North East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-2022



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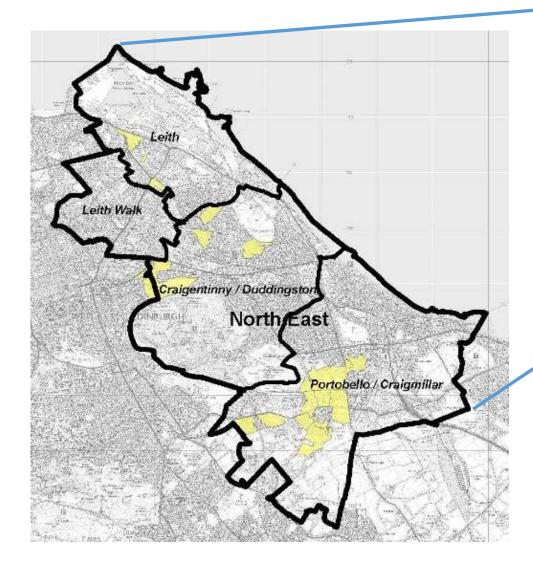








North East locality map





Community Council Areas

Leith Harbour and Newhaven

Leith Links

Leith Central

New Town and Broughton

Craigentinny/Meadowbank

Northfield Willowbrae

Craigmillar

Portobello

Old Town

Wards

Leith

Leith Walk

Craigentinny/Duddingston

Portobello/Craigmillar

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Introduction

Welcome from the North East Locality Community Planning Partnership.

We are delighted to present the revised North East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017 - 2022. This builds on the current successes of the first edition of the Locality Improvement Plan launched in 2017.

This plan will continue to help those people who are in greatest need and focuses on how we can help prevent issues or get involved to help resolve them.

It sets out:

- the priorities for improving the area until 2022
- high level actions that will be carried out
- our commitment to target our shared resources in the most effective way to tackle inequality.

In developing the first edition of the plan, we asked local people across the locality, as well as within smaller targeted areas, what would make the area better and what would we need to do to achieve this. This allowed us to identify the outcomes and priorities that will make a real difference to the lives of the people in the locality.

In early 2020, we decided to revise the plan, looking at what has been achieved to date and what our communities have told us so far during the delivery of the plan. The plan was streamlined to focus on less priorities and only on those that will truly tackle poverty and inequality, those that have been identified as thorny issues in our communities and can only be achieved through partnership working.

During that time of revision, the world was faced with a global pandemic. COVID-19 has negatively impacted all communities in different ways, through loss of income and jobs, lack of opportunities for young people, increased health inequalities and exacerbated the poverty gap that was already apparent in North East Edinburgh.

The priorities in this plan have now been considered alongside what we know so far about how this pandemic has affected our communities. We have taken data from partners showing where focus is required for the city's recovery and aligned our priorities to where we feel we can truly achieve better outcomes for the citizens of North East Edinburgh.

The Locality Community Planning Partnership has responsibility for the development and delivery of the plan.

Members of the North East Locality Community Planning Partnership are:

- The City of Edinburgh Council
- Police Scotland
- NHS Lothian
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- University of Edinburgh
- Skills Development Scotland
- Third Sector
- Neighbourhood Networks











Context

Community planning is the process by which councils and other public bodies work with local people, businesses and voluntary groups to plan and deliver better services to improve the lives of people who live in their community. It is about reducing the outcome gap for those experiencing the greatest inequality, taking a preventative approach.

In Edinburgh, the city's community planning partnership where community, public and third sector come together is collectively known as the Edinburgh Partnership.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland)
Act 2015 requires the Edinburgh
Partnership to develop and deliver a Local
Outcome Improvement Plan for the city and
individual Locality Improvement Plans for
those areas that are experiencing the
greatest inequality.

The Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-28 has three priority themes: 'enough money to live on', 'access to work, learning and training opportunities' and 'a good place to live'. This is a ten-year plan with outcomes that can only be tackled through partnership working.

