

# Culture and Communities Committee

10am, Tuesday, 16 March 2021

## Locality Improvement Plans

Executive/routine  
Wards  
Council Commitments

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 approves the locality improvement plans as set out in appendices 1 to 4.
- 1.2 notes the next steps in the review process set out in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.3.

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Executive Director, Place

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## Locality Improvement Plans

### 2. Executive Summary

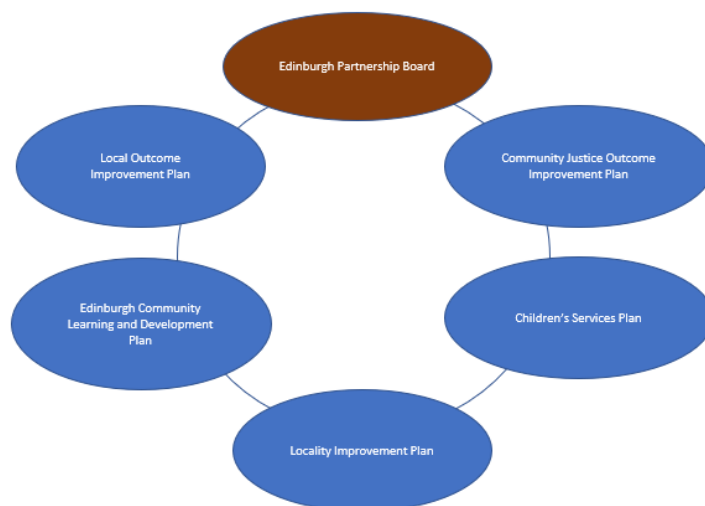
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- 2.1 Locality improvement plans are a legislative requirement of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and provide a framework for supporting the delivery of improved locality working across the city.
- 2.2 The plans were originally approved by the Culture and Communities Committee and the Edinburgh Partnership in 2017.
- 2.3 In December 2019 the Edinburgh Partnership agreed to carry out a review of the plans to address challenges identified through the annual reporting process. This review activity was paused in March 2020 as a result of the pandemic but resumed in September 2020. The revised plans were subsequently presented and agreed by the Edinburgh Partnership at its meeting in December 2020.
- 2.4 This report presents the revised plans for approval by Council, together with providing a summary of next steps in the review process.

### 3. Background

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- 3.1 Locality improvement plans are a legislative requirement of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. They are a key component of the Council and partners approach to localities working and provide a means of achieving more effective public sector integration and of strengthening the meaningful involvement of communities.
- 3.2 The locality improvement plans are one of a suite of interrelated plans that the Edinburgh Partnership, as the community planning partnership for the city, is responsible for, as set out below.



- 3.3 The locality improvement plans are designed to complement and provide a locality focus to delivering improved outcomes. As with all Partnership plans, they sit as part of a wider strategic planning framework, which includes thematic and partner plans, such as the Council Business Plan. These plans, individually and collectively, contribute to the aspiration for improving outcomes for citizens and communities in the city.
- 3.4 Under the legislation, locality planning is designed to achieve better outcomes for the individuals and communities, both of place and interest, experiencing the greatest inequality, based on an understanding of their needs, circumstances, and aspirations.
- 3.5 Edinburgh has 4 plans, one in each of the South West, South East, North West and North East localities. The first plans, agreed by Culture and Communities Committee and the Edinburgh Partnership in 2017, were produced following an extensive period of community consultation and engagement over two phases.
- 3.6 The plans set out the priorities for improving outcomes over a five-year period (2017-22) at locality and small area levels based on community intelligence drawn from a range of sources.
- 3.7 Following a review of governance and community planning arrangements by the Edinburgh Partnership, a new governance framework was agreed. This was approved by Council in November 2018. This framework established locality community planning partnerships as the body with responsibility for planning, oversight and accountability of the plans.
- 3.8 An annual progress report of the plans was considered by the Edinburgh Partnership in December 2019. The Board noted that whilst progress had been made, there were a number of challenges associated with the delivery of the plans. Significant within this was the need to focus on actions that tackle poverty and inequality through partnership working. On that basis, the Board remitted the locality community planning partnerships to review the plans.

## 4. Main report

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- 4.1 The LIPs aim to achieve better outcomes for those individuals and communities experiencing the greatest inequality through partnership working and the meaningful engagement of citizens and communities.
- 4.2 Responsibility for the development and delivery of the plans rests with each of the four the locality community planning partnerships in the city. In each partnership, working arrangements vary with the plans being delivered through a combination of small area working groups, project and/or thematic partnerships.
- 4.3 In December 2019 the Edinburgh Partnership considered an annual progress report on the locality improvement plans. Whilst progress was noted, a range of challenges were identified associated with their delivery and notably:
  - 4.3.1 The need for greater focus on actions that tackle poverty and inequality through partnership working.
  - 4.3.2 The size of the existing plans were unwieldy and included actions that were business as usual, which hindered joint working and did not place the focus on reducing poverty and inequality.
  - 4.3.3 Changes to individuals within working groups presented a challenge to the pace of progress.
  - 4.3.4 Working groups were not linked up, leading to silo working and the opportunities to address cross-cutting themes were not always identified and progressed.
  - 4.3.5 There was a need to improve links to other plans and groups to ensure a joined-up approach and reduce duplication.
  - 4.3.6 The identification of impact measures and attribution presented challenges.
- 4.4 Recognising these challenges, the Edinburgh Partnership agreed a process for reviewing the plans and their operational arrangements, as proposed by the locality community planning partnerships.
- 4.5 The principles for reviewing the plans were that the priorities should:
  - 4.5.1 Only be able to be addressed through partnership working
  - 4.5.2 Tackle poverty and inequalityThis provided the foundation for the review, with the flexibility to apply a tailored approach based on local circumstances.
- 4.6 The review of the plans started December 2019 and it was intended that the revised plans would be presented to the Edinburgh Partnership in June 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, partners were redeployed to focus on emergency activity, and the review was paused. Locality community planning partnerships were reconvened in September 2020, when discussions recommenced on the plans. To ensure that the revised priorities were reflective of the current situation, findings from the

Poverty Commission and data modelling of the negative impact of COVID-19 were used to inform the revised plans.

- 4.7 The revised plans, presented for approval in appendices 1 to 4, are now streamlined and focused. The local thematic priorities are aligned to the priorities in the city's local outcome improvement plan (2018-28) which strengthens the linkages between the community planning strategic planning framework. The plans have combined the small area plans with the locality wide actions, which responds to the needs and aspirations of communities of interest and identity as well as place.

## **5. Next Steps**

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- 5.1 The plans currently contain indicative high-level performance measures which are being aligned to the citywide performance framework agreed by the Edinburgh Partnership in 2018. Further work is underway to develop more detailed action plans to support the delivery of the local priorities. These will contain measures that are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Relevant, Time-bound). This will help to illustrate how local delivery is improving citywide outcomes by demonstrating the cumulative impact of partnership working to tackle poverty and reduce inequalities.
- 5.2 A key concern previously raised by the locality community planning partnerships was what would happen to ongoing actions that are no longer included in the plans once they are reviewed. For these actions, some are business as usual and will be included in partner service plans. Actions that require partnership activity are being collated across all of the previous plans, to enable them to be referred to other partner groupings in the city for inclusion in their own strategic and/or local plans. It is expected that this work will be completed in early 2021.
- 5.3 The Edinburgh Partnership agreed as part of the review process, for consideration to be given to the operational arrangements to support the delivery of the priorities. This work will be taken forward during 2021 and progress reported to the Edinburgh Partnership once completed.

## **6. Financial impact**

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- 6.1 The costs associated with this report are contained within existing budgets.

## **7. Stakeholder/Community Impact**

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- 7.1 The development of the locality improvement plans has been a collaborative process involving the community and partners. This commitment to partnership working will continue with the action planning and further development of the plans involving all relevant stakeholders and will be informed by the ongoing engagement of local people.

- 7.2 Locality planning activity contributes to the delivery of the Equality Act 2010 general duties of advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations.

## **8. Background reading/external references**

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- 8.1 [Culture and Communities Committee 5 December 2017.](#)

## **9. Appendices**

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- 9.1 Appendix One – Revised North West Locality Improvement Plan
- 9.2 Appendix Two – Revised North East Locality Improvement Plan
- 9.3 Appendix Three – Revised South East Locality Improvement Plan
- 9.4 Appendix Four – Revised South West Locality Improvement Plan

# North West Edinburgh

# Locality Improvement Plan 2017-2022



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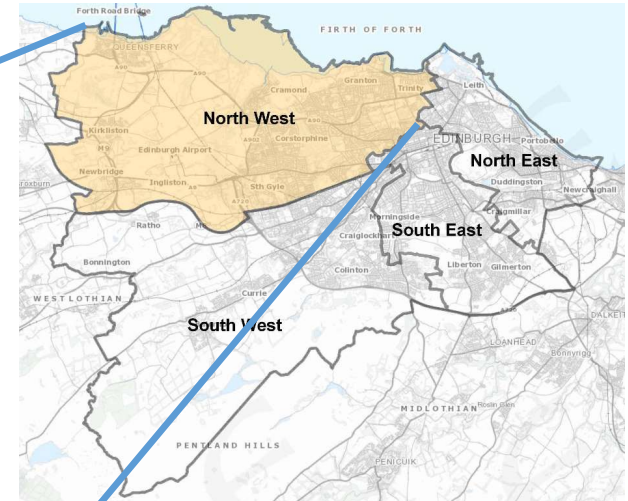
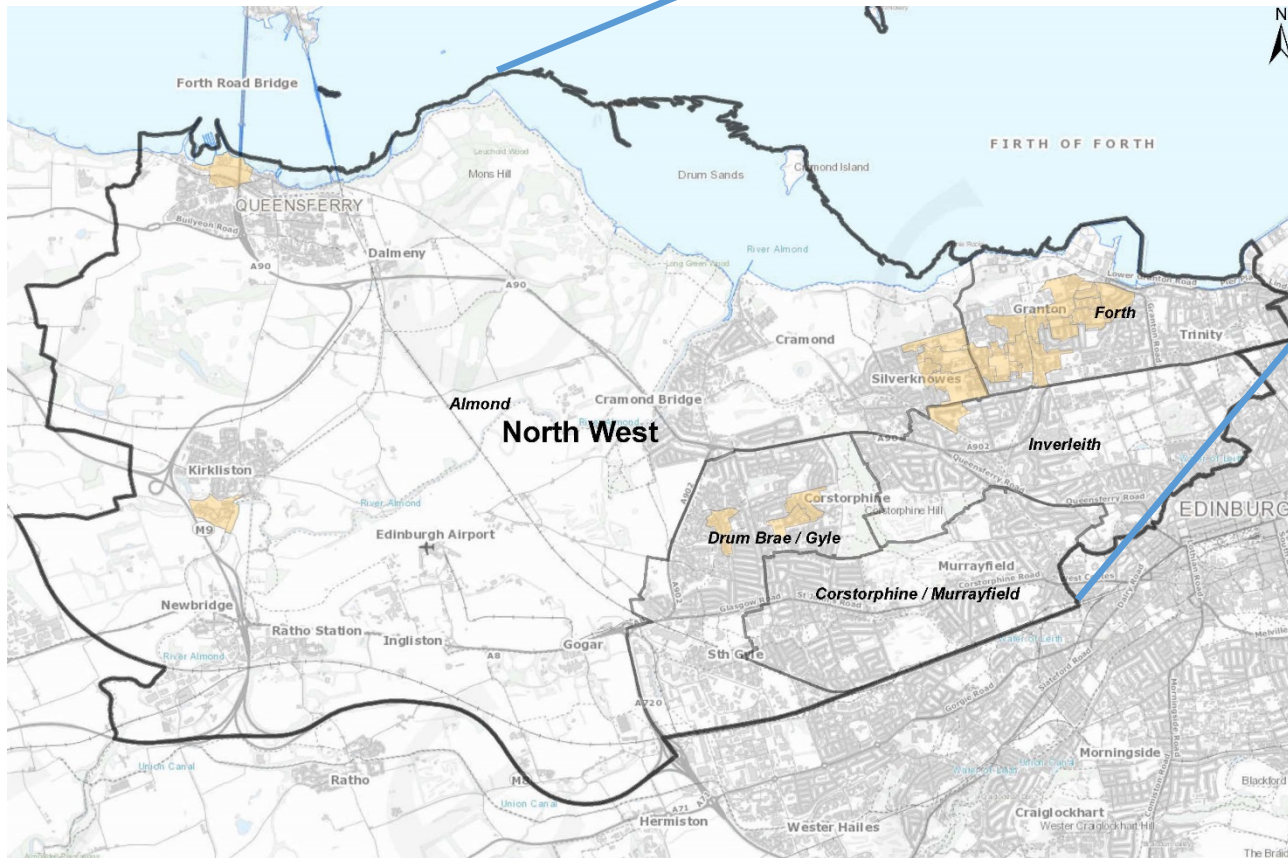




### North West locality map

- Wards**
- Almond
  - Drum Brae/Gyle
  - Corstorphine/Murrayfield
  - Forth
  - Inverleith

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- Community Council Areas**
- Leith Harbour and Newhaven
  - Trinity
  - Granton and District
  - Muirhouse Salveson
  - Silverknowes
  - Cramond and Barnton
  - Queensferry and District
  - Kirkliston
  - Ratho and District
  - Corstorphine
  - Drum Brae
  - Murrayfield
  - Craigeith/Blackhall
  - Stockbridge/Inverleith
  - Drylaw Telford
  - West Pilton West Granton



## Introduction

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We are delighted to present the revised North West Locality Improvement Plan 2017 - 2022. This builds on the successes of the first edition of the Locality Improvement Plan launched in 2017.

The key aim of this plan is to achieve better outcomes for communities and individuals across the whole of North West Edinburgh and to reduce the gap for those experiencing the greatest inequality of outcome.

