 2024 regarding illegal money lending and to roll this out across places where partners engage with the public.</p> <p>b) To roll out communications about Credit Unions as alternative methods of borrowing.</p> <p>2) To set a stretch target of increasing Credit Union membership across</p>	<p>Kate Barlow: Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.</p> <p>kate.barlow@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk</p>	June 2024		<p><u>Update March 2024</u></p> <p>Comms work has been delayed until March 2024. Further updates to follow.</p>

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			Edinburgh by up to 10% within one year. To establish some baseline data to measure this against and report back to the LOIP Priority 1 Group and the board early in 2024.				
4	12.12.23	Transformation and Improvement Programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To note that the working group has been re-convened and will meet on 29 January 2024. 2) To note that the Transformation and Improvement Programme is being undertaken in tandem with the partnership's broader work. 3) To note that as part of the programme a communications strategy about 	Executive Director of Corporate Services Lead Officer: Michele Mulvaney, Strategy Manager (Communities) / Bridie Ashrowan, EVOC michele.mulvaney@edinburgh.gov.uk	June 2024		Update on progress included within agenda for Board meeting.

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
			<p>Community Planning arrangements in Edinburgh targeted at people in communities.</p> <p>4) A further update will come to the board when matters have progressed.</p>	bridie.ashrowan@evoc.org.uk			

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Edinburgh Children's Services Plan 2023/26

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Foreword

We are delighted to share with you our ambition as a partnership and collectively introduce the new Edinburgh Integrated Children's Services Plan covering the years 2023-2026. This plan is the culmination of extensive collaboration and dedication from a range of professionals and community members who are committed to improving outcomes for children and families in Edinburgh.

The aim of this plan is to provide a framework for delivering high-quality, integrated services that are tailored to meet the needs of children and families across the city. We recognise that children and young people are at the heart of our communities and that we must work together to create an environment in which their voices can be heard and they can thrive.

At the core of this plan is the belief that every child in Edinburgh deserves the best possible start in life, and that early intervention is essential to addressing issues before they become more significant. We aim to promote an integrated approach to children's services, breaking down barriers between different agencies and working collaboratively to deliver effective support.

An effective whole family support model is one of collaboration and brings together families, communities, professionals and systems to work together in a joined up co-ordinated approach, to develop a shared understanding and prevent further problems arising in the future.

We know that every child is unique, and their needs will differ depending on their circumstances. Therefore, our plan aims to provide a range of services in a child's local community that are flexible and responsive to individual needs, whether that be in education, health, social care, or other areas.

We are confident that this plan will make a significant difference to the lives of children and families in Edinburgh. By working together, we can create a city where **all of Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and achieve their potential.**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this plan, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on our community



Our Vision

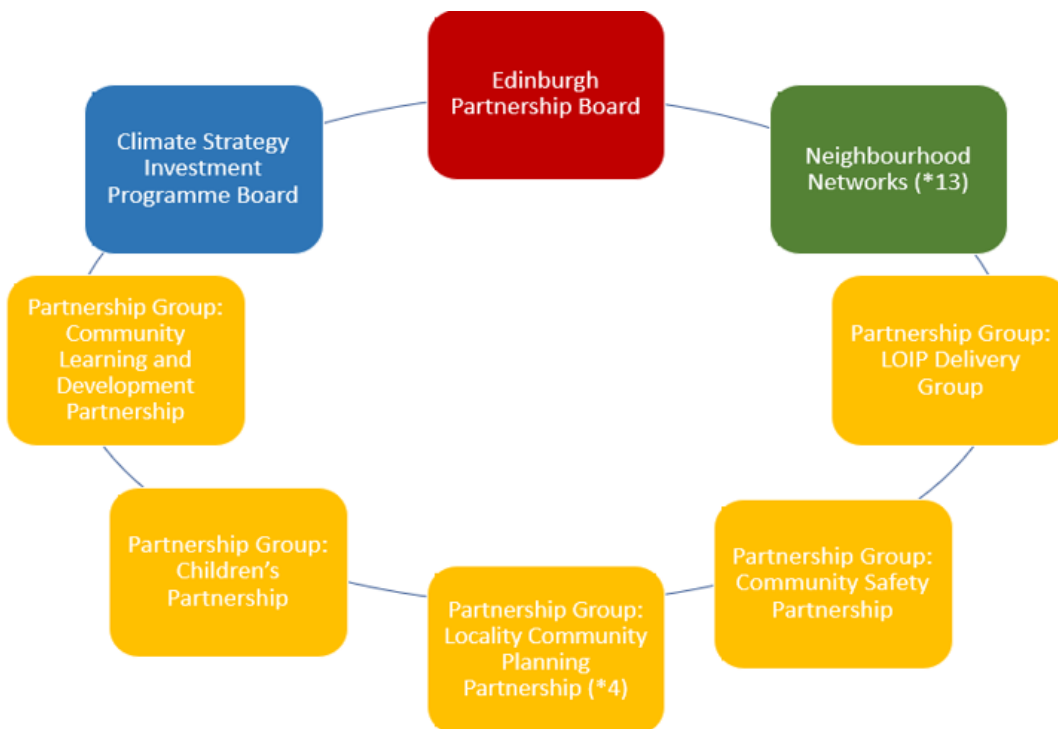
Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and achieve their potential.



Our Partnership

The Edinburgh Children’s Partnership (the Partnership) is the statutory partnership as outlined in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 which requires councils and NHS Health boards along with other key partner agencies to work together to plan, provide and deliver services for children and their families. The partnership directs the strategic planning, development and delivery of children and young people’s services on behalf of the Edinburgh Partnership. Our partnership organisations represent local government, health, social care, education, government organisations and third sector voluntary organisations.

Edinburgh Children’s Partnership reports into the Edinburgh Partnership Board and supports the Edinburgh Partnership Board to deliver against the wider [Edinburgh Partnership Community Plan 2018-2028](#). Which aims to ensure that those living in Edinburgh have enough money to live on; access to work, learning and training opportunities; and a good place to live.



Our Principles

This plan is built around a set of core principles that guide everything we do together. The objectives and implementation plan we set f, will need to be guided by and adhere to these principles to ensure we as a partnership deliver the maximum benefit for our children and young people.

Our five core principles are:

Multi-agency Collaboration

All our objectives will be multi-agency and we will make best use of the partnerships' collaborative gain and the influence that combined service provision can have to address complex social issues. All priority programmes within the implementation plan will have more than one agency involved in the delivery.

Prevention and early intervention

We will prioritise objectives that help protect our children and young people from poor outcomes. Through a range of universal and specialist interventions and services, we will ensure that every child and young person has better opportunities to fulfil their potential. Our aim is to provide an environment that supports good health and wellbeing, as well as ensuring any issues are addressed before they become crises, thereby allowing our resources to be used more effectively. When need is identified, we will react quickly and provide the right services at the right time, with the knowledge that early intervention and support provides better outcomes. Our services and partners will put measures in place to ensure we understand our ability to prevent poor outcomes and intervene early when required.

Voice of the child and young people

We will ensure children and young people are at the heart of developing the future of Edinburgh. Children, young people, and their families are best placed to determine what they need to live healthy and happy lives. We will empower children, young people, and their families to contribute to how we support their communities and design solutions to address any issues.

Reducing Inequalities

Increasing the life chances of all children and young people and reducing inequalities in outcomes that currently exist. It is therefore essential that the Edinburgh Children's Partnership Board seeks to address the fundamental causes of inequality, including tackling poverty.

Equality, diversity, and anti-racism

Embed equality, diversity, and antiracist practice in all strands of its work. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought several challenges, and has also, sadly, magnified the existing disadvantages that some groups face for reasons including their age, gender, race, disability or experience of poverty. The partnership will aim to engage with marginalised voices, encourage people with lived experience to play an active role in decision-making spaces. To enable the core aims of the partnership to be achieved for all children we will strengthen the systematic evaluation of our plans from the viewpoint of preventing discrimination as described in article 2 of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child.

Assumptions

The current plan was developed on the assumption that services are provided in the way which:

1. best safeguards, supports and promotes the wellbeing of children in the area concerned,
2. ensures that any action to meet needs is taken at the earliest appropriate time and that, where appropriate, action is taken to prevent needs arising,
3. is most integrated from the point of view of recipients,
4. constitutes the best use of available resources, and
5. related services in the area are provided in the way which, so far as consistent with the objects and proper delivery of the service concerned, safeguards, supports and promotes the wellbeing of children in the area concerned.

Previous Plan

In the 2020/23 Edinburgh Children's Services Plan, our priorities were the 3Bs:

- Best Start - Every child should have love, care and support
- Bridging the Gap - Every family should have enough money to live on
- Being Everything, You Can Be – All children and young people should have access to a safe place and someone they can talk to

Best Start

This working group successfully progressed tests of change across areas of Edinburgh which focused on the sharing of information (at both individual and strategic level) from Health Visitors with Early Years centres, thus improving the uptake of Early Years placements as well as the supports offered to children.

Bridging the Gap

Although this working group started before the completion of 2020-2023 Plan this area of work was subsumed into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), given the Priority area of Enough Money to Live On within the LOIP, to avoid duplication of work with Community Planning.

Being Everything, You Can Be

This working group progressed two main areas of work relating to mental health and wellbeing and school attendance.

Mental health and wellbeing

In the last three years a Community Mental Health Framework was embedded which allowed for the development of a Single Point of Access for mental health and wellbeing supports within Edinburgh. The implementation of the Single Point of access is a key priority within the 2023-2026 Plan.

