

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10:00am, Tuesday, 5 October 2021

End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Report

Executive/routine Wards Council Commitments	Executive All
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1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that Committee:

- 1.1.1 Approves the first annual progress report against the Council's End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan, and agree actions for priority delivery during the next 12 months;
- 1.1.2 Note that this report also incorporates and meets the Council's statutory duty to publish an annual Local Child Poverty Action Report;
- 1.1.3 Agrees that this report will be referred to the Education, Children and Families Committee for further scrutiny on actions relating to child poverty, with particular reference to the actions discussed in section 4.5 of Appendix 1; and,
- 1.1.4 Notes that this report will be further referred for discussion by the Edinburgh Partnership and related groups.

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End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Report

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides a summary of actions taking by the Council and partners in response to the calls to action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission. As such, the report provides the first annual progress report against the Council's End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan.
- 2.2 In line with recommendations made by the Commission, the report also incorporates and meets the Council's duty to produce, in partnership with NHS Lothian, an annual Local Child Poverty Action Report.

3. Background

- 3.1 In September 2020 the Edinburgh Poverty Commission published its final report with a call to action for the steps the city needs to take to End Poverty in Edinburgh by 2030. This report was considered by Policy and Sustainability Committee in October 2020.
- 3.2 In December 2020 the Policy and Sustainability Committee approved an End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan in response to the Commission's findings. The plan set out 11 priority actions for implementation in 2021, and 44 actions for mainstream delivery through existing or forthcoming Council plans and strategies.
- 3.3 Committee agreed that the first annual progress report on ending poverty would be considered in Autumn 2021, marking one year since the publication of Edinburgh Poverty Commission findings.
- 3.4 In February 2021 the Council approved a new Council Business Plan, incorporating 'End Poverty in Edinburgh by 2030' as one of three core priorities for the work of the Council.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Appendix 1 to this report provides the first annual review of progress towards meeting Edinburgh Poverty Commission calls to action. The report covers the period from October 2020 to the end of September 2021 and includes the ongoing

response to the Covid-19 pandemic, which has been significant in informing current and future actions.

- 4.2 In line with recommendations made by the Commission, this report combines annual reporting on end poverty delivery plans, with the statutory duty all Councils and NHS boards have to produce an annual Local Child Poverty Action Report.
- 4.3 In doing so, this report reviews progress against all 7 elements of the End Poverty in Edinburgh call to action, including specific focus on those actions related to the scale and impact of child poverty in the city.

Progress against headline end poverty targets

- 4.4 Latest data on poverty rates in Edinburgh show no annual change against baseline estimates established by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission. An estimated 78,900 people in Edinburgh were living in relative poverty after housing costs in the period to 2020, including 16,100 children.
- 4.5 This data does not yet incorporate the full impacts of the Covid pandemic on poverty rates and levels. Most commentators project a rise in poverty rates across the UK during late 2021 and early 2022 driven in part by rising living costs including the cost of energy, planned benefits cuts, and slow earnings growth. The first official data covering the period affected by pandemic will be available in Spring 2022.
- 4.6 In order to be on track to meet end poverty targets in Edinburgh, a 3 percentage point (15% to 12%) reduction in all age poverty is needed by 2024. To meet interim child poverty targets, a 5 percentage point reduction in poverty is needed by 2024 - representing the removal of 1,000 children from poverty in Edinburgh each year.

Delivering on the calls to action

- 4.7 The Edinburgh Poverty Commission called for the first 12 months following publication of its final report to be focused on:
 - 4.7.1 Building a strong foundation for the long-term actions needed to change ways of working and prevent poverty in Edinburgh, as well as
 - 4.7.2 Providing immediate improvements and upscaling of support for people experiencing poverty in the city today.
- 4.8 In line with these objectives, the report shows good progress by the Council and partners over the past year, including good progress against each of the 11 actions the Commission highlighted for priority in 2021.
- 4.9 These actions have been supported by approval during spring 2021 of a Council budget package incorporating over £2.5m of additional budget investments directly focused on meeting Edinburgh Poverty Commission actions. During this financial year, this investment is now delivering:
 - 4.9.1 Expansion of the Council's money advice and income maximisation services with capacity to support up to 1,500 additional clients over the next year. In total,

Council Advice Shop and third sector income maximisation services, helped citizen's in Edinburgh achieve some £22m of financial gains through improved access to entitlements and reduced costs during the last full year for which data is available.

- 4.9.2 Additional resources to support the Maximise! project provide city-wide family and household support to over 300 families over the next year to raise incomes and prevent poverty.
 - 4.9.3 Additional resources for expansion of the Discover! programme to help 671 families and 1,346 children with support to reduce and prevent food and financial insecurity (a more than doubling of reach for the programme)
 - 4.9.4 New resources to support people at risk of homelessness, help those experiencing homelessness into secure tenancies, and reduce the number of households currently in temporary accommodation by 650 by March 2023.
 - 4.9.5 Additional resource and capacity for crisis support allowing Scottish Welfare Fund and discretionary support funds to reach people most in need, and to support the creation of a Food Charity Support Fund to support community-based organisations working to help people in food insecurity.
 - 4.9.6 Support for the relaunch of the Edinburgh Guarantee as a programme to support people of all ages into work or learning, and
 - 4.9.7 Capacity and resources to develop the 20-minute Neighbourhood and Prevention based service models critical to meeting the Commission's long-term calls to action for reform in the way people in Edinburgh access and experience support to escape and avoid poverty
- 4.10 In addition to action supported by new investment, the last 12 months has also seen progress across all 7 of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission's calls to action through implementation and improvement of mainstream Council services and strategies. Key points of progress noted in the annual report include:
- 4.10.1 Committing to pay all Council staff the Scottish Local Government Living Wage, changing the pay structure so that 4,400 employees in grades 1 to 3 received a pay uplift
 - 4.10.2 Increasing in the number of new council suppliers who pay the living wage
 - 4.10.3 Leading the establishment of a new group of employers across all key sectors to deliver actions needed to make Edinburgh a Living Wage City and help lift 40,000 Edinburgh workers out of low pay
 - 4.10.4 Supporting 3,800 people in Edinburgh through Council funded employability programmes
 - 4.10.5 Delivering £41.45m Council investment in building new homes.
 - 4.10.6 Through partnership working, reducing the number of people sleeping rough in Edinburgh to 10 or less on any given night, down from 80-120 before the pandemic.

- 4.10.7 Delivered over 44,000 crisis and community care grants during the year to March 21, more than double the previous year, and
- 4.10.8 Made 8,800 Free School Meal payments and 8,300 School Uniform Grant payments in the last school year – a 50% year on year increase in payment numbers.

Actions to end child poverty

- 4.11 In line with statutory guidance, the report incorporates actions underway in Edinburgh to meet Scottish Government child poverty targets for 2030. Within each of the 7 calls for action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, the report highlights specific actions tailored to improving outcomes for families, children and young people. These include:
 - 4.11.1 Action to improve employment outcomes for young people and school leavers through Young Person's Guarantee Team, Modern Apprenticeships, and employability support for parents
 - 4.11.2 Action to improve income security and reduce living costs, through family focused advice and services such as Maximise!, as well as provision of key supports for families such as free school meal payments and school uniform grants.
 - 4.11.3 Action to improve support for children and families in temporary accommodation
 - 4.11.4 Action to improve education outcomes and prospects, through the Edinburgh Learns for Life programme, Youth work partnerships and establishment of the learning communities approach, and
 - 4.11.5 Action to improve wellbeing for families experiencing poverty, through family focused programmes such as Discover!

End Poverty Edinburgh

- 4.12 Underpinning this work, the past year has also seen the establishment of End Poverty Edinburgh - an independent group of citizens with experience of poverty in Edinburgh and their allies.
- 4.13 Supported by the Poverty Alliance, group members have worked together over the last year to build their knowledge and capacity. The group had their first meeting with Elected Members in August and will meet with Edinburgh Partnership members in December 2021. Group members have also been involved in the process of preparing this annual report, by meeting with officers to discuss progress and sharing their views on progress and priority next steps.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Subject to approval by this committee, this report will be referred to the Education, Children and Families Committee for further scrutiny on elements related to Child Poverty.
- 5.2 The report will be further referred for partnership discussion by appropriate Edinburgh Partnership groups.
- 5.3 The report highlights key next steps for priority progress during year 2 of the End Poverty Delivery Plan. These include:
 - 5.3.1 Continue to provide and improve access to crisis support and advice for people struggling with rising living costs including the cost of energy, benefits cuts and other challenges;
 - 5.3.2 Complete consultation on and take forward actions to implement a Short Term Lets Control Zone in Edinburgh;
 - 5.3.3 Complete and respond to the review of city-wide advice services currently being commissioned by Edinburgh Partnership to improve the reach and impact of advice and income maximisation activities;
 - 5.3.4 Launch and promote the Edinburgh Living Wage City action plan, with an aim to secure 100 additional living wage accredited employers during 2022;
 - 5.3.5 Work with partners across the city to develop a new approach to improving food security in Edinburgh;
 - 5.3.6 Implement phase 1 actions to develop 20-minute neighbourhood and poverty prevention service models in Edinburgh;
 - 5.3.7 Work with End Poverty Edinburgh group to ensure that people with lived experience of poverty are involved in development of key policy areas highlighted by the group;
 - 5.3.8 Implement, promote and embed a new blended employability service due to start in April 2022;
 - 5.3.9 Continue to engage with UK and Scottish Government policy makers on areas of national policy critical to meeting end poverty goals in Edinburgh, including social security and funding requirements to address housing need in Edinburgh;
 - 5.3.10 Continue to implement key mainstream strategies critical to meeting end poverty goals in Edinburgh, including Edinburgh Learns for Life, Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, and actions to increase the availability of affordable homes and rents; and,
 - 5.3.11 Continue to develop and improve the evidence base needed to implement actions to end poverty, including evidence on poverty related stigma, the impact of budget decisions on people in poverty, and ensuring that appropriate integrated impact assessments are in place for all elements of the End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Delivery of actions outlined in this report will be taken forward within agreed Council budgets. Any additional budget requirements identified will be discussed and agreed through annual budget decision making processes.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 The End Poverty Edinburgh citizen group have informed and supported the development of this report, which has been drafted with support and active involvement by stakeholders including NHS Lothian, Capital City Partnership, EVOC and others.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 [A Just Capital: Edinburgh Poverty Commission Final Report, September 2020](#)
- 8.2 [End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan 2020-30](#)

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix One – End Poverty in Edinburgh Annual Progress Report, October 2021

End Poverty in Edinburgh – Annual Progress Report

October 2021

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Executive Summary

In September 2020, the Edinburgh Poverty Commission published a call to action for the city, laying out the steps and commitments needed to end poverty in Edinburgh within this decade.

This is the first annual report on the citywide response to that challenge. It provides an overview of progress made by the City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian, third sector and other partners against the specific actions set by the Commission, including a specific focus on child poverty actions. In doing so, this report fulfils statutory requirements for the Council and NHS Lothian to co-produce an annual Local Child Poverty Action Report setting out partners contributions towards meeting Scottish Government Child Poverty targets.

Progress against headline end poverty targets

- 78,900 people in Edinburgh were in relative poverty after housing costs in 2020, including 16,100 children
- Poverty rates, including child poverty, remain unchanged against baseline levels.
- Data do not yet incorporate the full effects of pandemic. Poverty rates for the year 2020/21 will not be available until Spring 2022.
- Most commentators project poverty rates likely to rise in late 2021/early 2022.
- New data on destitution levels pre-pandemic estimate that 19,800 people (including 4,500 children) in Edinburgh went without basic essentials in 2019.
- In order to be on track to meet End Poverty targets in Edinburgh, a 3-percentage point (15% to 12%) reduction in all age poverty is needed by 2024.
- To meet interim child poverty targets, a 5-percentage point reduction in poverty is needed by 2024 – representing the removal of 1,000 children from poverty in Edinburgh each year.

Actions to end poverty – progress in 2021

The Edinburgh Poverty Commission called for the first 12 months following publication of its final report to be focused on:

- Building a strong foundation for the long-term actions needed to change ways of working and prevent poverty in Edinburgh, as well as
- Providing immediate improvements and upscaling of support for people experiencing poverty in the city today.

In line with these objectives, this report shows good progress by the Council, NHS, Third Sector and other partners over the past year, including progress against each of the 11 actions the Commission highlighted for priority in 2021.

Key actions delivered in 2021

Providing immediate crisis support to people in need: Over 44,000 crisis and community care grants were delivered in the past year (more than double the previous year) alongside 8,800 Free School Meal payments and 8,300 School Uniform Grant payments (at 50% increase in take up).

Led by the third sector, partners across the city provided 45,864 meals as food parcels and 3,654 pre-prepared meals during the first half of 2021 alone for people in food crisis

Expanding Council and third sector advice and income maximisation services. Together Council and third sector services secured a total of £22m of financial gains for Edinburgh citizens through improved access to entitlements and reduced costs.

Leading the promotion of fair work in Edinburgh. 4,400 Council employees received a pay uplift as part of commitments to paying the real Living Wage. A new action group of employers committed to making Edinburgh a Living Wage City was established in 2021, with a goal to encourage 500 new living wage accredited employers in the city in the next five years.

Improving access to employability support. Edinburgh Guarantee was relaunched with a focus on support for people of all ages, alongside launch of a new Young Person's Guarantee Team and nine new employability services for parents. In total Council funded employability programmes supported almost 3,800 people during 2020/21.

Addressing the housing and homelessness crisis in Edinburgh. New investment to trial new ways of working to prevent homelessness and reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation was established. To date preventative services have supported over 300 private rented tenants and 30 council tenants to avoid eviction and homelessness

£41.45m Council investment was made during 2020/21 in building new homes, with 252 new social rented homes built in the last year.

Improving prospects and opportunities. A new Edinburgh Learns for Life programme was launched to drive long term improvements needed to close the attainment and achievement gaps. Progress was made in establishment of Learning Communities to make sure that children living in poverty receive early intervention and holistic support. Locality Operational Groups were established to improve partnership responses to reach those children and families most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty.

Improving equalities in health and wellbeing. Alongside actions to improve access to Covid testing and vaccination for people at risk of poverty, the last 12 months have seen continued progress in key projects across the city.

Thrive Edinburgh is working to promote and protect mental health, resilience, self-esteem, family strength, and joy in Edinburgh.

Building the foundations for long term change

In addition to these actions, key strategic responses were made during 2021 which will be critical to city's ability to make the long-term system wide changes needed to end poverty in the city. These include:

- Establishing **End Poverty Edinburgh** as an independent group of citizens with lived experience of poverty to raise awareness of

poverty in Edinburgh and influence decision-making on measures to tackle poverty in the city

- Investing in capacity and resources to develop the **20-minute Neighbourhood and Prevention** based service models critical to meeting the Commission's long-term calls to action for reform in the way people in Edinburgh access and experience support to escape and avoid poverty, and
- Establishing **The Edinburgh Pact** - a new programme under development in 2021 which aims to radically transform the way that Edinburgh delivers its health and social care services to prevent crisis and support people to manage their health and personal independence.

Addressing child poverty in Edinburgh

Within each of the 7 calls for action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, this report highlights specific actions tailored to improving outcomes for families, children and young people. These include:

- Action to improve employment outcomes for young people and school leavers through Young Person's Guarantee Team, Modern Apprenticeships, and employability support for parents
- Action to improve income security and reduce living costs, through family focused advice and services such as Maximise!, as well as provision of key supports for families such as free school meal payments and school uniform grants.
- Action to improve support for children and families in temporary accommodation
- Action to improve impact of Corporate Parenting
- Action to improve education outcomes and prospects, through the Edinburgh Learns for Life programme, Youth work partnerships and establishment of the learning communities approach, and
- Action to improve wellbeing for families experiencing poverty, through family focused programmes such as Discover!

Priorities for 2022

Over the next 12 months, partners across the city will continue to work together to improve the impact of actions to end poverty, both through implementation of mainstream existing actions, and through development of new approaches and projects.

Key priorities for delivery during the year to September 2022 include:

1. Continue to provide and **improve access to crisis support and advice for people struggling with rising living costs**, benefits cuts and other challenges
2. Complete consultation on and take forward actions to implement a **Short Term Lets Control Zone** in Edinburgh
3. Complete and respond to the **review of city-wide advice services** currently being commissioned by Edinburgh Partnership to improve the reach and impact of advice and income maximisation activities
4. Launch and promote the **Edinburgh Living Wage City** action plan, with an aim to secure 100 additional living wage accredited employers during 2022
5. Work with partners across the city to develop a new approach to **improving food security** in Edinburgh
6. Implement phase 1 actions to develop **20 minute neighbourhood and poverty prevention** service models in Edinburgh, and continue development of **Edinburgh Pact** and **Thrive Edinburgh**
7. Work with **End Poverty Edinburgh** group to ensure that people with lived experience of poverty are involved in development of key policy areas highlighted by the group.
8. Implement, promote and embed a **new blended employability service** due to start in April 2022
9. Continue to **engage with UK and Scottish Government** policy makers on areas of national policy critical to meeting end poverty goals in Edinburgh, including social security and funding requirements to address housing need in Edinburgh
10. Continue to implement key mainstream strategies critical to meeting end poverty goals in Edinburgh, including **Edinburgh Learns for Life, Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan**, and actions to increase the availability of affordable **homes and rents**
11. Continue to **develop and improve the evidence base** needed to implement actions to end poverty, including evidence on poverty related stigma, the impact of budget decisions on people in poverty, and ensuring that appropriate integrated impact assessments are in place for all elements of the End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan.

