

The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 24 June 2021

Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021 – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. For Decision/Action

- 1.1 The Policy and Sustainability Committee has referred a report on the Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021 to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Referral Report

Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021 - referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee

2. Terms of Referral

- 2.1 On 10 June 2021 the Policy and Sustainability Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive which provided the fourth annual update on the 52 coalition commitments with an update on the progress against each commitment. In summary, of the 52 commitments, 14 had been fully achieved, 33 partially achieved, 2 had not yet been achieved and 3 would not be achieved.
- 2.2 The Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed to refer the report by the Chief Executive to the City of Edinburgh Council for decision.

3. Background Reading/ External References

Minute of the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 10 June 2021.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Report by the Chief Executive

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 10 June 2021

Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021

Item number
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1. Recommendations

- 1.2 That members of the Policy and Sustainability Committee note the progress at the end of 2020/21 on delivering the 52 coalition commitments that the Council has committed to deliver by end 2022 (Appendix A).
- 1.3 Notes the steps that will be taken in 2021/22 to progress delivery of the commitments.
- 1.4 Refer the Coalition Commitments progress update report to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration on 24 June 2021.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Coalition Commitments Progress Update – June 2021

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This is the fourth annual update on the 52 coalition commitments and provides an update to Council on the progress against each commitment.
- 2.2 In summary, of the 52 commitments, 14 have been fully achieved, 33 partially achieved, 2 have not yet been achieved and 3 will not be achieved.
- 2.3 This report builds on the progress update report that were presented in Full Council in August 2020.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council Business Plan ([A Programme for the Capital: The City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan 2017-22](#)) was approved in August 2017. The plan sets out the Council's priorities and what will be achieved over the five-year period.

4. Main report

- 4.1 This is the fourth annual update on progress of the coalition commitments and a full update for each commitment is contained within Appendix A.
- 4.2 Appendix A details:
 - background information
 - key achievements and delivery progress to June 2021
 - planned next steps and, where relevant, key issues for 2021/22
 - performance measures for 2020/21 and the preceding year where applicable
 - the current status of each commitment.
- 4.3 While progress continues with each commitment, there have been a number of areas to highlight work undertaken including:
 - the number of employers in the Edinburgh region accredited as Living Wage Foundation employers has increased year on year.
 - good progress is being made on the City Region Deal, drawing down capital funding of £165m from the UK and Scottish Government grant of £600m. Projects worth 61% of the full Deal have had business cases approved.
 - continued investment in our school buildings with construction commencing on a further 2 schools in 2020/21.

- significant investment is being made in transport across the city for both active travel improvements and roads infrastructure.
- work has been able to continue on the new tram line to Newhaven during the COVID-19 pandemic and it is still on track to deliver Trams to Newhaven by the revised timescale of spring 2023.
- recruitment of Pupil Support Assistants (PSA) has continued throughout the school session in mainstream and Special Schools and the number of FTE pupil support assistants employed has continued to increase.
- the roll-out of Three Conversations approach is in its second year, and it has helped reduced the time people wait to see a worker to 2.5 days.
- two new parks in the city have been awarded Green Flag status and a significant level of future investment has been agreed for future improvement work.

4.4 The status of the commitments can be summarised as follows:

Status	Meaning	Number of Commitments
Fully achieved	All elements of the commitment have been delivered.	14
Partially achieved	Some elements of the commitment have or are currently being delivered.	33
Not yet partially or fully achieved	Work to achieve the commitment has still to commence. The delay in commencing may include reasons that are beyond the Council's control.	2
Will not be achieved	The decision not to progress on all or elements of the commitment has been made. This could include reasons that are beyond the Council's control.	3

5. Next Steps

5.1 Where applicable, planned work that will be undertaken in 2021/22 is outlined in Appendix A.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The financial impact is set out within the individual commitments and the Council Business Plan and/or relevant strategies and service improvement plans.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 The commitments actions and measures continue to support transparency of Council performance and delivery.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 [Programme for the Capital - The City of Edinburgh Council Business Plan 2017-22](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 24 August 2017
- 8.2 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital - Coalition Commitments Progress to June 2018](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 28 June 2018
- 8.3 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Finance and Resources Committee, 4 December 2018
- 8.4 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee, 4 December 2018
- 8.5 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Transport and Environment Committee, 6 December 2018
- 8.6 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Education, Children and Families Committee, 11 December 2018
- 8.7 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Planning Committee, 12 December 2018
- 8.8 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Housing and Economy Committee, 24 January 2019
- 8.9 [Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments six monthly progress](#), Culture and Communities Committee, 29 January 2019
- 8.10 [Coalition Commitments annual update report](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 27 June 2019
- 8.11 [Coalition Commitments update report](#), The City of Edinburgh Council, 22 August 2019
- 8.12 [Coalition Commitments update report](#), Policy and Sustainability, 20 August 2020

Appendices

Appendix A: Coalition Commitments Progress Update June 2021

Coalition Commitments Progress Update June 2021

In 2017, we published our *Programme for the Capital*, clearly setting our five-year political plan for our city and its residents. The programme consisted of 52 coalition commitments and we've reported back annually on our progress against each one. As with previous years, this report looks at what has been achieved over the last 12 months and shows where our commitments have been completed, are on a path towards completion and where there remains further work to be done

This year has been like no other, with the global pandemic impacting on every aspect of our lives. As a Council, we've had to adapt in unexpected ways to maintain lifeline services and quickly set up additional supports and our focus has rightly been on those who need our help the most. This report outlines what has been achieved despite the challenge of responding to the pandemic. We're immensely grateful of the work and dedication shown by our Council colleagues and our partners across the city. In the face of enormous challenges and uncertainty, we've still made positive progress against our commitments while our Council officers have continued to work with pride and dedication and found new ways of delivering hundreds of services for the residents of Edinburgh.

In many areas, we've already delivered what we promised to do and are on schedule for delivering many others. However, in some areas, improvement plans have rightly been put on hold to focus capacity on keeping communities safe and residents and businesses supported. We've reflected this in the accompanying narrative and, as far as possible, been clear on timings for restarting work.

We'll produce a final and definitive report setting out what we have achieved over the last five years as we approach the end of this administration next May.

Much may have changed since 2017, but our residents have been clear with us that their Capital City should be fair, thriving, welcoming and pioneering – and by tackling poverty, climate change and supporting our key growing industries in renewable energy, biomedical science and data-driven innovation as well as film, we'll continue to do everything we can over the next 12 months towards realising that Vision.



Commitment 1

Deliver a programme to build least 10,000 social and affordable homes over the next 5 years, with a plan to build 20,000 by 2027. **Status**

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Council is working with Registered Social Landlords (RSL) and other development partners to deliver 20,000 social and affordable homes by 2027. Progress is reported to Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee in the annual report on the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP).

Key Achievements

Over 6,300 affordable homes have been approved during the first four years of this commitment, and over 4,600 affordable homes have been completed.

Due to the strong pipeline and record delivery the Council has secured an additional £35m in grant funding over the last four years.

The SHIP (2021-2026) was approved by Housing Homelessness and Fair Work on 14 January 2021. It set out a pipeline of 10,036 affordable homes that could be approved for site start and 11,370 potential completions delivered over the next five years through a mix of grant funding, private finance raised by Registered Social Landlords and private developers and HRA funding. The SHIP projected that 9,200 new affordable homes would be approved by 31 March 2022; with the 10,000 target achieved later in 2022.

Since the commitment began, the number of approvals has increased year on year, an almost 25% increase on the average approvals achieved over the previous five years. In 2020/21 it was projected that 2,098 approvals could have been achieved and an additional 1,373 homes completed. However, in March 2020, all construction work was suspended due to COVID-19, as well as, a significant number of development staff being furloughed across partner organisations.

Overall the programme achieved 1,285 affordable home approvals for social rent, mid-market rent and low-cost home ownership. Almost 75% of grant funded approved homes were for social rent. 1,087 affordable homes were also completed in 2020/21. The 2020/21 Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP) grant funding allocation was increased by £3.1m to £48.209m and spent out in full.

Due to COVID-19 some homes that were expected to complete or be approved for site start in 2020/21 will be delivered in 2021/22. Overall, we remain on target to have 10,000 homes approved for site start, under construction or complete by the end of 2022. There are currently around 2,000 affordable homes under construction on over 30 sites in the city.

Design and development work has continued during lockdown on Council sites including Granton regeneration and mixed use sites at Fountainbridge, Meadowbank and Powderhall.

Next Steps

The 2021/22 AHSP grant funding allocation is £52.4 million. The impact of the pandemic on approvals and completions in 2020/21 and reprofiling into future years is being worked through. An initial target of over 2,000 approvals and almost 1,500 completions has been set for 2021/22, however this will be revised in the first quarter of 2021/22 to take account of the slippage in last year's programme as a result of the pandemic.

The Scottish Government are undertaking a review of grant subsidy benchmark levels with colleagues in the sector. The current grant subsidy benchmark for new social rented homes is between £59,000 and £72,000. The Council is represented on the working group, which will assess what adjustments are required to the current set of benchmark assumptions to account for inflation and additional quality measures. The working group will consider the impact of an adjustment in the benchmarks on the number of affordable homes that could be delivered.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Approvals of new affordable homes for the year	1,475	1,626	1,930	1,285	1,574
Completions of new affordable homes	966	1,152	1,443	1,087	956

Commitment 2

Create the conditions for businesses to thrive. Invest in supporting businesses, social enterprise, training in hi tech, creative and other key sectors including co-operatives. Help link business with young people to ensure the workforce of the future is guaranteed work, training or education on leaving school.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

[The Economy Strategy](#), which sets out how we and our partners will deliver inclusive growth across the city was agreed at the Housing and Economy Committee in 2018. The aim of the strategy is to provide a framework for creating the conditions necessary for Edinburgh to be a city that takes a lead in ensuring our economy's success is sustainable and benefits all our citizens. We have developed the Good Growth Monitoring Framework to monitor progress towards the strategy vision.

Key Achievements

[The Economy Watch bulletins](#) are published on our website to provide regular updates on the city's economic performance.

Over the past 12 months we and our partners have delivered services to support good growth in the city. These include supporting over 1,300 businesses through the Edinburgh Business

Gateway partnership and helping 1,515 employability and skills clients into work and learning. Investment has also been made in projects to improve the quality of key business facing functions such as regulatory services.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we have had to amend, suspend and add services to respond to the changing employability landscape. This has included a redesigning of the Edinburgh Guarantee, which is now available to anyone seeking employment opportunities or training, the temporary suspension of the Edinburgh Project SEARCH programme, and increased funding support for employers through Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentives (No One Left Behind and Young Person's Guarantee funding) as well as administering COVID-19 grant schemes to businesses on behalf of the Scottish Government.

Next Steps

Over the next 12 months we will continue to work with partners to deliver the actions and principles described in the Edinburgh Economy Strategy. These priorities will be taken forward within the context of new emerging challenges arising from the COVID-19 outbreak and align with our core priorities to tackle poverty promote sustainability and wellbeing. These actions and approaches will form part of the updated Economic Strategy which is currently undergoing a review and an issues and options paper will be considered by Policy & Sustainability Committee in June 2021. An engagement and consultation period will follow with a plan to finalise the Strategy in late 2021.

Key measures	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
Positive destinations of school leavers	92.6%	94.3%	95.1%	92.5%	To exceed 93.8% national average
Median gross weekly earnings	£584	£578	£617	£641	To exceed £710 by 2020

Economically active residents as a % of all residents aged 16-64	77.5%	80.9%	77.4%	77.2%	To exceed 78% by 2022
% of workers in managerial, professional and technical/scientific occupations	56%	57%	56%	63%	To maintain 56% by 2022
Ratio of workers in high skilled occupations to workers in mid skilled occupations	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.8	To minimise to 2.10 by 2022
Gross Value Added per capita	£45,443 (2016)*	£46,865 (2017)*	£48,544 (2018)*	£49,602 (2019)	To exceed £41,000 by 2021
% of children living in a low-income household	20.7% (2016/17)**	21.3% (2017/18)**	18.9% (2018/19)**	20.3% (2019/20)**	To minimise 18% by 2020

* Previous years updated as these are set at current market price figures

** These figures have changed as the methodology for calculating the % of children living in a low-income household has recently been updated

Commitment 3

Work with the business community to grow the number of Living Wage employers year on year.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Workers in Edinburgh receive one of the highest weekly earnings relative to other UK cities, yet it is estimated that around 39,600 residents are paid wages below the hourly rate recommended by the UK Living Wage Foundation (£9.50 in 2020/21).

Key Achievements

The Living Wage Foundation accreditation covers all providers of services in the Council, including care at home. As one of the largest employers in Edinburgh, the Council is setting a leading example to the business community.

The Council approved a new Sustainable Procurement Strategy with a core focus on “improving ethical employment, including suppliers paying the Living Wage”. Towards this, the Council has adopted the Fair Work First (FWF) initiative in all procurement activities to improve ethical work

practices and encourage Living Wage accreditation among suppliers.

The 2018 pay agreement included a requirement to fully consolidate the Scottish Local Government Living Wage (SLGLW) by April 2021 and this has been achieved for City of Edinburgh Council. This resulted in improved base pay for around 4,400 of our employees and reflects an investment of £8m (over 5 years) to achieve this.

Next Steps

Further consideration is now being given to explore opportunities to ensure our pay and benefits are simpler, fairer and sustainable. As an outcome of the 2021 Business Plan: Our Future Council, Our Future City, the Council will work with private sector partners, anchor institutions and Trade Unions to achieve accreditation as a Living Wage City and promote the use of living wage and fair work practices throughout the city economy.

As part of that commitment, from May 2021, the Council will lead on establishing an action group made up of representatives from businesses from throughout the city who will act as champions for promoting the Living Wage and who will be influential in developing a three-year action plan for Edinburgh. This plan will enhance Living Wage provision in the city with specific targets, for example in key sectors, such as care and construction. The action group will lead on what targets it will set in the short-, medium-, and long-term up to 2024.

During Living Wage Week in November 2021, it is anticipated that the action group will be in a position to register for the nationally recognised Living Wage Places accreditation for the city through Living Wage Scotland.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of Council suppliers of regulated tendered contracts that are committed to paying real living wage in delivering Council services *	70%	70.3%	Data not yet available	Aim to increase
Number of employers in the Edinburgh region accredited as Living Wage Foundation employers	416	497	545	Aim to increase

* This measure has been updated to best reflect what is currently monitored by Commercial & Procurement Services

Commitment 4

Direct development to growth corridors as the best way to accommodate the extra housing needed for Edinburgh’s growth and allowing the city to manage and protect green belt.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The project to develop a new local development plan - [City Plan 2030](#) – reached a key milestone in 2019/20. The project includes looking at the potential for additional housing opportunities on brownfield regeneration corridors within the city and assessing greenfield land for potential release from green belt policy. This will be done in the context of the current Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for South East Scotland (2013), following the rejection of the emerging SDP 2 by Scottish Ministers in May 2019.

Key Achievements

[Choices for City Plan 2030](#) was published in January 2020. This is the main statutory consultation for the project and informs the preparation of a Proposed Plan. A major public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020 (extended to allow additional time for responses due to the COVID-19 lockdown). Over 1,800 responses were received, several times more than the previous equivalent stage. Results of the consultation are being considered in the development of the new plan. Initial examination of the consultation responses has shown strong support for choices under the outcome ‘A city in which everyone lives in a home which they can afford’. This includes protecting

against the loss of Edinburgh’s homes to other uses, changing the affordable housing policy and the required mix of house types and tenures.

Next Steps

An updated Development Plan Scheme with timetable was published in March 2021 and sets out the timing of the Proposed Plan stage, and the opportunities for people to make formal representations supporting or seeking change to the Proposed Plan. The project’s Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021 and is on track to be delivered within the new timetable.

Measures to monitor progress will be included within the City Plan 2030.

Commitment 5

Sign Edinburgh to the Pay Fair Tax Initiative.

Background

The Fair Tax Mark certification scheme was launched in 2014 and seeks to encourage and recognise organisations that pay the right amount of corporation tax at the right time. Alongside the 'Mark' there is also a Fair Tax Pledge, designed for individual citizens and sole traders, the aim of which is to encourage people and small organisations to demonstrate their commitment to 'playing by the rules'.

The Council is committed to establishing Edinburgh as a leading city for work practices and socially responsible business and to encouraging businesses and individuals to commit to paying fair tax.

Key Achievements

In June 2018 we launched a new [Edinburgh Economy Strategy](#) with the aim of enabling good growth for Edinburgh. The strategy sets out eight key steps the city needs to take over the next five years to meet this aim. Each step is underpinned by the principles of innovation, inclusion, and collaboration.

In March this year the Council approved a new Sustainable Procurement Strategy with a core focus on "improving ethical employment, including suppliers paying the Living Wage". Towards this, the Council has adopted the Fair Work First (FWF) initiative in all procurement activities to improve ethical work practices and encourage Living Wage accreditation among suppliers. Among other

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

commitments, this approach ensures a minimum weighting of no less than 5% in evaluation of tenders to influence improvement in ethical practices, adopting a higher % where appropriate.

Next Steps

Work is underway to engage with businesses through Business Gateway to promote the Fair Tax Mark and Pledge (depending on the nature of the business).

Within the Council's procurement arrangements and other activities, officers are also looking at how these initiatives can be promoted. The Council's Procurement Service is seeking to build additional capacity and skills within the Council to improve sustainability and fair working practices through procurement.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of businesses accredited with the Fair Tax Mark (total premises)	Not available	Not available	75	79	Aim to increase

Commitment 6

Deliver the City Region Deal, making sure the benefits of investment are felt throughout the city and create space for new businesses to start and grow.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal, signed in 2018, covers the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian local authorities.

The Deal sets out a vision that builds on the city region's strengths to deliver transformational programmes and projects across five themes: innovation, skills, transport, culture and housing. Together, these will deliver a step-change in inclusive growth to benefit the city region, Scotland and the UK.

The Deal confirms that the UK Government and Scottish Government will invest £600 million into the city region over the next 15 years. Alongside partners, comprising: the six member authorities; the city region's universities and colleges; and the private and third sectors, £1.3 billion of investment will be delivered.

Key Achievements

Overall

Two and a half years into the programme, good progress is being made in drawing down maximum amounts of capital funding available. £165m of the UK and Scottish Government grant of £600m has been drawn down and projects worth 61% of the full Deal allocation have had business cases approved

for implementation by Joint Committee. The City of Edinburgh Council acts as the Accountable Body for the Deal and has worked well to ensure that spend is aligned to profile.