School attendance

Gracemount High School was identified as a priority school through a local Collaborative Enquiry to bring education and community partners together and work with young people experiencing issues with school attendance to identify key barriers. We will continue to build upon this work within 2023-2026 Plan.

Integrated Planning

Building strong relationships is important in Edinburgh's children's services. Creating and keeping these relationships helps when working with children and young people, families, and different agencies. The Edinburgh Children's Partnership wants to make things easier by reducing issues and delays in the city's children's sector.

To do this, the partnership is finding new ways to use available resources, staff, and funding. This will help lower the needs and inequalities that affect children and their families.

By working together, people in the children's sector can support each other and follow the values of both the trauma-informed approach and Edinburgh's Promise Fundamentals.

National Policy Drivers

The Partnership acknowledges there is a range of national strategies and plans that pertain to improving the lives of children, young people and their families in Edinburgh. Many of these plans have interconnections and common goals/ aims to improve the health, wellbeing and development of children and young people.

- [Getting it Right for Every Child \(GIRFEC\)](#)
- [Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014](#)
- [The Promise](#)
- [The Scottish Government's Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan](#)
- [The Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Action Plan](#)
- [The Scottish Attainment Challenge](#)
- [The Youth Employment Strategy](#)
- [The Children and Young People's Rights and Participation Strategy](#)

The Promise

The Promise sets out a 10-year children's sector transformational programme, concluding in 2030. Edinburgh's Promise will support all children and all families (including from living away from home and being the care system) and will focus on preventative and supportive work to ensure wherever possible that Edinburgh's children and young people remain in the care of their families.

Keeping the Promise is far bigger than the activities of the Children's sector in Edinburgh. Significant work underway is aimed at areas as diverse and as key as:

- **To realise a child's rights, we must support their family— whether it's one they're born into or not. And all families need support at different times.**
- **All children within Scotland's "care system" will have a good, loving childhood. They will feel loved. They will have their needs met. And they will have their rights upheld.**
- **Ensuring that where children and young people cannot remain with their families, that the significant relationships that they have with family, friends and others are supported, promoted and maintained.**
- **Ensuring children and young people have access to activities outside of school to support their development and interests, and that children and young people's health needs will be responded to as a priority.**
- **Supporting young people who are unable to live with their family, go onto have the life chances expected of their peers and to break the stigma of care experience.**

Tackling Child Poverty

Edinburgh aims to eliminate child poverty by 2030. Although previous Children's Services Plans have made progress, the current cost-of-living crisis shows more work is needed to protect children and young people from poverty. Child poverty was increasing before the pandemic, which only further exposed families to social and economic inequality. There is a clear link between child poverty, adverse childhood experiences, and later health outcomes, as highlighted in the [NHS Lothian Director of Public Health Annual Report](#).

To address this, the Partnership is continuing to make child poverty prevention a core focus of its plan. Edinburgh's child poverty landscape is vast and complex, involving many partners. A review will be conducted to ensure clear responsibilities and well-coordinated activities across the city, including in relation to [Edinburgh's Annual Child Poverty Report](#), which measures success and identifies challenges.

Key areas of work during this plan's implementation will include strengthening financial well-being support in relevant service areas to help those most in need. The ongoing review of welfare services across the city will also be supported as it enters its next phase of delivery. Staff in key services will receive training to enhance their skills in addressing welfare and debt issues, enabling them to confidently refer and signpost people in need.

The upcoming incorporation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scottish law offers a rights-based perspective on addressing child poverty. This approach can reduce stigma by helping children, young people, and their families understand their right to social and economic assistance

The National Performance Framework

This framework aims to improve outcomes for the people of Scotland by increasing opportunities, increasing wealth, creating sustainable and inclusive growth and reducing inequalities. The framework sets out eleven national outcomes against which progress will be measured. These include people growing up loved, safe and respected, able to realise their full potential; people live in inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe communities; people are well educated and skilled; people are healthy and active, and that poverty is tackled by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally



United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

The Partnership's commitment to Children's Rights continues into this plan. With the expected inclusion of the UNCRC into Scottish law, there is a need to begin to see, hear, and observe children's rights as being at the fore of decision making at operational and strategic levels.

Over the next 3 years we need to work to ensure that our community understands the rights of the child. Adults need to know their actions in and around children and young people (and their family's lives) first and foremost of as participation, protection and provision in those rights.

Workforce development will be undertaken to ensure the normalisation of discussions around children and young people as being not only rights supporting but also ensuring that children's rights - including their rights for their views to be respected; their rights to access information; education and health; their rights to have their basic needs met in terms of food, clothing and a safe home; and their rights to rest; play and access cultural and arts opportunities in safe and healthy environments - are a constant focus across all decision making, planning, monitoring and evaluating of services.



Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)

GIRFEC provides the framework for understanding a child’s life against eight wellbeing indicators. Safety, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included are all key indicators of the success and development of a young person along their life course as shown by the SHANARRI wheel (see right). It also aids consistent assessment of where gaps exist in someone’s development and where support can be offered to remedy that gap.

GIRFEC will be used as a consistent approach to support children and their families’ circumstances, supporting decision making on when and where offers of support and assistance are required to ensure that we get it right for every child.



We want all children to get the best start in life. Our universal approaches start by supporting all families from before the birth of the child. As a basic principle, the first person to offer support to a child or young person and their family should be the person to complete a GIRFEC whole family assessment using the partnership agreed assessment tool and provide either a single agency response or co-ordinate a plan and a team around the child and family.

A Whole Family Approach

We want to provide support that responds to the needs of the whole family. Support will recognise the strengths of families and work alongside them to build resilience. Children and families will be engaged at every stage and their experiences will help shape and improve services. Measuring the difference, we make we want children and families to receive support that meets their needs at the right time and makes a difference to their health, happiness and safety and to achieve their potential. We will measure the impact of our joined up approach across the partnership to check that what we do is effective and a good use of resources.

Whole family support and getting it right for every child is everyone’s responsibility. Every one working with or engaging with children and families, regardless of organisation has a responsibility to deliver whole family support and support the family to access appropriate services.

GIRFEC puts the responsibility on all professionals from across the partnership to identify emerging concerns and potential unmet needs for individual children and families, irrespective of the whether they are providing services to children or adults. Professionals working in universal services are best placed to identify children or their families, who are at risk of poor outcomes. These will be in health services, such as midwives, health visitors, GPs and school nurses, or in nursery and education provision at any age from early years onwards.

Healthy Places

Children’s health and wellbeing is shaped by the places in which they live, including their homes, schools, neighbourhoods, parks and leisure facilities and the infrastructure and transport options that allow them to access the places they need. The UNCRC sets out the specific rights that all children have, with their rights to health, education, rest, play and to grow up in healthy environments being essential to allow them to realise their full potential.

Edinburgh Children’s Partnership will support children’s rights to grow up in healthy places, as well as supporting children to know about, feel welcome in and access these places. This will include accessing places within their local community but also enabling and encouraging them to access the wide range of health-promoting places, including green and blue spaces, libraries, museums and other cultural opportunities that exist across the city.

The children’s partnership will take forward a number of areas of collaborative work to ensure children’s voices are included in place-making decisions, particularly in relation to 20-minute neighbourhoods, as well as to ensure children are supported to access the places they need in their communities and beyond. This aligns with the Edinburgh Poverty Commission’s calls to action that Edinburgh’s citizens should have ‘opportunities that drive justice and prospects’ as well as ‘connections in a city that belongs to us’.



Enablers

Commissioning

The Partnership are in the process of developing a framework for commissioning that will benefit children and their families by maximising the money that comes to Partnership members, to be used to support and develop services for children, young people and their families.

Work continues to develop a joint commissioning framework, which will support the Partnership in agreeing upon, planning for, developing, and commissioning new services. The framework will begin to allocate the Scottish Government funding for Edinburgh's Whole Family Support transformation, so that family support is in place in a consistent manner across the city, being offered at the right time, for the time it is needed for, and at times which fit with the family and not with traditional opening hours.

Enhanced Data Sharing

Over the last 18 months a significant piece of work has been undertaken to review the existing (2015) Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) between the NHS Lothian/City of Edinburgh Council and voluntary sector organisations working with children. The new DSA has been developed in line with the Edinburgh's Promise and the principles and data protection provisions of the GIRFEC refresh, recently published by the Scottish Government.

Through this DSA, which sets out how the proportionate and timely sharing of relevant information will be managed. Access to services for children and young people should no longer be dependent on families negotiating barriers and the experience for all will be more positive, inclusive, and effective. All organisations wishing to sign up to this Data Sharing Agreement will receive training on it and the standards they will be expected to meet, as well as being provided with operational guidance on what this may mean in practice for your organisation.

The needs of our children and young people

Edinburgh is home to 87,551 children and young people under the age of 18, equating to roughly 20% of Edinburgh's overall population (Edinburgh Council, 2021).

Whilst educational outcomes across primary and secondary schools in Edinburgh have shown, in general, steady improvement over the years the poverty related attainment gap persists. For example, the percentage of primary pupils achieving their expected Curriculum for Excellence level in Literacy in 2021/22 was at its highest at 77% though this was 87% for those least deprived compared to 62% for those most deprived pupils, a 25 percentage point gap. For secondary schools the percentage of leavers with 1 or more awards at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 6 or higher for 2021/22 was 68% though this was 86% for those least deprived compared to 45% for those most deprived pupils, a 41 percentage point gap.

The gap is also evident in the levels of school attendance, for 2022/23, with 95% attendance in Primary schools for those least deprived compared to 89% for those most deprived and in Secondary schools 93% for those least deprived compared to 86% for those most deprived. This highlights the need for targeted interventions to promote equal opportunities for all.