1. Introduction

In September 2020 the Edinburgh Poverty Commission published its final report with a call to action for the steps the city needs to take to **End Poverty in Edinburgh by 2030**ⁱ.

Following the most extensive process of inquiry into poverty, its causes, consequences and solutions ever undertaken in a Scottish local authority, the Commission identified 6 areas for focused action by city partners – **fair work, a decent home, income security, opportunities to progress, connections and belonging, health and wellbeing** - and one cultural challenge to remove stigma and improve the experience people in Edinburgh have when seeking help to escape from poverty.

Reporting on progress

This report provides the first annual review of progress towards meeting Edinburgh Poverty Commission calls to action.

The Commission's final report set clear expectations for delivery stating that:

- The first 12 months (the year 2021) should be a period of delivering actions that can be implemented immediately, and building the foundations for future action
- 2022-24 should focus on delivery and acceleration of progress, and
- 2025-30 should be a period of sustained and measurable impact.

In line with recommendations made by the Commission, this report will combine annual reporting on end poverty delivery plans, with the statutory duty for all Councils and NHS boards to produce an annual **Local Child Poverty Action Report**.

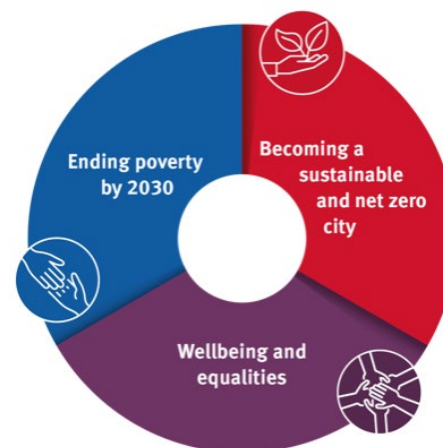
In doing so, this report will review progress against all 7 elements of the End Poverty in Edinburgh call to action, including specific focus on those actions and challenges related to the scale and impact of child poverty in the city.

The report covers the period from October 2020 to the end of September 2021 and includes the ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic, which has been significant in informing current and future actions.

Strategic responses in the last 12 months

Since the publication of the report, the City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian and the Edinburgh Partnership have all taken first steps towards establishing the strategic responses needed to meet this challenge:

- In December 2020, [City of Edinburgh Council](#) published an End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan setting out the actions it would take in response to the Commission's report
- In February 2021, City of Edinburgh Council published [a new business plan](#) incorporating 'End Poverty in Edinburgh by 2030' as one of three core priorities for the work of the Council.



- In Spring of 2021 these commitments were further backed by the commitment of more than £2.5m of additional Council investment in new actions to end poverty.
- In the same period, **Edinburgh Partnership** members agreed to embed the 'End Poverty in Edinburgh by 2030' target within the city's **Local Outcome Improvement Plan** and agreed actions in response to the Commission's report

- In Autumn 2020 a new [End Poverty Edinburgh](#) group of citizens with lived experience of poverty was launched, with commitments from City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Partnership to support

their work and ensure that citizen's voices were heard in the design and implementation of actions to end poverty.

- **Edinburgh Children's Partnership** launched a new [Children's Services Plan](#), covering the period to 2023, with three priorities: **Best Start in Life** (ensuring appropriate support is provided at the right time to children and their families), **Bridging the Gap** (ensuring that regardless of the challenges their circumstances may bring, every child will have the same chance to live a healthy, happy and fulfilling life), and **Be Everything You Can Be** (promoting and supporting every child's aspirations, so that every child has the right to have all their needs met and be able to shape and live a fulfilling life).



- In May 2021, City of Edinburgh Council published [Edinburgh Learns for Life](#), a revised strategic plan for education to meet long term city priorities amid the emerging pressures and opportunities presented by COVID. The plan makes a specific response to the findings of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, with a focus on the poverty-related

attainment gap and inequitable pathways, and culture change needed to remove the stigma of poverty.

- Within this plan, the work of the **Edinburgh Learns for Life Equity Board** plays a clear role in ensuring alignment of all functions – estates, curriculum, and inclusion – towards goals to end poverty.
- In response to the Edinburgh Poverty Commission recommendations, **NHS Lothian** has recognised the need for a Lothian wide approach to tackling poverty and inequalities exacerbated by COVID-19. The corporate objectives for 2021-22 include developing and defining an approach to inequalities and poverty and establishing an Anchor Institutions approach. A Board has been established to oversee this work and is chaired by the Director of Public Health.
- A restructure of public health within **NHS Lothian** has resulted in the creation of a public health team that is aligned to the City of Edinburgh, to provide public health leadership, insight, support and delivery to the development of place-based approaches to improving physical, social, emotional and economic wellbeing.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

During the past 12 months, Edinburgh Children's Partnership published its first report on the steps the Partnership has taken to progress the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child across its services. The report sets out evidence on progress and challenges in relation to each of and provides recommendations for future priorities in promoting children's rights as described in:

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)
- the Edinburgh Wellbeing Outcomes to ensure that every child is Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included (SHANARRI), and
- Partners' Corporate Parenting roles in working together to meet the needs of looked after children, young people and care leavers.

2. Progress against headline targets

“Ending poverty does not mean Edinburgh becoming a city in which no one ever loses a job or experiences a period of their life on low income. But it does mean Edinburgh being a city where periods of low income are temporary, not permanent traps, where a period of low income does not mean having to go without food, or warmth, or safety. And it means Edinburgh becoming a city where the number of people experiencing low income at any given time falls to a level comparable with the highest performing societies in Europe”

Edinburgh Poverty Commission

The Edinburgh Poverty Commission set four specific targets for the city to deliver by 2030. These targets are consistent with statutory targets set out in the Child Poverty (Scotland) Actⁱⁱ.

By 2030, Edinburgh should aim to be a city in which:		
Target	Latest data	Yr1 progress
Edinburgh Poverty Commission Targets		
1. Fewer than one in ten children and fewer than one in ten adults are living in relative poverty at any given time.	15% (all ages) 19% (children)	No change
2. No one has to go without the basic essentials they need to eat, keep clean and safe, and stay warm and dry	4% (all ages) 5% (children)	New baseline set
3. No-one lives in persistent poverty.	12% (all ages) 16% (children)	No change
4. No one feels stigmatised, abandoned, or treated with less respect by the city as a result of their income.	No data yet available	No data yet available
Additional Scottish Government Child Poverty 2030 Targetsⁱⁱⁱ		
Fewer than 5% of children should live in absolute poverty	17%	No change
Fewer than 5% of children should live in combined low income and material deprivation	13% (Scotland data only)	No change

For most data points it should be noted that the latest available estimates relate to the period to Spring/Summer 2020. As such, most of the official statistics available here do not yet tell a clear picture about the impact of the pandemic on people in poverty in Edinburgh.

During the year 2020/21 (for which official data will not be available until Spring 2022) most commentators project that poverty rates may show a slight fall– driven by a combination of falling median incomes due to the pandemic, alongside the positive impacts of temporary uplifts to Universal Credit payments. This potential dip, however, is expected to be reversed during 2021/22 driven by:

- Planned withdrawal of Universal Credit uplifts – expected to affect 34,000 families in Edinburgh and a £35m drop in benefit payments^{iv}.
- Rising unemployment – The Scottish Fiscal Commission project unemployment rates in Scotland rises to 5% in 2022, up from 4.6% in early 2021^v.
- Sluggish growth in earnings – real median earnings in 2021/22 are forecast to grow by only 1.9%, well down on the 2.6% growth recorded pre-pandemic in 2019/20^{vi}
- Rising costs – The Bank of England forecast inflation to rise to 4% in Q4 2021 not returning to the current 2% until 2023, with resulting impacts on the costs of basic goods and potential upward pressure on interest rates^{vii}
- Increased debt – Resolution Foundation analysis shows that additional pandemic costs, alongside lost earnings, have led to increased debt in the past year, especially for lower income families^{viii}

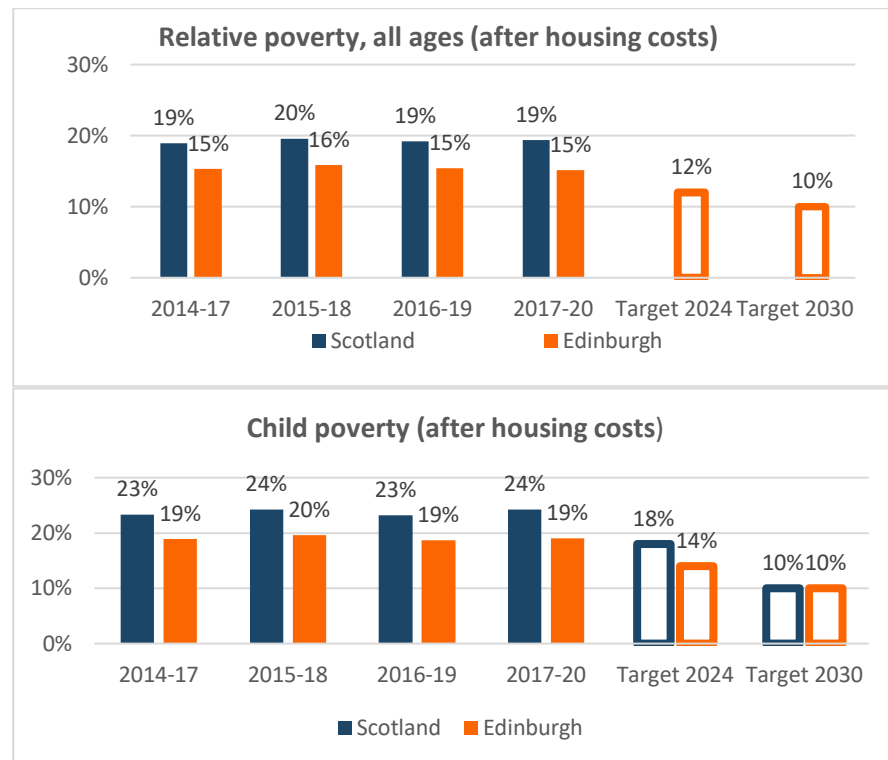
Taken together these trends represent a significant upside risk to poverty rates over the next two years. Recent estimates published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation imply that the removal of Universal Credit uplifts alone could result in 2,700 people (including 1,000 children) in Edinburgh falling

into poverty, resulting in a potential 1 percentage point increase in citywide poverty rates.

Target 1: Fewer than one in ten children and fewer than one in ten adults are living in relative poverty at any given time

Latest estimates show that a total of 78,900 people in Edinburgh were living in relative poverty after housing costs in 2017-20, or 15% of the total population of the city.

Of these, 16,100 children grow up in families living in poverty in Edinburgh, an estimated 18% of all children in the city.



In common with patterns across Scotland as whole, these data show no significant change from the baseline levels established at launch of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission final report.

In order to be on track to meet 2030 targets, a 3-percentage point reduction in all age poverty in Edinburgh is needed over the period to 2024 – from 15% to 12%. For Child poverty, a 5-percentage point reduction in poverty is needed in Edinburgh by 2024 to be on track for 2030 targets. This challenge represents the **removal of 1,000 children from poverty in Edinburgh each year** and is similar in scale to that seen across Scotland as a whole in meeting interim targets set by the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act.

Are these targets achievable?

Analysis carried out in the past year by [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#) has aimed to quantify the contribution individual policy measures could make in helping to meet Scotland’s child poverty targets.

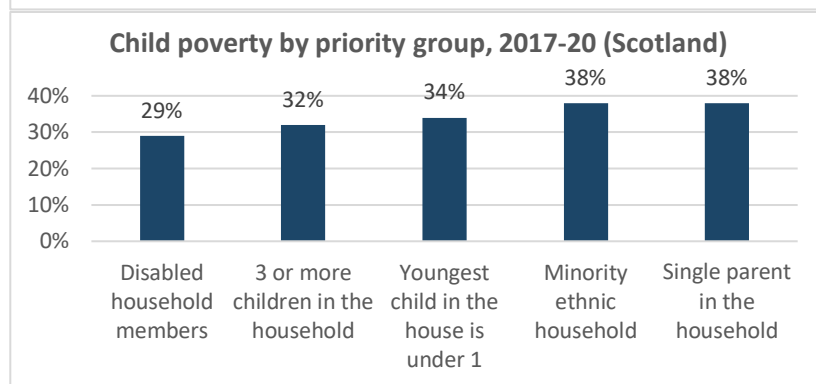
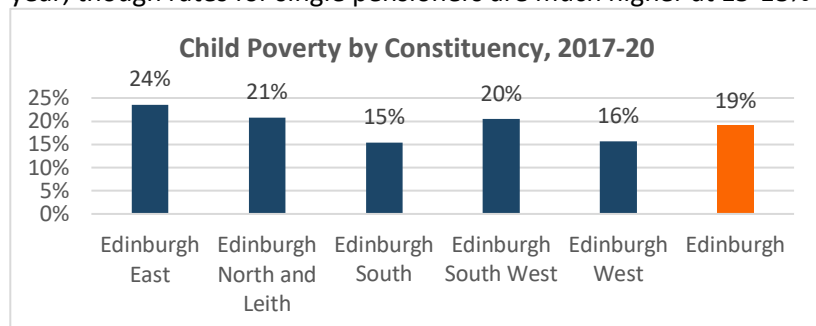
The analysis modelled the impact of a policy package which included ensuring that all working parents received at least a Real Living Wage, ensuring that Local Housing Allowances covered 100% of rents, and uplifting the Scottish Child Payment to £25. The modelling showed that this combined package could reduce Scottish Child Poverty rates from 24% to 18% by 2024 (so meeting Scottish Government interim targets) and help lift more than 60,000 children out of poverty.

In Edinburgh such policies could help cut Child Poverty from **19% to 14%** - a drop sufficient to meet interim Edinburgh Poverty Commission targets - and **help lift more than 4,000 children out of poverty**.

While the specific policy measures modelled in this analysis are outwith the control of the City of Edinburgh, the issues they address are the direct focus of many of the local actions described in this report– maximising incomes for families, reducing the cost of housing, and increasing the number of workers receiving at least the Real Living Wage – confirming the contribution these measures can make to meeting Edinburgh Poverty Commission targets.

The risk of poverty varies considerably across Edinburgh, both spatially and in terms of household type.

- Child poverty rates vary considerably across Edinburgh, from a low of 15% in Edinburgh South to a high of 25% in Edinburgh East^x
- Children and Families in priority groups have a higher risk of being in relative poverty than other households. This is particularly true for those in ethnic minority households and those with a single parent in the household^x
- Poverty rates are highest among renting households. 39% of social and 34% of private renting households live in relative poverty.
- In work poverty rates continue to rise. The proportion of children growing up in poverty in working families rose from 65% to 68% in the last year
- Overall pensioner poverty rates remain steady at 11% in the past year, though rates for single pensioners are much higher at 15-18%



Target 2: No one has to go without the basic essentials they need to eat, keep clean and safe, and stay warm and dry

People in the UK are considered destitute if they have lacked two or more of the following six essential items over the past month, because they cannot afford them – Shelter, Food, Heat or Lighting for their home, Clothing or Footwear, or Basic Toiletries.

A recent report by Heriot Watt University provides a detailed analysis of Destitution in the UK in 2019 and offers an updated and improved baseline estimate on which to base future progress against this Edinburgh Poverty Commission target.^{xi}

The report finds that in any given single week an estimated 0.66% of all Edinburgh households experienced destitution. This is slightly lower than the average for Scotland as a whole, although Edinburgh records higher than average destitution rates for migrant households.

Across an entire year, these estimates suggest that 8,800 households were destitute in Edinburgh at some point during 2019, equivalent to 4% of all households in the city. Using average data on composition of destitute households, this implies a total of over 19,000 individuals, including 4,500 children.

% of households destitute in a given week, 2019		
	Edinburgh	Scotland
Migrant	0.14%	0.10%
Complex needs	0.18%	0.21%
UK other	0.34%	0.45%
Total	0.66%	0.76%
Annualised destitution estimates		
Households	8,800 (4%)	106,000
Individuals	19,800 (4%)	238,500
Children	4,500 (5%)	54,205
Source: Destitution in the UK 2020, Heriot Watt University; City of Edinburgh Council Analysis		

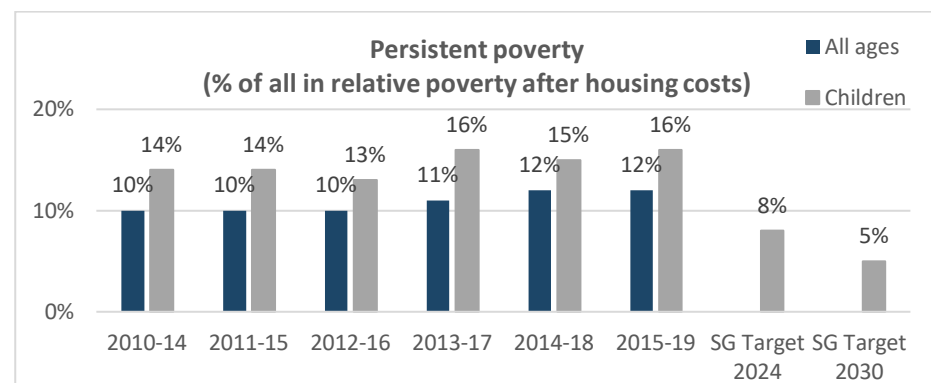
This is a higher total than has been provided by previous estimates but is consistent with other recently published data on severe poverty in Scotland. One recent analysis shows that 4% of all people in Scotland experienced ‘very low’ food security in 2020 – meaning very often having to skip meals or running out of food due to a lack of money. Applied to Edinburgh data, this would imply a total of **20,400 Edinburgh citizens experiencing ‘very low’ food security in 2020.**^{xii}

All these datasets, it should be noted, refer mostly to a period before the worst effects of pandemic were apparent. Analysis by Heriot Watt suggests that the impact of pandemic across the UK could have been to as much as double the destitution rates recorded in 2019.