Data-Driven Innovation (DDI)

All six business cases in DDI programme now signed off by Joint Committee. Four of these are located in Edinburgh:

- The [Bayes Centre](#) (Bristo Square) is complete and operational. Last year it demonstrated over £22 million of investment in University research funding; created more than 290 jobs; generated over £65 million of investment for DDI start-up companies; and attracted over 40 corporate R&D teams to the city region. It has also established 14 start-ups, a further 30 businesses of scale, with over 2,000 individuals attending events (further enhanced with recent online event capability).
- The [Edinburgh Futures Institute](#) (Quartermile) is under construction with completion date scheduled for September 2021.
- Construction commenced at [The National Robotarium](#) (Riccarton) in January 2021 and is scheduled to open in Spring 2022.
- The planning application for the [Usher Institute](#) (BioQuarter) was approved in December 2020.

Construction is due to commence Summer 2021 with expected completion by Spring 2023. Last year, [DataLoch](#) was launched under this programme. This is a repository of all routine health and social care data for the city region to help find solutions to current health and social care challenges. Researchers have diverted their efforts to focus on COVID-19 data and supporting NHS service managers and clinicians with immediate hospital-based improvements.

Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES)

The IRES Programme is progressing well, targeted at school pupils, people facing barriers to work, and those looking to learn new skills. It includes an intensive family support project and initiatives to promote skills development in housing, construction, renewables, and digital sectors.

Within the IRES programme, the Integrated Employer Engagement (IEE) project, led by the City of Edinburgh Council has been at the forefront of responding to COVID-19. A dedicated [jobs portal](#) was launched just 11 days after the country first went into lockdown. It is a regional offer for employers still recruiting with 3,650 jobs having been advertised, plus training opportunities. An

[employee grant scheme](#) was also rolled-out with 77 micro-businesses across the city region, of which 18 are in Edinburgh, receiving grants of £500-£1,000 to help retain staff.

Transport

The **West Edinburgh** project is underway with the West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme Board established.

Consultation on draft orders for **Sheriffhall** has closed. Discussions ongoing with stakeholders including the City of Edinburgh Council on public and active travel provision.

The Transport Appraisal Board, within the Deal's Governance structure is helping regional partners successfully bring in new funding for regional transport improvements. £1.8m was secured for bus priority measures through the Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Fund, and a regional proposal of measures is being developed for the £500m Bus Partnership Fund, to be submitted in April 2021.

Culture

Submission of the revised planning application for **Dunard Centre** is anticipated in May 2021. Subject

to planning determination, the business case is programmed for consideration at the Joint Committee in September 2021.

Housing

Edinburgh Living has been operational for two years. All £16.1m in available Scottish Government grant funding has been claimed during the construction of homes. 299 homes have been completed to date with over 100 more due to be completed this year.

Work to finalise the Outline Business Case for **Edinburgh's Waterfront** is underway. This will be reported to Council in Autumn. A number of early action projects are currently underway including the renovation of Granton Station building for use as a creative hub and three housing sites that will deliver around 650 mixed tenure net zero carbon homes.

Regional Growth Framework (RGF)

Regional partners continue to work well together to develop this Framework which seeks to articulate the long-term aspirational goals for the region and guide the future direction of the regional partners and a range of other public sector organisations

over the next 20 years. Non-statutory in nature, it will be a public statement of aligned vision, ambition and priorities for South East Scotland, seeking to influence and be influenced by plans and strategies developed at national, regional and local levels.

Next Steps

Joint Committee will consider a draft Regional Growth Framework for consultation in June, and the final framework is scheduled to be considered by Joint Committee in September and constituent councils immediately thereafter.

The final Benefits Realisation Plan is expected to be considered by Joint Committee in June.

The future schedule of business cases for approval are:

- Food and Drink Innovation Hub (QMU): June 2021
- Dunfermline Housing Business Case: June 2021
- Dunard Centre Revised Business Case: September 2021.

Commitment 7

Improve access to employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities.

Background

Nearly 50% of all new clients that access our employability services identify themselves as having a disability, or suffering from Mental Ill Health, Long Term Physical Illness or Physical Illness.

We fund services such as All in Edinburgh, Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentive and Edinburgh Project SEARCH, providing specialist employability support for Edinburgh's disabled citizens to progress towards secure, and sustained work or learning. In addition, several small grants have been awarded to specialist providers working with disabled individuals as well as other barriers to employment and we work with a range of partners to promote inclusive growth.

In 2018 the Scottish Government put in place a new Fair Start Scotland (FSS) employment support programme, which includes support for people with a disability or enduring health condition. This has impacted the number of participants engaging with the locally funded disability support services but nevertheless we have seen a large requirement for specialist services.

Key Achievements

50% of all support to clients that have a disability, or suffering from Mental Ill Health, Long Term Physical Illness or Physical Illness get specialist support,

access to training and employment as well as in-work support from either Edinburgh Project SEARCH or All in Edinburgh.

Since 2014, Edinburgh Project SEARCH has supported 152 young people with a recognised disability aged between 16-29 years old to gain over 800 hours of hands on work experience. Of those young people who have graduated from the programme, 70% have moved into meaningful sustainable employment, and 17% have moved into an alternative positive destination.

All in Edinburgh is a supported employment service to help people with a disability or long-term health condition find a suitable paid job, support them to sustain that job and, when appropriate, progress further. They also assist employers to help them support employees in the workplace.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and its impact on the employment market in general as well as service providers' ability to perform face to face meetings, there was a reduction in new registrations across all council funded employability provision in 2020/21. However, the services were still supporting many existing and new clients and managed to help citizens retain or even progress in their work, despite the number of redundancies across the country. Our specialist support services for disabled people particularly focussed on this outcome and All

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

in Edinburgh even exceeded their target in 2020/21 by 232%.

We also saw an increase in new people registered with our funded disability support services relative to new people registered with all services as well as an increase in outcomes amongst disabled people relative to all clients receiving employability support.

Between 01 April 2020 – 31st March 2021, 360 individuals secured employment thanks to council funded employability services, out of which 149 indicated disability as a barrier (41.4%). Looking at wider outcomes, such as job retention, access to training etc. the services supported 252 disabled individuals out of 679 (37.1%).

Due to the impact of COVID-19 the 2020/21 Edinburgh Project SEARCH programme was initially delivered on a reduced basis but later suspended. The 12 young people who started, but were unable to complete the programme, will be offered the opportunity to re-join in August 2021.

Next Steps

The full economic and employment impact of COVID-19 is still unknown. Although there has been additional funding made available in the employability sphere, the competition for fewer jobs is now harder and so the Council funded supported employment provision is needed more than ever to

help individuals facing barriers to employment to overcome these.

We also continue to work with partners through the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal, Joined up for Jobs network, the Edinburgh

Guarantee and Locality Partnerships to promote inclusive growth.

Key measures	2017/18*	2018/19*	2019/20*	2020/21	Target
Number of disabled people who have accessed council funded employability services	1,203	1,101	1,182	866	Increasing trend
% of all support provided to people with disabilities	46.9%	49.8%	53.9%	53.1%	Increasing trend

* Figures from these years have been restated to reflect support across all council funded employability services

Commitment 8

Explore the introduction of fair rent zones.

Background

On 1 December 2017, Section 35 of the Housing (Tenancies) Scotland Act 2016 took effect. The Act makes provision for local authorities to apply to Scottish Ministers for approval to designate an area as a Rent Pressure Zone (RPZ), sometimes known as a fair rent zone.

Research into Edinburgh's private rented sector, and proposed interventions that can assist with tackling the issue of rents rising excessively, was completed in summer 2018 and was used to inform an update to [Housing and Economy Committee in November 2018](#). The research indicated that RPZs are not a long-term solution to rapidly rising private rents and highlights the importance of responding to pressurised housing markets through increasing the supply of affordable housing, homes across all tenures and better regulation of the short term lets sector.

In August 2019, Health, Housing and Fair Work Committee received a report on the Strategic Approach to Private Rented Sector. It set out our approach to tackling key issues in the private rented sector, echoing the Scottish Government's

strategy ([A Place to Stay, A Place to Call Home](#)) and aims to:

- increase supply of homes to help meet need and demand;
- improve access to and management of homes in the sector;
- improve affordability within the sector; and
- improve quality and conditions of homes in the sector.

The Fair Rents (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 1 June 2020. An officers' response for the Stage 1 call for views was submitted.

Key Achievements

A multi-disciplinary officer working group was established in partnership with the Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers (ALACHO) to coordinate those local authorities and stakeholders interested in exploring RPZs in more detail. An officer working group with representatives from housing, homelessness, and regulatory services has been meeting regularly to develop a comprehensive strategic approach to tackling key issues facing the private rented

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

sector. A communications strategy has been rolled out which aims to empower private rented sector tenants to understand the rights and protections available to them, as well as, promoting the support, information and resources available to them by the Council and partner organisations.

Next Steps

Scotland's long-term Housing strategy 'Housing to 2040' was published on 15 March 2021. The strategy includes details on a Scottish Government commitment to reform the existing Rent Pressure Zone legislation, as well as a commitment to ensure robust data collection approaches within the private rented sector are established.

Council officers will continue to work with Scottish Government to explore the potential of a pilot RPZ along with these new commitments. The latest meeting of the Scottish Government working group took place in April 2021. The working group is expected to meet regularly over the next six months to look at data requirements and any changes to legislation to make Rent Pressure Zones more viable.

Commitment 9

Create a Homeless Task Force to investigate the growing homelessness problem in the city. The team will review the use of b&b premises and explore alternatives that better meet the needs of individuals and families with an aim to end the use of bed and breakfast facilities. Appoint a Homelessness Champion who will chair the Task Force.

Background

[The creation of the Homelessness Task Force](#) was agreed through the Housing and Economy Committee on 2 November 2017. Its remit was to:

- build on existing prevention work which further reduces homelessness assessments,
- reduce the number of people rough sleeping, accessing temporary accommodation and living in insecure accommodation,
- increase the supply of quality council led temporary accommodation provision, reducing the reliance on bed and breakfast,
- ensure that appropriate support is available for all homeless people who require it.

Key Achievements

[The actions, outcomes and recommendations of the Homelessness Task Force](#) were presented to the Housing and Economy Committee on 7 June 2018.

They established a Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme with a Council investment of £0.994m to transform preventative services with a target of reducing the number of households in temporary accommodation by 650 by March 2023. This complements the prevention activity outlined in the second iteration of the Rapid Rehousing

Transition Plan (RRTP) agreed at Committee on 18 September 2020.

Key activities we have progressed include:

- establishing a Homelessness Prevention Working Group with Council and third sector representation to take forward the preventative activity outlined in the RRTP. The group has set up a multi-disciplinary response providing joined up support to Council tenants in rent arrears who are not engaging with their Housing Officer. They are now working to update the hospital discharge and prison pathways.
- Since November 2019, our Private Rented Sector Team has prevented 186 households from entering temporary accommodation, resulting in £1.7m of avoided costs.
- Through strong partnership working with our third sector partners we have reduced the number of people sleeping rough in the city from a pre-COVID average of 80 – 120 people per night to under 10.
- We have followed public health requirements to accommodate all households, regardless of eligibility, during COVID-19. This has resulted in an increase in the usage of bed & breakfast accommodation. This is also reflected in the

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

increase in the number of families accommodated in bed & breakfast accommodation.

- We have increased the supply of self-contained properties for use as temporary accommodation. The new Private Rented Sector Leasing contract went live in April 2020. This has seen the number of properties in the scheme increase to over 1,500 at the end of February 2021.
- We continue to develop the Home Share temporary accommodation model which sees 3 to 5 residents share a kitchen, living room and bathroom, whilst having their own bedroom. This year we have increased the number of properties from 6 to 10, with a total of 40 rooms available. This will be further developed in 2021 through a procurement exercise.
- Link workers continue to be based in the Bethany Rapid Re-Accommodation Welcome Centre which provides emergency accommodation for rough sleepers. These link workers undertake provisional homelessness assessments which are then signed off by appropriate CEC staff.
- The Welcome Centre has Council, third sector and health colleagues on site to ensure that appropriate support is provided. A member of staff from the Council's temporary accommodation service is now based at the

Centre and they can allocate appropriate temporary accommodation to residents and as a result the number of people moving to more suitable accommodation has risen.

- We continue to work with partners to deliver the Edinburgh Housing First Service, providing settled homes in the community with wrap around support for people with the most complex needs and a history of rough sleeping. As at the end of February 2021, 108 people have moved into a home.

Next Steps

We will continue to develop our prevention activities through the Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme. This will see the recruitment of 28 posts focusing on prevention, early intervention, income maximisation and supporting people to move out of temporary accommodation into permanent housing and delivering new ways of working such as the establishment of a multi-disciplinary response team exploring ways to work across Council services to identify trigger points that may put someone at risk of homelessness in the future and offer joined up support.

To meet the requirements of the extended Unsuitable Accommodation Order measures, due to come into force at the end of June 2021, we will continue to work towards increasing 'suitable' temporary accommodation properties, such as self-contained properties delivered through the Private Sector Leasing Scheme and home share. A target to reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation by 600 by March 2022 and transform the mix of temporary accommodation to meet the requirements of the Order are included in the Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme. Given the scale of the challenge in Edinburgh, we will be unable to effect this from end of June 2021.

Key measures (at end of March)	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of accommodation units	Dispersed Flats	647	785	1085	1481
	Supported Accommodation	198	198	214	214
	Hostel	175	176	176	176
	B&B	676	123	145	457
	Shared Houses	0	552	629	758
Number of families accommodated in B&B	58	21	0	4	0
Number of 16/17 year olds or care leavers accommodated in B&B	13	11	1	0	0
Number of households in B&B	676	123	145	457	Decreasing trend
Average Length of stay in B&B	112.2	115.7	83.8	68.1	Decreasing trend
Number of households assessed as homeless	3,085	3,049	3,288	1,907	Decreasing trend

* All Targets to be reviewed in-line with the next update of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP)

Notes: Of the 4 households with children accommodated in a B&B on 31 March 2021, all 4 were No Recourse to Public Funds

Commitment 10

Prioritise the use of brownfield sites and work with public sector and private landowners to develop land for affordable housing.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Planning Committee on 3 October 2018 agreed the actions required to continue to increase the supply of housing within the city, as set out in the [2018 Housing Land Audit and Completions Programme](#).

Key Achievements

The 2020 Housing Land Audit and Completions programme recorded sufficient housing land to meet the current Strategic Development Plan housing land requirement. The five year completions programme (previously referred to as the five year effective land supply) was also above the five year delivery target.

The 20-26 Strategic Housing Investment Plan outlined a programme which would deliver nearly 11,400 new affordable homes over the next five years.

The project to prepare a replacement local development plan – called [City Plan 2030](#) – has set out options for the location of new developments in the period up to 2030 and beyond, including minimisation of additional greenfield developments. A major public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020 and over 1,800 responses were received, several times more than the previous equivalent stage. Results of the consultation will be considered in the development of the Proposed Plan. Initial examination of the consultation responses has shown strong support for choices under the outcome ‘A city in which everyone lives in a home which they can afford’ and this includes a brownfield strategy for building new homes and infrastructure.

Next Steps

Following the adoption of the [Local Development Plan](#), a large amount of newly allocated greenfield land became effective in pushing the proportion of land that is greenfield to its highest ever level. Most new sites to come forward over the next few years are expected to be brownfield.

Measures to monitor progress will be included within the City Plan 2030. The Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021 and is on track to be delivered within the new timetable, as set out in the Development Plan Scheme.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of capacity of units in effective land supply which are on brownfield land	55%	55%	Not available until Summer/Autumn 2021	Increasing trend

Commitment 11

Ensure that Council policies on planning, licensing and sale of Council land give substantial weight to the needs of residents while still encouraging business and tourism.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Project to develop [City Plan 2030](#) is now underway and includes work on visitor accommodation, leisure use needs and other types of development. This is intended to help develop a planning policy framework to support a balanced mix of affordable housing, private ownership, private letting and other uses.

Key Achievements

Since March 2017 the Council has agreed to the transfer of 14 sites from the General Fund account to the Housing Revenue Account and these have been included in the new build affordable housing

programme. These will deliver around 1,000 new homes.

The Council has called for additional regulation of the short term lets sector through the introduction of a licensing system. To achieve the objective of additional regulation, the Scottish Government would be required to introduce legislation. A consultation on the regulation of short-term lets in Scotland is currently underway.

The Edinburgh Tourism Strategy 2030 was agreed in January 2020, shifting from an emphasis on promoting tourism growth to one on managing tourism growth. The Strategy sets out five key priorities for action: our place, people, environment, partnerships and reputation.

Next Steps

The project to prepare a replacement local development plan – called [City Plan 2030](#)– has set out options for changes to planning policy relating to a range of land uses, with the aim of supporting an appropriate balance. Choice 9 in particular sets out proposed changes to planning policy to protect against the loss of homes to other uses, including short term lets. The project's Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council is supporting an industry led recovery campaign centred around the five Tourism Strategy priorities, working with partners across the city on a resilience, reboot and recovery plan for the sector.

Commitment 12

Review the Council's policy on promoting mixed communities. The review should be completed by summer of 2018 and should include homes of multiple occupancy, short term temporary lets and student housing.

Background

The Project to develop [City Plan 2030](#) is now underway and includes work on housing and visitor accommodation needs. This is intended to help develop a planning policy framework to support a balanced mix of affordable housing, private ownership, private letting and other uses.

Key Achievements

The City Plan project reviewed existing Local Development Plan (LDP) policies and identified potential changes that may be required, including the mix of housing within the city. This included two statutory documents: the LDP Monitoring Statement, which set out evidence on the impact of policies in the current LDP, and the Choices for City Plan, consultation document. These were published in January 2020.

Research shows that currently there is no ability to control numbers or density of these within the licensing system. There is no evidence of a surplus of empty Houses in Multiple Occupation's

(HMO) which would justify a conclusion of over provision.

There were 20,191 purpose-built student bedspaces in Edinburgh at the end of 2020. Of which, 398 new bedspaces were completed in 2020 and 1,367 are currently under construction, consent has been granted for 2,281 and there were 320 awaiting determination. All completions, developments under construction and consents in 2020 were on brownfield sites. For the fifth year in six, the number of those completed and under construction out with the city centre exceeded those in the city centre.

The Scottish Government has brought through changes in the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 to allow local authorities to designate part of their area as a short term let control area which came into force on May 18th of this year. Within such areas, the change of use from a dwelling house to premises providing a short term let will automatically involve a change of use requiring an application for planning permission. We are

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

currently reviewing the legislative parameters of this power and how best to proceed with its implementation.

[Choices for City Plan 2030](#) was published in January 2020. A major public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020. Over 1,800 responses were received and there was strong support for protecting Edinburgh's homes from other uses, changing the affordable housing policy and the required mix of house types and tenures.