In general, the city is doing well against a range of key health outcomes. With regard to pregnancy, indicators show that the percentage of women classed as 'obese' in Edinburgh is lower than that seen in Scotland, 17% compared to 26%. There are risks associated with being overweight in pregnancy such as developing conditions like pre-eclampsia and gestational diabetes. It is worth noting there are significant discrepancies between population groups, with poorer outcomes seen for those living in areas of higher socio-economic deprivation. This is demonstrated by the fact that over 20% of pregnant women living in the most deprived areas are classified as obese, compared with less than 10% of those living in the least deprived areas. The same trends are seen for other indicators, with nearly 20% of women in the most deprived areas smoking in pregnancy, compared with less than 1% in the least deprived areas.

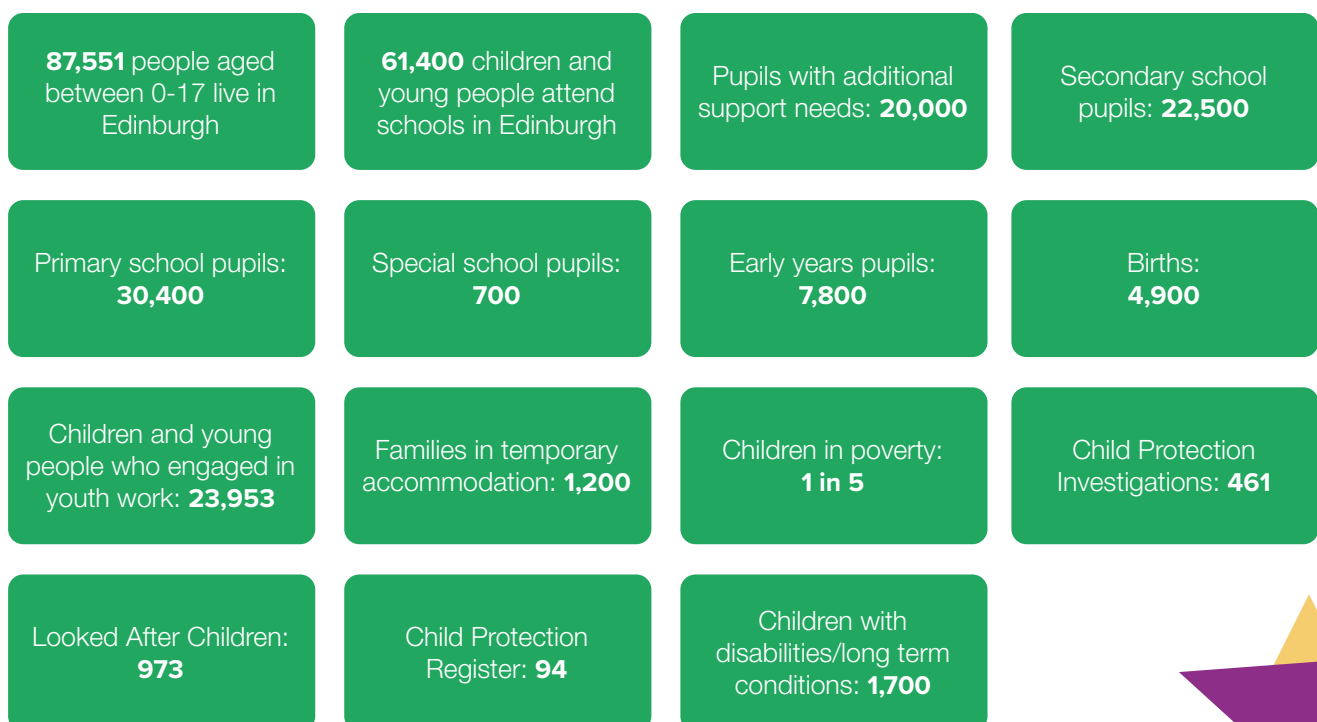
The proportion of babies reported to be exclusively breastfed at their 6-8 week check-up is 49%, this is higher than the Scottish proportion of 32%. This has been steadily increasing across the city since around 2012/13, in line with Scotland, although at a faster rate. Regarding developmental concerns recorded for children at their 27-30-month review, the percentage of children with one or more concerns recorded was 10% compared to the Scottish percentage of 15%.

In Edinburgh, 73% of children in primary 1 have a healthy weight, compared to 70% of children across Scotland, this has declined, however since 2018/19. Regarding oral health, 78% of P1 children were shown to have good dental health, this increases to 79% for children in P7. In both cases, this is higher than the percentage seen across Scotland.

Local data from the 2021/2022 Health and Wellbeing Census Scotland survey, conducted with Primary 5 to Secondary 6 pupils, demonstrated the following in relation to education, mental health, neighbourhood, life at home and physical health for this age range living in Edinburgh:

- **81% strongly agreed or agreed they enjoyed learning new things**
- **65% agreed that adults are good at listening to what they say**
- **67% said the area in which they live is a good place to live**
- **65% said they always have an adult in their life who they can trust and talk to about personal problems**
- **63% of P7-S6 pupils said they never went to bed hungry**

While Edinburgh has made progress in many areas related to the well-being of children and young people, there is still room for improvement. Addressing the attainment gap between the most and least deprived pupils, tackling mental health issues, and reducing obesity rates are key priorities for the city. Continued investment in targeted programs, collaboration among local stakeholders, and the evaluation of existing initiatives are crucial for ensuring that Edinburgh remains a supportive and inclusive environment for all its children and young people.



Engagement with children, young people and families

Over the last three years children and young people were regularly consulted through Youthlink Scotland, Scottish Youth Parliament, Young Scot and Children's Parliament, with Lockdown Lowdown and How Are You Doing surveys.

Data from these consultations have been drawn upon locally to influence strategic planning.

In December 2020, an Edinburgh Family Support Mapping consultation was undertaken, with a recommendation that information gathered from this consultation should influence resource allocation decisions taken by Community Planning Partnerships.

Participation in Implementation

During the COVID-19 lockdown, a Family Support Mapping Exercise, Parental Consultation and Schools Consultation with over 2600 parents and carers, schools and organisations was carried out on behalf of the Edinburgh Children's Partnership (ECP).

As a result of this process, the following 7 key priority areas for improving Family Support were identified building on existing good practice across the board.

1. Accessible Outreach Support For Families
2. Support for Parents of Children with Additional Support Needs (ASN)
3. Supporting Parents with their own and their children's Mental Health
4. Improving Confidence in Parental Engagement/ Family and Home Learning
5. Increasing Access to Low Cost Family Activities
6. Antenatal and Perinatal Support
7. Better Signposting and Information on Available Family Support

Edinburgh Youth Action

In November 2022 there was approval at Full Council Committee to progress what was then referred to as “Young People’s Assembly” but this is likely to be known as Edinburgh Youth Action following consultation with a group of young people in January 2023.

Local youth forums will be started alongside a citywide forum, the aim of which will be to enable the voices of young people to be heard.

Edinburgh Children’s Services Partnership will look to engage with Edinburgh Youth Action as part of the ongoing delivery and implementation of 2023-2026 Children’s Services Plan.

Champions Board

Edinburgh Champions Board is a platform for young people with care experience to influence the policy and practice of corporate parents through a range of participant and engagement activities.

For this reason, Edinburgh Children’s Services Partnership should also engage with this group in addition to the Edinburgh Youth Action.



Our Priorities

AIM	PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION
We will ensure Edinburgh's Children and Young People have timely access to appropriate emotional, mental health, and wellbeing support	Developing a single point of access to efficiently allocate mental health & wellbeing supports in line with Scotland's new Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy
We will ensure Edinburgh's Children and Young People receive the appropriate needs-based support whilst they are assessed for neurodevelopmental concerns	Utilising the single point of access to implement a neurodevelopmental pathway in line with the SG service specification
We will work to increase community-based opportunities for Edinburgh's Children and Young People in safe spaces with trusted adults	Working with our third sector partners to sustainably embed youth work into service models.
We will provide families with holistic support to help to deliver improved outcomes for children, young people and families	Implementing our whole family support strategy and effectively utilise the whole family wellbeing fund.
We will reduce the number of families and children living in relative poverty	Implementing and delivering on the actions set out in the Local Poverty Action Plan
Partner agencies will work together to commission the services that are needed to fulfil the priorities identified in the Children's Services Plan	Develop robust joint commissioning processes and oversight
All professionals are appropriately trained and equipped to deliver services in a trauma-informed way	Implementing Trauma Informed Practice throughout the partnership workforce
We will ensure the rights of every Children and Young People in Edinburgh are upheld by embedding UNCRC into daily practice and processes	Developing a plan to ensure UNCRC is implemented across all partnership services
We will work to ensure families are supported to stay together at home	Delivery of The Promise and the new Corporate Parenting plans within Edinburgh
Families are supported in a way that demonstrably improves outcomes for mothers and babies	Developing a partnership approach to testing bespoke supports offered throughout pregnancy and early years for families experiencing complex social factors
We will strengthen GIRFEC practice and ensure information is shared proactively to aid prevention and early intervention	Developing a plan to ensure GIRFEC practice is strengthened across all partnership services, and information is shared between partners effectively.
We will ensure Children and Young People have access to healthy environments, in line with UNCRC, to support their health and wellbeing and enable them to fulfil their potential.	Develop a partnership approach to place and planning , ensuring that children's voices are included in decisions about their environment and that they are supported to make use of facilities and activities across the city.

How will we measure our success?