The first edition of the North East Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was subject to annual performance reviews. In 2018 it was identified that whilst there has been progress made to deliver the priorities in the plan, there were significant challenges that need to be addressed including:

- The breadth of outcomes in the plan had resulted in an extensive range and number of actions
- Many of the actions were 'business as usual' activity and not additional or collaborative
- There was mixed levels of understanding and expectation of the purpose of the plan – being viewed as a place to capture all locality activity and not specifically that which tackles poverty and inequality, which led to dilution of impact and ineffective targeting of resources
- Structuring the priorities around five themes and multiple small areas had led to a lack of addressing the needs of those experiencing greatest inequality and was difficult to manage operationally and administratively.

Considering this, a review of the current North East Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan 2017-22 was undertaken in 2020, looking at the outcomes contained in the plan, and assessing them against three criteria – does it tackle poverty and inequality, is it a thorny issue; and can it only be achieved through partnership working.

The priorities have then been reconsidered against the backdrop of COVID-19. Data and local intelligence have been used to understand what the short, medium- and long-term negative impacts of this pandemic will be, and how this will affect the lives of people living in North East Edinburgh.

A revised set of priorities have been identified which will provide partners with a focus for delivery for the remaining lifetime of the Plan. These priorities have sought to reframe the outstanding commitments included in the first edition of the Plan to ensure a more targeted approach, whilst recognising the challenges presented by the pandemic.











North East locality

The North East locality is an extremely diverse community of different age groups, ethnic backgrounds, housing and living standards and varying levels of employment, health and income.



The locality has the highest levels of child poverty rates (30%) compared to the other three localities in Edinburgh.

20.5% of North East residents have no qualifications. This is higher than the other three localities and includes Portobello & Craigmillar Ward (27.9%) and Craigentinny & Duddingston Ward (24.5%)

North East has the lowest life expectancy figures for both males (76) and females (81). In the North East locality 75.5% of residents do not participate in any sport and 43%

undertake no exercise on a weekly basis.





The North East locality will face a number of opportunities and challenges in the coming years.

Opportunities

- major regeneration projects, including the St James Quarter, the Waterfront, and Edinburgh BioQuarter
- large student housing growth
- extension of the trams to Newhaven
- new models of collaborative working e.g. Community Renewal: Lifting Neighbourhoods Together project

Challenges

- large numbers of adults without qualifications, leading to higher levels of unemployment
- projected to be the second fastest growing locality with 9% growth by 2022 mainly focussed in Leith and Craigmillar
- lowest rate of owner-occupation (53%) combined with a high rate of tenement properties (75%)
- highest percentage of people with long-term health problems that limit day-to-day activity

The challenges experienced across the locality have been exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19, with those already experiencing higher levels of poverty or inequality hardest hit. Additional pressures caused by loss of work, furlough, isolation and reduced income have led to increasing hardship for those most in need, with longer term health and economic impacts expected to compound the position even further.











Involving our communities

We are committed to having meaningful conversations with the diverse communities and groups that make up the North East locality about the services that are important to them.

To inform the first version of the plan, we listened to a wide range of people, taking the conversations to where people were in the locality and recognising the importance of continuing to engage with people as we moved forwards to deliver the priorities.

The COVID-19 pandemic has seen an unprecedented response from neighbours, organisations and services, both nationally and locally, in support of the most vulnerable members in our communities. There has been an increase in volunteering and collaboration across services and networks, forging new connections and involving local people to meet emerging need borne out of the crisis.

This plan seeks to build on those gains, to lock them in and harness the energy, partnership working and local involvement in order to maximise future benefits for our communities.

Partners in the North East Locality are committed to continuing to involve local people and to have meaningful conversations with the diverse communities and groups in our communities about the services that are important to them.

It is clear when we talk with local people that they are also having conversations about what is important to them and what they want to see happen in their locality through other forums. We are using the feedback that has been collected through various engagement and consultation exercises to help shape this plan, such as Edinburgh Poverty Commission and City Vision 2050.

The plan has an impact on our communities and so input and feedback from you is vital to ensure the plan is shaped to deliver what it can for the benefit of the people in our community. We want local people to get involved and feel part of the delivery of the actions in the plan.

