



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

The Edinburgh Partnership Survey

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report gives an update on results from the 2023 Edinburgh Partnership Survey. A locally representative sample of 3,736 residents were interviewed between July and September 2023.
- 1.2 The results from the survey will be used to inform best practice, strategy development and outcome monitoring across the Edinburgh Partnership.
- 1.3 Key findings of the report are summarised in section 3.6 and available at Appendix 1.

2. Recommendations

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

3. Main Report

3.1 Background

- 3.2 The Edinburgh Partnership Survey 2023 is the first of its kind, undertaken on behalf of the Edinburgh Partnership, to measure indicators of interest to partners especially in relation to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.
- 3.3 The survey was funded jointly by the partners and designed and overseen by a working group composed of representatives from partner organisations. Data was collected by face-to-face in-street and doorstep interviews that took place in all electoral wards. The target group for this research study was a representative sample of Edinburgh residents.
- 3.4 The survey was designed to provide a proportionate sample of Edinburgh residents aged 16+ in each of the four localities, as well as usefully analysable samples of those living in deprived areas and those from ethnic minority backgrounds.
- 3.5 The survey achieved 3,736 face-to-face interviews in total.
- 3.6 **Key findings**
- 3.7 A summary of findings is available in Appendix 1.

- 3.8 Results shows that deprivation is the most significant factor affecting the lives of those living in Edinburgh, and receiving services. Those in the [20% most deprived areas](#) have an experience that is significantly and substantially worse than people who live in other areas of Edinburgh.
- 3.9 Residents feel a sense of belonging in their neighbourhoods and feel these areas are welcoming to a diverse community. However, residents are less likely to feel they have control over their neighbourhood, understand how to exercise control, or be willing to participate in local decision-making.
- 3.10 While most residents have access to an internet-capable device, have the skills to use the internet and have access at home, retired people are much less likely to have any of these things. Almost all of those who said they lack devices, skills and access to the internet in Edinburgh were retired people.
- 3.11 Residents perceptions of their physical health generally worsened with age, but mental health and feelings of loneliness were more strongly linked to being in employment, with unemployed people reporting the worst mental health and loneliness.
- 3.12 More than a quarter of residents had not paid a household bill, paid a bill using a credit or had used a food bank in the last 12 months. Employment was the main factor in all these actions. Amongst people who were unemployed, over half had used a food bank, had not paid a bill, or had paid a bill using credit.

4. Next steps

- 4.1 Findings from the survey will support the Local Outcome Improvement Plan activity in the following way:

LOIP 1:

- Inform the refreshed Affordable Credit Action Plan which includes preventing problem debt.
- Provide a baseline to measure progress and improvement in critical areas such as debt.
- Include relevant key findings within Money Counts training and keep raising the awareness of the need to support people promptly with problem debt.
- Support the commissioning specification for the mapping of crisis services and support within LOIP 1's Cash-First programme.

LOIP 2:

- Inform the refreshed LOIP 2 Local Employability Partnership Delivery Plan for 2024-2026 which is being drawn together with an action plan by Rocket Science.

- Support the commissioning of services and support through funds dedicated to LOIP 2 areas, including No One Left Behind and UK Shared Prosperity Funding.
- Target resourcing into communicating messages better and increasing engagement and effectiveness of services, for example with The Edinburgh Guarantee messaging.
- Understand the shared challenges of client groups across the three LOIPs and spot opportunities for better collaboration, for example around digital exclusion.
- Ensure services are informed and shaped by the communities we support, including addressing locality and accessibility.
- Provide a baseline to measure progress and improvement in critical areas.

LOIP 3

- Support development of refreshed actions for LOIP 3 building on survey findings
- Provide a baseline across key areas of LOIP 3 activity to enable measurement of progress
- Identify role of LOIP 3, working alongside the other LOIP priority groups, in collaborating on the cross-cutting themes identified
- Identifying ways to enhance community participation and feeling of involvement and inclusion using the data to identify groups and communities who reported they found this more difficult
- Build on existing test site work, evaluating current projects, to enable roll out of successful models elsewhere using the data to identify particular communities

4.2 Findings of the survey will be published on the Edinburgh Partnership Website and shared with Strategic Partnerships and Locality Community Planning Partnerships. Where appropriate community planning groups will be asked to identify actions to address findings from the survey. Progress on these actions taken to address issues will be monitored and reported to a future meeting of the Edinburgh Partnership Board.

4.3 It is anticipated that findings from the survey will be of interest on an individual organisation basis as well as in the community planning context. Summary findings and data will be shared with all community planning partners and partners will be asked for feedback on how data has helped contribute to strategic planning.



- 4.4 It is recommended that a business case is developed with partners to investigate the benefits of a further wave of survey fieldwork in 2025/26. This would enable data from the 2023 survey to be used as a baseline and one source of evidence in an Integrated Edinburgh Partnership Performance Framework.

Contact

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Appendixes

Appendix 1: Edinburgh Partnership Survey Presentation