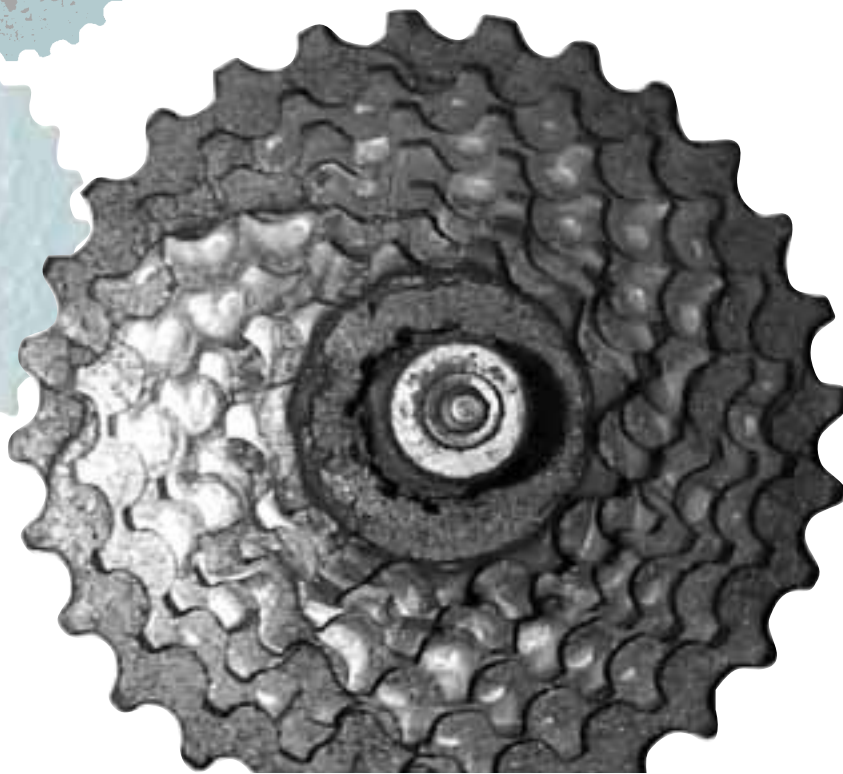
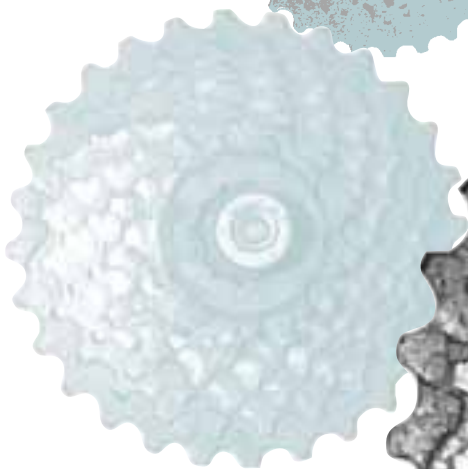
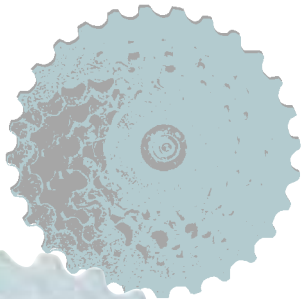
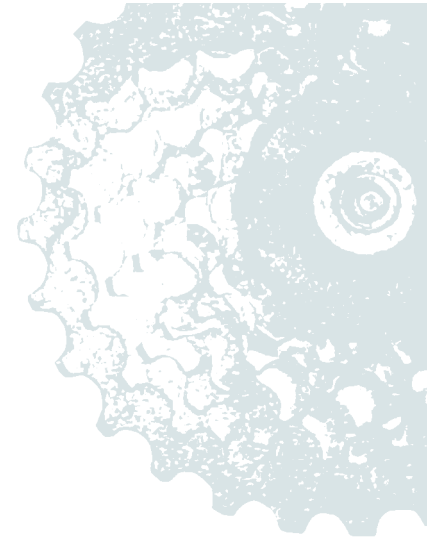


ANNUAL REPORT 2001

CAPITAL CITY PARTNERSHIP





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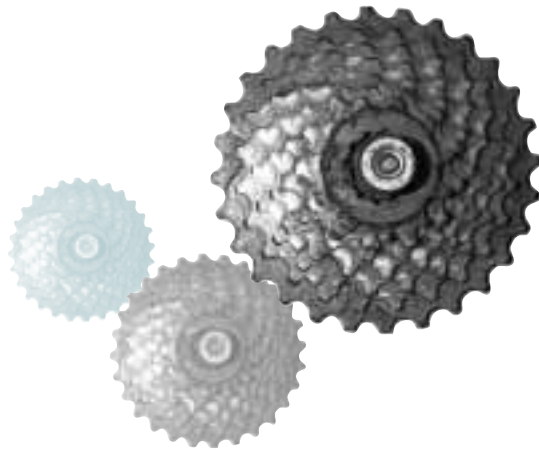
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INTRODUCTION

