

# Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 February 2022

## Coalition Commitments Progress Update 2021/2022

Item number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	
Council Commitments	

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.2 That members of the Policy and Sustainability Committee note the final achievements and status of the 52 coalition commitments that the Council committed to deliver by the end of April 2022 (Appendix A).
- 1.3 Refer the Coalition Commitments Progress Update to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration on 17 March 2022.

**Andrew Kerr**

Chief Executive

Contact: Gillie Severin, Head of Strategic Change and Delivery

Strategic Change and Delivery Team, Corporate Services Directorate

E-mail: [gillie.severin@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:gillie.severin@edinburgh.gov.uk) | Tel: 07841 823374

## Coalition Commitments Progress Report 2021/22

### 2. Executive Summary

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- 2.1 This is the final report on the 52 coalition commitments and provides an update on the progress against delivering each commitment.
- 2.2 In summary, of the 52 commitments, 30 have been fully achieved, 18 partially achieved and 4 will not be achieved.
- 2.3 This report concludes the previous update reports that have been presented to Full Council.

### 3. Background

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

### 4. Main report

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- 4.1 This is the final update on progress of the coalition commitments and a full update for each commitment is contained within Appendix A.
- 4.2 Appendix A provides:
  - a summary table showing final status for the commitments
  - a full update for each commitment detailing:
    - background information
    - key achievements in delivering the elements of each commitment
    - relevant future work
    - performance measures with the most up to date data available
    - the final status of each commitment.

4.3 The final status of the commitments can be summarised as follows:

<b>Status</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Number of Commitments</b>
Fully achieved	All elements of the commitment have been delivered.	<b>30</b>
Partially achieved	Some elements of the commitment have or are currently being delivered.	<b>18</b>
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.	<b>0</b>
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.	<b>4</b>

## **5. Next Steps**

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

## **6. Financial impact**

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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**

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

## **8. Background reading/external references**

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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
- 8.13 [Coalition Commitments Progress Update](#), Policy and Sustainability, 10 June 2021

## **9. Appendices**

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- 9.1 Appendix A: Coalition Commitments Progress Update February 2022

## Coalition Commitments Progress Update February 2022

In 2017, we published the *Programme for the Capital* and set out our five-year plan for the city. The Programme consisted of 52 Coalition Commitments and we've reported back annually on each one. With the local elections taking place in May, this marks our last update and details the progress we've made against each.

We're immensely proud that, despite the ongoing impact of Covid-19, we've fully achieved 30 of our Commitments and made substantial progress on a further 18 which are partially achieved. There are also commitments like limiting Council tax increases to 3% - a commitment that was met as an average over the Council term but because the average takes account a year of Council tax being frozen and a year where the increase was slightly higher than 3% - that have been marked as not achieved despite keeping to their spirit.

The level of progress set out in this report is testament to the continued hard work and dedication shown by our Council colleagues and partners across the city who've worked tirelessly to continue delivering vital services to those who need them most through the most challenging circumstances imaginable.

Achievements against the commitments have been wide and varied. In 2018 we signed the City Region Deal which is now delivering an investment of £1.3 billion in transport, housing, innovation, culture, skills and employability. We've seen the opening and construction of 8 new schools over this term, and the completion of the new Meadowbank Sports Centre. The Trams to Newhaven project remains on time and within budget and progress has been made on our major future infrastructure projects, including Granton Waterfront and the Bio Quarter. Through the development of our Business Plan, City Plan and 2030 Net Zero Strategy, we've set out a strong vision for the future of our city – a future our residents have endorsed.

We've also made considerable efforts to improve the day to day life for residents. We've invested more than £112m in our roads and pavements and continued to spend 10% of the transport budget on improving cycling in the city. There's now less clutter on our streets thanks to the partnership with groups like Living Streets Edinburgh and, despite the challenges of Covid, our waste service maintains a consistent level of performance. We're on target to becoming a Million Tree City, having planted over 50,000 trees since May 2017, and now boast 34 green flags in our parks – almost half of all green flag parks in the whole of Scotland.

For our younger residents we've improved access to music, language and STEM skills and increased the number of classroom assistants for children with additional needs. We've also doubled free early learning and childcare provision. Beyond school, we've expanded opportunities in vocational and adult education and apprenticeships to provide positive onward destinations for our young people and are transforming learning in the classroom with a rollout of 40,000 ipads.

Much has changed since 2017, and more than 40% of our term has been dominated by the pandemic and working to try and keep our communities safe, while trying to deliver a fairer, greener future. Throughout it all, our residents have been clear with us that their Capital City should be pioneering, welcoming, thriving and fair – and we've done everything we can over the last five year towards realising that Vision.



<b>Commitment Summary</b>	<b>Final Status</b>
1 - Deliver a programme to build at least 10,000 social and affordable homes over the next 5 years, with a plan to build 20,000 by 2027.	Partially achieved
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.	Partially achieved
3 - Work with the business community to grow the number of Living Wage employers year on year.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
5 - Sign Edinburgh to the Pay Fair Tax Initiative.	Partially achieved
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	Fully achieved
7 - Improve access to employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities.	Partially achieved
8 - Explore the introduction of fair rent zones.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
10 - Prioritise the use of brownfield sites and work with public sector and private landowners to develop land for affordable housing.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
13 - Improve planning enforcement to ensure that all developers, large or small, conform to Edinburgh's policies and developer's commitments.	Fully achieved
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.	Will not be achieved
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.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
17 - Guarantee 10% of the transport budget on improving cycling in the city.	Fully achieved
18 - Improve Edinburgh's air quality and reduce carbon emissions. Explore the implementation of low emission zones.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved

20 - Explore the introduction of a lane rental for utility companies to reduce traffic pressures.	Will not be achieved
21 - Retain Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram in public ownership.	Fully achieved
22 - Deliver the tram extension to Newhaven by 2022 after reviewing the business case and delivery plan to ensure they are robust.	Partially achieved
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.	Partially achieved
24 - Reduce the incidence of dog fouling on Edinburgh's streets and public parks.	Fully achieved
25 - Increase recycling to 60% from 46% during the lifetime of the administration.	Will not be achieved
26 - Improve parking for residents by expanding provision of park and rides for commuters.	Partially achieved
27 - Tackle pavement parking and reduce street clutter to improve accessibility	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
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.	Fully achieved
30 - Increase the number of classroom assistants and support staff for children with additional needs to improve attainment and wellbeing.	Fully achieved
31 - Expand training opportunities for adults and young people linking with colleges and expanding vocational education.	Partially achieved
32 - Double free early learning and child care provision, providing 1140 hours a year for all 3 and 4 year olds and vulnerable 2 year olds by 2020.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
34 - Prioritise services for vulnerable children and families and looked after children, and support organisations working to end domestic abuse.	Partially achieved
35 - Improve access to library services and community centres making them more digital and delivering them in partnership with local communities.	Fully achieved
36 - Support the continued development of Gaelic Medium Education.	Fully achieved
37 - Continue to integrate Health and Social Care Services. Review the Integration Joint Board's approach to support at home by 2018.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
39 - Put exercise at the heart of our health strategy by increasing access to sport and leisure facilities.	Partially achieved

40 - Work with the Integration Joint Board (NHS & Council Social Care) and other agencies to prioritise early intervention and prevention in mental health services.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
42 - Build a new sports centre at Meadowbank by 2021.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
44 - Increase allotment provision and support and expand the network and the number of community gardens and food growing initiatives.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
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.	Fully achieved
47 - Become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement - 1% of the Council's discretionary budget will be allocated through participatory budgeting.	Partially achieved
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.	Fully achieved
49 - Limit Council Tax increases to 3% a year to 2021.	Will not be achieved
50 - Continue a policy of no compulsory redundancies and keep a presumption in favour of in-house service provision.	Fully achieved
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.	Partially achieved
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.	Partially achieved



## Commitment 1

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

*Partially Achieved*

### **Background**

The Council works with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and other development partners to deliver social and affordable homes. This work is reported to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee through the annual Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP).

### **Key Achievements**

In the first 4 full years of this commitment over 6,300 affordable homes have been approved, and over 4,600 affordable homes have been completed. We anticipate that 1,200 new affordable homes will be approved for site start in Edinburgh in 2021/22. Around half of the 2021/22 anticipated approvals are in place with applications for the remaining projects currently being appraised or expected to be submitted in January, February or early March. Based on current delivery programmes, an additional 1,218 affordable homes are expected to be completed. That would mean over the five years, over 7,500 new affordable homes would be approved by 31 March 2022 and over 5,800 completed.

The SHIP (2022-2027) was approved by [Housing Homelessness and Fair Work on 4 November 2021](#).

It also sets out a pipeline of 11,118 affordable homes that could be approved for site start and 10,124 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 Housing Revenue Account funding. The SHIP is reviewed annually and will be increased to meet the 20,000 target as funding becomes available and confidence in the development pipeline grows.

The Scottish Government's "[Housing statistics quarterly update: September 2021](#)" reported that throughout Scotland affordable housing approvals are down 36% and completions are down 5% on the last year. The "[Report on the work of the 2021 Affordable Housing Investment Benchmarks Working Group](#)" states "The delivery of affordable homes was hit significantly by the pandemic, initially by the lock down, and then through slower, safer working practices in 2020/21. The Scottish Government therefore expects output to continue to be slower over 2021/22 than at the start of the previous 50,000 affordable homes' programme, and therefore proposes to use 2021/22 to complete its previous 50,000 target".

### **Future Work**

The 2022/23 Affordable Housing Supply Programme grant funding allocation is £45.182m. Work will continue in 2022 to complete the delivery of the 2021/22 programme and to plan and deliver the 2022/23 programme. The performance of the programme is down to our work with housing delivery partners that has taken place over several years to acquire sites, develop new investment models and deliver cost efficiencies. Land remains one of the key risks to the delivery of 20,000 affordable homes.

The RSL programme is almost entirely dependent upon private developers bringing forward sites for development through the Affordable Housing Policy. On [4 November 2021, Housing Homelessness and Fair Work](#) agreed the 'Land Strategy Update and Invitation to Market', which provided an update on the progress of the land strategy for Council-led housing developments and sets out a rationale for seeking to supplement the current pipeline with private sector opportunities to be progressed through a market engagement exercise. This exercise is currently underway. Work will also continue with partners and the Scottish Government to maximise the amount of grant funding available to Edinburgh.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22* (up to end of Dec 21)	Target (end of 21/22)
Approvals of new affordable homes	1,475	1,626	1,930	1,285	613 (current estimate for year end is 1,200)	1,200
Completions of new affordable homes	966	1,152	1,443	1,087	860 (current estimate for year end is 1,218)	1,218

\* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

## 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.*

*Partially Achieved*

### Background

In June 2018 the Council agreed the new [Edinburgh Economy Strategy](#). This strategy set a fresh approach for economic policy in the city, aiming to ensure the work of the Council and its partners would drive inclusive economic growth across the city. In doing so, the strategy provided a framework for creating the conditions necessary for Edinburgh to be a city whose economy's success is sustainable and benefits all our citizens.

### Key Achievements

In December 2020, a review and refresh of the Economy strategy was proposed in response to new significant challenges facing the city, and developments to the policy context in which the city operates. A programme of work was established to develop a refreshed approach to 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 and promote sustainability and wellbeing.

During 2021 we completed a consultation and engagement programme with businesses, citizens and partner organisations. These findings and an analysis of economic data for the city were used to develop a refreshed Edinburgh Economy Strategy,

setting out priorities for the Council in supporting the city's economy through recovery from pandemic and beyond.

Throughout the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council has:

- Purchased £280m of goods and services from businesses in the Edinburgh economy, one of the largest single buyers in the city;
- Administered over £190m of support to more than 19,000 businesses through Scottish Government funded schemes to help businesses through the worst periods of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Helped 3,700 people into work and learning through our employability programmes;
- Consolidated the Real Living Wage fully into Council pay structures, ensuring a pay rise for 4,400 Council employees; and
- Agreed a total of £4.5bn of Council capital investment over the next ten years.

### Future Work

The revised strategy reflects the Council's vision and approach to ensuring a stronger, greener, and fairer Edinburgh economy. Key highlights for delivery in 2022/23 include:

- Increasing the number of people we help into work, learning or training through **Edinburgh Guarantee** and our funded employability programmes.
- Delivering progress on key strategic development sites, including meeting key milestones for development of **Edinburgh BioQuarter** and **Granton Waterfront**.
- Continuing to **support businesses** through our Business Gateway service, and enhance our business support offering to make sure all Edinburgh businesses can access the advice and expertise they need to sustain and thrive.
- Encouraging 100 businesses to become accredited Real Living Wage employers, through our work with the **Edinburgh Living Wage City Action Group**.
- Supporting the **recovery of the visitor economy and cultural sector** in Edinburgh.
- Supporting the launch of new programmes to help businesses make the transition to a net zero economy, including delivering proposals for a new **Green Innovation Challenge Fund**.
- Establishing a business led **Just Transition Economic Forum** to convene the city's business community to provide leadership on the just economic transition to a net zero city.
- Launching a new **Edinburgh Means Business** annual conference programme to celebrate progress, and strengthen the networks and

relationships needed for a Stronger, Greener, Fairer Edinburgh economy.

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%	77.1%	To exceed 78% by 2022
% of workers in managerial, professional and technical/scientific occupations	56%	57%	56%	62.8%	To maintain 56% by 2022
Ratio of workers in high skilled occupations to workers in mid skilled occupations	2.4	2.4	2.2	3.3	To minimise to 2.10 by 2022
Gross Value Added per capita	£43,861 (2016)	£45,594 (2017)	£47,631 (2018)	£46,027 (2019)	To exceed £41,000 by 2021
% of children living in a low-income household	22% (2015)	23% (2017/18)	n/a	19% (2019/20)	To minimise 18% by 2020
% of residents who feel confident about their job prospects	63% (2014-16)	65% (2016-18)	Survey not done in 2019	Survey not done in 2020	To exceed 70% for 2019-21 average
% of residents who say their financial position has improved in the past 12 months	20% (2014-16)	18% (2016-18)	Survey not done in 2019	Survey not done in 2020	To maintain 20% for 2019-21 average

\* Most up to date data available.

## Commitment 3

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

*Fully 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).

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.

### **Key Achievements**

The number of living wage employers in Edinburgh has grown year on year.

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

In March 2020 the Council approved a new Sustainable Procurement Strategy with one of its

stated objectives being to increase the adoption by suppliers of Fair Working practices, including suppliers paying the Real 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 largest increase in the percentage of Council suppliers that are committed to paying the real living took place between 2019/20 and 2020/21. There has also been a steady increase in the number of employers in the city accredited as Living Wage Foundation Employers. Further information can be found in the Council's most recent [Annual Procurement report](#), for the 2020/21 financial year.

In September 2021 the Council approved a new Fair Work Action Plan, which set out 30 actions for Council delivery over the next three years to improve access to fair work for Edinburgh citizens.

As a part of this plan, in November 2021 Edinburgh was accredited as a Living Wage City by the Scottish Living Wage Foundation, in recognition of the partnership work being taken by the Edinburgh Living Wage Action Group, led by the Council,

aiming to more than double the number of Living Wage accredited employers in the city.

