

## THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Tuesday 15 December 2020 – 2:00pm

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams

### MINUTE

#### Board members present

Cllr Adam McVey	The City of Edinburgh Council
Gavin Donoghue	The University of Edinburgh
Sean Scott	Police Scotland
Cllr Robert Aldridge	The City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Susan Rae	The City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Iain Whyte	The City of Edinburgh Council
Elaine Morrison	Scottish Enterprise
John Tibbitt	Edinburgh Association of Community Councils
Cllr Susan Rae	The City of Edinburgh Council
Kenny Rodgers	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Angus McCann	Chair of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board
Ella Simpson	EVOG
Sarah Ogden	Castle Rock Edinvar
Valerie Ormiston	Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce

#### Advisers present

Andrew Kerr	The City of Edinburgh Council
Michael Chalmers	Scottish Government

#### In attendance

Richard Thomas	Police Scotland
Michele Mulvaney	The City of Edinburgh Council
Paula McLeay	The City of Edinburgh Council
Saty Kaur	The City of Edinburgh Council
Chris Adams	The City of Edinburgh Council
Martin Higgins	NHS Lothian
Fifon Heledd	Audit Scotland
Nick Croft	Edinburgh College
Judith Proctor	The City of Edinburgh Council

#### Apologies

Calum Campbell	NHS
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## **1 Minutes**

### **Decision**

To agree the minutes of 29 September 2020 as a correct record.

## **2 Best Value Assurance Audit**

The City of Edinburgh Council had recently undergone a Best Value Assurance Audit with the report published on 26 November 2020. An area of focus was partnership working and community engagement and while the audit related to the Council, given the legal duties of partners, the recommendations made around partnership working were of concern to the Board and, in particular, statutory partners. Details of the findings of relevance to the Edinburgh Partnership were presented and a mechanism for developing a collaborative response by the Board was proposed.

### **Decision**

1. To agree to the convening of a working group comprising, as a minimum, senior officers from those public bodies required to support and facilitate community planning, together with EVOC for the Third Sector.
2. To note that the senior Council officer who would convene the working group would be Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place, and nominations from other partners were sought by close of play on 18 December 2020.
3. To agree to task the working group to develop a response to address the findings of the audit with this to be reported to the Board by March 2021.
4. To agree to the recommendation by the Children's Partnership that the Edinburgh Partnership identified a Lead Officer to drive digital inclusion across public services for citizens of all ages, and to communicate with children, young people and families, the general public, and services staff at all levels, and to progress this work under the auspices of the Best Value Audit Working Group.
5. To agree to consider Food Insecurity matters as part of the Working Group's overall remit.

## **3 Poverty Commission**

The final report of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission was presented and provided a summary of calls to action from the Commission for response by the Edinburgh Partnership, and made recommendations for actions to be incorporated through ongoing development of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). The report

also made an outline proposal for an in-principle commitment of Edinburgh Partnership match funding to support the development of the End Poverty Edinburgh citizen group, subject to a formal proposal for consideration by the Partnership in March 2021.

## **Decision**

1. To note the final report published by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission.
2. To express thanks to the independent members of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission for leading the most comprehensive inquiry into poverty and its solutions ever conducted in any local authority area in Scotland, and in particular for the more than 600 hours of volunteer time they had committed to the work of the Commission.
3. To express thanks also to the over 70 organisations and 1,000 participants who took time to attend meetings, workshops, interviews, focus groups, and to submit the written evidence on which the Commission has based its findings.
4. To agree that the Edinburgh Partnership would commit to working collectively toward embedding within the LOIP, the aim of ending poverty in Edinburgh by 2030 as defined by the four targets set by the Commission such that by 2030:
  - i. No-one in Edinburgh needed to go without basic essentials they needed to eat, keep clean, stay warm and dry.
  - ii. Fewer than one in ten people were living in relative poverty in Edinburgh at any given time.
  - iii. No-one in Edinburgh lived in persistent poverty.
  - iv. No-one in Edinburgh experienced stigma due to their income.
5. To Agree that the Edinburgh Partnership should consider an annual report on progress against delivery of actions to end poverty in Edinburgh, incorporating reporting against progress towards meeting each of the four end poverty targets outlined above, and with the first such report to be prepared for Autumn 2021.
6. To note Appendix 1 of the report and the specific calls to action the Commission had made for leadership and delivery by the Edinburgh Partnership as a collective.
7. To note that a number of these actions were already in development as part of the LOIP Action Plan and agree that the LOIP Delivery Group developed proposals to ensure that appropriate outstanding partnership actions were further developed and incorporated as core elements of the LOIP Action Plan.
8. To note the importance of a joined-up approach to advice and information as a foundation of poverty prevention that enables and supports citizens to fully claim entitlements and avoid the damaging impact of debt that could lead to increased crisis and homelessness.
9. To agree that, in line with the LOIP progress update and as a matter of priority in response to current economic conditions, the LOIP delivery group should

develop a project outline for a new partnership approach to the commissioning and delivery of advice and information services across the city.

