

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10:00am, Tuesday, 22 August 2023

Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Executive/routine
Wards

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Members of the Policy and Sustainability Committee are asked to note the contents of the report discharging the approved motion from Cllr Mumford.

Dr Deborah Smart

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Response to motion from Cllr Mumford – Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 Following the launch of the Edinburgh Community Climate Fund (ECCF) in early 2023, this report responds to the motion from Cllr Mumford on evaluating the Fund's success and any opportunities for further similar future initiatives.

3. Background

- 3.1 At the meeting of the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 21 March 2023, members considered and agreed a motion from Cllr Mumford on the Edinburgh Community Climate Fund (ECCF), a grant-based participatory budgeting initiative undertaken between January and March 2023. Specifically, the motion:
- 1) Welcomed the many applications submitted by community groups to the ECCF;
 - 2) Noted that the fund had been significantly oversubscribed and considered this a testament to its success, and commended the hard work of officers to publicise it and community groups for getting involved;
 - 3) Requested a report from officers after applications had been judged and awards made outlining:
 - a) The total amount of funding applied for by groups;
 - b) The total amount of funding available from the fund and therefore the level of oversubscription;
 - c) The key themes emerging from project applications and successfully funded projects;
 - d) A geographical breakdown of the submitted and awarded projects;
 - e) Consideration of how unsuccessful projects could continue to receive support from the Council to further their community action to tackle climate change; and

- f) Proposals for how the fund could be continued and expanded in future years to meet demand.

3.2 This report provides an overview of the Fund's operation and addresses the specific requests contained within the motion, building on the summary included in the [Participatory Budgeting Progress Report](#) considered by the Finance and Resources Committee on 25 April 2023.

4. Main report

4.1 A comprehensive interim evaluation of the Fund, outlining the policy background, planning process, promotional activities, number and geographical spread of applications received, voting, successful projects and survey feedback from both applicants and voters is included as Appendix 1. The following sections, however, seek to draw out the specific points contained within the motion.

Total amount of funding applied for by groups

4.2 Qualifying organisations were invited to submit relevant proposals up to an individual value of £20,000. In total, 61 applications were received, with 56 of these (amounting to £785,818) eligible to be included in the public vote. Where applications did not meet the criteria and were thus not able to form part of the public vote, information and feedback were provided directly to the applicants concerned and published on the website.

The total amount of funding available from the fund and therefore the level of oversubscription

4.3 Funding of £70,000 was made available through the Council Participatory Budgeting development fund (approved as part of the Council's 2022/23 budget) and this was supplemented by a £70,000 contribution from the Net-Zero Communities budget to create a £140,000 overall grant fund. Allocations from both budgets were one-off in nature but designed to support the implementation of Business Plan priorities.

4.4 Based on the full allocation of the available £140,000, the Fund was therefore almost five times oversubscribed. Looked at another way, payments to successful projects totalled around 18% of the sums requested.

The key themes emerging from project applications and successfully funded projects

4.5 From the ideas submitted and specific projects awarded funding, a number of key themes were identified including:

- **Outdoor learning:** learning and education that take place outside the traditional classroom, in nature or outdoor environments;

- **Food waste:** addressing the issue of wasted food and finding ways to reduce or prevent it;
- **Food growing:** promoting and supporting the cultivation of food, such as through community gardens and urban farming;
- **Young people:** activities, programmes or initiatives aimed at benefiting or involving young individuals;
- **Housing:** addressing issues related to housing, such as retrofitting and advice; and
- **Reduce/reuse/recycle and circular economy:** encouraging the reduction of waste, finding ways to reuse materials and promoting recycling.

Geographical breakdown of the submitted and awarded projects

- 4.6 Particular efforts were made to publicise the Fund across a range of media, including through local networks and Council-operated facilities, with a view to reaching all areas of the city, especially areas of higher relative deprivation where participation in community engagement activity is traditionally lower. As a result, the spread of submitted applications across the city was evenly distributed, alongside a number of city-wide projects. Applications were also received from all but one of the city's seventeen wards (with the exception being Drum Brae/Gyle).
- 4.7 Of the eight funded projects, one was city-wide, with the remaining seven drawn from six geographically and economically diverse wards (Almond, City Centre, Forth, Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart, Leith and Portobello/Craigmillar), with a particular emphasis on engaging often-excluded groups.