Target 3: No-one lives in persistent poverty

Persistent poverty measures the proportion of people in relative poverty after housing costs for three out of the last four years. No Edinburgh specific data is available on this measure, but Scotland wide estimates show no change in persistent poverty rates for adults or children over the last period for which data is published.^{xiii}

Overall, 12% of all people in poverty and 16% of children in poverty have been living on low incomes for a sustained period as at 2019. If applied to Edinburgh data, this implies that 9,500 people, including 2,600 children are in persistent poverty in Edinburgh.



Case study – Poverty responses during the Covid pandemic

Whilst the overall, long term impacts of Covid-19 are not yet fully known, there is strong evidence to suggest that the pandemic will exacerbate pre-existing health and social inequalities across Edinburgh.

Key responses, from Council, NHS, and third sector partners to support people in poverty during the Covid pandemic have included:

- Delivering over 44,000 crisis and community care grants-more than double the previous year-alongside 8,800 Free School Meal payments and 8,300 School Uniform Grant payments
- Providing 45,864 meals as food parcels and 3,654 pre-prepared meals during the first half of 2021 alone
- Co-ordinated support for homeless people including emergency accommodation for over 550 people with support from community psychiatric nurses and harm reduction nurses to the hotels providing emergency accommodation
- Support for 671 families and 1,346 children through an adapted Discover programme
- Providing digital equipment and WIFI connections to those school pupils who needed them
- Covid testing and vaccination support: A multi-agency Enhanced COVID Response Group working to increase access to vaccination and testing for more vulnerable or poorer communities
- Shifting to online provision of classes for school and adult education including refugees
- Development of Locality Operational Groups (LOGs) and the joint Voluntary sector and council Covid Task Force, helping develop new and creative ways for partners to problem solve together and overcome obstacles for service delivery as a result of Covid restrictions. 48 workers a mix of council and voluntary staff meet each week, 12 in each of the city’s 4 localities to share learning and to problem solve. The LOGs have been operational since April 2020.

3. Citizen's Voices – End Poverty Edinburgh

End Poverty Edinburgh is an independent group of citizens established in 2020 to raise awareness of poverty in Edinburgh and influence decision-making on measures to tackle poverty in the city.^{xiv}

The group is formed of citizens with direct experience of poverty in the city and their allies and was created by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission as part of a long-term movement to end poverty in Edinburgh. Learning from good practice examples elsewhere in Scotland, the group supports citizens with experience of poverty to amplify their voices, identify shared priorities, and engage with policy makers to institute positive change.

Secretariat support for the group is provided by **The Poverty Alliance** who also act a key link between the group and the Council's Poverty and Prevention Team.

To date during 2021 the group have met with elected members of the Council, participated in workshops on issues such as fair work and the living wage, and have supported the development of this report by providing their reflection on priorities for the city and progress made to date. These responses have been prepared independently by the group and are not necessarily the views of the Council or other partners.

Response from End Poverty Edinburgh

End Poverty Edinburgh very much welcomes the publication of this Annual Report on progress towards the delivery of ending poverty in our City.

We look forward to examining, and offering input to, the strategy being developed to meet the commitment to "20-minute neighbourhoods". This will be key to ensuring that people are able to access the right support in the places they live and work.

EPE has highlighted how important it is that the experience of having to seek help should be made a less stressful and more dignified process. The

announcement of increased capacity at Council Advice Shops is very much a step in the right direction. The additional investment to reform the way people-facing services operate should have a major and very positive impact in helping those already experiencing poverty and in the prevention of further poverty and homelessness. Key to achieving these outcomes will be ensuring the necessary support services are delivered in the best ways and in locations accessible to all.

To ensure that the momentum of these very positive steps continues, we would like to remind Council officials and partner organisations, that the members of End Poverty Edinburgh, with their knowledge and lived experiences, are a key resource which they should be fully utilising to add value to this ongoing and critical delivery plan.

EPE members have experienced and witnessed the impact that the stigma of "poverty" has on both adults and children. We fully support the strategy in schools to educate and hopefully eventually eradicate this. Training on poverty awareness for all school teachers is a positive step in the right direction. It is hoped that if the teachers can educate the pupils on the subject of poverty, then this will eliminate the negative stigma that can hinder the future/prospects of the next generation.

The new blended "employability service", if designed appropriately, could have a major impact on the aspirations and prospects of many school leavers and others. It is crucial that, regardless of their background and academic abilities, everyone is encouraged to achieve their full potential (whilst at school and after leaving) so that they are in the best possible position to go onto further education or into employment.

Looking forward into the next year, the health and wellbeing of the citizens in Edinburgh needs to be a top priority for all partners. Every point raised within this report has a direct influence on their citizen's health and wellbeing. For example, if you don't have access to safe and affordable housing, this is going to wreak havoc on a person's health and wellbeing due to stress and sleeping in unsuitable conditions.

EPE would also like to see real progress in long-term plans to stop the city's food insecurity problems. We have already communicated why we feel that this is a massive issue to the elected officials, and it would be great to work in partnership with the EC on this issue.

EPE feel that concrete plans are needed to:

- Ensure that food parcels for vulnerable people and food banks offer access to food that is suitable for everyone, meeting the needs of people with food intolerances (gluten, soya, dairy etc) and religious, spiritual, lifestyle choices (vegan/vegetarian, Halal etc).
- Work with education establishments to ensure that ALL pupils and FE/HE students have access to sanitary products that come from a sustainable source which funding will NOT be cut, and that different types of sanitary products are included in food banks (cups, pads and tampons). Different people have different sanitary needs and this needs to be addressed to not leave people short.
- Ensure that mental health training for all education professionals so children and young people have access to crisis support whether that is at school, college or university. Resilience lessons aren't enough to deal with the young person's mental health pandemic.

EPE would like to highlight that while we acknowledge the outstanding and essential work that foodbanks and other emergency food providers do in serving the immediate needs of those experiencing food insecurity, we should not be relying on these services to feed people. This is a sign of a society that is not doing enough to tackle poverty. Furthermore, these services stigmatise those accessing them - EPE is aiming to eliminate this kind of charity approach to address food poverty.

Regarding efforts around affordable and decent homes, we make three notable points:

- Edinburgh is overflowing with private houses, a lot of which are rented out at unaffordable amounts. Many refuse to accept those on benefits.

- Although there is more affordable housing being built, in Edinburgh, these are flats, unsuitable for families and disabled people. We need affordable houses too - not just flats.
- This supposedly "affordable" housing is still out of the price range for those who need them, this issue needs to be addressed if we are to end poverty in Edinburgh.

We note that City of Edinburgh Council has increased the number of contracts to new suppliers who pay the Living Wage in the last year, bringing up the numbers to 79%. At first sight this development could be interpreted as an improvement in the Council's efforts to promote Living Wage employment in the city. However, the group were disappointed since we had expected all public sector bodies to outsource contracts only to Living Wage employers.

We understand that there are legal regulations when it comes to outsourcing contracts which prevent this happening. End Poverty Edinburgh would like Council Officials to look into this issue in order to establish whether these legal limitations still apply, and get back to us regarding their findings.

On the other hand, we would like Council Officials to look into ways to ensure that contracts for suppliers are allocated to employers that follow wider Fair Work principles. EPE thinks that paying the Living Wage on its own, does not guarantee the financial stability needed in order to avoid poverty. According to The Poverty Commission Report 2020, 59% of families in poverty are working families. EPE finds this figure unacceptable.

Workers deserve (amongst other measures) - Guaranteed working hours contracts, Full time contracts (when suitable for the worker), Contractual sick pay, Contractual maternity pay, Good provision of H&S, Training opportunities, and an effective voice in the workplace.

On that note, we would like to once again emphasize that we, End Poverty Edinburgh, with our knowledge and lived experience, are a key resource which should be fully utilized – we can be an effective voice in adding value to this ongoing and critical delivery plan towards ending poverty in our City.

4. Responding to the calls for action

“This is not a menu of options the city can pick and choose from, they represent a single set of inter-connected, actions that need to be delivered if Edinburgh is to end poverty... Most importantly, this is a call to action for the whole city and everyone who has a stake in its future – public sector, employers, third sector organisations, and citizens all have critical roles to play.” **Edinburgh Poverty Commission**

Edinburgh Poverty Commission Calls to Action



This chapter provides a summary of action taken in the period October 2020 to September 2021 to begin implementation of the calls to action made by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission.

The analysis is structured around each of the Commission’s 7 calls to action, and draws out specific actions and impacts on child poverty in the city, and specific actions to support people in priority high risk groups.

A full assessment of progress against all actions and target measures is provided in Appendix 1 to this report, including progress against the priority actions highlighted for delivery in the first twelve months following publication of the Commission’s report.

Where possible the analysis is illustrated with case study and other evidence on projects and initiatives implemented by partners across the city.

Case Study: Edinburgh’s Promise

[The Promise](#) was published by the Care Review in February 2020, concluding that Scotland’s Care System was neither caring nor a cohesive system. The Promise outlines the transformational change needed across children’s services in Scotland, with a clear requirement for the views and voice of children and young people at the core of changes.

The Scottish Government’s first three-year plan to deliver the Promise addresses 5 main themes – A Good Childhood, Whole Family Support, Building Capacity, Supporting the Workforce and Planning. Any service developments or service redesigns must address 5 additional fundamentals – what matters to children and families, poverty, language, listening and children’s rights.

In response to this challenge, ‘Edinburgh’s Promise’ will be the overarching strategy affecting children’s services in Edinburgh for the next decade. Governed through the Edinburgh Children’s Partnership, this matches the ambition for all sectors of children’s services - voluntary, statutory and regulatory - the Children’s Partnership to be as joined up as possible in delivery of the Promise.

4.1 The right support in the places we live and work

“To end poverty, the pre-condition and the single biggest transformation Edinburgh could achieve would be to make the experience of seeking help less painful, more humane, and more compassionate.” - Edinburgh Poverty Commission

During 2021 City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh Partnership have committed to a long-term programme of work to significantly improve the way public services across the city are accessed and experienced. This programme is made in direct response to the Edinburgh Poverty Commission’s expectations that 2021 should be a year of building the foundations for changes needed to end poverty, and has been backed by £1.7m of investment by City of Edinburgh Council.

This programme of work includes:

- **20 Minute Neighbourhoods/Living Well Locally.** In June 2021 the Council established a new draft strategic approach to making sure that all residents can access most of their daily services and amenities in a single 20-minute round trip, either by walking, cycling, taking public transport or using wheelchairs and other ‘wheels’ like scooters or prams^{xv}. Such accessible communities are critical to ensuring that families in poverty can access the support they need (for learning, healthcare, childcare, employment, and community), in the places that work best for them.
The Council has approved funding for a new team to implement the strategy. Recruitment will begin in Autumn 2021, and a detailed implementation plan will be developed.
- **Prevention focused services:** Learning from good practice examples already in place in the city, work is also underway to develop a new service model for people focused Council services aimed at preventing poverty and its outcomes. This model will co-ordinate public sector services behind empowered, front line workers for whom the quality of relationship with our most vulnerable people is their key concern. The approach will be built upon collaboration with

community planning partners and will be based upon a new relationship with the Third Sector.

Council funding is approved for a new team to design and implement this approach, with recruitment to take place in Autumn 2021.

- **The Edinburgh Pact** is a new programme under development in 2021 which aims to be an agreement between the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership and everyone who lives and works in Edinburgh^{xvi}. It aims to radically transform the way that Edinburgh delivers its health and social care services to prevent crisis and support people to manage their health and personal independence at home and to make sure that age, disability, or health conditions are not barriers to living a safe and thriving life in Edinburgh. This will be done through better collaboration between healthcare providers and local communities and by working closely with the council's housing and homelessness services. Development of the Pact is closely aligned with the development of the Council’s 20 minute neighbourhoods and the prevention model.
- **‘A good place to live’.** The programmes noted here, and others underway, represent ambitious long-term actions to address many of the core issues identified by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission. To ensure that these efforts are appropriately integrated and maximise impacts for citizens, the Edinburgh Partnership is bringing together stakeholders to **Join the Dots** and develop a collective understanding of how these work programmes function, avoid duplication or confusion, and prioritise actions that will contribute to a collective vision of reducing poverty and inequalities. This work is being taken forward as part of Outcome 3 of the Partnership’s **Local Outcome Improvement Plan:** ‘A good place to live’.
- **Learning Communities.** The Learning Communities approach has been developed over the last year to help school and other community leaders to work together to improve outcomes for learners and to make sure that children and families living in poverty receive early intervention and holistic support. Learning communities include high schools, primary schools, special schools and early years, as well as services and resources within the whole

community (including police, health and housing) as forming a network of collaboration and support. This approach aligns with the Council’s Business Plan, and future schools will be planned according to the principles of a 20-minute neighbourhood.



Collectively, these programmes of work aim to:

- Ensure that people in all areas of the city can access the services and support they need in the communities where they live and in places that are convenient for them
- Provide person centred support that focuses on the needs of families and households rather than service silos
- Ensure better, more dignified experiences for people seeking help to escape from poverty, built around mutual respect and understanding
- Offer support systems based on building relationships, with no hand offs, no referrals and no wrong door.
- Develop improved relationships and more sustainable collaborations with third sector service providers
- Deliver better outcomes and faster routes out of poverty for households in all parts of the city.

Priorities for the next 12 months include progress with the development of these core long term work programmes such that:

- New teams are in place to design and implement change
- Community engagement activity is underway to ensure that the voices of citizens drive major developments in service design and implementation
- Tests of change are in place in key areas of the city to provide exemplars of new ways of working, and learning for further developments, and
- Clear plans are in place for the long term roll out of change across the city
- New networks of organisations addressing poverty in Edinburgh established in 2021 are strengthened, sharing experiences and best practice, and raising awareness of shared challenges across the city.

Case study - Community Renewal: Lifting Neighbourhoods Together

CR:LNT is an initiative funded by the National Lottery Community Fund that seeks to tackle poverty and inequalities in a small neighbourhood in Edinburgh by taking a whole system approach.

It is a 5-year test of change that seeks to remove silos and develop a multi-disciplinary neighbourhood team offering holistic and long term support for people to lift themselves out of poverty. Lifting Neighbourhoods Together is multi-layered. On the ground there will be a neighbourhood team that will systematically engage every household in the neighbourhood.

One of the difficulties for a person or family seeking to improve their life and lift themselves out of poverty is that it is difficult for them to know how to access services in the current siloed system.

CR:LNT works in a different paradigm whereby a single professional builds a trusting relationship with an individual or family, works with them to build a picture of the future they want, then walks alongside them on the journey bringing in support agencies in a coordinated way where personal introduction and transfer of trust replace cold referrals and signposting.

4.2 Fair work that provides dignity and security

“Edinburgh has the most successful economy in Scotland, but even here work is not necessarily the effective pathway out of poverty that it should be.” - Edinburgh Poverty Commission

The challenges:

- Rising in-work poverty rates across Scotland
- 27% of Edinburgh jobs rate as ‘low quality’ on pay and security
- 15,000 people claiming out of work benefits in July 2021, more than double the pre-pandemic level.

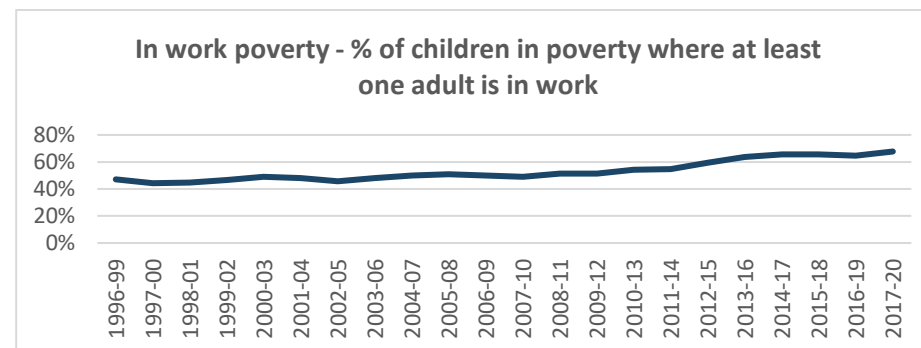
Progress in 2021

- Accreditation as a Living Wage City, with an agreed target to deliver 500 new Living Wage employers over 5 years
- A new City of Edinburgh Council Fair Work Action Plan
- Launch of Edinburgh Guarantee for all age groups
- New focused employability support for young people
- Nine new employability projects for parents, including parents from priority groups.

Priorities for 2022

- Launch the Living Wage Action Plan, and deliver 100 new living wage accreditations
- Deliver a new blended employability service, offering holistic employment support for people from target groups (including those with disabilities, long term health conditions, complex needs, or people who need support with digital literacy to gain employment)
- Deliver the Fair Work Action Plan, with actions to improve community benefit take up and improve Fair Work impacts from Council procurement

In work poverty in Scotland continues to rise. Latest data shows that 68% of all children who grow up in poverty were in families where at least one adult is in work. This represents an increase of 3 percentage points since 2019, and an increase of 19 percentage points in the past ten years^{xvii}.



