



**Edinburgh Partnership Board: Special Meeting**

**7<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

**16:00 -17:00**

**Attendees:**

**Chair:** Cammy Day (Council Leader)

Alistair Dinnie (CEC)

Caroline Hiscox, NHS Lothian

Cllr Bandel

Cllr Kevin Lang

Cllr Kumar

Cllr Mowat (replacing Cllr Whyte)

David Peace, EVOC

Derek McGowan (CEC)

Dona Milne, NHS Lothian

Evonne Boyd, Skills Development Scotland

Iain Stewart, Edinburgh Interfaith

Jakki Jeffrey, Edinburgh College

Jean Gray, EAHP (tentative)

Ken Robertson, EACC

Lucy Pearson (CEC)

Lynn McMath, Edinburgh University

Michael Pinkerton (CEC)

Murray Dalgleish, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Murray Tait, Police Scotland (replacing David Happs)

Pat Togher, EIJB

Paul Lawrence (CEC)

Paul Wilson, EaRN

Steve Kerr, EACC

Will Tyler-Greig, Scottish Government

Item	Subject	Decision/Discussion	Action by	Timescale / comment
1.	<b>Welcome/Introductions (CD)</b>	<p>CD welcomed all attendees and reassured the Edinburgh Partnership (EP) that the Council has been in communication with Police Scotland, and <b>should</b> similar action happen in Scotland, be assured they have advanced plans in place.</p> <p>As a partnership, it is important to share this detail today and to agree on additional support the EP can provide residents in the city during this difficult time, <b>without raising alarm across the city.</b></p>		
2.	<b>Overview of the current position in Edinburgh (CD)</b>	<p><b>Update from Police Scotland - intelligence and risk (MT)</b></p> <p>MT explained that Police Scotland has stood up a full command structure.</p> <p>There are daily meetings with reps from all local/national and specialist divisions.</p> <p>A dedicated 24-hour-a-day intelligence unit has been set up to monitor local community and online intelligence.</p> <p>MT noted that this is a quickly changing environment and reassured the group that that they are monitoring closely.</p> <p>MT explained that a conventional policing response is in place at present, but they are prepared to bring in additional resources if required.</p> <p>There are 3 key events in the city over the weekend – including a static protest at Chambers Street and a Stand Up to Racism event at Parliament Resources are in place for this and summer events.</p> <p>MT asked that the group remain mindful of speculation and misinformation online.</p> <p><b>Update from NHS Lothian (CH)</b></p>		

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		<p>CH conveyed support to the EP and said that the escalation of concern has been across the NHS workforce and steps have been taken to support colleagues, but they are preparing for additional workload should events take place.</p> <p><b>Update from Edinburgh Interfaith (IS)</b></p> <p>IS highlighted that a lot of people are concerned and there are lots of unverified reports circulating. He explained the work he is doing nationally and suggested partnership-working with other authorities should things escalate. IS also highlighted rising tensions across Europe.</p> <p>EIFA has released a statement co-signed by the Lord Provost and the Council Leader – reiterating the message that we stand in solidarity and to alert people to the risks of spreading misinformation at this time.</p> <p>IS highlighted an Interfaith Peace Service that is taking place in November at St Giles but there are concerns around safety and tensions. This event remains under review.</p> <p>IS also highlighted the timing of the Edinburgh 900 funding awards that have created upset across communities.</p> <p><b>Update from City of Edinburgh Council (LP/DM)</b></p>		

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		<p>LP provided an update on current work to create a Council webpage that can signpost affected communities to relevant support – across both council services and community organisations:  <a href="https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/communitysupport">https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/communitysupport</a></p> <p>LP informed the group that the Resilience Incident Notification and Escalation Protocol has been discussed and service areas are considering the impact of such events happening on service areas – this is the same protocol used during the pandemic.</p> <p>DM provided an update on the Housing and Family and Household Support Services explaining there is an offer of support across localities -via all our neighbourhood offices and established partnership-working in place.</p> <p>DM also stated that his team is equipped and skilled to support people who may need temporary housing for their own safety and the locality offices remain a source of frontline community support.</p> <p>MP gave an overview of the sensitivities around the messaging of this, and that any communication regarding this will reaffirm the message that Edinburgh continues to be a welcoming and diverse city – whilst offering continued support to those affected by these events.</p>		
3.	<p><b>Discussion: What more can The Edinburgh Partnership do to support communities? (All)</b></p>	<p>Questions were raised around the protection of Edinburgh’s Central Mosque, given its proximity to Bristo Square/Fringe activities. MT reassured the group that policing is in place with local police stations and summer policing protocols (including day and night shift officer patrols).</p>		

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		<p>LMc explained that Edinburgh University has released communications for staff/students around these events and is working closely with the UoE Head of Security to monitor safety on their campuses, especially during the festival.</p> <p>MT reassured the group that the festival organisers have EPOG processes in place and the event organisers have these in place for all venues.</p> <p>PL informed the group that Education colleagues are working to review the support that teachers and pupils may need with schools returning next week, and this will be informed by intelligence so as not to raise alarm.</p> <p>Agreement that the group members will circulate the webpage across their networks.</p>		
4.	<b>Next Steps</b>	<p>Council officers will meet regularly to monitor the situation. Officers will update the EP as appropriate and reconvene the group if required.</p> <p>An Elected Member briefing will be prepared– including wider EP membership updates where applicable.</p> <p>A <a href="#">statement would go out from the Council leader</a>, reinforcing the message that Edinburgh is a welcoming and diverse city and pointing to support available. CPPs to share if possible.</p>	<p><b>PL/MM</b></p> <p><b>MP/LP</b></p> <p><b>MP</b></p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Immediately</p> <p>Immediately</p>

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		<p>Partners would review the <a href="#">dedicated advice/ support page on the council website</a> and come back with any amendments and/or additions by 5.30pm, following which the page would be made live and promoted through the council's (and partners') social media channels.</p> <p>EP members will continue to share the message that Edinburgh is a welcoming and diverse city as above with links to CEC website.</p> <p>EP members to follow police updates on social media.</p>	<p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p>	<p>Immediately</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>