Next Steps

An updated Development Plan Scheme with timetable was published in March 2021 and sets out the timing of the Proposed Plan stage, and the opportunities for people to make formal representations supporting or seeking changes. The Proposed Plan is expected to be published in August 2021 and is on track to be delivered within the new timetable, as set out in the Development Plan Scheme.

Commitment 13

Improve planning enforcement to ensure that all developers, large or small, conform to Edinburgh’s policies and developer’s commitments.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Planning Committee approved the revised [Planning Enforcement Charter](#) in December 2017. The Charter sets out how we will deliver the statutory planning enforcement service in the city.

Key Achievements

From April 2020 to end of March 2021, there were 711 enforcement enquiries received and only 3 enforcement notices served. The enforcement team has focused on short term lets with over 57% of cases closed within their target of 6 months, while 70% of other cases were closed within the 3 months. This equates to 66.8% for all cases. The formation of a dedicated enforcement team in 2019 allowed significant progress in handling short term let cases and a high success rate in appeals.

Financial contributions towards infrastructure, necessary to mitigate the impact of development, are secured through planning agreements. In 2020/21, over £7 million was collected from developers for education, transport (including tram) and other infrastructure. The reduction in the last year has in part been caused by the temporary pause in construction in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning that fewer sites reached development payment triggers. Contributions were also relatively high in 2018/19 and 2019/20 as a number of key sites reached their payment triggers.

An internal audit of the developer contributions process has been completed and reported to the [Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 7 May 2019](#).

Performance in terms of handling non-householder applications was by the measures introduced by, including a realigned team structure and a new approach to distributing applications.

Next Steps

As identified in a refresh of Planning Improvement Plan, decision making time monitoring indicators have been aligned with national indicators (decision making times in weeks). Further improvements to enforcement and development management processes are being identified as part of work on how the service will operate in post COVID-19.

Key measure	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Average no. of weeks to determine non-householder planning applications	14.7	16.8	15.7	12.2	10.9
Developer contributions collected	£5,211,469	£15,346,626	£15,309,750	£7,185,166	N/A
Enforcement cases resolved within timescales	collected from 18/19	51.5%	50.7%	66.8%	70%

Commitment 14

Work with the Scottish Government to review planning policy and overhaul the planning appeal system to make it shorter, more independent and give communities the right to appeal.

Background

In January 2020, the Scottish Government published a Call for Ideas for National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) as part of its engagement with Local Authorities and other stakeholders to inform a draft framework. Under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 the framework will become a statutory part of the development plan, will include housing targets and will incorporate a revised Scottish Planning Policy.

Key Achievements

The Planning Convener and planning officers worked with the Scottish Government to discuss aspects of the proposals which would affect the planning system in Edinburgh. The Planning Bill was passed by Parliament on 20 June 2019. It did not include any provisions for community rights of appeal. Instead, it introduced changes to create a more inclusive and collaborative planning system with more effective community engagement.

Planning Committee approved the response of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	✓

(ESESCR) partners to the Scottish Government's 'Call for Ideas' on the emerging NPF 4 on 18 March 2020. Planning Committee approved an interim Regional Spatial Strategy in October 2020 and CEC's response to the Scottish Government's Position Statement on NPF 4 in February 2021.

Next Steps

We will continue to work with the Government on its preparations for NPF 4 and we await the response to its recent consultation.

Commitment 15

Protect Edinburgh World Heritage Status and make sure developments maintain the vibrancy of our city in terms of placemaking, design and diversity of use.

Background

The [Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Management Plan 2017- 2022](#) was approved by the Planning Committee in December 2017. This Plan is a strategic document which sets the framework for the preservation and enhancement of the site’s cultural heritage. It contains a vision for the site, the actions necessary to protect and manage it, and how it fits alongside other strategies.

We have an ongoing commitment to ensure the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site (WHS) is taken into account in the planning process.

The WHS is managed by City of Edinburgh Council in partnership with Historic Environment Scotland and Edinburgh World Heritage Trust.

Key Achievements

The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh (ONTE) WHS Steering Group is responsible for monitoring the condition of the site (State of Conservation) and for monitoring the implementation of the actions. The Steering Group has agreed its priority short term actions. These actions support the Management Plan objectives of improving the understanding of the site, learning and engagement, and advocacy for sustainable visitor management in the city.

A start to the review of the next ONTE WHS Management Plan has been made. It will incorporate methodology for sustainable management of World Heritage Sites from a European cities partner project (that was extended as a result of COVID-19), a report on ‘mainstreaming’ heritage within the Council, an evaluation of the 2017-22 Management Plan.

On-going development and active travel work in relation to the ONTE WHS has continued taking in to account the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS in the relevant planning and transport processes.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Next Steps

Visit Scotland further postponed the launch of the ‘UNESCO National Trail’ in response to the December 2020 lockdown announcement. The WHS Management Partners also postponed delivery of the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) and Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) projects. CVI will now be delivered on-line in May/June 2021 in collaboration with James Cook University, Brisbane, and the University of Edinburgh as well as residents and wider stakeholders. This will make Edinburgh the first cultural WHS to establish a methodology for assessing climate risk in an urban World Heritage context.

A bid from Edinburgh World Heritage to the National Lottery Heritage Fund has been successful and will allow the WHS Steering Group to commence a ‘Community Outreach and Resilience Project’ to support the ONTE WHS Management Plan review.

Commitment 16

Invest £100m in roads and pavements over the next 5 years. This will include road and pavement maintenance, installing more pedestrian crossings, increasing the number of dropped kerbs and dedicate safer foot and cycle paths as well as introducing more pedestrian zones.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The first draft of [the Roads Asset Management Plan](#) was approved by Transport and Environment Committee on 9 March 2018. The RAMP has now been expanded to include additional transport assets (i.e. cycling infrastructure) and was re-named as the Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP). [The TAMP](#) was approved by Transport and Environment Committee in December 2018. The purpose of the TAMP is to establish future maintenance and management of the overall road network and set out options considered to take forward the management of our road assets. The plan also aims to support active travel initiatives throughout the city.

Key Achievements

Edinburgh's footway investment continues to be at some of the highest levels in Scotland with 30% of the total carriageway and footway renewal budget apportioned to footways each financial year, with an aim of improving resident satisfaction.

The TAMP sets out levels of investment in capital and revenue spend for carriageway and footway renewals and repairs, street lighting and traffic signals, road safety and active travel. Work is ongoing to establish how the TAMP can continue to best support active travel initiatives throughout Edinburgh. Work completed in the last year includes improved lighting along the Innocent Railway Path, improved signage on the National Cycle Network and technical design work for crossing at 22 different locations in the city.

Next Steps

COVID-19 is likely to continue to have an effect on delivery of road maintenance schemes in 2021/22. However, it is anticipated that there will be an increase in capital delivery in 2021/22 compared with previous years and we shall easily meet the commitment to spend £100m over five years. It is expected that the continued level of investment will reduce the proportion of the adopted road network that requires maintenance. Although the RCI increased from 33.5% to 37.1% in the last year, Edinburgh is one of the few councils who has extensive data on all their network that allows delivery of the capital projects to be targeted at the roads that most require it.

Key Measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Road Condition Index	36.4%	36.4%	33.5%	37.1%	Continual Improvement
Level of total road investment	£20.747m	£23.485m	£23.000m	£21.343m	£100m by 2022

Commitment 17

Guarantee 10% of the transport budget on improving cycling in the city.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Our budget has set aside a minimum of 10% of the Transport budget (capital and revenue) for cycling.

Key Achievements

In the last three years we have delivered a range of work to make the city a better place for people to live and travel around. This includes joining the Open Streets movement, launching a hire bike scheme and completing the conversion of the city's roads to a network to 20mph streets.

The Active Travel Investment Programme 2019-2024 (ATINP), reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 20 June 2019 involves over £61m of investment, over 60% of which will be in the form of match-funding from Sustrans /Transport Scotland.

The cycling element of the ATINP focusses on creating a joined-up city-wide network. It includes major projects such as the City Centre West East Link, Meadows to George Street, West Edinburgh Link and Roseburn to Union Canal.

Work in the last 2 years, which has seen disruption due to COVID-19, includes:

- 96 bike racks have been installed as part of the city-wide Public Bike Parking Scheme across Edinburgh, increasing capacity in some parts

and also creating parking spaces on new destinations.

- The lighting along Innocent Path tunnel, part of the National Cycle Network, got upgraded to LED lamps which has made a big difference in terms of perceived safety and place appeal.
- The signage along most of the National Cycle Network within Edinburgh got upgraded with new signs to make the network more accessible to all path users. Also, the Quiet Route of Fishwives' Causeway got its signage improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.
- Completion of a priority exercise to identify locations where improved or new crossings, extended pavements and decluttering should be delivered based on proximity to Health facilities and High footfall streets.
- The Technical designs for 22 different locations (50 crossings) have been completed with construction expected to be finished by Autumn 2021.

The biennial Sustrans Bike Life report for 2019 includes a wide variety of indicators. It shows public support for increasing investment in cycling and creating safe spaces for walking and cycling in the city.

[On 4 October 2018](#), the Transport and Environment Committee approved a roll out of 180 secure on-street cycle parking units. 108 units have subsequently been installed and work is underway to deliver the remaining 72 units. Delays to implementation have incurred in some parts of the city but work is ongoing to co-ordinate the proposals with other ongoing council projects to allow the remaining units to be installed as quickly as possible and complete the current roll out. Seven months after the first installations began, the scheme now has 591 users, representing an occupancy rate of around 91% for the 108 units installed to date. There are currently another 476 people on the waiting list for a space. A small number of units are being considered for relocation to areas where demand for spaces is highest. Requests have also been received for units at 206 new locations that are not included within the current roll out, with around 272 names on file for these sites.

Next Steps

In the next year we will focus on non-standard bike spaces, recreation parks and on-road bike parking. As well as making core parts of the National Cycle Network more accessible by removing and/or altering chicanes and barriers that do not meet current accessibility standards. A

second rollout with another 50 crossings adding more criteria for the prioritisation exercise including

proximity to public transport, schools and public facilities will begin.

We will also be working, in consultation with others, to produce a new Active Travel Action Plan covering the period to 2030.

Key Measures	2015	2017	2019	Target
Residents reporting cycling one or more time per week (NB estimate +/-3%)	21%	20%	24%	Increasing trend
Residents perception of cycling – Edinburgh is a good place to cycle (new)	Not available	Not available	47%	Increasing trend

Commitment 18

Improve Edinburgh’s air quality and reduce carbon emissions. Explore the implementation of low emission zones.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Under the [Environment Act 1995](#) and the associated Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) framework, all local authorities are duty bound to review and assess air quality in their areas against national pollution objectives. Edinburgh has declared six Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) - five for the pollutant nitrogen dioxide (NO2) (St. John’s Road, Great Junction Street, Glasgow Road, Inverleith Row and Central) and one for fine particulates (PM10) (Salamander Street).

The Cities Low Emission Zone proposals are being developed in conjunction with the City Mobility Plan and the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation project.

Edinburgh’s Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) was launched in 2015 as a citywide five-year strategy that set a target to reduce carbon emissions by 42% by 2020 from 2005 levels.

In May 2019 Council declared a climate emergency and approved a new approach to sustainability including working towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The SEAP was concluded and any outstanding activity and reporting absorbed into the sustainability programme and the new target.

The Council’s declaration and commitment for Edinburgh to be a net zero city by 2030 has placed sustainability and climate change at the centre of strategic and policy discussions. This has raised the profile of Edinburgh as one of the most ambitious cities seeking to tackle climate change to deliver a more sustainable and inclusive city.

Key Achievements

The Council has already taken several strategic and significant decisions to effectively mainstream the 2030 target into the Council’s core business and budgets. Immediate action was brought forward through a Short Window Improvement Plan, with an annual report being provided to committee in [November 2020](#). Most recently, the [2021-2024 Council Business Plan](#) has identified sustainability as one of the three priorities for the Council.

Edinburgh is now one of only 15 European cities that are part of the Climate-KIC Healthy, Clean Cities Deep Demonstrator programme. Elements of the programme delivered throughout 2020/21 are supporting the Council to explore innovative solutions to the complex system change in key areas required to deliver net zero for the city.

The Council has been working with the University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Climate Change Institute (formerly Edinburgh Centre for Climate Innovation),

to develop a Carbon Scenario Tool to help evaluate the projected emissions impact of projects, proposals and programmes of activity. The tool has been used to inform and develop the Council and the City’s future emissions trajectories to 2030.

Detail on the Council’s pathway to net-zero 2030 has been provided in the draft Council Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) and a 2030 City target monitoring approach has been developed and was presented to [Policy and Sustainability Committee on 20 April 2021](#).

The Council is co-sponsoring, along with Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, the independent Edinburgh Climate Commission which will provide expert, authoritative advice on how to accelerate city action on climate change. The Edinburgh Climate Commission has developed a City Climate Compact which sets organisational climate commitments for Climate Champions to adopt as part of their leadership on climate action. In [December 2020](#), the Council adopted the Compact as a founding member.

The latest data for our Air Quality Management Areas shows concentrations of pollutants at most locations are decreasing. For the third consecutive year, Great Junction Street AQMA has reported no breaches of the NO2 annual objectives. A review will

be undertaken to consider the potential revocation of the AQMA, particularly in relation to changing traffic management priorities in the area.

The Inverleith Row AQMA has had no breach of the said objective for the second year in a row. Monitoring will continue to assess whether this AQMA can be revoked in the future.

The St John's Road AQMA is declared for exceedances of the NO2 1-hour objective (in addition to the annual objective). 2019 is the fourth consecutive year in which fewer than 18 hourly concentrations greater than 200µg/m3 were reported. Therefore, the Council will amend the AQMA to remove this designation. The Order will remain valid for breaches of the annual mean objective.

Next Steps

In taking forward this commitment, net zero carbon measures are being mainstreamed and integrated within all city shaping strategies delivered by the Council. Key examples include City Centre Transformation, City Mobility Plan, City Plan 2030, City Housing Strategy, as well as corporate strategies such as the Sustainable Procurement Strategy.

A key programme of work in emissions reductions will be the development of the city strategy for net zero. Work is well underway with the programme bringing together City Partners, made up of the public and private organisations that collectively have the power, resources and levers necessary to achieve net zero by 2030. Engagement with City Partners to date has found a strong appetite for co-production of the strategy and to sign up to significant commitments to change. The Council is also working with the Edinburgh Climate

Commission to gain members expertise and input to on the development of the City Strategy.

The new Carbon Scenario Tool is also being used to help evaluate the projected emissions impact of projects, proposals and programmes of activity including the SWIP.

A national Low Emission Zone (LEZ) indicative timeline has been agreed following a slowdown in the work in 2020 due to the pandemic. The Council will continue to work alongside the Scottish Government and the other Scottish cities to ensure LEZs are introduced across Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow between February and May 2022.

Key measures	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% reduction in CO2 emission from a 2005 baseline (superseded by net zero 2030 target)	33%	34.9%	35.9%	Superseded	Superseded	42% by 2020
Total city's emissions – All greenhouse gases (MtCO2e)	2.721	2.595	2.428	<i>Data available Autumn 2021</i>	<i>Data available Autumn 2022</i>	0 by 2030
Air Quality Management Areas improvement	5 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	6 Air Quality Management Areas	Decreasing long term trend

Commitment 19

Keep the city moving by reducing congestion, improving public transport to rural west Edinburgh and managing road works to avoid unnecessary disruption to the public.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Public Transport Priority Plan is a five-year plan with short and medium term delivery priorities agreed with Lothian Buses aimed at reducing congestion and improving public transport.

The Edinburgh Peoples survey found that satisfaction with public transport was high, despite a small drop from 90% to 88% between 2017/18 and 2018/19.

Key Achievements

The Council has improved supported bus service provision in the rural west area within the city boundary. The Service 63 has been extended to Balerno and the Service 20 now connects to

Ingliston Park and Ride to offer an additional interchange opportunity with tram.

New bus lane enforcement cameras have been installed to help improve access for public transport and improve journey times and reliability across the city. Parking attendants are monitoring main traffic routes to assist traffic movement and prevent congestion.

The Council and all public utilities fulfil the requirement of the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner to plan and co-ordinate roadworks through the Scottish Roadworks Register with the aim of minimising disruption. Monitoring of the agreement and the planned co-ordination of works is reported to the Transport and Environment Committee.

Next Steps

Work is ongoing on a bid for bus priority funding for submission to Transport Scotland's Bus Partnership Fund. If successful, this will provide funding to implement many bus infrastructure and priority measures across Edinburgh and the wider region. The Public Transport Action Plan is due for review and content will be influenced by success of the funding bid. It may also include proposals for bus stop rationalisation and amendment of bus lane operating hours. All measures will be aimed at improving bus journey times and reliability with a focus on arresting bus use decline and assisting public transport to recover from the effects of the global pandemic.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	Target
Satisfaction with public transport*	90%	88%	Increasing trend

* Survey has not taken place since 2018/19

Commitment 20

Explore the introduction of a lane rental for utility companies to reduce traffic pressures.

Background

Lane rentals are seen as a way of making sure any essential roadworks are managed efficiently to limit the amount of disruption to road users while ensuring safe and reliable roads. Existing schemes in England work by introducing a daily charge to those companies carrying out work on the road network to encourage more efficient planning and delivery.

Key Achievements

The introduction of lane rental schemes was included within the consultation phase of the new Transport Bill, however when the final bill received royal assent in 2019 it did not set out the

necessary enabling powers to allow them to be established. It instead strengthened the powers which already exist in Scotland that allow councils to manage and coordinate roadworks. This is through the Scottish Roadworks Register and Noticing Schemes and it is monitored by the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner. This exists to encourage a right first-time approach for road work reinstatements, to provide better information about road works and to help ensure a consistent approach to safety at sites regardless of who is carrying them out.

Through the Roads Improvement Plan the council has set up a new Network Management and Enforcement service to oversee the smooth

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	✓
Will not be achieved	

running of the city's transport network for all users and all modes of transport. The service has been designed to regulate activity, undertake inspections, co-ordinate the network and take enforcement action, including for road works, where required.

Next Steps

A Network and Enforcement Management Improvement Plan has been created to take forward the specific Roads Improvement Plan actions for this new service. Regular updates will be reported to the Transport and Environment Committee.

Commitment 21

Retain Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram in public ownership.

Background

Lothian Buses is the UK's largest municipal bus company and proudly owned by the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian councils.

Key Achievements

The decision to continue discussions on governance reform of the Transport ALEO's (Arms Length External Organisations) was agreed at Transport and Environment Committee in November. Formal discussions are now underway with the ALEO Boards, Minority Shareholders and employee representatives. However, the political commitment to retain public ownership of Transport for Edinburgh remains in place. Transport for

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Edinburgh has our holding in Lothian Buses to ensure public ownership is retained.