Actions to address in work poverty, low and insecure employment were core to the Edinburgh Poverty Commission’s call to action. During 2021, the response from City of Edinburgh Council and partners has included:

- **Edinburgh Living Wage City.** A new Living Wage action group of private sector employers, public and third sector bodies and key anchor institutions has been established^{xviii}. This group will work together to achieve accreditation for Edinburgh as Living Wage City by November 2021. The group has agreed a five-year action plan with objectives to:
 - Achieve an additional 500 new Living Wage accredited employers in Edinburgh
 - Remove 40,000 employees from low wage employment, and
 - Target improvements on key low wage sectors in the city
- **Fair Work Action Plan:** In September 2021 City of Edinburgh Council approved a new draft Fair Work Action plan setting out Council commitments to improve fair work in Edinburgh, including commitments for the Council as an employer and a buyer of goods and services^{xix}

- From 1 April 2021 City of Edinburgh Council committed to pay all staff the Scottish Local Government Living Wage (set between COSLA and Trade Unions) changing the pay structure so that 4,400 of employees in grades 1 to 3 received a pay uplift
- In 2020/21 the Council increased the proportion of new suppliers who pay the real living wage to 79%, and sought Community Benefits from more than 50 new contracts
- Council funded employability programmes supported almost 3,800 people during 2020/21

- **Edinburgh Guarantee for All:** The Edinburgh Guarantee was extended in 2021 to support unemployed people of all ages. It brings together training and upskilling support and mentoring, job opportunities and funding available to jobseekers and employers^{xx}. Work is ongoing to engage with employers, training providers and employability services to promote opportunities to upskill and recruit and funding has been agreed to for two new members of staff to support this work. The Edinburgh Partnership has made a commitment to provide 300 apprenticeships between its members through the programme.
- **A Young Person's Guarantee Team** has been established to ensure that there is effective support for young people leaving school or finding themselves unemployment after an initial positive destination. Co-design is at the heart of the process and a Young Person's Panel has been set up to ensure their needs are met. Additional mental health support has been added to the No one Left Behind hubs across the City, and a further 100 places made available. The Kickstart scheme and Edinburgh Employment Recruitment Incentive will ensure that young people have access to employment opportunities across the City.
- **Modern Apprenticeships:** 1,192 people from Edinburgh began a Modern Apprenticeship in 2020-21, with comparatively high proportions of people with disabilities (20.4% compared with 13.0% across Scotland) or from a BAME background (7.4% compared with 2.7%)
- **Employment support for parents:** 9 new projects started in 2021 focussing on parents' specific employment needs and most include

welfare rights. They range from the **Datakirk** programme, supporting parents from an ethnic minority to achieve careers in data to WorkSpace, working with parents in South-West Edinburgh to achieve their employment goals.

- Additional funding was received from Scottish Government to extend the programme to parents who are disabled, who are under 25, and those who have children in nursery. Early feedback shows that some parents who speak English as a second language struggle with words used in applications and interviews. As a result, the local authority and Edinburgh College are developing an English for Employability Course.

Case Study: Edinburgh Employability services catering specifically for priority groups

Lone Parents – Community Renewal's service Next Step partners with One Parent Families Scotland to provide a bespoke service for lone parents.

Families where there is a disability – **Progress for Parents** supports households where there is a disabled child and has a dedicated welfare rights officer. **Progress for Disabled Parents** works with families where one or both parents have a disability. **Project Search** is a 12mth programme offering young people with disability work experience, accredited education and job coaching.

Minority Ethnic – a high % of parents engaging with PESF projects are from minority ethnic backgrounds. Developing an ESOL for employability course, Datakirk works with minority ethnic parents to improve their digital skills.

Youngest Child under 1 – Canongate Youth is working with the NHS's Family Nurse Partnership to offer youth-work focussed employability support to new young parents

Older People – new redundancy support projects delivered by Cyrenians and Access to Industry are supporting people aged 50+ to retrain and regain work after redundancy.

People who are Homeless – Access to Industry's Encompass project is a holistic and supportive service for people needing more intensive and joined up support.

4.3 A decent home we can afford to live in

“There is no pathway to ending poverty in Edinburgh without resolving the city’s housing crisis.”

Edinburgh Poverty Commission

The challenges

- Increased demand for social housing – number of active bidders increased from 7,099 to 7,213 in the last year
- Increase in the number of households in temporary accommodation and the proportion in unsuitable accommodation (22% to 25%) as a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, including accommodating people who may be ineligible for service, in response to public health requirements.
- Continued improvements needed to housing services, including repairs and maintenance.

Progress in 2021

- New investment in homelessness prevention services with the recruitment of 28 additional officers to trial new ways of working to prevent homelessness, and reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation
- To date preventative services have supported over 300 private rented tenants and 30 council tenants to avoid eviction and homelessness
- £41.45m Council investment in building new homes
- External fabric improvement to more than 470 Council homes 7 Neighbourhood Environmental Projects

Priorities for 2022

- Delivering a new Tenant Participation Strategy to improve the way tenants can influence the services they rely on
- Continuing work to influence Scottish Government to ensure Edinburgh has the funds it needs to meet its housing crisis
- Consultation on Short Term Let control zones
- Developing a new pilot to provide psychological support embedded within Homeless Accommodation services

Edinburgh is a growing city and one of the most highly pressured housing markets in the country. The average house price is around six times the average gross annual earnings in the city, making it the least affordable city in Scotland to buy a home. Edinburgh Poverty Commission estimated that 22,600 people in Edinburgh are pushed into poverty by the cost of housing alone.

Actions delivered in the past 12 months include:

- **Increasing the supply of affordable housing.** In 2017 following the formation of the Capital Coalition a commitment was made to develop a programme to build at least 10,000 social and affordable homes over the next five years, with a plan to build 20,000 homes by 2027. At 31 March 2021 6,300 homes had been approved for site start and 4,572 affordable homes had completed. The forward plan for delivering affordable homes is set out in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP). The SHIP is updated annually and submitted to Scottish Government. The 2022-28 SHIP is due to be considered by Housing, Homelessness & Fair Work Committee in November. During the pandemic (2020/21) the Council and RSLs continued to deliver new affordable homes.
- **Affordable Housing Contributions:** Engagement with the private sector is underway to further increase affordable housing delivery, and the Council is seeking to increase the minimum affordable housing contributions from developers from 25% (the nationally recommended level) to 35%, in recognition of the unique pressures on housing in Edinburgh.
- **Short Term lets:** Responding to the challenge of short term lets (involving an estimated 14,000 properties in Edinburgh), the Scottish Government is currently consulting on the regulation of short term lets – this was delayed by the Covid pandemic. Separately, the Council is proposing to introduce a short-term let control zone covering the whole city, where property owners would need planning permission to operate short term letting^{xxi}. This would be subject to public consultation with the city’s residents, before a final proposal is sent to Scottish Government ministers.

The last 12 months have seen:

- Delivery of 101 new Social Rented homes as part of the Council's housing strategy, and 252 in total (including other RSL new social rented homes)
 - A significant reduction in the number of households assessed as homeless (3,355 to 1,934)
 - The number of people sleeping rough in Edinburgh has been reduced from an approximate 80 – 120 on any one night before the pandemic to 10 or less, through partnership working to ensure that there was accommodation available for everyone.
 - Total savings of more than £168,000 for Council Tenants supported by the Energy Advice Service
- **Improving housing quality:** During 2020/21, Council investment in existing homes and estates focused on improvements to external and communal areas in the buildings to support social distancing measures. This included the delivery of external fabric improvement to more than 470 homes, new door entry systems to 250 blocks and 7 Neighbourhood Environmental Projects.
 - The Council's **Housing Service Improvement Plan** is continuing to drive a wide range of improvements including^{xxii}:
 - The new EdIndex website, which went live at the end of January 2021, providing information on how to apply for social housing and other affordable housing options. The website also provides an 'accessibility tool' to assist applicants with specific needs.
 - The repairs service, which remains a key priority, with a focus on the complaints handling process and developing enhancements to communication platforms
 - Rent payment information available online, standard rent communications with flexible direct debits are continuing to be promoted as the preferred secure payment method
 - Supporting people in rent arrears: new notices of court action served are reviewed by a multi-disciplinary team to find solutions to prevent further formal action which might risk homelessness
 - **Reducing costs:** The Council also delivers services to help reduce tenants' living costs. For example, the Energy Advice Service engaged

with 790 tenants in 2020/21, with total savings of more than £168,000, averaging at £213 for each tenant who was involved.

- **Digital inclusion for Council tenants:** The Council is working in partnership with CityFibre and Openreach to provide super-fast fibre broadband infrastructure to all of our council own homes. This will give tenants the ability to choose from over 600 different broadband providers, ensuring they have access to the best deals without any set up costs. To date, 8,917 homes have been connected and CityFibre expect to have completed their build by the end of 2024.
- **Homelessness prevention:** Significant progress has been made over the last year in implementing Edinburgh's **Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan** (RRTP) which includes actions to prevent homelessness, transform temporary accommodation and move away from the use of unsuitable accommodation, support people to access settled accommodation as soon as possible, and reduce the number of people rough sleeping in the city^{xxiii}. The main developments include:
 - Multi-Disciplinary Team set up to support Council tenants who are at serious risk of court/eviction action and are not engaging with their locality Housing Officer. Of the initial 19 tenants facing court, 16 (84%) have now engaged in support, and a further 14 have since been referred
 - Since March 2020, the Council's Private Rented Sector (PRS) Team have assisted 324 households at risk of homelessness, with homelessness prevented for 225 of these; as well as supporting 99 households who were already homeless to secure another tenancy.
 - The Council's new Private Sector Leasing (PSL) contract, which started in April 2020, provides self-contained temporary accommodation for homeless households. New models of temporary accommodation continue to be developed such as supported lodgings.
 - Despite the introduction of safe working during the pandemic, Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) were still able to achieve 54% of lets to homeless households (target of 50%) with Council achieving 69% (target of 70%) during 2020/21.

- Additional capacity for 10 housing assistants has been secured in Homelessness Prevention and Housing Options and will support the work to reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation.

Wider support for homeless and vulnerable people is provided in partnership across the Council, the Health and Social Care Partnership, the NHS and the third sector (the Cyrenians and Streetwork) and includes:

- The Milestone Intermediate Care Unit established in April 2020 to provide support for people to be discharged from hospital or to prevent for people with complex needs from being admitted. It is funded by the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership
- The Street Pharmacy project has been established to provide ongoing support to people with complex, long term needs, both in tenancies and temporary accommodation.

Case Study - Multiagency, holistic approaches to health and social care crucially remove barriers for people with limited trust in mainstream services.

One 42-year-old man with a history of rough sleeping and drug dependency was struggling to maintain temporary accommodation

Not registered with a GP, he exhibited multiple physical and mental health issues, including malnourishment.

A multi-agency support approach

Helped to register with a GP, the man was supported and encouraged to attend the Edinburgh Access Practice, but remained reluctant to do so. In response, health care continued on the street, including prescriptions for minor ailments, advice about COVID and harm reduction information, treatment and support relating to substance use.

Social support provided focused on accessing accommodation.

The outcome

The man is now housed in long term accommodation and managing tenancy well with visiting housing support. He is on a methadone treatment programme for drug dependency and no longer begging.

4.4 Income security that offers a real lifeline

“Too many people in poverty in Edinburgh are not aware of, or able to access all the support to which they are entitled.” - Edinburgh Poverty Commission

The challenges

- A doubling in demand for crisis grants, from 17,000 to 36,000 grants in the past 12-18 months
- An estimated 20,000 people in food crisis annually pre-pandemic
- 34,000 Edinburgh families expected to be affected by the planned loss of £20 Universal Credit uplift in October 2021, including 15,000 families with Children. Total financial loss estimated at £35.4m per annum for families in receipt of Universal Credit.

Progress in 2021

- Expanded capacity of Council Advice services and improved integration with housing and homelessness services
- Full benefits check and income maximisation support now being offered to homeless applicants and council tenants at risk of eviction as standard
- Additional investment in Maxmise! Programme in schools and other settings.
- Review of city-wide advice services commissioned

Priorities for 2022

- Deliver on recommendations of the city-wide advice review
- Increase focus of advice and income maximisation support for care experienced groups in support of The Promise
- Develop Maximise to better meet the needs of Black and Ethnic Minority Communities (led by the Capital City Partnership)
- Development of new options to improve access to affordable credit

Over the past year, throughout Covid restrictions, the Council continued to provide a wide range of crisis services, including financial support (crisis, hardship, low income and self-isolation payments, winter, spring and summer hardship payments for children receiving free school meals), welfare advice, face to face support through Council Resilience centres, extended free school meal provisions and provided school clothing grants, support for school breakfast clubs and food provision.

The Covid pandemic led to a substantial increase in demand/provision of Scottish Welfare Fund crisis grants and self-isolation support grants (from 50-900 per week). The Council embedded a cash first approach to support, including working with Food Banks to bring consistency and a process where people who need support will apply to the Council for the Scottish Welfare Fund first and then referred to a food bank.

- **Review of Advice services:** A single city-wide review of advice services is being led by the Edinburgh Partnership, responding to the current position of fragmented services of varying standards and quality. The first stage is an independent review of current arrangements, and this is expected to be completed in January 2022. The 20-minute neighbourhood approach which is under development aims to ensure that people have easy access to the information and advice that they need.
- **Money, debt and welfare advice:** The Council’s Advice Shop has continued to deliver high quality money, debt and welfare advice, assisted around 3,800 people to make 1,800 claims for benefits, dealt with over 500 disputes about benefit decisions, dealt with nearly £600,000 of personal debt and achieved over £8.8m in financial gains for clients. A key development has been funding for additional capacity within the Advice Shop (nine posts, all to be in post by October 2021) to work with the Council’s housing teams to prevent evictions from CEC properties for rent arrears and to support people with financial need to maintain their tenancies. All of these clients are given full benefits check and income maximisation.
- **Advice guides:** Supporting people by helping them to understand how and who can help them is key to securing income that offers

them a real lifeline. The ['Worrying about Money?'](#) Guide for Edinburgh helps frontline staff and volunteers, and those with financial insecurity, to identify and access appropriate financial support and advice. The guide has distributed widely: at local food banks, to partners in the third and voluntary sector, and the public sector workforce, by the Council with any communication about money owed, and through a poster version, funded by Home Energy Scotland for supermarkets in targeted area. The resource is currently being translated into a variety of languages.

The last 12 months have seen

- Council's Advice Shop achieve an average financial gain of £2,325 per client supported
- Increases in applications for crisis grants (16,367 to 35,923; a 119% increase) and community care grants (5,337 to 8,320; 55%)
- Increases in free school meal payments (5,950 to 8,828; 48%) and school uniform grants (5,337 to 8,301; 56%)

Welfare rights advice is delivered in a range of setting including GP surgeries, hospitals and schools, ensuring that the right support for people throughout their lives including early years (e.g. support for new mothers and families), unpaid carers, people with particular health conditions and disabilities, as part of support for employment and for people and families at risk of homelessness. Providing a holistic, person-centred, embedded service is a key. There are a wide range of providers and models including:

- A new welfare advice service at the **Royal Hospital for Children and Young People** in Edinburgh, delivered by the Community Help and Advice Initiative (CHAI), giving easy access for families across Lothian to independent and confidential advice and support on income maximisation, benefit entitlement, debt, employment and housing.
- **Housing Associations**, for example Dunedin Canmore Housing which provides a holistic wrap around service for its customers including

housing and homelessness support, advice on welfare rights, money, debt and home energy, employability support and digital inclusion.

- Support for people with **health conditions, disabilities and informal carers**: e.g. Grapevine, FAIR, VOCAL and the Action Group's Black Asian Minority Ethnic Advice Service – recognising the additional pressures and barriers people in these groups can experience, providing advice and support on: disability benefits, finance, transport, housing, self-directed support, community care, employment/education, and access issues.
- NHS Lothian, CHAI, Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership have been working with the Improvement Services to improve outcomes for children and families who are supported by health visitors. Health visitors were uncertain about where and how to refer families for support with finances, given the diverse range and quality of services in the city. The aims are to support health visitors to increase the number of families in South East and North West Edinburgh accessing financial advice.
- **The Capital City Partnership** have received Regional Recovery Fund monies to explore how a **Community Wealth Building** approach could support recovery from the pandemic and ensure that decision-making on funds were made by the communities in most need. Funding is being used to support a Community Wealth Building officer to work with the **Go Beyond** network of voluntary organisations in South West Edinburgh to build on their pandemic response and make lasting change.

Case Study: Affordable credit

A short life working group on affordable credit was set up with broad representation from the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, NHS Lothian, Edinburgh HSCP (Public Health), Edinburgh Council Advice Shop and Citizens Advice Edinburgh. The group worked to develop a response to the Edinburgh Poverty Commission's recommendation that: *"the Edinburgh Partnership should make available new long-term investment to expand the availability of and access to affordable credit in all parts of the city through examples such as Scotcash and the credit union movement."* The group mapped options and have developed recommendations paper for consideration by the Edinburgh Partnership.

4.5 Opportunities that drive justice and prospects

“Inequality in Edinburgh is most apparent in the way that the availability of opportunities to progress in life depend on your income and where you live in the city.” - Edinburgh Poverty Commission

The challenges

- 71.7% of all secondary school leavers achieved a qualification in both literacy and numeracy at SCQF level 5. But only 51% of those from deprived areas achieved at the same rate.
- 14% of secondary school students recorded low attendance pre-pandemic
- Concerns over the long-term impacts of pandemic on learning, outcomes, and the poverty related achievement gap.