Consideration of how unsuccessful projects could continue to receive support from the Council to further their community action to tackle climate change

- 4.8 Following the conclusion of the process, information was distributed to all applicants about other available funding opportunities and groups were invited to discuss this with relevant colleagues. Several new opportunities have also been identified around developing shared funding applications. A networking event for all applicants is being planned for later in the year to support future collaboration and facilitate networking between groups.

Proposals for how the fund could be continued and expanded in future years to meet demand

- 4.9 The ECCF was supported through one-off member-approved investment in 2022/23 and undertaken as part of a wider programme of Participatory Budgeting focusing, in particular, upon mainstreaming approaches. As such, there are no approved plans to run further rounds of the Fund at this time.

- 4.10 On 22 June 2023, members noted the Council's unaudited accounts for 2022/23, with these indicating a provisional in-year underspend of £13.7m. The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) is, however, currently projecting a significant in-year deficit of at least £14m and, in this context, the September meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee will consider progress in addressing this funding shortfall. Agreement on the allocation of any remaining underspend will therefore be made at this time once the outcome of the audit process is also known. Members may wish to consider non-recurring PB-related investment in this context.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 All funded organisations have been sent information about associated reporting and monitoring requirements. Information on the impact of funded projects will be published online to ensure transparency.
- 5.2 Once project monitoring is complete, a further report will look to understand the impact of the process and feedback will be provided to the wider community on how the engagement process has influenced decisions and what has changed as a result. Learning and evaluation from the process will then help to shape future PB processes.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Awards to successful projects fully allocated the available funding of £140,000.
- 6.2 All PB processes require various resources to engage effectively and involve community members in decision-making and the allocation of public funds. For the ECCF this included:
- Time of steering group members, particularly within the Council's Communities team where the associated direct staffing cost was estimated at £10,000;
 - Financial resources totalling £2,800 to cover costs of media and advertisement campaigns, printing materials and creative elements like lamp post wraps; and
 - Support from COSLA to develop and maintain CONSUL.

7. Equality and Poverty Impact

- 7.1 Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs) were prepared for both the Council's overarching [Participatory Budgeting Framework](#) and specifically the [ECCF](#). These assessments informed the detailed design of the Fund at all stages, including equalities group representation on the steering group, use of targeted local networks to publicise the opportunity and a range of voting methods, including

paper-based postal or community-based voting, for those organisations requesting this.

8. Climate and Nature Emergency Implications

- 8.1 The ECCF was designed to contribute directly to the Council's net-zero targets and 2030 Edinburgh Climate Strategy by providing grant funding for communities to implement local projects. Working collaboratively with the Council's Sustainability Team ensured that projects taken forward will contribute to the Council's approved priorities.
- 8.2 As part of the scheme monitoring, successful applicants will be asked to provide details of carbon reductions planned and delivered. In addition to these direct impacts, it is anticipated that the successful projects will contribute positively to wider required behavioural change.

9. Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact

- 9.1 Following the announcement of the successful projects, a survey of applicants and voters was undertaken. A number of positive aspects were noted, including views on participatory budgeting as a means both of allocating public money and engaging with the Council.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 [Participatory Budgeting \(PB\) Progress Report](#), Finance and Resources Committee, 25 April 2023

11. Appendices

- 11.1 Green Participatory Budgeting Initiative – The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund Interim Evaluation Report, August 2023

Green Participatory Budgeting Initiative - The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

*Help make
Edinburgh greener*



EDINBURGH COMMUNITY CLIMATE FUND



Interim Evaluation Report

August 2023

Green Participatory Budgeting Initiative - The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Introduction

Participatory budgeting (PB) is a way for people to have a direct say on how public funds are spent. In Edinburgh, PB has been used as an approach to distribute funding since 2010, starting with small grant funding and expanding to other areas such as the Neighbourhood Environment Programme and the Health and Social Care Change Fund.

A framework agreement is in place between the Scottish Government and COSLA, stating that councils should work towards at least 1% of local government budgets being allocated using a PB approach.

To help deliver the 1% agreement the [Edinburgh PB framework](#) was approved by the Finance and Resources Committee on 7 October 2021 which included a commitment to a adopt PB through; commissioning, grants and mainstreaming initiatives.

This Green PB process ([The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund](#)) that launched in January 2023 was a grant PB process. The initiative was designed to support the delivery of the Council's climate change ambitions together with providing learning to inform the wider approach to PB.

This report will cover the background of the fund, the different stages of the process, key learning and the next steps.

Background - The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Funding of £70,000 was made available through the Council PB development fund (approved as part of the Council's 2022/23 budget) and a £70,000 allocation from the Net-Zero Communities budget to create a £140,000 grant fund. Allocations from both budgets were one-offs for the financial year and designed to support the implementation of the Business Plan.