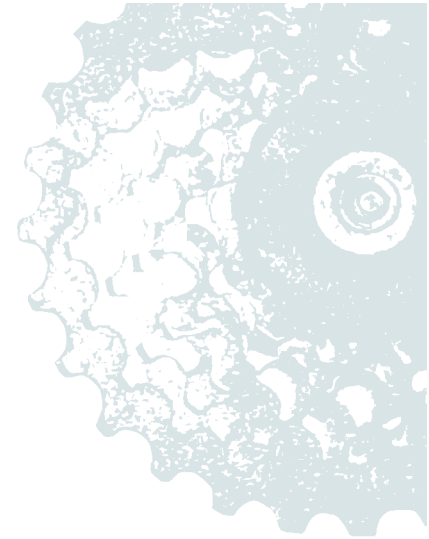
This is the partnership's first annual report following the publication of the Edinburgh Milestones in autumn 2000. It is accompanied by two substantial documents. The first, entitled "Social Justice in Edinburgh, a Statistical Picture" describes the position in the city and in the main SIP areas using the social justice targets, milestones and performance indicators as an analytical framework. The second is a full technical annexe containing all the data we have managed to collect against these indicators this year and last.

Over time it is these documents, annually updated, which will tell us what we need to know about the success or otherwise of our joint work to develop an inclusive city. This narrative report, however, gives a descriptive and slightly more intuitive view of progress over the year gone by and an indication of what to look out for in 2001.



OVERVIEW

WORKING TOGETHER AGAINST EXCLUSION



National context

Nationally, this year has seen a discernible shift of emphasis from pathfinders, pilots and “initiativitis” to a steady pattern of resource announcements from government which are closely aligned to their social justice targets and milestones. Many relevant examples of this pattern are referenced in the main text. As importantly, government has delivered a number of key infrastructure changes during the course of the year, all of which are focused on more coherent delivery of the social justice targets, examples of these key contextual changes include the establishment of:

- Communities Scotland
- Careers Scotland
- Local economic fora
- Future Skills Scotland
- Unified health boards

All of these Scotland wide initiatives will have a direct bearing on how we improve and develop joint work in Edinburgh over the coming year.

Local context

The continued active support and membership of the Partnership throughout the year from all of the key statutory agencies and all of the City’s SIPs as well as our private and voluntary sector directors is one indicator of the health of the partnership process.

More importantly however I made clear this time last year that the real success of the partnership approach would be measured by the degree of progress made towards the integration of milestone objectives into the partners’ own service planning and resource delivery processes. I am pleased to be able to report that there is clear evidence of the partners taking direct ownership of the Edinburgh Milestones.

Notable examples of this extended ownership of the commonly agreed objectives include Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian’s Business Strategy for 2002-2005 which is now built around the



key employment milestones and the fact that New Deal activity and other non-programme activity is now increasingly focused on the hardest to reach. In the City Council the Edinburgh Milestones have been adopted as the Council's own framework for measuring and fostering progress in social inclusion. In key joint planning fora the overall approach is also taking root for example in the Children's Services Strategy Group where its workplan has been refocused around the milestones for Children and Young People and in the joint agency Children's Services Plan which has adopted the milestones format and content. The incorporation of the relevant milestones into the Education Service's five year Improvement Plan is another positive development.

Outwith the statutory sector each of the city's Social inclusion Partnerships have adjusted their planning and monitoring frameworks to align them more closely with social justice targets, and the city's Lifelong Learning Partnership now has its workplan built around the key learning milestones.

Progress

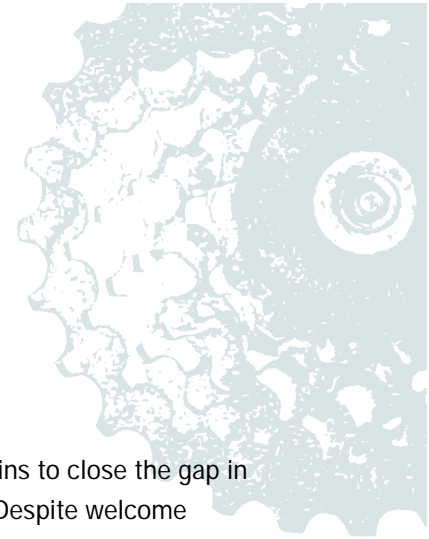
The evidence available from the data collected shows varying degrees of improvement across the key themes and the main messages are integrated into the main report.

Significant progress is evident in respect of both outcomes and joint working on employment access issues with agreement reached on five key objectives and partners' resources being increasingly aligned with these joint aims. Outstanding successes in getting the City's first Centre of Excellence (The Pool) up and running and other positive developments are highlighted in the Jobs section of this report. Discernible evidence of more joint resource planning is noted, aided by the agreement of S.E.E&L's business strategy for inclusion and the establishment within the City Council of a specific Social Justice Fund themed around community safety and health as well as employment access.

The initiative of the Health Board in making the Health Improvement Fund available through the partnership process has helped improve joint working between Health, Education and Social work. New services are being introduced as a result which will improve health prospects through sport for school age children in tandem with the Education Service's own increased emphasis on the importance of sport in schools. New mental health support resources in schools, extended support for the lowest achievers and for the education of children in care and outreach services for young drug users and those at risk of drug and alcohol abuse are also now being put in place.