The Partnership have identified a number of key objectives in order to measure the effectiveness of this plan. These are outlined below:

- An increase in the number of families supported through a whole family GIRFEC early help plan.
- An increase in the number of children, young people and families making progress against the goals in their GIRFEC plan.
- An increase in the number of children, young people and families who are satisfied with the support they receive.
- A reduction in children living in poverty.
- A reduction in contacts requesting a statutory social work service – meaning that families are supported within local communities by those who already know them and can provide early intervention at a very early level.
- A reduction in the number of children and young people with a child protection plan.
- A reduction in the number of children and young people looked after outside of their family.
- A reduction in crisis mental health intervention being required.
- An increased amount of professionals within the partnership receiving multi-agency trauma informed practice awareness training.

How will the Plan be monitored?

The partnership will develop an implementation and action plan in response to the priorities and objectives.

The partnership will rigorously monitor and evaluate the plan, to establish how effective the plan is, through various methods such as developing an improved partnership data set and feedback from children young people and families. The partnership will also provide feedback on outcomes and the difference it makes to children, young people, and families, to ensure that all partners continue to deliver effective services for children young people and families.



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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Ending Poverty-Related Hunger in Edinburgh – Progress Update

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In March 2023, the Edinburgh Partnership approved the strategy to end poverty related hunger in Edinburgh.
- 1.2 The main areas of focus for the implementation to date have been the cash first approach to end the need for foodbanks and agreeing shared standards for provision in Edinburgh.
- 1.3 Progress has included the development of a [Cash First toolkit](#) to be used by food providers in the city, and a successful bid for just under £200k funding over 24 months from the Scottish Government’s Cash-First Programme. This will be used to undertake a mapping and assessment of existing provision and tests of change.
- 1.4 Next steps are to continue with the implementation of the strategy as part of the wider response to poverty in the city and aligning with forthcoming duties under the Good Food Nation Act.
- 1.5 These next steps and the key outcome of having an established Edinburgh Food Poverty Network are dependent on resourcing, including future grant funding for Edinburgh Community Food (ECF) as the lead organisation.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Edinburgh Partnership:
 - i. Note progress made to date with the implementation of the strategy
 - ii. Note the actions taken forward through the strategy will be aligned with LOIP1 and with duties under the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022.
 - iii. Note that further work and is dependent on resourcing and agree to receive an options paper at the September 2024 meeting.

3. Main Report

- 3.1 Responding to a call to action from the Edinburgh Poverty Commission and recognising that food poverty spans all three of the LOIP priorities, the Edinburgh Partnership commissioned the development of a strategy for Ending Poverty Related Hunger in Edinburgh.
- 3.2 The strategy was approved by the Board in March 2023.

- 3.3 The strategy sets out a vision that no one in Edinburgh needs to go hungry due to a lack of money, and five action areas:



- 3.4 As set out in the paper to the Board in March 2023, Edinburgh Community Food (ECF) is taking the lead role in implementing the strategy. A steering group has been convened to support this, with representatives from the Council, NHS Lothian, End Poverty Edinburgh, EVOC and a range of third sector organisations.

Progress to date

- 3.5 The steering group has met on a monthly basis since May 2023.
- 3.6 Activity has focused on two key areas: taking a cash first approach, which underpins several of the five action areas, and setting standards and principles for providers.
- 3.7 Cash first is central to helping people to move beyond a crisis towards being lifted out of poverty. It was the focus of the first Menu for All Network event in October 2023, where workshop sessions were used to support the development of a [Cash First toolkit](#) to be used by food providers in the city. This was an initiative which ECF had been funded by the Scottish Government to deliver, and which fully aligns with the Ending Poverty Related Hunger strategy. The toolkit is currently being piloted with providers.
- 3.8 The second major development was the successful bid made by the Council, NHS Lothian, ECF and EVOC for funding from the Scottish Government's Cash First Programme which aims to improve urgent access to cash in a crisis alongside wider holistic support.
- 3.9 The funding awarded is just under £200,000 over 24 months, and will support both the LOIP1 workstream, and the Ending Poverty-Related Hunger strategy.
- 3.10 It will be used to:
- 3.10.1 Commission a mapping of existing provision, building on the [review of welfare rights and debt advice services in Edinburgh](#) (2022), by establishing the collective scale, range, and impact of support provided through food support organisations. The tendering process is underway.
- 3.10.2 Carry out tests of change, which will be specified later in the year, but which are likely to include how best to engage people in wrap around support beyond an initial cash payment / crisis support; the challenges faced by families with children in temporary accommodation; support for



maternal and infant nutrition in the first year; and cash first financial inclusion through midwives.

- 3.11 The second area of progress is in the quality and standards workstream, supported by a working group which meets monthly.
- 3.12 Work to date has focused on food hygiene, nutrition and dignity, and on considering how best to engage and inform stakeholders and providers, given the large number of volunteers who support the operation of food support across the city.

Resource requirements

- 3.13 In June 2023, a request was made to all Edinburgh Partnership partners to contribute towards the costs of staffing to support the setting up and operating the Edinburgh Food Poverty Network (now called Menu for All), and to co-ordinate and support the delivery of the actions outlined in the strategy. At that time, partners were unable to commit to the funding required.
- 3.14 Progress to date with the implementation of the strategy has been supported through one-off funding from the Council and through in-kind contributions of staff across sectors.
- 3.15 However, the uncertainty around future funding, including grant funding for ECF, the lead organisation, poses a significant risk to the delivery of the implementation plan and to fulfilling the strategy's aims and vision, which are directly aligned to the ambition to end poverty in the city by 2030.

Next steps

- 3.16 Work will continue on the two priority areas outlined above, and on the development of the Network, with a second event planned for March 2024.
- 3.17 Further work will now be undertaken to review resource requirements and set out options for the Board to consider.

4. Contact

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

The Edinburgh Partnership Transformation and Improvement Programme – 5 March 2024

1. Executive Summary

At the September Board, the Board agreed to look afresh at the role of Community Planning in Edinburgh to maximise the relationships between public sector agencies and the voluntary and community sectors to address poverty and inequality and the climate and nature emergency. This report gives an update on feedback received to date and outlines a proposed programme of engagement to ensure all partners and Partnerships can contribute to the way forward.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Board is recommended to:

- i. discuss initial findings from the discover and define stage and note the engagement plan.

3. Background

3.1 The Edinburgh Partnership Board agreed in September 2023 to smaller workshops which would look at how we can strengthen partnership working. Feedback from the initial workshop was discussed at the Board meeting in December. Initial themes identified included governance, communication, place, resourcing, performance, and early intervention and prevention.

4. Main Report

- 4.1 A second workshop was held on 17 January and facilitated by Gillie Severin (CEC). There were representatives from the City of Edinburgh Council, Police Scotland, NHS Lothian, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council, Volunteer Edinburgh, and the Regenerative Futures Fund.
- 4.2 The workshop identified key themes such as ensuring financial viability and adequate funding for housebuilding, evolving partnerships to meet community needs, adopting place-based approaches, empowering communities, aligning community benefits with local place plans, prioritising community infrastructure in procurement, strategic asset management, fostering community cohesion, valuing, and supporting partnership and preventive work.
- 4.3 Essential considerations that were noted include enhancing governance by connecting groups and clarifying roles in community planning, prioritising continuous learning and evaluation, understanding community roles for effective engagement, aligning with ongoing initiatives, or developing new engagement

routes, adapting to how communities organise themselves, and identifying partnership opportunities or overlaps.

- 4.4 Findings from the first two workshops are summarised in a mind map available at Appendix 1. This shows what good community planning looks like, key considerations for the improvement programme, strategic issues, challenges, and enablers.
- 4.5 The diagram in Appendix 2 summarises key discussions so far and highlights: common goals, possible activities, and cross-cutting issues for the transformation and improvement programme. This diagram will be added to and expanded as further engagement develops and be the basis for a transformation and improvement plan. The common goals identified so far include:
- Establish clear governance structures to foster transparency and accountability.
 - Implement adaptive systems to address emerging challenges promptly.
 - Embed interconnectivity and collaboration to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and reduce duplication
 - Support local economies through community wealth building and capacity building to create resilience
 - Encourage continuous learning and understanding of roles within community planning.
 - Leverage data-driven approaches for informed decision-making and risk management.
- 4.6 Following the principles of the Scottish Approach to Service Design a programme of engagement (Appendix 3) will be undertaken using feedback from the initial workshops to further discover and define the issues before developing a Transformation and Improvement plan for the Board to consider in September 2024.

5. Contact

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Appendix 1: feedback from workshops



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP TRANSFORMATION AND IMPROVEMENT DISCOVER AND DEFINE



Appendix 2: Edinburgh Partnership Transformation Programme

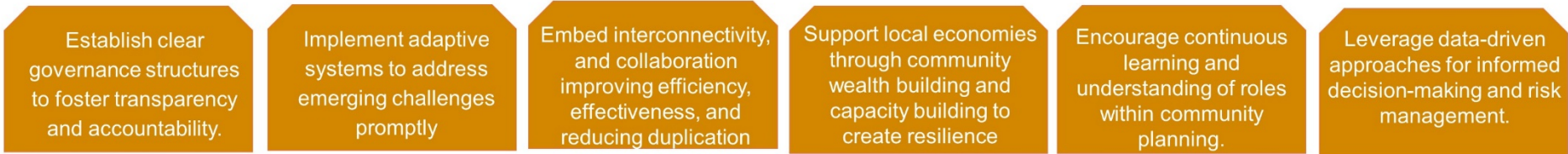


THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP TRANSFORMATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

Objective

Fully maximise the relationships between public sector agencies and the voluntary and community sector to address poverty and inequality and the climate and nature emergency.