The initiative was designed to contribute directly to the Council's net-zero targets and 2030 Edinburgh Climate Strategy by providing grant funding for communities to implement local projects. Working collaboratively with the Council's Sustainability Team ensured that projects taken forward contributed to the Council's approved priorities.

To help make the PB process as fair and high-quality as possible the [PB Scotland Charter](#) was used to guide and design the initiative. The Charter is a co-produced resource, developed by people with experience of PB processes, including those from equality community organisations. It aims to ensure PB is inclusive, uses good quality methods and is truly participative.

The process followed a traditional grants-based model and had several defined stages outlined in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: ECCF Process



Planning

In line with best practice guidance for grant-making PB exercises and following the principles in the PB Scotland Charter, an organising group was convened in November 2022. The organising group consisted of individuals with experience related to the theme and PB processes. It comprised representatives from the public, community and voluntary sectors including:

- Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council (EVOC);
- Equality and Rights Network (EaRN);
- The Ripple (a community-based third sector organisation);
- Edible Edinburgh; and
- Colleagues from CEC (Communities, Finance, Sustainability, Housing, Empowerment, Life Long Learning and Communications and Greenspaces)

The group supported the planning, design and delivery of the ECCF pilot initiative providing representation in their particular area of expertise, covering the core elements of the programme including:

- Application process;
- Promotion and engagement;
- Eligibility and criteria;
- Voting methods; and
- Interim evaluation and monitoring.

The organising group undertook an [Integrated Impact Assessment](#) (IIA). The IIA identified that national data shows that certain groups have greater barriers to participating in community engagement activity and would therefore be less likely to benefit from this proposal. Recognising this, specific actions were implemented to mitigate the impacts, including offering support to help groups/people participate and monitoring participation throughout the process. As noted later in this interim evaluation, applications were received from almost all wards, including those with greater relative deprivation, and from a diverse cross-section of city-wide and local community-based groups.

A detailed stakeholder analysis was also carried out which informed the communications and engagement plan.

A key aim of the engagement plan was to support the development of PB in the Council by developing a model communications approach and resource which can be applied to future PB projects.

Key objectives included:

- Inform and educate people about PB and how it works;
- Inspire and prompt groups to apply within the application deadline;
- Develop a toolkit for future use;
- Direct community groups to the website for more information;
- Attract people to attend engagement events;
- Encourage the partners and community organisations to spread the word;
- Encourage Edinburgh residents to vote; and
- Celebrate the successes and impact of the project.

The organising group also helped develop the criteria for the fund. The criteria for the fund comprised key areas identified in the IIA:

- Creating opportunities for community leadership and learning on climate change;
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions within communities and contributing to the net-zero agenda for Edinburgh;
- Generating sustainable projects for the benefit of local people to build resilience or adapt to climate change within communities; and
- Building relationships between neighbourhoods of different socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds to work together on just, equitable and accessible climate and resilience activities contributing to the city's net zero agenda,

also ensuring that activities work towards reducing or removing barriers for disabled people in the transition to net-zero.

Promotion and response

The Council communicated and invited responses through a range of channels and developed a communication strategy. Key elements of the communication strategy included:

Creative resources and artwork

- Update existing artwork and branding with Edinburgh Community Climate Fund theme
- Toolkit of graphics and templates supporting key stages of PB communications (social, email banner, etc.)

Content

- Use key messaging for a range of target audiences

Channels

- Advertising – digital, lamppost wraps
- Email – use partner email to broadcast messages and get support
- Media – press releases/features at key stages (launch, call to action /deadline, results, showcase)
- Social – organic posts at key stages, updates and engagement, council, partner network sites
- Publications – partner/network e-publications, PB web pages, and partner sites
- Events – promote a diary of events through social and network

To encourage participation, information about the fund was published on the online platform including FAQs. Information was also distributed to several groups directly and circulated to networks and groups with a specific request to cascade. Briefings about the fund were also sent directly to colleagues in relevant services e.g. education and libraries and an Elected Member briefing was issued before the launch of the initiative.

A media release was issued and linked via the news section of the Council website and several articles were published on News Beat. Furthermore, articles were published on partner websites and in community newsletters. Several community organisations also shared the links on their own external social media channels.

During the voting phase lamppost wraps were placed next to libraries to raise awareness of the vote and posters were sent to physical locations where individuals could be supported to participate.

Applicants were also encouraged to campaign and resources were developed to support consistent messaging.