The plan sets out:

- the priorities until 2022 (and potentially beyond)
- high level actions that will be carried out against the revised outcomes

In developing the first edition of the plan, we carried out a programme of community engagement in 2016/17. We spoke with communities across the locality, asking what would make the area better and looked at ways that we can strengthen the communities' voice in the decisions that matter across the locality.

By speaking with local people, we identified outcomes that will make a real difference to the lives of the people in our communities.

In 2020, it was felt that the original plans were too big and unlikely to succeed therefore the Edinburgh Partnership decided to revise the plan.

As a result, the revised plan has been reviewed and streamlined to focus on fewer priorities that will be more likely to tackle issues linked to poverty and inequality. These are identified as thorny issues and can only be achieved through partnership working. Two of the new priorities apply across the whole of North West locality and one focuses on North Edinburgh.

The plan brings our communities even closer together with our local service providers, to plan and deliver better services which meet the needs of the people who use them.

This plan is a commitment to communities within the North West locality of how we will

work with you in the most effective way across the length and breadth of the locality to address the known inequalities amongst our communities.

We will continue to take on board your views and concerns over the lifetime of the plan, review and report on progress annually, and realign priorities as needed.

The Locality Community Planning Partnership introduced in December 2019 has responsibility for the development and delivery of this plan.

Members of the North West Locality Community Planning Partnership are:

- The City of Edinburgh Council
- Police Scotland
- NHS Lothian
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Skills Development Scotland
- Third Sector
- Edinburgh College
- Neighbourhood Network (one representative from each Network)



## Context

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Community Planning is the process by which councils and other public bodies work with local people, businesses and voluntary groups to plan and deliver better services to improve the lives of people who live in their community. It is about reducing the outcome gap for those experiencing the greatest inequality, taking a preventative approach.

In Edinburgh, the city's community planning partnership where community, public and third sector come together is collectively known as the Edinburgh Partnership.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the Edinburgh Partnership to develop and deliver a Local Outcome Improvement Plan for the city and individual Locality Improvement Plans for those areas that are experiencing the greatest inequality.

The [\(Edinburgh\) Local Outcome Improvement Plan or Community Plan 2018-28](#) has three priority themes:

'enough money to live on', 'access to work, learning and training opportunities' and 'a good place to live'. This is a ten-year plan with outcomes that can only be tackled through partnership working.

The first edition of the North West Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was subject to annual performance reviews. In 2018 it was identified that whilst there has been progress made to deliver the priorities in the plan, there were significant challenges that needed to be addressed including:

- The breadth of outcomes in the plan resulted in an extensive range and number of actions
- Many of the actions were 'business as usual' activity and not additional or collaborative
- There was mixed levels of understanding and expectation of the purpose of the plan – being viewed as a place to capture all locality activity and not specifically that which tackles poverty and

inequality, leading to dilution of impact and ineffective targeting of resources

- Structuring the priorities around five themes and multiple small areas has led to a lack of addressing the needs of those experiencing greatest inequality and is difficult to manage operationally and administratively.

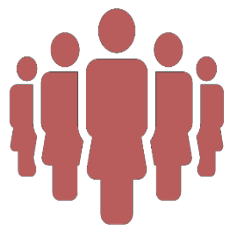
Considering this, a review of the current North West Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was undertaken in 2020, looking at the outcomes contained in the plan, assessing them against three criteria – does it tackle poverty and inequality, is it a thorny issue; and can it only be achieved through partnership working.

From this, a revised set of priorities have been identified that delivery will be focussed on for the remaining lifetime of the plan. These priorities are aligned to the three themes in the Community Plan 2018-28 and shown in later sections of this document.

## North West locality

### The locality – geography and people

The locality stretches east from South Queensferry along the shoreline through Cramond, Barnton, Granton and Trinity and moves south to Warriston, then west along the northern reaches of the new town including Stockbridge, and continues through Roseburn, Murrayfield, Corstorphine and past the Airport to Ratho Station and onto Kirkliston (and all communities in between).



**Population**  
**145,450**

Across the locality, there are areas of high affluence as well as, primarily in the Forth ward, those which are amongst the most deprived in the city.

The North West locality faces a number of key challenges in the coming years. It is expected to see the largest population growth in Edinburgh by 2022 by as much

as 10% (around 14,000). This will put additional pressure on primary and secondary schools as well as housing and other key services such as NHS primary care.

Alongside wider housing developments, the North West will see the greatest level of social and affordable housing investment across the city, with around 870 expected to be completed during the life of the LIP.

Health services also face significant challenges with an ageing population. The North West has more people aged over 65 years than any other locality. Lifestyle choices also place increasing demands on all services. We know that almost 42% of people in the North West have not engaged in any exercise when surveyed. This alone will impact longer term on services.

In addition to those issues affecting the whole of the North West, the areas of Muirhouse, Wester Drylaw, West Pilton, Granton, Royston and Wardieburn (collectively known as North Edinburgh)

also have significant social and economic challenges. North West has the highest percentage of under 16s compared to the other three localities, with the Forth Ward having the second highest rate of child poverty at 34% compared to the rest of the city.



**26,457**  
**children**  
**under 16**



**25,147**  
**people over 65**

North Edinburgh has the second lowest average household income in Edinburgh, 30% of children live in households in relative poverty. Of those deemed 'economically inactive' across the locality, 26% live here and Muirhouse is currently ranked as one



of the top ten most-deprived areas in Scotland. It also has the highest concentrations of benefits dependency.

## Involving our communities

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The recent global Coronavirus pandemic has provided a clear picture of how quickly there was a move to supporting our most vulnerable members of our communities.

Whilst the virus itself did not discriminate, those who might normally experience inequality and/or poverty appeared most likely to suffer the lockdown conditions and lack of access to basic needs. These people immediately became the focus of attention for those communities and groups around them.

This plan must build on that experience, it's our communities that can help identify the solutions and quickly help put action in place.

The NW Locality Community Planning Partnership therefore recognises that no

single organisation or group has 'ownership' of poverty and inequality, no single entity will help alleviate these issues, it must be a united approach.

All of the partners involved with the NW Locality Community Planning Partnership are fully committed to **putting people at the heart** of the overall process and we will:

- **work together** with the community and partners
- **involve** everyone in ways that meets the needs of all
- **listen** to and **act** on needs, issues and ideas
- **develop** new and better ways of doing things, especially to grow opportunities for more people to engage and influence outcomes.

It is recognised that people from all backgrounds engage with community life through community councils, school parent/teacher associations, community centres, volunteering, carers, uniformed children and young people's services, tenants' groups, residents' groups, friends of parks, organisation committees and boards, even those simply attending events or activities or taking the time to get involved with surveys or online feedback. It is vital that we build on this and find more ways to engage with more people throughout the life of the plan to help shape the future of the locality.

In 2019, the Edinburgh Partnership established 13 Neighbourhood Networks across the City, bringing those communities and organisations together to promote discussion on issues of shared interest. The Networks are the



route to which communities influence the Plan and work with partners to develop appropriate responses for their neighbourhoods. Each Network has a place at the Locality Community Planning Partnership.

There are 4 Neighbourhood Networks in the North West: Almond, Forth, Inverleith and Western Edinburgh.

For information on how to get involved, or to find out how to join a community group please get in touch with us at [northwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:northwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## The revised outcomes

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Under each theme, we have set out the outcomes, high level actions and possible ways to measure progress. Each of the outcomes is also aligned to the three priority areas of the Community Plan.

### Theme 1 – locality-wide - Social Isolation

Many residents across the NW locality suffer from complete or near-complete lack of contact with services and society. Similarly, there are people suffering from loneliness, reflecting a temporary and involuntary lack of contact with other people. Both can greatly impact on health and wellbeing and can affect people of all ages.

By understanding specific needs and putting in place improved networks and social interactions we hope to minimise the numbers of people requiring professional healthcare, freeing up valuable resources and improving the quality of life for those individuals.

### Lead Partners include:

Health & Social Care Partnership, Neighbourhood Networks, Voluntary Sector Forums, Voluntary Organisations, Council Wider Achievement Service, Council Community Engagement & Empowerment Service



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	Community Plan Priority
<p>Vulnerable members of our communities will feel less isolated and more engaged with community life and key organisations, helping improve mental and physical wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify vulnerable people building in work done during Covid pandemic supplemented by a local survey</li> <li>• Build on the recent Covid community resilience activity, rather than statutory/clinical interventions or services</li> <li>• Develop and promote a wide range of activities promoting mental and physical health and wellbeing targeted to those most at risk of social isolation</li> <li>• Support vulnerable people to access available benefits and entitlements</li> </ul>	<p>Increase in social contact from baseline (established by survey/Covid activity)</p> <p>Reduction in relevant Health &amp; Social Care Partnership caseloads</p> <p>Reduction in hospital admissions</p> <p>Activity data from community / vol orgs</p> <p>Increase in benefit take up</p>	<p>A good place to live</p> <p>Enough money to live on</p>



## Theme 2 – locality-wide - Employment & Skills

Transition from school to further education or employment can be challenging for many young people. However, for some, this transition may be traumatic based on life experience to date.

Young people might not engage with formal education or informal learning for a number of reasons e.g. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), negative external influences, mental or physical health issues. Therefore a range of barriers must be overcome before there is any likelihood of achieving a positive destination.

Creative approaches can help develop key life skills, supporting access to education, training and employment.

These approaches can be adapted to help improve people of all age groups access education, training and employment.

## Lead Partners include

Head teachers, MCR Pathways co-ordinator, Edinburgh College, Business Growth & Inclusion, Skills Development Scotland, No One Left Behind Hub, Community Renewal, DYW (Developing Young Workforce), Council Business Growth & Inclusion, Adult Education/Youth Work/Libraries services

Outcome	High level actions	Measure	Community Plan Priority
Work with key partners to ensure that pupils and students (especially those most likely to experience negative destinations) and the wider community are equipped with suitable life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support schools to develop life skills/similar programmes suitable for each cluster</li> <li>Develop flexible training/taster sessions with employers for young people and wider community</li> </ul>	PEF spend  MCR programme outcomes  Local employers employing local people/school leavers	Access to work, learning and training opportunities



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	Community Plan Priority
<p>skills, to make informed choices about their futures and be better prepared for existing and emerging labour markets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop suite of options for school leavers – including Edinburgh College, volunteering etc</li> <li>• Develop partnership approach to supporting pupils placed on reduced timetables</li> <li>• Develop North Edinburgh comms app as community database for available jobs/training/volunteering</li> <li>• Maximise local employment opportunities e.g. Waterfront, including social enterprise space/community benefits</li> <li>• Develop local “Jobs Fairs”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Range of relevant education indicators comparing NW to city averages</li> <li>• Employment rates/workless households</li> </ul>	



### Theme 3 – North Edinburgh

Within the North West locality, North Edinburgh is recognised as the area where numbers of people experiencing poverty and greater inequality of outcome exceeds that of other areas.

Communities and organisations can build on recent experiences of joint working to identify robust plans that can help tackle existing poverty levels. Similarly, communities must be afforded access to service provision and experiences that will help alleviate inequality.

The communities and organisation in North must be at the heart of the development of these plans and initiatives.

North Edinburgh includes: - West Pilton, Granton, Royston/Wardieburn, Wester Drylaw & Muirhouse and parts of Drylaw

### Lead Partners include

Council Community Engagement and Empowerment staff, Forth & Almond Neighbourhood Networks, Drylaw/Telford Community Council, Emerging North Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' collective/Forth & Inverleith Voluntary Sector Forum, Edinburgh College, Edinburgh Poverty Commission

Outcome	High level actions	Measure	Community Plan Priority
Develop a robust mechanism for engaging with the community to articulate and develop plans to combat poverty and inequality in North Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish representational sub group of Forth and Almond NNs and key service partners</li> <li>Away-day to agree broad priorities/action plan in line with Edinburgh Partnership agreed criteria</li> <li>Wherever possible, link agreed priorities and actions to recommendations from the Edinburgh Poverty Commission.</li> </ul>	<p>Local satisfaction and engagement surveys (to be developed)</p> <p>SIMD ranking</p>	All three



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	Community Plan Priority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver North Edinburgh comms platform in conjunction with Edinburgh college and link with Edinburgh Partnership’s emerging Community Engagement and Communications Strategies</li> </ul>	Reduction of % in poverty  Reduction in child poverty  Attainment levels  Employment rates/workless households  Life expectancy	



## How we will measure success

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The revised outcomes include a description of high-level actions and possible measures. This will be supported by workplans which set out detailed actions, timescales and the key measures that will demonstrate how change is taking place across each outcome.

Regular progress reports will be presented to the NW Locality Community Planning Partnership for further scrutiny and approval. An Annual Progress Report will be produced for the Edinburgh Partnership and partners' governance bodies indicating progress on delivering the outcomes in the plan.

The core principles and methods for monitoring progress and performance reporting are set out as follows:

### Principles

#### 1 Easy to access and understand

Information on how each outcome is progressing needs to be readily available, regularly maintained, clearly laid out and free of jargon.

#### 2 Focused on outcomes as well as outputs

The aim of monitoring information is to measure the difference made to local people and communities and not just changes made to services.

#### 3 Alignment with other strategic aims

The partners' progress towards achieving the outcomes must be consistent with their own established strategic aims. This is to ensure that the services are working towards clearly aligned goals and are monitoring their work in a consistent way.

### Methods

#### 1 Regular progress reports

Reports will provide detail of progress towards achieving the outcomes. They could include actions, key performance indicators, case studies and customer research to give a balanced view on progress. These reports will form the basis for the Annual Progress Report.

#### 2 Annual Progress Report

Progress in achieving the outcomes will be reported annually to Council Committee and partner governance bodies.

#### 3 Workplans

Working documents developed by the partners to assist delivery of the outcomes.