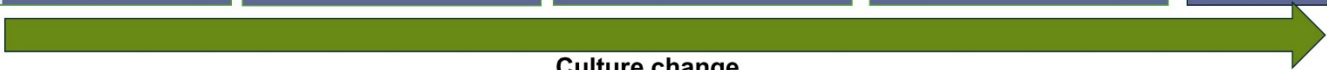
Common goals



Activities

<p>Agree shared roles and responsibilities</p> <p>Strengthen feedback loops between all spheres of community planning</p> <p>Build capacity for holding partners to account</p> <p>Develop integrated performance framework</p>	<p>Support increased community engagement & participation</p> <p>Improve trust between public and voluntary/community sector</p> <p>Focus on upstream determinants, of health, including partner's roles as anchor institutions, as well as early intervention and prevention.</p>	<p>Raise awareness, share best practise and</p> <p>Promote the value of partnership working</p> <p>Support integrated service delivery models</p>	<p>Create opportunities for social enterprise models</p> <p>Utilise procurement opportunities to benefit local groups/communities</p> <p>Connect community benefits with local need</p> <p>Focus on wellbeing</p>	<p>Test different ways of working and learn from what works well</p> <p>Embed continuous improvement practises and self-evaluation</p>	<p>Develop Joins Strategic Needs Assessment</p> <p>Improve data sharing between sectors and partners</p>
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Cross cutting themes



- Culture change
- Communication
- Joint resourcing
- Shared leadership
- Community empowerment

Appendix 3: Programme of engagement

	Activities	Products		Status
Discover & Define	Working Group Workshop 1	Session plan	12/12/23	Complete
	EP Board Update	Progress report	27/12/23	Complete
	Working Group Workshop 2- Strategic issues	Session Plan	29/01/24	In progress
	LOIP DG and Strategic Partnership Workshop 1	Discussion Paper Session Plan	04/03/24	In progress
	EP Board Update	Covering Report	05/03/24	In progress
	Working Group Workshop 3 – Place	Discussion Paper Session Plan	18/03/24	Not Started
	EP Board 121s	Discussion Questions	March – April	Not Started
	CEC Corporate Leadership Team	Feedback report	April/May	Not Started
	LCPP Engagement	Report	April - May	Not Started
Develop	Working Group Workshop 4&5 -	Discussion document	April-May	Not Started
	LOIP DG	Discussion document	02/05/24	Not Started
	EP Board	Progress report	11/06/24	Not Started
	Community and Stakeholder Engagement	Discussion document	May- July	Not Started
	LCPP Engagement -	Discussion document	August	Not Started
	LOIP DG	Draft plan	August	Not Started
	Strategic partnerships	Draft plan	TBC	Not Started
	CEC Corporate Leadership Team	Draft plan and covering report	August	Not Started
	EP Board	Draft Plan	September	Not Started
CEC Culture and Communities	Report	October TBC	Not Started	
Delivery	Subject to EPB approval of the draft plan		September onwards	Not Started

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Developing an Integrated Performance Framework update – 5 March 2024

1. Executive Summary

This report updates on progress to develop an integrated performance framework and seeks approval to move to the next stage of delivery as set out in the next steps.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Board is recommended to:

- i. Discuss the proposal for developing an integrated performance framework.

3. Background

3.1 [Guidance](#) for the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (the Act), states that community planning partnerships should monitor performance and progress against its ambitions and use intelligence about the views and experiences of local communities to underpin its approach to effective performance management.

3.2 In summary, the guidance outlines the expectation that:

- CPPs (Community Planning Partnerships) have a deep-rooted commitment to continuous improvement.
- CPPs have effective processes and skills to understand and scrutinise performance.
- CPPs act wherever appropriate to improve performance following scrutiny.

3.3 The guidance explains continuous improvement in performance is as relevant and important for CPPs as it is for an individual organisation and Best Value duties to which statutory community planning partners are subject in how they conduct their business are equally relevant in the community planning context. The 2020 Best Value Review of the City of Edinburgh Council noted that there was limited evidence to demonstrate the impact of partnership working on outcomes within community planning.

4. Main Report

4.1 The Edinburgh Performance Framework (Appendix 1) was developed in 2018 for the Edinburgh Partnership but was not fully implemented at the time. Elements not implemented include:

- Medium-term performance indicators
 - Exception reporting
 - SMART target setting
 - Monitoring framework
- 4.2 Other statutory reporting requirements related to part 2 of the Act such as the production of annual reports for locality plans have been varied and there is consensus that reporting is fragmented and could be improved. The EP Board has oversight of several statutory plans and others which the Board has agreed to , including the LOIP, the Children Services Plan, the End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan, the Local Child Poverty Action Report, Edinburgh’s Joint Community Safety Strategy, the Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan, Ending Hunger in Edinburgh Strategy, and the Climate Strategy. Some areas in Scotland including Midlothian have attempted to harmonize annual reporting by creating a single annual report which brings together all relevant annual reports to improve connectivity and reduce duplication.
- 4.3 Following discussions at the last EP Board we have reconvened the integrated performance framework working group with representatives from the Council, NHS Lothian, and Police Scotland. A meeting was also arranged with LOIP Delivery Group members and strategic partnership leads. From these discussions there was consensus that:
- 4.3.1 an integrated performance framework is essential to improve transparency, scrutiny, and accountability of community planning activity.
 - 4.3.2 we should adopt an approach that challenges performance and embeds continuous learning and evaluation to drive improvements over time.
 - 4.3.3 It needs to be delivered with a phased approach focusing first on implementing elements as set out at 4.1.
 - 4.3.4 we seek to evaluate our performance framework.
 - 4.3.5 the Improvement Service, Community Planning Outcome Improvement Profile (Appendix 2) could be a way to strengthen high-level outcome indicators and benchmark against other community planning partnerships.
- 4.4 Work is also being undertaken to develop a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to support future service planning. The findings will help identify population needs and priorities for action and could then be used to inform a decision about how the existing activity and reporting that is part of the wider partnership can be better aligned to provide assurance that activity is being undertaken to meet priority population needs in the most efficient way.

5. Next Steps and Timing



- 5.1 To deliver the new performance framework by September 2024. We propose the following dates for agreement:
- 5.1.1 Initial Assessment and Planning (1-2 months): Formation of a project team made up of statutory partners and others interested in the delivery of the LOIP, assessment of existing practices, mapping of data, stakeholder engagement and promotion and development of a forward plan.
 - 5.1.2 Framework Development (3-4 months): Establishing outcome indicators, designing templates, developing delivery plans, setting SMART targets, and collecting feedback to evaluate effectiveness.
 - 5.1.3 Full Implementation (Ongoing): Rolling out the framework, establishing a review process, monitoring progress, and ensuring alignment with national and local objectives.
- 5.2 This structured approach seeks to address current challenges in performance management within the community planning family, aiming for a coherent and integrated framework that enhances the effectiveness and accountability of community planning efforts.

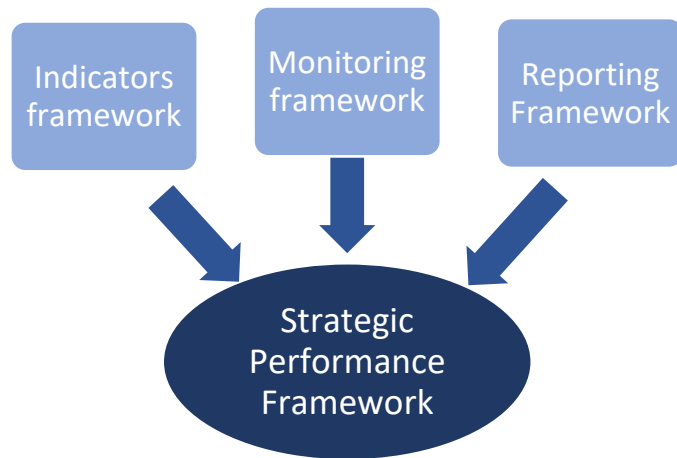
6. Contact

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Edinburgh Partnership Performance Framework

This performance framework describes how performance will be monitored for the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). It provides guidance and tools for everyone involved in the oversight and delivery of the LOIP. To be effective the performance framework must be more than defining indicators. It should describe the structure within which the indicators will be considered and outlines how decisions will be made based on the information collated and analysis of the wider landscape.

This framework consists of three elements:



Indicators

- The suites of indicators used to monitor performance at each level

Monitoring framework

- Timetabling and governance
- Identifying areas of good practice and areas for improvement

Reporting framework

- The reports considered at which groups
- The responsibility for writing those reports

Reporting framework

Within the LOIP, under the three priorities, the initial high-level actions and possible measures are shown. Workstream leads will develop detailed actions, timescales and key measures to support each of the priority areas that demonstrate how change is taking place for each priority, forming the basis of the performance framework. Different reports will be generated for scrutiny at different levels such as:

Action plans

Detailed action plans (Appendix A) relating to the actions under each of the three priorities will allow monitoring of the partners' activity and progress towards achieving shared goals. Actions will be developed throughout the life of the LOIP so only the next set of actions to be undertaken to progress each priority will be shown. Lead officers will be identified for each action and they will be responsible for reporting on progress.

The modelling template (Appendix B) should be used to assist in the development of actions under each priority. This template details what is to be done, what resources are available for these actions, and identifies the short and long term impacts these actions are aiming at achieving. This template should be used each time a new set of activities are developed to ensure the link between the activities and the longer-term outcomes are considered before implementation.