Next Steps

We will continue to ensure that Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram are retained in public ownership. Following the conclusion of engagement on the governance reform of the Transport ALEOs, a delivery plan for the agreed option will be developed.

Commitment 22

Deliver the tram extension to Newhaven by 2022 after reviewing the business case and delivery plan to ensure they are robust.

Background

The anticipated growth of Edinburgh means the current road network and public transport provision aren't sustainable for the number of new residents expected. Trams allow greater numbers of people to travel and help to reduce traffic problems on congested roads. They also create employment during construction, boost development along the route and connect people to centres of employment, leisure and retail.

Trams to Newhaven will add 4.69 kilometres/2.91 miles of track in both directions, connecting Leith and Newhaven to the current end of the Edinburgh tram line at York Place with 8 new stops.

Key Achievements

Construction of this phase commenced in November 2019 after six months of joint work by the City of Edinburgh Council, Sacyr, Farrans, Neopul (SFN), and Morrison Utility Services (MUS), to finalise the construction programme and costs for the project.

The Trams to Newhaven site preparation works re-started on Monday 1 June 2020. This consisted of, among other things, the introduction of infection control stations, additional water stations and toilet facilities for workers within the site, ensuring all office workspaces and facilities were set up appropriately, and the removal of the protective in-fill material that was used to ensure the work site remained safe and protected during the shutdown.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Over £2.4M of funding to support local business via a series of measures intended to maintain the accessibility, vibrancy and desirability of the affected streets.

Next Steps

As a result of COVID-19, the project experienced a 13 week delay due to the construction site shut down. In order to take this delay and new physical distancing working guidelines into account the programme has been reviewed and updated. Although the project has faced significant challenges, construction continues to progress and the project is still on track to deliver Trams to Newhaven by spring 2023.

Commitment 23

Implement improvement plans for Waste and Cleansing Services to improve street cleanliness in every ward. Reintroduce a free bulky item collection service to tackle fly tipping.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Waste and Cleansing service has undergone a number of service changes and improvements since [the Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan](#) was introduced. These include: staff structure and kerbside collection model changes; the introduction of garden waste charging; infrastructure investment at the new Energy from Waste plant at Millerhill and technological developments, including implementation of the new bin route system.

During 2020 the service was significantly affected by COVID-19 which meant there was a need to reprioritise services.

Key Achievements

The service has had to cope with significant disruption in 2020/21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including redeploying some staff to support other services in waste and cleansing. Monitoring through the year by Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) does reflect the difficulties in providing a citywide service. This is reflected in the street cleanliness score which has dropped significantly from previous years. Initial feedback from KSB indicates that this is primarily due to the prevalence of domestic waste in high density

residential areas. A full analysis of the data will be carried out when it is published to fully understand the reasons behind the score.

A pilot bulky item collection service was being developed with The Remakery to encourage the reuse of materials. However, they are not able to deliver this to the scale required and a different approach will be considered.

The service has worked with SHRUB over several years to target the dumping of reusable items at the end of term in Marchmont. This means that small items which would otherwise contribute to overflowing communal bins are diverted for reuse in the student and wider community.

Waste and Cleansing worked with Hubbub and Changeworks and over winter 2019/20 piloted segregated recycling points to recycle plastic bottles, cans and coffee cups at city centre locations on the go. Those led to some learning points around communications, however again demonstrated the practical barriers to providing segregated recycling for litter, primarily high levels of contamination and an increase in the carbon footprint associated with running additional vehicles to collect small amounts of material. The implementation of deposit return legislation for drinks containers and legislation to reduce the use

of disposable cups is expected to significantly reduce the recyclable elements of this waste stream.

Working with Keep Scotland Beautiful, the My Beach Your Beach campaign focussed on Portobello with a range of measures including engagement with community organisations, dog walkers and local businesses as well as improved litter bins, leading to reductions in discarded litter, food and dog fouling. This work continued to maintain the campaign at reduced level (as a result of COVID-19 restrictions) during 2020, with the intention to re-expand it in summer 2021, when it will be complemented by a separate campaign to tackle upstream sources of water pollution.

Litter prevention work with school children is delivered in partnership with schools, using a variety of means including assembly sessions and tailored workshops. Changeworks have been successfully developing a “whole school” approach which is more holistic, looking at waste prevention, recycling and litter in the round with the aim to better embed learned behaviours although this work is suspended at present as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

Following a review of the work of the Environmental Wardens and Waste Compliance

teams a single service has been established called the Street Enforcement Team which will focus on a more clearly defined list of tasks which affect the quality of the environment and the on-street experience for all. The objective of the new service will be to increase enforcement action in response to offences relating to littering, domestic and trade waste presentation and disposal, flytipping, tables and chairs permits and abandoned vehicles, however this work has been affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

During 2020, the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown has seen significant changes to patterns of consumer behaviour which have led to a national picture of displacement of litter from city and town centres to local and suburban areas, and increased scrutiny of these issues. A campaign was developed to encourage use of bins in parks and other public areas.

We continue to support community groups and individuals organising a clean-up by providing

clean up kits, including litter pickers for adults and children, and removing the litter that has been collected by them.

Next Steps

The LEAMS criteria used by authorities to assess cleanliness of relevant has been reviewed following the publication of a revised Code of Practice. The Code clarifies organisational responsibilities, supports more effective cleanliness standards and a proactive approach to litter prevention. The updated monitoring system which will now be implemented fully from 2022/23 will provide a more modern platform. All streets and public open spaces have been rezoned (where these are under Council control) and a map showing these has been published online.

More residents who use communal bin services contacted us to say that a bin was full or overflowing in 2021, probably reflecting people spending more time at home. It should be noted however that communal bin requests do not

necessarily relate to bins being missed – bins can be emptied then fill up prior to the next collection.

A full review of the communal bin collection service is being undertaken with a particular focus on those areas where waste is collected on the street. This will include reviewing servicing frequencies and capacities to improve the overall cleanliness of the city, as well as re-locating bins to enhance the overall streetscape. The timeline for this work has been reprofiled to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions so that development work has been brought forward and on-site implementation will start in summer 2021.

The My Beach, Your Beach campaign will be repeated in 2021, and complemented by a separate Love Your River campaign to tackle upstream sources of litter and pollution which then impact on water quality downstream.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Reduction in communal bin service requests	15,155	21,868	17,004	19,484	22,020
Reduction in individual domestic bin service requests	22,853	33,621	17,690	19,887	21,180
Incidences of dumping and fly tipping	5,928	8,855	9,297	11,329	Decreasing trend
LEAMS – street cleanliness index	88.7%	92.0%	92.9%	81.8%	95%

Commitment 24

Reduce the incidence of dog fouling on Edinburgh’s streets and public parks.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

We have developed a campaign to discourage anti-social behaviours such as littering, flytipping and dog fouling. The ‘Our Edinburgh’ campaign focuses on social responsibility and community participation. The campaign is ongoing and includes targeted initiatives to reduce dog fouling, however this work has been interrupted as a result of the lockdowns and social distancing requirements in 2020/21.

Key Achievements

The number of dog fouling incidents reported to us has decreased from 2,590 in 2017/18 to 1,362 in 2020/21. Over the same period, the number of fixed penalty notices given for dog fouling incidents has decreased from 17 to 0. The establishment of the new Street Enforcement

Team gives renewed focus to tackling a range of issues detrimental to citizens’ enjoyment of their local environment. This work has been significantly disrupted during COVID-19 restrictions and is currently largely reactive, however this will be kept under reviews as restrictions change. However, there has been a decreasing trend in dog fouling reports.

The ‘Our Edinburgh’ campaign has continued to tackle anti-social behaviours, including dog fouling. By using localised and targeted channels in hot spot areas, localities have been able to work with residents and community groups to personalise campaigns in their areas. For example, successful initiatives in Murrayburn and Magdalene saw residents given practical advice and information on the nearest bins and their

uses as part of packages of activity covering waste issues holistically.

Working with local communities and Keep Scotland Beautiful, The My Beach Your Beach campaign saw a reduction in dog fouling of up to 56% at parts of Portobello Beach in summer 2019. This campaign was maintained at a reduced level in 2020, taking account of COVID-19 restrictions, with a view to growing the campaign in 2021 in conjunction with the Love Your River campaign to tackle upstream sources of pollution.

Next Steps

The service will continue to roll out and expand the ‘Our Edinburgh’ campaign across the city to engage with communities about the appropriate means to prevent littering.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Fixed penalty notices for dog fouling	17	22	9	0	Increase reporting, decrease incidents
Dog fouling service requests	2,590	2,250	1,712	1,362	Increase reporting, decrease incidents

Commitment 25

Increase recycling to 60% from 46% during the lifetime of the administration. **Status**

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	✓

Background

Our [Recycling Strategy](#), published in 2010 aimed to deliver an overall recycling rate of 60% by 2017. This comprised of 50% being delivered through sorting of waste at source, with an additional 10% being delivered through thermal treatment. Since the Strategy was first published, a number of assumptions have changed. This includes: the opening of the thermal treatment facility at Millerhill, withdrawal from the collection of commercial waste and changes to the way recycling rates are calculated by SEPA.

Key Achievements

A [report](#) outlining the progress to date on our Recycling Strategy 2010-2025 was reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 9 August 2018. This report set out the challenges and opportunities to increase recycling and proposed a forward plan of actions for the coming years.

During the lifetime of the Council's current recycling strategy, recycling rates increased from 30.4% to 41.1%. Recycling rates have reduced gradually since and are now 3% lower than in 2017/18, though 2020/21 was affected by the reduction in services at the start of the year.

There are a number of projects in place which aim to increase recycling rates and these include new projects include making improvements to signage at Household Waste Recycling Centres and carrying out a review and redesign of communal bins. However, taking in to account these projects, new legislation and market changes, recycling rates will not increase to 60% by the end of the administration. Although it is always better to recycle, the opening of the energy from waste site at Millerhill has led to a large decrease in carbon emissions generated from waste decomposition in landfills.

Recycling is often influenced by a number of factors beyond the Council's control. Over the last few years the markets for recyclable materials have weakened. Reductions in the use of packaging, and behavioural changes such as the move to online newspapers, appear to have led to a reduction in materials available to recycle, while it is likely that further changes will take place. In particular, the implementation of a national deposit return scheme for drinks containers will increase recycling of these items but will also remove these from local authority waste streams. This will change the composition of the materials we collect for both waste and recycling.

The Zero Waste Leith project has developed approaches to reduce contamination of recycling bins and increase recycling in this area of the city. In particular the distribution of food caddy kits led to 31% of people to start recycling food, and the future continued distribution of caddies via libraries will be explored to encourage uptake in tenemental areas. This project is now complete and the learning points will be built into future projects.

Pilot collections to separately collect targeted litter streams (plastic bottles, cans and drinks cups) have been undertaken in the City Centre led by Hubbub. This project once again demonstrated the challenges associated with the provision of segregated bins to collect litter, particularly contamination of the recycling and the increased carbon footprint associated with collecting such small amounts of materials. The results of these will be used to support the development of litter management taking into account the implications of new legislation to place deposits on drinks containers.

Waste and Cleansing continues to support activities which prevent waste at source and has worked with a number of organisations to do so, including Shrub, The Remakery and Changeworks

who deliver this work in a number of ways including collection of reusable items, upcycling of unwanted goods and education in schools. Waste arisings managed by the Council have continued to fall as the city has grown although the impact of people spending more time at home may offset this, which will be monitored going forward.

Next Steps

Following the conclusion of pilots, notably in the Albert Street area, the service is undertaking a Communal Bin Review which will involve the redesign of the existing waste and recycling communal bin services across the city. The aims of this review are to:

- increase and improve recycling services to residents in multi-occupancy and flatted properties,
- improve overall recycling performance;

- review existing bin locations to develop more formalised collection hubs, improving the perception of the service and enhance the streetscape;
- improve service reliability and ensure it reflects changes to legislation and policies.

A programme to deliver this in phases has been approved by Committee and this will commence once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. The timeline for this has been reprofiled with development work brought forward and on-site implementation expected to start in summer 2021.

The amount of material being rejected by the sorting plants has been increasing since 2018/19. One reason for this is the increasingly challenging market conditions in the recycling sector. We're working with our reprocessing partners to reduce the amount of material that's rejected and have

recently retendered this contract and will be monitoring performance closely.

The Scottish Government are introducing a deposit return scheme for some plastics, cans and glass. This will be operated by the packaging industry and retailers, so will change the composition of the materials collected through Council streams, reducing the amount available for recycling, as well as reducing the numbers of these which appear in the residual waste stream. This is currently expected to start in summer 2022, with extended producer responsibility legislation for packaging waste potentially being implemented by 2023 (the latter is led by the UK Government and the timeline is less clear). New targets will be set for recycling rates to take in to account the large change this is going to make to what waste materials can be recycled by councils in the future.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of Waste Recycled	42.6%	41.1%	41.1%	39.6%	60% by 2022

Commitment 26

Improve parking for residents by expanding provision of park and rides for commuters.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Actions to improve usage within existing Park and Ride sites are contained within the [Local Transport Strategy 2014-19](#). Public consultation in 2018 showed that 93% favoured expansion of park and ride facilities as a good way of reducing traffic in the city centre and town centres.

Key Achievements

On the 17 May 2018 the Transport and Environment Committee agreed not to progress with a [new Park and Ride site at Lothianburn](#), but to review patronage at the existing site at Straiton. We continue to prioritise introducing measures to increase patronage there and these include trialling more regular spacing of bus stops and reducing the waiting time between bus services which would improve journeys into the city.

The Park and Ride development and expansion strategy was first approved in 2009. Expansion of

Hermiston Park and Ride is a ready to go project, but no capital funding is yet available to deliver it.

The Ingliston Park and Ride is also operating at capacity and requires expansion.

Parking improvements for residents are also proposed through extending the controlled parking zones and increasing the number of shared use parking places. This is in line with the Parking Action Plan which was approved by Transport and Environment Committee.

Next Steps

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on public transport demand and we are working on a regional transition plan to make public transport as attractive as possible in order to aid recovery.

Transport Scotland is inviting bids for a portion of a £10 million fund that will support bus priority measures. Initially these will be short term measures to improve journey times but we are

working with operators, neighbouring authorities and Transport Scotland to identify short, medium and longer term measures.

A bus priority partnership fund was about to be announced just as lockdown commenced, which could have been up to a value of £500million Scotland wide. Although COVID-19 has resulted in this fund not progressing, it is hoped that it is merely postponed, not cancelled. Should this fund be forthcoming, or anything similar, we will be well placed to make a bid based on the regional transition work currently ongoing. Included in any bid will be a request for funding to improve and expand Park and Ride provision. Further rollouts of Controlled Parking Zones will take place as approved through the Parking Action Plan.

Commitment 27

Tackle pavement parking and reduce street clutter to improve accessibility.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

In May 2018, the Transport and Environment Committee approved the proposed strategy and measures required to be put in place to deliver a citywide ban on all forms of temporary on-street advertising structures, not just 'A' Boards. The aim of the strategy is to prioritise safe movement and improve the quality of Edinburgh Streets.

The proposed new Transportation Bill has now been written in to law. The Bill introduces a national ban on pavement and double parking so roads are safer and more accessible to all.

Key Achievements

The citywide ban on all temporary on-street advertising structures came into force in November 2018. Environmental Wardens, now Street Enforcement, visit businesses to ensure awareness and maximise compliance with the ban, with formal enforcement action taken on those that remain non-compliant. Since 2018, wardens have issued Advice/ Verbal Warnings to 446 premises of which 61 have received a Final warning. This resulted in 29 A-boards/Advertising Structures being removed from 15 premises.

A range of support measures have been provided to help mitigate impacts of the ban. This includes a dedicated page on the [councils website](#) with all the guidance needed for businesses. One of the key objectives of our [Street Design Guidance](#) is to ensure that the city's streets are accessible and easy to navigate. The guidance has been updated to make businesses aware of the ban on temporary advertising and need to have storage space off street to accommodate segregated containers for trade waste.

As part of the Spaces for People programme a new project theme was created to define and schedule the removal of non-essential street furniture, reduce the danger to pedestrians and improve walking and wheeling conditions. Working in partnership with Living Streets and with contributions from Lothian Buses a package of works has been defined. A budget of £300,000 was allocated to support this work and it is estimated that the cost by the end of May will be £180,000.

Examples of items being assessed for removal are:

- Signs and poles – remove or relocate or reduce where possible;
- Pedestrian guardrail - remove or reduce where possible;

- 17 large car parking variable message signs that are no longer operating;
- Waste bins - relocate where possible;
- Bollards – remove, relocate or reduce where possible; and
- Any other street furniture not included in the above

In 2020-21 signage along most of the National Cycle Network within Edinburgh got upgraded with new signs to make the network more accessible to all path users. The Quiet Route of Fishwives' Causeway also got its signage improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.

Next Steps

Councils are still unable to enforce bans on pavement parking other than on streets where there are existing Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs). The new Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 will enable Councils to take action when the associated regulations are finalised and issued by the Scottish Government. No timescales have been provided for when the enforcement powers will be finalised, however COVID-19 is likely to cause delays.

In 2020-21 we will focus on making core parts of the National Cycle Network more accessible by removing and/or altering chicanes and barriers that do not meet current accessibility standards.

Commitment 28

Create a first-class education estate – building 2 new secondary schools and 10 new primaries by 2021. Ensure safe standards are met by rigorous inspections of new and existing school buildings.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The capacity and quality of the school estate is under continual review. The school roll projections are at the centre of the strategic planning process to ensure existing and future schools provide sufficient accommodation for catchment pupils.

A full survey of the safe standards of the school estate was completed in September 2017.

Key Achievements

The construction of the new Queensferry High school is complete and the demolition of the old school phase is progressing. Construction of three new primary schools (New South Edinburgh PS (Canaan Lane), South East Edinburgh PS (Frogston Primary School), replacement Victoria PS), one special school (replacement St Crispin's Special School) and a replacement secondary school (Castlebrae HS) has commenced.

Construction has also commenced on the Wave 4 replacement school projects for Trinity Academy and Wester Hailes Education Centre. Completion of all these projects has been delayed until later in 2021 due to the implications of COVID-19. Design for 3 further primary schools, another three replacement secondary school projects and three

significant secondary extension projects have commenced. The first of the primary schools in this phase will be completed in 2023 and the first new secondary school by 2024.

Following full estate survey completion in September 2017, the five-year resurvey programme is underway. The survey programme is informing the scope of a £120m five year capital upgrade programme approved by Council in [February 2018](#). Additional money to introduce a Planned Preventative Maintenance Programme was approved at the same time, which is now being rolled out.