Progress in 2021

- Expansion of early years and intensive family support programmes
- Edinburgh Learns for Life driving long term improvements needed to close the attainment and achievement gap.
- Progress in establishment of Learning Communities to make sure that children living in poverty receive early intervention and holistic support
- Development of Locality Operational Groups to improve partnership responses

Priorities for 2022

- Priority areas are agreed for 2021-22 include: approaches to improving attendance; counselling and wellbeing interventions; support for digital connectivity; and literacy and numeracy interventions to close poverty-related attainment gaps
- New post established to support schools to implement the learning community approach
- Ongoing development of ‘Edinburgh’s Promise’

Addressing inequality in education outcomes is one of the clearest challenges set to the city by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission. The Commission’s final report found that education in Edinburgh is more polarised than anywhere else in Scotland and that despite the significant efforts evident to close the attainment gap, the city has is making slower progress than many other areas in Scotland over a number of years.

Progress during the past 12 months has been guided by the **Edinburgh Learns for Life strategy**. This approach recognises that to improve opportunities for all, actions need to extend beyond school buildings and that ingrained issues such as poverty, diversity and inclusion can only be tackled through long term planning, determined leadership and stronger cohesion with other council services. Key steps during 2020/21 include:

- **Expansion of early years support** so that all 3- and 4-year olds and all eligible 2-year-old have access to 1,140 of childcare from August 2021. Around 10,500 children receive early learning and childcare in Edinburgh.
- **A doubling of the number of practitioners available to support Home Learning**. The Council’s Parents Early Education Partnership Programme (Peep), supports parents to be engaged in their child’s learning through a variety of play experiences. Feedback from parents, children and staff has been very positive in particular around transitions.
- **A new Intensive Family Support service** developed in North Edinburgh to tackle child poverty. Early years staff work with the Maximise! team and parents to access family support, maximise income and consider opportunities to volunteer, develop skills, training or employment.
- **A new Teachers Charter** established to ensure teachers have the enhanced level of skills necessary to support young people to reach their full potential. The target over the next three years is for all teaching staff to achieve this level.
- Development of the **Leadership for Equity** professional learning programme designed to support changes in attitudes and perceptions about poverty. There are two sets of training: one for people in a leadership role, and one for class teachers, with 40 people from each attending this year.

- **The 1 in 5: Raising Awareness of Child Poverty programme** continues to support culture change and building knowledge and awareness. Over 74% of schools have participated and following training, 80-90% of staff involved were more aware of poverty and its impacts and felt more able to make changes needed to tackle stigma and reduce costs of school.
- Progress in work to **involve learners in designing their environments and courses**. Schools are being asked to ensure that young people have opportunities to lead their own learning so that it best reflects their lives, circumstances and interests - this includes pupils who are care experienced, from BAME communities, those who have additional support needs, and those who experience poverty.
- **Pupil Equity Fund investment** during 2020-21 meant that during the school building closure period January-March 2021, all households with children attending primary or secondary were provided with at least one electronic learning device if they did not already have one. Funding was also used to reduce the cost of the school day (wider achievement activities, school trips, the cost of classes e.g. Art and Design and Photography as well as clothing and essentials, and breakfast clubs).
- **Progress in developing pathways beyond school for both academic and vocational career paths**. Progress over the last year has included:
 - Targeted support for young people at risk of negative destination through JET (Job Education Training), which provides extended work placements and tailored support
 - Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) co-ordinator posts started in January 2021 aiming to have them in all of the Council's secondary schools by Christmas 2021. Co-ordinators engage with local employers to provide more work-based learning activities; and work closely with SDS (Skills Development Scotland) career advisors and pupil support to share information about opportunities
- **Progress in establishing learning communities**: The Learning Communities approach has been developed over the last year to help school and other community leaders to work together to improve outcomes for learners and to make sure that children and families living in poverty receive early intervention and holistic support. Learning communities include high schools, primary schools, special schools and

early years, as well as services and resources within the whole community (including police, health and housing), forming a network of collaboration and support. This approach aligns with the Council's Business Plan, and future schools will be planned according to the principles of a 20-minute neighbourhood.

Youth Work Partnership working between the Council and LAYC , which supports community-based youth and children's work in Edinburgh has included:

- Training opportunities for youth and children's workers, based on a needs analysis with the sector (including sexual health, mental health and wellbeing, substance use, child protection, autism awareness, LGBT and trauma informed practice).
- Training was co-delivered with a range of partners (Youth Scotland, Edinburgh and Heriot Watt Universities, Zero Tolerance, Healthy Respect, NHS Lothian, LGBT Youth Scotland)
- Young people's consultations used to inform planning.
- Ongoing work to build the evidence base on the impact of community-based youth work to improved outcomes for children and young people.

The recently launched Youth Navigator service provides **joined-up hospital and community youth work** to support young people with some of the life challenges that can bring them into contact with health services. Such times are 'reachable moments', when people are more open to accepting support. The Youth Navigator works alongside the medical and nursing staff to make sure that those important opportunities are not missed. The partnership for delivery includes NHS Lothian, Edinburgh and Lothians Health Foundation, and Medics against Violence (a charity founded and led by senior clinicians) and is based in the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and St John's Hospital, Livingston.

Mentoring: recognising that young people benefit from mentoring support from a trusted individual, there are a variety projects in place in the City to provide this - MCR Pathways, Intercultural Youth Scotland and Light up Learning provide in school support; Working Rite, Move On, Rock Trust and Project Scotland offer mentors to those who are post-school.

4.6 Connections to a city that belongs to us

“To end poverty in the city, Edinburgh needs to address the way the city’s future development is planned, provide support to tackle social isolation and enable connections within and between communities.” - Edinburgh Poverty Commission

The challenges

- Continuing impacts of Covid on social isolation, and access to support
- Increasing dependence on digital access to support and services, and resulting rising impacts of digital exclusion
- Cost and accessibility of public transport as a continuing barrier to employment, learning opportunities for people in poverty.

Progress in 2021

- New Council commitment to establishing 20-minute Neighbourhoods, with investment in core team to lead development and community engagement in the process
- Launch of new City Mobility Plan with actions to improve access to affordable transport
- Cross service action to improve availability of devices, affordable broadband, and skills to address digital exclusion for families.

Priorities for 2022

- As part of the ‘Empowered Learning’ project, a digital device will be provided to all pupils from P6 to S6 and all teachers, as well as devices in P1 to P5 classes and Early Years settings – a total of 39,000 iPads
- New collaboration between schools, lifelong learning services and Edinburgh College to help adults in poverty improve digital skills

Throughout the pandemic, people in Edinburgh found greater value and strength from within their communities. From countless examples of neighbourhoods working with and helping each other to the vast numbers of volunteers giving up their time for those most in need, there has been no shortage of evidence of the power of community in this city.

To build on this experience, new programmes of work in Edinburgh began during 2021 to learn from and to ensure that the linkages established in response to the Covid crisis are strengthened.

The Council’s commitment to establishing **20 minute neighbourhoods** is one such example, and a direct response to the call to action from the Edinburgh Poverty Commission to *“put the 20-minute walking (or ‘pram pushing’) distance principle at the heart of designing all neighbourhoods in Edinburgh”*.

The **20-Minute Neighbourhood** model aims to support development of:

- sustainable, safe and resilient neighbourhoods where residents have equal access to most of their daily needs
- changes in ways of working to ensure citizens can build trusted relationships with the services they rely on in the places they live
- support for local economies and businesses who can not only provide for the daily needs of their communities but also create employment opportunities
- enhanced voluntary sector facilities, services and networks, which bind our communities together and enhance social capital through voluntary sector hubs
- high quality placemaking in our town and local centres, where accessible green and/or open spaces are provided
- sustainable onward travel so that services out with a 20-Minute Neighbourhood can be easily accessed, and
- Digital connectivity and skills that provide everyone with access to services online or a ‘5-second neighbourhood’ where they need it.

In support of this approach to placemaking, a new **City Mobility Plan** was approved in February 2021 after a period of extensive consultation. The plan addresses the challenge of reducing carbon emissions and how people, goods and services move into and around the city. It also addresses air quality, congestion, accessibility and inclusion, cost of travel and convenience of payment, safety and how to create space for people.

During this year, options for sustainable ways to travel have been explored. Options include public transport, shared mobility and demand responsive transport (DRT) for areas with no regular bus service. Funding and partnerships are being explored and the Council's Public Transport Team has been preparing for the introduction of the Scottish Government's new concession for **free bus travel for people aged under 22**.

Digital connectivity has become an absolute necessity during the past 2 years in response to the pandemic, both to access services or learning, and to maintain relationships with the community. Support to improve connectivity has been provided by a range of Council services over the past year, including libraries, lifelong learning services, Council housing teams, and schools.

Edinburgh Libraries provide an important resource for people who do not have access to a digital device or WIFI as well as access to a wide range of learning materials as well as information and further sources of support. Progress over the last year has included:

- Expanding the range of materials available online offering people access from their homes, in response to Covid restrictions.
- Training and upskilling opportunities for library staff so that they can provide support and guidance to library users.
- Training and support on accessing digital materials is also available for library users, including remote support by telephone

The Council's **Lifelong Learning service** has provided a wide range of support to enable people to continue to learn during Covid restrictions including:

- Supporting to families with English as a second language to access online learning from schools, including help to set up of emails

- Providing an online resettlement programme to 70 refugees
- Providing adult learning online, and supporting those without digital access by providing the materials directly
- Youth work teams supporting young people online with a focus on the most vulnerable to support their health and wellbeing and to provide online learning opportunities

Within housing, the Council is working in partnership with CityFibre and Openreach to provide **super-fast fibre broadband infrastructure to all of our council own homes**, which will allow tenants to choose from over 600 different broadband providers, ensuring they have access to the best deals without any set up costs. To date, 8,917 homes have been connected and CityFibre expect to have completed their build by the end of 2024.

Key activity in schools over the last year to support learners included:

- Throughout the pandemic, digital devices were procured and supplied so that schools were able to supply a device to any pupil who has no access to one at home, in the event of lockdown or self-isolation. MiFi units were procured and supplied to all pupils who had no internet access at home.
- **The Empowered learning Programme** has been created, aiming to provide a world class digital environment for all Edinburgh schools, and a digitally skilled workforce, delivering a more strategic, robust service to address the challenges of inequity and improve attainment levels across the schools.
- Three Empowered Learning Development Officers have been appointed to support teachers to develop effective ways of teaching using digital technologies to improve engagement, inclusion and attainment

4.7 Equality in our health and wellbeing

“Covid has shown more clearly than ever the causal link between poverty, ill health and premature death. ... services everywhere will need to respond as we expect to see a rising tide of poverty.” -
Edinburgh Poverty Commission

The challenges

- Continuing impacts of Covid on health and wellbeing inequalities
- Increasing evidence of links between poverty and mental health outcomes
- Ongoing concerns over food insecurity in Edinburgh

Progress in 2021

- Continued emergency support for citizens experiencing poverty and hardship during Covid-19 lockdowns
- Additional testing and vaccination support in place for people in vulnerable groups
- Expansion of Discover! programme to support 671 families and 1,346 children covering all localities (a more than doubling of reach for the programme)
- Development of the Thrive Edinburgh Action Plan and the Edinburgh Pact

Priorities for 2022

- Establishment of a new Edinburgh wide approach to ending food insecurity
- Work with Educational Psychologists to determine impact of Discover! over time and develop resources to further support children, families and schools
- Continue development of the Edinburgh Pact

Inequalities develop over a life course as the result of ‘systematic, unfair differences in the health of the population that occur across social classes or population groups’. The ‘fundamental causes’ of health inequalities such as power and wealth affect the distribution of wider environmental influences such as the availability of jobs, good quality housing, education and learning opportunities, access to services, social status (see Figure 2). This results in differences in individual experiences of, for example, discrimination, prejudice, stigma, low income, and opportunities.

It is for these reasons that eradicating poverty in Edinburgh is a critical step towards minimising inequalities in health and wellbeing, and why all of the actions already cited in this report have a key part to play in improving health outcomes for the poorest and most vulnerable people in the city.

In addition to addressing the income related aspects of poverty, however, the Edinburgh Poverty Commission also made specific calls to action relating to health and services to improve wellbeing. Responses to these calls to action during the past 12 months have included:

- **Immediate support for vulnerable people during Covid crises.** The Council worked in partnership with key agencies - Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC), Volunteer Edinburgh and ongoing engagement with local foodbanks, homelessness agencies and representatives from the Edinburgh Poverty Commission - to deliver a network of crisis support to tackle the impacts of Covid 19.
- **Support for wellbeing** included Council staff making regular phone calls to people who were self-isolating to check if anything was needed. There was also a phone line for vulnerable people and those who were self-isolating to access a wide range of support and advice.
- **Emergency food support:** The Council also supported people to access food, with a network of food provision/deliveries introduced across Edinburgh. EVOC, local foodbanks and the Council have continued to work together throughout the pandemic to deliver food packages and essential supplies.
- **Covid testing and vaccination support:** A multi-agency (NHS/CEC and third sector) Enhanced COVID Response group has been established

and is delivering work to increase access to vaccination and testing for more vulnerable or poorer communities.

The Discover! programme works with families during the school holidays to reduce food and financial anxiety, providing fun family learning to help close the poverty related attainment gap, improve health and wellbeing and reduce social isolation. It also offers a range of support and advice services including CHAI, Home Energy Scotland and Skills Development Scotland.

The programme was reshaped for summer 2021 to provide a blend of:

- live and pre-recorded online activity
- trips to local and country parks with activities and picnics
- bus and train tickets for families to plan and make their own trips
- 236 Junior Award Scheme for Schools (JASS) packs for participating pupils to gain accreditation via Discover activities

During the six weeks of summer 2021, between 320 and 345 boxes with food, ingredients, utensils and art/craft activities were delivered each week of the holiday. Weekly outings were organised, attended by around 40 adults and 70 children each time. The private Discover! Facebook page, developed during Covid, had 28 new members, and had between around 250 and 360 active members per week.

Thrive Edinburgh aims not only to reduce the toll of mental illness, but also promote and protect the citizens of Edinburgh's mental health, resilience, self-esteem, family strength, and joy^{xxiv}. It aligns with the priorities of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission. Thrive Edinburgh provides EHSCP and the Children's Partnership with a robust framework to deliver improvements in mental health support. Elements of the transformation programme and the Thrive action plan will include:

- Building resilient communities and a place to live
- Get help when needed – reducing barriers to accessing help
- Closing the inequalities gap and rights in mind - addressing the structural determinants of poor health at an individual, family, community, and city-wide level

The Edinburgh Pact is being developed and will be an agreement between the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership and everyone who lives and works in Edinburgh. It aims to radically transform the way that Edinburgh delivers its health and social care services to prevent crisis and support people to manage their health and personal independence at home and to make sure that age, disability, or health conditions are not barriers to living a safe and thriving life in Edinburgh.

This will be done through better collaboration between healthcare providers and local communities and by working closely with the council's housing and homelessness services. Development is closely aligned with the development of the Council's 20 minute neighbourhoods and the prevention model.

Case Study: Stepping Stones

Stepping Stone's new service, providing mental health and emotional support for children and young people, started in May 2021 and within a four-week period saw over 10 referrals into the service for support for children and young people across the North West locality. They also provide one to one mental health and wellbeing support for parents, providing them with consistent support to make positive changes in their life. Feedback includes:

- 58% of families report feeling less isolated and better able to seek support from family, friends, and their community.
- 65% of parents and carers are better able to maintain a warm and secure relationship with their infant.

Stepping Stones services provide additional support for some of the most vulnerable families in our caseloads. The services cover a wide variety of additional needs including poverty, poor mental health, families in isolation and families in crisis. We have an excellent working relationship with the staff in these services and their knowledge-based approach is invaluable. We receive very positive feedback from the families using the service – Health professional

Case Study: The response of Edinburgh's Third Sector

EVOC, Edinburgh Social Enterprise (ESE) and Voluntary Edinburgh (VE), work in partnership as a Third Sector Interface (TSI) to be key strategic contributors to meeting the challenge presented by the Edinburgh Poverty Commission calls to action.

EVOC activity during the last 12 months has included:

Distribution of COVID funding: distributing national funding (hundreds of thousands of SG funding) for local community groups to support recovery, working with local trusted and responsive community and voluntary organisations able to reach those communities and individuals most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty.

- An example was the 'Supporting Communities' Covid funding to improve mental health and wellbeing of local communities, and staff and volunteers. Organisations provided an incredible range of activities, counselling, delivering activity packs, self-care seminars, peer support, delivering medicines and internet access, reducing isolation.

Children's & Families Network: Each of Edinburgh's localities now has their own Locality Operational Groups (LOGs), bringing together public and voluntary sector reps to consult on referrals.

- More than 30 voluntary sector staff had rep roles in the LOGs this year. The LOGs formed a 'Digital Needs' group, with our sector and CEC to tackle digital inequalities, equipment, skills and access. Through this new way of working partners were able to reach those children and families most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty.

H&SCP Older People's Services: EVOC worked with sector providers of services for older people on specific support for reopening/recovering services post-COVID, addressing social isolation amongst older people, and also able to reach those older people most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty.

Covid Directory and Map: EVOC developed a directory of Edinburgh organisations providing services and activities as a direct result of the pandemic and/or specifically changing delivery models was developed with CEC Planning Dept colleagues utilising a GIS mapping platform to visually present coverage. Alongside this, in 2021 EVOCs Red Book, redesigned in 2020, is mapping the reopening of services across the city.

Food Co-ordination and Funding: From April 2020 EVOC coordinated and delivered the Edinburgh Covid-19 Food Network which worked closely with City of Edinburgh Council and Volunteer Edinburgh to develop a network of food provision/deliveries and additional practical support across Edinburgh. This work has been undertaken in two phases.