A final part of the development of actions should be the identification of output and outcome measures. These measures should be clearly linked to the actions and will allow for the monitoring of the impact of actions as they are implemented.

Below are links to some step to step guides to modelling actions and developing indicators:

- [NHS a practical guide](#)
- [Health Scotland simple guides](#)
- [Evaluation Support Scotland support guides](#)

Regular performance reports

These will detail progress towards achieving the outcomes (Appendix C). They include updates on actions, milestones, case studies and wider factors influencing progress to give a clearer picture on how the priorities are being achieved. These reports will be the responsibility of the lead officers for each priority area. These reports will:

- Show accountability and impact of progress
- Provide an opportunity to share learning
- Identify barriers or challenges to be addressed
- Provide opportunity for discussion of overlap between priorities

The LOIP delivery group will be responsible for considering these reports on a quarterly basis and agreeing ways to address issues and support action progress. These reports will form the basis for the annual progress report to the Edinburgh Partnership Board.

Annual Progress Report

The LOIP delivery group will be responsible for submitting an annual report to the Edinburgh Partnership Board. This report will summarise progress with actions and the impact on short term outcomes. The impact on individuals will also be covered by the inclusion of case studies within this report, where appropriate.

This report will also cover how these actions might have influenced the longer-term outcomes. When considering the longer-term outcomes, information on the impacts of other external factors, where known, should be included. These factors may include decision made at a local, regional, national and international level such as strategic priorities, new legislation, and taxation and benefit rate changes. The inclusion of this wider landscape should help to explain why local impact through actions are not reflected in changes to high level outcomes.

The aim of this report is to:

- Show accountability and impact of progress
- Provide an opportunity to share learning

- Raise barriers to be addressed
- Opportunity for inclusion in wider landscape discussion

The report will have the following sections:

- Here's what you need to know section (giving overview of performance and issues)
- What was planned to be done
- What was done
- What difference was made – with evidence (output and outcome measures, life experience stories)
- Challenges and changes - anything found helpful in achieving outcomes and any barriers
- Learning for the future - anything learnt about how to do the work and unexpected outcomes

This report is expected to fulfil the legislative requirement for each Community Planning Partnership to report back progress on the LOIP to their communities on an annual basis.

Exception Report

If barriers to progress are identified at any time which cannot be resolved by the LOIP delivery group and needs consideration at a strategic level, an exception report (Appendix D) will be submitted to the next Edinburgh Partnership Board meeting for discussion. This should reduce delays in progress as strategic decisions can be made when issues are identified rather than when issues are considered as part of the annual performance reporting.

External scrutiny

Additional performance reports will be created to ensure compliance with external scrutiny and audit requests around the LOIP.

These requests may focus only on community planning activity, or include partnership working and community planning as part of a wider scope (such as the annual review of Local Authority performance reporting Audit Scotland undertakes each year which includes community planning performance as part of the scope). The reports outlined above form a suite of reports that can then be used by partners within their own governance structures. Additional reporting structures are shown in Appendix E.

Monitoring Framework

Monitoring performance is more than looking at measures, it's about understanding the reasons behind the level of performance achieved and then agreeing changes when necessary. The following cycle will be used to progress performance.

Plan: set aims and visions based on intelligence

Do: plan actions in detail and implement

Monitor: monitor progress of actions and collect appropriate data

Review: review what the monitoring is telling you.



The Edinburgh Partnership, through the LOIP, sets out their vision for reducing poverty and inequality in Edinburgh by working together.

The LOIP delivery group will oversee the development of the detailed plans under the three priorities and monitor progress with actions. The delivery group may delegate the development and delivery of actions to other groups in the Edinburgh Partnership governance structure where appropriate such as when there is overlap between the LOIP priority and the other group's core remit. This should promote joined up thinking and ensure actions for different strategies are more co-ordinated. However, the delivery group will remain accountable for the LOIP delivery overall.

The review stage is where decisions are taken on the back of the monitoring in place. These discussions should acknowledge where action is progressing as expected, and ensure continued commitment to progressing the agreed actions. However, when progress has stalled or having a negative impact on the outcomes, it is at this stage that decisions to change actions or stop them is taken and new actions are decided.

These reviews continue to focus on achieving the longer term aims. Throughout the life of the plan, both the Edinburgh Partnership Board and the LOIP delivery group will review progress through regular reporting and agree further actions as required.

One aspect of performance that also needs to be considered is the wider landscape in which the LOIP actions are implemented into. When reviewing progress, other factors which impact on the longer-term outcomes must also be considered before decisions taken to stop or change the actions being implemented.

Indicators Framework

A range of different types of indicators will be used to monitor progress with the LOIP. Performance reporting of all these different types of information should allow the Edinburgh Partnership Board to have informed discussions about what is working and what is not. It is expected that the output and medium-term performance indicators will be changed during the life of the plan as actions are completed. Case studies and outcome indicators will be monitored throughout the life of the plan.

Case studies

These are not actual measures but are about bringing the plan to life. By including real life stories/case studies into the performance monitoring discussions, the partnership is ensuring that the ‘voices of real people most impacted by poverty and inequality’ are a part of decision making.

These stories can be used to inform both:

- the identification and development of actions
- the real impact of those actions on people’s lives.

Ongoing gathering of people’s experiences is required to achieve the partnership’s aspiration to keep real life stories at the heart of their decision making.

Long term outcome indicators

These are the long-term changes in people’s lives the plan is trying to achieve. They should be stated so that the direction of change is clear.

These are the indicators which highlight the aspirations of the Edinburgh Partnership Board – around reducing poverty and inequality. However, due to the complex interrelationship between factors, these indicators are those where it is hardest to define a direct link between them and the actions undertaken.

Through the analysis undertaken when developing the priorities, the actions agreed are expected to make a difference in people’s lives and contribute to shifting these longer-term outcomes. However, there will be many other factors also working on shifting these outcomes.



Medium term indicators

These are local outcomes that can be delivered within or over a couple of years. They should link directly to the specific activity undertaken to deliver the aims of the LOIP and will reflect the impact on the families and individuals supported through the joint working. These are the short/medium changes that are achieved through the actions implemented. These indicators will be useful to ensure that the actions are impacting in the ways expected.

Output measures

These indicators are measures of the activity undertaken and will mostly focus on the process/procedural changes implemented. These are the indicators where progress should be shown over the short term.

Target setting

Target setting will be considered for all the measures identified. However, targets will only be put in place where it is appropriate. This will be determined by two main factors:

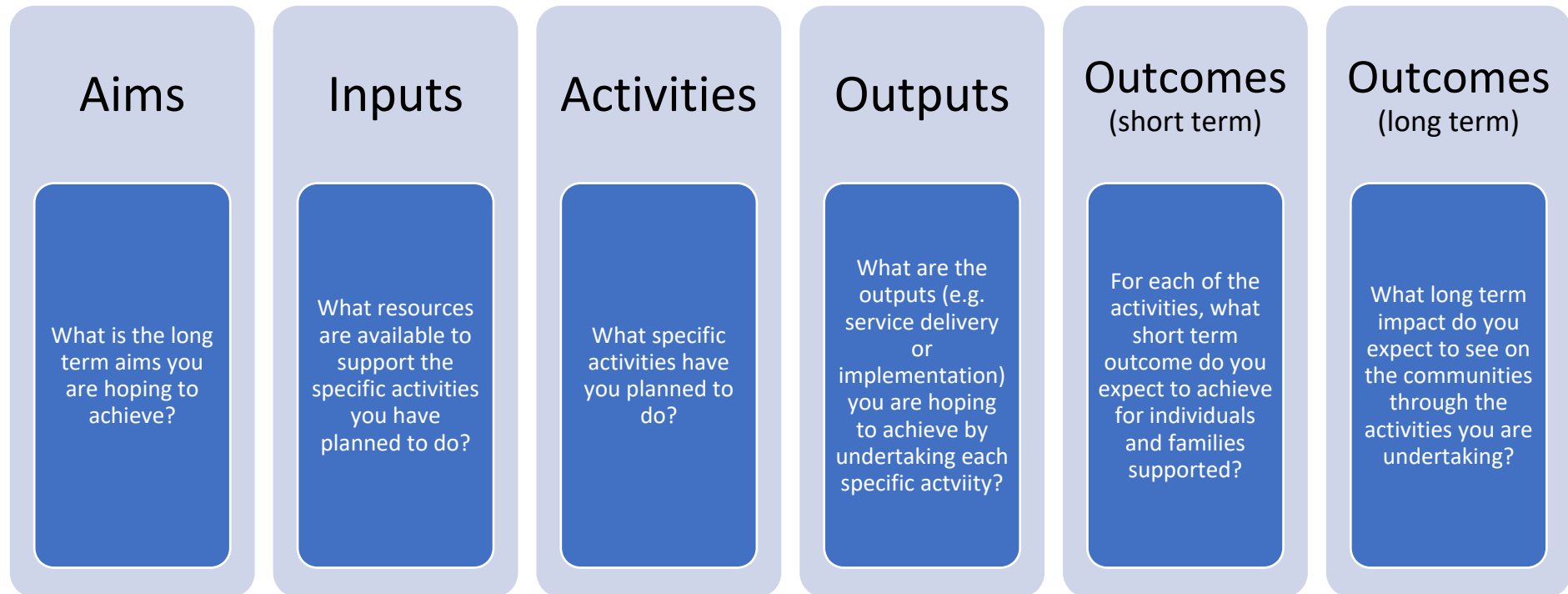
- *Direct link between action and indicator*
Where there is a clear causal link between the measure and the action a target can be set. Where there are multiple actions all impacting on a single indicator (e.g. the longer-term outcomes), so that each action contributes to the change in the measure, the ability to set meaningful targets is less achievable.
- *Type of measure*
Target setting is easier for numeric indicators and harder for 'perception' indicators. Regardless of the type of measure, the direction of change should be clearly stated.