The condition surveys inform the Council's asset management works programme which had a budget in 2019/20 of £30 million to invest in improving the condition of our operational properties. Focus to date has been primarily on schools. As the third of a five-year programme of targeted investment, the Council has achieved an actual spend of £14.4 million in 2020/21 (48% of annual budget) and with a projected year-end spend of £15.6 million (52% of the annual budget). Despite the 2020/21 spend being impacted by COVID-19, the overall five-year programme scheduled spend is ahead of schedule; with approximately £83 million or 70%

of the 5-year programme budget having been expended with 58% of the programme time elapsed. This means the overall progress of the programme to bring our school buildings up to a sustainable, safe and effective state is good.

During 2020/21 75% of the floorspace was surveyed in periods that COVID-19 lockdown did not prevent activity. 48 Communities and Families properties/buildings were surveyed between April 2020 and March 2021 (10 Nursery Schools; 32 Primary Schools; 4 High Schools; 2 Community Centres) adding to the 173 between October 2017 and March 2020.

Next steps

The learning estate team will continue to lead on the delivery of the Communities and Families capital programme. Full programme implications of COVID-19 are still to be provided by contractors however the estimated delay for every project is in the range of 6-9 months.

While COVID-19 has delayed the asset upgrade programme this year, performance was so successful last year and the year before that we remain on schedule to meet the overall five-year programme target.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of new schools where construction has commenced	0	2	5	7	Construction to commence for 2 secondary schools and 10 primary schools by 2021
Percentage of conditions surveys completed	100%	100%	92%	75%	100% of the school estate surveyed by Autumn 2022

Commitment 29

Improve and protect access to additional languages and music tuition and encourage more children and young people to gain vital skills in construction, engineering, digital technology, maths and science.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Key Achievements

The team around languages now comprises a Quality Improvement Officer, part-time development officer and a full-time Development Officer, supported by a Lead Teacher for secondary and a network of Lead Teachers in primary schools. This increase in capacity has allowed significant improvement in support for schools.

Communication has been enhanced through a weekly newsletter and the establishment of Microsoft Teams for various areas of activity. Development Officers have updated the suite of resources available on Sharepoint to incorporate all relevant benchmarks and ensure all links are live and up to date. Teaching and support staff can access Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) through a suite of opportunities through CEC and external provision. Partnership work with the South East Improvement Collaborative (SEIC) colleagues has allowed colleagues access to a wider range of opportunities and to broader professional networks. Models of delivery and content have been modified to suit the current context. Uptake of on-line opportunities has been high in most cases. Notable is the participation of 20+ primary colleagues in

Open University courses. This requires significant time commitment and includes an option for GTCS Professional Recognition. This learning has resulted in significant improvement in teachers' language and pedagogy skills and confidence in previous years. Quality Improvement staff have designed a programme of support for teachers participating in this course. Development of L3 resources for Broad General Education (BGE) teaching and learning has been delayed but is nearing completion and due for launch in June 2021. Partnership models for native speaker support in primary and secondary have been modified and have operated successfully on-line. Use of digital platforms allowed pupils to access this support from home in some cases.

Engagement with some of the models has increased this session. During school closures we have supported schools and families by providing guidance and regularly updated activities for learning at home and have received positive feedback. We have taken a light-touch approach to supporting schools to encourage languages learning during school closures. There has been enthusiastic engagement in many schools, despite the circumstances. This has been reflected in social media activity and participation in events around

Languages Week Scotland. We used this as an opportunity to offer CLPL on the Scottish Government 1+2 Approach Policy, to put on additional language refresher courses and to meet with Lead Teacher networks. Training for probationers was enhanced this year, leading to increased participation. The self-evaluation tool being developed with SEIC partners and the University of Edinburgh has been delayed but is nearing completion and will be ready for use in schools in August 2021. The tool will be presented to colleagues in anticipation of city-wide engagement from August 2021. Programmes for Language Ambassadors are being developed and implemented across sectors.

Music tuition is a key deliverable within the new Lifelong Service Plan. During 2019/2020 the new Youth Music Initiative (YMI) provision for Primary 1s planned for an overall increase of 4,556 pupils was impacted from March 2020 by COVID-19. All YMI programmes were re-arranged for October 2020 (remote) and into 2021 – remote and in-person. Restrictions on staff movement and in-person delivery has resulted in a reduction in numbers of pupils accessing YMI. YMI resources have all been adapted for remote delivery.

The Instrumental Music Service (IMS) continues to deliver instrumental music lessons in every mainstream school in the city from P4/5 to S6, supporting national qualifications in the senior phase.

The 'Raising Aspirations in Science Education' (RAiSE) programme ended in December 2018; however, funding was sourced to create an Assistant Development Officer (ADO) post (0.4 FTE) to ensure networks and training continued until June 2020. The ADO has delivered effective CLPL for "STEM Developers" (primary practitioners). The ADO also developed materials for "Putting the M in STEM" with Education Scotland as well as hosting regular STEM "meet ups". The ADO also continued to work with the University of Edinburgh on outreach events until funding ceased in June 2020. The networks continue in session 2020-21, however, supported by a Lead Teacher for Primary STEM, and the STEM Developers course was delivered remotely, with significant uptake (including access by other local authorities within the South East Improvement Collaborative).

In autumn 2019 the Scottish Government made funds available for school and LA bids to promote STEM and City of Edinburgh had seven successful bids: this included authority development work on primary mathematics as well as school-based collaboration in science, technology and mathematics. Work on these projects was affected by COVID-19 but four of the projects opted to continue delivery in session 2020-21. Education Scotland have just announced a third round of funding.

Next steps

Support schools to embed 1+2 within the renewal curriculum, following narrowing of focus during school closures. Roll out L2 and L3 planners to all schools. Create and roll out example L3 plans to all schools. Support cluster engagement with the self-evaluation tool developed with SEIC and Edinburgh University as part of city-wide renewal in session 2021-22. This will include opportunities for cross-sector and inter-authority collaboration on professional enquiry. Support schools to embed teaching and learning in L3. Feed into Equalities Board work on developing the inclusive curriculum through inclusion of Heritage Languages in mainstream curriculum offer across sectors. Develop resources and training for the inclusion of Heritage Languages in L3 programmes. Pilot Heritage Languages classes for senior pupils to support pathways to national qualifications for native speakers. This will be in partnership with Esgoil and Scottish National Centre for Languages (SCILT) and incorporate enrichment activity led by pupils and families. Continue engagement with partners to provide native speaker support in schools. Develop a cross-sector Language Ambassador framework to support schools to broaden the scope of these programmes to include the full range of languages used and studied by our pupils. Explore opportunities to establish a Virtual Languages Academy to extend access to a wider range of languages for all pupils through digital learning. Develop a programme of support for probationer teachers and new colleagues to raise awareness of learner entitlement within the 1+2 Approach and to improve skills and confidence in classroom practice. Work with SEIC partners to put

in place a training framework for lead teachers in primary schools in order to increase capacity and sustainability of provision. Establish a steering group to support all areas of languages teaching and learning.

We are seeking funding via Education Scotland to restore the Primary STEM ADO post, to further develop the STEM Developers course, and enhance links to numeracy and mathematics in particular.

The impact of COVID-19 on music tuition (both IMS and YMI) has resulted in a temporary drop in numbers since the first lockdown. A combination of remote and in-person learning has been developed. Numbers began to increase when Instructors were issued with iPads and could deliver live remote lessons. The pressure on indoor ventilated space for instrumental music tuition continues to be reviewed as pupils return to school. Specific restrictions on brass, wind and voice coupled with limits on the number of schools visited in a week, continues to impact on IMS. Priority has been given to Music SQA students. YMI staff delivered in person lessons until March 2020, after which they developed online resources and remote lessons. Having now received iPads, YMI tutors are delivering remote lessons. In person delivery is restricted until Edinburgh is in Health protection Level 2. This has impacted on YMI pupil numbers. As a consequence of COVID-19. The Scottish Government has reduced its allocation of Youth Music Initiative funds which in Edinburgh represents a 14% cut to YMI (not IMS).

More on-line content, lessons and resources are being developed to mitigate this. The planned increase of 4,556 P1 YMI pupils did not take place

as the programme was due to begin immediately after the Easter holidays. This programme has been protected in the new YMI plans for 2020/21.

Key measures	2016/17*	2017/18*	2018/19*	2019/20*	Target
% of Primary Schools delivering Language 2 progressively	Collected from 17/18	90%	97%	98%	100% by 2020
% of schools engaging with the RAiSE programme	Collected from 17/18	86%	91%	**	Target met
Number of children and young people accessing music tuition	19,822	19,128	24,358	23,579	21,000 for 20/21
% of children achieving expected CfE level for numeracy by Primary 7	75.6%	78.2%	81.0%	Not available	Increase by 2% per annum to session 21/22

* Schools performance is based on the academic year.

** The RAiSE programme ended in 2018.

Commitment 30

Increase the number of classroom assistants and support staff for children with additional needs to improve attainment and wellbeing.

Background

We aim to ensure that all pupils achieve the best possible physical and emotional wellbeing and education outcomes.

Key Achievements

Recruitment of Pupil Support Assistants (PSA) has continued throughout the school session in mainstream and Special Schools.

The additional support budget to provide additional supports via PSAs has increased year on year and we have now simplified the process for distributing this budget direct to Head Teachers to allow them to employ additional support staff and deploy them as required. This is now being evaluated to ensure that the new model is proving more efficient and streamlined support for schools.

The commitment to increase the number of support staff in schools by 50 was met for school session 2019/20. We also have growing numbers of Pupil Support Officers (PSO) in secondary schools contributing to the Wellbeing Academies. Additionally, we have invested in additional support staff in five Enhanced Support Bases and six Wellbeing Hubs in mainstream secondary schools over the course of this session. We are planning to extend these provisions across further

mainstream schools as part of a phased approach over the next five years.

This session we have used Scottish Government 'Closing the Gap' funding in a targeted way to recruit additional support staff for special schools and specialist provisions, where it was not possible to fill the teaching posts budgeted for. In addition to this we have developed a Home-Link Team to further support pupils to re-engage in learning post lockdown.

The Additional Support for Learning Service has moved to a different model of support this session with online Inclusive Practice Induction training now available for all new staff. This is different to the PSA training offered previously and therefore stands separately. Support staff were invited to access the training along with teachers. The revised Inclusive Practice Induction training has been designed to ensure it offers the most current thinking in evidence-based practice. This involves training focused on Autism, Specific Learning Difficulties and Literacy as well as Equalities, Inclusive Practice, working with care experienced learners and Promoting Positive Relationships.

The Wellbeing Academy has provided a progression pathway for PSAs with a particular focus on building capacity and experience around supporting emotional wellbeing. It has also

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

provided a framework of support to the PSOs, involving a collaborative approach, working closely with Psychologists from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the Psychological Service.

This session, by mid-April we will have trained up to 85 staff across the city with a specific focus on promoting wellbeing through resilience and Low Intensity Anxiety Management approaches. This includes school staff, home-link workers and the 25 new School Counsellors. School measures for the three years prior to lockdown showed improvement in learner health and wellbeing and a reduction in anxiety. These improvements were impacted by lockdown. Support to address these needs is being offered through ongoing work of the Wellbeing Academy along with the use of School Counsellors and Community Mental Health funding to add an additional layer of support.

Next steps

A target of 50 additional classroom assistants and support staff during the administration period was set. This target has been fully met and surpassed and numbers of classroom assistants and support staff continues to increase. In addition, we have recruited School Counsellors into 19 clusters, with 3 clusters preferring to continue accessing

support from Place2Be, funded centrally using the School Counsellor funding. We are actively recruiting to fill remaining gaps. This will be a valuable additional support for children and young people as they readjust to a return to school.

There has been a higher level of staff absence this session due to COVID-19. This has affected schools to differing degrees. We are making use of our Additional Support for Learning service and Closing the Gap team to support any significant

gaps, so this should not impact on the pledge in the longer term.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of FTE pupil support assistants employed (budgeted specific to Special Educational Needs and Special Schools)	584	607	635	646	Increase by 50 FTE by session 20/21
Number of pupil support assistants trained in wellbeing and attainment (all schools)	Collected from 18/19	800 (approx. 67%)	Not available*	Not available*	100% by session 21/22

* development of measure around Inclusive practice induction training affected by impact of COVID-19, to be confirmed next session.

Commitment 31

Expand training opportunities for adults and young people linking with colleges and expanding vocational education.

Background

We work with its partners through the Schools College Partnership (SCP) to ensure the offerings and pathways are in place for young people leaving school. Adult Education Programmes are delivered across the city.

Key Achievements

The Edinburgh Learns Pathways Strategic Board has representatives from education sectors 3-18, Skills Development Scotland, Edinburgh College and Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Regional partners. Ensuring that the Career Education Standard is embedded across all schools and that the Youth Employment strategy milestones are achieved is continuing to drive vocational opportunities.

Employer engagement with schools has the opportunity to improve with the recruitment of DYW Coordinators across all secondary schools. This has been delivered in partnership with the DYW Employer Board and the Coordinators are currently developing work-based learning projects that will improve engagement with local employers for young people who are either about to leave or are choosing pathway options. Due to COVID-19 risk mitigations it has not been

possible to provide work placements, however through virtual offers young people are continuing to have opportunities to link with industry. Some of our senior pupils are engaged in the Career Ready programme providing individual employer mentoring. An increasing number of our Care experienced young people are linked with industry mentors as part of our investment with MCR Pathways. The JET team are working directly with targeted winter and summer leavers to support transition into vocational pathways.

The School College Partnership offer is a co-constructed programme for young people with pathways at a range of SCQF Levels planning to address alternative routes to employment. The number of Foundation Apprenticeships initially increased. The FA Children and Young People delivered by the local authority's Early Years team is providing a valuable pathway to our Childcare Modern Apprenticeships. All young people engaged in the SCP have been provided with a remote learning offer, with the most vulnerable being supported with on-campus learning when the Protection Levels have allowed this. Edinburgh College is upholding the guarantee offer of a place to all school pupils who apply

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

though it may not be in the course of their first preference.

The 2020 Annual Participation Measure showed that of the 13,390 16-19 year olds in Edinburgh, City of 92.4% were in education, employment or training and personal development. A 0.2 percentage point increase compared to 2019 (August 2020).

Following the first COVID-19 lockdown face to face classes were suspended from April 2020 and have been unable to resume within community centres due to council FM and cleaning prioritised for school activity. We have adapted the use of Microsoft TEAMS over the summer months with a reduction in online Adult Education classes being offered. From October 2020 and from January 2021 we have 150 weekly ESOL, Literacies, Syrian ESOL, Family Learning; Outlook and advertised Adult Education Programme. However, many of our learners are unable to access TEAMS due to lack of digital devices and other barriers including low literacy and English language skills. Whilst the numbers of learners reached remain good, capacity and the overall the number of learning hours has been reduced significantly.

The £25m Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal includes two skills Gateways covering Housing and Construction Infrastructure (HCI) and Data Driven Innovation (DDI). These operate through the regions' universities and colleges to provide skills development in housing, construction, renewables, and digital sectors. The IRES Integrated Employer Engagement programme is creating an enhanced employability and skills service offer to employers, helping transition those with new skills into work.

Next steps

We recognise the economic impact of COVID-19 on the positive destinations of our young people, particularly on pathways such as higher and further education, training – apprenticeships - and employment. Our planning to expand our vocational education offer is adapting due to the impact of COVID-19.

The 16+ Network across all schools has collaborated with key partners to ensure that those at risk are being supported. As part of our senior transition process the Head of Schools will write to the parents/carers of all senior phase

pupils to offer reassurance and outline support. A leaflet outlining current career information, advice and guidance for school leavers will be distributed. The Youth Employment Partnership is responding to the impact of COVID-19 on increasing youth unemployment by working with Edinburgh Guarantee to revise the Activity Agreement programme so that a more sustained case managed approach is embedded for those most at risk. In particular, that the pathway to training or employment is mapped out.

The SCP will be continuing as a remote learning offer as it is unlikely that young people will be able to attend on-site at Edinburgh College until later in the year. The impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of more practical-based vocational courses is therefore being affected and Edinburgh College are working with schools to ensure that young people maintain engagement. SDS have also adapted the Foundation Apprenticeship requirements as completion of work placements is not currently feasible. There are changes imminent to the funding structure of Foundation Apprenticeships and the local authority is working closely with SDS and Scottish Funding Council to

ensure that the needs of our young people are best served.

Ensuring our young people are able to engage in positive destinations is the priority for our Youth Employment Partnership, with a revived Edinburgh Guarantee service and new Scottish Guarantee.

There is ongoing work by the Council and its partners in developing links and clear progression pathways from community based adult learning onto college and further education.

With the suspension of the Adult Education Programme after the second term due to COVID-19 the target for 2019/20 has been adjusted accordingly. From January 2021, the Adult Education Programme is running a reduced online programme of 120 classes to 1,500 adults.

The Council and Edinburgh College worked with the voluntary sector to deliver a Granton Recovery Programme to 304 adults in response to emerging needs of the community following COVID-19, from October to December 2020.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of senior phase age pupils studying vocational qualifications delivered by Edinburgh college	338	211	468	688	Increase by 2% per annum
Number of learners engaging in the Adult Education Programme	17,125	13,789	13,200	Not available	12,535 (for 2019/20)

Commitment 32

Double free early learning and childcare provision, providing 1140 hours a year for all 3 and 4 year olds and vulnerable 2 year olds by 2020.

Background

The Scottish Government published '[A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland – Action Plan](#)' in March 2017. Due to the impact of COVID 19, the Scottish Government has revised the implementation date for delivery of 1,140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare. The new date is August 2021.

Key Achievements

The City of Edinburgh Council's Early Years Service started phasing in 1,140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in August 2017. 62% of local authority settings are fully delivering 1,140 hours and 13% are partially delivering 1,140 hours. 88% of partner providers are now providing the increased funded hours to children aged 3-4 years eligible 2 year olds in their settings, enabling approximately 7,000 children and families to benefit from access to the increase funded hours in advance of August

2021, when 1,140 hours will become an entitlement.

Overall feedback from settings involved in phasing in the expansion continues to be positive.

As well as supporting the development and learning needs of the children, parents are reporting the positive impact on family life, household income opportunities for parents and carers to access work and training.

Our workforce development plan to support the delivery of the programme is on schedule with approximately 530 FTE additional staff recruited since planning for the expansion began in 2016.

[A Progress and Risk update](#) was reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in October 2020.

62% (60/96) of Local Authority (LA) settings and 88% (101/114) of partner provider settings provide 1,140 hours.

Approximately 450 eligible 2-year olds had access 1,140 hours at March 2021.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

The Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Plan continues to progress the delivery of expanded provision of 1,140 funded hours and is on track to provide all eligible children with a place from August 2021. Whilst a variety of delivery models will be available for parents across the city e.g. forest kindergarten, childminder, full year or term time settings, parents may need to travel to access their preferred model.