The drafting of Local Community Learning Plans has begun and action on citywide plans for improving adult literacy, numeracy and ICT access is underway. The publication of the city's first Standards and Quality Report is to be commended for the clarity and accountability that process brings to outcomes from school education in the city. Improved attainment levels for reading and writing at primary school level are shown and the best ever Standard Grade performance by





Edinburgh state secondary schools has been achieved. The challenge remains to close the gap in attainment between schools in SIP areas and those in the city as a whole. Despite welcome improvements in some schools there is no consistent pattern apparent of improvement towards city norm levels.

The introduction of an affordable housing policy and the development by all partners of a new five year housing strategy will bring the prospect of more balanced communities right across the city over time.

Continued progress in the fight against crime is complemented by a major new programme of preventative measures co-ordinated through the Community Safety Partnership, itself having undertaken a fundamental review of function and purpose.

On Financial Inclusion, work has continued with Capital Credit Union and many of the smaller credit unions in the city to establish the infrastructure necessary to support significant increases in credit union membership particularly for those who need it most. Feasibility work on the extension of Capital's common bond across the whole city and beyond is now complete and a detailed business plan for expansion underway. The proposal to extend the common bond will be considered by Capital's membership early next year and, if agreed, development across Edinburgh will take place throughout 2002. This year has also seen the signing of the Wester Hailes Community Banking Agreement which has begun testing innovative ways of making financial products and services more easily available to excluded groups and increasing levels of financial and business literacy in the area.

Development of the Milestones

The Social Justice Milestones provide an excellent performance framework for a partnership engaged in work across such a broad range of activity. That framework however should not, and indeed was never intended to, remain static. Even at the outset, within the Edinburgh Milestones agreed last year, there was a degree of customisation of the national framework to better reflect Edinburgh's strategic priorities with the inclusion of a specific milestone and targets on Financial Inclusion and on the city's own housing system objectives. This year the development process has continued.

Equalities Mainstreaming

One criticism, voiced last year, of the national framework, was that it gave insufficient weight to equalities issues and therefore to some of the most excluded groups in the city. Initial consideration was given to developing local milestones specific to structurally more excluded groups such as ethnic minority populations. Given however the developing consensus around the longer term



effectiveness of attempts to bring equalities issues onto the mainstream agenda rather than deal with them as isolated or separated tasks we have now undertaken to find ways of mainstreaming these issues into the social justice agenda. This starts, as does all of our work, at the level of data and evidence and the data framework is now being overhauled to allow it to identify wherever possible differential impacts and outcomes for specific groups.

The partnership's Quality Assurance Group are working with our Datashare framework to incorporate gender, disability, race and sexuality specific data sets across all of the milestones and performance indicators into the annual data reports. This is a major task, which will take some time, but the first results of this work should be available and influential within the next annual report.

Adult Literacy and Numeracy and Carers

The coming year will see the introduction of a specific milestone on adult literacy and numeracy, and the Action Plan associated with it. Also well advanced is the development of a detailed strategy for carers in the city based on the Partnership's milestones and performance targets methodology. The final version of this can be incorporated into the partnership's overall performance framework.


Forward Look

Beyond those developments anticipated in particular fields of work and noted elsewhere in this report there are some new areas of work which will take prominence in the coming year. These include the development of successor arrangements for the Wester Hailes "New Life" Partnership area, the Capital City Partnership's new responsibilities for social justice funding and a focus on improving outcomes for looked after children. Detail on these themes is noted below. This, along with work to take forward the recommendations from the Partnership's recently published report on "Homelessness and Routes to Employability" and on developing a strategy to bolster the community arts sector and its contribution to inclusion objectives, will feature heavily in this year's work programme.

Wester Hailes

One of the most significant developments this year came when the Scottish Executive asked the Partnership to "undertake a significant expansion of its role" in respect of the forward strategy for Wester Hailes. To do so the Partnership will receive an additional annual allocation of £2.118m from April 2002 to help it consolidate progress in Wester Hailes and promote social justice measures across the city over the next five years. Very broadly based consultative work has taken place throughout this year to identify both consensus and differences in partners' aspirations for Wester





Hailes. A close examination is currently underway of existing funding patterns and decision-making processes and the potential for an effective local community planning process. The Partnership will consider the findings and recommendations arising from this work in January 2002 and a great deal of the partners' time and expertise in the forthcoming year will be focused on achieving the most effective successor arrangements.

Programme Funding

An annually increasing proportion of this new allocation will be available to support the wider pursuit of the social justice agenda across the city, linking it successfully into the community planning process and with a growing emphasis on strategies for the prevention rather than amelioration of social exclusion. Broad principles and criteria for the allocation of the fund have been agreed and a new post of Programmes Manager established to put in place systems for the allocation, management and effective deployment of this new "Implementation Fund".

Looked After Children

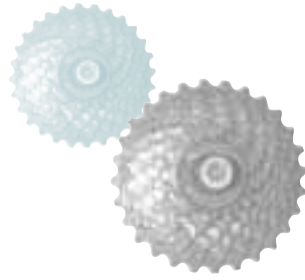
One of the most disturbing findings of the "Homelessness and Routes to Employability" report was that no less than 40% of the city's rough sleepers had been through the care system. Statistics collated by UK government's Social Exclusion Unit and elsewhere indicate that :

- Looked after children are ten times more likely to be excluded from school
- A quarter of all prisoners have been through the care system
- Only 4% of children leaving care had five or more GCSEs graded A-C compared to a national average of nearly 50%
- 70% of those leaving care at 16+ had no qualifications
- 50% of young women leaving care have a child within 2 years

Given the starkness of these outcomes and their negative impact across our key themes of learning, health and community safety it would be appropriate for the Partnership to devote some time and resource priority to work in this area. Establishing the baseline in Edinburgh and working with partners and expert practitioners to consider best practice and working solutions for vulnerable children and young adults in Edinburgh will be first steps in this work.