In 2019, the Edinburgh Partnership established 13 neighbourhood networks across the city, bringing communities

together to promote dialogue and discussion on issues of shared interest. The networks are one route to which communities influence the plan and work with partners to develop appropriate responses for their neighbourhoods.

Network membership comprises community bodies, elected members for the relevant wards and third sector organisations.

Community bodies include those such as community councils, tenants' organisations, Friends of Parks groups, parent councils, community trusts and any other community group that reflects the diversity and demographic make-up of each area. The wide membership ensures that those communities experiencing the greatest inequality are represented.

There are three neighbourhood networks in the North East: Craigentinny/Duddingston, Leith and Portobello/Craigmillar.

For information on how to get involved, or to find out how to join a local community group, please get in touch with us at northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk

The revised priorities

Under each theme, we have set out the outcomes, high level actions and possible measures. The measures provide an indication of what may be possible in measuring progress.

These measures, along with outputs, timescales and resources to deliver the actions and achieve better outcomes are set out in accompanying work plans.

Each of the outcomes is also aligned to one of the three priority areas of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).

Theme 1 – Provide targeted support and early interventions for young people and their families who are most in need in order to improve their access to opportunities which lead to positive destinations and help to maximise income

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought further challenges to an already complicated jigsaw of income for many families due to low pay, insecure work, the gig economy and changes to the benefit system. Young people have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic with those under 25 more likely to be furloughed or to lose their job.

It has been proven that young people who suffer from a period of inactivity after leaving school go on to suffer from longer periods of unemployment and poorer mental health in later years. This has a direct impact on services such as

social work, health, criminal justice and the benefit system in future years.

Through the realignment of priorities and actions in the updated North East Locality Improvement Plan, partners will be encouraged to work together to ensure that residents and families are signposted and supported to access the relevant information, advice and provision to allow them to make informed choices and work towards more positive employment and lifestyle outcomes.

There is additional focus on interventions for young people, and through making the most of current Scottish Government strategies such as Developing Young Workforce, No One Left Behind and Every Child, Every Chance, services will be developed in partnership with the community to ensure that they are relevant and effective, especially as a result of the inequalities highlighted by the covid-19 pandemic.

Lead – City of Edinburgh Council Business Growth & Inclusion

Partners include – Skills Development Scotland, other Council Service areas, Developing Young Workforce, NHS Lothian, third sector employability and support organisations.

Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
Young people and their families who are most in need feel supported to access opportunities leading to positive destinations	 Deliver capacity building sessions for frontline staff to allow them to be able to signpost vulnerable people to relevant support and early intervention services Identify barriers that prevent young people from participating fully in their communities through a themed Youth Talk approach and work with partners and service providers to remove or reduce those barriers in order to provide additional support and early intervention Develop a programme of virtual or actual Jobs and Opportunity Events to increase awareness of local organisations, training and employment opportunities Employability and sector-based training will be offered locally 	Improve the confidence of frontline staff in signposting families to relevant services Increase in young people accessing post school employment & training opportunities	Enough money to live on Access to work, learning & training opportunities
Increased positive destinations for every school leaver	 Provide locally accessible and targeted employability support in areas of most need Every school leaver will have the pathway to progress to a positive destination 	Increase the number of young people securing positive destinations	Enough money to live on Access to work, learning & training opportunities











Theme 2 - Enable access to health and wellbeing opportunities, activities & social networks for people who are vulnerable and in poverty in order to restore, maintain or improve their quality of life and social connectedness

Our priority outcomes for improving health and wellbeing in the North East locality will help make sure that everyone living and working here can benefit from a broad range of activities and support to improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing and prevent poor health in the future.

We know that social isolation and loneliness have a very significant impact on health.¹ The COVID-19 pandemic has

shown us more than ever the importance of connection and community. We also know that not everybody is able to benefit equitably from available health and wellbeing support.

Together with people who live and work in the area, we will continue to build on activities, services and networks that promote social connectedness, recognising that these social connections contribute to people's quality of life, health, safety, economy and wellbeing in the neighbourhoods where they live.