Subsequently, local and national media featured articles in print and online highlighting key messages contained in media releases. These included articles on the [PB Scotland](#), [Edible Edinburgh](#) and [Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council](#) websites.

The overall social media campaign reached an audience on Facebook of 78,611, and 382,436 through Google ads. This is the cumulative total of all posts on each platform totalling the number of times adverts were seen by users.

Subsequently, 24,601 individual visits were made to the site during the engagement campaign.

Idea generation

Between 13th January and 9th February, groups were invited to submit applications to the fund. Any constituted Edinburgh-based community, voluntary or non-profit organisation could apply. Groups that were not constituted could apply but were required to work with a parent organisation that would submit the application in partnership and be the accountable body for any grant distributed in line with the Council Conditions of Funding.



During the application stage, three online information sessions and two in-person drop-in sessions were organised to help applicants find out about the fund and to help develop ideas. Applicants were also offered one-to-one support through email, telephone and MS Teams.

Several online web pages were created to provide applicants with relevant information, including a [quick guide](#), [key dates](#), [FAQs](#), an [application guide](#), [registration help](#) and [support](#).

Applications for up to £20,000 were invited with only those meeting the criteria going forward to the public vote. In total 61 applications were received amounting to £796,818. Match funding was not required for groups to apply although a number of groups identified that they were going to use any grant received to deliver larger projects and identified an additional £275,560 to contribute towards their ideas. Table 1 below shows the range of grants requested from groups.

Table 1: Grant ranges from applicants

Grant Range	Percentage of Applications
£20,000	29%
£15,000-£20,000	20%
£10,000-£15,000	21%

£5,000-£10,000	23%
Under £5,000	7%

Of the 61 applications, 56 were eligible to be included in the public vote. All ideas were published on the [website](#) alongside full applications. Where applications did not meet the criteria and were not eligible for the public vote, information and feedback were provided directly to the applicant and published on the website.

Applications were received from every Council Ward apart from Ward 3 Drum Brae/ Gyle. Table 2 below shows the percentage of applications from each locality.

Table 2: Area of applications

Area	Percentage of Applications
North East	24%
North West	19%
South East	25%
South West	17%
Citywide	15%

From the ideas submitted, a number of key themes around projects were identified including:

- **Outdoor learning:** Learning and education that take place outside the traditional classroom, in nature or outdoor environments.
- **Food waste:** Addressing the issue of wasted food and finding ways to reduce or prevent it.
- **Food growing:** Promoting and supporting the cultivation of food, such as through community gardens and urban farming.
- **Young people:** Activities, programmes or initiatives aimed at benefiting or involving young individuals.
- **Housing:** Addressing issues related to housing, such as retrofitting and advice
- **Reduce/reuse/recycle and circular economy:** Encouraging the reduction of waste, finding ways to reuse materials and promoting recycling.

To understand the impact of projects, applicants were asked to identify if ideas would potentially have a positive impact on any protected characteristics. Table 3 below shows the percentage of projects that could have a positive impact on protected characteristics based on their individual assessment.

Table 3: Impact on protected characteristics

Protected characteristics	% of projects having a positive impact
Age	66%
Disability	61%
Gender Reassignment	18%
Marriage or civil partnership	27%

Pregnancy and maternity	29%
Race	29%
Religion or belief	34%
Sex	34%
Sexual orientation	21%

Voting

From 3rd to 12th March participants were invited to vote for up to five projects. Voting was open to all Edinburgh residents who were eight years old and above. Voting was facilitated through online and supported community voting through:

- CONSUL (using Yourvoice.Edinburgh.gov.uk)
- Young Scot
- Libraries
- Schools
- Paper ballots



To help applicants understand the voting process, an online information session was organised. The session was attended by the majority of applicants and a recording was shared with those that could not attend.

In total 10,025 votes were received from 2,510 participants.

Table 4: Voting method and numbers

Voting Method	Number of Votes
CONSUL	2,106
Paper Ballots	346
Young Scot	58

It was understood that by using the Improvement Service My Account registration system it would be possible to understand demographic information of voters. However, due to data protection and the limitations of the system, it was not possible to report on this on this occasion. Work is ongoing to improve functionality and processes so future uses of the system can report on key trends.

During the voting phase, applicants and voters could also comment and ask questions about other submitted projects. A total of 111 comments were made. The tone of the comments was overwhelmingly positive.