JOBS



Key messages from the data

Unemployment, both registered and by the wider ILO definition, has fallen significantly in Edinburgh over the year. Most encouragingly the proportion of the long term unemployed within overall unemployment figures has also fallen indicating that efforts to reach those most distanced from the labour market are taking effect.

Although entry rates to New Deal programmes have declined as unemployment fell the New Deal in Edinburgh has outperformed the national averages in respect of adult job entry rates and the rates of entry to unsubsidised jobs for both adult and 18-24 programmes. Although unemployment rates and the proportion of Long Term unemployed have declined slightly more in the SIP areas than in the city as a whole there is still no evidence yet of a significant closing of the gap between the SIP areas and the rest of the city.

Context changes

The main context change has come at UK level with the emergence of the Department of Work and Pensions which will oversee the operation of the benefits system and the Welfare to Work programme within the same departmental remit. This will have a major impact both in policy terms and operationally. JobCentrePlus is expected to bring a work-facing ethos to the operation of the benefits system and an increasing focus on decreasing the rate of economic inactivity rather than registered unemployment as the key indicator of success in this field. This focus is particularly suited to the Edinburgh labour market position and the partners' efforts in coming years will reflect this substantial shift in policy.

In Scotland further evidence of integration of programmes comes with the establishment of Future Skills Scotland along with a network of local economic fora and the creation of Careers Scotland which will incorporate previous Education/industry Links programmes within an extended (all-age groups) service.

Progress

Progress locally has been impressive with the Partnership's employability agreement and action plan agreed in January and a visible focus now on efforts to target the hardest to reach groups and those most distanced from the labour market. The approach taken has been to develop an integrated and city-wide infrastructure for employment access and to develop routes into jobs through customised training designed to meet employer needs. These needs are being linked to the training





sector through the establishment of academies for key industry sectors. In the academies, training and additional support can be tailored to meet the needs of individual clients. This approach provides a response, not only to barriers facing the long term unemployed but also to an acute labour shortage in Edinburgh growth sectors such as Financial and IT Services, Healthcare, Retail, Tourism and Hospitality and Construction. Through the academies it is possible to broker guaranteed job opportunities for clients but also to bring to bear major new sources of funding to meet the needs of the long term unemployed and new job seekers. A major success this year has been the completion of a funding package (including over £1m from the New Deal Innovation Fund) to set up and implement our first Centre of Excellence now known as "The Pool" located adjacent to Edinburgh Park. Other demand led "academies" already in place include

- The Retail Academy (led by Debenhams)
- The Hotel and Tourism Academy (led by the "Active 8" consortium of city hotels)
- The Deal Me In Programme (CEC as Employers)
- The Construction Academy (Edinwork, directly managed by the Partnership)

This year has also seen major extensions of the New Deal. Programmes for older people and lone parents are now fully operational and an extended roll out to clients aged 25+ in place along with special initiatives to engage the ethnic minority population and to reach out to clients with drugs and/or alcohol problems.

Significant mainstream change is also evident in the replacement by S.E.E.&L of its Training and Employment Grants Scheme with a new "OPT>>IN" challenge fund promoting access to employment for those most distanced from the labour market.

Forward Look

Developments keenly anticipated in the coming year include the establishment of a Healthcare Academy with the new Edinburgh Royal Infirmary as the anchor employer. This is currently at feasibility stage. Also in prospect is a Creative Industries Academy linking outcomes and outputs from community arts programmes to job opportunities in one of the city's fastest moving and innovative industrial sectors. The first operational impacts of The Pool should also be felt in the coming year and outcomes from the other established academies should be showing impact on hard to reach groups and the longer term unemployed.

At the time of writing it is anticipated that 2002 will see an exciting collaboration between the local partners, the Scottish Executive and the Department of Work and Pensions piloting an "Economic Inclusion Zone" in the city. This will take the lessons of good practice gained from the



Government's national Employment Zones Programme and extend it include a number of non JSA benefits to test whether this (joined up funding) approach can be successful in reducing economic inactivity rates and bringing opportunities to many unregistered unemployed people trapped in the benefits system.

2002 will also see the first full year of the OPT>>IN fund and more intensive efforts by partners to increase provider capacity and quality through this scheme and the development of a fully functioning network of "New Intermediaries" across the city. Partners will work with existing area based and client group focused intermediaries to ensure better connections between providers and fully functional linkages between intermediaries and the developing network of employer led academies.