## Further information and contacts

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### Key contacts

Further information about this plan is available by contacting the North West locality team:

- email [northwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:northwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)
- telephone 0131 529 5050 and ask to speak to the Locality Manager or the Lifelong Learning Service Manager.

### Links to strategies and plans

The Locality Improvement Plan links with a range of existing strategies including:

#### The City of Edinburgh Council

- [Business Plan](#)
- [Local Development Plan](#)

#### Edinburgh Partnership

- [Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-22](#)
- [Children's Services Plan](#)
- Community Learning and Development Plan [need link]
- Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan [link]

#### NHS Lothian

[NHS Lothian Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024](#)

#### Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

[Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan 2019-22](#)

#### Police Scotland

[Strategic Police Plans](#)

#### Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

[Strategic and Local Fire and Rescue Plans for Scotland East](#)

#### Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council and Volunteer Centre Edinburgh

[Everybody's Edinburgh](#)



## **Equalities statement**

Locality Improvement Plans set out our commitment to promoting equality and diversity. An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) have been carried out, enabling all partners to meet their legal duties to consider equality, human rights, sustainability and the environment. The assessments ensure that the planned services and policies promote equality of opportunity, eliminate discrimination and harassment, and promote good relations between those with protected characteristics and those with none. They also allow broader inequalities to be addressed, ensuring that the needs of all people are met.

For further information or to view a copy of the assessments please contact: [northwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:northwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)

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# North East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-2022





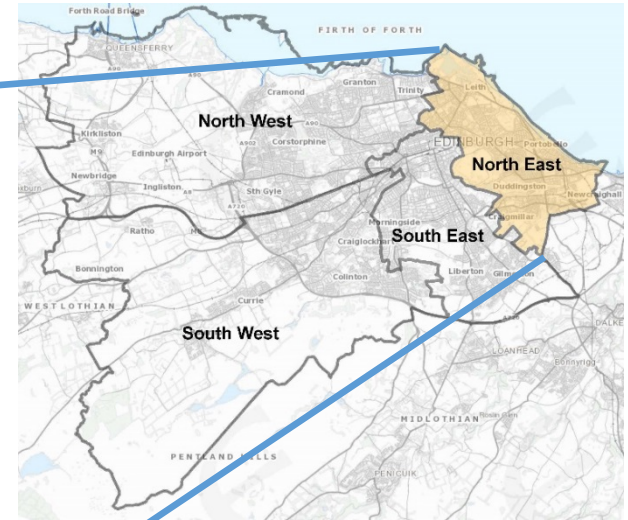
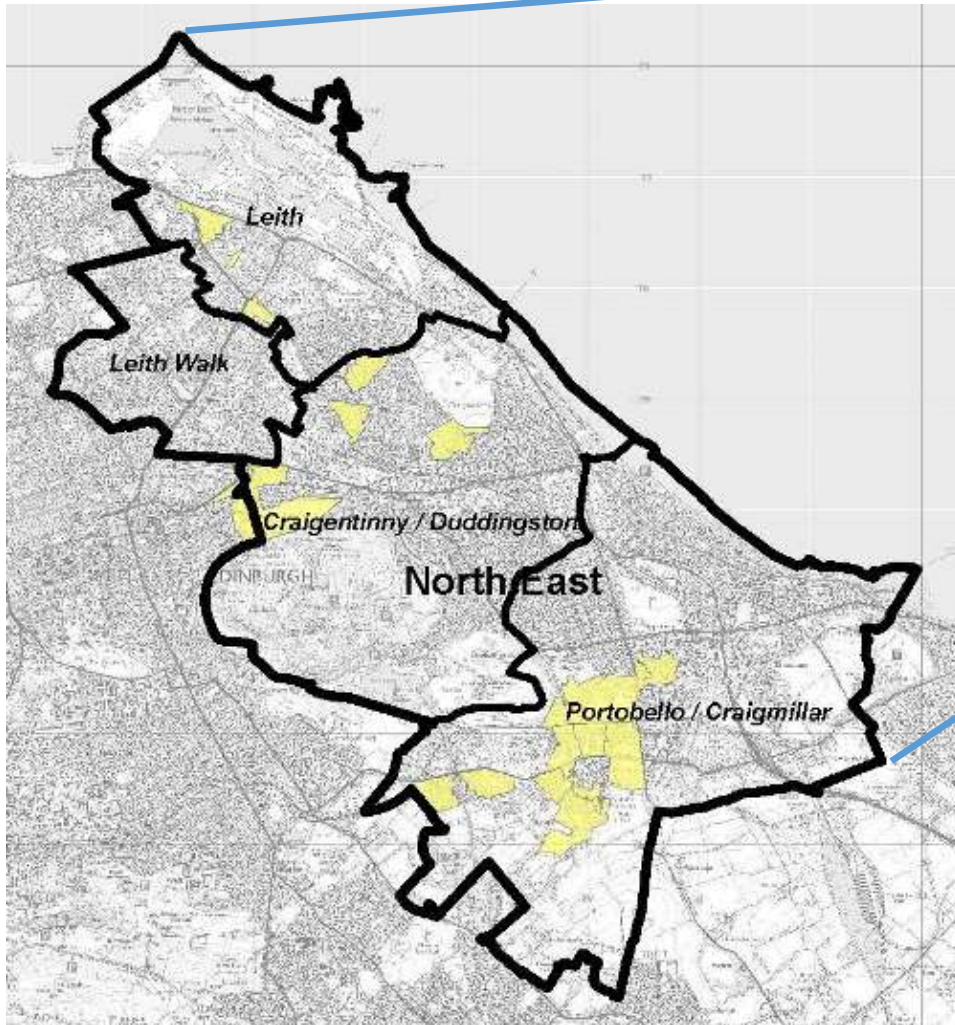
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### North East locality map



- Community Council Areas**
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  - Leith Links
  - Leith Central
  - New Town and Broughton
  - Craigentenny/Meadowbank
  - Northfield Willowbrae
  - Craigmillar
  - Portobello
  - Old Town

- Wards**
- Leith
  - Leith Walk
  - Craigentenny/Duddingston
  - Portobello/Craigmillar

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## Introduction

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### Welcome from the North East Locality Community Planning Partnership.

We are delighted to present the revised North East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017 - 2022. This builds on the current successes of the first edition of the Locality Improvement Plan launched in 2017.

This plan will continue to help those people who are in greatest need and focuses on how we can help prevent issues or get involved to help resolve them.

It sets out:

- the priorities for improving the area until 2022
- high level actions that will be carried out
- our commitment to target our shared resources in the most effective way to tackle inequality.

In developing the first edition of the plan, we asked local people across the locality, as well as within smaller targeted areas,

what would make the area better and what would we need to do to achieve this. This allowed us to identify the outcomes and priorities that will make a real difference to the lives of the people in the locality.

In early 2020, we decided to revise the plan, looking at what has been achieved to date and what our communities have told us so far during the delivery of the plan. The plan was streamlined to focus on less priorities and only on those that will truly tackle poverty and inequality, those that have been identified as thorny issues in our communities and can only be achieved through partnership working.

During that time of revision, the world was faced with a global pandemic. COVID-19 has negatively impacted all communities in different ways, through loss of income and jobs, lack of opportunities for young people, increased health inequalities and exacerbated the poverty gap that was already apparent in North East Edinburgh.

The priorities in this plan have now been considered alongside what we know so far about how this pandemic has affected our communities. We have taken data from partners showing where focus is required for the city's recovery and aligned our priorities to where we feel we can truly achieve better outcomes for the citizens of North East Edinburgh.

The Locality Community Planning Partnership has responsibility for the development and delivery of the plan.

Members of the North East Locality Community Planning Partnership are:

- The City of Edinburgh Council
- Police Scotland
- NHS Lothian
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- University of Edinburgh
- Skills Development Scotland
- Third Sector
- Neighbourhood Networks



## Context

Community planning is the process by which councils and other public bodies work with local people, businesses and voluntary groups to plan and deliver better services to improve the lives of people who live in their community. It is about reducing the outcome gap for those experiencing the greatest inequality, taking a preventative approach.

In Edinburgh, the city's community planning partnership where community, public and third sector come together is collectively known as the Edinburgh Partnership.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the Edinburgh Partnership to develop and deliver a Local Outcome Improvement Plan for the city and individual Locality Improvement Plans for those areas that are experiencing the greatest inequality.

The Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-28 has three priority themes: 'enough money to live on', 'access to work, learning and training opportunities' and 'a good place to live'. This is a ten-year plan with outcomes that can only be tackled through partnership working.

The first edition of the North East Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was subject to annual performance reviews. In 2018 it was identified that whilst there has been progress made to deliver the priorities in the plan, there were significant challenges that need to be addressed including:

- The breadth of outcomes in the plan had resulted in an extensive range and number of actions
- Many of the actions were 'business as usual' activity and not additional or collaborative
- There was mixed levels of understanding and expectation of the purpose of the plan – being viewed as a place to capture all locality activity and not specifically that which tackles poverty and inequality, which led to dilution of impact and ineffective targeting of resources
- Structuring the priorities around five themes and multiple small areas had led to a lack of addressing the needs of those experiencing greatest inequality and was difficult to manage operationally and administratively.

Considering this, a review of the current North East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was undertaken in 2020, looking at the outcomes contained in the plan, and assessing them against three criteria – does it tackle poverty and inequality, is it a thorny issue; and can it only be achieved through partnership working.

The priorities have then been reconsidered against the backdrop of COVID-19. Data and local intelligence have been used to understand what the short, medium- and long-term negative impacts of this pandemic will be, and how this will affect the lives of people living in North East Edinburgh.

A revised set of priorities have been identified which will provide partners with a focus for delivery for the remaining lifetime of the Plan. These priorities have sought to reframe the outstanding commitments included in the first edition of the Plan to ensure a more targeted approach, whilst recognising the challenges presented by the pandemic.



## North East locality

The North East locality is an extremely diverse community of different age groups, ethnic backgrounds, housing and living standards and varying levels of employment, health and income.

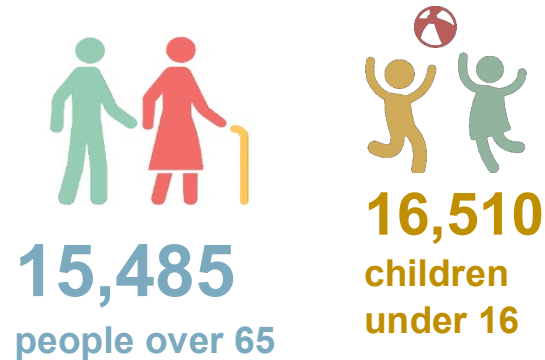


The locality has the highest levels of child poverty rates (30%) compared to the other three localities in Edinburgh.

20.5% of North East residents have no qualifications. This is higher than the other three localities and includes Portobello & Craigmillar Ward (27.9%) and Craightinny & Duddingston Ward (24.5%)

North East has the lowest life expectancy figures for both males (76) and females (81). In the North East locality 75.5% of residents do not participate in any sport and 43%

undertake no exercise on a weekly basis.



The North East locality will face a number of opportunities and challenges in the coming years.

### Opportunities

- major regeneration projects, including the St James Quarter, the Waterfront, and Edinburgh BioQuarter
- large student housing growth
- extension of the trams to Newhaven
- new models of collaborative working e.g. Community Renewal: Lifting Neighbourhoods Together project

### Challenges

- large numbers of adults without qualifications, leading to higher levels of unemployment
- projected to be the second fastest growing locality with 9% growth by 2022 mainly focussed in Leith and Craigmillar
- lowest rate of owner-occupation (53%) combined with a high rate of tenement properties (75%)
- highest percentage of people with long-term health problems that limit day-to-day activity

The challenges experienced across the locality have been exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19, with those already experiencing higher levels of poverty or inequality hardest hit. Additional pressures caused by loss of work, furlough, isolation and reduced income have led to increasing hardship for those most in need, with longer term health and economic impacts expected to compound the position even further.



## Involving our communities

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We are committed to having meaningful conversations with the diverse communities and groups that make up the North East locality about the services that are important to them.

To inform the first version of the plan, we listened to a wide range of people, taking the conversations to where people were in the locality and recognising the importance of continuing to engage with people as we moved forwards to deliver the priorities.

The COVID-19 pandemic has seen an unprecedented response from neighbours, organisations and services, both nationally and locally, in support of the most vulnerable members in our communities. There has been an increase in volunteering and collaboration across services and networks, forging new connections and involving local people to meet emerging need borne out of the crisis.

This plan seeks to build on those gains, to lock them in and harness the energy, partnership working and local involvement in order to maximise future benefits for our communities.

Partners in the North East Locality are committed to continuing to involve local people and to have meaningful conversations with the diverse communities and groups in our communities about the services that are important to them.

It is clear when we talk with local people that they are also having conversations about what is important to them and what they want to see happen in their locality through other forums. We are using the feedback that has been collected through various engagement and consultation exercises to help shape this plan, such as Edinburgh Poverty Commission and City Vision 2050.

The plan has an impact on our communities and so input and feedback from you is vital to ensure the plan is shaped to deliver what it can for the benefit of the people in our community. We want local people to get involved and feel part of the delivery of the actions in the plan.

In 2019, the Edinburgh Partnership established 13 neighbourhood networks across the city, bringing communities

together to promote dialogue and discussion on issues of shared interest. The networks are one route to which communities influence the plan and work with partners to develop appropriate responses for their neighbourhoods.

Network membership comprises community bodies, elected members for the relevant wards and third sector organisations. Community bodies include those such as community councils, tenants' organisations, Friends of Parks groups, parent councils, community trusts and any other community group that reflects the diversity and demographic make-up of each area. The wide membership ensures that those communities experiencing the greatest inequality are represented.

There are three neighbourhood networks in the North East: Craightinny/Duddingston, Leith and Portobello/Craigmillar.