Figure 2: Illustrative comments from voters

“Keep up this important work”

“Such an excellent, comprehensive and effective way to address climate change”

“This project is creating a very positive impact on the wider community, offering activities and events that promote wellbeing and social inclusion”

“This co-op is doing great things to educate and feed people in Edinburgh! Such a great project idea!”

“By tackling deprivation we can better the social determinants of health - this lunch club is in great need in the midst of a challenging era.”

“This charity drives significant societal and environmental value in the community, supporting crucial immediate food needs and long term benefits like sustainable transport, reduced wastage and circular economy”

“Brilliant idea and very much needed for this area”

Grow Local, Grow Green promotes the idea that everyone can experiment with 'grow your own' at home no matter how small the space and encourages amateur growers to adopt a more climate-friendly approach.

The successful projects are listed below and full results available [online](#):

Table 5: ECCF Successful Projects

Project	Number of Votes	Funding Awarded (£)	Council Ward
Lauriston Farm’s Community Outdoor Kitchen	417	£20,000	Almond
EdinBRIC’s Building Bricks 4 EdinBRIC	387	£20,000	City Wide
Cargo Bike Movement’s Food Sharing Project	354	£20,000	City Centre

Fresh Start's Starter Packs	338	£20,000	Forth
SHRUB's Wee Spoke Hub	327	£20,000	City Centre
Rhyze Mushrooms, Micro Mushroom Farms for 3 Community Cafes	325	£9,990	Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart
The Edinburgh Remakery's Tech Donation Boxes for Schools	265	£20,000	Leith
Porty Community Energy and the Tool Library's Cosy Homes and Cargo Bikes	264	£10,010	Portobello/Craigmillar

Project Monitoring

All funded organisations have also been sent information about the reporting and monitoring requirements. Information on the impact of funded projects will be published online to ensure transparency. A summary of funded applications is provided at Appendix 1.

Resources

All PB processes require various resources to effectively engage and involve community members in decision-making and allocation of public funds. For the ECCF this included:

- Time of organising group members;
- Financial resources to cover costs such as media and advertisement campaigns, printing materials, and creative elements like lamp post wraps (totalling £2,800); and
- Support from COSLA to develop and maintain CONSUL.

Feedback

Following the PB process, an evaluation survey was undertaken to collect evidence and reflections to learn from experiences. Key themes from the survey feedback included the importance to give fair and equal support for voters. For respondents this means making sure that everyone has a chance to get funding and the process should be easy for everyone to take part in and it should be fair to everyone involved.

Key feedback received included:

From voters:

- 76% felt that PB is a good way to decide how money is allocated
- 71% had not been involved in any other community engagement or consultation exercise run by the Council
- 80% felt the information provided about the projects was “about right”
- Some thought that categorising projects and reducing their number would make the voting process easier
- 1 in 3 respondents thought the registration process was poor but once logged on most respondents thought the process for voting was “easy”
- 50% of respondents thought the CONSUL site was “good”

From applicants:

- 78% of respondents felt supported during the application process
- A few applicants noted difficulties in accessing the online portal and highlighted there is a need to provide more support for non-digitally active participants
- Over 88% of respondents felt the voting process was difficult which is significantly higher than voters. Comments show that the main reason for this was a feeling MyAccount was difficult to use.
- Information sessions, both online and in-person, were found to be useful and should be continued to provide assistance and guidance.
- The majority of respondents would rate the CONSUL site as “fair”
- Most respondents felt the timescales for the process were “about right” although some respondents mentioned that timescales for the process need to consider the needs of newly established groups, ensuring their fair participation.
- 66% of respondents agreed they would apply to a fund that was allocated through PB again
- Some concerns were raised regarding the potential exclusion of certain groups, including the elderly, vulnerable individuals, and ethnic minorities

Feedback from organising group members:

- All respondents felt the process was fair, inclusive, and transparent and rated their experience of being a working group member as “good”
- Most respondents felt the process was deliberative, empowering, and flexible

Improvement plan

To ensure learning is used from the ECCF process to improve future PB processes, several key actions have been identified to address the gaps and issues that arose during the process. Table 6 below highlights key areas, actions and timescales.

Table 6: Improvement plan

Area for improvement	Action	Timescale
Registration	Work with COSLA to investigate options for improving the registration process to include social and local logins.	December 2023
Offline voting	Work with colleagues and partners to understand digital exclusion and test new methods of communication in future PB exercises	Ongoing
Young people	Involve young people at an earlier stage to enhance participation	Ongoing
Accessibility	Work with colleagues to enhance the accessibility of CONSUL	December 2023
Equalities monitoring	Work with partners to put in place improved systems for monitoring equalities data.	December 2023

Next steps

Following the conclusion of the process, information was distributed to all applicants about other available funding opportunities and groups were invited to discuss this with relevant colleagues. Several new opportunities have also been identified around developing shared funding applications. A networking event for all applicants is being planned for later in the year to support future collaboration and facilitate networking between groups.