HEALTH

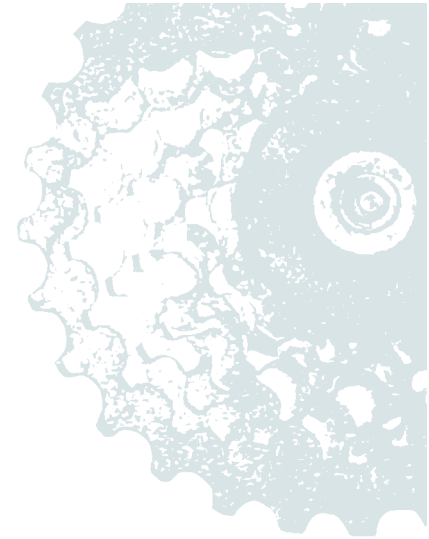
Key messages from the data

Health trends are notoriously resistant to short term change and the real impacts of policy changes and enhanced working together will be more readily discernible in the medium and long term. Those outcome changes evident for the year past send mixed messages.

Although mortality rates generally have edged higher, those for young people have improved and there have been decreases in coronary heart disease mortality for adults in Edinburgh and in most SIP areas. Although the rates of teenage pregnancy have remained broadly stable whilst the rest of Scotland saw a significant decrease there were worrying increases, particularly amongst very young women, in all of the SIP areas. Despite a slight decrease in the numbers of women smoking during pregnancy there has been a rise in the proportion of low birth weight babies although, like many of the child health indicators, these remain better for Edinburgh than for Scotland as a whole.

Positive changes which can be attributed to policy include an increase in the proportion of young children free from dental caries and in the rates of breast feeding. The prevalence of injection amongst registered drug users remains much lower than elsewhere in Scotland and the rate of teenage suicide declined significantly.





Context Changes

In line with the recommendations in “Our National Health: A plan for Action, A Plan for Change” this year has seen the formation of unified Health Boards. NHS Lothian incorporates Lothian Health, Lothian Primary Care NHS Trust, Lothian University NHS Trust and West Lothian Healthcare NHS Trust as well as representatives from the local authority. The plan aims to put the needs and views of patients and communities at the heart of design and delivery of local health services.

NHS Lothian has put addressing health inequalities at the core of health planning. The Health Inequalities Steering Group is currently reviewing the strategy document “Tackling Health Inequalities in Lothian”. An audit of health inequalities focussed activity is currently being undertaken. This will provide a useful tool which describes the wide range of initiatives being undertaken both by organisations across the Local Authority, NHS, voluntary Sector and wider partners to address the Edinburgh Milestones and meet wider health improvement/health inequalities targets.

Progress

A number of healthy eating initiatives, including the “Snack Attack” fruit in schools initiative, sponsored by the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Community Food Initiative, are contributing to the improvements in childrens’ health. A range of activity across the city aimed at removing the barriers to breast-feeding has been developed, impacting positively on the number of mothers choosing to breast-feed.

A new community schools initiative called “Working Together” has been developed in Edinburgh. At its core is the underlying principal of becoming a health promoting school. A co-ordinator for this work has been appointed and will be working with schools in Edinburgh to develop a healthy and safe environment for pupils, and to work throughout the school structures and with the wider community to actively promote health and well being.

Also during the year the first round of the Health Improvement Fund allocations came on stream. The funding has been made available from the Scottish executive by the release of monies from the Tobacco Tax. Lothian NHS Board with significant input from other partners is funding a number of major projects addressing social exclusion and promoting health improvement. These include a number of local initiatives tackling alcohol misuse, young people’s health and mental health as well as larger citywide initiatives.

Across the city, and in partnership with the Capital City Partners, the Health Improvement Fund has been used to develop three significant projects:



•ALCOHOL MISUSE AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE

This project aims to use voluntary organisations to take the service to the client group through outreach work focussed in youth clubs, fast food bars and leisure parks

•WORKING TOGETHER IN SCHOOLS

Mental health support to young people in schools and the provision of a range of tailored out of school learning opportunities for young people who are the lowest achieving pupils in the city's schools.

•SPORTING CHANCE

The project will operate at 5 levels through 12 primary schools across the city

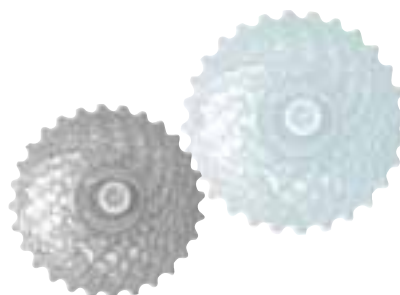
1. Taster/Introductory sports sessions to children in primary 5 classes
2. After schools sports clubs in local areas
3. Local competitions/events
4. Pathways to club level and city wide coaching opportunities
5. Additional support for talented individuals

The first three stages will be implemented within the first year of the project.

Forward Look

NHS Lothian is currently developing its first Local Health Plan. This will have at its centre the further development of local health care co-operatives and engagement with its statutory and voluntary partners in Edinburgh as part of the community planning process. This will be taken forward by new appointments of public health practitioners as well as the appointment of public health capacity building officers with a specific remit to develop the health agenda within the local authority and build partnership between the health service locally and its strategic partners.

The Board will also prioritise the development of a Homelessness Action Plan to improve the health of homeless people, linked to Edinburgh's Homelessness Strategy and the findings from Capital City Partnership's "Homelessness and Routes into Employment" study.



HOUSING

Messages from the data

Absolute numbers of housing completions in both the private and public sectors have increased and the trend towards rising house prices has accelerated although this is at a lower rate in the SIP areas. The decreasing numbers of Council stock in SIP areas as a result of Right to Buy sales and demolition and stock transfer programmes is producing a degree of tenure diversification in these areas.