- Phase 1: between April 2020 and December 2020 saw approximately 30 organisations across the city started a food response independently. EVOC moved swiftly to support them, as they were best placed to reach those communities and individuals most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty. During this phase we provided a week's supply of food to a total of 3,748 people across 2,373 households (61,152 meals as food parcels and 1,652 pre-prepared meals for those who might be less able to manage a food parcel).
- Phase 2: between December 2020 and July 2021 streamlined the service – supporting three local agencies to act as local hubs to distribute food boxes and/or prepared meals to vulnerable people across the city. These agencies worked with multiple local partners. Key local partners worked with people referred to get help to maximise benefits, conversations with employers about furlough and addressing housing needs as part of a poverty prevention and 'no wrong door' approach. During this phase we provided a further 45,864 meals as food parcels and 3,654 pre-prepared meals to a total of 2,446 people across 1,048 households.

Vaccine engagement: TSIs worked across Lothian to work together to tackle vaccine hesitancy, as our networks were able to reach those communities and individuals most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty.

As vaccine roll out progressed, and following the JCVI guidance, NHSL public health colleagues contacted TSIs across Lothian to tackle vaccine hesitancy and promote vaccine confidence

A focus on groups or communities that faced barriers (e.g. homeless people, BAME people, carers, travelling community) and poorer geographical communities with high travel costs

Edinburgh Social Enterprise: ESE supported social enterprises in the city during Covid as these agile organisations were often able to reach those communities and individuals most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty. Some social enterprises were part of the food response, with EVOC. They also got support from ESE with their challenge of a huge loss of income, from enterprising customer facing activities disappearing overnight. Edinburgh Social Enterprise supported organisations to stay resilient, as they are and will be much needed.

Volunteer Edinburgh: VE created a new Community Taskforce Volunteer team to assist with practical tasks with a time limited approach, throughout Edinburgh, resulting in a new engaged team of 400+ of volunteers.

The focus was on occasional and time limited tasks, such as support after hospital discharge, prescription collection and deliveries, walking dogs on a short-term basis, tidying gardens, 10-minute doorstep chat, accompanying people to do some shopping or go to an appointment.

We have an amazing success in going on shopping trips with a shopping list for people that cannot go to the shops to buy for themselves. The Volunteer Centre was able as part of that to reach those communities and individuals most affected by the pandemic and at risk of poverty.

Appendix 1 – End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan, 2020-2030: Details of progress against actions

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Introduction

The City of Edinburgh Council End Poverty in Edinburgh Delivery Plan was agreed at Policy and Sustainability in December 2020. It spanned 11 priority actions to be delivered during the first 12 months to set the foundations towards ending poverty in Edinburgh, and 44 actions identified through existing or forthcoming mainstream Council plans and strategies.

The delivery plan spans the ten years to 2030, and the actions have a range of timescales. The Poverty Commission's expectations for delivery were:

- The first 12 months (2021) should be period of delivering actions that can be implemented immediately, and building the foundations for future action
- The period 2022-24 should one of delivery and acceleration of progress, and
- The period 2025-30 should be sustained progress and measurable impact.

In June 2021 the Council approved a progress monitoring framework including contextual and delivery measures, performance indicators and targets against which progress in delivery of the End Poverty in Edinburgh plan would be assessed over time. The framework is intended to be flexible and responsive, recognising that targets and actions may need to be reviewed to respond to events, circumstances and emerging evidence.

Part 1 of this annex builds on the main report by providing a specific update for each action in the plan, highlighting progress delivered in the 12 months to September 21 and priorities for action during 2022.




A progress status has been applied to each action, adopting a standard four point progress scale of '**completed**' (indicating actions which have defined close points that have been delivered), '**on track**' (indicating actions for which all expected milestones or delivery points have been met to date), '**in progress**' (indicating actions which are in the early stages of development, or which represent areas with challenges to delivery), '**not yet started**' (indicating actions which are planned for implementation in years 2-3 of the delivery plan).




This symbol is used in the table to highlight those actions which are planned to have a **direct impact on child poverty** by increasing family incomes, reducing costs, improving longer term opportunities and by improving wellbeing in the family. All other actions in the plan can be considered as contributing indirectly to reduction of child poverty by acting on issues that affect people of all ages, including housing costs, access to good jobs, access to social security and other supports.


Part 2 of the annex provide latest available updates of data against each of the indicators developed for this framework. Given time lags in data gathering and reporting, the framework set targets for indicators for year 2 of the programme onwards, so no assessment of progress against data targets for year1 has been provided in this report. As such, updated information is presented here for context and information only at this stage. This element of the monitoring framework will provide a clearer picture of progress in next year's annual report.



PART 1. Progress with actions

1. Priority actions for 2021	Progress and next steps	Status
1. Design and implement a new service model for people focused Council services aimed at preventing poverty and its outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Business Plan commitment to long term change project confirmed in February 2021 Council investment of £1.2m for new prevention team to take forward design and implementation of service change confirmed in Spring 2021, with recruitment commencing in Autumn 2021. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete team recruitment. Establish and launch tests of change in alignment with 20 min Neighbourhood and other citywide change projects. 	On track
2. Further develop people-centred income maximisation, family and household support services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council investment of additional capacity for Advice Shop and Maximise! service confirmed in Spring 2021 Commissioning process begun for Edinburgh Partnership funded independent review of current advice and income maximisation services <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete advice services review with recommendations for next steps by June 2022 	On track 
3. Increase awareness of poverty and encourage 'poverty proofing' of all Council services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of virtual '1in5' training to senior managers across the Council carried out <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resume face to face training as a priority Deliver training to Newly Qualified Teachers as part of their probationer year Embed '1in5' awareness and poverty proofing within Prevention teamwork programme 	In progress 
4. Deliver the 'Discover' programme, to reduce food anxiety, build skills and address social isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council investment approved for adaptation and development of the programme during 2021/22 Met ongoing increase in demand – 80 new referrals for the summer programme <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek approval for a Discover Co-ordinator post and continue programme development 	On track 


1. Priority actions for 2021	Progress and next steps	Status
5. Launch and deliver a new Edinburgh Guarantee for All programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme relaunched for people of all ages; website redeveloped – comprehensive material for employers and those seeking work <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit two new members of staff to progress the Edinburgh Guarantee ambition 	On track 
6. Establish Edinburgh as a living wage city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-sector Action Group formed to support Edinburgh to become a Living Wage City; delivery plan developed and approved by Council ahead of submission to Living Wage Scotland <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit bid for citywide accreditation – November 2021 – and implement action plan with targets to reduce the number earning below the Living Wage 	On track
7. Continue to deliver emergency support for citizens experiencing poverty and hardship during Covid-19 lockdowns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional Council funding approved to ensure continued delivery of crisis services, including financial support, welfare advice, wellbeing checks, Council Resilience centres <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue support in partnership with community and voluntary sector partners 	On track
8. Seek discussion with Scottish Government on funding requirements to address housing need in Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Government commitment of £234 million for affordable housing in Edinburgh from 2021/22 to 2025/26. This is an increase of £44 million or 23% more than initial allocations for the last five years. In response to a request from local authority City region partners, Scottish Government has agreed to participate in an Investment Working Group to consider funding for new affordable housing in the City Region. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to make the case for additional in-year allocations where possible. 	In progress
9. Seek discussion with UK and Scottish Government on social security policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council officers invited, as a member of the Scottish Citizens Basic Income Feasibility Study steering group, to support development of new Scottish Government Minimum Income Guarantee policy. Discussions in early stages at present. 	In progress
10. Meet with the new End Poverty Edinburgh (EPE) citizen group to agree ways of working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of End Poverty Edinburgh (EPE) met with Elected Members in August 2021. Follow up meeting with Edinburgh Partnership Board planned for December 2021 <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPE members will engage in priority work: housing/homelessness; prevention; food poverty 	On track

1. Priority actions for 2021	Progress and next steps	Status
11. Prepare an annual statement on the impact Council expects its budget decisions to have on the lives and experiences of people in poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No progress made during 2021/22. This work is planned for 2022/23. 	Not yet started
12. Include annual reporting on progress towards delivery of these actions within the Council's Local Child Poverty Action Reporting duty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieved via this report. 	Complete
13. Establish a dedicated Poverty and Prevention team within the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A core poverty team of four staff members was established within the Council's Policy and Insight service by December 2020 	Complete

2. Fair Work that provides dignity and security	Progress and next steps	Status
14. Maintain City of Edinburgh Council Accreditation as a Living Wage Employer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From 1 April 2021 City of Edinburgh Council committed to pay all staff the Scottish Local Government Living Wage (set between COSLA and Trade Unions) changing the pay structure so that 4,400 of employees in grades 1 to 3 received a pay uplift <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver actions outlined in the Council's new Fair Work Action Plan 	On track
15. Establish Edinburgh as a Living Wage City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 6 above. Multi-sector Action Group formed to support Edinburgh to become a Living Wage City; delivery plan developed and approved by Council ahead of submission to Living Wage Scotland <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit bid for citywide accreditation – November 2021 – and implement action plan with targets to reduce the number earning below the Living Wage 	On track
16. Launch and deliver a new Edinburgh Guarantee For All programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 5 above. Programme relaunched for people of all ages; website redeveloped – comprehensive material for employers and those seeking work <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit two new members of staff to progress the Edinburgh Guarantee ambition 	On track 

2. Fair Work that provides dignity and security	Progress and next steps	Status
<p>17. Deliver the 'No One Left Behind Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentive' (EERI), helping people of all ages with the greatest barriers to employment get jobs and stay in jobs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tiered payment introduced to incentivise employer uptake which has been slow during 2020-21 as a result of pandemic Additional Scottish Government funding for Young Persons Guarantee increased capacity from 32 to 132 for 2021-22. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote incentive to SMEs; align to vocational training 	<p>In progress</p> 
<p>18. Develop and commission a new Blended Employability Service, providing improved access to flexible employability support across the city</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The process for awarding the contract is almost complete, with a report going to Finance and Resources Committee in October 2021 seeking approval for the contract to be awarded. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new service is due to start in April 2022. 	<p>On track</p> 
<p>19. Deliver the Council Sustainable Procurement Strategy, and actions to increase living wage accredited suppliers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real Living Wage suppliers awarded contracts increased to 79% in 2020/21 from 70% in 2019/20 Living Wage accredited suppliers awarded contracts increased, to 26% from 8% <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the Council's new Fair Work Action plan to increase living wage accredited suppliers through Council purchasing power. 	<p>On track</p>
<p>20. Deliver the Council Sustainable Procurement Strategy, and actions to increase, and improve monitoring and delivery of, community benefits offered by suppliers – aiming to achieve the target of 1 FTE job with training for a person from a targeted group (where appropriate) for every £1m of procurement spending by 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 21 contracts the Council awarded above £4m (as set by procurement regulations) in 2020/21 included community benefit requirements, plus an additional 29 contracts. Community benefits sought in 27% of regulated contracts, up from 20% the previous year. Examples of community benefits delivered include street lighting contract with Amey and the Edinburgh Trams to Newhaven contracts. New post recruited to, which will work closely with service areas and improve the reporting and delivery of community benefits. <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue existing actions, and delivery of Sustainable Procurement Strategy 	<p>In progress</p>


2. Fair Work that provides dignity and security	Progress and next steps	Status
<p>21. Review best practice and embed appropriate Community Wealth Building approaches into a revised Edinburgh Economy Strategy developed to drive Council actions for a sustainable economic recovery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Wealth Building workshop held by Commercial and Procurement Services with Business Growth & Inclusion and Scotland Excel, February 2021. Refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy consultation underway, with planned publication in November 2021. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed learning from current Community Wealth Building projects into wider development and implementation of core city strategies 	In progress


3. A decent home we can afford to live in	Progress and next steps	Status
<p>22. In partnership with city stakeholders, write to and seek a roundtable with Scottish Government ministers and directors for discussion of the additional funding requirements for housing in Edinburgh the Commission highlights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 8 above. Scottish Government commitment of £234 million for affordable housing in Edinburgh from 2021/22 to 2025/26. This is an increase of £44 million or 23% more than initial allocations for the last five years. In response to a request from local authority City region partners, Scottish Government has agreed to participate in an Investment Working Group to consider funding for new affordable housing in the City Region. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to make the case for additional in-year allocations where possible. 	In progress
<p>23. Deliver Edinburgh's Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, including actions to Prevent Homelessness, transform temporary accommodation and move away from the use of unsuitable accommodation, support people to access settled accommodation as soon as possible, and reduce the number of people rough sleeping in the city.</p>	<p>Full details are in the RRTP Annual Update on Progress</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-disciplinary team set up to support council tenants at serious risk of eviction action Continued dedicated team to support Private Rented Sector (PRS) tenants at risk of homelessness Review/development of pathways for young people and people leaving prison or hospital to prevent homelessness 	On track 



3. A decent home we can afford to live in	Progress and next steps	Status
	<p>4. Increased self-contained temporary accommodation for homeless households – new models explored and developed</p> <p>5. Recruitment of 10 housing assistants for new team to reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation</p> <p>6. Extension of alerts to health staff and schools of children and young people moving into temporary accommodation</p> <p>7. Rough sleeping reduced from 80 – 120 rough pre-Covid to an average of 10; ongoing work with street-based outreach</p> <p>2022 priorities</p> <p>1. Continue to deliver actions identified in the RRTP including developing new innovative homeless prevention activity</p>	
24. Deliver City Plan 2030 outlining new minimum affordable housing contributions for new developments in Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal developed to increase the minimum affordable housing contributions from 25% to 35%, in recognition of the unique pressures on housing in Edinburgh. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration needed by the Council’s Planning Committee; then public consultation; then consideration by the Scottish Government – whole process likely to take over a year 	In progress
25. Deliver this Council’s commitment to build 20,000 social and affordable homes by 2028	<p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2022-23 to 2026-27 Strategic Housing Investment Plan sets out proposed approvals and completions in the affordable housing sector over the next 5 years. • A Land Strategy report to Support Delivery of Affordable Housing and Brownfield Land to be considered by Housing, Homelessness & Fair Work Committee in November 2021. 	In progress





3. A decent home we can afford to live in	Progress and next steps	Status
<p>26. Deliver the annual Housing Revenue Account Budget Strategy, investing in improving existing Council homes and neighbourhoods - including delivering energy efficient, low carbon homes, development of new and existing homes blended together to create a local identity and a sense of pride in communities, and well-designed, green, open spaces that encourage residents to be active and socialise.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2020/21 £41.456m was invested in building new homes and improving existing homes and neighbourhoods: 101 new Council social rented homes were completed; delivery of external fabric improvement to more than 470 homes. • Energy Advice Service engaged with 790 tenants in 2020/21 saving more than £168,000 (average of £213) <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The [2022-2032] HRA budget strategy is under development and will be informed by tenant consultation due to commence in September. 	In progress
<p>27. Continue to deliver the Housing Service Improvement Plan, ensuring that the frontline housing service is visible, responsive and effective</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improvements to digital resources, customer communication, service resilience and efficiencies. 2. ICT improvements to support Repairs service: complaints handling process and communications. 3. Improvements to rent payment information – online and letters 4. Reducing risk of rent arrears: promotion of flexible direct debits; new multidisciplinary team – proactive engagement (see action 23) <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop support for first-time and new tenants to sustain a tenancy. • Improve estates management services • Develop and update training and procedure support for frontline officers • Digital options to identify rent arrears and for tenant feedback 	In progress
<p>28. Following Scottish Government legislation expected to come into force from April 2021, develop, consult and agree upon local implementation of the new licensing and planning controls for regulation of short term letting in Edinburgh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft legislation on the regulation of short term lets expected later this year. <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is proposing to introduce a short-term let control zone covering the whole city - subject to public consultation before a final proposal is sent to Scottish Government ministers. 	In progress





3. A decent home we can afford to live in	Progress and next steps	Status
29. Seek discussions with private rented tenants, landlords & Scottish Government to address concerns rising private sector rents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council officers continue to engage with Scottish Government officials on guidance for developing rent pressure zones. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue engagement with Scottish Government on policy options 	Not yet started






4. Income security that offers a real lifeline	Progress and next steps	Status
30. Deliver priority proposal to deliver embedded income and family support services to a wider range of community settings across Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Action 2 above. Council investment of additional capacity for Advice Shop and Maximise! service confirmed in Spring 2021 Commissioning process begun for Edinburgh Partnership funded independent review of current advice and income maximisation services <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete advice services review with recommendations for next steps by June 2022 	On track 
31. Continue to deliver high quality money, debt and welfare advice through the Council's Advice Shop service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major impact of Covid on the nature of demand seen by the service Council investment in the Advice Shop for a multi-disciplinary team, an additional advice line advisor and income maximisation officers working with the with Homelessness and Housing Options teams to provide people with full benefit checks. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resume provision of drop-in support 	On track
32. Continue to deliver actions to administer Scottish Welfare Fund crisis and community grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial increase in provision of crisis grants and self-isolation support grants (from 50-900 per week); resource capacity increased to support these critical tasks Activities aligned with effective signposting to holistic support <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess schemes in line with national guidance 	On track
33. Deliver a programme of appropriate targeted outreach and promotion of Scottish Welfare Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upturn in the number of recipients— applications for crisis grants increased by 119% and community care grants by 55% 	On track


and other Council administered benefits and support schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing response to range of Covid-related Scottish Government funding <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued promotion, with funded schemes identified for 2022 	
34. Deliver priority proposals to expand the 1in5 programme to all Council staff, redesign of materials to meet the needs of varying staff groups, with an objective to establish appropriate awareness raising sessions for all directorates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Action 3 above. Delivery of virtual '1in5' training to senior managers across the Council <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resume face to face training as a priority Deliver training to Newly Qualified Teachers as part of their probationer year Embed '1in5' awareness and poverty proofing within Prevention team work programme 	In progress 
35. Working with city stakeholders, seek dialogue with appropriate UK and Scottish Gov ministers on the findings of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission in regard to Social Security Policy and implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 9 above. Council officers invited, as a member of the Scottish Citizens Basic Income Feasibility Study steering group, to support development of new Scottish Government Minimum Income Guarantee policy. Discussions in early stages at present. <p>2022 Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to seek opportunities to engage with UK and Scottish Government policy development 	In progress




5. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects	Progress and next steps	Status
36. Continue the delivery and development of core existing plans and strategies aiming to ensure pupils thrive at school and close the attainment gap, including – Edinburgh Children's Services Plan, Education Improvement Plan 2020-23 and the Edinburgh Learns Equity Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Leadership for Equity CLPL will be delivered from session 2021/22 for school leaders class teachers supporting effective actions in closing the poverty-related attainment and achievement gap, including use of the Pupil Equity Fund <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of CLPL over the next 3 years 	On track 
37. Develop and deliver the Learning 4 Life Programme aiming to create a world class learning city where everyone's skills, knowledge, creativity and relationships with people and places are equally valued.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edinburgh Learns for Life revised Strategic Plan for Education approved by Council in May 2021 <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing implementation of the programme, and full alignment with the 20-minute neighbourhood approach and prevention strategy 	On track 



5. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects	Progress and next steps	Status
38. Develop actions to provide inclusive, equitable, valuable learning opportunities for everyone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of curriculum embedding social justice and anti-poverty practice, with learner-led consultation (including young people living in poverty, care experienced, BAME and with additional support needs). <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop learning pathways giving parity of esteem to academic and vocational paths Pilot with schools, and early years settings, in the Granton community 	In progress 
39. Develop actions to use a place-based approach to build collaborative and sustainable learning communities and networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Estate Investment Implementation Unit established to progress opportunities for learning including outdoor and digital <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up Strategic Leadership Working Group (SLWG) to develop the strategy for the learning community Introduce a new quality improvement education officer post to support schools to implement the learning community approach 	In progress 
40. Develop actions to co-create the environments where learners can lead and shape their own learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools encouraged to involve pupils in their learning environment as part of the inclusion strategy e.g. resources and learning spaces Young people have been involved in shaping the design of new schools, for example, Currie 	In progress 
41. Work with school communities in target areas (beginning with core projects in Granton and Westerhailes), and their partners to define curriculum rationales which will then lead to clear, equitable pathways into further education and the world of work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted offers for young people at risk of negative destination through JET (Job Education Training) Partnerships in place between the Council and Council, Skills Development Scotland (SDS), Edinburgh College, Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) and employers DYW co-ordinators posts on track to be in all secondary schools by Christmas 2021 to co-ordinate and support Locality community partnerships are also in place – youth work, colleges, Third Sector organisations and schools <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and expand partnerships with employers 	In progress 

5. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects	Progress and next steps	Status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build up targeted support for young people at risk of negative destination who need specialist input (inclusion) – all settings 	
<p>42. Expand and develop the 1in5 programme as a regular, mandatory training action for all school staff, aiming to improve and reinforce understanding of poverty and inequality across all schools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 3 above. Delivery of virtual '1in5' training to senior managers across the Council carried out <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resume face to face training as a priority Deliver training to Newly Qualified Teachers as part of their probationer year Embed '1in5' awareness and poverty proofing within Prevention team work programme 	<p>In progress</p> 
<p>43. Develop and deliver training to pastoral staff in all schools as part of the 1 in 5 programme, responding to the evidence of high levels of school absence as well as anxiety and depression among children in temporary accommodation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A session on children living in temporary accommodation has been delivered to school staff and partners System now in place to alert schools to children and young people who are in temporary accommodation <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver Leadership for Equity 1 in 5 content over the next academic year; assess and further develop training 	<p>In progress</p> 
<p>44. Develop Professional Learning with a focus on Leadership for Equity to build expertise, practices and skills in leading improvements aimed at achieving equity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Leadership for Equity professional learning programme has been designed - two sets of training: one for people in a leadership role, and one for class teachers <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to roll out the training Use evidence of effectiveness and involvement of parents and learners to guide PEF spending 	<p>On track</p> 
<p>45. Host a roundtable with Edinburgh Independent Schools to explore and agree new partnership actions to overcome inequality and improve inclusion across Edinburgh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial discussions held with Edinburgh Independent Schools Association on responses to Edinburgh Poverty Commission Calls to Action, and awareness raising discussions held with student groups. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued engagement to seek opportunities for joint working on programmes of common interest, including poverty awareness and living wage city 	<p>In progress</p> 

5. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects	Progress and next steps	Status
46. Explore opportunities to review individual school catchment areas as part of school development and building programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities are explored as a standard part of the school buildings programme. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Plan 2030 Education Appraisal will set out the criteria for determining catchment areas 	In progress 
47. Deliver across all schools, a new online tracking system that highlights poverty related attainment gaps, allowing schools to respond to these with targeted support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions are underway to provide an improved online, cloud-based tracking system which all CEC schools will move to. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final decisions about the model 	In progress 
48. Deliver Early Years Expansion to 1140 funded hours and ensure early years provision is flexible enough to meet the needs of families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion plans will enable all eligible children to have a 1,140 place from August 2021 <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing development and improvement of capacity Parent consultation in September 2021 on models of delivery Staff training to ensure appropriately qualified 	In Progress 
49. Target PEF on actions to allow schools to continue to address poverty-related barriers, including inequity of digital access and reducing the cost of the school day.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual guidance is issued to school leaders, including priority areas of spend, to ensure effective use of funding <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Empowered Learning (1:1 devices) project will provide all learners p6-S6 with a 1:1 advice if needed; 1:5 deployment for P1-P5; primary schools are able to supplement if needed. 	In progress 
50. Develop and implement a plan to reduce the poverty related attainment gap in literacy and numeracy including recruiting Closing the Gap teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans developed to provide additional Covid recovery funding directly to schools for 2021-22 on the basis of their school roll. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of staff to support transition to secondary Encourage schools to take learning community approach to improve outcomes and to make more effective use of resources 	In progress 

6. Connections in a city that belongs to us	Progress and next steps	Status
51. Deliver a new Edinburgh Economy Strategy developed to guide Council actions to support a sustainable economic recovery for the city post Covid, including the renewal of Edinburgh's cultural sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy consultation underway, with planned publication in November 2021. Tourism Recovery Action plan in development in partnership with Edinburgh Tourism Action Group. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of refreshed economy strategy by November 2021, and implementation of priority actions 	In progress
52. Develop plans to design and embed a 20-minute neighbourhood approach to new developments, and planning of services in Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In June 2021 the Council established a new draft strategic approach and has approved funding for a new team to implement the strategy. <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of new team complete, test of change programme underway in priority areas 	On track
53. Deliver a City Mobility Plan, with actions to reduce the day to day cost of travel for families in Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Mobility Plan developed and agreed <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement actions to support sustainable, affordable travel 	In progress
54. Deliver the Council Digital and Smart City Strategy actions to improve digital inclusion and provide support for citizens to gain digital skills and the confidence to use them, including:		
i) ensuring connectivity is available in community spaces including libraries, schools and early years settings	<p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Augment connectivity in early years settings and schools Pilot of hublet – hand-held device for access to web in the library – and upgrading of the People's Network 	In progress 
ii) ensuring citizens can access resources within our libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range of library services made available online during lockdown Phased reopening of libraries to support digital access <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resume <i>Get Online Digital</i> skills programme and digital help sessions 	In progress
iii) ensuring citizens can access learning opportunities to further their digital skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for families with English is a second language to access online learning including setting up email accounts Resettlement family programme for 70 refugees provided online <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council, Edinburgh College and voluntary partners will work closely together to offer opportunities for adults to improve their digital skills 	In progress

6. Connections in a city that belongs to us	Progress and next steps	Status
iv) ensuring that digital literacies are embedded into all aspects of the curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowered learning Programme created Training resources created and live webinars delivered to support teachers and pupils adapt to working remotely and digitally <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education practitioners will be given the technology and the training to transform how they deliver education to their students. 	In progress 
v. fostering positive relationships between families and early years settings/schools allowing for support opportunities to be identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Intense family support (IFS) service developed in North Edinburgh helping parents to maximise income, develop skills, training or work. Home learning: Parents Early Education Partnership programme (Peep) developed to support parents to be engaged in their child's learning <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of the 3-year Improvement Plan for Early Years services 	In progress 
vi) providing equity of access to digital resources for all learners in schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 49 (Empowered learning Programme) <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The roll out will begin Sep 2021, finalising in Dec 2022 	In progress 
vii) ensuring low cost affordable broadband is available for Council tenants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is working in partnership with CityFibre and Openreach to provide super-fast fibre broadband infrastructure to all council own homes - 8,917 homes have been connected to date <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider options to use the infrastructure 	On track
viii) working with third sector partners to promote access to affordable digital equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community planning partners are developing a digital inclusion strategy <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LOIP delivery group will consider the draft and agree next steps. 	In progress
ix) ensuring that citizens on low incomes are involved in the design and development of digital services that matter to them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation and engagement has included the tenant's federation, which provides diverse representation. 	In progress

7. Equality in our health and wellbeing	Progress and next steps	Status
55. Continue the Council's response to the impacts of the Covid outbreak, including management of key frontline service delivery in line with government and public health guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council Incident Management Team (CIMT) continues to meet twice a week to discuss and approve actions required around the Covid outbreak <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further reopening of services, guided by public health advice 	On track
56. Continue to provide crisis support for people affected by Covid, including contact support for vulnerable citizens, welfare checks and grant support for self-isolating citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 7. Additional Council funding approved to ensure continued delivery of crisis services, including financial support, welfare advice, wellbeing checks, Council Resilience centres <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue support in partnership with community and voluntary sector partners 	On track
57. Review and develop approaches to make best use of Scottish Government funding to address financial hardship as a result of Covid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding used to support crisis grants, foodbank support, discretionary hardship awards, school breakfast clubs etc <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the cash-first approach for people facing financial hardship, whilst offering a range of holistic support and advice. Budget provision for existing level of support for remainder of 2021/22 	On track 
58. Develop and continue partnership working with EVOC and 3rd Sector to ensure a co-ordinated approach to contact and delivery of support activities and to assess long term service delivery options to address food insecurity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach agreed by Edinburgh Partnership in March 2021 <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A city-wide event in autumn 2021 will be held to begin wider engagement. Following this, a core group will be set up to develop the strategy for consultation in the beginning of 2022 	In progress
59. Deliver priority proposal to invest in the expansion of the 'Discover' programme, working with families to reduce food anxiety, build skills and address social isolation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Action 4. Council investment approved for adaptation and development of the programme during 2021/22 Met ongoing increase in demand – 80 new referrals for the summer programme <p>2022 priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek approval for a Discover Co-ordinator post and continue programme development Work with Educational Psychologists to determine impact over time Develop resources to further support children, families and schools 	On track 

PART 2. Key risk and progress indicators

1. Fair Work that provides dignity and security

Table 1a. Fair Work that provides dignity and security - risk factors				
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Unemployment levels	2.6% (7,300)	Not yet available		
Universal Credit claimants (as at 31 March)	14,425	37,935		

Unemployment figure - March 2021 data will be available from 14 Sept.

Table 1b. Fair Work that provides dignity and security - progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	Target
Living wage			
Number of living wage accredited employers with HQs in Edinburgh (at April)	327	397	500 by 2026
Employment support			
Number of employers who engaged in the Edinburgh Guarantee <i>Notes: 19/20 are opportunities for those aged 16–21</i>	168	51	Increase to pre Covid levels by 2022-23
Number of roles advertised by employers who engaged in the Edinburgh Guarantee	487	306	Increase to pre Covid levels by 2022-23
Number of roles filled by employers who were engaged in the Edinburgh Guarantee:			
a. By people aged under 21 and from Edinburgh	269	37	Increase to pre Covid levels by 2022-23
b. Roles paying the Real Living Wage	Not available	Info collected from April 2021	Target to be set
Edinburgh's Employers Recruitment Incentive (EERI) (SG funded) - budgeted funding for places compared with uptake: <i>Notes: funding for 2019-20 for 32 places; additional funding for 2021-22 increases places to 132 /</i>			
a. Aged under 25	21	28	2021/22: 110
b. Aged 25 +	7	15	2021/22: 22

Table 1b. Fair Work that provides dignity and security - progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	Target
c. Number of living wage opportunities	6	26	Living Wage 50% of places awarded by 2021/22
No One Left Behind Funding: Activity Agreement Hubs (first step to a positive destination) Funding to support 160 people			
a. Number of new young people were engaged	85	101	2021/22: 150
b. Number of young people who were supported	168	161	2021/22: 200
c. of which, number who progressed into a positive destination (i.e. college, training, employment)	114	64	Increase positive destinations by 30% by 2020-21
Number of people supported by City of Edinburgh Council funded employability programme			
a. Total (no individuals supported)	3,719	3,761	2021/22: 3,800
b. Total new engagements	2,506	1,700	2021/22: 1,900
c. Breakdown by barrier type (five most frequently cited barriers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low skilled: 58% • Poor interview skills, CV presentation: 33% • Mental Health: 30% • From employment deprived area: 29% • Lack confidence: 25% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low skilled: 52% • Poor interview skills, CV: 47% • Mental Health: 32% • Jobless Household: 26% • Migrants, BME background: 25% 	NA
d. Clients with 5 or more barriers	71%	77%	NA
e. Number of positive job outcomes (i.e. getting a job) achieved by people supported (all ages)	448	302	2021/22: 495
f. Number of other positive outcomes by people supported (education, training, volunteering etc)	653	500	2021/22: 695
g. Progression in employment: number of people who have increased wages, hours or to more sustainable employment	359	481	2021/22: 560
<i>Notes: data from employability providers who follow people up for a year</i>			
Procurement			

Table 1b. Fair Work that provides dignity and security - progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	Target
% suppliers SME (aim to increase local businesses) [2019-20 figures and target revised Aug 21]	52%	50%	2021/22: 52%
% businesses procured from EH postcodes (sustainability and local job opportunities) (aim to increase)	39%	41%	2021/22: 42%
% of Council suppliers of new regulated tendered contracts that are committed to paying real living wage in delivering Council services	70%	79%	2021/22: 80%
% of new regulated contracts in which community benefits are sought.	20%		2021/22: 30%

2. A decent home we can afford to live in

Table 2a. A decent home we can afford to live in - risk factors				
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Average private sector rent per month in Lothian area (based on 2 bed property)	£972 (per month - 2019)	£969 (per month - 2020)		
Gap between Local Housing Allowance (LHA) and average private rent in the city <i>Note: LHA frozen between 19/20 and 20/21</i>	LHA: £759.84 (4 wks -2019/20) Gap: £212.86	LHA: £759.84 (4 wks - 2020/21) Gap: £209.16		
Total number of applicants on EdIndex register	23,998	20,564		
Demand for social housing – number of active bidders	7,099	7,213		
Average bid per property	203	201		

Table 2b. A decent home we can afford to live in – progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	Target
Affordable homes			
Number of affordable homes approved	1,930	1,285	1,200 for 2021/22
Number of affordable homes completed	1,443	1,087	1,218 completions
Quality			
Front line housing service – responsive, effective			Measure to be developed (within 3-6 months)
Preventing homelessness			
Number of households assessed as homeless	3,355	1,934	New baseline required prior to target setting (Covid impact ongoing into Year 1)
Number of households who seek housing advice who do not go on to present as homeless	1,708	1,521	New baseline required prior to target setting (Covid impact ongoing into Year 1)
The number of households in temporary accommodation	3,570 (at 31 March 2020)	4,431 (at 31 March 2021)	New baseline required prior to target setting (Covid impact ongoing into Year 1)
Percentage of households in unsuitable temporary accommodation	22% (as at 31 March 2020)	25% (as at 31 March 2021)	New baseline required prior to target setting (Covid impact ongoing into Year 1)

3. Income security that offers a real lifeline

Table 3. Income security that offers a real lifeline – progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	Target
<i>Changing culture – building knowledge and awareness</i>			
Leadership for Equity Programme Number and % of staff attending the programme	Programme starts August 2021	NA Programme starts August 2021	2021-22: 30% 2022-23: 50% 2023-24: 70%
<i>Council Advice Shop – activity in year*</i>			
Measure	2020-21	2021-22	Projection 2021-22
New debt clients	109	Not yet available	Increase expected
Amount of debt presented	£592,581		Increase expected
Benefit applications	1,861		Increase expected
Benefits: mandatory reconsiderations	406		Increase expected
Benefits: appeals	116		Increase expected
Welfare Rights Clients – number of individuals in year	3,800		Increase expected
Advice Line calls answered	5,618		7,500*
Emails enquiries dealt with	4,935		5,000*
Total financial gain	£8,835,750		Not known
Financial gain per client	£2,325		Not known
<i>Financial support and crisis funding</i>			
Measure	2019-20	2020-21	Projection 2021-22
Council tax reduction scheme – number of cases	77,718	83,306	Significant increase anticipated: changes in national benefits and removal of furlough
Discretionary housing payments – number of cases	7,427	7,428	

Income security that offers a real lifeline – progress indicators						
Measure	Baseline 2019-20		2020-21		Projection	
Number of free school meals payments in school year	5,950		8,828		Potential increase in need	
Number of clothing grant awards in school year	5,337		8,301		Potential increase in need	
Scottish Welfare Fund	2019-20		2020-21		Increase 2019-20 to 2020-21	
	No. applications	Households	No. applications	Households	% increase in applications	% increase in households
Crisis Grants	16,367	16,199	35,923	35,909	119%	122%
Community Care Grants	5,377	5,363	8,320	8,317	55%	55%
Total	21,744	21,562	44,243	44,226	103%	105%

* Notes on Advice Shop indicators:

1. The baseline shown is for 2020-21 is shown for information - new baseline required prior to target setting (Covid impact ongoing into Year 1)
2. Advice line calls answered: projection for 2021-22 reflects the increasing average time to handle a call (unclear if due to remote working or complexity of cases or other factors) and additional staffing capacity.
3. Email enquiries dealt with: the significant increase during lockdown is expected to continue

4. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects

Table 4. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects – progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline	Update	Target
Early years			
% P1 achieving literacy level	Baseline is 2018/19 Overall 78.9% Q1 63.6%	Update not available until Dec 2021	All attainment targets need to be rebased post-Covid (as per BP); overall aim is to increase
% parents receiving funded Early Learning and Childcare through their preferred location	Surveys to be done Sep/Oct 2021 and Feb/March 2022 (before and after new builds)	Update not yet available	By March 2022 the number of parents/carers receiving early learning through their preferred location will increase by at least 5%.