For information on how to get involved, or to find out how to join a local community group, please get in touch with us at [northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## The revised priorities

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Under each theme, we have set out the outcomes, high level actions and possible measures. The measures provide an indication of what may be possible in measuring progress.

These measures, along with outputs, timescales and resources to deliver the actions and achieve better outcomes are set out in accompanying work plans.

Each of the outcomes is also aligned to one of the three priority areas of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).

### ***Theme 1 – Provide targeted support and early interventions for young people and their families who are most in need in order to improve their access to opportunities which lead to positive destinations and help to maximise income***

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought further challenges to an already complicated jigsaw of income for many families due to low pay, insecure work, the gig economy and changes to the benefit system. Young people have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic with those under 25 more likely to be furloughed or to lose their job.

It has been proven that young people who suffer from a period of inactivity after leaving school go on to suffer from longer periods of unemployment and poorer mental health in later years. This has a direct impact on services such as

social work, health, criminal justice and the benefit system in future years.

Through the realignment of priorities and actions in the updated North East Locality Improvement Plan, partners will be encouraged to work together to ensure that residents and families are signposted and supported to access the relevant information, advice and provision to allow them to make informed choices and work towards more positive employment and lifestyle outcomes.

There is additional focus on interventions for young people, and through making the most of current Scottish Government

strategies such as Developing Young Workforce, No One Left Behind and Every Child, Every Chance, services will be developed in partnership with the community to ensure that they are relevant and effective, especially as a result of the inequalities highlighted by the covid-19 pandemic.

**Lead** – City of Edinburgh Council  
Business Growth & Inclusion

**Partners** include – Skills Development Scotland, other Council Service areas, Developing Young Workforce, NHS Lothian, third sector employability and support organisations.

Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
Young people and their families who are most in need feel supported to access opportunities leading to positive destinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver capacity building sessions for frontline staff to allow them to be able to signpost vulnerable people to relevant support and early intervention services</li> <li>• Identify barriers that prevent young people from participating fully in their communities through a themed Youth Talk approach and work with partners and service providers to remove or reduce those barriers in order to provide additional support and early intervention</li> <li>• Develop a programme of virtual or actual Jobs and Opportunity Events to increase awareness of local organisations, training and employment opportunities</li> <li>• Employability and sector-based training will be offered locally</li> </ul>	<p>Improve the confidence of frontline staff in signposting families to relevant services</p> <p>Increase in young people accessing post school employment &amp; training opportunities</p>	<p>Enough money to live on</p> <p>Access to work, learning &amp; training opportunities</p>
Increased positive destinations for every school leaver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide locally accessible and targeted employability support in areas of most need</li> <li>• Every school leaver will have the pathway to progress to a positive destination</li> </ul>	<p>Increase the number of young people securing positive destinations</p>	<p>Enough money to live on</p> <p>Access to work, learning &amp; training opportunities</p>





## **Theme 2 - Enable access to health and wellbeing opportunities, activities & social networks for people who are vulnerable and in poverty in order to restore, maintain or improve their quality of life and social connectedness**

Our priority outcomes for improving health and wellbeing in the North East locality will help make sure that everyone living and working here can benefit from a broad range of activities and support to improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing and prevent poor health in the future.

We know that social isolation and loneliness have a very significant impact on health.<sup>1</sup> The COVID-19 pandemic has

shown us more than ever the importance of connection and community. We also know that not everybody is able to benefit equitably from available health and wellbeing support.

Together with people who live and work in the area, we will continue to build on activities, services and networks that promote social connectedness, recognising that these social connections contribute to people's quality of life, health, safety, economy and wellbeing in the neighbourhoods where they live.

We will learn from the diverse experience of local people, and our collective response to the COVID19 pandemic, in order to reduce barriers to health and wellbeing support for people who are vulnerable.

**Lead** – Health & Social Care Partnership

**Partners** include – All public sector services, general practice and particularly community and third sector organisations and networks.

<sup>1</sup> Scottish Public Health Network, 2017. *Social Isolation & Loneliness: What is the scope for Public*

*Health Action?* Available at <https://www.scotphn.net/wp->

[content/uploads/2017/05/2017\\_05\\_16-Loneliness-Scoping-Note-Final-formatted.pdf](content/uploads/2017/05/2017_05_16-Loneliness-Scoping-Note-Final-formatted.pdf)



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
<p>Reduced loneliness and social isolation</p> <p>Improved access to health and wellbeing support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map community resources for health and wellbeing and implement a strategy for keeping that information, including information on community assets, up-to-date and accessible, in order to inform people who live and work in the area about them</li> <li>• Work with local people, and statutory and non-statutory partners to identify the needs of vulnerable groups and those barriers which may prevent them from accessing support, and put in place potential solutions that build on what's already available</li> <li>• Partner with local people to better understand their experiences of using existing support services through a variety of techniques such as data, stories, action learning and co-design.</li> </ul>	<p>Feedback from the community through people's stories, community participatory activity</p>	<p>A good place to live</p>



### **Theme 3 – Support and strengthen communities where poverty is highest to improve and maintain inclusive, safe and welcoming places to live.**

The places where people live, their connections with others within those local communities and the extent to which they can influence the decisions that shape those spaces, all have a significant impact on their health, wellbeing and quality of life. Community participation is at the heart of this and almost ten years on from the Christie Commission findings, there is potentially a greater opportunity than previously felt to work in partnership with our communities to create good places to live. To build on the collaboration, local action and involvement that has seen neighbours, organisations and partners respond so positively to the challenges posed from coronavirus.

Partners have identified the importance of delivering improvements where engagement activities have already been undertaken with local residents to identify key areas for change and these actions have been reflected in this priority.

There is also recognition of the importance of keeping people safe, both at an individual level and community level, and the impact that this has on poverty, equality and life chances. Tackling hate crime and domestic abuse have been prioritised as key concerns which lead to poor mental health and physical harm, reduced income and poverty for families. The pandemic has

further potential to increase the pressure already felt by victims from isolation and reduced confidence, leading to greater inequality.

**Lead-** Council Housing Service/ Police Scotland

**Partners include-** Neighbourhood Networks, North East Voluntary Sector Forum, Community Councils, Health & Social Care Partnership, Council Community Engagement & Empowerment staff, community and third sector organisations



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
<p>People living in targeted areas of higher need feel that they have a say on local issues and that developments better reflect their needs</p> <p>More sustainable local communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and deliver environmental and quality of life improvements and opportunities for residents living in North Cairntow working jointly with members of the gypsy travelling community</li> <li>• Develop and deliver a range of environmental improvements in Northfield through engaging with local stakeholders and residents to improve the area as an inclusive, safe and welcoming place to live</li> <li>• Deliver identified improvements in Magdalene as described in the Magdalene Matters Action Plan</li> <li>• Support partnership approaches to community growing initiatives across the locality</li> </ul>	<p>Increase in positive feedback from the local residents of North Cairntow, Northfield and Magdalene</p> <p>Increase the number of formal/ informal growing sites</p>	<p>A good place to live</p>
<p>People feel safer living in their local community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver domestic abuse &amp; coercive control awareness training to targeted groups of staff</li> <li>• Work with community groups, registered social landlord's, Community Councils and third sector organisations to divert people away from anti-social behaviour and use all available legislation to tackle the most persistent offenders</li> <li>• Work together to tackle hate crime and intolerance through building stronger relationships across communities to encourage reporting of hate crime and support/ promote cultural diversity.</li> </ul>	<p>Improve on the number of reported ASB incidents</p> <p>Improve on the rate of hate crime reporting</p>	<p>A good place to live</p>

## Case study examples

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### **Magdalene Matters**

Magdalene Matters is a community-led environmental improvement initiative which began with an estate walkabout with local people to raise issues and concerns. In March 2018, 80 residents, community organisations and stakeholders gathered at a public engagement event to identify their key priorities and to work together with partners and elected members to agree solutions to tackle the issues.

A Magdalene Matters Improvement Plan was developed as a result, with key actions addressing concerns of community safety, housing and environment improvements and community identity. Partners have taken forward a range of improvement actions over the last 18 months including:

- housing drop-in sessions for tenants and owners to help shape a housing improvement feasibility study for Magdalene Drive and Gardens
- structural survey on the properties
- Week of Action in Magdalene and Bingham with partners and the community
- Environmental Visual Audit to identify required environmental improvements
- bespoke litter, flytipping and dog fouling campaign
- community benefit projects such as wildflower meadow planting
- increased flytipping removal by concierge officers
- community litter picks
- community safety survey by police with warrants executed
- Police Scotland initiative with local primary schoolchildren to design and issue mock parking tickets to those parking inconsiderately in the school vicinity
- updates provided to stakeholders and local community through Portobello & Craigmillar Neighbourhood Partnership meetings
- Magdalene Matters Newsletter
- local drop-in surgeries held by Neighbourhood Alliance
- development of a local community-led group to oversee the improvements- the Magdalene Matters Action Group

## North Cairntow

Officers and partners have worked closely with the local gypsy travelling community at the North Cairntow site in Craigmillar to improve the quality of life for local residents. A wide range of actions have been developed with the full involvement of local residents through a newly established Tenants and Residents Group. Housing improvements are currently being actioned following the completion of a feasibility study with the commissioning of an architect to support the community to co-design the site modernisation work. A business case for future Capital Investment has also been presented to cover the cost of the planned programme of improvement works.

In response to identified community need, an on-site hub was developed with an events programme that includes literacy, art and income maximisation workshops. One of the initiatives involved the Lifelong Learning Service working in partnership with MECOPP (Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project) who have developed strong links with the gypsy traveller's community on site to deliver a tinsmithing art project. Several workshops were held at the hub attracting younger and older members of the community who produced artwork using traditional skills whilst connecting across the generations.

Other developments have included the provision of health screening for residents and support for an NHS immunisation programme through the provision of alternative accommodation.

## YouthTalk -Craigentiny & Duddingston

YouthTalk is a youth engagement model which enables local young people to give their views on local facilities, activities and services. The initiative has been developed in partnership with the Council, NHS Lothian, Police Scotland and with local youth work organisations, and was first established in the North East Locality in Leith with a group of young people leading the way. The most recent work has been delivered in the Craigentiny & Duddingston Ward, where Lifelong Learning staff, supported by schools and partner organisations, engaged with more than 300 young people during Autumn-Winter 2019/20 asking them what would make their neighbourhood a better place to live.

These conversations with young people identified the following ambitions for their local neighbourhoods:

- A cleaner community
- More places to hang out and play
- A safer community
- Improved parks and green spaces
- Less traffic and more public transport
- Better housing and opportunities
- More information about what's on

The planned Gathering event with "decision-makers", which was scheduled for May 2020 had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, Lifelong Learning staff are using a combination of streetwork and internet technology to continue the engagement with young people – focusing on the streets closest to Craigentiny Community Centre and Lochend Park. It is anticipated that future Gathering events will take place online and will be themed to enable young people to attend online events with community decision makers based upon the issues which are most important to them.

## **£eith Chooses Participatory Budgeting**

£eith Chooses (£C) is the current iteration of a participatory budgeting (PB) process which started 10 years ago in Leith.

The Leith Neighbourhood Partnership chose to allocate their Community Grant funding through a more democratic process which involved the wider community to reach decisions on funding allocations, moving away from a previously used panel-based assessment. The process has evolved over the past 10 years into a successful community-led process which unites local voluntary organisations and residents for a high-profile local event which attracts a high number of local participants annually.

The £eith Chooses Steering Group is made up of representatives from the three local community councils, local elected members, voluntary organisations and council officers. The Steering Group meets weekly to shape the process which distributes community grant funding of £44,624. The last annual event took place on 1 February 2020, with twenty organisations presenting their projects in a market place in Leith Community Centre.

Over 900 people who live, work, study or volunteer in Leith attended to vote for their preferred projects. They cast 2186 votes in total.

### Removing barriers to participation- an evolving PB process

The Steering Group ensure that the process evolves and adapts every year in response to feedback received from community organisations, key stakeholders and participants. For the 2020 event, £eith Chooses created a 'gentle registration area' which was a quieter space with supportive volunteers. This was in response to suggestions made by parents with (adult) autistic children who found the high energy of the previous public event overwhelming and from some older people who found the registration queueing tiring. The 'gentle registration' was designed to be an alternative space where those with more visible mobility needs (wheelchairs, buggies) and those with invisible needs (anxiety, literacy, Asperger's) could prepare to vote.

Another new addition to the 2020 event was the children's vote for the best dressed stall. Traditionally young people 8 years and over can vote in £C, so the introduction of an age and stage appropriate alternative vote was a fun, educational way to promote democratic engagement for those under 8 years of age.

Following the previous year's pilot of a 'boost vote', four groups received a 'boost vote' in 2020. Previously, BAME groups were regularly unsuccessful in the PB process in Leith, so following feedback, in 2019 this was introduced to recognise the efforts of those groups that support working with ethnic minorities in Leith. A total of 616 boost votes were cast and all four projects received funding.

The Scottish Community Development Centre kindly offered an evaluation process on the event day and presented an overview in the following article: <https://pbscotland.scot/blog/2020/2/7/leith-chooses-a-treasure-trove-of-good-practicenbsp>

## How we will measure success

The revised priorities include a strategic description of high-level actions and possible measures. This will be underpinned by workplans which set out detailed actions, timescales and the key measures that will demonstrate how change is taking place in each locality.

These more detailed workplans will form the basis of monitoring progress allowing scrutiny of areas of success and identifying improvement needs and will be subject to regular review.

An Annual Progress Report will also be produced evidencing progress on delivering the outcomes in the plan, based on the output of the continuous monitoring and scrutiny, and will be presented to Council Committee and partner governance bodies for further scrutiny and approval.