The numbers of people in temporary accommodation has increased, indicating that the problem of homelessness and lack of access to affordable accommodation remains a key issue. Although turnover rates and void housing rates remain higher in SIP areas there has been a significant decrease in empty houses overall

Context changes

The critical context change at national level this year has been the introduction of the Housing (Scotland) Bill which received royal assent in July. This act introduces

- A new national and local planning framework for housing investment
- A new Communities Scotland agency integrating previous Scottish Homes functions with the Area Regeneration division of the Scottish Executive, including responsibility for Social Inclusion Partnerships
- The likelihood of the development funding role resting with local authorities in future years
- Introduction of the Scottish Social Tenancy giving common tenancy conditions across the social rented sector
- Enhanced rights for homeless people, and a
- Modernised right to buy

Locally two key developments introduced this year will complement this change. The establishment of an agreed five year housing strategy after an extensive consultation period which sets housing firmly as a key element of the Social Justice strategy and will allow for the logical exercise of the development funding power once transferred. Also trailed this year is the City Council's intention to introduce and implement through the planning system an Affordable Housing policy. This aims to capture some of the value of escalating land prices in the city and apply them to the production of affordable housing within all major residential developments and in particular to introduce social rented or low cost ownership to areas of the city where supply has not existed.



Progress

This year has seen further significant progress in the New Housing Partnership Programmes across the city. Major stock transfers have been agreed in South Edinburgh and new programmes of refurbishment (136 houses) and new build (131 houses) going ahead in Southhouse and Gracemount respectively which will complement work to compensate for the housing loss incurred in the limestone emergency at Gilmerton.

In Craigmillar the development master plan is now complete and the pace of change has quickened. Substantial demolition programmes have been followed by site starts and enormous progress in Craigmillar Castle (190 houses for sale and 109 for rent) along with major completions and site starts in Niddrie Marischal and Niddrie Mains. Here also major progress has been made towards the implementation of the overall Development Framework which addresses the many linked issues of sustainable regeneration including how Craigmillar can benefit from the economic buoyancy of the City and the development of the new Royal Infirmary

In Wester Hailes, the successful stock transfer and refurbishment of homes in Clovenstone continues. This will complete the current programme of major physical housing investment in the partnership area. The new challenge for Wester Hailes and wider West Edinburgh is to achieve sustainable community regeneration.

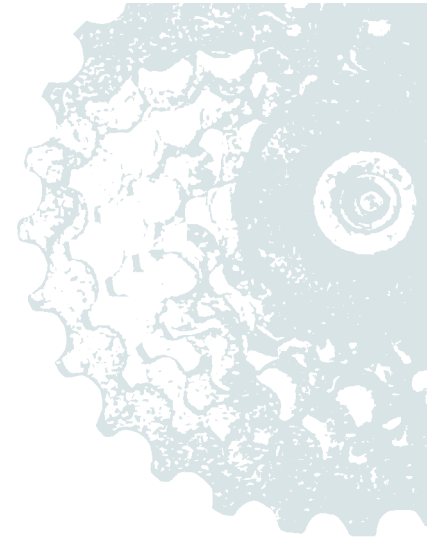
In North Edinburgh, the last phases of the existing housing strategy, focused on Muirhouse and West Granton, are nearing completion. The NEAR housing strategy was reviewed and a new strategy published this year. The major challenges are how to ensure that communities of NEAR link to and benefit from the development of the Waterfront. The Waterfront development will move forward later this year with the first phase of housing development set to incorporate around 80 affordable homes.

The 249 new homes to be started within the inner city in the year will include projects such as that at Albert St., Buchanan St., in Lorne where 35 units for rent will both address housing need and improve a tenemental gap site that has been an eyesore for years.

Business Planning and the necessary constitutional framework for the Council sponsored new housing company, Capital City Homes is now complete and the Company hopes to receive registration approval as a Registered Social landlord under the regulatory framework provided by Communities Scotland. If registered, it is intended that CCH will develop new affordable homes across the City and complement the programme of investment carried out by the existing network of Registered Social Landlords.

In addition to the NHP development programme, Scottish Homes (now Communities Scotland) has continued to invest in SIP areas and across the city through its own development funding programme as summarised below.





SCOTTISH HOMES DEVELOPMENT FUNDING PROGRAMME 2001/02		
	SPEND	UNITS
SIPS	£ 5.7 million	70
Other	£ 8 million	250
Total	£ 13.7 million	320

Also notable this year has been the adoption of the Affordable Warmth Strategy by all key partners in the city and its establishment of specific targets for reducing fuel poverty. A new team to combat fuel poverty will be established and should show clear impact in 2002. In housing support Edinburgh is currently piloting new measures to finance support services for older people and for young tenants which will be rolled out nationally in future years.

Forward Look

In November the Partnership received the final report by Grierson Associates on Homelessness and Routes into Employment. It is anticipated that the findings and recommendations from this report will help inform developing practice in this field in 2002 supporting a more holistic approach to services to homeless people, with an increasing emphasis on employability and other factors to complement accommodation based solutions. It is hoped that a new gap filling and co-ordinating service with core funding from the New Futures Fund can be brought to bear on this field in 2002. In policy terms an overall Homelessness Strategy is expected to be available for consultation in December 2001.