### **Future Work**

Throughout 2022/23, the Council will continue to lead and work with the Edinburgh Living Wage City Action Group – a network of employers and business organisations across the city who are actively campaigning to promote Living Wage accreditation in the city.

During January to March 2022, the Council will lead and report on findings of the Gig Economy Forum – a short life task group established to understand and make recommendations for policy options to improve working conditions for gig economy workers and other people experiencing insecure work in Edinburgh.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sep 2021	Target
% of Council suppliers of regulated tendered contracts that are committed to paying real living wage in delivering Council services *	70%	70.3%	79%		Aim to increase
Number of employers in the City of Edinburgh accredited as Living Wage Foundation employers	281	359	422	470	Aim to increase

*\* The number of living wage employers data source has been changed. These figures are now are based on the Scottish Living Wage Foundation data for Edinburgh. Previous figures were from the UK Living Wage Foundation data for Edinburgh.*

## 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.***

*Fully Achieved*

### ***Background***

The project to develop a new local development plan called [City Plan 2030](#) reached a key milestone in 2019/20. This 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 public consultation process was carried out from January to the end of April 2020. Over 1,800 responses

were received, several times more than the previous equivalent stage. Results of the consultation were considered in the development of the new plan. The consultation responses showed 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.

An updated Development Plan Scheme with timetable was published in March 2021 and it set 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 Proposed City Plan](#) was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021. The Proposed Plan builds on previous efforts to direct housing development towards brownfield sites and

it carries forward the preferred approach of Choices which does not seek to allocate new greenfield sites. One of the overriding aims of the Plan is to deliver land to meet Edinburgh's housing needs over the next decade and to secure a minimum 35% affordable housing contribution from new developments in Edinburgh.

### ***Future Work***

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

## Commitment 5

### Sign Edinburgh to the Pay Fair Tax Initiative.

**Partially Achieved**

#### 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. A refreshed Economy

Strategy was approved at [Policy and Strategy Committee on 20 November 2021](#). This update continues the vision and work programmes to ensure Edinburgh is a Stronger, Greener and Fairer economy.

The Council's Sustainable Procurement Strategy has 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 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. Promotion of the Fair Tax Mark has been included within Council newsletters to suppliers.

We have engaged with businesses through Business Gateway to promote the Fair Tax Mark and to support businesses where appropriate. In May, June, and July of 2021, Business Gateway promoted Fair Tax Week and the Fair Tax Mark and Pledge in the monthly newsletter and across all social media channels.

The City of Edinburgh Council was highlighted as one of [17 Councils in the UK](#) which had given their support to fair tax practices in November 2021. By showing support, the Council aims to lead by example on their own tax conduct, demand greater transparency from suppliers and call for more meaningful powers to tackle tax avoidance amongst suppliers.

#### Future Work

We will continue to promote the benefits of signing up to the pay Fair Tax Mark through our work with contracted suppliers and our Business Gateway service.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Nov 21)	Target
Number of businesses accredited with the Fair Tax Mark (total premises)	Not available	Not available	75	79	71	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.*

*Fully 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. It aims to deliver a step-change in inclusive growth to benefit the city region, Scotland and the United Kingdom. The Deal confirms that the UK Government and Scottish Government will invest £600m 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, £1.3bn of investment will be delivered.

### Key Achievements

Good progress is being made with £192m of the UK and Scottish Government grant of £600m already drawn down and projects worth 85% of the full Deal

allocation have had business cases approved for implementation by Joint Committee.

### Data-Driven Innovation (DDI)

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

- The Bayes Centre (Bristo Square) continues to expand its reach and profile.
- The Edinburgh Futures Institute (Quartermile) is under construction with completion date scheduled for Spring 2023.
- 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 commenced in October 2021, with expected completion by Spring 2023.

### 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 by Capital City Partnership just 11 days after the country first went into lockdown.

An employee grant scheme was rolled-out in 2020/21 with 77 micro-businesses across the city region, of which 18 are in Edinburgh, receiving grants of £500-£1,000 to help retain staff. As a result of its success, in 2021/22 a second phase of the scheme was launched with 54 micro-businesses across the city region assisted, of which 14 are based in Edinburgh and are receiving funding for staff wellbeing initiatives. Additionally, within IRES the Integrated Knowledge Systems (IKS) project led by Capital City Partnership, a new employability Customer Relationship Management system was commissioned for use across the city region. This

will replace the Caselink system and allow much greater functionality and data analysis.

## **Transport**

Work on the West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme continues in partnership with Transport Scotland. The Case for Change report is complete, and an Options Appraisal Report is being finalised. The Outline Business Case is expected to be taken to Joint Committee for approval in September 2022.

The Joint Committee ratified their support for the Sheriffhall scheme as published on 3 September 2021, following their consideration of further technical information. Transport Scotland, who are leading on the delivery of the project, are engaging with objectors to inform objection resolution, following the completion of the consultation on draft orders. Preparation for a Public Local Inquiry is also on-going.

The Transport Appraisal Board, within the Deal's Governance structure continues to help regional partners successfully bring in new funding for regional transport improvements. In Spring 2021, a bid was made towards Phase 1 of the £500m Bus Partnership Fund. £3m was secured to improve bus services across the region.

## **Culture**

The Development Management Sub Committee approved IMPACT Scotland's application to build Dunard Centre on St Andrew Square on [24 November 2021](#). The business case is programmed for consideration at both Finance and Resources Committee and the ESESCR Joint Committee meeting in March 2022.

## **Housing**

Edinburgh Living has been operational for three years. All £16.1m in available Scottish Government grant funding has been claimed during the construction of homes. Over 400 homes have been completed to date with over with a target to deliver 1,500 homes by 2023.

The Outline Business Case for Edinburgh's Waterfront was approved by the City of Edinburgh Council's [Policy and Sustainability Committee](#) in October 2021. 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 Prosperity Framework (RPF)**

Building upon the successes of the City Region Deal and the greater regional collaboration that it has

engendered, regional partners have agreed a Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF). The [RPF](#) ratified by Policy and Sustainability Committee on 5 October 2021, is the articulation of the next phase of the development of the regional economy and is designed as a single document that helps to shape where public and private investment could make the best contribution to drive the region forward in a sustainable and inclusive manner. Implementation plans are being developed for each of the strategic moves, describing the support and resourcing, both public and private, required to deliver on these key ambitions.

## ***Future Work***

Key business in the next year for the Joint Committee to approve includes:

- Dunard Centre Revised Business Case: March 2022.
- Benefits Realisation Plan Implementation Plan: March 2022.
- West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme Business Case: September 2022.
- Regional Prosperity Framework Implementation Plan: September 2022.

## Commitment 7

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

*Partially Achieved*

### **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. The Council has, for a long time, funded specialist services such as All in Edinburgh, Edinburgh's Employer Recruitment Incentive and Edinburgh Project SEARCH, providing employability support, focussed on Edinburgh's disabled citizens to progress towards secure and sustained work or learning. In addition, several small grants have been awarded under the Network of Employability Support and Training programme to other specialist providers working with disabled individuals as well as other barriers to employment and we continuously work with a range of partners to promote inclusive growth.

### **Key Achievements**

45% of all support to employability clients that have a disability, or suffering from Mental Ill Health, Long Term Physical Illness or Physical Illness get their 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 that helps disabled people or people with a 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 2020/2021. Over the period April – November in 2021, there was an increase in the average number of clients registering with employability services each month and all services were still supporting many existing

and new clients, helping 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 in Edinburgh have already recorded more job outcomes in the first 8 months of 2021/2022 than in the full year prior.

Between 1 April and 30 November 2021, 419 individuals secured employment thanks to council funded employability services, out of which 176 indicated disability as a barrier (42%). Looking at wider outcomes, such as job retention, access to training, the services supported 170 disabled individuals out of 519 (32.7%).

Also due to the impact of COVID-19, the Council and its partner organisations NHS Lothian and Edinburgh College were unable to start an Edinburgh Project SEARCH programme in 2021/22. However, paid work placement opportunities have been offered through Young Person's Guarantee (YPG) funding with a minimum of 8 placements being available specifically for young people with a disability or long-term health condition.

### Future Work

As the wider implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and Brexit have become better understood, it has become apparent that disabled people and people with a long-term health condition have been especially disadvantaged. Although there are more jobs available, employers are still reluctant to make jobs more accessible and hesitant to employing individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment. Additional funding to support disabled people into work has been awarded through the Scottish Government's No One Left Behind, YPG and PES funding streams, with delivery of supported work placements within the Council and third sector

organisations a welcome addition to the ongoing delivery of specialist employability and progression support to those who require it.

Furthermore, the Council has, following a coproduction exercise which included service users as well as service providers and other stakeholders, recommissioned several employability services to commence from 1 April 2022, and the provision of support for disabled people continues to be a focus area. Due to the upcoming ending of European Social Funding and no clarity over the availability of its replacement, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the funding available for employability support to disabled people would have had to be reduced,

however the Council has made extra provision in the budget for this funding stream to ensure there is no reduction in service. Progression routes will continue to be supported through this ongoing funding of contracted services, who will offer support and aftercare to disabled people and individuals with additional barriers to employment.

We will 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	2021/22 (to Nov 21)	Target
Number of disabled people who have accessed council funded employability services	1,203	1,101	1,182	866	596	Increasing trend
% of all support provided to people with disabilities	46.9%	49.8%	53.9%	53.1%	51.6%	Increasing trend

\* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

## 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, the Housing, Homelessness 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.

At a national level 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 RPZ legislation, as well as a commitment to ensure robust data collection approaches within the private rented sector are established.

#### Key Achievements

Council Officers are part of a multi-disciplinary working group in partnership with the Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers which coordinates those local authorities and stakeholders interested in exploring RPZs in more detail. An officer working group has been meeting regularly to develop an approach to tackling key issues facing the private rented 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

### Fully Achieved

available to them by the Council and partner organisations. As part of the wider strategic approach, the Council is consulting on designating the entire Council area as Short-Term Let Control Area.

A response was sent to the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee who carried out a consultation on the proposed licensing scheme for short term lets.

#### Future Work

Following the consultation on a Short-Term Let Control Area, the proposal will be reviewed and subject of a further report to Planning Committee. Should it be decided to progress with a designation, the proposal will require to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for their approval.

The Scottish Government published the draft "A New Deal for Tenants - rented sector strategy" for consultation on 20 December 2021. The rented sector strategy seeks to improve accessibility, affordability choices and standards across the whole rented sector in Scotland. It includes a key action to look at affordability in the private rented sector and a commitment to implement 'an effective national system of rent controls by 2025'. The Council will work with stakeholders to respond to the consultation before the closing date in April 2022.

## Commitment 9

**Create a Homelessness 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.**

*Partially Achieved*

### **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 and reduce the number of

households in temporary accommodation. This works alongside the prevention activity outlined in the second iteration of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) agreed at Committee on 18 September 2020.

During the COVID-19 pandemic the number of households in temporary accommodation has risen by just under 30%. There were 3,570 households in temporary accommodation at the end of March 2020, this has increased to 4,587 households at the end of October 2021, an increase of 1,017. This is largely due to the public health requirement to accommodate all households, regardless of eligibility, including people who may have No Recourse to Public Funds and the lack of settled move on accommodation which has become available during the pandemic.

Key activities we have progressed include:

- We have invested in delivering shared housing as an alternative to B&B accommodation. The new model of temporary accommodation offers additional facilities such as laundry, food

storage and access to kitchens in a shared living environment.

- 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 and breakfast accommodation. This is also reflected in the increase in the number of families accommodated in bed and breakfast accommodation as on 30 November 2021, where 15 households may have No Recourse to Public Funds.
- 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-19 average of 80–120 people per night to an average of 12.
- Continued to develop the Homelessness Prevention Working Group with Council and third sector representation to take forward the preventative activity outlined in the RRTP. The group set up a multi-disciplinary response providing joined up support to Council tenants in rent arrears who are not engaging with their Housing Officer. The group are now working to

update the hospital discharge and prison pathways and a response to the Scottish Government's Youth Homelessness Prevention Pathway is underway.

- Increased prevention activity with the recruitment of 28 additional posts including income maximisation officers working alongside Homelessness Prevention and Housing Options Team staff, dedicated resource for the multi-disciplinary team response, housing assistants, housing officers and a family group decision making officer.
- Since November 2019, our Private Rented Sector Team has prevented 494 households from entering temporary accommodation, resulting in £5.7m of avoided costs.
- 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 1,700 at the end of November 2021.
- We have continued 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 and have a total of 49 rooms.
- We have established a Flexible Purchase System, agreed by Finance and Resources Committee on 7 October 2021. This will allow

us to further increase the supply of suitable temporary accommodation, including Home Share, Community Hosting and self-contained properties.

- 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 Council 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.
- The Council now directly commission the Housing First Service (from October 2021). This service is 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 November 2021, 120 people are in tenancies through Housing First.

### *Future Work*

We will continue to develop prevention activity through the Homelessness Transformational Prevention Programme. The recruitment of the 28 posts is now complete and these officers will support the work to intervene at an early stage, maximise income and support people out of temporary accommodation and into permanent settled housing. We will continue to develop the multi-disciplinary team supporting Council tenants at risk of eviction to prevent homelessness and look to identify further opportunities for the team to engage with tenants.

To meet the requirements of the extended Unsuitable Accommodation Order we will continue to work towards increasing the supply of suitable accommodation. This will include increasing the number of self-contained properties provided through the Private Sector Leasing Scheme, increasing the number of home share properties and introducing community hosting. We will take forward actions identified in the RRTP including the commissioning of two new supported accommodation services and investigating the feasibility of building on gap sites for temporary accommodation. Given the scale of challenge in Edinburgh with regards to the Unsuitable Accommodation Order and the ongoing requirement to accommodate all in response to public health requirements we have been unable to effect this from the 1 October 2021 when the extended Order was introduced.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22* (at 30 Nov 2021)	Target	
Number of accommodation units	Dispersed Flats	647	785	1085	1481	3,070 (inc PSL)	Increasing trend
	Supported Accommodation	198	198	214	214	214	
	Hostel	175	176	176	176	169	
	B&B	676	123	145	457	486*	
	Shared Houses	0	552	629	758	708*	
Number of families accommodated in B&B	58	21	0	4	20*	0	
Number of 16/17 year olds or care leavers accommodated in B&B	13	11	1	0	3*	0	
Number of households in B&B	676	123	145	457	486*	Decreasing trend	
Average Length of stay in B&B	112.2	115.7	83.8	68.1	61.3 days	Decreasing trend	
Number of households assessed as homeless	3,085	3,049	3,288	1,907	1,261 (1,532 at same point in Nov 2020)	Decreasing trend	

Notes:

- \* Of the 486 households in B&Bs, 88 (18%) may have no recourse to public funds.
- \* Of the 708 households in Shared Houses, 119 (17%) may have no recourse to public funds.
- \* One of the families in B&Bs has been assessed as homeless, 15 have no recourse to public funds.
- \* One of the 16-17 years olds in B&Bs has been assessed as homeless.
- \* 250 of the households in B&Bs have been assessed as homeless.

\* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time



## Commitment 10

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

**Fully 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 2021 Housing Land Audit and Completions Programme was reported to Planning Committee on [1 December 2021](#). As at 31 March 2021, there was enough land free of planning constraints and available for development for 22,411 houses. There was also land for a further 8,228 houses on sites where there was a constraint. The effective land supply is varied in type, size and location. It is spread over a range of locations and includes brownfield and greenfield sites.

The Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2022-27 set out a pipeline of 11,118 affordable homes that

could be approved for site start and 10,124 potential completions delivered 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 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. Examination of the consultation responses showed 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.

[The Proposed City Plan](#) was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021. The

Proposed City Plan 2030 builds on previous efforts to direct housing development towards brownfield sites and does not allocate any new greenfield sites for housing land. The land supply is added to by the intensification of use of existing undeveloped greenfield sites and by significant brownfield allocations throughout the city, which provides for a generous housing land supply.

### **Future Work**

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

Key measures	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
% of capacity of units in effective land supply which are on brownfield land	55%	55%	55%	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.***

*Fully 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. In April 2021, the Scottish Government introduced laws which allow councils

in Scotland to designate all or part of their area as a Short-Term Let Control Area. If councils choose to do this, they must get approval from the Scottish Government.

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

[The Proposed City Plan](#) was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021. The Council has continued to try to protect the availability of housing for residents and the new Plan supports the retention of existing dwellings as an important means of meeting housing need.

The Plan proposes the change of use of a residential unit to only be permissible in exceptional circumstances.

### ***Future Work***

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

We will continue our support for sustainable recovery in the business and tourism sector throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 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.*

*Fully Achieved*

### **Background**

The Project to develop City Plan 2030 is 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 plan and the Choices for City Plan, consultation document. These were published following review in January 2020.

There is no evidence of a surplus of empty Houses in Multiple Occupation's (HMO) which would justify a conclusion of over provision and research shows that currently there is no ability to control numbers or density within the licensing system. The most recent monitoring data shows

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 were 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 and 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. This came in to force on 18 May 2021. Within such areas, the change of use from a dwelling house to a premises providing a short term let will automatically involve a change of use requiring an application for planning permission. The Council is now exploring its implementation and [The Proposed City Plan](#), which was approved by Planning Committee on 29 September 2021 sets out the requirement to consult on whether a Short

Term Let Control Area should be introduced for the entire City area. The Plan also builds on previous work to protect housing and to try to reverse the increase in the use of residential properties for short-term lets.

### **Future Work**

We are currently reviewing the responses to a city-wide consultation on whether we should introduce a Short-Term Let Control Area for the entire Council area. The proposal will be reviewed and reported to Planning Committee.

The statutory Period of Representation for the Proposed City Plan concluded on 20 December 2021. The Representations will be considered and reported to Planning Committee as to whether or not the Plan should be modified in response to them. Elected Members will be asked to approve the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The timing of this will be dependent on the number and complexity of representations and any technical work that might be needed in relation to any changes to the Plan.

## Commitment 13

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

**Fully 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 2021 to the end of September 2021, there were 377 enforcement enquiries received and 25 enforcement notices served. The enforcement team continues to focus on short term lets with over 83% of cases closed within their target of 6 months, while 78% of other cases were closed within the 3 months. This equates to 79% 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 2021/22, nearly £23m has been collected from developers for education, transport (including tram) and other infrastructure. The large increase is in part due to a ‘roll over’ effect from 2020/21, when the pause in construction in the early pandemic meant that developments did not hit their payment thresholds. Construction resumed fairly quickly, resulting in more sites hitting a payment trigger in one monitoring year.

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, including a realigned team structure and a new approach to distributing applications.

### Future Work

We continue our work in implementing the Planning Improvement Plan and identifying new ways of working whilst we operate during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key measure	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Q2 21)*	Target
Average no. of weeks to determine non-householder planning applications	14.7	16.8	15.7	13.1*	12.9	12.1*
Developer contributions collected	£5,211,469	£15,346,626	£15,309,750	£7,185,166	£22,963,029	N/A
Enforcement cases resolved within timescales	collected from 18/19	51.5%	50.7%	66.8%	79%	70%

\* These figures have been adjusted following annual verification completed by the Scottish Government.

\* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time

## 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.*

**Will Not Be Achieved**

### **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 (ESESCR) partners to the Scottish Government's 'Call for Ideas' on the emerging NPF4 on [18 March 2020](#) and an interim Regional Spatial Strategy on [14 October 2020](#). Our response to the Scottish

Government's Position Statement on NPF4 on [3 February 2021](#) and our response to the Scottish Government proposals for minimum housing land targets for NPF4 were also approved.

The draft NPF4 was published in November 2021 and a response is being prepared to take to Planning Committee in February.

### **Future Work**

We will continue to work with the Scottish Government on all inputs to NPF4.

## 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.***

*Fully Achieved*

### ***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.

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

### ***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 report presenting the programme for the revision of the current Plan was reported to [Planning Committee on 1 December 2021](#), with a view to producing a new Plan for 2023, when the current plan ends. National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) funding was secured to support the engagement strategy for the Management Plan review. The objective is to deliver a comprehensive and inclusive

programme of engagement to support the development of the Plan. Focus groups were held in September 2021 at the start of the engagement strategy and these will be followed by 'expert' stakeholder workshops, community workshops and an on-line public consultation.

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.

### ***Future Work***

Following completion of all stakeholder engagement a draft Management Plan will be produced for public consultation.

## 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.**

**Fully 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

£112.5m has been invested in roads over the last five years. 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. [The Transport Infrastructure Investment for 2021/22](#) was reported to Transport and Environment on 15 June 2021.

An additional £6m of roads investment in 2021/22 allowed a greater number of carriageway and footway schemes to be delivered and total investment in roads and pavements is on track to exceed £100m by the end of the year. Work completed in the last year includes improved carriageway and footways on major routes such as Lothian Road, High Street, Maybury Road and the A89.

The independently assessed Road Condition Index improved from 37.1% in 2020/21 to 36.2% in 2021/22, which was a very welcome improvement considering the very cold and wet winter conditions in 2020/21. A full network scan was carried out on Edinburgh's Transport Network in 2020. This has allowed improved asset management through improved mapping of TAMP assets.

### Future Work

COVID-19 continues to have an effect on delivery of road maintenance schemes. Although the RCI improved in the last year, Edinburgh will continue to improve the quality of transport network data to allow for better asset management and continued improvement. This will include the roll out of our asset management system to all related service areas.

Key Measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
Road Condition Index	36.4%	36.4%	33.5%	37.1%	36.2%	Continual Improvement
Level of total road investment	£20.747m	£23.485m	£23.000m	£21.343m	£24.000m*	£100m by 2022

\* Total sum committed for 2021/22

## Commitment 17

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

#### 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 the Council has 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 and completing the conversion of the city's roads to a network of 20mph streets.

The revised [Active Travel Investment Programme 2019-2026 \(ATINP\)](#), reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 14 October 2021 includes over £118m of investment, of which over 80% 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, Roseburn to Union Canal and George Street and First New Town.

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

- 96 bike racks 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.
- 106 secure cycle parking hangars, with a total of 180 cycle hangars across the city due to be in place by the end of May 2022. These provide space for 1,080 bikes. The scheme has been met with much enthusiasm from residents, with 76% of the spaces filled when the scheme launched. By Autumn 2021, 99.07% of the spaces available were in use.
- 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 had its signage

#### Fully Achieved

improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.

- Upgrades to Quiet Routes 6 and 61, including small sections of segregated cycle lane and new controlled crossings for people walking and cycling have been completed. These improvements make crossing several heavily trafficked roads much easier for users of all experience and mobility levels.
- An extensive programme of temporary Spaces for People measures was developed and delivered to assist people to walk, wheel and cycle safely during the pandemic.

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 streets.

#### Future Work

The Council is continuing to make core parts of the National Cycle Network more accessible by removing and/or altering chicanes and barriers that do not meet current accessibility standards. There will also be a further rollout of dropped kerbs and raised crossing improvements. Work will commence



next year on developing a new bike hire scheme for the city to replace the previous scheme, which ceased to operate in September 2021. Construction work on the City-Centre West-East Link scheme will begin in early 2022, with construction scheduled to 2024. Construction work is also due to commence on the Roseburn to Union Canal Active Travel Route in September 2022, to be completed by October 2023.

Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes will be implemented on a trial basis in Corstorphine and Leith, using Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders, from the summer 2022.

The Council will continue developing other ATINP projects, as well as the Travelling Safely programme and prioritised Transport Actions arising from the Local Development Plan Action Programme.

We are also working, in consultation with others, to produce a new Active Travel Action Plan covering the period to 2030 and to develop and publish further technical factsheets for the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance.

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

\* Most up to date data available

## Commitment 18

**Improve Edinburgh's air quality and reduce carbon emissions. Explore the implementation of Low Emission Zones.**

*Fully Achieved*

### Background

#### City-wide sustainability strategy

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. The most up-to-date city data available shows a 40.6% reduction was achieved by 2019.<sup>1</sup> Although significant progress had been made, in recognition of the scale of the climate challenge, we invited the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute to carry out an independent audit of the Council's approach to sustainability. The Council accepted all of the audit's recommendations and agreed a new approach to developing an ambitious sustainability agenda for Edinburgh.

#### Key Achievements

Following completion of the audit, the Council declared a climate emergency in May 2019 and set a new more challenging target for both the Council and the city, of working towards net zero

emissions by 2030. The 2015-2020 SEAP programme was concluded, and any outstanding activity absorbed into the new sustainability programme. The Council's declaration and commitment to be a net zero city by 2030 has placed sustainability at the centre of strategic and policy discussions.

Early work in support of this new target included mainstreaming the net zero ambition within all city shaping strategies delivered by the Council. Key examples include Edinburgh City Centre Transformation, the City Mobility Plan, City Plan 2030, the City Housing Strategy, as well as the Sustainable Procurement Strategy.

A key programme of work in 2020 and 2021 has been the development of a 2030 Climate Strategy for the city. The Council led the development of the strategy, which was subject to formal consultation over late summer 2021 and attracted

a high level of responses. The 2030 Climate Strategy was approved by the Policy and

Sustainability Committee on 30 November 2021 and endorsed by Edinburgh Partnership Board on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The strategy is accompanied by a supporting implementation plan setting out deliverables, milestones, timescales, resources, and an approach to measuring outcomes.

The development of the city strategy involved bringing together city partners, made up of the public and private organisations that collectively have the resources and levers necessary to achieve net zero by 2030. Engagement with city partners found a strong appetite for co-production of the strategy. The Council also worked with the Edinburgh Climate Commission to gain members' expertise and input to the development of the 2030 Climate Strategy. The strategy also establishes new governance arrangements which will provide a framework for working with partners to deliver the strategy's aims in recognition of the

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<sup>1</sup> This target has now been superseded by the more challenging target of achieving net zero by 2030, which is measured against 2018/19 levels.

fact that the Council, or any single partners, cannot achieve a net zero city by 2030 acting alone.

A climate change adaptation rapid risk and cost analysis risk assessment for the city is currently underway which will identify most vulnerable areas in the city. Work is being undertaken on assessing flood risk to the city, and a Rapid Vulnerability Assessment of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site is in progress. These will inform the development of further action on adaptation, including collaboration with regional partners.

In April 2021, an approach to monitoring city-wide emissions was approved. We produced the first city-wide emissions progress report in November 2021. This report shows that the city has achieved emissions reductions of 8% between 2018/19 and 2019/20, based on the most up-to-date data available; exceeding the target of 6% for that period.

### **Edinburgh Climate Commission**

To help stimulate city-wide climate action, the Council is co-sponsoring, along with Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, an independent Edinburgh Climate Commission which provides expert advice on how to accelerate city action on climate change. The Commission has developed a City Climate Compact which sets organisational 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.

### **Council emissions**

We have taken several strategic decisions to 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 update 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.

The Council substantially exceeded its previous target of achieving a 42% reduction by 2020/21 compared to a 2005/06 baseline, with a 62% reduction achieved a year early, in 2019/20. This target is now superseded by the more ambitious net zero by 2030 target. Emissions have been falling for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row, with a 66% reduction achieved in 2020/21, mainly due to a large reduction in waste going to landfill, following the facilities at Millerhill becoming fully operational in 2019/20.

A key programme of work in emissions reductions has been the development of the Council Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) approved by Committee on 30 November 2021. This plan represents the Council's strategic approach to reducing its corporate emissions and sets out an initial pathway to net zero by 2030.

### **Innovative work programmes**

The Council worked with the University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Climate Change Institute to develop a Carbon Scenario Tool to help evaluate the projected emissions impact of projects. It is also informing the development of

the Council and the City's future emissions trajectories to 2030.

The Council is also committed to work with communities, Community Councils, Edinburgh's Universities in one of the 20-minute neighbourhood hubs to develop funding bids for local pilots to understand what it would take to become net zero.

### **Local Air Quality Management – Improving Air quality**

Under the Environment Act 1995 and the associated Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) framework duties, Edinburgh declared six Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) - five for the pollutant nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) (St. John's Road, Great Junction Street, Glasgow Road, Inverleith Row and Central) and one for fine particulates (PM<sub>10</sub>) (Salamander Street). The latest data for our AQMAs shows trends in concentrations of concerning pollutants are decreasing.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been significant for air quality. Restrictions on travel resulted in a significant drop in NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at almost all locations across the city in 2020 with just one location within the city centre breaching the legal objective. The objectives for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) were not breached, including within the PM<sub>10</sub> Salamander Street AQMA for the first year since it was declared in 2017.

Even without the effect of the pandemic, long term trends show concentrations of the main pollutants are decreasing at most locations across the city,

albeit they remain hot spot areas of concern, especially in the Central AQMA.

Main updates regarding the other AQMAs are as follows;

- The Council intends to revoke the Inverleith Row AQMA in 2022/23 due to monitoring showing no breaches of the objectives and modelling predicting future compliance.
- The St John's Road AQMA is being amended to remove the NO2 1-hour objective element, due to improvements in air quality in the area.
- Once the new trams extension is operational and traffic management arrangements are changed for the Leith area in terms of the Low Traffic Neighbourhood, consideration will be given to revoking the Great Junction Street AQMA, due to existing monitoring showing agreement with the statutory objectives for four consecutive years.

Some of the actions taken to improve air quality include:

- The main bus operator Lothian Buses is 94% Euro VI or better bus emission standard and is in line to meet the requirements of proposed Low Emission Zone Scheme
- The Council's fleet has increased the proportion of Euro 6/VI to 60%
- the Council has approved a Business Case for the installation of on-street EV charging infrastructure which will strengthen the existing network.
- the Council uses its licensing powers to start removing older polluting vehicles from taxi and private hire car fleets. By 2023 taxis and

private hire cars must comply with a minimum euro 6 standard and as at 31 March 2020 significant progress has been made by operators with approximately 60% of the fleet already meeting that standard.

### **Low Emission Zone**

The Council is committed to implementation of a Low Emission Zone in the City by May 2022, working alongside the Scottish Government, the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Transport Scotland and the other main Scottish cities to ensure LEZs are introduced across Scotland. The Zone is a City Centre based boundary which focuses on the significant air quality problems in the Central AQMA. A grace period is proposed prior to enforcement beginning in 2024.