The core principles and methods for monitoring progress and performance reporting are:

### Principles

- 1 Easy to access and understand**  
Information on how each outcome is progressing needs to be readily available, regularly maintained, clearly laid out and free of jargon.
- 2 Focused on outcomes as well as outputs**  
The aim of monitoring information is to measure the difference made to local people and communities and not just changes made to services.
- 3 Alignment with other strategic aims**  
The partners' progress towards achieving the outcomes must be consistent with their own established strategic aims. This is to ensure that the services are working towards clearly aligned goals and are monitoring their work in a consistent way.

### Methods

- 1 Workplans**  
A set of more detailed plans relating to the outcomes and associated actions will allow monitoring of the partners' activity and progress towards achieving our shared goals.
- 2 Regular performance reports**  
These will detail progress towards achieving the outcomes. They could include actions, key performance indicators, case studies and customer research to give a balanced view on progress. These reports will form the basis for the Annual Progress Report.
- 3 Annual Progress Report**  
Progress in achieving the outcomes for the locality and small areas will be reported annually to Council committee and partner governance bodies.





## Further information and contacts

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### Key contacts

Further information about this plan is available by contacting the North East locality team:

- email [northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)
- telephone 0131 529 3111 and ask to speak to the Locality Manager or the Lifelong Learning Service Manager.

### Links to plans and strategies

The Locality Improvement Plan links with a range of existing strategies including:

#### The City of Edinburgh Council

- [Business Plan](#)
- [Local Development Plan](#)

#### Edinburgh Partnership

- [Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-22](#)
- [Children's Services Plan](#)
- [Community Learning and Development Plan](#)
- [Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan](#)

#### NHS Lothian

[NHS Lothian Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024](#)

#### Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

[Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan 2019-22](#)

#### Police Scotland

[Strategic Police Plans](#)

#### Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

[Strategic and Local Fire and Rescue Plans for Scotland East](#)

#### Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council and Volunteer Centre Edinburgh

[Everybody's Edinburgh](#)

## Equalities statement

Locality Improvement Plans set out our commitment to promoting equality and diversity. An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) have been carried out, enabling all partners to meet their legal duties to consider equality, human rights, sustainability and the environment. The assessments ensure that the planned services and policies promote equality of opportunity, eliminate discrimination and harassment, and promote good relations between those with protected characteristics and those with none. They also allow broader inequalities to be addressed, ensuring that the needs of all people are met.

For further information or to view a copy of the assessments please contact:  
[northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)



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# South East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-2022



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## Introduction

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### Welcome from the South East Locality Community Planning Partnership.

We are delighted to present the revised South East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-2022. This builds on the current successes of the first edition of the Locality Improvement Plan launched in 2017.

This plan will continue to help those people who are in greatest need and focuses on what action can be taken to improve the quality of life of those who live in the South East.

It sets out:

- the priorities for improving the area until 2022
- actions that will be carried out
- our commitment to target our shared resources in the most effective way to tackle inequality.

In developing the first edition of the plan, we asked local people across the locality,

as well as within smaller targeted areas, what would make the area better and what would we need to do to achieve this. This allowed us to identify the outcomes and priorities that will make a real difference to the lives of the people in the locality.

In 2019, the Edinburgh Partnership agreed to revise the plan, looking at what has been achieved to date and what our communities have told us so far during the delivery of the plan.

As a result, the revised plan has been reviewed and streamlined to focus on less priorities that will truly tackle poverty and inequality, identified as thorny issues in our communities and can only be achieved through partnership working.

The challenges experienced across the locality have been further exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19, with those already experiencing higher levels of poverty or inequality hardest hit. Additional pressures caused by loss of work, furlough, isolation

and reduced income have led to increasing hardship for those most in need, with longer term health and economic impacts expected to compound the position even further.

The Locality Community Planning Partnership has responsibility for the development and delivery of the plan.

Members of the South East Locality Community Planning Partnership are:

- City of Edinburgh Council
- Police Scotland
- NHS Lothian
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Skills Development Scotland
- Third sector
- Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council
- Edinburgh University
- Neighbourhood Network (one representative from each Network)



## Context

Community planning is the process by which councils and other public bodies work with local people, businesses and voluntary groups to plan and deliver better services to improve the lives of people who live in their community. It is about reducing the outcome gap for those experiencing the greatest inequality, taking a preventative approach.

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- The breadth of outcomes in the plan has resulted in an extensive range and number of actions
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- Structuring the priorities around five themes and multiple small areas has led to a lack of addressing the needs of those experiencing greatest inequality and is difficult to manage operationally and administratively.

Considering this, a review of the current South East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was undertaken in 2020, looking at the outcomes contained in the plan, and assessing them against three criteria – does it tackle poverty and inequality, is it a thorny issue; and can it only be achieved through partnership working.

From this a revised set of priorities have been identified that delivery will be focussed on for the remaining lifetime of the plan. These priorities are aligned to three themes in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-28 and shown in the later sections of this document.



## South East locality

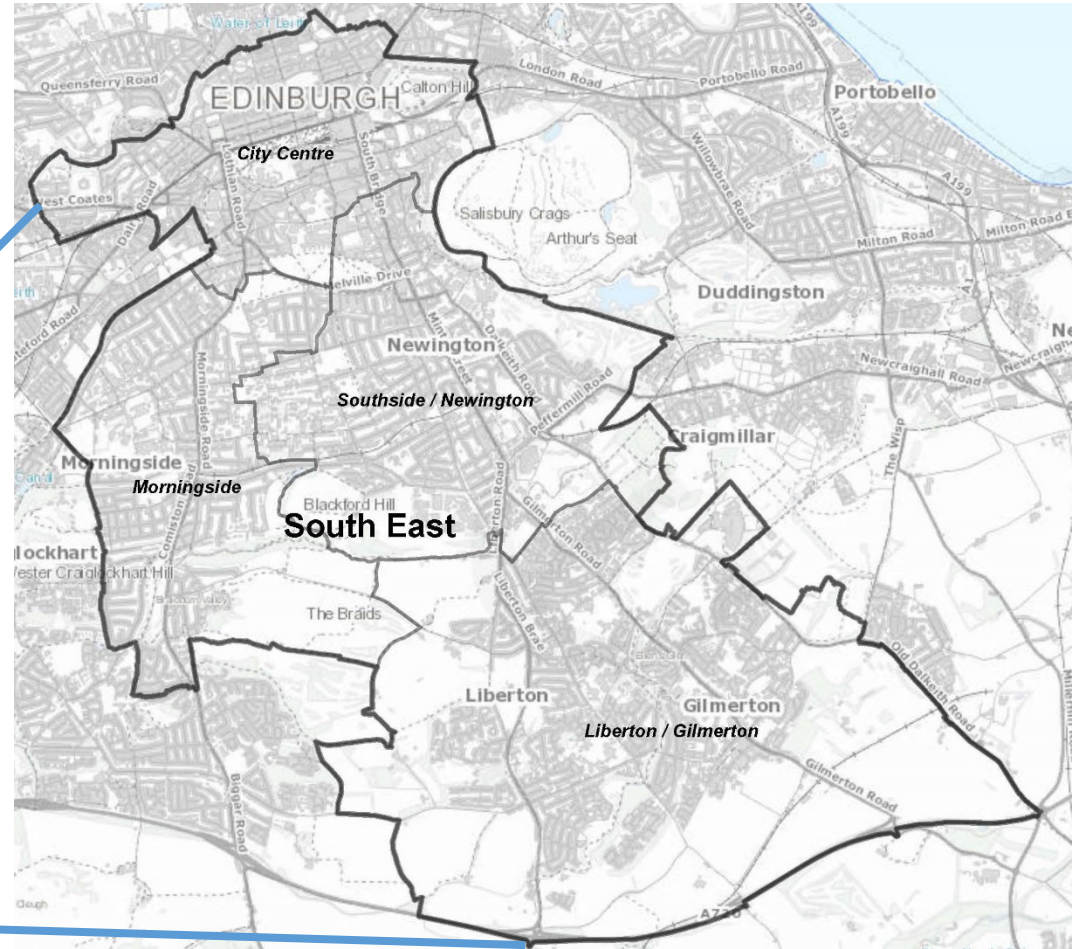
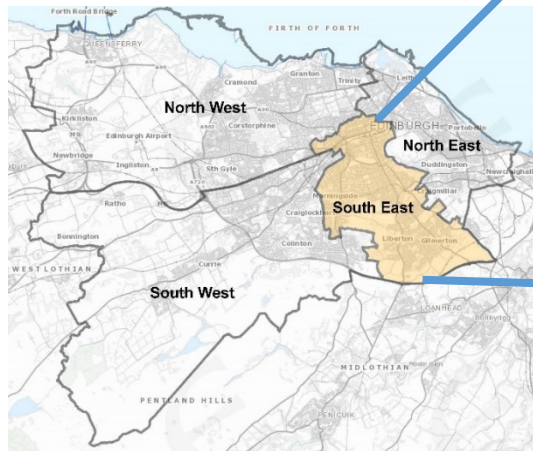
### South East locality map

**Community Council Areas**

- Gilmerton/Inch
- Liberton and District
- Morningside
- Fairmilehead
- Merchiston
- Marchmont and Sciennes
- Grange/Prestonfield
- Southside
- Tollcross
- West End
- Murrayfield
- New Town/Broughton
- Stockbridge/Inverleith
- Old Town

**Wards**

- City Centre
- Southside/Newington
- Morningside
- Liberton/Gilmerton





The South East locality has areas with high levels of affluence, as well as areas which are amongst the most socially and economically disadvantaged.



The current population of the South East is 137,642 and is expected to continue to increase over the next 15 years, putting additional pressure on housing and schools in the area and access to local amenities.

The South East locality has the highest rate of private rented housing and an owner occupier rate of 54%.



It also has the second highest rate of child poverty, with rates of 31% in both Liberton/Gilmerton and City Centre areas.

The South East locality overall has the lowest rate of people with no qualifications; however despite this, it has less residents that are economically active, in comparison to the other three localities.

There are distinct geographical areas within the locality where levels of affluence and inequality vary.

For example, despite its affluence, the City Centre faces many challenges with higher than average:

- crime rates
- incidents of anti-social behaviour
- numbers of people begging and sleeping rough.

Liberton/Gilmerton is diverse and includes areas where we need to focus on reducing inequality and disadvantage, including Southhouse, Burdiehouse, Moredun and Gracemount. Poor standards of health and low levels of professional and educational qualifications are amongst the greatest challenges in these areas.



A key aim of the locality approach to achieving better outcomes for people, is to shift the focus from tackling crisis to early intervention and prevention. To achieve this, there needs to be a greater understanding of the root causes and related trigger points for individuals and families in reaching 'crisis'.

The Locality Improvement Plan identifies locality wide outcomes, but also has a specific focus on smaller geographical areas within the wider locality.



## Involving our communities

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We are committed to having meaningful conversations with the diverse communities and groups that make up the South East locality about the services that are important to them.

To inform the first version of the Plan, launched in 2017, we listened to a wide range of people, taking the conversations to where people were in the locality and recognised the importance of engaging with people who would not normally take part.

As we delivered the priorities in the plan, we continued to build on our understanding of the needs and aspirations of our communities through effective and ongoing engagement and communication with local people. This is reflected in the revised Plan.

Going forwards, throughout the lifetime of the Plan, we will ensure that people can take part in a way that suits them. We will continue to create opportunities for individuals to talk to us, to enable as many people as possible to be involved.

It is clear when we talk with local people that they are also having conversations about what is important to them and what they wanted to see happen in their locality through other forums. We are using the feedback that has been collected through various engagement and consultation exercises to help shape the Plan, such as Edinburgh Poverty Commission and City Vision 2050.

The Plan has an impact on our communities and so input and feedback from you is vital to ensure the Plan is shaped to deliver what it can for the benefit of the people in our community. We want local people to get involved and feel part of the delivery of the actions in the Plan.

In 2019, the Edinburgh Partnership established 13 Neighbourhood Networks across the City, bringing communities together to promote dialogue and discussion on issues of shared interest.

The Networks are one route to which communities influence the Plan and work

with partners to develop appropriate responses for their neighbourhoods.

Network membership comprises community bodies, elected members for the relevant wards and third sector organisations. Community bodies include those such as community councils, tenants' organisations, Friends of Parks groups, parent councils, community trusts and any other community group that reflects the diversity and demographic make-up of each area. The wide membership ensures that those communities experiencing the greatest inequality are represented.

There are 4 Neighbourhood Networks in the South East: City Centre, Liberton/Gilmerton, Morningside and Southside/Newington.

What contribution could you make to your local community to make it a better place to live? For information on how to get involved, or to find out how to join a local community group, please get in touch with us at [southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## The revised priorities

Under each theme, we have set out the priority, actions and possible measures. The measures provide an indication of what may be possible in measuring progress. These measures, along with outputs, timescales and resources to deliver the actions and achieve better outcomes are set out in accompanying work plans. Each of the outcomes is also aligned to one of the three priority areas of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).

**Priority - Engage and support young people and their families to develop the skills they need to thrive and reach their potential, targeting support at those in greatest need.**

**Lead** – City of Edinburgh Council

**Partners include** – Third sector, NHS Lothian, Skills Development Scotland, Police Scotland, EVOC, Edinburgh College and Neighbourhood Networks.

Actions	Measures	LOIP priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver an affordable, targeted holiday programme.</li> <li>• Introduce a family befriending service.</li> <li>• Promote local parenting programmes around nurture and relationships.</li> <li>• Provide support to young unemployed people.</li> <li>• Raise awareness of information about help and support with domestic abuse, poverty, debt and housing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in families participating in Discover and accessing relevant services.</li> <li>• Increase in young people accessing post-school employment &amp; training opportunities.</li> <li>• Improve on the number of reported domestic abuse incidents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enough money to live on.</li> <li>• Access to work, learning and training opportunities.</li> <li>• A good place to live.</li> </ul>

**Priority - Engage with and provide support to those who are rough sleeping, begging and street drinking in the city centre and southside, working closely with local partners, organisations and communities.**

**Lead –** Police Scotland

**Partners include –** Third sector, NHS Lothian, Health and Social Care Partnership, Skills Development Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council, EVOC, Edinburgh University and Neighbourhood Networks.