Next steps

Due to COVID-19, the Scottish Government published guidance for early years settings on June 2020. This guidance requires settings to operate at significantly reduced capacity and we are therefore unable to provide 1,140 hours. This has not yet been updated for August 2021. We therefore have a contingency plan in place to ensure sufficient provision is available in areas affected by the reduced capacity this creates.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of Early Years settings providing 1140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare	29%	51%	55%	75%	100% by Aug 2021
% of eligible 2-year olds accessing 1140 hours	12%	26%	75%	80%	100% by Aug 2021

Commitment 33

Make early years' provision more flexible to fit families' needs and provide additional resources to families in difficulty so that no children are educationally disadvantaged when they start formal schooling.

Background

The Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Plan continues to progress the delivery of expanded provision of 1,140 funded hours with increased flexibility being provided through a locality model.

Key Achievements

210 settings provide Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in Edinburgh. Since August 2017 we increased the options for delivering the funded entitlement by bringing 30 childminders into partnership with the local authority and established five forest kindergartens in the city. Approximately 200 children are now able to access their ELC through these approaches.

Flexible options were set out in the [Early Learning and Childcare Strategy](#) reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2017. Flexible options are being delivered through settings providing the expanded 1,140 hours and the existing 600 hours and these are available through term time and full year options.

75% of local authority and 88% of partner settings are providing more than one option of early learning and childcare for parents. Options are

delivered through term time and full year models of delivery.

A variety of delivery models will be available for parents across the city e.g. forest kindergarten, childminder, full year or term time settings, parents may need to travel to access their preferred model.

We have a team of CEC Hanen trainers who are qualified to deliver high quality staff development sessions on Hanen approaches to supporting early language acquisition. We work closely with Hanen trained Speech Therapists to ensure a joined up approach to delivering Hanen across the city.

We target establishments with high levels of SIMD 1 & 2 initially, and we have gradually extended the offer more widely. So far 50 Early Years settings have undertaken Hanen Teacher Talk.

Since August 2018, twenty Senior Early Years Intervention Officers (SEYIOs), funded by the Scottish Government have been working with children and families in establishments with high levels of SIMD 1 & 2. The SEYIOs work with other experienced staff in settings on curriculum development with a particular focus on literacy,

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

numeracy and health and wellbeing through play based approached with identified children. They model good practice and work closely with other the staff to meet the needs of individual children.

In August 2020, ten Early Years teachers were recruited to the central early years team. This teaching team provides targeted support to settings to provide high quality early learning and childcare. The early years teacher team enhance practice by supporting a team ethos and providing opportunities for others to develop.

To do this effectively they manage change sensitively, support, mentor and coach teams and in partnership with Central SLT and Setting SLT, set realistic objectives to improve practice and experiences for children in the setting.

Next steps

We plan to recruit an additional ten Early Years teachers to the central team.

There will be a survey of parents to gather views on the level of flexibility and choice within the models of delivery available to them undertaken.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of Early Years settings providing more than one option of early learning and childcare for parents	45%	64%	64%	75%	100% by Aug 2020
% of Primary 1 pupils living in the most deprived areas achieving expected literacy level	62%	63%	63%	Not available*	Increase by 5% by session 20/21

* no Achievement of Level survey undertaken in 2020

Commitment 34

Prioritise services for vulnerable children and families and looked after children, and support organisations working to end domestic abuse.

Background

We have invested in early intervention and prevention services and works with partners in Health, Police and Third Sector to ensure the needs of vulnerable children and families are met. This includes supporting those affected by domestic abuse.

Key Achievements

We have continued to prioritise these services and there is evidence that earlier intervention and effective multi-agency working is reducing the numbers of children who need to be Looked After or are subject to child protection procedures.

The Corporate Parenting Action Plan was endorsed by full council on 18 February 2021. We have put in place a Champions Board of Looked After and care experienced young people, and we have employed two care experienced participation officers to widen the participation of care experienced children and young people in our corporate parenting planning. This has been a successful approach which has increased the number of Looked After Children who are involved in participation activities.

The number of children in Edinburgh who need to be Looked After, including those accommodated

away from home, has reduced to its lowest in 16 years and the number of children on our Child Protection Register remain at its lowest ever level.

We attribute the positive trends in Looked After and Child Protection numbers to our overall restorative and strengths-based practice approach, placing an emphasis on building positive relationships and doing things with families, not to or for them. This approach operates across our children's services including specialist services such as Family Group Decision Making and Multi Systemic Therapy which have made specific contributions to shifting the balance of care.

We have worked hard on devising alternatives to residential care for young people including the specific challenge of the large number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children arriving in Edinburgh in 2019 and requiring to be looked after. This has included the recruitment of host families and the setting up of shared flats for groups of young people aged over 16 when appropriate.

The Care Experienced Fund has been used to put a number of supports in place including the development of a mentoring scheme for children (MCR pathways) and a targeted approach

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

involving families with Looked After Children whose school attendance is low.

Edinburgh also has a robust inter-agency approach to child protection resulting in effective risk assessment and appropriate planning to address risk.

Our reduced usage of secure accommodation has allowed us to sell part of our residential estate to NHS to create an Equally Safe Multi-Agency Centre which will improve services to child and adult victims of sexual and other assaults and abuse.

Domestic Abuse targets continue to be monitored on a four-weekly basis and actioned when appropriate.

COVID-19 has raised additional concerns over sharing kitchen and bathroom facilities due to differences in hygiene and social interactions.

The Refuge Pathway to allocate spaces and move-on accommodation, to match women's needs and ensure the right support is offered at the right time, is being trialled by Four Square Keymoves.

The Domestic Abuse Housing Policy was approved at Policy and Sustainability Committee on 14 May 2020.

All Domestic Abuse service contracts have been extended again to 31 March 2022 and a procurement exercise to re-tender has begun.

Next steps

A Co-ordinator for Corporate Parenting will be recruited by July 2021 to facilitate the implementation of the Corporate Parenting action plan, support the Participation Officers and contribute to implementation of the Promise across the across the partnership. Child protection services and services for looked after children have continued to operate effectively during COVID-19 lockdown.

We have continued to offer a full social work service both at first point of contact through Social Care Direct and each Locality has a full duty system as usual. There has been no change in the screening and processing of referrals.

Staff engagement with vulnerable children and their families has been a mutual learning process as the phases of lockdown have progressed. For instance, in the early stages, nearly all contact with children and families moved to virtual, and we made a number of investments in ways of supporting this, e.g. use of the Google Duo app and provision of i-pads to families who did not

have the means to participate virtually. We have held Child protection case conferences and Looked After and accommodated care reviews virtually. Some families and young people have found the use of virtual means helpful and have felt this less intimidating than physically attending large meetings.

As things have progressed, we have gradually moved into more direct contact although this has been limited and subject to individual risk assessment in each case and the challenge of limited indoor spaces being available across the City. We have been creative in identifying available indoor spaces in the City, and this has included using Church Halls and Voluntary sector premises. We have on occasions paid for the room hire and this as contributed to the sustainability of these spaces.

We have used spaces in Council Resilience Centres to see vulnerable children and their families as well as facilitating contact for children with their family and providing space for outreach Domestic Abuse services such as Women's Aid to support families affected by Domestic Abuse.

When it has assessed to be necessary to visit the family home in order to assess risk, we have used

personal protective equipment and social distancing.

No member of staff or children or family members have caught COVID-19 in our contacts and this is evidence that our safety protocols have been effective.

As lock down begins to ease, we will manage our contact with children and families in line with the developing situation and government guidance.

The true impact of lockdown on children and families will only become known over time but we do know that domestic abuse concerns have started to increase, and we have responded to these as per our child protection procedures.

We are in a strong position to respond to these as we have strengthened our partnership with the third sector through the formation of Locality Operational Groups which work together to provide the right help in the right way to people who need it. These are overseen by a task force group who then report to the Children's Partnership. This provides a mechanism for emerging issues for our children and families to be fed into our planning forums and for more joined up and coordinated responses to be undertaken.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Rate of Looked After Children per 1,000 population	15.5	14.5	13.6	12.5	Decrease to 15.3 by 2020
Percentage of LAC pupils with low school attendance	30%	31.4%	33.1%	Not available	Decrease by 10% by session 20/21
Funding invested by CEC in domestic abuse services	Collected from 18/19	£1,194,734	£1,194,734	£1,200,341	This funding will continue to provide accommodation and support for a further year.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
No of women and children supported in a year	Collected from 18/19	1,176 women 267 children	871 women 270 children	1,020 women 295 children	Demand for these services continues and organisations strive to engage with as many clients as possible. Short term cases have reduced which means women are being supported for longer.
% of women and children who report feeling safer	Collected from 18/19	68% of women 35% of children	76% of women 53% of children	51% of women 28% of children	Services address many different issues with clients but safety remains a priority

Commitment 35

Improve access to library services and community centres making them more digital, and delivering them in partnership with local communities.

Background

The Library and Information Service plays a vital role providing free access to a range of reading, media, IT and information services to all citizens from babies to the oldest in our communities. Services are delivered in a variety of ways to meet the needs of our customers.

Community centres provide meeting places for a variety of local clubs, classes and public forums, venues for family and children's activities and offices for community projects.

Key Achievements

Community Centres have been supported to reopen for specific essential activities including food security, homelessness, blood donation outdoor and indoor youth work, in line with Scottish Government public health guidance. Regular engagement takes place with Management Committees, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council, Lothian Association of Youth Clubs and Council officers to collaborate on how services can be adapted and renewed.

Downloads of e-books, e-magazines and e-newspapers continued to increase during 2020/21 with over 2.43 million downloads for the year. The pandemic has impacted upon library visits and

loans. Visits to library buildings reduced, from 2.74 million in 2019/20 to 14,820 in 2020/21 as library buildings were forced to closed from 19th March due to COVID-19 lockdown. Six libraries reopened with significantly reduced visitor capacity (less than 10% of normal capacity) on 6th October and a further four libraries reopened on 14th December. All library buildings closed again on 24th December due to new Government Restrictions and have remained closed since. The phased re-opening of libraries will be carried out in line with Scottish Government and public health guidance.

During COVID-19 when library buildings had to close, the 24/7 online and e-services library offer remained available and was promoted to citizens via social and other media – all digital services have seen a significant increase in use. Further investment in digital resources and services is indicated and planned after Edinburgh Libraries received the award from PressReader for Most Newspapers Read Online Worldwide in 2020 (1,905,386 issues from 2,155 unique titles).

Libraries have acted as local authority partner with SCVO in administering Connecting Scotland community programme in Edinburgh. Connecting

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Scotland is a Scottish Government programme set up in response to COVID-19.

It provides iPads, Chromebooks, connectivity and support to develop digital skills for people who are digitally excluded and on low incomes. From April 2020 – Jan 2021, two phases of Connecting Scotland and a related Winter Support Package, have resulted in over 1,000 devices being gifted to individuals in Edinburgh.

Although the ability to respond physically to this year's British Library Living Knowledge Network exhibition was hampered by lockdown, *Unfinished Business* was promoted and supported online and with our digital services e.g. [Capital Collections](#) and [Our Town Stories](#).

Edinburgh Libraries' website was tailored to reflect lockdown with signposting, links and e-resources specifically targeted to reflect home-schooling, activities to do while stuck inside, combatting loneliness and poverty etc.

A bespoke online booking system was developed and implemented to enable Libraries phased re-opening in line with Scottish Government and public health guidelines to help maintain agreed building capacity, safe social distancing and manage potential queues. Up until December 2020, 10 libraries were reopened including 4 in

SIMD areas 1 and 2. Customers could book appointments in advance to browse and borrow resources, use public computers and internet, collect hearing aid batteries and access help with NEC (bus pass) applications and renewals, collect Hey Girls free sanitary products.

Our regular Events programme moved to an online provision across a variety of digital platforms e.g. during Book Week Scotland, Edinburgh Libraries hosted the interactive *Dreams We Dream Of Dreaming* poetry event on Twitter with introduction by renowned poet Michael Pederson; also a targeted City Reads e-book promotion with unlimited downloads of *A Dark Matter* by Edinburgh crime author Doug Johnstone available, which resulted in 863 downloads of the book and hundreds of reservations on other e-book and audiobook titles by Johnstone.

This is triple the number of downloads that we've had in any previous City Read event and is representative of the increase in popularity that we've seen in downloadable usage this year.

In addition, many of the community library book and activity groups have been delivered online e.g. Bookbug Sessions, story-times, craft groups, teen book groups, gardening clubs, family history enquiry service, quiz nights etc.

A partnership with University of Edinburgh enabled delivery of STEM activity for children online with Maths circle activities being held during the latest lockdown, and more planned for March and April 2021.

This year Edinburgh Libraries delivered the annual Summer Reading Challenge for children in

partnership with The Reading Agency solely online due to public health and social distancing restrictions. Participation was lower than in previous years, with some of the loss in participation being attributable to a lack of technology and/or connectivity at home; specifically, a lack of available devices for use by children at home.

The Digital Team adapted the delivery of Get Online digital skills support from 1 to 1, face to face support with a volunteer, to a programme delivered via online platforms and telephone to reflect the necessary closure of buildings and social distancing measures. Libraries continued to support digital inclusion through free access to Wi-Fi while buildings were closed – this provision covers Children's Homes in Edinburgh.

A regular Digital Learning Newsletter has been provided throughout lockdown for all staff to provide information about learning opportunities and encourage colleagues to improve their digital skills and knowledge - both for personal development but also to better equip staff to support library users develop skills for e.g. employability.

The programme to review and refresh the self-service provision in libraries has progressed with the implementation in April 2021 of a self-service module to the existing Solus Library App. This will allow library customers to borrow, return and renew items using their own smart device (phone, tablet) with the Library App installed.

Next steps

A group of library staff volunteers are being recruited to complete the online Learn My Way or SCVO Digital Champions training to enable Edinburgh Libraries digital services team to widen the Get Online digital skills remote support.

A business case for a renewed Library Management System (LMS) has been prepared in conjunction with a proposal to join the Scottish Consortium of Public Libraries which is a collection of 14 Scottish Councils all using the same LMS and exploiting the economies of scale and a professional forum of support, experience and expertise.

A business case has been prepared for a core provision of self-service kiosks to supplement the self-service provision available via Library App. The kiosks provide a more robust service which does not rely upon WiFi or customers having their own smart device and would be required for the development and implementation of Open+ Library technology.

As part of the COVID-19 hardship fund from Scottish Government, Libraries have received funding to progress two projects addressing digital exclusion through gifting of technology: one pilot project working with Library Access Services, WRVS volunteers and Library Link customers to use their devices to engage with reading for pleasure and another working with Get Online customers and Digital Champions to support digital skills and use their devices to help employability and combat poverty.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Digital use – downloads and streaming	461,000	964,120	1.55m	2.57m	1.2m for 2019/20
Total number of library customer transactions	6.96m	6.66m	6.47m*	3.50m	Increase by 5% annually

* includes estimate for part of March 2020

Commitment 36

Support the continued development of Gaelic Medium Education.

Background

We are committed to working in partnership with Gaelic communities, Council staff, organisations who deliver Gaelic services, and importantly, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Government.

Between October and December of 2017, we held consultation with Gaelic communities around the future Gaelic Language Plan and importantly, the priorities for action moving forward.

A review of the quality and quantity of the current provision was undertaken and helped inform the [Gaelic Medium Education Strategic Growth Plan](#) presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee in October 2018.

Key Achievements

School closures and the associated move to digital and blended learning posed a specific set of challenges to our Gaelic Medium Education (GME) teaching teams. This applies to all sectors but is particularly acute for those working with Early Years and Primary aged learners. The vast majority of GME pupils have little or no Gaelic language input beyond school, so staff have had the dual challenges of keeping core learning going and supporting Gaelic language acquisition. Staff have undertaken considerable upskilling in

digital skills to support remote learning. Partnership and accessing national resources to support remote learning have been key to successful teaching and learning during closures. Additional support for vulnerable pupils and those with additional support needs has been enhanced through increased Pupil Support Assistant hours in primary. This has added to support at home and in school. Parents have been supported with Gaelic language by school staff and our Gaelic Youth worker throughout school closures, in order to minimise impact of learning away from school on Gaelic language progression.

Croileagan groups have been run through on-line platforms for the last year. Parents and carers have been surveyed to ensure groups are able to offer the support best suited to current circumstances. This has been used as a period of reflection and review of this provision, with a view to reshaping and expanding the offer over the coming months as part of our general GME expansion project.

Engagement with professional learning has been improved for play leaders through support from the CEC Early Years (EY) team and increased access to opportunities offered by partners such as Storlann, Education Scotland, BnaG and Newbattle Abbey College.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

We have begun to upgrade digital devices and improved access to CEC networks. Survey results show that on-line support has been popular with families. We plan to explore and extend our digital offer next session in order to broaden our reach across new communities. To this end, planning for additional promotion and publicity through CEC websites and library platforms has already begun.

Initial contact has been made with colleagues in Perth and Kinross to share practice, explore possible collaborative projects and expand resources available to families (Bookbug sessions first extension of offer). We plan to extend this into skill sharing and joint Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL).

Work has started to improve alignment of Croileagan curriculum with Oganan and EY at Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce (TnaP) to increase links and support families to engage with language and learning. This work will be taken forward in partnership with TnaP and Oganan. One of our Croileagan Team is employed by Oganan and has responsibility for managing the curriculum, which makes collaborative work in this area easier to manage. Oganan are now a partner provider for EY and work with our nursery at TnaP to offer 1,140 hours provision.

GME Expansion

Although the pandemic has stalled the rate of progress, we have completed an informal consultation process on GME expansion, with particular focus on creating a new setting for secondary GME. Two public engagement events were held for the community to pose questions and make comments on plans for a proposed preferred option to build a dedicated secondary school on a campus collocated with the new Liberton High School, on the existing Liberton site. Information gathered during the consultation process has led to adjustment of proposals to include provision for primary GME on the same site. Updated proposals also include the establishment of two primary units in west and south-east of the city and further EY provision linked with city-wide learning estate expansion. The Outcome Report will be discussed with Gaelic Implementation Group (GIG) members.

Next steps

Recovery and Renewal will be supported by additional PSA hours in the primary and by a shift

in focus for the remit of our Gaelic Youth Development Officer to support transitions and language progression P6 – S2. The officer will move to a new base at James Gillespie’s HS.

Professional Development: We will work with teaching staff to reinvigorate our collegiate model of professional development provision, particularly in Gaelic language. Support for newly qualified, student and aspiring GME teachers will continue through a blend of local and national provision as part of workforce planning across sectors and curriculum expansion for secondary pupils.