### **International recognition**

In 2020 and 2021, the City was awarded the maximum of six badges through the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy scheme, recognising its climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. We also participated in the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) for the first time in 2020. CDP is an international non-profit organisation for environmental reporting. Edinburgh is one of 95 global cities on the CDP 2021 A-List; meaning it has been recognized by CDP as a city that is taking bold leadership on environmental action and transparency.

### **Future Work**

Work to deliver the aims of the 2030 Climate Strategy is already underway. 2022 will see the

establishment of a new governance framework to support delivery of the strategy's actions, as detailed in its implementation plan. Key strategic priorities which will be taken forward include:

- Unlocking and accelerating energy efficiency in homes and buildings;
- Enabling the development of a citywide programme of heat and energy generation and distribution infrastructure;
- Accelerating the decarbonisation of public transport;
- Renewing the focus on climate resilience and accelerating adaptation of the city;
- Supporting citizen empowerment, behaviour change and community activism;
- Supporting business transition and the green economy; and
- Collaborating to develop a citywide programme of green investment proposals.

The Council and Scottish Government are collaborating to develop a pipeline of investment ready opportunities to support the Councils net-zero commitments. This work will continue in 2022 and involve consolidating projects to achieve scale, aligning projects to strategic priorities, and identifying routes to suitable investment.

The outcomes of the adaptation work being carried out by the Council and city and the development of an East of Scotland regional risk assessment business case will inform the development of the city's next adaptation plan.

Progress on the 2030 Climate Strategy priorities will be reported in line with annual reporting on the City's 2030 target. Council and city-wide

emissions will continue to be reported through CDP and the Public Climate Change Duties Report. The CERP will be periodically reviewed and refined as more projects are scoped.

The Scottish Government and DEFRA will consider the Council's intension to revoke the

Inverleith AQMA, under the Local Air Quality Management regime. If supported, the process of revocation will commence in 2022. The Transport and Environment Committee will consider the Low Emission Zone scheme for approval in early 2022. A period of statutory publication will be required thereafter. Subject to these processes, the aim for

implementation of the LEZ is May 2022, in conjunction with Scottish Government's Programme for Government amended commitment (2017/18) and alongside the other main Scottish Cities.

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%	40.6%	Superseded	42% by 2020*
Total city's emissions – All greenhouse gases (MtCO2e)	2.721	2.595	2.427	2.243	<i>Data available Autumn 2022</i>	Net 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

\*Figures above refer to City of Edinburgh emissions. By 2020/21, Council emissions had reduced by 66% from 2005 baseline.

## 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.*

*Partially 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.

### Key Achievements

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. The most recent Scottish Household Survey data released for 2019 also showed that satisfaction with public transport was significantly higher in Edinburgh at 88% than the Scottish average of 68%.

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 offering an additional interchange with the trams. Lothian Buses has created new routes serving West Lothian using their sister company, Lothian Country. These services travel through West Edinburgh and offer

greater choice and additional buses on the main east and west corridors.

Further public transport changes and actions to reduce congestion are included in the West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal and are being taken forward as part of the wider improvements to West Edinburgh Infrastructure. A Public Transport Improvement Study was carried out to monitor congestion levels and to identify where the improvements were needed. Congestion checks have been carried out by council officers and bus operators to ensure the additional bus lanes that have been implemented on the A8, A89 and A90 remain effective.

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 regularly to the [Transport and Environment Committee](#).

The developer responsible for new housing on Wellflats Road in Kirkliston is required to undertake a comprehensive upgrade of traffic signals to improve traffic flow at that busy junction.

In June 2021 partners were awarded £3.03m as an initial tranche of funding from Transport Scotland for the Bus Transport Partnership Fund. The initial funding award targets delivery of 'Quick Win' measures and appraisal work to support the development business cases. The award offer is be split as follows:

- £1.450m for the delivery of Quick Win measures (over 2021/22 & 2022/23)
- £1.400m for the development of a South East Region Strategic Appraisal and Outline Business Cases
- £0.180m to support a full time Programme Manager for three years.

**Future Work**

Further funding is expected to be released by Transport Scotland following the delivery of the

Appraisal and Business Case works and the successful progression of an associated gateway review process.

<b>Key measures</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>Target</b>
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.*

*Will not be achieved*

### **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 running of the city's transport network for all users and all modes of transport. The service has been designed to regulate activity, undertake both statutory and targeted inspections of road works and reinstatements, co-ordinate the network and take enforcement action where required. A Network and Enforcement Management Improvement Plan has been created to take forward the specific Roads Improvement Plan actions for this new service. The service coordinates all works and road occupations on the city's network, ensuring any potential conflicts are mitigated through the Citywide Traffic Management Group, at which all planned works are approved, and at regular Traffic Management Review Panels for major projects.

The service works closely with all utilities regarding their planned works and with the requirements of the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner to effectively manage and co-ordinate all works on the city's network and their inspection work is essential to ensuring that Public Utilities fulfil all specifications and any Performance Improvement Notices are issued. All operators, including the Council, in the

city are under scrutiny when planning and coordinating their works. The service continues to have oversight of all Temporary Traffic Management on the city's network and regularly meets with Public Utilities, Traffic Management contractors and Council services to mitigate any potential issues which could arise in Edinburgh.

The latest report on the performance of [Public Utility Companies](#) was reported to Transport and Environment Committee on 11 November 2021. Following the guidance from the Scottish Government, most Utility operations were suspended during 2020/21. Only emergency repairs and telecommunications work was allowed to be undertaken, which also had an effect on the number of inspections that the council were able to undertake.

### **Future Work**

Regular updates on the Network Enforcement Management Plan and the Public Utility Companies are reported to the Transport and Environment Committee.



## Commitment 21

### *Retain Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram in public ownership.*

*Fully Achieved*

#### **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. The City of Edinburgh Council is the sole (100%) shareholder of Transport for Edinburgh. Transport for Edinburgh holds the Council's shareholding for Lothian Buses (91%) and Edinburgh Trams (100%).

#### **Key Achievements**

Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram remain in public ownership. The decision to continue discussions on governance reform of the

Transport Arms Length External Organisations was agreed at [Transport and Environment Committee in November 2020](#). The proposed changes to the governance arrangements do not affect the public ownership position.

The conclusions of a short life working group, set up to review the current arrangements through engagement with key stakeholders were reported to [Transport and Environment Committee in August 2021](#). This set out the preferred way forward which is designed to achieve a truly multi-modal approach. It also includes making no changes in the transport services or branding of existing Council owned public transport

companies. A project team is now being created to take this forward and to work with the existing bus and tram boards to establish phased transition arrangements. An outline transition plan will be created, identifying key deliverables and timescales.

#### **Future Work**

Updates will be provided to the Transport and Environment Committee as implementation of the new governance arrangements progress.

We will continue to ensure that Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Tram are retained in public ownership.

## Commitment 22

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

*Partially Achieved*

### ***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 the tram extension started 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 included COVID-19 safety measures including; 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.

Since the tram works began:

- Over £2.4m of funding is being provided to support local business via a series of measures intended to maintain the accessibility, vibrancy and desirability of the affected streets, and support businesses experiencing hardship as a result of the construction works.
- Completion of 85% of the known utility diversions and excavation of almost 4,000 metres of road to enable the installation of tram infrastructure.
- Installation of 2,800 (62%) metres of track, over half of the total to be laid.
- Installation of over 3,000 metres of communications infrastructure, 67% of the total required for the project.
- Installation of over 3,500 metres of power ducting and over 2,800 metres of drainage infrastructure.

- Sold over £170,000 worth of itison vouchers to use in local businesses.
- Assisted with almost 6,000 deliveries from the logistic hubs.
- Completed the major civils work on two tram stops at McDonald Road and Ocean Terminal.
- Support for local initiatives through the community benefits workstream including Leith Chooses, Leith Gives and the One City Trust.

### ***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 mitigate this delay and take new physical distancing working guidelines into account, alongside other challenges relating to materials and labour supply, the programme has been reviewed and updated. Despite these significant challenges, construction continues to progress with an expected completion of autumn/winter 2022. This will be followed by testing and commissioning, with Trams to Newhaven on track to be operational 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.**

*Partially 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 routing system for household waste collections and more recently litter bins.

Since 2020 the service has been significantly affected by COVID-19 which meant there was a need to reprioritise services during that period.

### **Key Achievements**

The service 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 which unfortunately reflects

the national trend during this period. A full analysis of the data has indicated that in Edinburgh this is primarily due to the prevalence of domestic waste in high density residential areas.

A pilot bulky item collection service was being developed with The Remakery to encourage the reuse of materials. However, they were not able to deliver this to the scale required and a different approach is now being considered. A local partner could not be identified and it is planned to carry out a wider scale market testing.

The service has worked with SHRUB over several years to target the dumping of reusable items from student accommodation at the end of term in Marchmont and this work restarted in summer 2021 (there was no collection in 2020 as the universities were closed for the pandemic). This means that small items are diverted for reuse in the student and wider community rather than contribute to overflowing communal bins

Waste and Cleansing worked with Hubbub and Changeworks and over the winter 2019/20 piloted segregated recycling points to recycle plastic bottles, cans and coffee cups in the city centre. 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. The campaign continued at a reduced level (as a result of COVID-19 restrictions) during 2020, was expanded again in summer 2021, and 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, looking at waste prevention, recycling and litter in the round with the aim to better embed learned behaviours. This work remains suspended at present due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions but Changeworks have developed a digital focussed approach to allow work to recommence.

Following a review of the Environmental Wardens and Waste Compliance Teams, a single service has been established called the Street Enforcement Team which focuses 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 is to increase enforcement action in response to offences relating to littering, domestic and trade waste presentation and disposal, fly-tipping, tables/chairs permits and abandoned vehicles. However, this work has been affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

During 2020, the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown saw 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. This picture has continued nationally into 2021 with a reduction in environmental quality across Scotland, and the Scottish Government has launched a consultation on a new Litter and Fly-tipping Strategy.

A campaign was developed to encourage use of bins in parks and other public areas which ran

during summer 2020 and summer 2021. The service is continuing to promote issues using the Scotland Is Stunning Campaign, with a localised identity.

The service continues to support community groups and individuals organising clean-ups by providing clean up kits and removing the litter that has been collected by them.

The street cleansing service has recently introduced a new routing system for the servicing of litter bins across the city. Data on bin locations and required frequency of collections, along with other parameters, has been used to build daily routes across Edinburgh. All litter bins are now serviced by mini Refuse Collection Vehicles (7.5 or 12 tonne) with the aim of maximising servicing capacity and minimising manual handling by staff.

Crews now have in-cab devices which provide details of their daily route. The device records when a bin was serviced and, going forward, the crew will have the ability to report any issues with the servicing of the bins (eg report a bin has been damaged, report a bin could not be accessed).

### ***Future Work***

The LEAMS criteria used by authorities to assess cleanliness has been reviewed following the publication of a revised Code of Practice and is about to be replaced by a new Litter Monitoring System (LMS). The Code clarifies organisational responsibilities, supports more effective

cleanliness standards and a proactive approach to litter prevention. The updated LMS monitoring system will now be implemented fully from 2022/23. All streets and public open spaces have been rezoned (where these are under Council control) and a map showing these has been published online.

All litter bins have been rerouted using the updated software which will improve the reliability of this service and the data will be monitored and reviewed to ensure routes are efficient as possible. It will also allow the team to collect data to ensure collection frequencies are correct and ensure the right bins are in the right locations for public use. This work will be complemented by the expanded use of “fill level” sensors as part of the SmartCity project, which will allow the service to be more responsive to particular sites which fill up more quickly than anticipated.

A full review of the communal bin collection service is being implemented 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 was reprofiled to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions so that development work was brought forward and on-site implementation started in autumn 2021.

<b>Key measures</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22* (to Nov 21)</b>	<b>Target</b>
Reduction in communal bin service requests	15,155	21,868	17,004	19,484	13,638	22,020
Reduction in individual domestic bin service requests	22,853	33,621	17,690	19,887	15,971	21,180
Incidences of dumping and fly tipping	5,928	8,855	9,297	11,329	8,796	Decreasing trend
LEAMS – street cleanliness index	88.7%	92.0%	92.9%	81.8%	Not available	95%

*\* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time*

## Commitment 24

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

*Fully 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 has decreased from 2,590 in 2017/18 to 655 in the first 8 months of 2021/22. Over the same period, the number of fixed penalty notices given for dog fouling incidents has decreased from 17 to 3. Dog fouling reports from members of the public have decreased year-on-year, as has the percentage of

sites where dog fouling is present. This is measured through the site visits carried out by Keep Scotland Beautiful as part of their LEAMS audits.

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 the continued COVID-19 restrictions and is currently largely reactive, however this will be kept under review 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 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 the future in conjunction with the Love Your River campaign to tackle upstream sources of pollution.

### Future Work

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, including dog fouling.

*\* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time*

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Nov 2021)	Target
Fixed penalty notices for dog fouling	17	22	9	0	3	Increase reporting, decrease incidents
Dog fouling service requests	2,590	2,250	1,712	1,362	655	Increase reporting, decrease incidents

## Commitment 25

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

**Will Not Be Achieved**

### Background

The Council's [Recycling Strategy](#), published in 2010 aimed to deliver an overall recycling rate of 60% by 2017. This was comprised of 50% being delivered through sorting of waste at source, with an additional 10% being delivered through residual waste 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, which means that recycling of metals, etc at the treatment plant are not currently being included in the calculation of the "official" recycling rate in Scotland (but are still being recycled). The change in these assumptions was reported to Committee in 2018 as part of the review of the waste management strategy, but no new targets were set as a result of further legislative changes which were foreseen and are referred to below in "Next Steps".

### Key Achievements

A [report](#) outlining the progress to date on the Council's 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.

During the lifetime of the Council's current recycling strategy, recycling rates initially increased from 30.4% to 42.6%. Recycling rates have reduced gradually since, though 2020/21 was affected by the suspension of some services at the start of the year as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions.

There are a number of projects in place which aim to increase recycling rates and these 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 usually 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 and Edinburgh's use of landfill is one of the lowest in Scotland in percentage terms.

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 what is collected for both waste and recycling.

The Zero Waste Leith project 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.

The Waste and Cleansing service commissioned Changeworks to carry out and develop focussed interventions around food waste in specific communities during 2021. Food waste accounts for approximately one third of the waste thrown away in domestic bins, both in Edinburgh and nationally and is a significant contributor to climate change.

Work is ongoing to optimise the use of recycling facilities within schools. This work has been led by the Waste and Cleansing Service but supported by Facilities Management and Communities and Families staff who are responsible for how waste in schools is managed.

### Future Work

Following the conclusion of pilots, notably in the

Albert Street area, the service has commenced the implementation of the Communal Bin Review which will involve the redesign of the existing waste and recycling communal bin services across the city. This is being supported by a £7.7m grant award from Zero Waste Scotland. 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 has now commenced following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. The timeline has been reprofiled to take account of the delays related to the pandemic.

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 continue to monitor performance closely.

This service area is facing a number of significant legislative changes over the next five years. These are likely to significantly change the composition of the waste and the shape of collection services. Once the detail and impact of these changes are known new targets will then be set for recycling rates.