We will learn from the diverse experience of local people, and our collective response to the COVID19 pandemic, in order to reduce barriers to health and wellbeing support for people who are vulnerable.

Lead - Health & Social Care Partnership

Partners include – All public sector services, general practice and particularly community and third sector organisations and networks.

Health Action? Available at https://www.scotphn.net/wp-

content/uploads/2017/05/2017_05_16-Loneliness-Scoping-Note-Final-formatted.pdf











¹ Scottish Public Health Network, 2017. Social Isolation & Loneliness: What is the scope for Public

Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
Reduced loneliness and social isolation Improved access to health and wellbeing support	 Map community resources for health and wellbeing and implement a strategy for keeping that information, including information on community assets, up-to-date and accessible, in order to inform people who live and work in the area about them Work with local people, and statutory and non-statutory partners to identify the needs of vulnerable groups and those barriers which may prevent them from accessing support, and put in place potential solutions that build on what's already available Partner with local people to better understand their experiences of using existing support services through a variety of techniques such as data, stories, action learning and co-design. 	Feedback from the community through people's stories, community participatory activity	A good place to live











Theme 3 – Support and strengthen communities where poverty is highest to improve and maintain inclusive, safe and welcoming places to live.

The places where people live, their connections with others within those local communities and the extent to which they can influence the decisions that shape those spaces, all have a significant impact on their health, wellbeing and quality of life. Community participation is at the heart of this and almost ten years on from the Christie Commission findings, there is potentially a greater opportunity than previously felt to work in partnership with our communities to create good places to live. To build on the collaboration, local action and involvement that has seen neighbours, organisations and partners respond so positively to the challenges posed from coronavirus.

Partners have identified the importance of delivering improvements where engagement activities have already been undertaken with local residents to identify key areas for change and these actions have been reflected in this priority.

There is also recognition of the importance of keeping people safe, both at an individual level and community level, and the impact that this has on poverty, equality and life chances. Tackling hate crime and domestic abuse have been prioritised as key concerns which lead to poor mental health and physical harm, reduced income and poverty for families. The pandemic has

further potential to increase the pressure already felt by victims from isolation and reduced confidence, leading to greater inequality.

Lead- Council Housing Service/ Police Scotland

Partners include- Neighbourhood Networks, North East Voluntary Sector Forum, Community Councils, Health & Social Care Partnership, Council Community Engagement & Empowerment staff, community and third sector organisations











Outcome	High level actions	Measure	LOIP priority
People living in targeted areas of higher need feel that they have a say on local issues and that developments better reflect their needs More sustainable local communities	 Develop and deliver environmental and quality of life improvements and opportunities for residents living in North Cairntow working jointly with members of the gypsy travelling community Develop and deliver a range of environmental improvements in Northfield through engaging with local stakeholders and residents to improve the area as an inclusive, safe and welcoming place to live Deliver identified improvements in Magdalene as described in the Magdalene Matters Action Plan Support partnership approaches to community growing initiatives across the locality 	Increase in positive feedback from the local residents of North Cairntow, Northfield and Magdalene Increase the number of formal/ informal growing sites	A good place to live
People feel safer living in their local community	 Deliver domestic abuse & coercive control awareness training to targeted groups of staff Work with community groups, registered social landlord's, Community Councils and third sector organisations to divert people away from anti-social behaviour and use all available legislation to tackle the most persistent offenders Work together to tackle hate crime and intolerance through building stronger relationships across communities to encourage reporting of hate crime and support/ promote cultural diversity. 	Improve on the number of reported ASB incidents Improve on the rate of hate crime reporting	A good place to live

Case study examples

Magdelene Matters

Magdalene Matters is a community-led environmental improvement initiative which began with an estate walkabout with local people to raise issues and concerns. In March 2018, 80 residents, community organisations and stakeholders gathered at a public engagement event to identify their key priorities and to work together with partners and elected members to agree solutions to tackle the issues.