Any target setting must be based on an analysis of what is achievable so that the target set is challenging but realistic. Targets should also be cognisant of targets within other plans

Outcome	Narrative

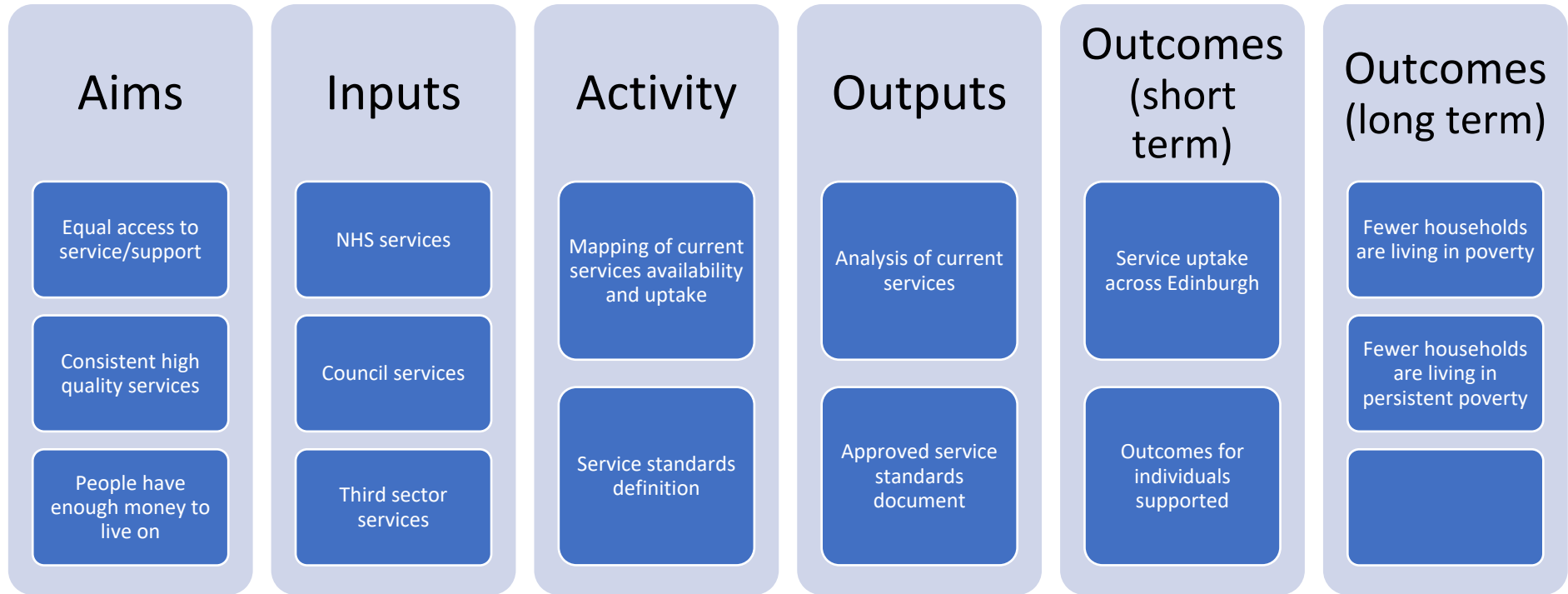
Action	Lead	Partners and Resources	Milestone	Issues/Constraints	Due Date	Completed	Performance monitoring

Priority: xxxx

**Local/National factors**

- What other factors may also impact on the long term outcomes you are trying to achieve?

(Example) Priority 1: Enough money to live on



Local/National factors
- Implementation of universal credit

LOIP quarterly progress report

Date of LOIP delivery group for consideration: Lead officer: Priority theme (priority 1, 2, 3 or strategic enabler):
--

Actions completed in the last quarter (since the last progress report)

--

Milestones expected to be achieved in the next quarter

--

Barriers/challenges (physical, partnership, financial etc)

--

Wider factors/influencers (i.e. legislative changes)

--

Case study examples – please complete for any examples of success/good practice that has been achieved to date under this priority

For LOIP delivery group to complete

Date considered:

Is the priority on track? Y/N

Any decisions to be taken? (i.e. change of actions, escalation to the board etc)

Feedback to lead officer (if any)

LOIP exception report

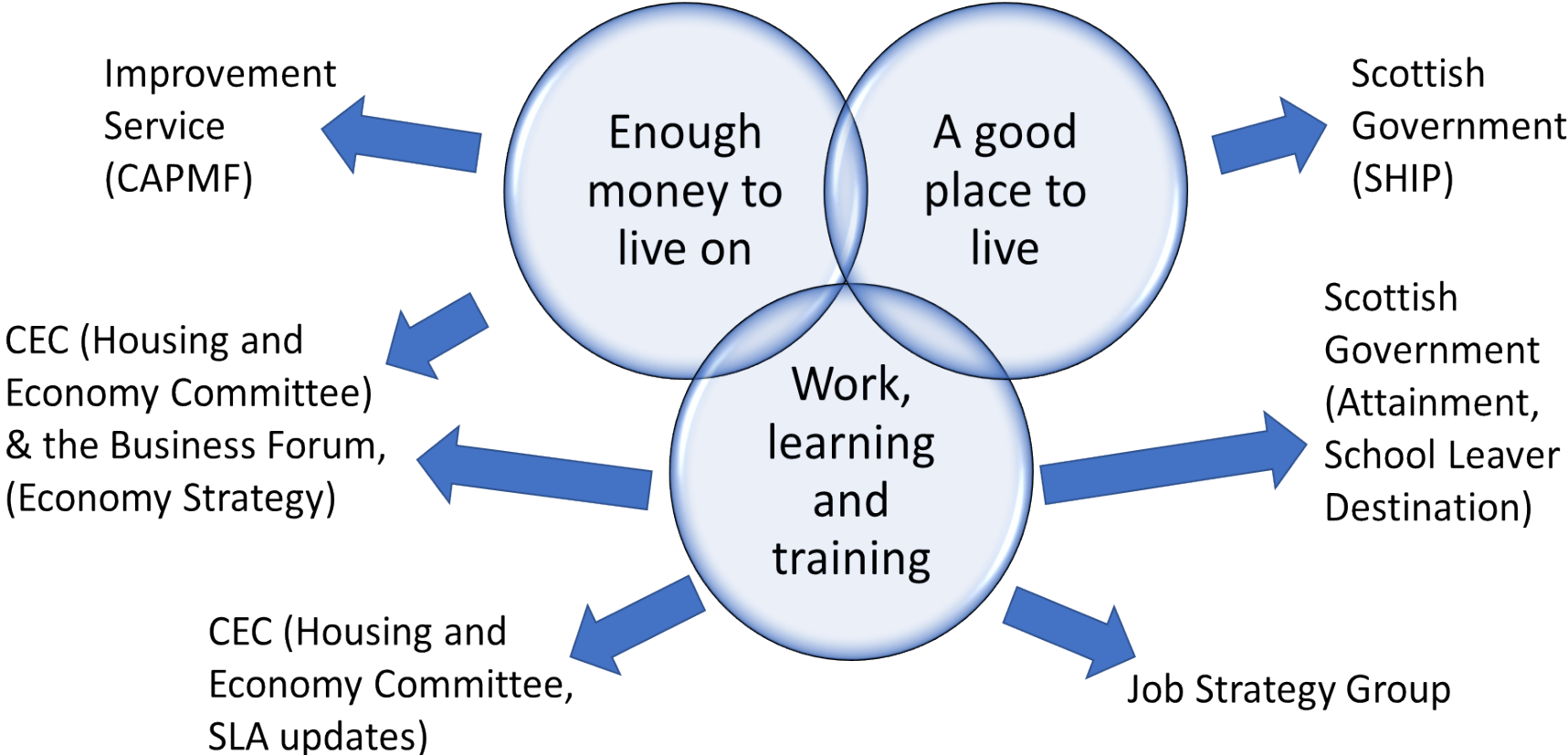
Date considered at LOIP delivery group:
Date of Edinburgh Partnership Board:
Priority theme (priority 1, 2, 3 or strategic enabler):
Lead officer:

Summary of actions completed to date

Reason for escalation to Edinburgh Partnership Board

Action required from the board

Wide Reporting Landscape



Appendix 2: Community Planning Outcome Improvement Service Profile Measures

Possible indicators from the [Improvement Service Community Planning Outcome Improvement Profile](#).