These include:

- 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. As of November 2021, this has been delayed in Scotland but is still expected to be implemented during the life of the current parliament.
- Extended producer responsibility legislation for packaging waste is expected to be phased in between 2023 and 2027 (this is led by the UK Government and the timeline is less clear).
- The Waste Framework Directive will alter the responsibilities of Councils for the collection of specific materials including organic waste and textiles, but the detailed legal and operational implications of these changes are not currently known.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (to Nov 2021)	Target
Percentage of Waste Recycled	42.6%	41.1%	41.1%	39.6%	43.1%	60% by 2022

\* Part year figures shown for 2021/22 – full 2021/22 data are not available at this time



## Commitment 26

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

*Partially Achieved*

### **Background**

Actions to improve usage within existing Park and Ride sites are contained within the Local Transport Strategy (LTS) 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**

The LTS has now been updated with the adoption of the new City Mobility Plan. This includes the Policy Measure (*MOVEMENT 9 Regional Interchanges*) to investigate opportunities to expand existing and create new strategically placed transport hubs on the edge of the city where people travelling into Edinburgh can switch to or between public transport and active travel. These interchanges will include facilities to support sustainable travel.

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. We have concluded our project to increase the provision of shared use parking places across the city and we have introduced parking charges on Sundays across the central parking zones 1-4. We have also recently advertised Traffic Regulation Orders for new Controlled Parking Zones in the Leith and Gorgie areas of the city as part of the Council's Strategic review of Parking with the aim of reporting back to Committee in March 2022.

### **Future Work**

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on public transport demand. Patronage numbers have fallen dramatically and are not recovering quickly. During the pandemic a number of bus priority measures have been implemented in order to ensure public transport remains available and an attractive option, with reduced journey times and improved reliability.

This work has been carried forward into a region wide bid for Scottish Government funding through the Bus Partnership Fund. Through this bid, the Council was awarded funding to undertake a strategic review of bus corridors and priority improvement measures. Park and Ride provision and bus priority opportunities on the corridors serving the sites will be included in this review and should lead to further funding for implementation. The review is a significant piece of work that will look at Edinburgh in its context of sub-regional economy that extends north (to Fife), west (to West Lothian and Falkirk), east (to East Lothian) and south (to Midlothian and the Scottish Borders). Strengthening cross border public transport services will be key to tackling the environmental and economic impacts of significant in-commuting into Edinburgh.

The Council will continue to work with regional partners and neighbouring local authorities to coordinate spatial planning and transport at a regional level to support public transport provision across the region. Further consideration of Park and Ride provision will also be included within Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 (STPR2), City Plan 2030 and the West Edinburgh Spatial Study.

## Commitment 27

### *Tackle pavement parking and reduce street clutter to improve accessibility.*

#### **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 Council has always supported a change in legislation that would allow action to be taken against vehicles parked on pavements. This change in legislation has now been approved and we await the regulation guidance. Actions being taken forward through the [Parking Action Plan](#) such as the introduction of shared-use parking and visitor permits aim to discourage pavement parking.

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 Council's 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.

Examples of items being assessed for removal are:

- Signs and poles – remove or relocate or reduce where possible.

#### *Fully Achieved*

- 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.

Signage has been improved along most of the National Cycle Network within Edinburgh to make the network more accessible to all path users. The Quiet Route of Fishwives' Causeway also had its signage improved to promote it as an alternative to the busier routes with motor traffic.

The Spaces for People programme has now transitioned to [Travelling Safely](#) and the measures that have been approved for retention are going through an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order process.

#### **Future Work**

The Council has commissioned a review of our streets to identify where footway parking currently takes place, so we can consider our approach. However, we are still waiting for the regulations from the Scottish Government which has been delayed and are now expected to be announced in early 2022.

## 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.**

*Partially 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. Construction of three new primary schools (Canaan Lane Primary School, Frogston Primary School, St. John's RC Primary School, replacement Victoria PS), one special school (replacement St Crispin's Special School) and a replacement secondary school (Castlebrae HS) has commenced and the new buildings are due to be completed by March 2022. Construction has also commenced on the Wave 4 replacement school projects of Trinity Academy and Wester Hailes High School. Completion of all these projects has been delayed until 2022 due to the ongoing and significant implications of COVID-19. Design for 3 further primary schools, another three replacement secondary school projects and the construction of

three significant secondary extension projects has commenced. The first of the primary schools in this phase is due to be completed in 2023 and the first new secondary school by 2024, although these may also be delayed due to the wider implications of the pandemic.

Following full estate survey completion in September 2017, a five-year rolling resurvey programme continues to be implemented. The original full survey programme had informed the scope of a £124m 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 (AMW) programme which had a budget of £18.5m in 2018/19, £30m in 2019/20, £30m in 2020/21, £25.5m in 2021/22 and £20.45m in 2022/23 to invest in improving the condition of our operational properties and to catch-up on the backlog of maintenance works. Focus to date has been primarily on school buildings. Now approaching the end of the fourth year of the five-year programme of targeted investment, the Council

has achieved actual spends of £21.326m in 2018/19, £48.547m in 2019/20, £14.517m in 2020/21 and to end November 2021 the 2021/22 spend is £17.728m and with a projected 2021/22 year-end spend of £22.5m. Despite the 2020/21 and to a lesser extent the 2021/22 spends being impacted by COVID-19, the overall five-year programme scheduled spend is ahead of schedule. Up to end November 2021, approximately £102 million or 82% of the 5-year programme budget has been expended with 73% 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 well ahead of the planned schedule.

In 2021/22, 91 Education and Children's Services properties/buildings with a total Gross Internal Area (GIA) of 110,117m<sup>2</sup> are scheduled to be surveyed between April 2021 to end March 2022. These consist of 4 High Schools, 39 Primary Schools, 16 Nursery & Early Year Centres, 7 Special Schools, 20 ancillary buildings such as stores and 2 school houses adding to the 221 education buildings surveyed between October 2017 to end March 2021.

### Future Work

The Learning Estate team will continue to lead on the delivery of the Education and Children's Services capital programme. Full programme implications of COVID-19 are still to be provided by contractors however the estimated delay for every project is now in the range of 12-18 months.

While COVID-19 has delayed the asset upgrade programme in 2020/21 and 2021/22, performance was so exceptional in the first two years of the programme that we remain on schedule to meet the overall five-year programme targets.

The main challenge for the AMW programme in 2022/23 will be to find capital funding and then to deliver Net Zero Carbon and sustainability

improvements in future buildings retrofitting works to achieve the Council's Net Zero Carbon targets. The AMW programme has been identified as the most appropriate delivery programme to deliver Net Zero Carbon and sustainability targets as part of an 'EnerPHit' (retrofitting to a comfort, quality and energy standard) approach for future Council building retrofits.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Number of new schools where construction has commenced	0	2	5	7	Construction commenced for 2 secondary schools and 10 primary schools by 2021.
Percentage of conditions surveys completed	100%	100%	100%	90%	2020/21 surveys delayed due to Covid-19 (18,121m2) fully caught up in 2021/22. Of the 2021/22 planned surveys, 89.9% surveyed at end Nov 2021 against annual 125,646m2 planned.

## 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.**

### Key Achievements

Almost all primary schools are delivering Language 2 (L2) progressively and all secondary schools are providing full or partial L2 to pupils, with 87% offering full L2 entitlement, against a national figure of 70%. 73% of schools are offering full Language 3 provision, against a national figure of 64%.

The focus has been on ensuring robust, sustainable, progressive models in place for Language 2 across the Broad General Education and for planning for Language 3 models appropriate to local contexts. This is supported by the Education Authority Improvement Plan and 'One plus Two Approach' language plan.

Data is used to target support and has resulted in improved leadership and support for Languages 1+2 in schools and learning communities, more robust curriculum models, increased engagement with Curriculum Languages Professional Learning (CLPL) and greater collaboration and consistency across schools and learning communities.

The Team around Languages has worked closely with colleagues across education services to ensure alignment with the vision and aims of Edinburgh Learns for Life. The team now

comprises a Quality Improvement Officer and a full-time Development Officer, supported by a Lead Teacher for secondary and an active network of Lead Teachers in primary schools. There is close collaboration with colleagues in the regional South-East Improvement Collaborative to enhance the CLPL offer and broaden the professional network and there is a professional learning suite of opportunities tailored to local need and national requirements available for schools. There is also enhanced partnership working with universities and colleges to strengthen links, giving opportunities to broaden the languages curriculum and enhance learner experience.

Music tuition is a key deliverable within the Lifelong Service Plan. During 2018/19 the new Youth Music Initiative (YMI) provision for Primary 2s resulted in an overall increase in the number of pupils learning music through these programmes. YMI resources for Early Years and Primary continue to be well used and are supported by a programme of Career Long Professional Learning for staff.

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

### Fully Achieved

supporting national qualifications in the senior phase.

Both the YMI and the IMS have been impacted significantly by Covid-19. YMI programmes had to be re-timetabled several times throughout 2020/21, however despite this, when permitted, uptake in schools has been high with feedback extremely positive.

Pupils learning through IMS benefitted from £60k worth of new instruments as part of a hugely successful partnership between IMS and the Edinburgh International Festival. This has helped support pupils who cannot afford an instrument to benefit from lessons, as well as helping overcome restrictions on sharing instruments between pupils, and thus helping recover numbers.

'Raising Aspirations in Science Education' (RAiSE) developed a partnership with the Further Education sector through the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) Inspiration Experience working party. RAiSE has collaborated with the college to ensure their coursework for upper primary is mapped to the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) experiences, outcomes and benchmarks. The RAiSE programme provided funding for a two-year period which ended in December 2018, however, funding was sourced to

create an Assistant Development Officer (ADO) post to ensure networks and training continued until June 2020.

The ADO has delivered effective CLPL for “STEM Developers” (primary practitioners) and also developed materials for “Putting the M in STEM” with Education Scotland as well as hosting regular STEM “meet ups”. The ADO has also continued to work with the University of Edinburgh on outreach events.

In autumn 2019 the Scottish Government made funds available for school and Local Authority bids to promote STEM and the council had seven successful bids: this included authority development work on primary mathematics as well as school-based collaboration in science, technology and mathematics. Education Scotland Funding enabled the appointment of a STEM Development Officer (DO) from October 2021-

March 2023 to work across the South East Improvement Collaborative.

### Future Work

Targeted support with L2 and L3 provision will continue including resources for Heritage Languages and support for schools to embed teaching and learning in L3. A cross-sector Language Ambassador framework will be developed to support schools to broaden the scope of these programmes to include the full range of languages used and studied by our pupils.

Next steps are to support pupils in school-based bands to gain the skills and confidence to join citywide groups. The new YMI tutor team will develop lessons, resources and opportunities to showcase musical learning to parents and carers as permitted by guidance. With a new team of

tutors in post, plans to continue delivery in schools from January to June should see the target number of learners for this 2021/22 academic year achieved. Plans to remove charging for all IMS lessons across Scotland continue to be developed and Edinburgh will liaise with Scottish Government and finance colleagues to ensure a fair settlement for Edinburgh that impacts positively on a service that has always been free for all pupils.

Following a Validated Self-Evaluation across the city the Raising Attainment in Mathematics Report was drafted in March 2020 the final version of this report will be shared with schools and relevant partners. The STEM DO will support the development of wider networks of practitioners and support settings to work towards elements of STEM Nation Award.

Key measures	2016/17*	2017/18*	2018/19*	2019/20*	2020/21*	Target
% of Primary Schools delivering Language 2 progressively	Collected from 17/18	90%	97%	98%	98% (64% full, 35% partial)	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	15,687	21,000 by 20/21
% of children achieving expected CfE level for numeracy by Primary 7	75.6%	78.2%	81.0%	Not available	78.1%	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.***

*Fully Achieved*

### ***Background***

The council aims to ensure that all pupils achieve the best possible physical and emotional wellbeing and education outcomes.

### ***Key Achievements***

A target of 50 additional classroom assistants and support staff during the administration period was set and this was achieved by school session 2019/20. The recruitment of Pupil Support Assistants (PSA) is ongoing and the numbers of classroom assistants and support staff continues to increase.

For session 2021/22, we now have a total of 677 full-time equivalent (FTE) Pupil Support Assistants (93FTE more than the initial figure) and 23FTE additional Pupil Support Officers in post in specialist provisions, which is in addition to core posts funded from school budgets.

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.

We have growing numbers of Pupil Support Officers (PSO) contributing to the Wellbeing Academies. In total we now have around 45 primary and 38 secondary staff, and training has also been provided for outreach staff and third-sector colleagues. We have successfully implemented a model of online Wellbeing Academy training since Autumn 2020. We have an additional 35 staff currently signed up for the course or are working through it.

Additionally, we have invested in additional support staff in seven Enhanced Support Bases and nine Wellbeing Hubs in mainstream secondary schools over the course of this session. We are planning to extend these provisions further, with all 23 mainstream secondary schools now either having Wellbeing Hub supports in place or the funding allocated in order to enable them to do so.

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 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. In addition to this, all of 23 Learning Communities now have access to targeted mental health supports for children and young people from P6-S6, with 19 learning communities with counsellors and four with access to Place 2 Be.

### ***Future Work***

We will continue to deploy the additional Scottish Government funding for mental health supports to provide targeted support for children and young people, including those who require supports outside of the school setting. We will also further explore bespoke approaches to mental health support for young people with more complex additional support needs.

We will continue to roll out the Wellbeing Hubs across all mainstream Secondary Schools, with a concomitant increase in support staff who trained in Low Intensity Anxiety Management approaches.

<b>Key measures</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>Target</b>
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

\* measure, to be developed, is now around Inclusive practice induction training



## Commitment 31

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

#### **Background**

We work with 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, with representatives from education sectors 3-18, Skills Development Scotland, Edinburgh College and Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Regional partners, ensures that the Career Education Standard is embedded across all schools and that the Youth Employment strategy milestones are achieved.

The recruitment of DYW Coordinators across all secondary schools has improved employer engagement with schools. This has been delivered in partnership with the DYW Employer Board and the coordinators are currently developing work-based learning projects to improve engagement with local employers for young people who are either about to leave or are choosing pathway options. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, it has been possible to provide some work placements, in particular those linked to qualifications, such as

Foundation Apprenticeships and employability awards. A number of 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 (SCP) offer is a co-constructed programme for young people with pathways at a range of SCQF Levels offering alternative routes to employment. Such as the Council's Children and Young People programme provides a valuable pathway to our Childcare Modern Apprenticeships. All young people engaged in the SCP have been provided with an on-campus offer this session and we hope this will continue to build momentum for interest in these courses. Edinburgh College continues to guarantee to offer of a place to all school pupils who apply.

The Hub for Success is a partnership between Edinburgh's Colleges and Universities and the Council which aims to improve the number of young people gaining access to, and successfully completing, their chosen education placements. The Through Care After Care Services run a Job Club

#### **Partially Achieved**

with colleagues from Skills Development Scotland to support our care experienced young people.

The most recent December Participation Measure shows currently 96.8% of 16-17 year olds in Edinburgh City are in education, employment or training and personal development compared to the national 95.4%.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the priority for Adult Education was to maintain contact with existing vulnerable learners and to support those who wished to continue learning and address their learning needs. Following a citywide adult literacies learner survey, blended learning options were developed. An application was made to Connecting Scotland for digital devices for learners and some staff members undertook training to enable them to become Digital Champions and offer more support to learners. Microsoft Teams training sessions were developed and delivered for LLDOs, sessional staff and volunteers to upskill and prepare them for running online literacy group sessions. Learners accessed various online learning to develop digital confidence and skills. For learners who were unable to access online learning weekly communication by other methods such as phone and email continued.