Over the next year, the NHP programmes should be nearing completion across the City. The first phases of regeneration should be complete in South Edinburgh and action in Dumbiedykes should be underway.

In Craigmillar, the NHP programmes will be entering their final phase and the delivery of the Development Framework should be taking off with a Joint Venture Company in place.

The first phases of housing development, including affordable homes will be progressed at the Waterfront.

The twin objectives of addressing regeneration and lack of supply will continue to be addressed. In particular, the lack of supply of affordable homes remains a critical problem across the whole city. 2002 will see the practical implementation of the Affordable Housing Policy and, it is hoped, see the delivery of a higher number of affordable homes than has been possible in recent years.



LEARNING

Messages from the data

School leaver destinations have shifted significantly towards further education with decreases in both employment/training and university destinations. Despite overall improvements in educational attainment there is no pattern of significant closing of the gaps between SIP areas and the city levels. Overall no city level data on the gap between average (S4) achievement and the bottom 20% is yet available so it is difficult to track the outcome of the various initiatives in place targeted on under performing pupils and areas.

Context Changes

Other than the well publicised policy change on recording school exclusions, this year has not been characterised by major changes in the learning framework nationally. Rather we have seen an increasing focus on the delivery of resources clearly targeted on specific milestones. Examples of this approach include :

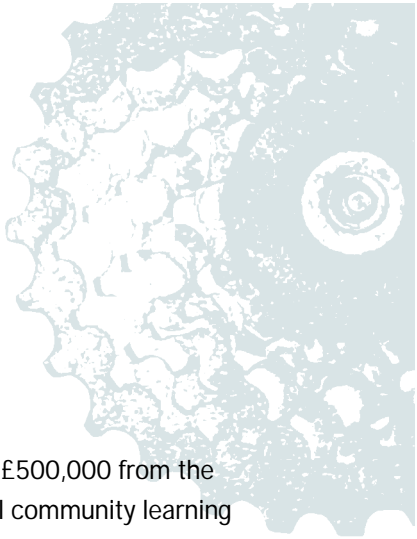
- The announcement of a new £81m Children's Change Fund aimed more generally at tackling child poverty and deprivation but likely to impact on learning outcomes for the most excluded children
- A £24m childcare package aimed at making it easier for lone parents to enter further education by offering childcare grants to between 6500 and 8500 lone parents and additional resources to institutions and local authorities to widen childcare and out of school provision.
- A new £10m fund to provide books, equipment and homework materials for every looked after child in Scotland. More than 11,000 children should benefit.
- The announcement of a £22m package over three years to improve levels of adult literacy and numeracy

Other lifelong learning initiatives with defined local impact are noted below

Progress

In educational attainment the important gains made over 1998 & 1999 in primary school reading, writing and mathematics have been sustained with improved levels in reading and writing in 2000. At secondary level the best ever results achieved by state schools in respect of standard grade passes have been posted.





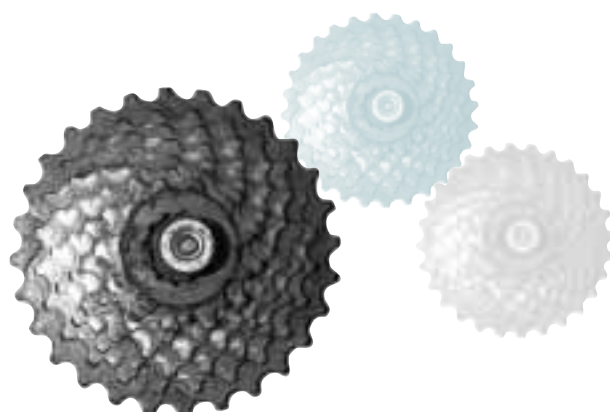
In adult learning Edinburgh's Lifelong Learning Partnership has been awarded £500,000 from the New Opportunities Fund to establish and link a network of formal and informal community learning centres across the city. This will be able to provide a high level of learning support particularly in disadvantaged areas. The Modernising Government Fund has also contributed to making ICT connections in disadvantaged communities and for those who are least able to access new technology.

Resources totalling £1.75m over a three-year period have been allocated to Edinburgh to improve service quality and levels of adult literacy and numeracy in the city. Baseline position and specific improvement targets will be put in place this year. The adult literacy action plan will establish a specific milestone in this field which will be incorporated into the Edinburgh Milestones from next year. The Lifelong Learning Partnership will also have established, by December, a baseline position on access to higher and further education from under represented groups and areas. This will make monitoring of progress in this field possible in future reports.

Forward Look

A number of new initiatives funded under the Health Improvement Fund (detailed in the Health section of this report) have been established this year. These should be bedded in and beginning to impact on health, general attainment and comparative attainment levels of some of the city's most vulnerable groups by next year.

Next year will also see the initial baseline assessment for, and the introduction of the new National Priorities guidelines for schools. This will extend the range of performance indicators for schools beyond those currently available and which are based mainly on attainment and examination outcomes. This more rounded picture of schools' performance will be incorporated into the Partnership's own performance framework and will, in particular, help identify qualitative performance measures in the fields of infrastructure, teaching standards and discipline to complement the attainment indicators already in place.