Theme	Outcomes	Measures
Early Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life, so that they have equal opportunities to succeed. • Children are safe and nurtured, and have the life skills, confidence and opportunities to reach their potential. • Young people are ready for life and work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of babies at healthy birth weight • Body Mass Index (BMI) of Primary 1 school children • S4 tariff score • Percentage of school leavers in positive and sustained destinations • Percentage of 16-19 year olds participating in learning, training or work
Older People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people are independent for longer and able to stay in their own homes as long as they wish. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency hospital admissions per 100,000 population (65+)
Employment and Economic Growth	Outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment opportunities for all. • People have satisfying, secure and suitable work. • People live in a community with a thriving, expanding economy. • People have the means to support themselves and their families with a standard of living that enables 	Measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment rate • Median earnings for residents in local authority area who are employed • Percentage of population (aged 16-64) in receipt of out-of-work benefits • Percentage of children in poverty

	<p>them to participate in society after paying all necessary bills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survival of newly-born enterprises (3 year survival)
Safer and Stronger Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live in resilient, responsible and safe communities. • People in vulnerable circumstances are protected. • Community and public understand the role/place of public services. • People feel engaged and feel they can influence their community. • People do not feel isolated or lone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of recorded crimes per 10,000 population • Total dwelling fires per 100,000 population
Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live happy and healthy lives with a healthy life expectancy. • People who need care are supported to live independently and confidently. • Positive end of lif • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mortality rates per 100,000 for people aged under 75 in Scotland • Average score on the short version of the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (SWEMWBS) • Unplanned emergency hospital attendances
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live in attractive, welcoming environments. People take pride in and look after their environment. • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon emissions per capita

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THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

Neighbourhood Networks Evaluation – 5th March 2024

1. Executive Summary

Neighbourhood Networks were established across Edinburgh in 2019 to provide a forum for partner and community engagement, largely succeeding the previous Neighbourhood Partnership model. There are thirteen Networks across the City which until April 2023 were managed through four localities. This, combined with local determination on the best way to engage, has led to differences in deployment across the City. The City of Edinburgh Council Culture and Communities Committee has now asked for an evaluation of the Neighbourhood Networks model.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Board is recommended to:

- i. Note the evaluation concerning Neighbourhood Networks requested by the Culture and Communities committee.
- ii. Agree to receive the evaluation report at the next Edinburgh Partnership Meeting following its presentation to the Culture and Communities committee.

3. Main Report

- 3.1 At its 7th December 2024 meeting, the City of Edinburgh Council Culture and Communities Committee agreed to evaluate Neighbourhood Networks, the full text of the motion can be found in Appendix 1. The motion asks for an evaluation of the current model of Neighbourhood Networks and community grant funding.
- 3.2 Neighbourhood Networks were established in 2019 following a review of the Edinburgh Partnership governance model. They build on the geographies used by the previous Neighbourhood Partnerships, comprise of thirteen neighbourhoods based on one or two Council wards, and cover the whole local authority area. Each Network was managed through one of Edinburgh's four localities and given flexibility in how it should operate based on the needs of its constituent communities. This flexibility has resulted in differing approaches and visibility across the City.
- 3.3 Through engagement sessions held as part of the governance model review, the Edinburgh Partnership identified a range of areas where NNs could bring value, including: as the centre for local community engagement, especially with regards to parts of the community which often find it difficult to engage; provide a flexible

structure to engage on both broad and specific topics; provide a forum for making decisions on small budgets for community projects; and, be responsible for sharing best practice.

- 3.4 The evaluation requested by the Culture and Communities Committee will be carried out through the first half of 2024, and Appendix 2 sets out the how this evaluation will be delivered. It will involve establishing evaluation criteria, using those criteria to provide a judgement on the success of the current model, and subsequently identify potential areas for improvement.
- 3.5 Each Neighbourhood Network has a corresponding community grants fund and the networks are engaged to make recommendations for distributing the fund. However responsibility for managing and making grant awards rests solely with City of Edinburgh Council. Therefore, the community grants element of the evaluation will developed separately from the evaluation of the Neighbourhood Network model.

4. Background

- 4.1 Edinburgh Partnership – 2 April 2019 – Item 2. Governance Engagement
- 4.2 Edinburgh Partnership – 2 April 2019 – Item 3. Governance Arrangements
- 4.3 Edinburgh Partnership – 11 June 2019 – Item 4. Governance and Resources Update

5. Contact

Michael Edwards - Community Empowerment and Engagement Officer

Andrew Field - Head of Community Empowerment & Engagement

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Culture and Communities Committee – 7 December 2023 – Item 9.4 Neighbourhood Networks

Appendix 2 – Neighbourhood Networks Evaluation – Briefing

Appendix 1 – Culture and Communities Committee – 7 December 2023 – Item 9.4 Neighbourhood Networks

By Councillor Thornley - Neighbourhood Networks

Committee notes;

1. That Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee recently received a briefing note showing that only 4 of 13 Neighbourhood Networks across the city meet regularly.
2. That Neighbourhood Networks can be complicated and inaccessible bodies for many and are frequently overly dependent upon a few key people to remain operational.
3. That Neighbourhood Networks replaced the Neighbourhood Partnership model in 2019.
4. The obligations placed upon the Council by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
5. The stated desire in the Council Business Plan 2023-27 to ‘evolve Community Councils and Neighbourhood Networks to ensure they provide communities with direct input’.
6. That in some cases, Community Grants Funding is connected to Neighbourhood Networks, but not in others.
7. That no updates are currently provided on what is supported by Community Grants Funding, what criteria are required to be met to secure funding, and there for what is being achieved within communities.
8. A review of both Neighbourhood Networks and Community Grants Funding is currently ongoing.

Therefore;

9. Requests a report, within three cycles, providing an evaluation of the current situation of our Neighbourhood Networks and Community Grants Funding, including a judgement of the success of the current model, suggestions for how community engagement could be improved, barriers to that engagement removed, processes simplified to improve accessibility and how participatory budgeting can be preserved and enhanced.

Appendix 2: Neighbourhood Network Evaluation Breifing

**Culture
Place Directorate
14 February 2024**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The City of Edinburgh Council Culture and Communities Committee at their 7th December 2024 meeting agreed a motion to evaluate the current model of Neighbourhood Networks (NNs) and community grant funding.
- 1.2 An evaluation report will therefore be presented to Culture and Communities Committee, and will look to evaluate NNs based on their purpose and available best practice. It will also identify areas for improvement and suggest ways these could be addressed.

2. Background

- 2.1 NNs were established as part of the review of Edinburgh Partnership (EP) governance arrangements in 2019, with the aim of improving community and partner engagement across the City. Their operation is overseen by the EP, and Locality Community Planning Partnerships (LCPPs) in each of the four Edinburgh localities. Each LCPP Board has a position available for NN representation from each of their constituent Networks, although these positions are not filled for all Networks.

3. Main Points

- 3.1 The evaluation report will aim to assess the current situation of NNs and include:
 - 3.1.1 a judgement of the success of the current model [Phase one]; and,
 - 3.1.2 suggestions for how community engagement could be improved, barriers to that engagement removed, processes simplified to improve accessibility [Phase two].
- 3.2 Appropriate evaluation criteria will be established to support this process and will make reference to:
 - 3.2.1 The requirements of Neighbourhood Networks laid down by the Edinburgh Partnership governance arrangements in 2019; and,
 - 3.2.2 The aims and objectives identified by the Edinburgh Partnership through their engagement in 2019, supported by nationally recognised best practice, ie. National standards for community engagement.

3.3 A range of stakeholders have been identified as having a variety of experience supporting, as members, or a role in oversight of NNs. Table 1 sets out the key stakeholder groups and their current role regarding NNs.

Table 1 – Key Stakeholders

Stakeholders	Description
NN Chairs and LCPP representatives	Community representatives with recognised positions within the NNs structure, either chairing meetings or representing the NN on the LCPP.
LCPP members	Key statutory partners, third sector partners, and elected members, who have oversight of and may have used NNs as an engagement tool for their services.
NN Membership	All community and third sector organisations operating in each neighbourhood.
Staff	City of Edinburgh Council staff who have supported engagement through NNs. Additionally, staff from partner organisations who have supported community networks will also be approached.

3.4 Phase one – Evaluation of the current model

Using questions based on the evaluation criteria each stakeholder group will be approached for feedback. Table 2 gives an overview of anticipated methods to be used with each group.

Table 2 - Data collection

Respondent Group	Method
NN Chairs and LCPP representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • NN Membership questionnaire
LCPP members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCPP Membership questionnaire
NN Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN Membership questionnaire
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus Group

3.5 Phase two – Improvements and areas for development

Following the collection of stakeholder feedback through questionnaires, interviews, and a focus group, it will be analysed in order to identify where the model has been successful and where there are areas for improvement. This process will also include information from other available sources, including NN meetings and outputs from the EVOC survey of third sector network members conducted in late 2023.

3.6 Table 3 below sets out the timeline for development, data gathering, and analysis, before the report is presented to committee in May.

Table 3 - Timeline

Milestones	Due date
Evaluation criteria developed	Mid February 2024
Key questions identified for questionnaires and in-person sessions	Mid February 2024
Online questionnaires go live	Mid February 2024
Focus group held	End of February 2024
Interviews complete	Early March 2024
Online questionnaires close	Early March 2024
Analysis complete	Mid March 2024
Evaluation report drafted	Mid March 2024
Areas for improvement identified	Late March 2024
Committee report finalised	End of March 2024
Report presented to committee	Mid May 2024

3.7 A number of risks have been identified with this work and are set out in Table 4.

Table 4 - Risks

Risks	Mitigations
Potential for confusion of oversight roles between Edinburgh Partnership and Culture and Communities committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report outlining the evaluation request from Culture and Communities Committee will be noted by the Edinburgh Partnership Board at its March meeting. • Request the Culture and Communities Committee consider any improvements are made jointly through the community planning partnership.
Short time to produce an evaluation meaning some respondents have insufficient time to take part.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise feedback from those directly involved in representing NNs at the LCPP or as a NN Chair. • Ensure the NN Membership questionnaire is issued to all NN members so all potential participants can respond.
Confusion caused by low awareness of NNs in different parts of the City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear communication on the scope and purpose of the evaluation, which does not assume prior knowledge of NNs.

4. Recommendations

4.1 To note the approach set out in the briefing with regards to the evaluation of NNs.