As part of the blended learning approach accredited learning opportunities were available with 7 learners

successfully involved in an Adult Achievement Awards Level 6 pilot project and 41 learners achieved SQA qualifications.

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 universities and colleges to provide skills development in housing, construction, renewables, and digital sectors.

The HCI Skills Gateway has supported Edinburgh College to deliver 'Design Engineer Construct' qualifications to school pupils within Edinburgh (57 learners in 2020-21), as well as upskilling short courses on key sustainable construction themes including Waste in the Circular Economy (Level 4, 264 learners to date in 2021-22). HCI has also worked with Edinburgh College to develop the new 'Creative Thinking' qualification, led by 'Daydream Believers', with 200 pilot students' learning showcased at COP26.

Under DDI Skills Gateway, an extensive programme of CPD has been provided for teachers and lecturers, sharing expertise across the region's colleges and universities. School pupils have also had opportunities to engage in a series of Live Lessons aimed at developing data literacy skills. Big data components have been introduced to many HNC and HND courses at Edinburgh College and a range of bespoke courses are being offered to targeted learners, including harder to reach groups. One example is a data skills progression route for SCQF level 3 to 6 through a partnership between Edinburgh College and Access Data. Four courses

have been designed to support this pathway with a focus on learners entering a mainstream college course on exit of the final course. A data skills grant scheme run by The Data Lab also offers adult learners the chance to develop data literacy skills delivered across a range of training providers.

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.

### *Future Work*

We recognise the impact of COVID-19 on the positive destinations of young people and so we will continue to adapt our expanding vocational education offer to address this ongoing impact.

The 16+ Network across all schools will continue to collaborate with 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 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 council 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. For those most at risk, the Youth Employment Partnership is responding to the impact of COVID-19 is working with Edinburgh Guarantee to revise the Activity Agreement programme so a more sustained case managed approach is embedded.

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.

Plans to offer blended learning opportunities with the addition of face to face learning in venues where feasible from September 2021 continue to be developed. To support this an Adult Learning Risk Assessment was developed and approved and Return to Adult Learning sessions delivered for sessional staff and volunteers while health and safety guidelines were produced for learners.

Limited access to centres and social distancing resulted in fewer and smaller groups running. However, from January 22 plans are underway to deliver more face to face provision with several organisations e.g. Freshstart and the Job Centre.

The IRES Skills Gateways and Integrated Employer Engagement programme continues to develop. Through the DDI Skills Gateway, Edinburgh College will deliver the Professional Development Award (PDA) in Data Science from January 2022.

<b>Key measures</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>Target</b>
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	1,693	5,200 (for 2021/22)

## Commitment 32

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

**Fully Achieved**

#### **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 revised the implementation date for delivery of 1,140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare from August 2020 to 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. This involved both local authority settings

and partner providers. To support the delivery of the programme a workforce development plan was created. This programme was on track to be delivered by August 2020.

Overall feedback from settings involved in phasing in the expansion was positive. As well as supporting the development and learning needs of the children, parents and carers are reporting the positive impact on family life and household income opportunities through access to work and training.

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.

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on how early years services could be delivered so the Scottish Government extended the timescale for providing 1140 hours to August 2021.

The duty on local authorities to secure 1140 hours funded ELC for all eligible children has been in effect since 1st August 2021, which is the revised implementation date, and Edinburgh is now fully delivering this statutory requirement.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
% of Early Years settings providing 1140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare	29%	51%	55%	75%	100%	100% by Aug 2021
% of eligible 2-year olds accessing 1140 hours	12%	26%	75%	80%	100%*	100% by Aug 2021

\* all eligible 2s with a place have access to 1140 hours

## 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.***

***Partially Achieved***

### ***Background***

The council's 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***

Flexible options were set out in the [Early Learning and Childcare Strategy](#) reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2017. A variety of delivery models are now available for parents across the city e.g. forest kindergarten, childminder, full year or term time settings though parents may need to travel to access their preferred model.

Consultation with parents and carers regarding the delivery of funded early learning and childcare and key aspects of the early years' service was carried out in November 2021. The findings of the survey will help inform how we develop the provision of early years services in Edinburgh to take account of and reflect on local needs of children and their families. We will also undertake a review the 1140 placement models of delivery for session 2022/23 to increase flexibility and choice for parents.

Over 200 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.

We have a team of 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 deprivation (i.e. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation - SIMD deciles 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,

numeracy and health and wellbeing through play based approaches 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 and this increased to 16 by August 2021 and is expected to be 20 by January 2022. 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 support for learning staff, set realistic objectives to improve practice and experiences for children in the setting.

All applications by parents to defer their child's P1 place for August 2021 were granted. This commitment will also be available to parents for session 2022-23 until the Scottish Government make this a statutory right for parents from August 2023. The cost of the deferrals for sessions 2021-

22 and 2022-23 will be met through Council funding.

<b>Key measures</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>Target</b>
% of Early Years settings providing more than one option of early learning and childcare for parents	45%	64%	70%	75%	100%	100% by Aug 2020
% of Primary 1 pupils living in the most deprived areas achieving expected literacy level	62%	63%	Not available*	59%	Not available**	Increase by 5% by session 20/21

\* no Achievement of Level survey undertaken in 2020

\*\* not available until summer 2022

## **Commitment 34**

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

#### ***Background***

The council has 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, effective multi-agency working and our restorative and strengths-based practice approach is reducing the numbers of children who need to be Looked After or are subject to child protection procedures. The rates of children being Looked After and placed on the Child Protection Register are now at their lowest levels for at least 15 years.

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.

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.

The partnership with the voluntary sector and the Council for Voluntary Service Edinburgh (EVOC) has continued to develop with the leadership of the Covid Task Force, the Local Operational Groups (LOGs) meeting in each Locality and the formation of a child protection network with EVOC representatives.

Child protection services and services for looked after children have continued to operate effectively during COVID-19 lockdown and we 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.

The Corporate Parenting Action Plan was endorsed by full council on 18 February 2021 and co-ordinator has been recruited to facilitate the implementation of the action plan, support the Participation Officers and contribute to the

#### ***Partially Achieved***

implementation of the Promise across the Edinburgh Children's Partnership.

The Council funds four specialist services supporting victims/survivors of domestic abuse: Edinburgh Women's Aid, Shakti Women's Aid, Foursquare – Keymoves and Aditi. The four organisations benefit from ongoing support by the dedicated commissioning officer who carries out bi-monthly monitoring meetings and who can provide support and guidance as and when needed.

Other organisations operating in Edinburgh supporting victims/survivors of domestic abuse who are not directly funded by the council are invited to join the Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee ('ESEC' - formerly the Edinburgh Violence Against Women Partnership). The ESEC is a multi-agency partnership of senior staff members in both statutory and voluntary organisations operating in Edinburgh that monitors the delivery of the four key Equally Safe Priorities in the City. The partnership has a strategic function in ensuring positive communication, collaboration and consistency in service provision across the city, and it provides resources to partners to ensure that this is achieved. Resources can include shared guidance and

protocols, information, support and representation in local and national fora.

Domestic abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) organisations in Edinburgh are also offered the opportunity to attend free training provided by the council on a range of topics relevant to their work.

All domestic abuse organisations operating in Edinburgh are able to refer to the Edinburgh Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC). MARAC meetings take place monthly, and they are chaired by either Edinburgh Women’s Aid, Police Scotland or Criminal Justice Social Work. The MARAC provides a process for domestic abuse organisations to highlight escalating risks against victims/survivors of domestic abuse and to

ensure that additional support is put in place to enhance their safety.

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

### **Future Work**

We continue to risk assess all areas of service delivery and we will continue to ensure that we undertake our key duties including Child protection processes using the learning of the last two years.

The Council’s Quality Assurance and Compliance team has also been working on the creation and implementation of Domestic Abuse Local Action Groups (DALAG). This pilot project is expected to be implemented in 2022 and it is intended to

provide support to victims/survivors of domestic abuse who are not currently accessing services and who are not meeting the risk threshold for a referral to MARAC.

It is also expected that in 2022 the new Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Bill will come into effect, after becoming an Act in May 2021. This will have significant implications for service delivery across Edinburgh both for statutory partners as well as domestic abuse organisations. The Access to Housing and Support Services Lead Officer will work closely with the ESEC Lead Officer to prepare for this upcoming legislation.

<b>Key measures</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>Target</b>
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.
No of women and children supported in a year by domestic abuse services	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.*

*Fully Achieved*

### **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**

#### *Libraries*

Over the last five years, the use of digital downloads to access library services such as e-books, e-magazines and e-newspapers continued to increase with 2.49 million downloads for the first 11 months of 2021.

COVID-19 lockdown led to libraries closing, but the 24/7 online and e-services remained available and were promoted to citizens via social and other media with all digital services seeing a significant increase in use. Edinburgh Libraries received the award from PressReader for Most Newspapers Read Online

Worldwide in 2020 (1,905,386 issues from 2,155 unique titles) and further investment in digital resources and services is planned.

Libraries are working with the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) in administering the Connecting Scotland community programme. This Scottish Government programme, set up in response to coronavirus, gifts iPads, Chromebooks, connectivity and digital support to individuals to enable digital skills development. This programme focuses on supporting those facing digital exclusion, economic hardship, social exclusion due to underlying health conditions and/or special characteristics and working families with multiple school age children with no access to personal devices. From April 2020 – Dec 2021, three phases of Connecting Scotland and a related Winter Support Package, have resulted in over 1000 devices being gifted to individuals in Edinburgh.

Edinburgh Libraries' website was tailored to reflect lockdown with signposting, links and e-resources specifically targeted to reflect home-schooling, indoor activities, combatting loneliness and poverty. These resources continue to be well-used and are refreshed regularly.

Visits to libraries reduced, from 2.74 million in 2019/20 to 14,820 in 2020/21 as libraries were forced to closed due to COVID-19 lockdown. At this time, Edinburgh Libraries applied a fines amnesty.

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, and quiz nights.

Each year Edinburgh Libraries deliver the Summer Reading Challenge encouraging young children to continue reading over the holidays. In 2021 this was delivered solely online.

During 2021/22 libraries have gradually re-opened in line with public health guidance but with significantly reduced visitor capacity (less than 10% of normal capacity). Use of the People's Network (public access PCs) demonstrates the critical lifeline that physical access to libraries provides; since re-opening libraries in May 2021 there have been 11,452 pc bookings.

During restrictions, 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. Libraries continued to support digital

inclusion through free access to Wi-Fi while buildings were closed – this provision covers Children’s Homes in Edinburgh. With the resumption of access to libraries and if social distancing remains at 1m, the Get Online programme is planned for returning to a 1 to 1 physical basis from early 2022.

Throughout the pandemic, a regular Digital Learning Newsletter has been sent to all Library staff to offer learning opportunities and encourage colleagues to improve their digital skills and knowledge - both for personal development but also so staff can support library users to develop their digital skills.

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 allows library customers to borrow, return and renew items using their own smart device (phone, tablet).

#### *Community Centres*

Following the closure of Community Centres during COVID-19 restrictions, the majority have been supported to reopen so that Management Committees, Lifelong Learning, third sector and partner organised groups and events can restart. This has involved extensive collaborative working between Council officers and Management Committees to address health and fire safety issues and make the use of centres as safe as possible for staff, volunteers and the local community as they

reopen. Lifelong Learning Services Managers have worked with Management Committees supporting them to ensure appropriate paperwork is in place so groups can resume and provided information and support they need to address the specific health and safety aspects Management Committees are responsible for.

#### *Future Work*

Edinburgh Libraries have been awarded £33,000 by Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) as part of the Scottish Government’s Covid Funding Support for the No Going Back project. This is a large-scale youth engagement exercise to ask how young people view the library service and how it can adapt to better meet their needs. Funded workshops and other engagement and consultation techniques using the YouthTalk process will be arranged.

Plans are in place to refresh the current People’s Network (public access to PCs, internet and printing); which will upgrade the hardware and software and futureproof the Network for several years. In response to customer need, this will include wireless printing which will also provide an opportunity to generate income. This work is expected to be completed by June 2022.

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.

Business cases have been prepared and submitted for consideration to replace two fundamental IT systems: one for a renewed Library Management System (LMS) and the other for provision of self-service kiosks to supplement the self-service provision available via Library App.

As part of the COVID-19 hardship fund from Scottish Government, libraries have received funding for two projects: one pilot project working with Library Access Services, WRVS volunteers and Library Link customers to use their devices to read for pleasure and another working with Get Online customers and Digital Champions to support digital skills development to support employability and combat poverty.

Edinburgh Library staff are exploring what the new Scottish public library strategy which advocates the abolition of fines means for Edinburgh and looking at how we could move this forward.

The Lifelong Learning Service and Business Support will continue to work closely with Management Committees to develop community centre activity programmes and to follow Scottish Government guidance on reducing COVID-19 transmission, creating as safe an environment as possible for volunteers, staff and all building users.

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

\*\* impact of library closures due to COVID-19

## Commitment 36

### *Support the continued development of Gaelic Medium Education.*

#### **Background**

The Council are committed to working in partnership with Gaelic communities, 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**

**Governance:** Enhanced governance of Gaelic education through two new groups: a Strategic Sub-Group to support Gaelic language education across Edinburgh and a Gaelic Learning Strategy Steering Group to support the Gaelic Language Implementation Plan (GLIP). These groups expand the team supporting Gaelic Education to include Council colleagues from Finance, Policy and Insight, Edinburgh Learns and Community Learning and Development Team, as well as partners from

Scottish Government, Education Scotland, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Moray House.

**Early Years:** The Council's provision for 0-3 years, Cròileagan, has been cited as an excellent model and is attracting interest from colleagues elsewhere in Scotland. Groups ran successfully on-line and outdoors until Scottish Government guidance allowed for a return to indoor groups in October 2021. In accordance with the wishes of service users, we continue to run outdoor sessions.

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 Storrann, Education Scotland and BnaG.

Initial contact has been made with colleagues in Perth and Kinross to share practice, explore possible collaborative projects and expand resources available to families (e.g. Bookbug sessions).

Work has started to improve alignment of Croileagan curriculum with Oganan and EY at Bunscoil 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. Oganan are

### *Fully Achieved*

now a partner provider for EY and work with our nursery at TnaP to offer 1,140 hours provision.

**Primary Education:** The primary team have continued to deliver GME to pupils, despite acute challenges with staffing and accommodation experienced during the pandemic. Pupils and families have been given additional support with Gaelic language acquisition to mitigate some of the impact of school closures on skills and confidence. Our new full-time, permanent Head Teacher (HT) took up post at the beginning of this session, and other staff have moved into promoted posts in the past months. This supports our drive to develop a full, stable staff team and to encourage colleagues to develop as leaders, as part of workforce planning for future expansion of the service.

Responding to concerns from staff, pupils and parents, Scottish Government funding has been secured to carry out improvements on acoustics in key learning spaces. Additional capital funding has also been secured to refurbish part of the school for 0-3 and general use.