Once project monitoring is complete, a further report will look to understand the impact of the process and feedback will be provided to the wider community on how the engagement process has influenced decisions and what has changed as a result. Learning and evaluation from the process will then help to shape future PB processes.

Appendix 1: Successful project summary

PROJECT	SUMMARY
LAURISTON FARM Community Outdoor Kitchen	Encourage the preparation and eating of healthy, fresh food in a welcoming community setting: building positive habits and perceptions around food growing and consumption, whilst increasing community connection and resilience
EDINBRIC Building Bricks 4 EdinBRIC	EdinBRIC is the city-wide collective supporting resilient communities via community-led improvement of buildings through maintenance, retrofit, and local heat / energy systems. EdinBRIC empowers the local ecosystem of groups working to do these things. A community can be a tenement, a street or a neighbourhood. Working at community-scale offers many advantages and improving whole buildings gives the best and safest results. We develop stronger and more resilient communities in the process.
CARGO BIKE MOVEMENT Food Sharing Project	<p>Employ a volunteer coordinator full time to manage and grow our food sharing project.</p> <p>By bringing together cargo bikes and volunteers, we are able to respond to food insecurity experienced by many across the city of Edinburgh. This can be done in a number of ways, such as delivering surplus supermarket food to those being accommodated in hotels, shelters, and hostels, and supporting</p>

	local food banks and building partnerships with various charitable organisations across Edinburgh.
<p>FRESH START</p> <p><u>STARTER PACKS PROJECT</u></p>	<p>Help us run the Starter Packs service – it will help us increase the amount of goods we can store, organise in packs and distribute to people moving on from homelessness. This is an essential ask as the number of families facing extreme hardship is increasing across Edinburgh.</p>
<p>SHRUB</p> <p><u>Wee Spoke Hub</u></p>	<p>Relaunch the Wee Spoke Hub and design new workshops for under-represented groups in cycling, such as women, LGBTQ+ groups, BAME communities and people experiencing homelessness.</p>
<p>RHYZE MUSHROM</p> <p><u>MICRO MUSHROOM FARMS</u></p>	<p>The aims of the project are to 1) reduce waste and emissions by growing food with zero food miles from waste within cafes 2) engage new audiences in food growing, and its links to climate change by offering an accessible year-round indoor food growing project 3) train people in mushroom cultivation skills to build resilience in our communities 4) build connections across Edinburgh by starting a network of community micro mushroom farms.</p>
<p>THE EDINBURGH REMAKERY'S</p> <p><u>TECH DONATION BOXES FOR SCHOOLS</u></p>	<p>Encourage young people within local Edinburgh schools to engage in courageous conversations around environmental sustainability, particularly related to e-waste. Our project will give them the opportunity to get involved in a sustainable project which encourages achievable actions they can take to</p>

support the climate and help their local communities reduce their carbon emissions.

Our Tech Donation Box for Schools programme will see the manufacture of five donation boxes which will be placed within primary and secondary schools across Edinburgh. They provide an easy way for people to pass on their old devices, such as laptops and phones, for them to be repaired and reused, or responsibly recycled. These will allow young people to engage with the circular economy and learn simple methods to reduce their waste. This project also allows students to support their local communities, as a portion of all the devices that are donated through our Tech Donation Boxes, go on to support our Tech Gifting Project and are given for free to people in need across Edinburgh.

PORTY COMMUNITY ENERGY AND THE TOOL LIBRARY

[COSY HOMES AND CARGO BIKES](#)

We will support groups of neighbours to come together and begin the process of creating a shared buildings plan. This involves coming to an understanding, through surveys and expert advice, what the route would be to collectively transform existing housing stock into energy efficient homes. We will do this in liaison with [EdinBRIC](#), the city wide retrofit collective.

We will also set up a Cargo Bike Library and Active Travel Hub in the centre of Portobello. We aim to make e-Cargo Cycles accessible to all and you are welcome to borrow one for a ride along the coast or to help you move stuff around. We will look

after three cargo cycles, which are especially designed to carry kids, dogs or goods. They will be lent out for day loans, and used by community projects like the Community Fridge. We will offer training to get you started and support riders of all confidence levels