A Magdalene Matters Improvement Plan was developed as a result, with key actions addressing concerns of community safety, housing and environment improvements and community identity. Partners have taken forward a range of improvement actions over the last 18 months including:

- housing drop-in sessions for tenants and owners to help shape a housing improvement feasibility study for Magdalene Drive and Gardens
- structural survey on the properties
- Week of Action in Magdalene and Bingham with partners and the community
- Environmental Visual Audit to identify required environmental improvements
- bespoke litter, flytipping and dog fouling campaign
- · community benefit projects such as wildflower meadow planting
- · increased flytipping removal by concierge officers
- community litter picks
- community safety survey by police with warrants executed
- Police Scotland initiative with local primary schoolchildren to design and issue mock parking tickets to those parking inconsiderately in the school vicinity
- updates provided to stakeholders and local community through Portobello & Craigmillar Neighbourhood Partnership meetings
- Magdalene Matters Newsletter
- local drop-in surgeries held by Neighbourhood Alliance
- development of a local community-led group to oversee the improvements- the Magdalene Matters Action Group

North Cairntow

Officers and partners have worked closely with the local gypsy travelling community at the North Cairntow site in Craigmillar to improve the quality of life for local residents. A wide range of actions have been developed with the full involvement of local residents through a newly established Tenants and Residents Group. Housing improvements are currently being actioned following the completion of a feasibility study with the commissioning of an architect to support the community to co-design the site modernisation work. A business case for future Capital Investment has also been presented to cover the cost of the planned programme of improvement works.

In response to identified community need, an on-site hub was developed with an events programme that includes literacy, art and income maximisation workshops. One of the initiatives involved the Lifelong Learning Service working in partnership with MECOPP (Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project) who have developed strong links with the gypsy traveller's community on site to deliver a tinsmithing art project. Several workshops were held at the hub attracting younger and older members of the community who produced artwork using traditional skills whilst connecting across the generations.

Other developments have included the provision of health screening for residents and support for an NHS immunisation programme through the provision of alternative accommodation.

YouthTalk - Craigentinny & Duddingston

YouthTalk is a youth engagement model which enables local young people to give their views on local facilities, activities and services. The initiative has been developed in partnership with the Council, NHS Lothian, Police Scotland and with local youth work organisations, and was first established in the North East Locality in Leith with a group of young people leading the way. The most recent work has been delivered in the Craigentinny & Duddingston Ward, where Lifelong Learning staff, supported by schools and partner organisations, engaged with more than 300 young people during Autumn-Winter 2019/20 asking them what would make their neighbourhood a better place to live.

These conversations with young people identified the following ambitions for their local neighbourhoods:

- A cleaner community
- More places to hang out and play
- A safer community
- Improved parks and green spaces
- Less traffic and more public transport
- Better housing and opportunities
- More information about what's on

The planned Gathering event with "decision-makers", which was scheduled for May 2020 had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, Lifelong Learning staff are using a combination of streetwork and internet technology to continue the engagement with young people – focusing on the streets closest to Craigentinny Community Centre and Lochend Park. It is anticipated that future Gathering events will take place online and will be themed to enable young people to attend online events with community decision makers based upon the issues which are most important to them.

£eith Chooses Participatory Budgeting

£eith Chooses (£C) is the current iteration of a participatory budgeting (PB) process which started 10 years ago in Leith.

The Leith Neighbourhood Partnership chose to allocate their Community Grant funding through a more democratic process which involved the wider community to reach decisions on funding allocations, moving away from a previously used panel-based assessment. The process has evolved over the past 10 years into a successful community-led process which unites local voluntary organisations and residents for a high-profile local event which attracts a high number of local participants annually.

The £eith Chooses Steering Group is made up of representatives from the three local community councils, local elected members, voluntary organisations and council officers. The Steering Group meets weekly to shape the process which distributes community grant funding of £44,624. The last annual event took place on 1 February 2020, with twenty organisations presenting their projects in a market place in Leith Community Centre.

Over 900 people who live, work, study or volunteer in Leith attended to vote for their preferred projects. They cast 2186 votes in total.