Actions	Measures	LOIP priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map existing services to ensure that partners are fully aware of all the support, preventative, diversionary and capacity building opportunities.</li> <li>• Signpost and facilitate access to support services, including mental health, alcohol and substance misuse.</li> <li>• Explore opportunities to develop infrastructure at known 'hot spots', thereby maximising community and personal safety.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey multi-agency partners to identify awareness of existing services (to be repeated on an annual basis).</li> <li>• Partners to collectively increase referral submissions (with numbers subject of year on year review).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A good place to live.</li> </ul>



**Priority - Support people living in Dumbiedykes, including those experiencing hardship, and help co-ordinate a sustainable response that builds community resilience and promotes life chances**

**Lead** – Health and Social Care Partnership / NHS Lothian (Public Health)

**Partners include** – Third sector, EVOC, City of Edinburgh Council, Skills Development Scotland, Police Scotland, Edinburgh University and Neighbourhood Networks.

Actions	Measures	LOIP priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make it easy to get advice regarding money, employment and health.</li> <li>• Support wellbeing and access to food and physical activities.</li> <li>• Promote the use of digital technology and learning online skills.</li> <li>• Enhance the area physically and socially by improving bus links, local shops and the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in people receiving support with income maximisation.</li> <li>• Increase in people participating in physical activities.</li> <li>• Increase in people participating in community-based learning activity to develop IT skills and support with employment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enough money to live on.</li> <li>• Access to work, learning and training opportunities.</li> <li>• A good place to live.</li> </ul>



## Case study examples

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### **YouthTalk Liberton/Gilmerton**

Following the YouthTalk event in March 2019, a Youth Forum has been established and meets monthly to share their experiences and views.

Complementary to the forum is the newly formed SEEYA (South East Edinburgh Youth Alliance). SEEYA is a partnership group bringing together service providers, Council, third sector, voluntary organisations, uniformed and faith groups, sports clubs, schools, police and health providers. It provides a space to share information, discuss arising youth themes, plan holiday programmes and explore partnership working and funding opportunities. The group is chaired in rotation by partners and meets in different venues across the locality.

A key concern voiced by young people through YouthTalk was feeling unsafe in their community. Community safety issues were also identified through some high-profile incidents in the Liberton/Gilmerton ward area. In response to this, Police Scotland undertook a review of the resourcing that is put into youth engagement and in March 2019, two officers were assigned as the link for the high school and the wider youth community, for 6 months, reporting back to the youth forum. During this pilot, there was a significant amount of positive engagement between young people and officers, with officers having a presence at youth groups held at Goodtrees Community Centre and getting involved in a range of summer activities in partnership with Edinburgh Leisure. In addition, officers have also working with Education Welfare Officers to design a joint initiative with School Liaison Officers to tackle truancy. There are now plans to take forward YouthTalk in the other three wards of the Locality – Morningside, Southside/Newington and City Centre, and to hopefully establish youth forums for the young people in these areas.

### **Dumbiedykes Small Area Plan**

The Dumbiedykes Small Area Plan prioritises working closer with residents to increase provision of activities for young people and families and improve access to the Braidwood Centre.

The Local Lifelong Learning Team organised a series of 'Family Fridays' during the summer holiday period at the Braidwood Centre. The activities delivered on Friday included storytelling, circus skills, garden games, bookbug and arts and crafts. They were structured to enable the whole family to participate together and a means to engage with families to promote future learning activities such as creative writing and employability workshops. There were also trips organised to the Holyrood Rangers and Dynamic Earth. In total 15 families participated, which included around 20-30 individuals each week. The sessions were assisted by local family support and teaching staff from the Royal Mile and Preston Street Primary Schools. Due to their success work is now underway to establish this every Friday, including term times, starting in 2020.

Additional activity in Dumbiedykes includes a Community Grant Funding Award to Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust to develop a health and wellbeing programme. An event was held in November 2019 with outreach activities, taster sessions and networking for local organisations. A sub-group to address loneliness and social isolation in the community is also being established.



## Nicolson Square

Nicolson Square and Nicolson Square Gardens is located on a busy arterial thoroughfare into the city centre and includes a public garden surrounded by small businesses, residential properties, a public toilet and a church. For many years it had suffered from antisocial behaviour and low-level criminal activity. The garden was a go-to place for street drinkers, and what should have been a prime green space in a city centre location was not a place that the community felt they could enjoy. The local businesses felt their business suffered as the Square was not seen as a welcoming or safe place.

In January 2018, a community event was held in the local church in the Square. Over 50 people attended, including residents, local businesses, the Community Council, local Councillors, Council Officers, Police Scotland, Edinburgh University and third sector groups. Attendees were asked to have three conversations:

1. What is good about Nicolson Square? What do people like about it? What does it add to the area?
2. What is not good about Nicolson Square – what don't people like about it? What impact does it have on the area?
3. What would you like to see done to improve Nicolson Square? How can the issues be tackled in partnership? Who can be involved? What contribution can you/your organisation make? What is the one improvement / change that you would make?

The contributions at this session were captured and formed a list of commitments that were with actions that would be taken forward in partnership with the community to tackle the problems identified. Key partnership actions delivered include:

- Increased focus and a different approach in tackling antisocial behaviour, with joint working between Police Scotland, Streetwork (a charity that provides street-based outreach to people rough sleeping and with addictions) and the Council resulting in significant reduction in antisocial behaviour in the Square
- Friends of Nicolson Square - the new group is now well established and has worked hard to deliver physical improvements in the Garden, in partnership with the Council's parks team. It holds regular community events and clean ups, encouraging the community to feel a sense of ownership for the Square
- A community arts project, bringing artwork wraps to the litter bins designed by local people and groups, and inspired by local history and features.

This successful partnership work has delivered a substantial increase in community involvement in the Square, restoring a sense of ownership and connection with the Garden and seen a significant reduction in instances of crime and antisocial behaviour. It is now a more welcoming and vibrant place, an asset to the community. The degree of change and what it means to the local community is borne out by the results in the annual Parks Quality Assessment 2019. It noted Nicolson Square Garden as the most improved greenspace in the South East Locality of the 36 greenspaces assessed in the area since 2018.





## How we will measure success

The revised priorities include a strategic description of high-level actions and possible measures. This will be underpinned by workplans which set out detailed actions, timescales and the key measures that will demonstrate how change is taking place in each locality.

These more detailed workplans will form the basis of monitoring progress allowing scrutiny of areas of success and identifying improvement needs and will be subject to regular review.

An Annual Progress Report will also be produced evidencing progress on delivering the outcomes in the plan, based on the output of the continuous monitoring and scrutiny, and will be presented to Council Committee and partner governance bodies for further scrutiny and approval.

The core principles and methods for monitoring progress and performance reporting are set out below:

### Principles

- 1 Easy to access and understand**  
Information on how each outcome is progressing needs to be readily available, regularly maintained, clearly laid out and free of jargon.
- 2 Focused on outcomes as well as outputs**  
The aim of monitoring information is to measure the difference made to local people and communities and not just changes made to services.
- 3 Alignment with other strategic aims**  
The partners' progress towards achieving the outcomes must be consistent with their own established strategic aims. This is to ensure that the services are working towards clearly aligned goals and are monitoring their work in a consistent way.

### Methods

- 1 Workplans**  
A set of more detailed plans relating to the outcomes and associated actions will allow monitoring of the partners' activity and progress towards achieving our shared goals.
- 2 Regular performance reports**  
These will detail progress towards achieving the outcomes. They could include actions, key performance indicators, case studies and customer research to give a balanced view on progress. These reports will form the basis for the Annual Progress Report.
- 3 Annual Progress Report**  
Progress in achieving the outcomes for the locality and small areas will be reported annually to Council Committee and partner governance bodies.



## Further information and contacts

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### Key contacts

Further information about this plan is available by contacting the South East locality team:

- email [southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)
- telephone 0131 529 5151 and ask to speak to the Locality Manager or the Lifelong Learning Service Manager.

### Links to plans and strategies

The Locality Improvement Plan links with a range of existing strategies including:

#### The City of Edinburgh Council

- [Business Plan](#)
- [Local Development Plan](#)

#### Edinburgh Partnership

- [Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-22](#)
- [Children's Services Plan](#)
- [Community Learning and Development Plan](#)
- [Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan](#)

#### NHS Lothian

[NHS Lothian Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024](#)

#### Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

[Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan 2019-22](#)

#### Police Scotland

[Strategic Police Plans](#)

#### Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

[Strategic and Local Fire and Rescue Plans for Scotland East](#)

#### Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council and Volunteer Centre Edinburgh

[Everybody's Edinburgh](#)



## Equalities statement

Locality Improvement Plans set out our commitment to promoting equality and diversity. An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) have been carried out, enabling all partners to meet their legal duties to consider equality, human rights, sustainability and the environment. The assessments ensure that the planned services and policies promote equality of opportunity eliminate discrimination and harassment and promote good relations between those with protected characteristics and those with none. They also allow broader inequalities to be addressed, ensuring that the needs of all people are met.

For further information or to view a copy of the assessments please contact: [southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)

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# South West Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-2022



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## Introduction

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### Welcome from the South West Locality Community Planning Partnership

The South West Locality Improvement Plan sets out the rationale for community planning arrangements in South West Edinburgh: who we are, how we work together, the key priorities and why they are important.

This revised plan builds on the current successes of the first edition launched in 2017. The plan will help to achieve better outcomes for our communities by addressing local priorities. It focuses on people's needs and promotes our work to reduce social and economic inequalities.

This plan is an agreement between the communities of the South West and local service providers that sets out how we work together to target our resources in the most effective way and highlights how we will review and report on progress, allowing us to realign priorities as needed.

In developing the first edition of the plan, we asked local people across the locality,

as well as within smaller targeted areas, what would make the area better and what would we need to do to achieve this. This allowed us to identify the outcomes and priorities that will make a real difference to the lives of the people in the locality.

In early 2020, we decided to revise the plan, looking at what has been achieved to date and what our communities have told us so far during the delivery of the plan. The plan was streamlined to focus on less priorities and only those that will truly tackle poverty and inequality, identified as thorny issues in our communities and can only be achieved through partnership working.

During that time of revision, the world was faced with a global pandemic. COVID-19 has negatively impacted all communities in different ways, through loss of income and jobs, lack of opportunities for young people, increased health inequalities and exacerbated the poverty gap that was already apparent in South West Edinburgh.

The priorities in this plan have now been considered alongside what we now so far about how this pandemic has affected our communities. We have taken data

from partners which shows what the city's recovery must be focussed on and aligned our priorities to where we feel we can truly achieve better outcomes for the citizens of South West Edinburgh.

The Locality Community Planning Partnership has responsibility for the development and delivery of the plan.

Members of the South West Locality Community Planning Partnership are:

- The City of Edinburgh Council
- Police Scotland
- NHS Lothian
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Skills Development Scotland
- Third Sector
- Armed Forces
- Edinburgh College
- Neighbourhood Network (one representative from each Network)



## Context

Community planning is the process by which councils and other public bodies work with local people, businesses and voluntary groups to plan and deliver better services to improve the lives of people who live in their community. It is about reducing the outcome gap for those experiencing the greatest inequality, taking a preventative approach.

In Edinburgh, the city's community planning partnership where community, public and the third sector come together is collectively known as the Edinburgh Partnership.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the Edinburgh Partnership to develop and deliver a Local Outcome Improvement Plan for the city and individual Locality Improvement Plans for those areas that are experiencing the greatest inequality.

The Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-28 has three priority themes: 'enough money to live on', 'access to work, learning and training opportunities' and 'a good place to live'. This is a ten-year plan with outcomes that can only be tackled through partnership working. The revised priorities in this plan are aligned to these three

themes and shown in the later sections of this document.

The first edition of the South East Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was subject to annual performance reviews. In 2018 it was identified that whilst there has been progress made to deliver the priorities in the plan, there are significant challenges that need to be addressed including:

- The breadth of outcomes in the plan has resulted in an extensive range and number of actions
- Many of the actions are 'business as usual' activity and not additional or collaborative
- There is mixed levels of understanding and expectation of the purpose of the plan – being viewed as a place to capture all locality activity and not specifically that which tackles poverty and inequality, which leads to dilution of impact and ineffective targeting of resources
- Structuring the priorities around five themes and multiple small areas has led to a lack of addressing the needs of those experiencing greatest inequality and is difficult to manage operationally and administratively.

Considering this, a review of the current South East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was undertaken in 2020, looking at the outcomes contained in the plan, and assessing them against three criteria – does it tackle poverty and inequality, is it a thorny issue; and can it only be achieved through partnership working.

The priorities have then been reconsidered against the backdrop of COVID-19. Data has been used to understand what the short, medium- and long-term negative impacts of this pandemic will be, and how this will affect the lives of people living in South West Edinburgh. We know that COVID-19 has intensified health inequalities i.e. those living in poverty are more likely to be at risk due to disproportionate numbers living with conditions such as type 2 diabetes, COPD and obesity. There are many people who have a severe drop or loss of income, and those in low paid jobs have been impacted most. We also know that opportunities for work, learning and upskilling for young people will be harder to realise as we move to economic recovery.