**Secondary Education:** There has been a significant expansion of the GME Secondary provision based at the James Gillespie's High School:

- the majority of the S1 cohort now receive 9 of

- their subjects through the medium of Gaelic.
- S1 now receive Key Adult Time in Gaelic.
- the use of Gaelic has increased across the school, both in terms of the amount of time pupils spend being immersed in the language, and the opportunities for staff to communicate in Gaelic.
- We now have a Curriculum Lead in place, which means that we can roll out the offer of GLE to other schools.

Work is ongoing to support the expansion of secondary provision, including collaboration with colleagues in other Scottish local authorities and in Wales to consider immersive models of provision.

### **GME Expansion**

Although the pandemic has stalled the rate of progress, during 2021 we have completed an informal consultation process on GME expansion and developed Statutory Consultation proposals. On 7 December 2021 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a draft Statutory Consultation paper including two options for the future delivery of secondary GME education in Edinburgh, the creation of two new GME primary units (with appropriate catchment areas) in the south east and west of Edinburgh and confirmation of the placement policy for GME in the city should be brought forward for consideration by the Committee in January 2022.

### **Cultural Activities/Promotion of GME**

The appointment of a Corporate Gaelic Development Officer on a fixed-term basis has been highly effective in driving and embedding action across the scope of the plan. This has established

and consolidated partnership work to link education, culture and economy. This post ended on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Funding for a new post was secured and successfully recruited to in November 2021.

### **Future Work**

**Governance:** The strategic groups will continue to support the work of colleagues in schools and in other service areas as we move forward with plans for improvement and expansion, with a planned schedule for reporting to senior leadership and committee.

**Early Years:** Recruitment is underway for a Gaelic Medium Education (GME) Early Years Development Officer and additional Playgroup Leaders. This post will allow us to expand provision of 0-3 groups to match pre-COVID-19 service and extend our reach across the city. Partnership with other local authority colleagues will be strengthened. Additional nursery EY provision forms part of our general plans for expansion of GME.

**Primary Education:** We will conduct a learner-led consultation on curriculum reform and design to support plans for expansion and improvement of the service. Primary staff have been surveyed for their Gaelic language learning needs which will inform the design of learning for the remainder of this session. We will continue to support teaching and support staff to participate in internal and external professional development opportunities focussed on Gaelic language and immersive pedagogy, as well as leadership and supporting pupils with additional needs. Work on improving acoustics and refurbishing the Old Janitor's House will be ongoing. Refurbishment work has a provisional completion date of October 2021.

**Secondary Education:** In August 2022 GME provision is scheduled to move to our Darroch annex. We will aim to manage transition strategically to avoid excessive loss of time for staff and students as they travel between the two campus. This will involve an increase in team capacity, with the addition of a Deputy Head Teacher, a second Curriculum Lead and additional teaching and support staff from August 2022 and further staff in subsequent years. To achieve the necessary increase in capacity we plan to:

- Work with GTCS colleagues to identify and support existing local teachers keen to transition into GME
- Continue to engage with opportunities to fund Gaelic Immersion opportunities for existing staff and CEC secondary teachers in other settings who are well-placed to upskill in Gaelic language
- Support probationers in schools
- Work with other LA colleagues to build a Gaelic Language Assistant role
- Work with national working groups to explore enrichment opportunities for the GME Senior Phase
- Pursue Modern Apprenticeship opportunities for senior pupils, linking with our Early Years and Childcare provision.

**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 Local Authorities 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.

**Cultural Activities/Promotion of GME:** The new Capital Gaelic project started in November seeks to work with stakeholders across Edinburgh to identify opportunities, share knowledge and expertise, and

shape a vision for the future of Gaelic in Edinburgh. Future plans 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 the promotion of GME as an option for families.

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.***

***Fully Achieved***

### ***Background***

Since 2016, work has been underway across Scotland to integrate health and social care services in line with the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) directs the council 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).

### ***Key Achievements***

The EIJB's Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2022 details how health and social care services are developed and delivered. The EIJB's Strategic Plan set out a Transformation Programme with a number of projects that would change the way people were supported in their own homes. At the IJB meeting on [21 July 2020](#) a rescheduled Transformation Programme was approved to reflect the impact of COVID-19, organised around the Three Conversations approach.

The roll-out of Three Conversations continues, with more innovation sites engaging with people in this way and roll-out to localities underway. This approach has reduced the time people wait

to see a worker and identified supports that can be put in place to enable independence within the community with less need for formal support. It is anticipated that all locality teams will be using the Three Conversations approach by March 2022. A number of other teams, such as the Young Adults with Disabilities Team, Residential Review Team and those providing rehabilitation for people who have suffered a stroke are also using the approach.

The Home First approach is helping to avoid the need for hospital admissions and supporting people to get home as quickly as possible once it is safe for them to do so. In response to COVID-19, the Home First programme has accelerated over the last year with a focus on Discharge to Assess, Home First navigators at acute sites and the redesign of urgent care to best improve how people can be supported at home instead of in hospital. The EHSCP aims to embed the Home First ethos, with a dedicated staff team, into business as usual by March 2023.

EHSCP have undertaken extensive engagement with the public and key stakeholders to define the '[Edinburgh Wellbeing Pact](#)' a reciprocal agreement between the Partnership and everyone who lives and works in Edinburgh. The

Pact invites citizens, staff and partners to contribute to realising a shared vision and working towards an ambition to create healthy communities, empowered by local services and organisations that support people to prevent crisis and manage their health and personal independence at home. EHSCP is now moving to enactment of the Wellbeing Pact through a 3-year community mobilisation and commissioning plan. The plan, which was approved by the EIJB in April 2021, will see the development of more collaborative, partnership approaches to supporting community sector organisations, including the roll-out of community-based approaches to commissioning to replace traditional grants programmes.

### ***Future Work***

Given the pressures being felt across the health and social care sector as the pandemic continues, the EIJB agreed at their meeting on [26 October 2021](#) to pause the development of a replacement to the Strategic Plan 2019-2022. This work will be continued in 2022 to develop a new Strategic Plan to reflect evolving priorities with a better understanding of the emerging context of whole system recovery and reform.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	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) (as end March)	57%	57%	57%	60%	No new data	60% by Apr 2019
Late discharge from hospital (as end March)	291	150	136	122	Not available	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	No new data	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.*

*Fully Achieved*

### **Background**

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) directs the council 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**

In response to both short and long-term capacity challenges for care at home support, the EHSCP launched the Sustainable Community Support Programme in October 2018, with a targeted rate uplift scheme for providers. This incentivised increased recruitment and collaborative working with the EHSCP with providers committed to delivering sustainable growth, through recruitment and lower staff turnover.

As part of the Home Based Care project in the Transformation Programme, EHSCP engaged, and continue to engage, 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. The option to extend the current Care at Home contract to the end of September 2021 was exercised in December 2019. This gave stability to providers and the EHSCP, however, as the pandemic continued and the care crisis increased, it was agreed to further extend the timelines to allow providers space to manage their day to day activity within the current system pressures. The contract has now been extended to March 2023. In addition to this, some key terms of the contract were amended to enhance stability for people receiving care who may be admitted to hospital and their service temporarily put on hold. The improved relationships between providers and the EHSCP had a positive impact on the number of people in both hospital, and the community, waiting for care in their own home. These benefits have been achieved through improved coordination and matching of need to the available capacity within both the external and internal

services. In February 2020, the Contracts Team in the EHSCP developed an enhanced process to engage with new providers, this would have helped utilise new capacity as it became available, however, the impact of COVID-19 was felt shortly thereafter.

Despite COVID-19 affecting volume of care, care at home continued to be delivered during the year to everyone who required support. Capacity continues to increase with combined provision of internal and externally commissioned care at home providing around 120,000 hours per week on average between April and September 2021. This excludes provision arranged by Direct Payments and Individual Service Funds. This compares with the provision of just under 90,000 hours per week at the end of March 2017. This reflects a rise in the number of hours provided of around a third over the period, while the number of service users increased by less than 10%.

Winter pressures affect capacity for care at home support every year but these have exacerbated in 2021, as a result of increased staff absence and shortages due to the pandemic and the UK's exit from the EU. Combined, this has resulted in more people waiting for care over the winter period,



despite the increase in provision that has been seen.

The Assistive Technology Enabled Care (ATEC 24) service, which uses technology to help people live safely in their homes for as long as possible, also continues to grow. This is a hosted service which operates on a Lothian-wide basis. The importance of this service has been highlighted

during the pandemic when it has been more difficult to physically visit those in need of support. In 2020/21, 1,200 new telecare installations were completed. Our telecare service responded to 550,000 alarm calls, with 11,500 emergency intervention visits.

**Future Work**

EHSCP will continue to engage with providers on the development of the new Care at Home contract to support a 'One Edinburgh' approach. The contract is expected to be in place by spring 2023. The partnership is also working to implement the Total Mobile scheduling system across the internal home care service to generate additional capacity.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	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%	No new data	60% by Apr 2019
Number of people waiting for a package of care <i>(as end March)</i>	988	480	636	408	Not available	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	No new data	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.*

**Partially Achieved**

### 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.

Many of our staff were deployed into schools to provide a range of targeted support to pupils. Substantial resources and guidance were developed to forward plan and support the delivery of activity. It was reported that the Sport & Outdoor Learning team staff reached over 11,000 pupils during this time.

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 to 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 development opportunities to over 300 young people.

### Next steps

Due to the COVID-19 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.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Target
Attendance at sport and leisure facilities (Edinburgh Leisure)	4,471,704	4,338,251	4,147,842*	675,000	4,500,000
Number of young people participating in sport, physical activity and outdoor learning (includes Active Schools Programme)	24,086	27,015	28,971	** see below	25,800 (18/19)

\* March 2020 impacted by COVID-19

\*\* No dedicated direct provision from the Sport & Outdoor Learning Unit due to the pandemic. Alternatively, staff were deployed in schools to deliver targeted sport, physical activity and outdoor learning activity. Additionally, some staff time was allocated developing resources and guidance to facilitate self-led activity.

## 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.**

**Fully Achieved**

### Background

Mental illness is one of the major public health challenges in Scotland, with around one in three people estimated to be affected by mental illness in any one year. In December 2018, the Scottish Government set out its [Delivery Plan](#) for Mental Health, which acknowledges that support for mental health needs to be focussed on prevention and speedy treatment. Thrive Edinburgh is a comprehensive Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and is the mental health stream of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) Strategic Plan. It has six workstreams; building resilient communities, a place to live; getting help when needed; rights based care; closing inequalities gap; meeting treatment gaps. These workstreams aim to reduce the toll of mental illness; promote and protect mental health; and improve resilience, self-esteem, family strength, and joy.

### Key Achievements

The EHSCP is continuing to work with community partners to *Change the Conversation; Change the Culture* and raise the profile of mental health. The Thrive Edinburgh website was established in 2020 and the Thrive News Bulletin is circulated to over

900 individuals and organisations. In 2019 and 2021, Thrive Edinburgh conferences were held along with Thrive Fest. To support the use of evidence and data to drive change, four user led research programmes continue to feed into service redesign and planning and the Thrive Exchange, a community of practice around research, launched in 2020.

Building resilient communities is key to improving mental health. The *Out of Sight, Out of Mind* art exhibition returned for its ninth year in 2021. Thrive Edinburgh continues to work on closing the inequality gap through initiatives such as *Outlook Programme, Capital City Partnership, Fit for Work, and The Works Activate Programme*.

The commissioning of Supported Living Services and Visiting Support Services are underway through the Wayfinder pathway. This pathway has seen a shift the balance of care to community provision with 26 additional highly supported tenancies. Co-production on a new framework agreement with providers to ensure cross sector flexible and coordinated support was undertaken.

In addressing the treatment gap, stakeholder events have developed the Edinburgh Thrive Redesign Urgent Care Plan to support the

provision of care to those in crisis. Thrive Welcome Teams, which are integrated, multidisciplinary public and third sector teams in the community to support mental health and wellbeing, were successfully prototyped in North West Edinburgh in 2020 and have now been rolled out in each of the four localities. New Thrive Collective Services, including Thrive Locality Teams, safe spaces for people to connect, and activities to maximise physical activity and the use of green spaces, commenced in December 2020, with an annual value of £2.8m.

### Future Work

Thrive Edinburgh is now well established, and work will continue beyond March 2022 to support and extend the valuable initiatives outlined above. EHSCP will also continue to progress work on the Edinburgh Thrive Redesign Urgent Care Plan, including developing an implementation plan and considering out of hours crisis response. Work is continuing with NHS Lothian to reduce the waiting lists for psychological therapies which have increased over the pandemic, including ensuring that there is a clear pathway between Thrive Welcome Teams and Psychology Services for people who require formal psychological therapy.

## 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.***

***Partially Achieved***

### ***Background***

As set out in the [Strategic Housing Investment Plan \(SHIP\) 2022-27](#), the majority of new build homes 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. 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. The Scottish Government has committed to reviewing the guidance on housing for varying needs with consultation expected to commence in 2022.

Around 11% of the homes to be approved over the next 5 years will be specifically designed to meet the needs of people with more specialist needs; including fully wheelchair accessible developments as well as homes for veterans.

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 Council.

### ***Key Achievements***

Between 2017/18 and 2020/21 around £2.4m was spent on adaptations to Council homes and in 2020/21, around £1.74m was spent on adaptations to all homes. This service has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions. The teams in housing and health and social care are working through priority cases with a focus on outstanding requests for ramps and wet floor showers.

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

programme and the new build programmes of RSL partners. In March 2021 the Council's Finance and Resources Committee gave approval for the Council to purchase the Liberton Hospital site for affordable housing-led development. This provides a major opportunity for housing and health and social care partners to work together to develop innovative solutions to meet specific needs.

### ***Future Work***

The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership's next Strategic Plan will include joint housing and health and social care commitments and priorities, which have been discussed at the Edinburgh Affordable Housing Partnership Health and Social Care Sub Group and the EIJB Strategic Planning Group.

The Housing Service has commissioned an Accessible Housing Study to estimate the current and future requirements for adapted and accessible housing. The study includes engagement and consultation with partners, stakeholders and households 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.

The Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Transformation Programme workstream on

housing/infrastructure has been delayed as other projects were prioritised for the COVID-19 response and ongoing system pressures. This workstream includes a review of adaptations, including the application process, customer journey and

resources needed for housing adaptations, that will be progressed in 2022.

## 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.

### *Fully Achieved*

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

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 with build completion expected to be before the end of the 2021/22 financial year.

#### **Future Work**

Work continues with Edinburgh Leisure to co-ordinate 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 in Spring 2022.

## 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.*

*Fully Achieved*

### Background

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

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 resumed in 2021 following their temporary suspension in 2020 due to COVID-19. Of the 141 parks quality assessed in 2021, and 1,792 issues were identified. Arising from those issues, a total of 423 recommendations were put forward for site managers to implement before the next assessment in 2022.

Six parks achieved 'Grade A' status (Starbank Park, Easter Craiglockhart Hill, Pentland Hills Regional Park, Seven Acre Park, Figgate Park and Hermitage of Braid/Blackford Hill) with another seven only two points away. The results also showed that 25 parks (18%) moved up a grade whilst 106 parks (75%) stayed the same and ten parks (7%) dropped a grade from 2019.