Expansion of Provision: The next step will be to proceed to Statutory Consultation and take forward development planning through Learner-led Consultation, in-line with the Edinburgh Learns for Life city-wide strategy. The Edinburgh Gaelic Learning Strategy steering group will guide this work. Officers will work with a newly constituted Scottish Government network of LAs currently focussing on best practice in the development of secondary GME provision.

In preparation for secondary expansion, EY provision will be promoted and increased as an option for families across the city. The expansion of Croileagan groups will be the first step.

Cultural Activities/Promotion of GME in Edinburgh: Despite the limitation imposed by lockdown, the Corporate Gaelic Development Officer has maintained a programme of Gaelic language classes and cultural activity, in collaboration with a growing number of partners. Plans for the coming year are to strengthen and build on partnership work to reinforce the Capital Gaelic brand, providing a growing range of opportunities for engagement with Gaelic across communities and raising the profile of Gaelic activity in the city. This work will support strategy for the promotion of GME as an option for families.

Finance: GME in Edinburgh is partially funded through Scottish Government Specific Grant, and partly through CEC budget. Risk of fragile funding streams may be a factor.

Key measures	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of pupils on the rolls of Primary and Secondary GME	306 Primary 88 Secondary	348 Primary 108 Secondary	376 Primary 107 Secondary	419 Primary 124 Secondary	461 Primary 136 Secondary	Increasing trend
Number of staff trained to deliver Gaelic Learner Education as part of the strategy on 'One plus Two' Languages	12	13	13	15	16	Increasing trend

Commitment 37

Continue to integrate Health and Social Care Services. Review the Integration Joint Board's approach to support at home by 2018. Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) was set up in 2016 to lead integrated health and social care services in line with the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. The EIJB directs us and NHS Lothian on how to deliver services through a partnership model.

The partnership for Edinburgh is called the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP). The EIJB Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2022 details how integrated health and social care services will be developed and delivered.

Key Achievements

The EIJB's Transformation Programme set out a number of projects that would change the way people were supported in their own homes by the EHSCP.

Reflecting the impact of COVID-19 the IJB meeting on [21 July 2020](#) approved a rescheduled Transformation Programme, organised around the Three Conversations approach.

The roll-out of Three Conversations is in its second year, with more innovation sites engaging with people in this way. This approach has reduced the time people wait to see a worker to 2.5 days (compared to 37.3 days for other sites in the same period) and identified supports that can be put in place to enable independence within the community with less need for formal support.

In response to COVID-19, the Home First programme has accelerated over the last year to best improve how people can be supported at home instead of in hospital. A focus on Discharge to Assess and the utilisation of 'Safe Haven' beds meant that fewer people were delayed in hospital and have been able to move home, or if their needs require it, move to a care home.

The EIJB have engaged with the public and key stakeholders throughout 2020-21 to define the 'Edinburgh Pact', a reimagining of the relationship between the citizens of Edinburgh and the Health and Social Care Partnership.

Next Steps

Over 2021-22 the Three Conversation approach will be scaled up and the 'Edinburgh Pact' will be finalised and embedded through community mobilisation and other transformation projects.

Work is also underway on refreshing the Strategic Plan for the period beyond 2022 to reflect evolving priorities as we seek to maximise positive outcomes from integration.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of adults receiving personal care in the community setting (out of all adults receiving this support in a community, residential or hospital setting) (<i>as end March</i>)	57%	57%	57%	60%	60% by Apr 2019
Late discharge from hospital (<i>as end March</i>)	291	150	136	122	Decreasing trend*
Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that their health and care services seemed to be well co-ordinated (every 2 years)	67%	every 2 years	63%**	every 2 years	Scotland's average for 19/20 is 62%. Aim to be above the national average.

* Data used revised to align with Public Health Scotland publication.

** Due to changes in methodology figures for 2017/18 and 2019/20 are not directly comparable. Public Health Scotland are working on methodology to allow comparison so these figures may differ in later publications.

Commitment 38

Take steps to increase the length and flexibility of care visits and increase the availability of care to help people live in their own homes.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) directs us and NHS Lothian on how to deliver services through a partnership model. The partnership for Edinburgh is called the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP). The EIJB is committed to providing services which support people to live at home, in their own community, for as long as possible. In line with the EIJB Strategic Plan 2019-2022, many of the projects in the Partnership's Transformation Programme are focused on changing the way people are supported in their own homes, including the Three Conversations approach and Home First programme.

Key Achievements

Despite COVID-19 affecting volume of care, care at home continued to be delivered during the year to everyone who required support. The number of people waiting for a package of care in their own home followed a downward trend in 2020/21. Although some of this reduction will be from constrained demand due to COVID-19, capacity continues to increase with combined provision of internal and externally commissioned care at home expected to be 115,000 hours per week once full services are resumed. This excludes

provision arranged by Direct Payments and Individual Service Funds.

The provision of care at home is complex and demand for these services continues to increase so work is continuing to improve availability. The initial roll out of the Three Conversations approach has impacted wait time, with the average time to speak to a worker reduced to 2.5 days compared with an average of 37.3 days for those working in the traditional assessment model. This approach continues to be scaled up and rolled out across our services.

As part of the Home Based Care project in the Transformation Programme, EHSCP are engaging with stakeholders about what should underpin the new Care at Home contract to support a 'One Edinburgh' approach. 'One Edinburgh' is the design of a city-wide approach to homecare with the vision to maximise all available care at home and community care capacity and to work together in a collaborative way to ensure the right care is provided, at the right time and in the right place.

While many services were disrupted by COVID-19, new and adapted services allowed quality support to continue to be provided. Over 46,000 outbound calls were made through the partnership's ATEC24 (Assistive Technology

Enabled Care) service and to those with dementia. These calls provided an opportunity to check on individuals' wellbeing, provide companionship and offer advice and support on coping with lockdown. ATEC24 also established a 'click and collect' service for equipment to supplement the existing delivery service, with over 116,000 essential items provided across Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian in 2020. An estimated 66,000 of these were provided to Edinburgh residents.

As part of the Home Based Care project in the Transformation Programme, EHSCP are engaging with stakeholders about what should underpin the new Care at Home contract to support a 'One Edinburgh' approach. 'One Edinburgh' is the design of a city-wide approach to homecare with the vision to maximise all available care at home and community care capacity and to work together in a collaborative way to ensure the right care is provided, at the right time and in the right place.

Next Steps

The EHSCP will continue to engage with providers as the Home First and Hospital at Home programmes are embedded and with wider stakeholders in the development of the new Care at Home contract, which is expected to be implemented in summer 2022. Through

coproduction of the 'One Edinburgh' approach, we can highlight opportunities to deliver care

differently, and in a way that empowers, promotes flexibility and choice for individuals who require

care and better support carers, families and our partner providers.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of adults receiving personal care in the community setting (out of all adults receiving this support in a community, residential or hospital setting) <i>(as end March)</i>	57%	57%	57%	60%	60% by Apr 2019
Number of people waiting for a package of care <i>(as end March)</i>	988	480	636	408	Decreasing trend
Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that they are supported to live as independently as possible <i>(every 2 years)</i>	79%	every 2 years	68%*	every 2 years	Scotland's average for 2019/20 is 70%. Aim to be above the national average

* Due to changes in methodology figures for 2017/18 and 2019/20 are not directly comparable. Public Health Scotland are working on methodology to allow comparison so these figures may differ in later publications.

Commitment 39

Put exercise at the heart of our health strategy by increasing access to sport and leisure facilities.

Background

We are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our citizens.

Key Achievements

A key component of [Edinburgh Learns](#) published in October 2018 is the Health and Wellbeing framework which details practice that should be visible in all our schools and centres, to ensure health and wellbeing across learning.

In 2019/20 the Active Schools Programme provided 53 different activities for pupils to participate in regularly, created 121 links between schools and clubs, and provided 860 people with the opportunity to deliver on the programme.

Physical Activity and Sport Strategy: Further to the interim report presented to Culture and Communities Committee in March 2019, work was progressed in specific areas: to support people with a disability to participate in sport, to increase female participation in sport and to improve accessibility to facilities. An annual action plan was produced to progress this work. Targeted work was delivered in Craigmyle High School to improve community use of the facilities, and at Brunstane Primary School to aid pupil transition to Portobello High School.

We support sports clubs and community organisations through long term leases of Council owned sports facilities. Currently, over 40 organisations benefit from these arrangements.

Working with Edinburgh Leisure is critical to success in reaching individuals and communities that need support to be active and improve their health and wellbeing. Edinburgh Leisure are involved in our Community Learning & Development Strategic Partnership and are members of Edinburgh Children's Partnership. Edinburgh Leisure has over four million visits by customers per annum to its facilities. Edinburgh Leisure has taken on the management responsibility for community use of secondary schools.

The Active Communities Team in Edinburgh Leisure continue to provide a range of targeted programmes that help remove barriers to participation, for example the Looked After & Active project supported Care Experienced Children to get active and healthy.

The Positive Destinations and Young ambassadors' projects have offered educational, employment, volunteering and personal

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

development opportunities to over 300 young people.

Next steps

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated national guidance, including the closure of schools and Edinburgh Leisure sites, there has been and will be a significant impact on planned activity. With sites closed, it has not been possible to deliver planned work. This will be reflected in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 performance towards this commitment.

Service Teams will continue to show flexibility and adaptability to promote and secure sport, physical activity and outdoor learning at home and in keyworker and vulnerable persons hubs.

Whilst always reinforcing the Scottish Government's key messages to control COVID-19, we will continue to promote activities that connect the reader with nature, through bringing the outdoors inside and promoting activities that can be done during visits outdoors.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Target
Attendance at sport and leisure facilities (Edinburgh Leisure)	4,471,704	4,338,251	4,147,842*	4,393,000
Number of young people participating in sport, physical activity and outdoor learning (includes Active Schools Programme)	24,086	27,015	28,971	25,800 (18/19)

* March 2020 impacted by COVID-19

Commitment 40

Work with the Integration Joint Board (NHS & Council Social Care) and other agencies to prioritise early intervention and prevention in mental health services.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Thrive Edinburgh is the mental health stream of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) Strategic Plan. The Thrive Edinburgh Commissioning Plan has six work streams to reduce the toll of mental illness and promote and protect mental health, resilience, self-esteem, family strength, and joy.

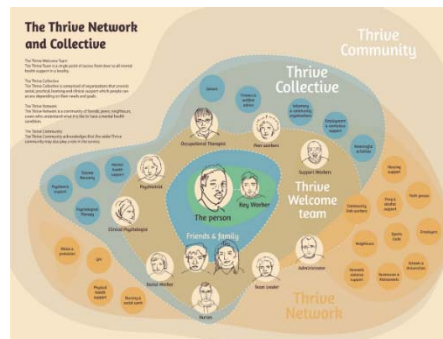
Key Achievements

Change the Conversation; Change the Culture: We launched the *i-Thrive* website in October 2020 and have circulated 25 issues of Thrive News Bulletin to circa 800 organisations and people. “Thrive on Thursday Dialogue” sessions have explored new and emerging issues and opportunities. An MSc in Mad Studies, the first in the world for people with lived experience of mental health problems, launched at Queen Margaret University in the autumn of 2020.

Partnering with Communities: We held the Thrive Fest #1 online arts festival in partnership with sister cities for World Mental Health Day on 10th October and developed an action plan to progress Rights in Mind workstream and worked with Universities and Colleges to strengthen care

pathways. The Out of Sight, Out of Mind artwork exhibition went live and online.

Act Early: We initiated a redesign of Urgent Care and prototyped Thrive Welcome Teams, which are integrated public and 3rd sector teams in four localities. We commissioned new Thrive Collective Services with an annual value of £2.8m.



Using data and evidence to drive change: We launched the Thrive Exchange Community of Practice in June 2020 and continued with partnership PhDs and Peer Review Publications.

COVID-19 Response: As part of our COVID-19 response we provided weekly e-bulletins with

information on services and supports and hints and tips during lockdown and with our Network Rail colleagues delivered over 1,800 “Bags of Thrive” delivered to people of all ages.

Next Steps

Change the Conversation; Change the Culture: Thrive Conference #2 will be held in May 2021, the programme of “Thrive on Thursday” Dialogues will be continued and Thrive book and film clubs will be introduced in 2020/21.

Act Early: We will progress with redesign of Urgent Care, move to open access with the Thrive Welcome Teams and develop Edinburgh-wide proposal for improving access to psychological therapies and to reduce people’s wait for support.

Using data and evidence to drive change: In partnership with the Data-Driven Innovation Hub at the Usher Institute at the University of Edinburgh we will define standard datasets for 3rd sector to be included in the Dataloch.

Partnering with Communities: We will progress Thrive Line, including roll out of training for staff in places and spaces for wellbeing, working with communities of interest

Commitment 41

Review the application process and increase the budget for housing adaptations with a view to supporting more disabled tenants and owners to remain in their own homes. Help older and disabled homeowners to move to more suitable housing should they wish to do so.

Background

As set out in the [Strategic Housing Investment Plan \(SHIP\) 2021-2026](#), the majority of new build properties funded through the Affordable Housing Supply Programme are designed to meet the housing for varying needs standard, which requires they are accessible or easily adapted to be accessible. The Scottish Government have committed to reviewing the guidance on housing for varying needs.

Around 13% of the homes approved in the first two years of the SHIP are specifically designed for older people and those with complex needs. These include amenity homes, supported housing, fully wheelchair accessible homes and homes for veterans.

Key Achievements

In 2019/20, over £2 million was spent on adaptations to council homes, private homes and registered social landlord homes. Fewer adaptations were carried out in 2020/21 due to

COVID-19 restrictions. Adaptations to Council homes are funded from the HRA and grant funding is available from the Affordable Housing Supply Programme to support RSLs to meet the cost of adaptations. Grant to support private sector adaptations is funded from the General Fund and is administered through the Place directorate.

In August 2019, the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board approved its Strategic Plan 2019-22. It is a statutory requirement for IJB strategic plans to have a Housing Contribution Statement.

The Housing Contribution Statement reinforces the commitment from the affordable housing sector to ensure new affordable homes planned in the city over the next 10 years will support health and social care priorities.

Housing and health and social care partners are working together to identify sites which are suitable to support housing for people with more complex needs, both within the Council's new

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

build programme and the new build programmes of RSL partners.

Next Steps

The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) Transformation Programme workstream on housing/infrastructure will be progressed. This workstream also includes a review of adaptations. Progress was delayed in 2020/21 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Housing Service has commissioned an Accessible Housing Study to estimate the current and future requirements for adapted and accessible housing. The study will include engagement and consultation with partners, stakeholders and service users to help assess the extent and nature of unmet requirements for accessible housing. This will inform the Council's SHIP and will feed into the EHSCP Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Commitment 42

Build a new sports centre at Meadowbank by 2021.

Background

This is a major place-making project and is expected to bring opportunities to the area.

The project will see a new state-of-the-art community sports facility built on the site of the original Meadowbank, which closed in December 2017.

It is hoped the accessible new venue will become one of the top centres for community sport in the country, helping to support accessible participation in sport and physical activity for all ages and abilities for generations to come.

Key Achievements

Following public consultation, planning applications for the site were considered and approved at the Development Management Sub-Committee on 29

June 2018. [An update](#) on the position of the funding package for the new stadium was presented to the Finance and Resources Committee on 11 October 2018. Approval was also given to award the contract for the construction of the new stadium and with planning permission secured. Graham Construction Ltd was appointed as the main contractor for the new sports centre.

Ground work commenced in November 2018 with the last section of the Main Stand (nearest London Road) taken down on Sunday 10 February 2019.

Tree removal took place in February and we are committed to replanting more trees within the wider site, to outnumber those removed.

Foundation works for the new Sports Centre commenced in March 2019.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Pre COVID-19 the community sports facility project was on target for a November 2020 construction completion and a January 2021 opening of the sports centre. However, this has been delayed due to COVID-19 and the new facility is now expected to complete construction in late 2021.

Next steps

Work continues with Edinburgh Leisure to coordinate the fit out and reopening, which will follow once construction is complete. This has been delayed due to COVID-19 and subsequent labour and materials shortages. The expectation is that the new facility will open by the end of 2021/22, at which point this commitment will move to fully achieved.

Commitment 43

Continue to upgrade our existing parks and plant an additional 1,000 trees in communities. Protect major recreational areas such as the Meadows, Leith Links and Princes Street Gardens.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The park maintenance programme sets out the improvement work required to maintain our parks. Protection of the parks is established through the [Open Space Strategy 2021](#). The parks are assessed through annual Park Quality Assessments (PQAs).

The [Edinburgh Parks Events Manifesto](#) provides a strategic and proactive approach to the planning and managing of events within our parks and greenspaces.

Key Achievements

Parks Quality Assessments were suspended for Summer 2020 due to COVID-19 control measures being introduced. Of the 141 parks quality assessed in 2019, 2,091 issues/recommendations were identified. From these, judges highlighted three “recommendations” from each park that should be implemented. With regards to the recommendations, when comparing the 2018 PQA criterion scores against the 2019, 122

scores improved, 213 remained the same and 76 dropped.

Green Flag Award assessments by Keep Scotland Beautiful did take place in 2020, Saughton Park and St Katharine’s Park achieved a Green Flag Award as first time applicants bringing the total number of Green Flag Award parks in Edinburgh to 34 (there are a total of 77 awards across Scotland). Corstorphine Walled Garden also successfully retained its Green Flag Community Award.

A new, more challenging, Parks Quality Standard (PQA) was set in 2018. In 2019, 124 of the 141 parks assessed met the new Edinburgh Minimum Standard. This was an increase of 8 parks from 2018.

Our ability to plant trees was impacted by COVID-19. Since 2017, 39,966 trees have been planted, including 5,301 during 2019/20, significantly surpassing the commitment to plant an additional

1,000 trees. The 2019/20 trees comprise 244 replacements and 5,057 new plantings.

We are leading a project to increase tree cover to help Edinburgh fulfil its Climate Emergency commitments and become a Million Tree City by 2030. To achieve this, some 250,000 trees will need to be planted over the next decade across a wide range of public and private land.

Next Steps

A Green Flag Group Award Peer Review will take place later in 2021.

Further tree planting is planned for Autumn/Winter 2020/21, with a continued focus on replanting street tree gaps and implementation of the Edinburgh Million Tree Initiative.

The Sustainable Capital Budget 2021-31, which was agreed in February 2021, includes nearly £4M for investment in our parks and green spaces over the 10 year period.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Green flag status	30	32	32	34	32
New Parks Quality Assessment standard	76%	84%	88%	Not carried out in 2020	92%

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of additional trees planted	11,800	19,865	5,301	Tree planting suspended in 2020	Additional 1,000 by 2022
Number of events held in major parks	29 large events in total, 28 in Premier Parks	35 large events in total, 31 in Premier Parks	30 large events in total, 26 in Premier Parks	No events held	Hold number of events to maximum permitted (36 across 9 Parks)

Commitment 44

Increase allotment provision and support and expand the network and the number of community gardens and food growing initiatives.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Our third strategy 'Cultivating Communities - A Growing Success' establishes a 10-year strategic framework for allotment development in Edinburgh that supports the requirements placed upon us by part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Four key objectives are defined within the strategy:

- ensure adequate provision of allotments
- develop a robust management system for allotment
- improve the allotment customer experience
- adoption of revised allotment regulations.