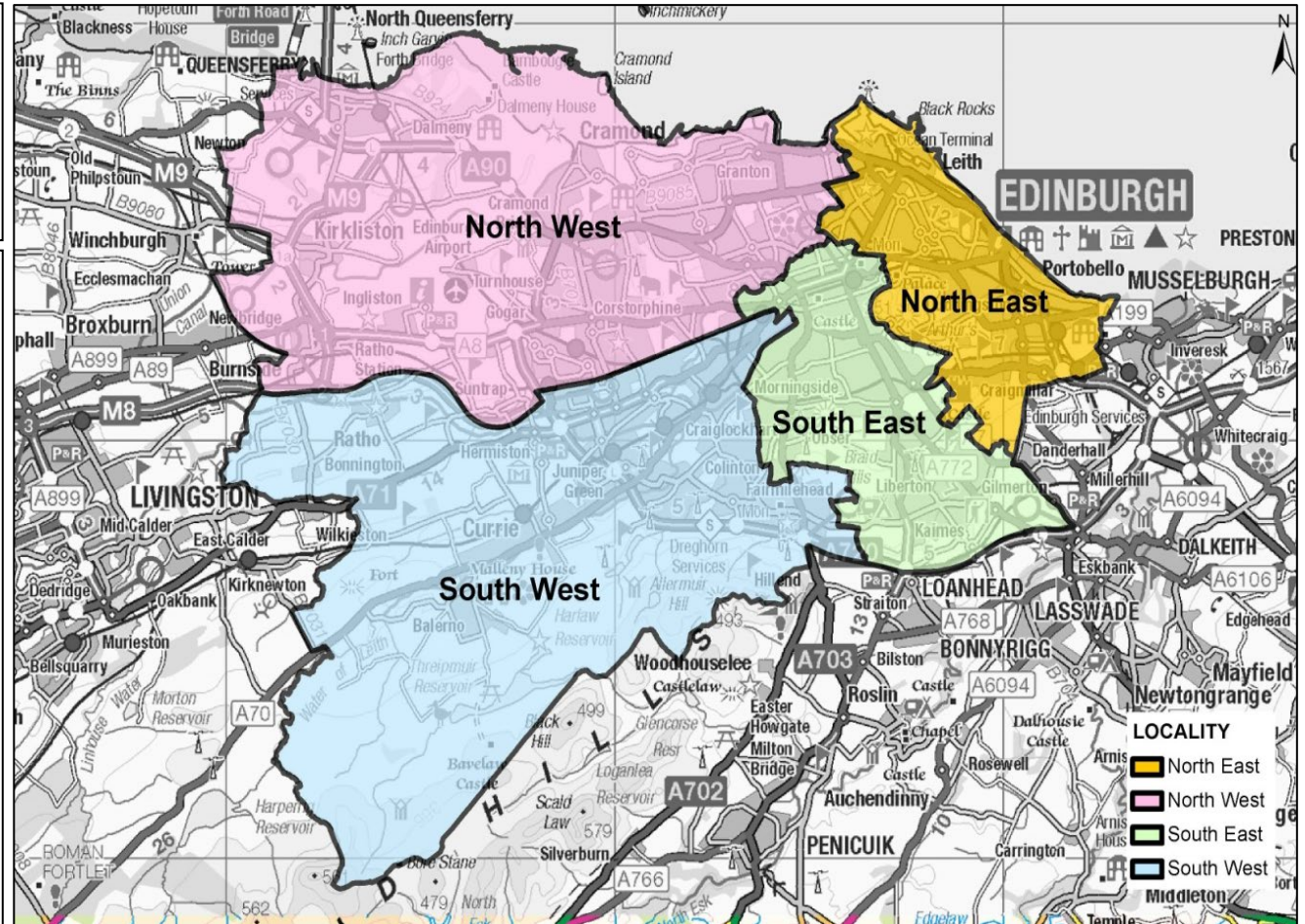
## South West locality

### Wards

Sighthill/Gorgie  
Colinton/Fairmilehead  
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart  
Pentland Hills

### Community council areas

Ratho and District  
Balerno  
Currie  
Sighthill, Broomhouse and Parkhead  
Colinton  
Juniper Green  
Longstone  
Fairmilehead  
Firrhill  
Craiglockhart  
Merchiston  
Gorgie/Dalry  
Hutchison/Chesser  
Stenhouse, Saughton Mains and  
Whitson  
Wester Hailes

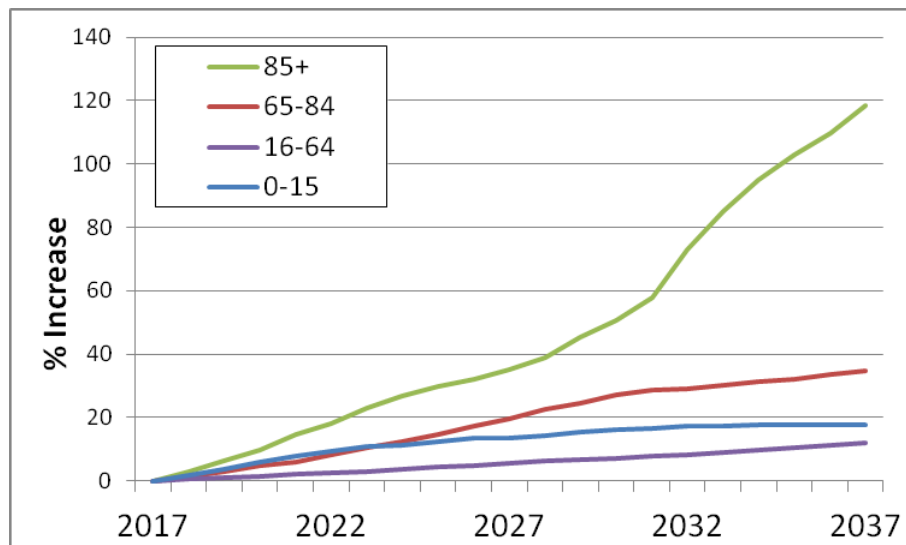




**Population**  
**113,492**

The South West accounts for 22% of Edinburgh's overall population. It is a very diverse area, comprising a range of housing types and a mixture of commercial, industrial, retail and leisure facilities and green spaces.

South West has areas with high levels of affluence as well as areas which are amongst the most economically and socially disadvantaged in the city.



Around 95% of residents in South West Edinburgh are satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live, which is slightly higher than the city average.

The South West has a high proportion of council tenants and the second lowest rate of private sector renting compared to the other three localities. Owner occupancy rates remain similar to the city average, though they vary across the locality.

South West Edinburgh also has some of the densest and most sparsely populated areas within Edinburgh.

In 2015 the Pentland Hills Ward had less than 400 people per km<sup>2</sup>, mostly concentrated in the villages of Balerno, Currie, Ratho and Juniper Green. By comparison Sighthill/Gorgie had a population density of over 4500 people per km<sup>2</sup>, much of it concentrated in flats closer to the city centre.

## Challenges

In the next 20 years, South West Edinburgh is expected to see the number of older people grow, larger than Edinburgh as a whole. The population is set to increase by 18% by 2037 (+21,000 people), lower than the Edinburgh-wide rate (+22%).

In particular, the number of people aged over 85 is expected to increase by almost 120% in the next twenty years. This equates to a rise from roughly 2,300 in 2017 to a projected 5,000 in 2037.

**Left: South West population projection – age groups % increase**



The level of economic deprivation also provides a challenge. The South West has a slightly higher rate of income deprivation than Edinburgh as a whole, with 11.9% of people in the South West deemed income deprived according to the 2016 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

Amongst areas of the highest deprivation<sup>1</sup> in the South West, the rate of income deprivation is 19.8%, compared to 5.2% of the South West population that do not live in one of these areas. Child poverty in South West Edinburgh is joint second highest (with South East) of all four localities in Edinburgh, with one in five children living in low income households.

The proportion of people claiming work related benefits varies between the four South West wards, from a low of 4.9% of working age residents in Colinton/ Fairmilehead to a high of 12.0% in Sighthill/Gorgie. The overall rate for the locality is 8.1%, which is the second highest amongst the four localities and compares to a city rate of 7.7%.

## COVID-19 implications

Based on initial research into the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are expecting significant pressures across the city in the following key areas: jobs and income; housing and homelessness; food, the cost of living and social isolation.

<sup>1</sup> \* Oxfgangs, Wester Hailes, Broomhouse/Saughton, Daly/Fountainbridge NB Information for wards relates to pre-2017 boundaries.

Following initial disruptions caused by restrictions, furloughs, and working patterns there has been significant loss of income to individuals and businesses across the economy, with many expecting to struggle in meeting their financial commitments. In the long term this will be exacerbated by structural changes in the labour market, with significant changes in the jobs available and in the skills expected by employers.

Immediate responses to housing problems have seen emergency accommodation provided for rough sleepers alongside bans on eviction. However, the expected accumulation of debt alongside loss of income will have a serious impact across private and rented sectors. Longer term this may lead to increased default on rent and mortgage payments, and an overall slowing of the housing market combined with an upward pressure on rents.

There have been some increases to cost of living caused by reduced shopping options, felt most acutely by families on the lowest incomes. To control the spread of the virus isolation has either been encouraged or become the default for many, and this is expected to have long term negative impacts on the mental health of individuals across the community. Despite this however there has been an increase in volunteering and positive neighbourly connections.



## Involving our communities

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We are committed to having meaningful conversations with the diverse communities and groups that make up the South West locality about the services that are important to them.

To inform the first version of the plan, launched in 2017, we listened to a wide range of people, taking the conversations to where people were in the locality and recognised the importance of engaging with people who would not normally take part.

As we delivered the priorities in the plan, we continued to build on our understanding of the needs and aspirations of our communities through effective and ongoing engagement and communication with local people. This is reflected in the revised plan.

Going forwards, throughout the lifetime of the plan, we will ensure that people can take part in a way that suits them. We will continue to create opportunities for individuals to talk to us, to enable as many people as possible to be involved.

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The networks are one route to which communities influence the Plan and work with partners to develop appropriate responses for their neighbourhoods.

Network membership comprises community bodies, elected members for the relevant wards and third sector organisations. Community bodies include those such as community councils, tenants' organisations, Friends of Parks groups, parent councils, community trusts and any other community group that reflects the diversity and demographic make-up of each area. The wide membership ensures that those communities experiencing the greatest inequality are represented.

There are two neighbourhood networks in the South West: Pentlands and South West.

What contribution could you make to your local community to make it a better place to live? For information on how to get involved, or to find out how to join a local community group, please get in touch with us at [southwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:southwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## The revised priorities

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### **Theme 1 – Understand and take steps to address the causes and motivation of Hate Crimes.**

Community safety partners have spoken with communities across the South West and identified a range of issues. Of these, hate crime is possibly the most intractable resulting in severe distress and negative outcomes among its victims.

The Hate Crime definition is set by Scottish Government and there are specific 'strands that are protected.

- Race
- Religion
- Sexual Orientation
- Disability
- Transgender

As a Locality Partnership we are committed to promoting an inclusive and cohesive society, where every person can feel they have equal access to community services, groups and employment opportunities.

We recognise hate crime is underreported, and many incidents are the result of an existing conflict. As a result, we need to combine quantitative measurement with qualitative recording of community confidence and perceptions to ensure accurate monitoring of improvements.

To fully address Hate Crime and its causation requires to understand where the underlying prejudices arise and are formed. To this end a partnership approach to look not only at supporting victims but engaging with the perpetrators at an appropriate post-conviction stage, through a restorative and educational process would go some way to achieve this.

This approach may help to address the motivation and promote a more inclusive and understanding community.

#### COVID-19

Along with the society-wide impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that have hampered most public services, it initially brought some instances of incidents against East Asian and Southeast Asian communities across the country. This sort of incident can lead to increased pressure on victims feeling of isolation and reduced confidence, and lead to greater inequality.

We believe we challenge this through a greater focus on intercultural projects to overcome social barriers. Through this we will seek to increase and improve engagement to understand concerns and issues in the short and long term.

**Lead** – Police Scotland

**Partners include** – All partners involved in the Community Planning Partnership.



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
Ensure victims are supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve engagement with victims to understand concerns and issues</li> </ul>	Reported hate crime Confidence in reporting offences across different communities Referral service in place and number of referrals Develop further measures with partners using community surveys and feedback, and set targets thereafter	A good place to live
Raise awareness of Hate Crime and encourage reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve methods of reporting hate crime</li> <li>• Focus on intercultural projects to overcome social barriers</li> </ul>		
Educate young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve engagement with schools to promote an inclusive society</li> </ul>		
Perpetrator engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an intervention and referral service to address perpetrator behaviour</li> </ul>		

## Theme 2 – Increased community involvement in food growing

Food poverty has been recognised as a priority within the initial findings of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, particularly concerning the price of fresh fruit and vegetables for those individuals on low incomes. This in turn has a negative effect on the health of those unable to afford healthy food. Providing the infrastructure for individuals to grow their own produce and understand how to use it healthily will help address this issue.

This will involve work organised at a local level to identify sites, assist with construction, planting, growing, harvesting and networking to ensure community food growing can be a key part of healthy living provision in South West Edinburgh.

There are a range of activities that can be organised locally, involving a range of partners, and crossing over to adjacent workstreams related to healthy living and the management of public spaces ie. health and social care, and safer communities.

### COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 has changed a range of behaviours across the community and is expected to have a lasting impact over the life of this plan. Lockdowns impede access to communal sites impacting planting and harvesting, while there has been a significant increase in demand for private allotments. Partners in the South West need to ensure services are sufficiently resilient to cope with this uncertainty.

**Lead** – City of Edinburgh Council

**Partners include** – Council Parks and Greenspace Service, Council Housing Service, Council Discover Programme, Primary and Secondary Schools. Third sector bodies: Edible Estates, Edinburgh Community Food, Wester Hailes Health Agency, Edinburgh & Lothians Green Space Trust, Friends of Parks Groups, Tenants and Residents Associations and Community Councils

Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
Fewer people living in food poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the amount of land available for local food production</li> <li>• Increase the number of growing site users through the development of a promotional programme and of support and skills training for new growers</li> </ul>	<p>Increase the number of formal/informal growing sites from (figure used in SW LC report in November 2018) by a total of 6 by 2022</p>	A good place to live
Integrate growing activity with health and wellbeing activity across the Partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an effective working arrangement linking the Social Capital approach outlined in the Reduce social isolation and loneliness workstream to SW community growing sites</li> </ul>	<p>Increase number of users by target of 20% from baseline figure gathered by 2022</p> <p>Develop a baseline with partners in 2021 and set targets thereafter</p>	





### Theme 3 – Reducing loneliness & social isolation

The impact of either being lonely or having feelings of being isolated socially can have a significant impact on a person's physical and mental health.