Green Flag Award assessments by Keep Scotland Beautiful took place in 2021 with Bloomiehall Park achieving a Green Flag Award for the first time, bringing the total number of Green Flag Award parks in Edinburgh to 35 (there are a total of 77 awards across Scotland). Corstorphine Walled Garden also successfully retained its Green Flag Community Award.

Our ability to plant trees was impacted by COVID-19, however since 2017/18 over 44,000 trees have been planted, significantly surpassing the commitment to plant an additional 1,000 trees.

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.

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.

### Future Work

A Green Flag Group Award Peer Review is due to take place in early 2022.

Further tree planting is planned for Autumn/Winter 2021/22, with a continued focus on replanting street tree gaps and implementation of the Edinburgh Million Tree Initiative.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Target
Green flag status	30	32	32	34	35	35
New Parks Quality Assessment standard	76%	84%	88%	Not carried out in 2020	94%	92%
Number of additional trees planted	11,800	19,865	10,411*	267*	7,100	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	13 large events in total, 8 in Premier Parks	Hold number of events to maximum permitted (36 across 9 Parks)

\* This data has been updated to include additional tree planting programmes that were recorded after previous reporting



## Commitment 44

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

*Fully Achieved*

### Background

Our third strategy 'Cultivating Communities - A Growing Success' establishes a 10-year strategic framework for allotment development in Edinburgh, which supports the requirements in 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

[New Allotment Regulations to regulate the allotments managed by the City of Edinburgh Council](#) were approved by the Culture and Communities Committee on the 15 June 2021. This was developed following Scottish Government guidance and consultees included the city's allotmenters, the Federations of Edinburgh District Allotments and Gardens Associations and the Scottish Allotment Gardens Society.

In 2021/22 a new allotment was opened at Newcraighall adding a further 26 allotment plots to the Council's stock and Biodiversity areas have been developed at Baronscourt and Stenhouse Allotments.

Improvements to existing sites have also been made. The Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund was used to purchase composting shredders for Warriston and West Main allotments. These will enable the recycling of green waste and curtail the use of bonfires. The fund has also supported the introduction of water harvesting equipment at Warriston, Saughton, Ferry Road and Claremount Park Allotments. The Parks Infrastructure Capital Programme has funded the replacement of 290 metres of security fencing at Warriston Allotment which is expected to be completed by February 2022.

Although the number of sites and plots has increased over the last 5 years, the number of those on 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 COVID-19 pandemic.

Edinburgh's first [Food Growing Strategy](#) was developed in 2020/21. It has 3 key objectives

which are to grow more food in the city, increase consumption of locally grown food and increase awareness. [An interactive map](#) of all food growing sites in Edinburgh has been added to the council's website.

### Future Work

2022/23 will see the completion of an extension to Leith Links Allotment and it is anticipated that following the success of a consultation exercise, funding to convert a second unused bowling green at Victoria Park to an allotment will become available. The recent closure of Prestonfield Bowling Club gives an opportunity to develop the green as an allotment facility and a community engagement exercise will gauge support for this development.

As detailed in the [City Plan 2030](#), areas of ground at Clerwood Walled Garden, Gypsy Brae, Fernieside Recreation Ground and Little France Park offer the potential for allotments and Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust will continue to support the Council to encourage groups to form to develop these sites. Improvements to existing sites will also be made and this includes the Redhall Allotment which is currently being assessed.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	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	1,969 plots across 47 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)	5,658 people on the waiting list (November 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.***

**Fully Achieved**

### Background

Edinburgh is well recognised as an affluent and growing city. However, it 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.

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

[Agreement for the creation of a Child Poverty Action Unit](#) was given at the Culture and Communities Committee on 11 September 2018. The **Child Poverty Group** is a partnership group which has:

- built on existing partnerships and reporting arrangements to co-ordinate Council and partner action to address Child Poverty,
- identified Council leads for the development and publication of annual Local Child Poverty Action Reports (LCPAR, published in June 2019, and December 2020),

- liaised 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' programmes and worked to identify families with school age children living in temporary homeless accommodation as key responses to tackling child poverty,
- established a Network of Networks across sectors that meets regularly to hear from people with lived experience; examine the issues from different perspectives; discuss and propose ways forward; and break down silos between departments and sectors,
- continues to identify actions across Schools and Lifelong Learning and provides an update to each Education Children and Families Committee,
- incorporated the statutory annual LCPAR into the End Poverty Annual Progress report into a single report for Policy and Sustainability and Education Children and Families Committees and Scottish Government.

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 developing further. These include the '1 in 5 Project', 'Discover!' and Maximise! Actions related to employability and supporting families living in poverty continue to be developed.

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.

Finally, a review of the Council's report template was carried out in 2019. The review resulted in a

strengthening of 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.

## 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.***

***Fully 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 festivals and 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 again 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. The Platforms for Creative Excellence Programme, a funding partnership with the Scottish Government and the festivals, continued into its fourth (of five) year ensuring related festivals community, practitioner skills development and programming activity in the city. Related activity which can be implemented under COVID-19 restrictions ensures clear focus on opportunities for residents who are practitioners,

artists and participants. Three substantial Project Funding programmes have been retained, and two more one-off programmes were delivered, one for local festivals and events, and one supporting creative practitioners throughout the city. The latter was delivered in a partnership with Edinburgh Performing Arts and Development, and Creative Edinburgh. Our positive connection with creative freelancers has developed substantially, and the support, facilitation and partnership offered by the Council has been widely acknowledged in the sector.

A public consultation to explore options for Christmas and Hogmanay activity has concluded, and the findings will directly inform the shape of Winter Festivals in the future. Primarily, the residents of the city wish to retain both Christmas and Hogmanay activities in the city and centre.

A third year of the city's multi-cultural event was delivered live in 2021, and the intention is to retain the event in the city's festivals calendar.

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. Feedback has been very positive, and event and performance outcomes regularly reported. The post will be made permanent going forward.

A report is expected by the end of 2021/22 on progress in developing an arts-based community hub network for events, exhibition and performances. We are also working towards a refreshed Citywide Culture Plan.

The Culture Service is actively working with the Granton Redevelopment Programme and continues to build on partnerships moving forward including the Gasometer project and embedded artists evolving into events and activities informing site planning.

Several projects are underway to increase the number of workspaces for artists and craftspeople. The recently purchased property at 20 West Shore Road in Granton has been leased to Edinburgh Palette and they are working on bringing artists space to the building. Finance and Resources Committee approved the lease of the building at Granton Station following its refurbishment to WASPS with an expected start date of June 2022. Powderhall Stable block is also being refurbished to create studio space and we will shortly market to

secure an operator to take a lease when the works are complete. During the COVID-19 pandemic business support in the form of rental assistance has been provided to tenants to help maintain their businesses.

### ***Future Work***

Preservation of funding and infrastructure to support the retention and recovery of the sector is fundamental to the continued work of the Cultural Strategy Service. Networking and collaborative work with arts-based community hubs will further develop over the next year.

The refresh of the Culture Plan will ensure the continuation of a citywide partnership approach to festivals and events and the culture and creative sectors more widely.

## Commitment 47

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

*Partially Achieved*

### Background

Building on the Council's 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 for Edinburgh) by means of participatory budgeting.

### Key Achievements

#### Development of Participatory Budgeting (PB) framework

A PB Framework has now been approved to support the development of a programme of activity across the Council. This framework sets out the principles underpinning the Council's proposed approach and how PB coverage will be extended to include mainstreaming and commissioning activity.

The approach recognises the flexibility provided by the Scottish Government in defining PB and

focuses upon the importance of deliberative dialogue with communities in shaping and influencing the decision-making process. This builds upon the current approach to PB, such as the format of £eith Chooses, whilst recognising that the precise form of this deliberative dialogue needs to be tailored to a wider mainstreaming and commissioning environment.

#### 2021/22 activity

In recent years, most of the housing estates investment has been delivered through Neighbourhood Environmental Projects (NEPs), with the key focus of capital investment being in existing and new-build homes.

Given the nature of the deliberative dialogue (consistent with the Council's PB framework) underpinning the identification and formulation of this year's projects, total PB-related spend in this area of £2.569m is anticipated in 2021/22.

This sum is in addition to the £0.049m of planned expenditure through the £eith Chooses project in 2021/22. Taken together, this £2.618m of spend through PB represents a sum equal to 0.32% of the 1% target for 2021/22.

#### Future Work

Building on current practice and developing new PB projects in key areas 2022/23 onwards.

The precise extent of the budget scope to be guided through PB activity over the medium term still requires to be quantified and will form part of on-going development across all Council services, with the detail of the proposed programme for the coming year brought to the Finance and Resources Committee on 3 March 2022 for consideration. It is anticipated, however, that this programme will show significant further progress towards the 1% target.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (estimated)	Target
% of annual discretionary budget allocated through participatory budgeting	0.03%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	0.32%	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.***

*Fully Achieved*

### **Transient Visitor Levy**

#### ***Key Achievements***

Edinburgh has a strong tourist economy that has been growing year on year. The city needs to raise long term secure income, if it is to sustainably invest in tourism and manage the impact of a successful tourist economy in the future.

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.

#### ***Future Work***

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 residents and the tourism economy.

### **Workplace Parking Levy**

#### ***Key Achievements***

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

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

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the regulations and guidance supporting the WPL scheme was delayed. In September 2021 we submitted evidence to help Transport Scotland develop the Regulations and Guidance for a WPL in 2021. Transport Scotland published their findings in [December 2021](#).

#### ***Future Work***

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.**

**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.

### Future Work

While an indicative increase of 3% has been assumed for 2022/23, this assumption will be kept under 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.***

***Fully Achieved***

### ***Background***

The Administration has retained the political policy of no compulsory redundancies during this Council and the presumption in favour of in-house service provision.

### ***Key Achievements***

The political commitment of no compulsory redundancy remains in place and is fully adhered to by all Council 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.

### ***Future Work***

To continue to apply this political commitment and ensure that organisational reviews are undertaken in line with the Council's approved Managing Change Policy.

Where appropriate opportunities exist for services to be provided in-house, these will be considered Best Value duty.

## 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.*

Partially Achieved

### 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 launch of Community Safety Strategy (2020-2023). This focuses on three priority themes:
  - Noise and ASB
  - Young People and Offending
  - Digital and Online ASB

Key achievements, under each priority theme, have been taken forward including:

- **Noise and Antisocial Behaviour (ASB)** - Mediation has been further embedded under

Family and Household Support, with the service adapting its primary face to face practices in response to Covid to include both telephone and digital mediation; providing a more accessible service.

- A revised ASB procedure was ratified by the Council in April 2021, providing structure around standards associated with screening and allocation decisions, communication and review, and consolidating case management.
- **Young People and Offending** – Trauma Informed training levels 1 and 2 have been rolled out to key frontline services including Children's Practices and Homelessness Services.
- Contextual safeguarding practices are being further developed through Child Protection with links into community safety through Stronger Edinburgh.
- **Digital and Online ASB** – Child Protection training including internet safety and staying safe online is being provided to teachers over a three-year cycle.
- A compulsory digital learning module on keeping children safe online has been introduced for all school staff.

- Teacher training on digital resilience and safety is further strengthened under the [Empowered Learning Project](#).
- A digital safety page has been created on both the orb and the Council's external website to provide signposting information for both staff and the public.
- Partnership working with dedicated community police remains a key strength in the approach and response to ASB offending and community safety.
- 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'. Preventative actions include diversionary activities for young people, organising community clear ups, supporting the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's educational input on firework/bonfire safety in schools, carrying out dedicated joint patrols in hot spot areas providing safety advice and public reassurance, and delivering a social media campaign on the potential dangers posed by bonfires.

- 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) 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.
- An Information Sharing Protocol between Police Scotland and the Council, allows the RJ service to contact the victim of the hate crime offence. Police Scotland continue to provide victims of hate crime with information about RJ and obtains explicit consent for the Council's RJ service to contact them.

- Structured Deferred Sentences (SDS) have been offered to individuals since August 2021. SDS offers tailored interventions for unmet needs, risk taking behaviour, decision making and victim impact; addressing the underlying causes of offending and supporting desistance to keep communities safe.
- A new Edinburgh and Midlothian Offending Recovery and Support Service (EMORSS) has been implemented to assist individuals at key transition points in the justice system, and to support their integration into the community after a custodial sentence.
- As an extension to welfare checks for individuals in custody, an arrest referral service has been developed in Edinburgh Sheriff Court. This is to ensure the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalised in society are supported, helping to prevent further offending.

### Future Work

The Community Safety Strategy is in its third year and focuses on embedding some of the newly developed guidance that has been developed to support practice. The launch and subsequent roll

out of Stronger Edinburgh across the localities will take place from March 2022.

Stronger Edinburgh is an early intervention solution focused practice that promotes a single agency coordinated approach that embraces 'Getting It Right for Everyone' – one child or adult/one plan. In partnership with Police Scotland under Stronger Edinburgh, members identify ways to support individuals and/or families where there are concerns about their mental health, or their connection with antisocial behaviour; and/or offending

A new Antisocial Behaviour Policy has been developed and will be enacted in the early part of 2022. The Policy sets out the approach for managing ASB and supports the themes set out in the Joint Community Safety Strategy, specifically safeguarding people from harm and increasing public feelings of safety and security.

Digital safety workshops hosted by Edinburgh libraries will take place in the early 2022. The events are to be aimed at adults new to computing and who are vulnerable to exploitation.

Key measures	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (at Nov 21)	Target
Percentage of criminal justice orders successfully completed	65.3%	63.6%	65.4%	77.8%	77.0%	65%
Number of antisocial behaviour complaints per 10k population	33.0	32.01	29.86	32.56	18.12 (pro rata would expect 27.18)	30.0
Reoffending rates	25.6	26.0	Due to be published June 22			Below national average of 26.3%

## 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.*

*Partially Achieved*

### *Key Achievements*

Locality Committees were established and held their first meetings in February 2018. Each committee 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. As an alternative to locality committees, the 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 established 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 several 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.

A number of lessons learned and recommendations were reported to the Chief Executive following the 2019 Community Council election process. A simplification of the procedures to this effect will be undertaken in advance of the next election, currently scheduled for 2024. This will ease the process for prospective community councillors and increase representation by removing unnecessary formalities.

The strengthening of community empowerment is a core element of the Council Business Plan and is supported by work being taken forward with partners under the auspices of the Edinburgh Partnership. A range of actions are currently being progressed including the establishment of a new Empowerment Team as part of the Place Directorate review, development of a collaborative framework with community councils and the production of a Community Empowerment plan. Progress has been made across all three workstreams, with the development work due for completion in the coming year. The need to improve working with community

councils is a specific focus and this is being taken forward by a working group comprising senior officers from the Council and Edinburgh Association of Community Councils. This group has produced an improvement plan which focuses on strengthening the relationship between the Council and community councils both in the short-term, largely through improving communications, and by addressing structural issues in the medium term.

### *Future Work*

The next stage in this work is to develop a collaborative framework with community planning partners and a report noting progress to date and next steps was considered at the Edinburgh Partnership Board in December 2021. It was agreed that a meeting with partners be arranged for January to progress this work, with a further progress report to come to the Edinburgh Partnership Board in March 2022.