Removing barriers to participation- an evolving PB process

The Steering Group ensure that the process evolves and adapts every year in response to feedback received from community organisations, key stakeholders and participants. For the 2020 event, £eith Chooses created a 'gentle registration area' which was a quieter space with supportive volunteers. This was in response to suggestions made by parents with (adult) autistic children who found the high energy of the previous public event overwhelming and from some older people who found the registration queueing tiring. The 'gentle registration' was designed to be an alternative space where those with more visible mobility needs (wheelchairs, buggies) and those with invisible needs (anxiety, literacy, Asperger's) could prepare to vote.

Another new addition to the 2020 event was the children's vote for the best dressed stall. Traditionally young people 8 years and over can vote in £C, so the introduction of an age and stage appropriate alternative vote was a fun, educational way to promote democratic engagement for those under 8 years of age.

Following the previous year's pilot of a 'boost vote', four groups received a 'boost vote' in 2020. Previously, BAME groups were regularly unsuccessful in the PB process in Leith, so following feedback, in 2019 this was introduced to recognise the efforts of those groups that support working with ethnic minorities in Leith. A total of 616 boost votes were cast and all four projects received funding.

The Scottish Community Development Centre kindly offered an evaluation process on the event day and presented an overview in the following article: https://pbscotland.scot/blog/2020/2/7/leith-chooses-a-treasure-trove-of-good-practicenbsp

How we will measure success

The revised priorities include a strategic description of high-level actions and possible measures. This will be underpinned by workplans which set out detailed actions, timescales and the key measures that will demonstrate how change is taking place in each locality.

These more detailed workplans will form the basis of monitoring progress allowing scrutiny of areas of success and identifying improvement needs and will be subject to regular review.

An Annual Progress Report will also be produced evidencing progress on delivering the outcomes in the plan, based on the output of the continuous monitoring and scrutiny, and will be presented to Council Committee and partner governance bodies for further scrutiny and approval.

The core principles and methods for monitoring progress and performance reporting are:

Principles

1 Easy to access and understand Information on how each outcome is progressing needs to be readily available, regularly maintained, clearly laid out and free of jargon.

2 Focused on outcomes as well as outputs

The aim of monitoring information is to measure the difference made to local people and communities and not just changes made to services.

3 Alignment with other strategic aims

The partners' progress towards achieving the outcomes must be consistent with their own established strategic aims. This is to ensure that the services are working towards clearly aligned goals and are monitoring their work in a consistent way.

Methods

1 Workplans

A set of more detailed plans relating to the outcomes and associated actions will allow monitoring of the partners' activity and progress towards achieving our shared goals.

2 Regular performance reports

These will detail progress towards achieving the outcomes. They could include actions, key performance indicators, case studies and customer research to give a balanced view on progress. These reports will form the basis for the Annual Progress Report.

3 Annual Progress Report

Progress in achieving the outcomes for the locality and small areas will be reported annually to Council committee and partner governance bodies.











Further information and contacts

Key contacts

Further information about this plan is available by contacting the North East locality team:

- email northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk
- telephone 0131 529 3111 and ask to speak to the Locality Manager or the Lifelong Learning Service Manager.

Links to plans and strategies

The Locality Improvement Plan links with a range of existing strategies including:

The City of Edinburgh Council

- Business Plan
- Local Development Plan

Edinburgh Partnership

- Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2018-22
- Children's Services Plan
- Community Learning and Development Plan
- Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan

NHS Lothian

NHS Lothian Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan 2019-22

Police Scotland

Strategic Police Plans

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Strategic and Local Fire and Rescue Plans for Scotland East

Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council and Volunteer Centre Edinburgh

Everybody's Edinburgh

Equalities statement

Locality Improvement Plans set out our commitment to promoting equality and diversity. An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) have been carried out, enabling all partners to meet their legal duties to consider equality, human rights, sustainability and the environment. The assessments ensure that the planned services and policies promote equality of opportunity, eliminate discrimination and harassment, and promote good relations between those with protected characteristics and those with none. They also allow broader inequalities to be addressed, ensuring that the needs of all people are met.

For further information or to view a copy of the assessments please contact: northeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk











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