COMMUNITY SAFETY

Messages from the data

Crime rates overall have fallen across Edinburgh. Notable is the level and consistency of the drop in crimes against property, particularly dramatic in Wester Hailes, and those involving drugs, notably reduced in both North Edinburgh and Wester Hailes.

A more variable picture across the areas emerges in respect of crimes against people which has risen slightly overall whilst remaining broadly static in the SIP areas.

Context Changes

2000/2001 has been a significant year, and a year of significant change for, the Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership, the city's lead agency for community safety. Two national reports in 2000, *Threads of Success* (Scottish Executive, in which the ECSP was highlighted as a good practice case study), and *Safe and Sound* (Audit Scotland) had set out key recommendations for the future development of Community Safety Partnerships in Scotland. Audit Scotland followed this with a self-assessment guide for Community Safety Partnerships to evaluate their effectiveness, and proposed performance indicators.

In 2001 the ECSP, following these national guidelines, completed a Strategic Review of its own work, from which a number of recommendations were agreed by the Partnership in September. Crucially, the ECSP has re-aligned its structure to ensure a clear link with, and accountability through, the Community Planning process.

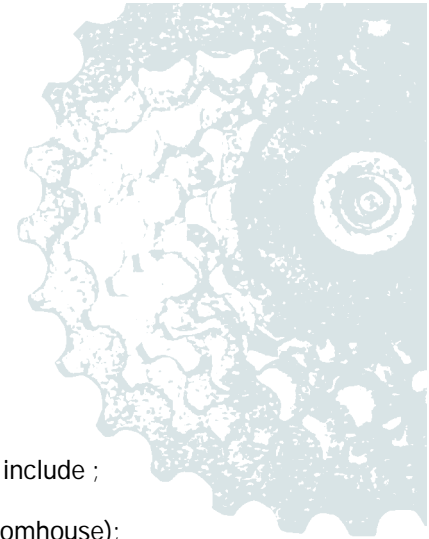
The ECSP and the City Council's Community Safety Unit have supported a number of major local developments during 2001/02. This included auditing work to establish the breadth of community safety activity across the city. Although this showed that more work needs to be done to collect and share community safety data, it has helped the ECSP to take an informed view on future priorities for the Edinburgh Community Safety Strategy 2002-2005, currently under development.

The City Council's new Local Development Committees have proved important consultation forums on local community safety issues and a proportion of the small grants fund for community safety, on which recommendations are agreed by the ECSP, is now allocated by LDCs.

Progress

A significant achievement in 2001/02 was the Scottish Executive's award of around £1.1 million in capital and revenue grants to nine community safety projects across Edinburgh. Funded through





the Executive's Community Safety Challenge Fund. The successful projects include ;

- four new local CCTV schemes (in Gilmerton, Craigmillar, Restalrig and Broomhouse);
- a scheme to monitor racially motivated incidents in Edinburgh (led by the Black and Ethnic Minority Community Safety Group in partnership with ELREC);
- the community safety Datashare initiative;
- four pilot Youth Zones (led by Edinburgh Youth SIP); and the youth diversion programme;
- Edinburgh Young Scot (led by the Council's Community Education division).

All of these projects, which were supported by ECSP at the bidding stage and co-ordinated by the City Council's Community Safety Unit, are now being implemented and will make a major impact on improving community safety across Edinburgh.

CCTV has been a major area requiring strategic development in 2001/02. A separate CCTV Strategy for the Council and all of the Partnership areas is under development at the time of writing, embracing the new legislation which impacts on how CCTV is operated and used to improve community safety.

In respect of policing, Operation Foil, targeted on drug dealing, shows continued success with the 2001 position showing a 20% increase in persons charged with supply offences. Since 1998 this operation has resulted in 1,200 arrests and the seizure of illegal drugs worth £4.8m.

Implementation of the Lothian and Borders Youth Strategy continued throughout 2001. The approach is aimed at reducing youth crime and developing a more positive relationship with young people. More partnership working with statutory and voluntary agencies is a specific goal and a major emphasis on working in schools is a key feature of this initiative.

Forward Look

Work is now ongoing to develop the Edinburgh Community Safety Strategy 2002-05, in dialogue with all ECSP partners and other key agencies. The Scottish Executive's new 3-year funding arrangements for Community Safety Partnerships have resulted in an allocation of £230,523 per year until 2004/5 for the Edinburgh Community Safety Strategy. This funding will be crucial in the effective delivery of the new strategy.

Central to the success of the new Strategy will be performance measurement. In partnership with the relevant Capital City Partners, work will shortly begin to develop and agree further community safety performance indicators for Edinburgh (to complement the existing crime focused indicators), within the framework of the Edinburgh Milestones and the new Audit Scotland indicators mentioned earlier.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to the Board of Directors who have participated consistently in often very difficult policy and practice debates and which have resulted in clear and practical policy direction to the staff team. A very wide range of directors have given unstintingly of their time and expertise, both at and outwith board meetings. Some of these contributions have been unusually intensive and all have been valuable and consistent over time. Particular thanks go to the Chairman whose skills, energy and expertise in the fields of effective partnership working and in employment access have been an enormous contribution to the successes which have been achieved.

Jim Rafferty
Chief Executive
December 2001