Table 4. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects – progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline	Update	Target
% parents receiving funded Early Learning and Childcare through their preferred model of delivery.			By March 2022 the number of parents/carers receiving early learning through their preferred model of delivery will increase by at least 5%
Quality and standards			
Percentage of teachers who have met the Teaching, Learning & Assessment “Charter” standard (achievement of enhanced level of skills as set out in the Edinburgh Teachers’ Charter)	New measure: 0%	NA	Year-on-year increase towards 70% of teachers achieving Charter standard after 3 years. Yr 1 (2021-22): 20%; Yr 2: 50%
Percentage of schools have achieved the Digital Schools Award Scotland - The number of schools demonstrating sufficient progress in key indicators to merit this national award	New measure: 0%	NA	Year-on-year increase towards 20% of schools achieving DSAS after 3 years. Yr 1 (2021-22): 5%; Year 2: 10%
Attendance			
Low attendance: percentage of Primary pupils whose attendance is less than 85% (was 6-8% pre-Covid)	2018/19: 6.9%	Last full session figures available; update expected Oct 21	Impact of Covid requires setting baseline figure in August 2021 aiming to reduce the number of pupils with low attendance over the course of the session.
Low attendance: percentage of Secondary students whose attendance is less than 85%	2018/19: 14.2%		
Attainment*			
The percentage of pupils in Primaries 1, 4 & 7 who achieve their expected Curriculum for Excellence level in literacy – total and SIMD Q1	Baseline is 2018/19 Overall 77.1% Q1 61.1%	Data collected for 2020/21 session to be published around December 2021	Aim is to increase the percentage for all pupils and particularly those in deprived areas. A new baseline will be created from the next set of results.
The percentage of pupils in Primaries 1, 4 & 7 who achieve their expected Curriculum for Excellence level in numeracy – total and SIMD Q1	Baseline is 2018/19 Overall 83.2% Q1 70.9%		
The percentage of secondary school leavers achieving a qualification in both literacy and numeracy at SCQF level 5 – total and SIMD Q1	Baseline is 2018/19 • Overall: 67.1% • Q1: 43.5%	Data for 2019/20 • Overall – 71.7% • Q1 -50.9%	

Table 4. Opportunities that drive justice and boost prospects – progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline	Update	Target
The percentage of secondary school leavers achieving one or more qualifications at SCQF level 6 (Higher or equivalent) – total and SIMD Q1	Baseline is 2018/19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall: 67.6% Q1: 45.6% 	Data for 2019/20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall – 71.1% Q1 – 51.1% 	
Positive destinations for school leavers	Baseline is 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall: 92.5% Q1: 88.9% 	Update expected early 2022	Target needs to be rebased post-Covid; overall aim is to increase

*Note: shift in assessing progress on improving attainment away from measuring the attainment gap, which does not show the level of change for the low and high SIMD groups; focusing on the increase in total and in SIMD Q1; note that national guidance is to set stretch targets

5. Connections in a city that belongs to us

Table 5a. Connections in a city that belongs to us – risk factors				
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband	97.9% (Scot: 93.3%)	98.8% (Scot: 94.8%)		

Table 5b. Connections in a city that belongs to us – progress indicators			
Measure	2019-20	2020-21	Target
Number of people killed or seriously injured	145 people KSI (average 2017-19)	Update not yet available	Maintain downward trend based on rolling 3-year average
Number of people who perceive cycling in Edinburgh to be safe	2015 – 33% 2017 – 25% 2019 – 34%	Update not yet available	Increase
Proportion of people living in areas with low levels of public transport	31% of residents in areas with low levels of public transport (2019)	Update not yet available	Reduction in proportion by 2030

Table 5b. Connections in a city that belongs to us – progress indicators				
Number of multimodal interchanges in the city and the travel modes available	50 interchanges served by 2 or more modes		Update not yet available	Increased number of interchanges by 2030
Comparison of the cost of single and a day bus tickets between Edinburgh and Scotland’s other major cities (Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow) (CMP) ¹		Single	Day	Update not yet available
	Edinburgh	£1.80	£4.40	
	Aberdeen	£1.70	£4.20	
	Dundee	£1.80	£3.60	
	Glasgow	£1.70	£4.60	
Digital use via library facilities– downloads and streaming during the year ²	1,554,485		2,958, 560	Increase (tbc)
No. digital devices delivered to pupils	March 2020-April 2021: 14,268		No update available until December 2021	Target to deliver 39,000 by December 2022 (1:1 P6-S6)
No. CEC tenants connected to fibre-to-the-property (FTTP) infrastructure	1,515 (7.7%)		8,917 (45%)	100% by 2024

6. Equality in our health and wellbeing

Table 6a. Equality in our health and wellbeing – risk factors				
Measure	Baseline	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Average life Expectancy for Males and Females (How long children born in specified year can expect to live)	2018 Males: 78.4 Females: 82.5			
Inequalities in male and female life expectancy – difference between the most and least deprived areas *	2009-2013 Males ~14 years Females ~10 years	TBC		

¹ Lower day rate shown (upper rates are between 10 and 20p higher); Edinburgh - Lothian Buses; Aberdeen – First Bus; Dundee – Xplore Dundee; Glasgow – First Bus

² The figures supplied include all downloads (internal and external – not currently available separately, but most will be external.

Healthy Life Expectancy: percentage of life spent in good health (an indicator of quality of life)	Males: 84.6% Females: 78.8%	TBC		
Inequalities in 0-74 years mortality rate (Early deaths – linked to socioeconomic position)	TBC	TBC		
Type 2 Diabetes prevalence (Chronic disease with socioeconomic gradient)	TBC	TBC		
Inequalities in 27-30 months check speech and language concerns	TBC	TBC		
(Mild to moderate) MH prescriptions	TBC	TBC		

* Differences between lowest and highest areas of deprivation are calculated using the Slope Index of Inequality

Table 6b. Equality in our health and wellbeing – progress indicators			
Measure	Baseline 2019-20	2020-21	Target 2020-21
Total number of families: 1) recommended for attendance at Discover 2) attended Discover	1. 276 families of families recommended 2. 134 families attended Discover	1. 671 families recommended 2. 671 families (1,346 children) attended across the city	1. 650 of families recommended 2. 450 (currently active on Facebook group while Discover is delivered online)
Number of new recommendations (referrals)	Approx. 40	Summer 2021: 80 new recommendations	Approx. 50 – 60 new per holiday
Number of families provided with Discover in a box (food, cooking, activities) (active engagement)	N/A – no boxes Approx. 180 people attending Hubs and receiving breakfast and lunch	Summer 2021 – between 310 to 340 boxes delivered each week	320 food, recipes and utensils boxes per week per holiday

Appendix 2 – Public Health Context

Factors that influence population health and inequalities

Biological, social and environmental determinants interact to influence people's health and wellbeing (see Figure 1). Measures of health must consider age, gender, geography, socio economic position, occupation, education and other determinants to capture the full range of health needs – and differences -- across the population.

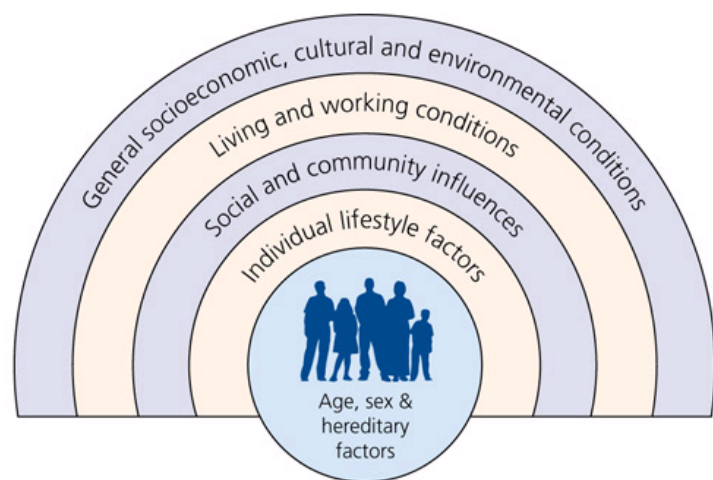


Figure 1: Dahlgren and Whitehead: the social determinants of health

Inequalities develop over a life course as the result of 'systematic, unfair differences in the health of the population that occur across social classes or population groups'. The 'fundamental causes' of health inequalities such as power and wealth affect the distribution of wider environmental influences such as the availability of jobs, good quality housing, education and learning opportunities, access to services, social status (see Figure 2).

This results in differences in individual experiences of, for example, discrimination, prejudice, stigma, low income, and opportunities. These differences in individual experiences affect people's health in three main ways:

- Differential exposure to environmental, cultural, socio-economic and educational influences that impact on health.
- The psychosocial consequences of differences in social status. There is now strong evidence that 'status anxiety' leads to psychological and physiological changes that affect health.
- The inequalities in health that are observed now will reflect not only current status but also differences in experiences at earlier stages in life. This is why interventions targeting families and the early years are so important.

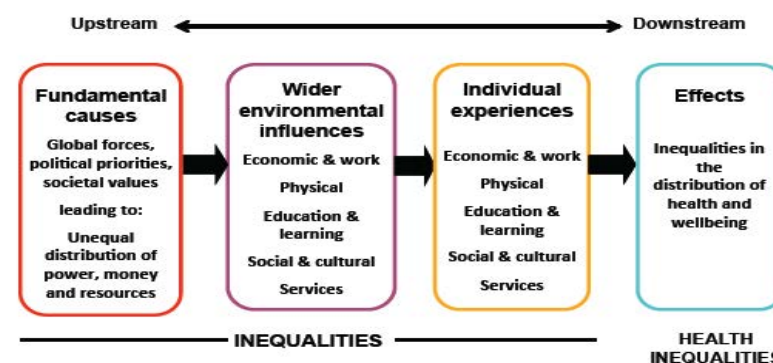


Figure 2: Fundamental Causes of Health Inequalities

Early Years and Health Inequalities

Inequalities in health arise because of inequalities in society; the circumstances into which people are born and grow have a significant impact on outcomes. The accumulation of positive and negative effects on health and wellbeing contributes to widening inequalities across the life course. The influence of early years' experience on later life health outcomes is well documented. In recent years the recognition that adverse childhood experience (ACEs) manifests as multiple negative health impacts has been a crucial extension of this knowledge.

Child health is indistinguishable from family or household health and it makes little sense to consider population health without reference to children and young people. Moreover, primary and community care services

are part of the framework for getting it right for every child in the city so their needs have to be factored into this assessment.

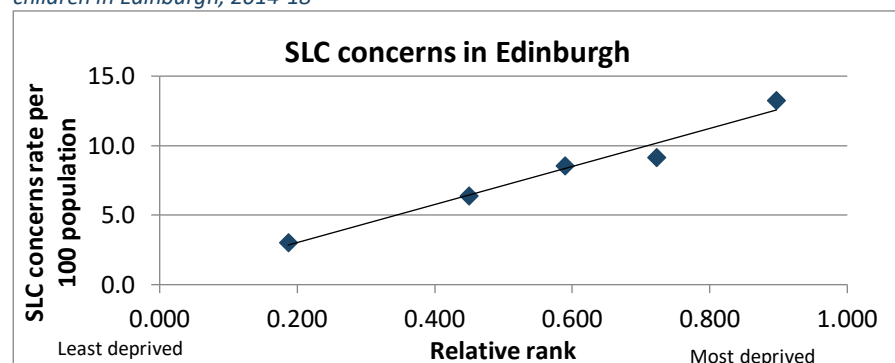
Inequalities in child health are evident early in the life course with babies from more deprived backgrounds being less likely to be breast fed and more likely to be exposed to secondhand smoke than those born to more affluent backgrounds.

Weight at birth is a predictor of child and adult health outcomes. Those with lower birth weight are at increased risk of poorer cognitive skills and of developing cardiac disease in later life. In the year to 31 March 2019, 4.4% of babies born in Edinburgh were categorised as low birthweight. Although this is below the Scotland average, it amounts to 205 babies that year. The risk of low birth weight is higher among more deprived communities.

Speech and language acquisition is a key marker of early years development. Local research has demonstrated that socioeconomic factors account for development delays independent of delays associated with pre-term birth. In Edinburgh there is a 13% difference in the rate of language acquisition between children living in the most and least deprived areas and children from more deprived communities are almost twice as likely to have a speech and language problem at 27-30 months.

The graph below shows the rate of speech and language concerns (SLC) per 100 population in relation to deprivation.

Figure 3: Slope Index of Inequality for speech and language concerns at 27-30 months for children in Edinburgh, 2014-18



Harm from tobacco

Smoking is one of the leading causes of preventative illness and premature death. Smoking is not a lifestyle choice but rather a relapsing long-term condition, often the result of wider social drivers and is closely linked to social deprivation. Half of all smokers die prematurely losing on average ten years of life. Harm from tobacco is concentrated in more disadvantaged communities and groups including those living in more deprived areas and those with mental illness.

Edinburgh's smoking rates show a continued decline over time and rates are better than comparator areas. But there is a pronounced association with socioeconomic position which means that smoking is a contributory factor to health inequalities.

Smoking is the single most modifiable risk factor in pregnancy and is associated with a range of poorer health outcomes for the women and their unborn babies. Smoking in pregnancy is one of the key risk factors for low birthweight.

The proportion of women smoking during pregnancy is lower in Edinburgh than NHS Lothian and Scotland average. Nevertheless, in 2017/2018 10% (506) women in Edinburgh smoked during pregnancy. National data also show that women in the most deprived communities in Edinburgh are 139% more likely to smoke during pregnancy than average.

Table 1: Women smoking during pregnancy in Edinburgh, Lothian and Scotland, 2010-2018

		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
		/11	/12	/13	/14	/15	/16	/17	/18
City of Edinburgh	<i>n</i>	673	763	729	667	623	583	561	506
	%	14.0	13.8	13.1	12.3	11.7	11.3	11.1	10.4
NHS Lothian	<i>n</i>	1405.							
	%	17.7	17.3	16.8	15.8	15.0	14.2	13.7	12.9
Scotland	<i>n</i>	10,94							
	%	20.5	20.0	19.4	18.5	17.4	16.3	15.4	14.9

Appendix 3 – Sources and Methodologies

ⁱ https://edinburghpovertycommission.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/20200930_EPC_FinalReport_AJustCapital.pdf

ⁱⁱ Details on sources and methodologies used to develop and estimate these targets are provided in the Data and Sources report produced by Edinburgh Poverty Commission in September 2020 - https://edinburghpovertycommission.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/20200930_Poverty_in_Edinburgh-Data_and_evidence.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/poverty-and-income-inequality-in-scotland-2017-20/>

^{iv} <https://www.irf.org.uk/universal-credit-cut-impact-constituency>

^v <https://www.gov.scot/publications/monthly-economic-brief-august-2021/>

^{vi} Ibid

^{vii} Ibid

^{viii} <https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/publications/the-living-standards-audit-2021/>

^{ix} https://edinburghpovertycommission.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/20200930_Poverty_in_Edinburgh-Data_and_evidence.pdf

^x <https://www.gov.scot/publications/poverty-and-income-inequality-in-scotland-2017-20/>

^{xi} <https://www.irf.org.uk/press/flagship-study-destitution-finds-half-million-children-experiencing-extreme-hardship-across-uk>

^{xii} <https://www.gov.scot/publications/poverty-and-income-inequality-in-scotland-2017-20/>

^{xiii} Ibid

^{xiv} <https://edinburghpovertycommission.org.uk/get-involved/>

^{xv} <https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s34667/Item%207.10%20-%2020-Minute%20Neighbourhood%20Strategy%20-%20Living%20Well%20Locally.pdf>

^{xvi} <https://www.edinburghhsc.scot/whoweare/edinburghwellbeingpact/>

^{xvii} <https://www.gov.scot/publications/poverty-and-income-inequality-in-scotland-2017-20/>

^{xviii} <https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s36786/7.3%20-%20Fair%20Work%20Action%20Plan%20and%20Living%20Wage%20Edinburgh.pdf>

^{xix} Ibid

^{xx} <https://www.edinburghguarantee.org/>

^{xxi} <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/short-term-let-consultation/>

^{xxii} <https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s34444/7.6%20-%20Housing%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Repairs%20Update.pdf>

^{xxiii}

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s26277/Rapid%20Rehousing%20Transition%20Plan%20Report.pdf>

^{xxiv} <https://www.edinburghthrive.com/>