10. To agree that, in addition to collective measures described above, all partnership members should prepare, for publication on the Edinburgh Poverty Commission website, an outline of the commitment and actions to be taken by their own individual organisations in response to the commission calls to action.
11. To agree to meet with the new End Poverty Edinburgh citizen group to discuss future ways of working to ensure that the voices of people with experience of poverty continue to inform the way the Partnership plans and delivers services.
12. To agree, subject to approval of detailed proposals, to provide match funding for ongoing support and development of the End Poverty Edinburgh citizen group from 2021/22, and to agree that such work was carried out with appropriate alignment to Partnership approaches to community engagement and the taking forward of published findings from the Mind the Craic programme.

#### **Declaration of Interests**

Councillor Day declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Poverty Commission Member.

## **4 Food Insecurity**

The Scottish Government's initial funding for Covid19 support activities ended in September 2020. On 20 October 2020 the Scottish Government announced that a £30 million package of funding was being made available to local authorities to support people facing financial hardship because of coronavirus. Edinburgh's allocation had been confirmed as £1.36m. This funding would be primarily used to provide direct financial support through various schemes such as the Scottish Welfare Scheme and other financial support initiatives. It would also be used to reinstate the Council/EVOC coordinated emergency food support pathway that operated efficiently during the first months of the pandemic. In addition to these immediate support activities and consistent with feedback from the third sector, work was also being planned to engage with partner organisations on future service provision, including tackling food insecurity. This work would align with the Council's response to the Edinburgh Poverty Commission's recent publication.

### **Decision**

- 1 To note the update in relation to the ongoing immediate support activities which were underway to address financial hardship associated with COVID-19.

- 2 To note the Council's intention to engage with the third sector on a longer-term strategy to tackle financial hardship in Edinburgh.

## **5 Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) – Progress Update**

The Edinburgh Partnership was required under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to produce a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). A progress report on the current plan, approved in October 2018, was provided in the last cycle of the Board. This report provided an update on progress in the development of the priorities of the plan through the LOIP Delivery Group. It addressed the partners' approach to recovery planning and the findings from the Poverty Commission, together with existing activity across the city, to avoid duplication, and create distinct action that adds value to the overall strategic approach.

### **Decision**

1. To agree to note, review and discuss the progress made in developing the LOIP delivering LOIP priorities, as set out in this report.
2. To agree to provide the LOIP Delivery Group with the mandate to progress activity in relation to the review of commissioning, funding and service provision with a view to establishing clear aims and co-ordination of income maximisation services in Edinburgh.
3. To agree that a structured workshop was held for the Board to assist in identifying actions in relation to priority 3:
4. To agree the approach for the further development of LOIP, and the intention to accelerate delivery of LOIP priorities through a strengthened delivery plan.
5. To agree to recognise the need for the LOIP to incorporate actions resulting from the Edinburgh Poverty Commission recommendations, after Board consideration of those recommendations.

## **6 Locality Improvement Plans**

The city's four revised Locality Improvements Plans for were presented for approval and a summary of next steps.

### **Decision**

1. To note the delay to present the plans for approval in Summer 2020 due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.
2. To approve the four revised plans as presented in Appendices 1-4 of the report.
3. To note the work to develop detailed action plans was ongoing and included alignment of local performance indicators with citywide measures to strengthen the approach to performance monitoring.

4. To note the work to identify where actions that were no longer in the plans would go was underway and was expected to be completed early 2021.
5. To agree to receive a report on the outcome of review of the operational arrangements at a future Board meeting in 2021.

## **7 Recovery Planning – Verbal Updates By Partners**

Each organisation attending was invited to share how their organisation was progressing with their recovery planning in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **Decision**

To note the respective updates provided by Board members.

## **8 Edinburgh Community Learning and Development Plan**

Led by the Council Lifelong Learning service, the Community Learning and Development Partnership (CLDP) had produced an Edinburgh CLD plan for 2018-2021. The plan focused on key areas of activity which was intended to add value to community learning and development delivery by identifying where the partnership could bring fresh thinking and collaborative effort to make a difference and improve outcomes. The CLDP wished to update the Edinburgh Partnership Board on progress 2019/20 and point to a revised approach to the plan for 2020 to 2021.

### **Decision**

To note the progress and the revised approach within the CLDP.

## **9 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 23 March 2021 at 2pm.