Key Achievements

[A report updating on allotment and food growing provision](#) was reported to the Culture and

Communities Committee on 26 March 2019. The report detailed the measures to increase allotment provision and expand the number of community gardens.

[A report to the Culture and Communities Committee of 28 January 2020](#) detailed draft allotment regulations, to be taken forward for public consultation.

A privately-operated allotment has been established at Lethem Park adding a further 78 allotment plots to the city's stock and a new allotment site at Piershill Square East has been opened with 9 plots. The number of sites and plots has increased in the last 4 years however figures show that the waiting list for allotment spaces has also increased significantly. This is likely to be for a number of reasons, including increased demand brought about by the stay at home regulations.

Next Steps

A final draft of replacement allotment regulations is to be considered by the Federation of Edinburgh and District Allotments and Gardens Association. It is anticipated the regulations will be reported to Council in 2021/22. A developer funded allotment at Newcraighall, with 20 plots, is due to be transferred to the Council and will be operational in 2021. Two biodiversity areas are to be developed at Baronscourt and Stenhouse Allotments and water harvesting to be trialled at Victoria Park Allotment. Areas of ground at Lismore Playing Field, Clerwood Walled Garden, Gypsy Brae, Fernieside Recreation Ground and Little France Park are being considered for allotment development. Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust will encourage groups to form to support this change.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of allotment plots	1,815 plots across 44 sites	1,833 plots across 44 sites	1,913 plots across 45 sites	1,924 plots across 46 sites	Increasing long term trend
Reductions in waiting lists	2,814 people on the waiting list	1,389 people on the waiting list (April 19)	2,310 people on the waiting list (March 20)	4,285 people on the waiting list (February 21)	Decreasing long term trend

Commitment 45

Establish a Child Poverty Action Unit to address the inequalities faced by children in poverty in our city. Its remit will look at food security and nutrition, tackle food poverty and holiday hunger and enhance nutrition in schools. Ensure that a Poverty Assessment section features in all Council reports.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Edinburgh is well recognised as an affluent and a growing city, however, is also a city with wide levels of inequality and home to some of the most deprived communities in Scotland. An estimated 22% of Edinburgh children grow up in poverty, with rates as high as 35% in some areas of the city.

Under the [Child Poverty \(Scotland\) Act](#), Local Government and Health Boards have a duty to publish an annual report describing existing and new planned actions, or measures taken, to reduce and mitigate the effects of Child Poverty.

Key Achievements

A review of the councils' report template was carried out in 2019. The review resulted in a reduction of the number of individual sections within the template. However, it strengthened the requirement for all council decisions to be made after due regard is given to several legislative requirements as part of an Integrated Impact Assessment. This includes identifying any impacts relating to poverty.

[Agreement for the creation of a Child Poverty Action Unit](#) was given at the Culture and Communities Committee on 11 September 2018.

The unit, now called the **Child Poverty Group (CPG)**, is a partnership group. This group has:

- built on existing partnerships and reporting arrangements to co-ordinate Council action to address Child Poverty in Edinburgh,
- identified Council leads for the development and publication of annual Local Child Poverty Action Reports (first published in June 2019, second published in December 2020),
- identified a point of liaison with the Edinburgh Poverty Commission on issues and actions relating to Child Poverty.
- Developed a Delivery Plan in response to the Poverty Commission Recommendations
- Developed 1 in 5 and Discover as key responses to tackling child poverty
- Continues to identify actions across Schools and Lifelong Learning and provides an update in the Business Bulletin to each Education Children and Families

The dissolution of the Strategic Outcome (SO) Groups resulted in SO4 being re-configured as the **Child Poverty Group** with the membership revised and widened. This Group links with the Edinburgh Poverty Commission and is responsible for co-ordinating Council and partner actions to

reduce child poverty. It also has oversight of and responsibility for writing the annual Local Child Poverty Action Report (LCPAR).

As one of the three 'Bs' (strategic priorities in the new Children's Services Plan), the Bridging the Gap group is developing income maximisation and employability actions for BAME families and families affected by disability. This group will link closely with the CPG as well as reporting to the Children's Partnership.

In Edinburgh, actions are underway to address Child Poverty and several key projects and initiatives that aim to increase awareness, reduce poverty related stigma, tackle the attainment gap and reduce school and holiday food and financial anxiety are further developing. These include the '1 in 5 Project', 'Discover!' and Maximise! Actions related to employability and supporting families living in poverty continue to be developed. Child poverty work in Edinburgh will be framed within the context of children's rights, given the anticipated incorporation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots Law in 2021.

The Child Poverty Group continues to make key links with other groups and the links into the

Edinburgh Poverty Commission
Recommendations and Delivery Plan.

The Edinburgh Children's Partnership provides oversight of co-ordinated actions and signs off the LCPAR each year.

The Child Poverty Group's work closely aligned with the Adaptation and Renewal Workstreams and in particular with the Life Chances and Poverty and Prevention workstreams.

Commitment 46

Continue to support the city’s major festivals which generate jobs and boost local businesses and increase the funding for local festivals and events. Support the creation of further work spaces for artists and craftspeople.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

The recommended core programme of Festivals and Events 2021/22 was reported to the Culture and Communities Committee in January 2021. The report describes the approach to continue to support and partner events important to the retention of the city’s reputation and events activity. The COVID-19 crisis inevitably impacts on plans, and as far as feasible they are reviewed and re-scheduled. Revenue grants have been released to festivals and repurposing towards mitigation measures agreed by the Culture and Communities Committee in March 2021.

Key Achievements

Funding commitments have been maintained for the Council’s Cultural Strategic Partners fulfilling a vital collaborative role in the retention of the city’s cultural infrastructure and talent. Related activity which can be implemented under COVID-19 restrictions ensures clear focus on opportunities for residents who are practitioners, artists and participants. Project Funding programmes have also been retained.

A well-received small grants fund to support creative practitioners’ practice was established in partnership with, and administered by, Creative Edinburgh and EPAD (Edinburgh Performing Arts Development). This has also provided first-time contact between creative freelancers and the Council on which to build.

The festivals partnership project, PLACE, with the Scottish Government and the Council, has also been maintained for a 4th year and this ensured the continuation of related festivals community, practitioner skills development and programming activity in the city.

The major public consultation exercise to explore options for Christmas and Hogmanay activity going forward was implemented for completion in May 2021.

The partnership project, led by the Council, for lighting the Granton Gasometer will be completed creating an extraordinary and very visible night-time landmark for the area, and the city. It is expected to launch Spring 2021.

Following the success of the first two years of the new multi-cultural event, it will be re-procured, and

a programme of citywide community events take place again in 2021/22.

The Diversity Officer, working to create positive partnerships, networks and permeability across sectors for ethnically diverse artists and practitioners, has established a positive programme of professional development, funding, board memberships and networks, and including the Diversity and Inclusion Fund 2020/21.

A number of projects are underway to increase the number of work spaces for artists and craftspeople. These include the soon to be refurbished Granton station, the Powderhall Stable Block and 20 West Shore Road in Granton which has just recently been let to Edinburgh Palette. During the COVID-19 pandemic business support in the form of rental assistance has been provided to tenants to help maintain their businesses.

Next Steps

Preservation of funding and infrastructure to support the retention and recovery of the sector is currently fundamental to the work of the Cultural Strategy Service. Collaborative work with community arts venues will further develop during 2021/22.

Commitment 47

Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	✓
Will not be achieved	

Background

Building on our earlier local commitment, a Scotland-wide agreement between the Scottish Government and COSLA will see local authorities working towards allocating 1% of their externally provided funding (around £8m in the Council's case) by means of participatory budgeting (PB) by April 2021. While reiterating the joint commitment to the underlying principles of PB in empowering local communities and recognising its key role in sustainable recovery, these timescales are currently being reviewed at national level due to necessary reprioritisation of activity during the COVID-19 pandemic and continuing public health restrictions.

Key Achievements

A PB Officers' Group has been established. The group has developed a framework for considering

PB options across the Council's activity and has looked at mainstream, grant and commissioning budget opportunities, comprehensively reviewing the Council budget. The approach taken focuses on discrete elements of existing budgets that may naturally lend themselves to PB.

Council officers are now undertaking work to detail proposals to implement PB in a number of service areas. This includes definition of the scope and scale, identification of the specific budget source and level of budget applicable. These areas include Parks, Active Travel, Pupil Equity Fund, Early Years and the Neighbourhood Environment Programme, Roads and Housing Revenue Account. This work was of necessity paused due to the pandemic but has recently resumed.

As in previous years, Leith Chooses continued during 2020/21 allowing people to vote for projects to receive Community Grant funding in North East

Edinburgh. This year's themes focused on food poverty and/or reduce isolation/ensure connectedness in Leith.

Next Steps

Meetings have been held and the commitment of all services secured with proposals on the nature and financial aspects of the programme now being produced by services. Once completed, a report on proposed opportunities will be brought to the Corporate Leadership Team for consideration and thereafter to the Finance and Resources and Culture and Communities Committees later in the year for approval, at which point a detailed programme of activity and the associated timescales for meeting the 1% target will be confirmed. This programme will also take account of the findings of a joint Scotland-wide assessment of progress to date by the Scottish Government and COSLA.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of annual discretionary budget allocated through participatory budgeting	0.03%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	1%

Commitment 48

Continue to make a case to the Scottish Government for the introduction of a Transient Visitor Levy and explore the possibility of introducing more flexibility in the application of business rates. Explore the possibility of introducing a workplace parking levy.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Transient Visitor Levy

Background

Tourism is an important sector to Edinburgh, employing tens of thousands of local people and supporting many other jobs indirectly. The city needs to raise long term secure income to invest sustainability in Edinburgh's offer and manage the impact of a successful tourist economy.

Key Achievements

We led the national debate on the introduction of a Transient Visitor Levy (TVL) and consulted on the shape of a local scheme in Edinburgh with key stakeholders and residents. This included:

- Reporting the public consultation results and the City of Edinburgh Council's submission to Scottish Government's national conversation on a Visitor levy in Scotland.
- Continued engagement with public bodies including the Scottish Government on the development of a Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill.
- Reporting the submission to the Scottish Government pre-legislative consultation on a Visitor Levy in November 2019.

- the Scottish Government published consultation results on the Principles of a Local Discretionary Transient Visitor Levy or Tourist Tax on 27 March 2020

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the Scottish Government agreed in March 2020 that they would pause work on bringing the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill to the Scottish Parliament.

Next Steps

We will implement the TVL in Edinburgh once the detail of the legislation is known and the powers are in place. We are continuing to work on the detail of implementation and importantly on how the TVL will be used to benefit the city, its tourism economy and the residents.

Workplace Parking Levy

Background

A Workplace Parking Levy (WPL) will raise additional income and is one of many tools which can make a positive impact on congestion, air quality and public health.

Key Achievements

An amendment to the Transport (Scotland) Bill granting enabling powers to Councils over a WPL scheme was added and agreed to with the Bill becoming the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019.

An Edinburgh workplace parking survey that was completed at the end of 2019/20. Results were reported to Committee in November 2020. This will inform future work related to the further consideration of a WPL in Edinburgh.

Next Steps

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the regulations and guidance supporting the WPL scheme was delayed. We will consult with businesses and citizens ahead of regulation and guidance being completed. Council Officers are members of the Scottish Government WPL working groups informing the development of these regulations. We will continue to advance the work of the WPL in partnership with business and other key stakeholders.

Commitment 49

Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	✓

Background

In 2018/19 and 2019/20, the Council approved annual Council Tax increases of 3%. Following changes first introduced in 2019/20 allowing councils to increase rates by up to 3% in real (i.e. inflation-adjusted) terms, the approved budget for 2020/21 then included a 4.79% increase in Council Tax to maximise the level of investment available to support delivery of a number of priority outcomes, including investment in the Wave Four schools programme.

Key Achievements

The Council used compensatory funding provided by the Scottish Government in 2021/22 [to freeze Council Tax rates at 2020/21 levels](#), resulting in an average 2.7% annual increase over the period from 2018/19 to 2021/22.

Next Steps

While an indicative increase of 3% has been assumed for 2022/23, this assumption will be kept under active review, taking into account the longer-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
% Council Tax increase approved by Council	3%	3%	4.79%	0%	At this stage, an indicative 3% increase has been assumed for 2022/23.

Commitment 50

Continue a policy of no compulsory redundancies and keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision.

Status

Fully achieved	✓
Partially achieved	
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

We have agreed to retain a policy of no compulsory redundancies during this administration and to deliver our services using in-house resources.

Key Achievements

Our commitment of no compulsory redundancy remains in place and is fully adhered to by all service areas.

To support the achievement of necessary savings and the redesign of services, we continue to offer appropriate voluntary severance arrangements and redeployment support to its employees. The policy in respect of a presumption of in-house service provision continues to be carefully

monitored through the politically led budget setting process.

Next Steps

To continue to apply this commitment and ensure that this is embedded in the Adaptation and Recovery Programme, any organisational reviews and business cases that are developed in respect of future service delivery models that we need to consider.

Commitment 51

Improve community safety by protecting local policing and empowering communities to tackle long term safety issues and hate crime in all its forms including supporting restorative justice initiatives and other projects.

Background

Transformation programme saw the creation of the Family and Household Support service in 2017 whose function was to develop and deliver early and effective interventions based on the principles of the Christie Commission. This complements the continued provision of high quality, innovative criminal justice services, working towards reducing reoffending rates in the city.

Key Achievements

The Community Safety Partnership continues to oversee Edinburgh’s approach to community safety and reducing reoffending and a range of key activities have been progressed including:

- the work of the citywide multi-agency Bonfire Community Improvement Partnership which facilitates extensive planning and preparatory activities to keep communities safe in the lead up to and during ‘bonfire night’. Diversionary activities for young people, dedicated staff patrols in hotspot areas, clear up operations, educational input across Edinburgh schools, and a co-ordinated social media campaign on the potential dangers posed by bonfires and fireworks all contributed to supporting safe communities during the 2020 celebrations,

and in the absence of organised displays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Intervention work to prevent homelessness on release from prison through provision of housing support at the earliest opportunity to people serving custodial sentences, thus ensuring people have a place to stay on release from prison.
- Restorative justice (RJ) which is offered to adults on statutory supervision who have been convicted of a hate crime, and the victim of that offence (or a representative). Justice services aims to extend the availability of RJ to victims of harm (or a representative) caused by children and young people. This supports the Scottish Government’s commitment to have RJ services widely available across Scotland by 2023. We have also undertaken a large scale roll out of RJ approaches training to relevant staff.
- despite restrictions resulting from COVID 19 work has progressed to deliver Edinburgh’s three year Joint Community Safety Strategy that was launched in April 2020. In some instances, the pandemic has created new learning and reshaping of the direction of travel exposing further opportunities under the three priority themes.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Members of each priority area have developed a variety of recommendations including taking forward further supportive research.

Under the Digital and Online theme, it has been recognised that there is a need for digital safety information for those people who have learning disabilities.

Under the Noise and Antisocial Behaviour theme, the Mediation Service has been further imbedded under Family and Household Support adapting its primary face to face practices to include both telephone and digital mediation; providing a more accessible service.

In relation to Young People and Offending, consultation and awareness raising of the Stronger Edinburgh model has been progressed.

Next Steps

Services to support safer communities and reduce offending will continue to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of individuals and communities. COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have presented opportunities to further develop innovative and resilient community safety and justice services and hastened the establishment of more flexible service delivery, responding to

the need to maintain social distancing while ensuring people have access to the support and protection they require. Finding suitable ways to engage with people for example through increased use of technology where this is preferred, will continue as restrictions are eased.

Actions under the Joint Community Safety Strategy will continue to be progressed.

Digital and Online theme members will work closely with the Voluntary Sector to develop tools over the next two years that will purely focus on supporting online safety for those with learning disabilities.

In relation to Young People and Offending, the Stronger Edinburgh model will be rolled out across the whole city beginning with the young person's group. Contextual Safeguarding and its application in ASB practice continues to be explored and developed, complementing the Stronger Edinburgh methodology, bringing key stakeholders including communities together to safeguard and promote the welfare of young people.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Percentage of criminal justice orders successfully completed	65.3%	63.6%	65.4%	77.8%	65%
Number of antisocial behaviour complaints per 10k population	33.0	32.01	29.86	32.56	30.0
Reoffending rates	25.6	Data will not be available until June 2021			Scotland's average for 15/16 is 27%, aim to be below the national level

Commitment 52

Devolve local decisions to four Locality Committees. Establish the membership of each Committee and how devolved decision making will work to encourage the maximum participation for local groups. Explore the effectiveness of community councils and how they can be enhanced to represent their local communities.

Status

Fully achieved	
Partially achieved	✓
Not yet partially or fully achieved	
Will not be achieved	

Background

Locality Committees have been established and held their first meetings in February 2018. Each committee has looked at the different circumstances in each locality to decide how they can best engage with local groups.

Following a review of their first year, [the Council on 7 February 2019](#) decided to dissolve the committees.

Key Achievements

Following a review of their first year, the Council decided to dissolve the locality committees. As an alternative to locality committees, Council agreed to explore increased partnership working at a more localised level through using Neighbourhood Networks which will have greater representation from community groups including community councils. Four new Locality Community Planning

Partnerships have also been set up to lead on delivering the locality improvement plans which aim to improve outcomes for those individuals experiencing the greatest inequality.

A significant consultation exercise was undertaken in 2019 with the key aim of improving the governance framework for Community Councils. Proposals were made to address historic gaps that had been identified in the framework and to unblock a number of procedural issues that impacted community council effectiveness. Work was also undertaken to enable Community Councils to engage more with the diversity of their local communities by introducing new office bearer posts with responsibility for engagement and redrafting key guidance documentation. This resulted in revisions being made to the Scheme for Community Councils, the Community Council

Code of Conduct and the introduction of a new complaints procedure.

Next Steps

Community empowerment will be considered on an ongoing basis as part of the wider plans to deliver on the Council Business Plan. In addition, following service resumption and the embedding of the improvement actions agreed by the Edinburgh Partnership, officers will bring back a report looking at further improvements that can be made and how community engagement can be prioritised within core skills training and as part of the work of the community team. The Council will also take account of ongoing work by the Scottish Government on the Local Governance Review and of the Accounts Commission who intend to look at community empowerment over the coming year.