Loneliness is defined as “subjectively experienced by someone who feels the lack of intimate, supporting, or nurturing relationships with others”. Whilst feeling socially isolated is caused by the “lack of social structures and social interaction/contact with other people”.

Evidence informs us that these issues can occur throughout the life course with a range of social risks of:

- Being a mother (aged 18-24years old) of young children
- Moving into retirement/ old age
- Being an informal carer
- Being financially insecure/ becoming unemployed
- Experiencing poor physical and mental health including having a disability
- Living alone, widowed or separated.

It is a complex topic and hence requires for all partners to continue working together on this. Taking a ‘social capital’ approach i.e. that social connections can contribute to people's quality of life, health, safety, economy and wellbeing in the neighbourhoods where they live. Social capital is categorised as:

- Social networks – The quality of friendships, relationships, and contacts; the help that people provide and receive

from neighbours; and how connected and supported people perceive themselves to be.

- Community cohesion – The features of neighbourhoods and communities including safety, trust and kindness; the places and spaces for people to meet; and to meet people from different backgrounds.
- Social participation – The time given up supporting local clubs, groups, organisations, or improve the local environment.
- Community empowerment – The control that people have, and feel they have, over their circumstances; their influence on local decision-making; and their actions to improve the local community.

#### COVID-19

With people having to self-isolated if infected and certain vulnerable groups ‘shielding’, this obviously had an impact on everyone's health, in terms of feeling lonely and isolated.

There have also been some positive implications, such as increased volunteering, the use of local greenspace and the strengthening of neighbourly and community relationships. In the long term we need to focus on prevention of mental health and people experiencing being lonely or isolated

**Lead** – Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

**Partners include** – All public sector services, general practice and community organisations working together through development of existing forums and direct engagement.



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
Social isolation and loneliness are reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to raise the profile and our conversation regarding social isolation and loneliness</li> <li>• Continue to map community resources for health and wellbeing and implement a communications strategy, in order to inform people who live, work and play within the locality</li> <li>• Continue to share our learning and experiences through a variety of techniques such as data, stories, action learning and co-design</li> <li>• Vulnerable adults are continued to be supported by befriending services or/ and Community Link Workers programme</li> </ul>	Feedback from the community through people's stories, community participatory activity	A good place to live
Social networks are maintained across the locality			
Active and inclusive community participation is supported across the locality			

#### **Theme 4 – Improved quality, level and continued participation of all young people in education, employment or training.**

Through application of the already successful Edinburgh Guarantee, Developing Young Workforce and other local and national strategies such as Kickstart and the Youth Guarantee, it is important that all partners work together to help plan a clear career pathway for every school leaver.

This includes providing information and support to schools about opportunities in future growth sectors to help inspire and inform students. It is important to support young people in developing their career management skills, building knowledge and resilience, and arming them with the information and resources they need to progress to, and sustain, positive destinations.

Poorly managed transition from school to further education, training or employment can have a long-term impact on future economic outcomes for individuals. A period of economic inactivity post-school is more likely to lead to long term unemployment than similar periods of inactivity later in life. Ensuring that young people leaving school are engaged in positive activity, whether through intermediate labour market opportunities or other training activities is important to supporting sustained employment later in life.

#### COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption to learn and employment across the country. Whilst support through council funded employability provision and the third sector has continued online, this has highlighted additional problems where access to equipment and online resources are limited or digital literacy is low.

As the least experienced participants in the labour market, evidence suggests that young people will have reduced access to jobs as unemployment rises across all age groups and there is more competition for entry level jobs. In addition to the health implications of the pandemic, many young people will face increased pressure due to additional caring responsibilities, and this is likely to affect those in low income households most.

**Lead** – City of Edinburgh Council

**Partners include** – City of Edinburgh Council (including Business Growth and Inclusion, Schools, and Lifelong Learning), Edinburgh College, Skills Development Scotland.



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
Every school leaver has the relevant support they need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all relevant support and employability organisations are linked to in-school 16+ meetings.</li> <li>• Through the No One Left Behind Team, identify relevant pathways for leavers at all stage of the Strategic Skills Pipeline.</li> </ul>	More employers involved in curriculum planning	Access to work, learning, and training
Schools have relevant information about industries to inspire and inform students about career opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build on the Developing Young Workforce model to ensure that each school is linked to industry across all sectors.</li> <li>• Encourage school staff to take part in Industry Awareness and Learning days offered through DYW.</li> <li>• Introduce industry into classroom-based learning and planning as early as possible.</li> </ul>	Improved SLDR and sustained destinations	
Appropriate training and support are available to every young person who has left school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with partners to identify local and citywide gaps in training and access to services to ensure that new services meet the needs of the community.</li> <li>• Through NOLB funding, every school leaver without a positive destination will be allocated a key worker to support progression.</li> </ul>	Better parental support and understanding	
Young people are supported in developing their career management skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDS continue to support young people in school and through links with youth groups.</li> <li>• SDS to promote training for organisations and youth work provision to build staff capacity around CMS.</li> </ul>	Better sustained placements and progressions	
Support is available for those furthest from the labour market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Align funding to ensure that health and well-being support is available alongside employability provision to support an enhanced pathway for those with the most barrier to employment.</li> </ul>	More resilient young people securing employment	
		Increase in appropriate referrals	
		More sustained destinations	

## Theme 5 – Families that experience unsafe environments are supported to reach their full potential

Domestic abuse remains the largest category of child protection concern in City of Edinburgh. Domestic abuse perpetration has multiple pathways to harm for child and family functioning. These both cause poverty and inequality or exacerbate pre-existing issues. Women experiencing domestic abuse often become single parents with limited capacity to earn independently and are more likely to report both financial difficulties and ongoing financial abuse from abusive former partners.

By applying a multi-agency approach, we need to ensure we understand how mental, physical health problems and substance misuse can be caused or exacerbated by domestic abuse, how perpetrators can prevent victims from healing from these issues, and how the issue affects different communities across the locality.

### COVID-19

As a result of lockdown and the effects on families the pandemic has seen increased pressure on services supporting mental health and domestic abuse, alongside reduced access to support for families. It is expected these pressures will continue during the life of this plan as the economic impact leads to loss of income, employment, and household resources.

In the long-term, depending on changes in service demand partners need to continually review how we work together, including use of a Safe and Together strategy across South West multi-agency operational groups.

**Lead** – City of Edinburgh Council

**Partners include** – Children and families social work, Education, Health, Third Sector, Police, Housing, Lifelong Learning, Family and Household Support, Community Justice Social Work, and other relevant agencies as work develops.



Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
<p>Keep children “Safe &amp; Together” with the non-offending parent as the most effective way to promote safety, stability, maintain attachments and to heal from trauma</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the knowledge of “Safe and Together” principles;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• keeping child safe and together with non - offending parent</li> <li>• partnering with non-offending parent as default position</li> <li>• intervening with perpetrator to reduce risk and harm to child</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Encourage trained workers to provide partner agencies and the third sector with briefings, consultations and mappings to inform better assessments and plans for children</li> </ul>	<p>Increase in use of Safe and Together principles</p> <p>Increase shared knowledge and understanding of how to work with families impacted by Domestic Abuse</p>	<p>All children and young people reach their potential and are kept safe</p>
<p>Hold the perpetrator accountable, for his or her behaviour and as a parent, including working with the perpetrator to help change their behaviour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage workers to use the principles which will hold the perpetrator to account.</li> <li>• Continue to increase knowledge of effective services for perpetrators</li> <li>• Capitalise on opportunities for joint assessment and interventions with Community Justice colleagues to reduce the perpetrators risk and plan safe interventions, including safety planning with the non-abusive parent and children</li> </ul>	<p>Increase joint working with Community Justice Domestic Abuse Service for statutory and non-court mandated resources</p> <p>Improved use of tools and accessibility to trained staff</p>	
<p>Ensure children get the support they deserve and strengths-based approaches through restorative practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve engagement with the community to promote knowledge of services and supports for children and young people.</li> <li>• Developing a forum to connect resources and consider other virtual opportunities for consultation.</li> </ul>	<p>Develop and measure outputs from a working group connecting Safe and Together trained staff</p>	



## Case study examples

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### Health and Wellbeing

The South West Physical Activity Alliance was launched at Napier University in August 2018, with a networking event held in Tynecastle Stadium in 2019. Both events were organised by a multi sector planning group led by NHS Health Promotion Service. The networking event in June was focussed on two themes: inclusion and addressing equalities. Issues identified from the event were partnership, networking, support for people to access physical activity and targeting excluded groups. These formed the focus of the work in the locality moving forwards and was also shared with the citywide group that are developing Edinburgh's physical activity strategy. In addition, an interactive GPS map of physical activity in the city is being developed.

During 2019, five local community health and wellbeing events were delivered, one in each of the smaller areas of the locality (Oxgangs, Wester Hailes, Broomhouse/Saughton and Dalry/Fountainbridge) and a fifth in Pentland Villages, led by voluntary sector partners. The aim of the community events was to:

- Celebrate local success
- Facilitate community engagement
- Offer a range of fun activities that were inclusive to appeal to a range of age groups
- Promote local services, activities and support (such as advice services, smoking cessation and voluntary organisations in the area)
- Have a healthy food offering

There was extremely positive feedback from all that participated and attended, and options are being explored to make this an annual occurrence.

### **Oxgangs small area plan**

Through the NHS Lothian Health Improvement Fund, three local organisations successfully received funding to deliver projects in Oxgangs which responded to priorities identified by the community in the small area plan.

Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT) engaged 270 participants in a variety of physical activities and cooking programmes located in different venues across the Oxgangs area – community centres, schools and local parks. Following this, participants gave the following feedback:

- 100% said they felt more aware of their local greenspace and felt more comfortable using them;
- 88% were using greenspace more often;
- 98% were more aware of physical activity; and
- 95% were more physically active than they used to be.

Due to this success, ELGT has secured further funding to enable the work to be sustained, meeting the identified need for the community.

Community Help and Advice Initiative (CHAI) received a grant to employ a part time advice worker to deliver a Family Support and Advice Service in Oxgangs Primary School. The initiative helped people access employability support, reduced levels of stress and mental health issues, improve health and wellbeing, reducing the risk of homelessness and increase child school attainment. 55 individuals received tailored support and advice from this, resulting in a financial gain for clients totalling £10,459.

Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre used their grant award to devise a growing and health eating project called 'Plough to Plate'. The project included a 'garden gang' and cook school, engaging people of different ages and backgrounds. Feedback shows that people benefited from the social interaction through the different activities, welcomed the opportunity to learn and try new recipes and enjoyed working in the garden.



## How we will measure success

The revised priorities include a strategic description of high-level actions and possible measures. This will be underpinned by workplans which set out detailed actions, timescales and the key measures that will demonstrate how change is taking place in each locality.

These more detailed workplans will form the basis of monitoring progress allowing scrutiny of areas of success and identifying improvement needs and will be subject to regular review.

An Annual Progress Report will also be produced evidencing progress on delivering the outcomes in the plan, based on the output of the continuous monitoring and scrutiny, and will be presented to Council Committee and partner governance bodies for further scrutiny and approval.

The core principles and methods for monitoring progress and performance reporting are set out below:

### Principles

- 1 Easy to access and understand**  
Information on how each outcome is progressing needs to be readily available, regularly maintained, clearly laid out and free of jargon.
- 2 Focused on outcomes as well as outputs**  
The aim of monitoring information is to measure the difference made to local people and communities and not just changes made to services.
- 3 Alignment with other strategic aims**  
Partners' progress towards achieving outcomes must be consistent with their own established strategic aims. This is to ensure that the services are working towards clearly aligned goals and are monitoring their work in a consistent way.

### Methods

- 1 Workplans**  
A set of detailed plans relating to the outcomes and associated actions allows monitoring of partner activity and progress towards achieving shared goals.
- 2 Regular performance reports**  
These detail progress towards achieving outcomes for the Locality Leadership Team. They can include actions, key performance indicators, case studies and customer research to give a balanced view on progress. These reports form the basis for the Annual Progress Report.
- 3 Annual Progress Report**  
Progress in achieving outcomes for the locality and small areas will be reported annually to Council Committee and partner governance bodies.



## Further information and contacts

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### Key contacts

Further information about this plan is available by contacting the South West locality team:

- email [southwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:southwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)
- telephone 0131 529 3111 and ask to speak to the Locality Manager or the Lifelong Learning Service Manager.

### Links to plans and strategies

The Locality Improvement Plan links with a range of existing strategies including:

#### The City of Edinburgh Council

- [Business Plan](#)
- [Local Development Plan](#)

#### Edinburgh Partnership

- [Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-22](#)
- [Children's Services Plan](#)
- [Community Learning and Development Plan](#)
- [Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan](#)

#### NHS Lothian

[NHS Lothian Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024](#)

#### Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

[Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan 2019-22](#)

#### Police Scotland

[Strategic Police Plans](#)

#### Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

[Strategic and Local Fire and Rescue Plans for Scotland East](#)

#### Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council and Volunteer Centre Edinburgh

[Everybody's Edinburgh](#)



## Equalities statement

Locality Improvement Plans set out our commitment to promoting equality and diversity. An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) have been carried out, enabling all partners to meet their legal duties to consider equality, human rights, sustainability and the environment. The assessments ensure that the planned services and policies promote equality of opportunity, eliminate discrimination and harassment; and promote good relations between those with protected characteristics and those with none. They also allow broader inequalities to be addressed, ensuring that the needs of all people are met.

For further information or to view a copy of the assessments please contact: [southwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:southwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk)

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